

# Freedom of Information requests 2013-4925, 4926, 4927 & 4928

Date received: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013

Date of response: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013

## Information request

1. How many disabled children (under 18) have their DLA paid to a male parent?
2. How many single parent carers are there who care for a disabled child (under 18)
3. How many male carers are there who care for a disabled child (under 18)
4. How many disabled children (under 18) have a single parent/carers?

## DWP response

We are able to provide information, derived from the Family Resources Survey (FRS) on questions 2, 3, 4. Statistically robust information is not available to answer question 1.

In the below analysis a dependent child is defined as an individual aged under 16, or aged 16 to 19 years old and in full-time non-advanced education or training. A benefit unit is defined as a single adult or a married or cohabiting couple and any dependent children.

Following standard FRS practice, the figures have been rounded to the nearest 100,000. This would result in a number between 50,000 and 149,999 being rounded to 100,000 while a number between 150,000 and 249,999 would be rounded to 200,000.

2. Single parents with disabled children in the same benefit unit in the UK	200,000
3. Adult males in the same benefit unit as a disabled child in the UK	500,000
4. Number of disabled children in the single parent benefit units in the UK	300,000

Source: Family Resources Survey, 2011/2012

### Notes:

1. The FRS is a nationally representative sample of approximately 20,000 UK private households.
2. Data for 2011/2012, the latest year available, was collected between April 2011 and March 2012.

3. The figures from the FRS are based on a sample of households which have been adjusted for non-response using multi-purpose grossing factors which align the estimates to Government Office Region populations by age and sex. Estimates are subject to sampling error and remaining non-response error.
4. A benefit unit is defined as a single adult or a married or cohabiting couple and any dependent children. An adult is defined as those individuals aged 16 or over, unless defined as a dependent child. An individual may be defined as a child if aged 16-19 years old and they are not married nor in a Civil Partnership nor living with a partner; and living with parents; and in full-time non-advanced education or in unwaged government training.
5. A dependent child is defined as an individual aged under 16. A person will also be defined as a child if they are 16 to 19 years old and they are: not married nor in a Civil Partnership nor living with a partner; and Living with parents/a responsible adult; and in full-time non-advanced education or in unwaged government training.
6. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100,000.
7. More information regarding FRS methodology can be found in chapter 7 of the FRS publication:  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/206887/frs\\_2011\\_12\\_report.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/206887/frs_2011_12_report.pdf)

We can confirm that the Department does hold some information from the DLA administrative database which could provide an answer to question 1. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with this question 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.

However you may be interested to know that benefit information from the DLA administrative database can be accessed via the Tabulation Tool which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/statistics>