

Freedom of Information request 2014-614

Date received: 5 February 2014

Date of response: 5 March 2014

Information request

Just to make sure my request is absolutely clear, can I say that the priority is for the following breakdown of JSA claimants with no benefit in payment for the period since February 2005 (preferably continuing the May, Aug, Nov quarterly series but half-yearly or even annual would be a good substitute, and any figures at all would be useful):

Total of JSA claimants with no benefit in payment, waiting days, contributory JSA exhausted, contribution deficiency, disallowed/sanctioned, claim awaiting decision, other reason.

This is a continuation of the breakdown last published in the JSA Quarterly Statistical Enquiry of February 2005, Table 3.4. If the full breakdown is not available, then any part of it would also be useful.

The second priority is for the same breakdown for Feb, May, Aug and Nov for the earlier period Nov 1996 to Feb 2001, during which figures appear to have been published only for Nov 1997 and Feb 1999.

Earlier than that we can leave for the time being as I can probably get the missing figures from archive sources.

DWP response

In response to your query as a whole, we can confirm that the Department does hold some information falling within the description specified in your request. However, to provide a complete time series for the information requested 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.

However, within cost we are able to provide most quarters for the number of claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance with no benefit in payment (receiving National Insurance credits only) by benefit reason from May 1997 to November 2000 and from May 2005 to August 2013, which is the latest data available, and this is given in the attached Excel spread sheet (FOI 2014-614 Response.xls).