

Freedom of Information request 2013-5044

Date received 23rd October 2013

Date of response 20th November 2013

Information request

Please could you provide me with the number of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disability Allowance (IB/SDA) or equivalent benefit claimants who were recorded as claiming benefit because of "eating disorder" each year since May 2010

DWP response

The number of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA), and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claimants with a primary diagnosis of 'Eating disorders' is shown in the table below.

All Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA), and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claimants and those with a medical condition of 'Eating disorders', Great Britain: May 2010 to May 2013

	Total Caseload		Condition: Eating disorders			
	IB/SDA	ESA	IB/SDA	ESA	% of IB/SDA caseload	% of ESA caseload
May-10	2,126,690	527,120	1,720	530	0.1%	0.1%
May-11	1,946,200	662,230	1,560	700	0.1%	0.1%
May-12	1,429,680	1,134,290	1,060	1,300	0.1%	0.1%
May-13	742,320	1,747,610	490	1,850	0.1%	0.1%

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate, Work and Pensions Longitudinal Survey.

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest ten. Percentages are to 1 decimal place. Data is at May of each year provided.
2. Causes of incapacity are based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, published by the World Health Organisation.
3. The medical condition recorded on the claim form does not itself confer entitlement to IB/SDA or ESA on the basis of an eating disorder. It would be based on their ability to carry out the range of activities related to physical and mental function, assessed by the Personal / Work Capability Assessment.
4. ESA replaced IB/SDA for new claims from 27th October 2008.