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WORK AND PENSION STATISTICS 2001

The 29th annual edition of Work and Pensions Statistics, formally known as Social Security Statistics is published today. The format of Work and Pensions Statistics 2001 is similar to Social Security Statistics 2000. The new Department for Work and Pensions was formed on 8th June 2001 from parts of the former Department of Social Security, parts of the former Department for Education and Employment and the Employment Service. To reflect this, statistics on employment as well as benefits have been incorporated into this edition. This publication begins by focussing on the three major client groups – Children and Families, Working Age and Pensioners, before examining individual benefit and employment statistics.

- Benefits administered by the Department for Work and Pensions, give financial support to individuals and families who have certain needs or who are in times of hardship.
- The National Insurance Fund provides contributory benefits against loss of income for those who are retired, widowed, unemployed, sick or disabled. It also provides help for some people with the costs involved in having a baby.
- Non-contributory benefits fall into two categories. There is income related support for people on low incomes in the form of Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based), Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and help from the Social Fund. There are also non-contributory benefits, which are not income related. These include Child Benefit, Industrial Injuries benefits, Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance for the long-term sick and disabled.
- Each benefit/ client group is explained in the prologue to the section. The prologue does not cover all conditions for entitlement to benefit or payment of contributions, nor does it give a complete history of changes.
- The material in the tables comes mainly from administrative data produced within the Department for Work and Pensions. You can find out details of the data sources in the prologues.
- Tables showing trends are included for a run of years. Detailed analyses are provided for the latest available period in 2001 or the most recent year available.
- Unless they say otherwise, tables relate to recipients living in Great Britain (and where indicated, overseas). Analyses for the English regions and for Wales and Scotland are presented in some tables, based on the government office regions (GORs).

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