

Freedom of Information request 2014-1704

Date received 1 April 2014

Date of response 29 April 2014

Information request

I write to make a FOI request regarding the Simple Payment Card.

I want to know how many people in England receive their benefit via the Simple Payment Card, as a total number for England and also broken down by each county

DWP response

In response to your query, the table below relates to the number of payment accounts paid by the Simple Payment Card where the claimant is in receipt of one or more of the following DWP administered benefits in March 2013, which is the latest information available:

Employment and Support Allowance
Income Support
Jobseekers Allowance
Pension Credit
Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit
Retirement Pension
Incapacity Benefit
Severe Disablement Allowance
Widow's Benefit
Bereavement Benefit
Attendance Allowance
Disability Living Allowance
Carers Allowance

Please note that the figures supplied are derived from unpublished information and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.

Total number of benefit accounts and those paid by the Simple Payment Card, by county in England as at March 2013

	All Accounts	Simple Payment
England total	19,127,780	30,870
County		
County Durham Unitary Authority	236,870	380
Darlington Unitary Authority	42,760	100
Hartlepool Unitary Authority	42,490	120
Middlesbrough Unitary Authority	61,630	170
Redcar and Cleveland Unitary Authority	63,180	110
Stockton-on-Tees Unitary Authority	74,490	190
Northumberland Unitary Authority	136,510	140
Tyne and Wear	479,510	1,010
Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority	56,370	140
Blackpool Unitary Authority	74,440	220
Halton Unitary Authority	54,160	120
Warrington Unitary Authority	72,090	120
Cheshire East Unitary Authority	132,240	170
Cheshire West Unitary Authority	126,350	190
Cumbria	208,420	230
Greater Manchester	1,032,390	2,390
Lancashire	469,310	600
Merseyside	651,800	1,730
East Riding of Yorkshire Unitary Authority	136,570	70
Kingston upon Hull City of Unitary Authority	108,520	240
North East Lincolnshire Unitary Authority	65,760	120
North Lincolnshire Unitary Authority	64,650	60
York Unitary Authority	61,180	60
North Yorkshire	221,160	150
South Yorkshire	558,410	710
West Yorkshire	811,350	1,390
Derby Unitary Authority	91,690	320
Leicester Unitary Authority	108,520	260
Nottingham Unitary Authority	111,020	510
Rutland Unitary Authority	12,580	10
Derbyshire	308,390	340
Leicestershire	219,170	160
Lincolnshire	301,540	230
Northamptonshire	232,050	250
Nottinghamshire	315,870	350
County of Herefordshire Unitary Authority	72,360	80
Stoke-on-Trent Unitary Authority	109,070	150
Telford and Wrekin Unitary Authority	64,080	110
Shropshire Unitary Authority	119,710	100
Staffordshire	323,470	210
Warwickshire	191,860	200

West Midlands	1,073,770	2,750
Worcestershire	214,380	310
Luton Unitary Authority	60,100	220
Peterborough Unitary Authority	63,980	110
Southend-on-Sea Unitary Authority	66,880	90
Thurrock Unitary Authority	49,210	90
Bedford Unitary Authority	52,830	170
Central Bedfordshire Unitary Authority	77,500	100
Cambridgeshire	191,410	230
Essex	509,480	500
Hertfordshire	332,200	600
Norfolk	363,440	420
Suffolk	277,640	220
Inner London	863,730	2,560
Outer London	1,424,930	2,490
Bracknell Forest Unitary Authority	28,490	30
Brighton and Hove Unitary Authority	86,350	270
Isle of Wight Unitary Authority	66,240	90
Medway Unitary Authority	91,850	120
Milton Keynes Unitary Authority	69,040	120
Portsmouth Unitary Authority	65,280	140
Reading Unitary Authority	41,620	90
Slough Unitary Authority	33,570	80
Southampton Unitary Authority	75,290	160
West Berkshire Unitary Authority	43,510	30
Windsor and Maidenhead Unitary Authority	39,900	40
Wokingham Unitary Authority	39,980	40
Buckinghamshire	146,270	180
East Sussex	227,090	200
Hampshire	435,410	370
Kent	546,140	630
Oxfordshire	183,860	210
Surrey	329,580	270
West Sussex	298,040	320
Bath and North East Somerset Unitary Authority	58,200	100
Bournemouth Unitary Authority	68,790	130
City of Bristol Unitary Authority	142,210	430
North Somerset Unitary Authority	81,200	100
Plymouth Unitary Authority	103,620	160
Poole Unitary Authority	56,220	60
South Gloucestershire Unitary Authority	83,100	70
Swindon Unitary Authority	64,600	80
Torbay Unitary Authority	68,130	70
Cornwall	236,280	250

Wiltshire Unitary Authority	157,370	110
Isles of Scilly	690	-
Devon	310,910	250
Dorset	179,110	160
Gloucestershire	211,960	270
Somerset	212,430	220

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate (IGS), 100% data

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest ten and totals may not sum due to rounding. " - " denotes nil or negligible.
2. Figures only relate to accounts live and in payment on the specified date.
3. Figures refer to payment accounts. Claimants with more than one account will be counted for each account.
4. Child Benefit is now administered by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs and War Pensions are now administered by Ministry Of Defence. These benefits have therefore been excluded.
5. Data by county includes metropolitan counties, non-metropolitan counties and unitary authorities of England.
6. Simple Payment accounts were introduced from October 2012.