

Freedom of Information request 2014-5177

Date received 26 November 2014

Date of response 23 December 2014

Information request

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/270619/foi-2013-5292.pdf

I was looking for a breakdown of the latest JSA, ESA and IB/SDA claimant figures for claimants with drug dependency problems for Scotland and South Lanarkshire, similar to the request attached above.

DWP response

In response to your request, the table below contains information for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) claimants with Drug Misuse listed as their main disabling condition, by area for May 2014 which is the latest data available at the time of request.

The number of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claimants and Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) claimants with Drug Misuse as main disabling condition by Area: May 2014

	Area	Total	Other Diagnosis	Drugs misuse
ESA	South Lanarkshire	15,730	15,560	170
	Scotland	241,730	236,390	5,340
IB/SDA	South Lanarkshire	2,010	2,000	10
	Scotland	29,990	29,670	320

Source: DWP 100% WPLS

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10; totals may not sum due to rounding.
2. The medical condition recorded on the claim form does not itself confer entitlement to IB/SDA or ESA. So, for example, a decision on entitlement for a customer claiming IB/SDA or ESA on the basis of drugs misuse would be based on their ability to carry out the range of activities assessed by the Personal / Work Capability Assessment.

Please also note that where someone has more than one diagnosis or disabling condition, only the predominant one is currently recorded.

3. IB was replaced by ESA from October 2008. Information by main disabling condition on ESA is not available prior to February 2010.
4. Data includes people in receipt of benefit and also those who fail the contributions conditions but receive a National Insurance Credit, i.e. 'credits only cases'.
5. The area for South Lanarkshire is South Lanarkshire Local Authority

Information on Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants with Drugs Misuse recorded as a main disabling condition is not collected, although some general information is recorded for JSA claimants with drug abuse problems. We estimate, however, that the cost of complying with this part of your request 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 this part of your request further.