

Freedom of Information request 2013-5884

Date received: 16th December 2013

Date of response: 16th January 2014

Information request

Please send me:

1. The most recent figures for a 12 month period in Coventry the number of individuals receiving an adverse JSA Sanction Decision by demographic breakdown, namely Age Group, Ethnicity, Gender, Disability, Lone Parent, which are currently available on a National and Regional basis.
2. The most recent figures for a 12 month period in Coventry the number of individuals receiving an adverse ESA Sanction Decision by demographic breakdown, namely Age Group, Ethnicity, Gender, Disability, Lone Parent, which are currently available on a National and Regional basis.

DWP response

With regard to your query on the number of individuals that were sanctioned in Coventry local authority, the available information is shown in the table below. This covers decisions made in just over 8 months from 22nd October 2012 to 30th June 2013 for Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and for the 12 months from 1st July 2012 to 30th June 2013 for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), which is the latest information available.

Number of individuals with a sanction applied, by Demographic breakdown, Coventry local authority: 22nd October 2012 to 30th June 2013 (JSA) and 1st July 2012 to 30th June 2013 (ESA)

		Benefit claimed	
		JSA	ESA
	COVENTRY	2,950	30
Age Group	16-17 years of age	-	-
	18-24 years of age	970	-
	25-29 years of age	470	-
	30-34 years of age	360	10
	35-39 years of age	310	-
	40-44 years of age	260	10
	45-49 years of age	260	-
	50-54 years of age	170	-
	55-59 years of age	110	-
	60 and over	40	-
	Unknown Age	10	-
Ethnicity	White	1,850	20
	Asian or Asian British	350	-
	Black or Black British	320	-
	Mixed	130	-
	Other/ Chinese	140	-
	Unknown Ethnicity	160	-
Gender	Female	800	20
	Male	2,150	10
	Unknown Gender	-	-
Disability	Disability - Yes	490	20
	Disability - No	2,460	10
	Disability - Unknown	-	-
Lone Parent	Lone Parent - Yes	220	-
	Lone Parent - No	2,740	30

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate: Sanctions and Disallowance Decisions Statistics Database.

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest ten and totals may not sum due to the rounding method used. '-' denotes nil or negligible. Totals will count individuals who have had a sanction applied for more than one measure e.g. if an individual had a sanction applied when they

were 24 years of age, and another when they were 25 they will appear twice.

2. The number of benefit sanctions applied is the number of sanction or disallowance referrals where the decision was found against the claimant.
3. Figures for 2013 include sanction decisions made up to and including 30th June which is the latest data available.
4. New regulations introduced a new revised sanctions regime for both JSA and ESA claimants from 22nd October 2012 and 3rd December 2013 respectively. Details can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jobseekers-allowance-overview-of-sanctions-rules>

Please note that due to a data issue, information on JSA sanctions for the whole period from 1st June 2012 to 21st October 2012 is not readily available at Local Authority level and we estimate that the cost of providing this 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 this part of your request and we will not be processing your request further. If you still require a full 12 month period for JSA for your analysis then the latest data available for that time period is for 1st June 2011 to 31st May 2012. Please let us know if you require this information.