

Freedom of Information request 2015-614

Date received 13 February 2015

Date of response 13 March 2015

Information request

1. Proportion of benefit units in each of the following sectors who are in receipt of Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and Housing Benefit in each year for the last 3 years:

- **Public sector**
- **Private sector**
- **Mixed employment**
- **Unemployed**

2. Total expenditure on Working Tax Credits, Child Tax Credits and Housing Benefit in each year for the last 3 years, split by benefit unit type of public sector, private sector, mixed employment, or unemployed.

DWP response

In response to your query, the information requested is provided in the tables below. Please read the notes following the tables.

In particular, please note that the Family Resources Survey is known to under report receipt of state support and Tax Credits, more information can be found in table M.6 of the annual publication which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/family-resources-survey--2>

Table 1: Percentage of benefit units in receipt of Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and Housing Benefit by employment sector, Great Britain, 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13

Percentage of benefit units				
2010/11				
Employment sector	Housing benefit	Child tax credit	Working tax credit	Sample size (=100%)
Single or couple Private	6	18	11	11,290
Single or couple Public	4	19	9	3,159
Mixed Private/ Public couple	1	26	5	2,540
Other (includes unemployed, retired)	28	8	-	10,445

Source: Family Resources Survey 2010/11

Percentage of benefit units				
2011/12				
Employment sector	Housing benefit	Child tax credit	Working tax credit	Sample size (=100%)
Single or couple Private	6	16	11	9,473
Single or couple Public	4	14	8	2,436
Mixed Private/ Public couple	-	15	4	2,065
Other (includes unemployed, retired)	27	7	-	8,186

Source: Family Resources Survey 2011/12

Percentage of benefit units				
2012/13				
Employment sector	Housing benefit	Child tax credit	Working tax credit	Sample size (=100%)
Single or couple Private	7	13	10	9,144
Single or couple Public	5	12	8	2,279
Mixed Private/ Public couple	1	7	3	1,868
Other (includes unemployed, retired)	26	7	-	8,205

Source: Family Resources Survey 2012/13

Table 2: Percentage and expenditure on Tax Credits and Housing Benefit to benefit units by employment sector, Great Britain, 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13

Employment sector	Percentage of expenditure			Expenditure (£m)	
	2010/11				
	Housing benefit	Child tax credit	Working tax credit	Housing benefit	Tax credits
Single or couple Private	20	52	81	4,293	16,380
Single or couple Public	3	11	13	621	3,255
Mixed Private/ Public couple	-	9	5	93	2,180
Other (includes unemployed, retired)	77	28	1	16,421	6,063
All	100	100	100	21,427	27,878
Sample size (=100%)	3,865	4,531	1,830	3,865	6,361

Source: Family Resources Survey 2010/11

Employment sector	Percentage of expenditure			Expenditure (£m)	
	2011/12				
	Housing benefit	Child tax credit	Working tax credit	Housing benefit	Tax credits
Single or couple Private	23	57	82	5,226	18,120
Single or couple Public	3	10	14	682	3,107
Mixed Private/ Public couple	-	6	3	54	1,600
Other (includes unemployed, retired)	74	27	-	16,859	5,955
All	100	100	100	22,820	28,782
Sample size (=100%)	3,211	3,238	1,500	3,211	4,738

Source: Family Resources Survey 2011/12

Employment sector	Percentage of expenditure			Expenditure (£m)	
	2012/13				
	Housing benefit	Child tax credit	Working tax credit	Housing benefit	Tax credits
Single or couple Private	25	54	83	5,989	17,403
Single or couple Public	4	11	14	845	3,278
Mixed Private/ Public couple	1	5	3	157	1,289
Other (includes unemployed, retired)	71	30	1	16,900	6,862
All	100	100	100	23,892	28,832
Sample size (=100%)	3,292	2,673	1,340	3,292	4,013

Source: Family Resources Survey 2012/13

Definitions:

Benefit unit

A single adult or a married or cohabiting couple and any dependent children; since January 2006 same-sex partners (civil partners and cohabitees) have been included in the same benefit unit.

Employment sector

Single or couple Private - a single person, single employed person in a couple or both members of a couple employed in the private sector.

Single or couple Public - a single person, single employed person in a couple or both members of a couple employed in the public sector.

Mixed Private/Public couple - both members of a couple employed, one in the private sector and one in the public sector

Other - singles or couples who do not fit into any of the above categories, e.g. retired, student, unemployed.

Notes:

1. The estimates are based on sample counts that have been adjusted for non-response using multi-purpose grossing factors that control for tenure type, Council Tax Band and a number of demographic variables.
2. Estimates are subject to sampling error and remaining non-sampling bias.
3. Percentages have been rounded to the nearest 1 per cent
4. Monetary amounts have been rounded to the nearest £million
5. In the tables and analyses that follow, the following conventions have been used: - negligible (sample size less than 100 or rounds to 0 per cent)
6. The Family Resources Survey is known to under report receipt of state support and Tax Credits, more information can be found in table M.6 of the annual publication
7. Administrative data for Tax Credit expenditure in Great Britain is not available split by Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit. The figures from the Family Resources Survey have been adjusted to the administrative data available here:
8. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/benefit-expenditure-tables>