Technical appendix

Appendix 1 – Sample Profile

Results are based on a cohort of claimants who applied for Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in early August and who were interviewed in September and October 2016. As such, results are based on this specific group of claimants and reflect the characteristics of this group at a specific point in time rather than necessarily being representative of the claimant population. However, the original sample of 8,000 records was drawn deliberately to mitigate against the variation between cohorts and ensure a broadly representative sample of claimants. Quotas were set, and results are weighted back, to this sample profile by claimant type, age, gender and national region.

54 per cent of the sample are female, and 46 per cent are male. The sample is split reasonably evenly into three age groups: under 40 years (35 per cent), 40-54 years (33 per cent) and those over 55 (31 per cent).

New claimants – that is, those who have started an entirely new claim and have never claimed Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or claimed in the distant past – represent 50 per cent of the sample. Natural re(assessment) claimants (those who have been asked to apply for PIP because their circumstances have changed[1]) and those part of the full PIP roll-out (where those who previously claimed DLA were invited to apply for PIP as part of the process for replacing DLA) each make up 25 per cent of the sample.

Other demographic factors were not set as quotas but have been used for analysis: these include disability, working status[2], whether participants are on paid or unpaid sick leave[3], benefits claimed[4], and whether participants are claiming for themselves or for someone else[5].

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[1] For example, their condition has changed, they have turned 16, or their DLA claim was time-bound and has finished.

[2] *Which of the following best describes your/their employment status?*

[3] *Are you/they on paid or unpaid sick leave?*

[4] *Can I just check, are you/they currently receiving any benefits or state allowances?*

[5] *Was the application for yourself or on behalf of someone else?*

PIP Evaluation: Wave 1 Claimant Survey Findings

Disability is measured using the question 'You/the person you are claiming on behalf of may have one or more disabilities or long-term health conditions. We do not need to know exactly which disability or condition(s) you/they have, but please tell us whether they affect you/them in any of the following ways.' with answer codes including 'Mobility (for example walking short distances or climbing stairs)', 'Memory' and 'Stamina or breathing or fatigue' among others. Participants were therefore not asked for details of their condition or specific disability, but to explain how their health problems affect them.

Figure 12.1 shows the breakdown of reported disabilities or long-term health conditions. Participants mentioned multiple ways in which their condition affects them. Claimants' mobility is the most common way they are affected, with just over three-quarters reporting mobility issues (76 per cent). Around three-fifths of claimants are affected by problems with stamina, breathing or fatigue (64 per cent), mental health (63 per cent), dexterity (62 per cent) or learning, understanding or concentrating (62 per cent).
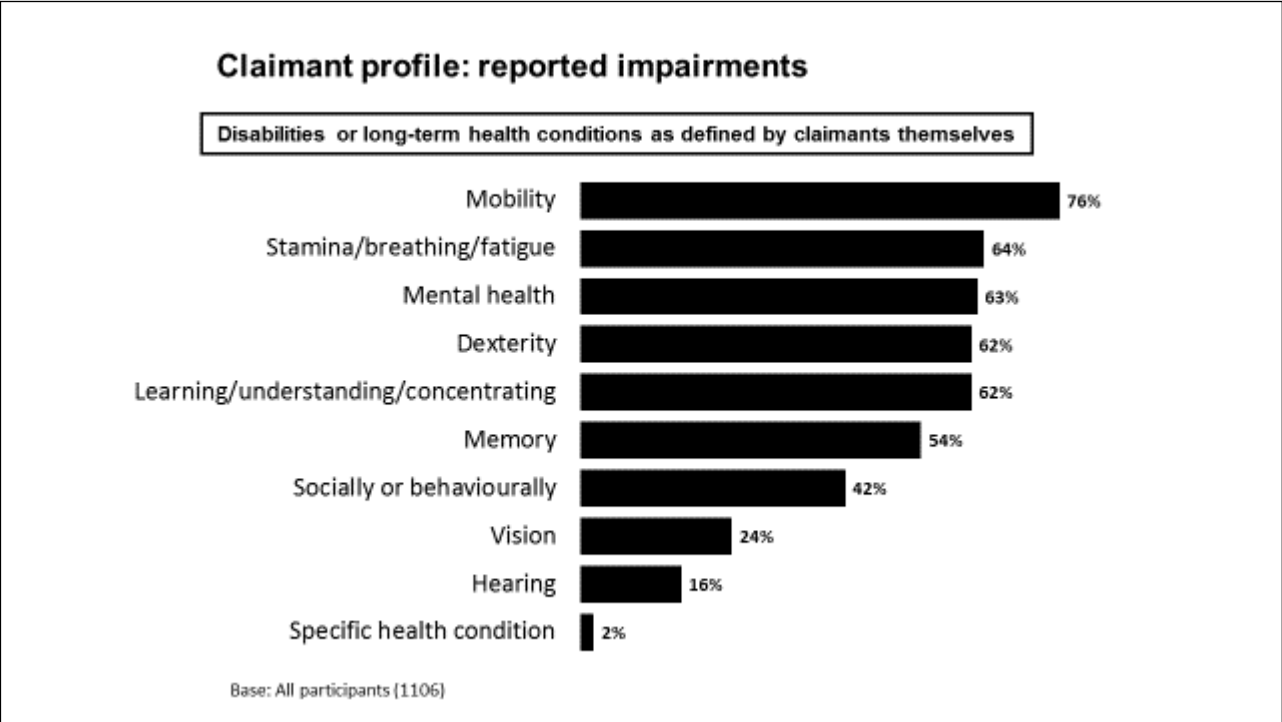

Claimant profile: reported impairments

Disabilities or long-term health conditions as defined by claimants themselves

Mobility	76%
Stamina/breathing/fatigue	64%
Mental health	63%
Dexterity	62%
Learning/understanding/concentrating	62%
Memory	54%
Socially or behaviourally	42%
Vision	24%
Hearing	16%
Specific health condition	2%

Base: All participants (1106)

Figure 12.1

Figure 12.2 shows the breakdown of claimant working status. Over half are long term sick or disabled (52 per cent), with over one in ten unemployed and not looking for a job (13 per cent). Six per cent are in full time employment, six per cent are in part-time employment, and five per cent are actively seeking work.
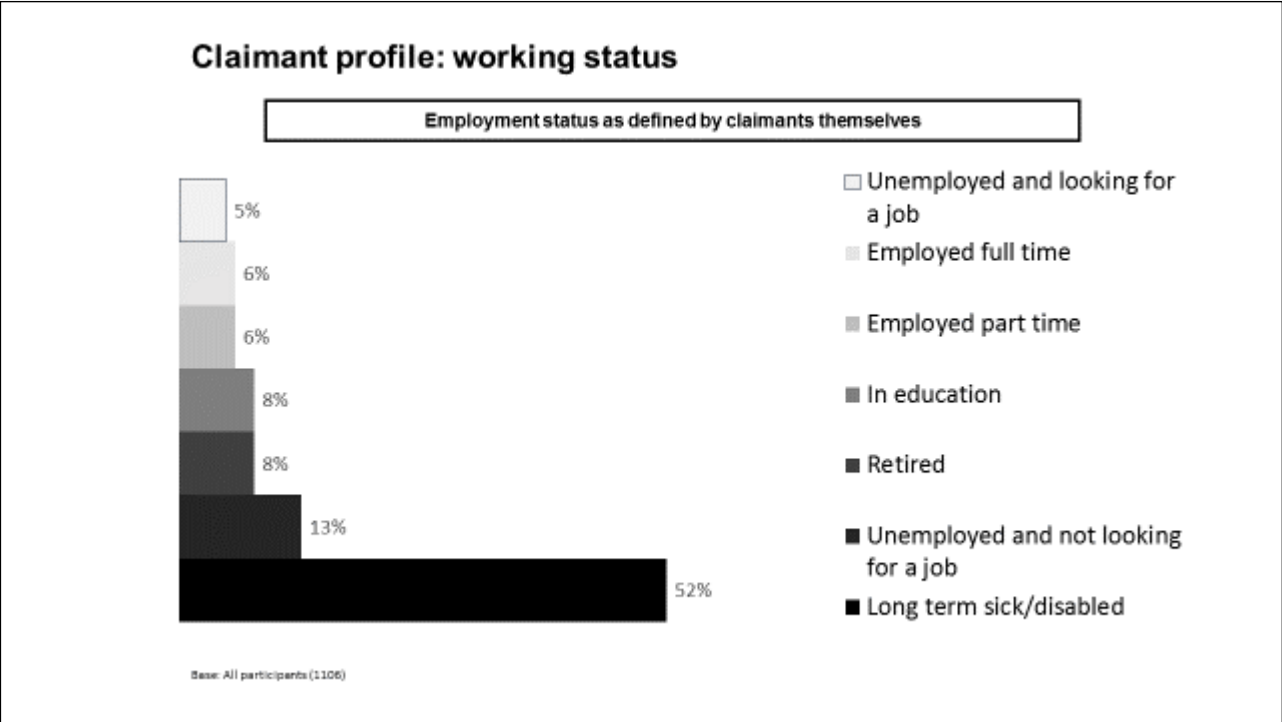
Figure 12.2

Findings in this report are based on the 1,106 participants who completed the interview. At the 95 per cent confidence interval, a base of this size gives a sampling tolerance (or predicted range of responses) of no greater than ±3 per cent. Within the 1,106, interviews break down by claimant type as 540 new claimants, 292 in the reassessment process, and 274 in the full PIP roll-out stage. This gives a sampling tolerance between claimant types of between four and eight percentage points.