Freedom of Information request 2014-388

Date received: 24 January 2014
Date of response: 20 February 2014

Information request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act on child benefit claims to show the number of children being claimed for by families in Great Britain where one parent is in receipt of benefits.

It is, in effect, a request for an update using the latest figures for an FoI request you received on 20th August 2012 and was published 18th September 2012.

I would like to know the following:

- 1. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of any out of work benefit are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 or more children?
- 2. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Jobseekers Allowance are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 or more children?
- 3. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 or more children?
- 4. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Income Support are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 or more children?
- 5. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 or more children?
- 6. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Pension Credit are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 or more children?

Please could you provide the results in a spreadsheet in XLS, XLSX or CSV format, in addition to a written reply?

DWP response

In response to your query, the latest available information is shown in the table below.

Please note that there is a considerable overlap in the breakdown by benefit type, as for example, a claimant of Income Support may also be claiming Incapacity Benefit alongside.

The 'All Out of work Benefits' column captures children once, irrespective of the combination of benefits being claimed by parents or guardians.

Number of Out of Work Benefit Claimant Households in Great Britain, who also claim Child Benefit, by Number of Children and Benefit Type: May 2012.

Number of Children	All Out of work Benefits	JSA	IB/SDA	IS	ESA	PC
1	618,560	133,010	91,300	312,690	117,800	17,560
2	414,070	90,370	51,780	226,960	70,530	4,880
3	192,780	40,030	21,570	116,330	28,160	1,630
4	76,790	15,580	8,820	48,090	10,600	550
5	25,430	5,030	3,000	16,280	3,390	210
6	8,530	1,790	1,070	5,420	1,080	90
7	2,950	600	400	1,880	400	30
8	1,040	220	160	620	150	20
9	360	80	60	220	40	10
10	110	30	20	60	10	-
11	40	10	10	20	10	-
12	10	-	-	10	-	-
13 or more	10	-	-	-	-	-

Source: DWP WPLS 100% data and HMRC Child Benefit administrative data.

Notes:

- Figures are rounded to the nearest ten. Some additional disclosure controls have also been applied. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
 "-" denotes Nil or Negligible
- 2. Data represent a snapshot as at 31 May 2012. They are badged as Official Statistics

- 3. Benefit Type: Data represent the number of children dependent on a parent or guardian who is claiming one or a combination of the following out-of-work benefits: Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance, and Pension Credit. There is a considerable overlap in the breakdown by benefit type, as for example, a claimant of Income Support may also be claiming Incapacity Benefit alongside. The table captures children once, irrespective of the combination of benefits being claimed by parents or guardians.
- 4. The postcode of the DWP claimant is used to assign countries to children.