

Quarterly Benefits Summary

Data to August 2016

Quarterly

Published: 15 February 2017

Great Britain

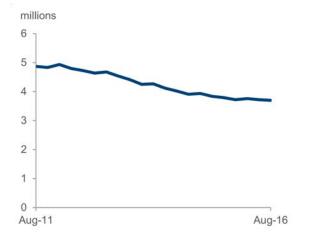
This release aims to give users a structured overview of National Statistics on DWP administered benefits and sanctions, together with early estimates of working-age inactive benefits. To provide a more complete picture of DWP responsibility, statistics on Housing Benefit (administered by Local Authorities) are also included.

Statistics of interest

- Numbers on key Working Age benefits have continued to fall and numbers fell by 90,000 in the year to August 2016 to stand at 3.7 million.
- Numbers in the Pension Age Client group have fluctuated slightly over recent years but in general have increased gradually since August 2011 by 261,000 to stand at 13.1 million in August 2016.
- At November 2016 there were 4.6 million recipients of housing benefit. Numbers increased to 5.1 million at May 13 but since then have gradually fallen.

3.7 million on key out of work benefits

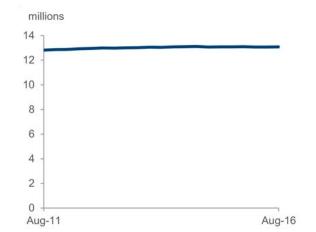
at August 2016



A decrease of 90 thousand compared to August 2015

13 million state pension recipients

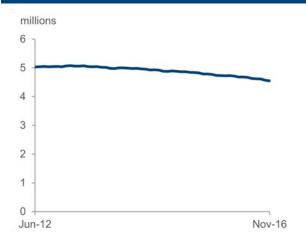
at August 2016



This includes 150 thousand on the new State Pension

4.6 million on housing benefit

at November 2016



A decrease of 189 thousand compared to November 2015

At a glance Page Working age client group 4 **ESA** and Incapacity Benefits 5 Income Support 6 **Universal Credit** 7 8 Sanctions 13 Pensions Attendance Allowance and Carer's 14 Allowance Personal Independence Payment and 15 Disability Living Allowance Housing Benefit 16

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Comments? Feedback is welcome

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What you need to know

In this release

This release aims to give users a high level summary of the latest National Statistics available on DWP administered benefits and sanctions. DWP administers benefits to a range of claimants who may, or may not have more than one interaction with the department. The publication provides an overview of individual benefit statistics and a high-level summary of out of work working age and pensionable age client groups.

Users should note that the DWP tabulation tool, the previous dissemination tool, is no longer being updated and will not exist from 31 March 2017. Instead users can produce their own tabulations using:

- Stat-Xplore: click here to access
- NOMIS: click here to access

Further tables covering the benefits in this release can be found on the <u>DWP statistical summaries page</u> on gov.uk, or visit 'Where to find out more'.

Previous editions of this document contained information on Jobseeker's Allowance, Widow's Benefit and Bereavement Benefit, Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, Child Support Agency cases and Maternity Allowance. This information is still published, but not as part of this document:

- Data for Jobseeker's Allowance, Widow's Benefit and Bereavement Benefit are available on the <u>DWP statistical summaries page</u>
- Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit statistics are published here
- Child Support Agency statistics are published here
- Maternity Allowance statistics are published here

Further in-depth benefit information can be viewed via this link: Benefits page on gov.uk.

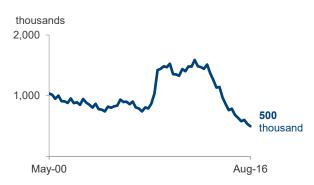
About these statistics

The statistics are released quarterly in February, May, August and November and are primarily sourced from data originally collected via administrative systems. All regular series are full National Statistics **except** working age inactive benefit early estimates, Personal Independence Payments and sanctions (which are official statistics) and Universal Credit statistics (which are experimental). Further information is available <a href="https://example.com/here/bet/here/here/bet/here/bet/here/bet/here/

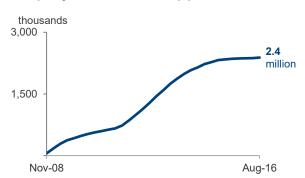
The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Overview of numbers claiming benefits as at August 2016 (unless otherwise stated)

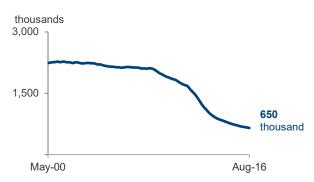
Jobseeker's allowance



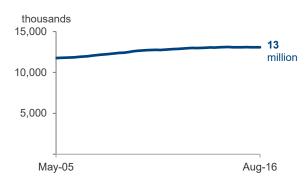
Employment and Support Allowance



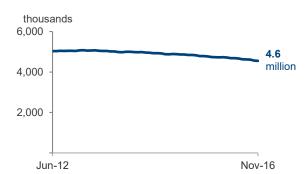
Income support



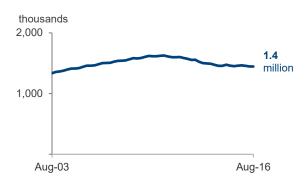
Pension age client group



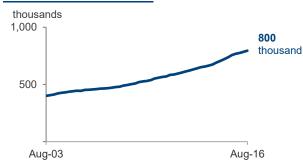
Housing Benefit



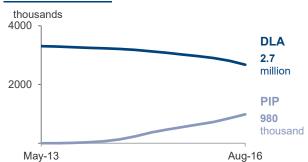
Attendance allowance



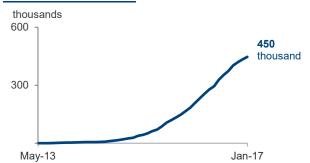
Carer's Allowance



PIP and DLA



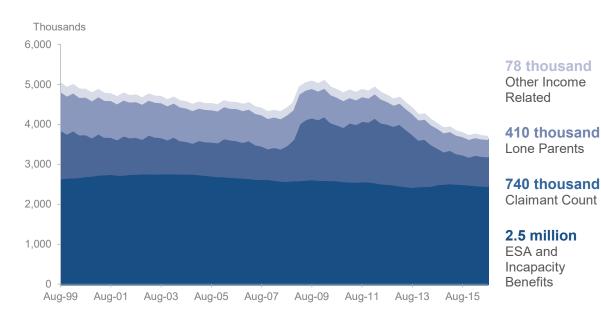
Universal Credit



1.1 Key Out-of-Work Benefits¹ – Experimental Statistics

Key Out-of-Work benefits have decreased slightly over time

Working age claimants by statistical group between August 1999 and August 2016



This page aims to set the headline Claimant Count² numbers published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in context of the wider group of other out of work benefit claimants. This reflects the wider DWP welfare to work agenda, which while maintaining help for those claiming JSA, also extends employment support to those claiming other out of work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Lone Parents on Income Support.

The Claimant Count and Lone Parent groups are decreasing over time. The Claimant Count reached a peak of just over 1.6 million at February 2010. Since then, numbers remained broadly steady until a fall to under 1 million at August 2014. At August 2016 the claimant count was 740 thousand, the same as at August 2015.

The number of claimants in the Lone Parent client group fell from 950 thousand to 410 thousand between August 1999 and August 2016.

The ESA and incapacity benefits client group has continued to fall slightly over the past year. The number of working age claimants of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits totals 2.5 million at August 2016. This is a decrease of 46 thousand since last year.

See the supporting tables for further data.

More information

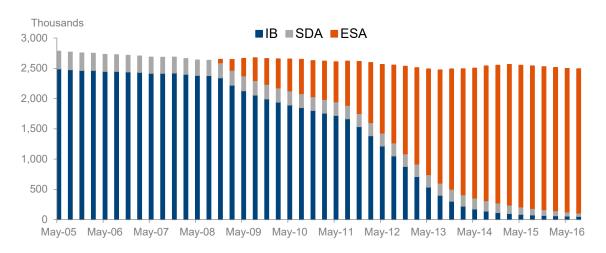
¹ The Key-out-of-Work benefits data provides counts of working age claimants of the following key benefits; Bereavement Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Universal Credit, Carer's Allowance and Widow's Benefit. The groups that comprise the key-out-of-work benefits are based on the concept of Statistical Groups presenting each person by the main reason they are in contact with the Department. See the supporting tables for more information.

² The Claimant Count is the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. The claimant count combines data collected for DWP working age benefits and the ONS Experimental Claimant Count. From May 2013 the Claimant Count includes people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance and out of work Universal Credit claimants. See about these statistics for further information about Universal Credit.

1.2 Employment and Support Allowance and Incapacity Benefits – National Statistics

The number of people on Employment and Support Allowance is rising, as the number on incapacity benefits falls

Employment and Support Allowance / Incapacity benefits claimants since May 2005



There were 2.5 million people on Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance) at August 2016, a decrease of 46 thousand on a year earlier.

The number of people on Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) continues to increase; there were 2.4 million claimants at August 2016. This is 30 thousand more than the year before.

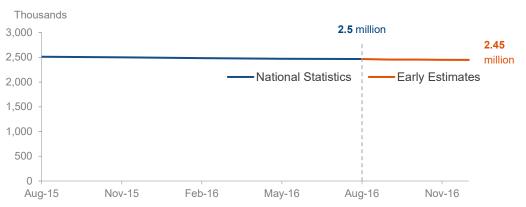
There were 110 thousand people on incapacity benefits at August 2016. The number of people on incapacity benefits has been steadily decreasing over time, due to incapacity benefits being replaced by ESA from October 2008. Numbers will decrease further as Universal Credit rolls out and gradually replaces income-related ESA.

In August 2016, 93.0% of ESA/IB claimants were in receipt of benefit payments. The remaining 7.0% received National Insurance credits only (i.e. no benefit payments). This compares to 5.8% receiving no benefit payments in February 2012. This change is because the government has limited the period for which contribution-based ESA can be paid in some circumstances.

See the <u>supporting tables</u> (table esa_feb17) for further data.

Early estimates suggest a slight fall in the number of working age people claiming ESA/incapacity benefits

National Statistics to August 2016 and early estimates: September to December 2016



The working-age ESA/IB early estimate for December 2016 is 2.45 million to the nearest 5,000. This represents a decrease of around 16,000 (0.7 per cent) since August 2016 (the latest National Statistic).

The early estimates are official statistics and are designed to give indicative, timely information; they are not a substitute for the National Statistics. They will be replaced by the quarterly National Statistics covering the same period when these are published.

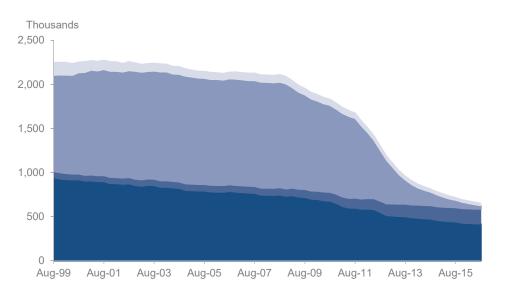
The figures are estimates of the final National Statistic. To give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates for ESA/IB have been revised by an average of 0.2 per cent.

See <u>guidance</u> for more information on the early estimates.

1.3 Income Support – National Statistics

The number of people on Income Support continues to decrease

Income support claimants by statistical group: August 1999 to August 2016



30 thousand
Others
32 thousand
Incapacity benefits
170 thousand
Carers
410 thousand

Lone parents

At August 2016, the total number of Income Support claimants was 650 thousand.

Lone Parents (all single claimants with dependants under 16, excluding claimants of incapacity benefits) represented 64% of the IS caseload (410 thousand). The number of lone parents claiming Income Support has been affected by the Lone Parent Obligations policy changes which came into effect from 24 November 2008.

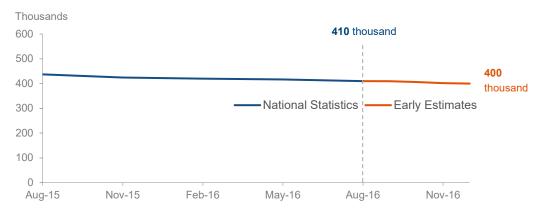
Claimants of incapacity benefits represented 5% of the IS caseload (32 thousand), while Carers and Others represented 31% of the caseload (170 thousand and 30 thousand respectively).

Numbers on income-related Income Support will reduce over time as Universal Credit rolls out and gradually replaces income-related Income Support.

See the <u>supporting tables</u> (table is_feb17) for further data.

Early estimates suggest a slight fall in the number of people in the Income Support Lone Parent client group

National Statistics to August 2016 and early estimates: September to December 2016



The working age ISLP early estimate for December 2016 is 400 thousand to the nearest 5,000. This represents a fall of 3.5 per cent since August 2016 (the latest National Statistic).

The early estimates are official statistics and are designed to give indicative, timely information; they are not a substitute for the National Statistics. They will be replaced by the quarterly National Statistics covering the same period when these are published.

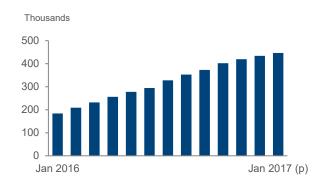
The figures are estimates of the final National Statistic. To give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates for ISLP have been revised by an average of 0.2 per cent.

See <u>guidance</u> for more information on the early estimates.

1.4 Universal Credit – Official Experimental Statistics

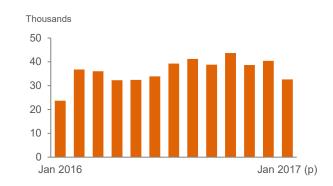
This report contains three measures. Claims made counts the number of applications submitted for Universal Credit. Some of these people will go on to **Start** receiving Universal Credit. **People on Universal Credit** includes all those who have started and are still on Universal Credit at the count date (second Thursday of the month). Some people will have their claim terminated either at the request of the individual or if their entitlement to Universal Credit ends. See the <u>Background Information and Methodology</u> document for more detail on the definitions used in this publication.

People on Universal Credit by month



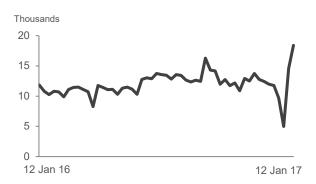
The number of people on Universal Credit rose to **450 thousand** as of 12 January 2017. Of these, 170 thousand (39 per cent) were in employment.

Monthly Starts to Universal Credit



680 thousand people have started their claim, i.e. signed a claimant commitment, up to 12 January 2017. 38 thousand starts to Universal Credit were in the last month.

Weekly Claims to Universal Credit



960 thousand claims have been made for Universal Credit up to 12 January 2017. 48 thousand claims have been made for Universal Credit in the last four weeks at an average of 12 thousand per week.

See <u>full release</u> for latest statistical data on Universal Credit. Please note the figures for the latest month (January 2017) are provisional (p) and will be finalised in the next full release of Universal Credit statistics.

1.5 Official Statistics: Sanction decisions and reasons: Jobseeker's Allowance

Failure to meet one or more conditions of a benefit claim without good reason could lead to payments being stopped for a period (this is known as a benefit sanction).

The recent fall in decisions reflects a fall in Jobseeker's Allowance claimants



Trends have been driven by Work Programme sanction decisions



What is a sanction decision?

Each occasion that a condition of benefit claim is not met can result in a decision. This can happen more than once during a claim. The trends on this page include decisions that resulted in no sanction. Decisions for Universal Credit and IS are not included.

Main Messages

The number of sanction decisions reflects the number of JSA claimants. As such, over the last two years the number of decisions per month has been declining. DWP are looking to enhance the information we make available on the relationship between these two volumes.

The trend in JSA sanction decisions coincides with lower numbers of JSA claimants joining the Work Programme. Currently the main reasons for sanction decisions (see notes section for details of groupings) are associated with lower level sanctions (see box below)

New rules

From October 2012, new sanctions rules were introduced, aligning broadly with Universal Credit rules.

Read an overview of the new JSA sanctions rules.

Sanction levels (under the new regulations)

- **Lower**, 4 or 13 weeks (e.g. Work Programme and Work Focused Interviews)
- Intermediate, 4 or 13 weeks; claim may be ended
- **Higher** 13-156 weeks (e.g. reason for leaving previous employment)

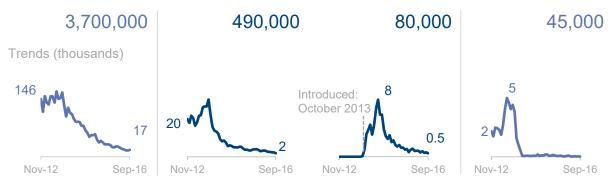
For more information see guidance.

1.5 Sanction decisions process: Jobseeker's Allowance (new rules)

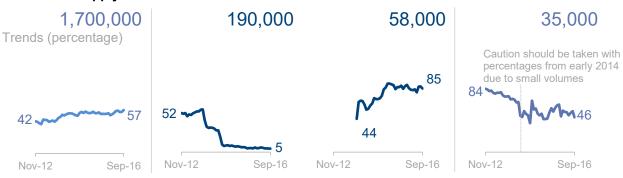
The following charts show a breakdown of the process that is in place when claimants don't agree that their benefit payment should be stopped or claim ended

Stage 1	Stage 2		Stage 3
Original Decisions	Decision review	Mandatory Reconsideration	Appeal
An independent DWP decision maker makes the orginal decision.	Claimants can ask the Department to reconsider the original decision.		Claimants can appeal to a Tribunal after formal reconsideration.

All decisions under new rules



Decisions to apply a sanction under new rules



The **Background and Methodology** document contains information about changes to our rounding policy

Not all decisions result in a sanction

Each sanction decision has a maximum of three sequential stages (up to first tier tribunal). These statistics show each decision at the most recent stage in that process. Not all decisions go through all three stages before reaching a final outcome. Both the stage and decision outcome may be updated in future releases.

Main Messages

There have been 4.3 million decisions in total under the new rules (between 22 Oct 2012 and 30 Sept 2016). The trends illustrate both the movement through the process and the recent fall in volume of decisions.

Summary of decision outcomes at each stage

22 Oct 2012 to 30 Sept 2016

(thousands)	Sanction	No Sanction
Original Decisions	1,745	775
Decision review	190	289
Mandatory Reconsideration	58	22
Appeal	35	10
Total	2,027	1,096

Decisions that are reserved or cancelled are not included in this table.

There have been 2 million decisions to apply a sanction under the new rules. The trends illustrate the impact of the introduction of Mandatory Reconsiderations.

Not all decisions with an outcome to apply a sanction will result in a claimant's benefit being reduced. Where a claimant's benefit is reduced the claimant may be eligible for Hardship payments.

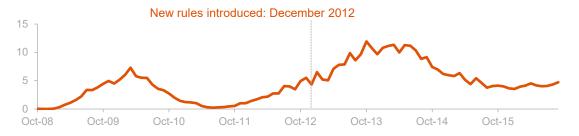
More detailed JSA and ESA sanctions figures can be accessed through <u>Stat-Xplore</u> or via <u>gov.uk</u>

1.5 Sanction decisions and reasons: Employment and Support Allowance

Failure to meet one or more conditions of a benefit claim without good reason could lead to payments being stopped for a period (this is known as a benefit sanction)

ESA sanction decisions were decreasing until a year ago (September 2015) since when there has been a slight rise

Total Number of ESA sanction decisions (thousands): Great Britain: October 2008 to September 2016



Trends have been driven by work related activity sanction decisions

Sanctions decisions (thousands) relating to Failure to participate in work related activity



What is a sanction decision?

A sanction decision may happen every time a condition of benefit claim is not met. This can happen more than once during a claim. The trends on this page include decisions that resulted in no sanction.

Sanction decisions only apply to ESA claimants in the work related activity group. They do not apply to those in the support group.

New rules

From December 2012, new sanctions rules were introduced. For more information, see here.

Main Messages

ESA sanction decisions were decreasing until a year ago (September 2015); since when there has been a slight rise. A sanction referral can pass through several decision-making stages before a final decision is made. The latest months will always contain a higher proportion of sanctions which have not yet "had the chance" to be reviewed or appealed, and may be challenged in subsequent months.

The outcome of the Sanction may change between publications due to retrospection. The main impact will be seen over the last three months compared to the previous publication, where the total number of decisions and the total number of decisions to apply a sanction will reduce significantly. This also applies to JSA Sanctions but the retrospection is much lower.

The process means that the outcome of a sanction is subject to retrospective changes which should be considered when using the data

The change in trend since Jan 16 is driven by an increase in decisions related to failure to participate in work related activity. Since Jan 16, more than 80% of decisions to apply a sanction for ESA relate to the Work Programme.

1.5 Sanction decisions process: Employment and Support Allowance (new rules)

The following charts show a breakdown of the process that is in place when claimants don't agree that their benefit payment should be stopped or claim ended

Stage 1	Stage 2		Stage 3
Original Decisions	Decision Review	Mandatory Reconsideration	Appeal
An independent DWP decision maker makes the orginal decision.	Claimants can ask the Department to reconsider the original decision.		Claimants can appeal to a Tribunal after formal reconsideration.

Not all decisions result in a sanction

Each sanction decision has a maximum of three sequential stages (up to first tier tribunal). These statistics show each decision at the most recent stage in that process. Not all decisions go through all three stages before reaching a final outcome. Both the stage and decision outcome may be updated in future releases.

All decisions under new rules



Main Messages

There have been 310 thousand decisions in total under the new rules (between 3 Dec 2012 and 30 Sept 2016). The trends illustrate both the movement through the

The trends illustrate both the movement through the process and the recent fall in volume of decisions with a slight rise over the past 3 quarters.

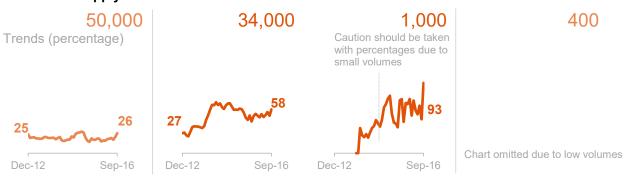
Summary of decision outcomes at each stage

3 Dec 2012 to 30 Sept 2016

(thousands)	Sanction	No Sanction
Original Decisions	50	69
Decision review	34	28
Mandatory Reconsideration	1	1.5
Appeal	0.4	0.2
Total	85	99

Decisions that are cancelled are not included in this table.

Decisions to apply a sanction under new rules



There have been a total of 85 thousand decisions to apply a sanction under the new rules.

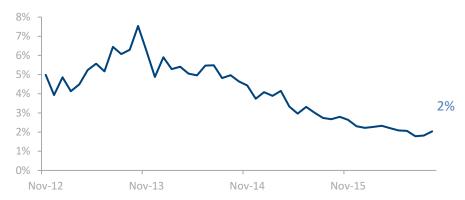
Not all decisions with an outcome to apply a sanction will result in a claimant's benefit being reduced. Where a claimant's benefit is reduced the claimant may be eligible for Hardship payments.

More detailed JSA and ESA sanctions figures can be accessed through <u>Stat-Xplore</u> or via <u>gov.uk</u>

1.5 Experimental Monthly Rate of Claimants Sanctioned: Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance Work Related Activity Group (WRAG)

The experimental monthly rate of JSA claimants undergoing a sanction has been falling over the last two and a half years

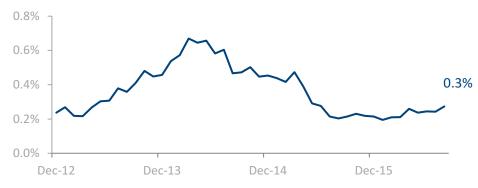
Jobseekers Allowance decisions to sanction as an experimental rate of Jobseekers Allowance claims: Great Britain: November 2012 to September 2016



The experimental monthly rate of ESA WRAG claimants undergoing a sanction has remained under 1% since the new regime was introduced despite rising slightly in the last 6 months

Employment and Support Allowance decisions to sanction as an experimental rate of Employment and Support Allowance WRAG claims:

Great Britain: December 2012 to August 2016



Main Messages

The experimental monthly rate of JSA claimants undergoing a sanction each month fluctuates but has shown a steady decrease over the last two and a half years.

Overall since its peak in March 2014, the experimental monthly rate of ESA Work Related Activity Group (WRAG) claimants undergoing a sanction reached a new low in January 2016, but has since seen a slight rise.

The Experimental Monthly Rates of Claimants Sanctioned for ESA and JSA aim to estimate the scale of sanctions relative to the number of ESA and JSA claimants in a given month.

The JSA and ESA rates are calculated by dividing the number of decisions to apply a sanction (adverse) in a month by the JSA or ESA WRAG claimant count at a particular point in the same month.

The claimant count for ESA WRAG has changed since the previous publication from a quarterly ESA WRAG claimant count to a more accurate monthly ESA WRAG claimant count from September 2015. The ESA WRAG monthly counts are now published as part of the ESA Supporting Tables (14)

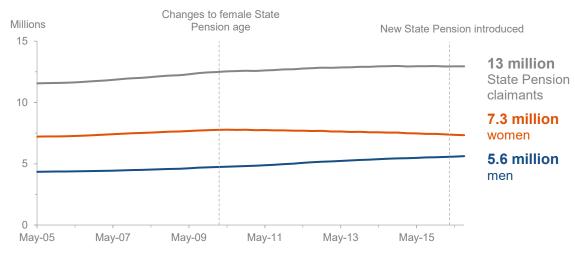
More detailed information on the new ESA count and the exact calculation of the rate can be found here

A Background and Methodology document for JSA and ESA sanctions Official Statistics can be found on the Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance sanctions statistics collection page here

2.1 State Pension and Pension Credit – National Statistics

The number of people on State Pension is generally increasing

Pensioner client group and State Pension recipients May 2005 to August 2016



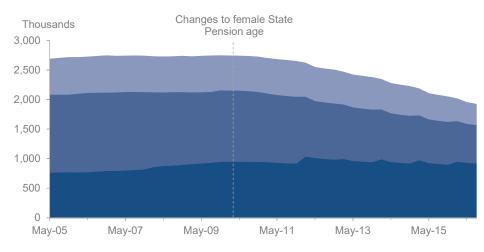
There were 13 million recipients of State Pension at August 2016, a fall of 4 thousand on a year earlier. This fall was largely driven by a decrease in the number of female State Pension recipients. The number of women eligible for State Pension has been decreasing since the Government began to increase the female State Pension age in 2010. The average weekly State Pension amount in payment at August 2016 was £134.31, a rise of £3.77 since August 2015.

The new State Pension (nSP) was introduced for people reaching State Pension age from 6 April 2016. **At August 2016 there were 150 thousand nSP recipients** with an average weekly amount in payment of £147.22 (including any Protected Payments).

See the supporting tables (table sp_feb17) for further data.

The number of people on Pension Credit is falling

Pension Credit recipients: May 2005 to August 2016



340 thousand Savings Credit

650 thousandGuarantee and
Savings Credit

930 thousandGuarantee Credit

At August 2016, there were 1.9 million claimants of Pension Credit (2.3 million including partners), a fall of 150 thousand on the previous year. Nearly two thirds of claimants (63%) were women.

The number of people on Pension Credit has been decreasing since November 2009. While the number of people receiving Guarantee Credit has remained constant, the number of people getting Savings Credit payments has been decreasing.

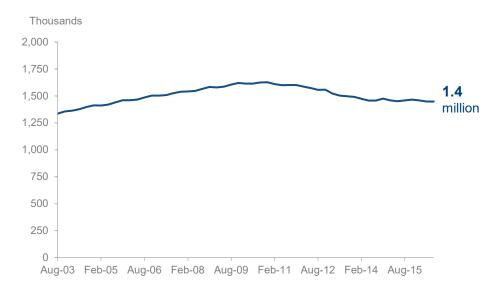
The downward trend in overall Pension Credit caseload is partly due to equalisation of State Pension age, which results in the Pension Credit qualifying age increasing; partly due to changes to the Savings Credit element of Pension Credit, including the abolition of Savings Credit for those that reach State Pension age after 6th April 2016; and partly due to the introduction of new State Pension, which was introduced in April 2016.

See the <u>supporting tables</u> (table pc feb17) for further data.

3.1 Attendance Allowance and Carer's Allowance - National Statistics

The number of people on Attendance Allowance has fallen slightly in the last year

Attendance Allowance recipients: August 2003 to August 2016



At August 2016, the number of people on Attendance Allowance has decreased by 11 thousand on a year earlier and is now 1.4 million.

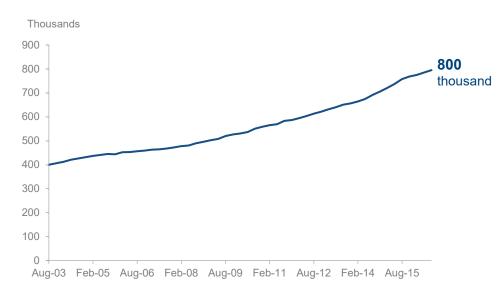
Of these Attendance Allowance claimants, 35% (510 thousand) are male, an increase of 2 thousand from August 2015.

65% (940 thousand) are female, a decrease of 13 thousand from August 2015.

See the <u>supporting tables</u> (table aa_feb17) for further data.

The number of people receiving Carer's Allowance continues to rise

Carer's Allowance recipients: August 2003 to August 2016



The total number claiming Carer's Allowance at August 2016 is 800 thousand, a rise of 38 thousand from August 2015. Increases in the State Pension age and in the number of people claiming disability benefits, as well as an ageing population, may have contributed to this rise.

Of the total number claiming Carers Allowance (800 thousand), 52% (410 thousand) were entitled to the benefit but receiving no payment.

28%, or 220 thousand, of Carer's Allowance claimants are male and 72%, or 570 thousand, are female.

See the <u>supporting tables</u> (table ca_feb17) for further data.

3.2 Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance – National Statistics

The number of people on PIP is rising as the number of people on Disability Living Allowance continues to fall

Personal Independence Payment/Disability Living Allowance claimants since May 2013



2.7 million on DLA

980 thousand on PIP

There were a total of 3.7 million claimants of Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance at August 2016, an increase of 87 thousand (2%) on a year earlier.

The number of people claiming Disability Living Allowance has fallen (by 350 thousand) in the year to August 2016 to 2.7 million. During the same period the number of people claiming Personal Independence Payment has increased (by 430 thousand) to 980 thousand. 370 thousand of these claims were reassessed Disability Living Allowance claims.

At the end of October 2016 (the latest PIP data available), there were 1 million Personal Independence Payment claims in payment. Up until this point there had been 2.3 million registrations, 2 million clearances and 220 thousand claims were still outstanding.

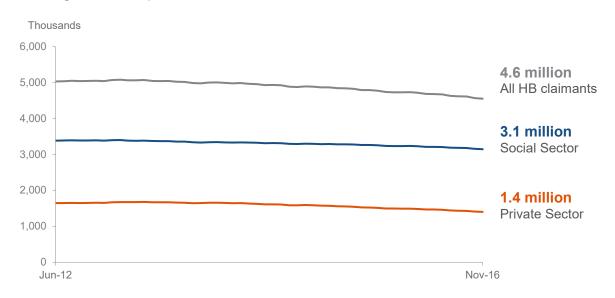
Further PIP information and breakdowns are available via the latest statistical first release. Note PIP statistics are Official Experimental.

Further DLA breakdowns are available via the <u>supporting tables</u> (table dla_feb17).

4.1 Housing Benefit – National Statistics

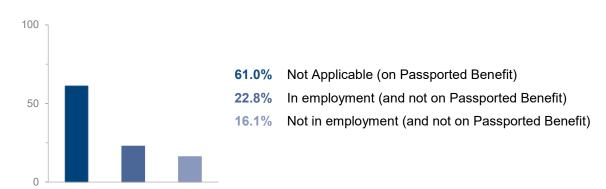
The number of people on Housing Benefit is generally decreasing

Housing Benefit recipients: June 2012 to November 2016



Percentage of Housing Benefit recipients at November 2016

Employment (and benefit status)



At November 2016, there were 4.6 million recipients of Housing Benefit. The majority of these HB recipients 69.1% (3.1 million) were tenants in the Social Sector.

87.5% of the 1.4 million Private Sector Housing Benefit recipients were receiving the Local Housing Allowance.

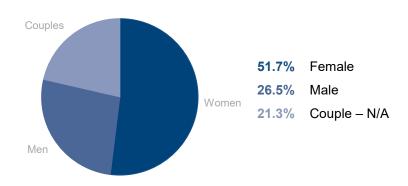
The number of people in employment/not on a passported benefit and in receipt of HB stood at 1 million (22.8%) in November 2016. This was a fall of around five percent on a year earlier.

61.0% of Housing Benefit recipients were in receipt of a passported benefit: Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-based Employment and Support Allowance or Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit).

As at November 2016, 9 per cent (410 thousand) of Housing Benefit claimants (of working age) had a reduction to their Housing Benefit weekly award amount as a result of the removal of the spare room subsidy.

Further Housing Benefit information and breakdowns are available via Stat-Xplore.

Gender (single claimants only)



About these statistics

The statistics in this publication are affected by the introduction of Universal Credit. Universal Credit was introduced in April 2013 in certain pathfinder areas of North West England. Since October 2013, it has progressively been rolled out to other areas. Universal Credit will be replacing income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Housing Benefit, Income Support, Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit. It is now available in all Jobcentre Plus areas to single claimants, and is being expanded across the country to include all claimant types via the full service. Please see the <u>background information</u> document for more detail.

A background and methodology document can be found on the Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance sanctions statistics collection page here

Where to find out more

Full details of where to find more detailed statistical information on DWP benefits can be found here.

In summary more detailed statistical tables covering all National Statistics benefits can be found via:

- Stat-Xplore
- Nomis
- Supporting tables

Stat-Xplore is an interactive way for users to create their own statistical tables and related breakdowns. It currently holds statistics on:

- Housing Benefit claimant data
- Sanction decisions for Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance
- National Insurance number allocations to adult overseas nationals
- Personal Independence Payment Benefit cap
- Universal Credit
- Attendance Allowance
- Disability Living Allowance
- Carer's Allowance
- State Pension
- Work Programme

Nomis is an on-line tool that allows you to create and download customised statistical tables. Its functionality allows users to produce tables by personal and benefit characteristics for the following benefits:

- Working age client group*
- Employment and support allowance*
- Incapacity benefit / severe disablement*
- Income support*
- Job seekers allowance*
- Carer's allowance
- Disability living allowance by disabling condition
- Disability living allowance*
- Pension credits*

- State pension*
- * Benefits where lower-level geographical statistics (down to Ward, Lower Super Output area and Data zone) are also available in Nomis.

Additional supporting tables for the latest release exist for each benefit. This includes local authority and parliamentary constituency breakdowns.

DWP Benefits Statistics

Our **Uses and users**, **Methodology**, **Quality** and **Background information** notes provide further information on DWP National and official benefit statistics, including some of the processes involved in developing and releasing these statistics: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dwp-statistical-summary-policies-and-statements

Other National and Official Statistics

Details of other National and Official Statistics produced by the Department for Work and Pensions can be found via the following link:

A schedule of statistical releases and a list of the most recent releases: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/statistics

Known issues, changes and revisions

From March 2016 the IS sanction decisions have been going through the same system as the ESA and JSA which will allow us to standardise Sanctions Methodologies across the benefits. This means that we are developing IS Sanctions but the time lag before data becomes available for analysis, and the fact that the data up until the end of 2016 has not been updated as expected, means that the earliest this could be published is May 2017.

The claimant count for ESA has changed since the previous publication from a quarterly ESA claimant count to a more accurate monthly ESA claimant count from September 2015. The ESA monthly counts are now published as part of the ESA Supporting Tables (14). More detailed information on the new ESA count and the exact calculation of the rate can be found <a href="https://example.com/here-new-esample.com/her

A new rounding policy has been applied to this publication. See the <u>background information note</u> for more information.

Feedback

DWP would like to hear your views on our statistical publications. If you use any of our statistics publications, we would be interested in hearing what you use them for and how well they meet your requirements. Please email DWP at statis-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

An on-going questionnaire, enabling DWP to target future consultations at interested users; shaping the future direction of statistics development to address user needs; and helping ensure value for money, whilst giving users a structured way of expressing their views is available at:

 $\underline{https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/205190/statistical_summary_questionnaire.doc$

Completed questionnaires can be returned by e-mail to stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or by post to the following address:

Dissemination Team, Data and Analytics, Department for Work and Pensions, Room BP5201, Benton Park Road, Longbenton, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE98 1YX

Users can also join the "Welfare and Benefit Statistics" community at: http://www.statsusernet.org.uk DWP announces items of interest to users via this forum, as well as replying to users' questions.