

Freedom of Information request 2013-3290

Received 5th July 2013

Published 12th August 2013

Information request

1. Number of couples currently in receipt of Income Support in England and Wales

a) Of these, the number of couples where one partner is in receipt of DLA

i) Of these, the number of couples where entitlement to DLA is predominantly for a physical health illness, and

ii) The number of couples where entitlement to DLA is predominantly based on a mental health illness

2. The number of couples on Income Support where one or both partners are in receipt of DLA and Income Support who own land or property as part of a business – i.e. not their own residential property – and that property is therefore disregarded

DWP response

In response to your first question the information requested on the number of couples where both partners are in receipt of Income Support (IS) and whether either partner is also in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) by Main Disabling Condition in England and Wales: August 2012, which is the latest date for which figures are available for both IS and DLA, can be found in the attached document (FOI 2013-3290 Response.xls).

Please note that the information we have available to answer your request has been derived by matching a 5% sample of the IS caseload data and DLA information from 100% data sources. We do not normally use this combination of data for publication and therefore these numbers have not been quality assured to Official Statistics publication standards and should only be used with caution.

You may also be interested to know that the Department publishes National Statistics on IS, which contains more up to date information but does not give the required breakdown for DLA, through its Tabulation Tool, which allows you to design your own tables.

For example to produce a table on the number of IS recipients by whether the recipient has a partner by region, go to the <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/dwp-statistics-tabulation-tool#benefit-caseloads> website and follow the instructions below.

1. Select the [Benefit caseload national statistics \(WPLS data\) \(includes ESA\)](#) link
2. In the **Benefit/Scheme** drop down menu select **Income Support**
3. In the **Analysis** drop down menu select **Caseload (Thousands)**
4. In the **Row** drop down menu select **Partner flag**
5. In the **Column** drop down menu select **Region**
6. Now select from the options in the **Subset** and **Date** menus and click **Get Table**. Please note that the latest data, from 100% data, is to the **November 2012**.

In response to your second question we can confirm that the Department does hold some information falling within the description specified in your request. However we estimate that the cost of locating and retrieving this information would exceed the appropriate limit of £600.

The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.