

Client Group Analysis

**Quarterly bulletin on families
with children on key benefits**

August 2002

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Definitions and conventions

Children

The 'children' analyses are based on children in families where the claimant receives an additional allowance of benefit for children or young adult dependants (i.e. those aged 16-18 and still in full-time education); AND those children in families in receipt of contribution-based JSA or JSA National Insurance credits only, with children or young adult dependants recorded in the assessment. Additional amounts are payable for all dependant children in families receiving income related benefits (i.e. Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based)) or tax credits. The main gaps are children of claimants of Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance, for whom children information is incomplete; and children of claimants of Disability Living Allowance, for whom no children information is recorded.

Families

The 'family' tables in this publication are based on family units including children as defined above (e.g. a couple with children, a lone parent with children) and claiming a key benefit/ tax credit.

Key Benefits

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
Incapacity Benefit (IB)
Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)
Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
Income Support (IS)

Other Benefits

Child Benefit, Maternity Allowance and the Child Support Agency are not included in the tables. However, information is included in Appendices 1 to 3.

Tax credits

Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC)
Disabled Persons Tax Credit (DPTC)

Symbols and conventions

Working age is: 16 to 64 years for men and 16 to 59 years for women
Population estimate for children aged 0-15 is mid-year from 2001
Population figures for young adult dependants are derived from Child Benefit data

"-" less than 500
"." not applicable
".. " not available

Statistical group

Claimants and their families have been allocated to statistical groups to give an indication of the main reason why they are claiming benefit. This is only one of the possible ways in which claimants could be classified and alternative classifications are possible.

Families are assigned to statistical group according to the following hierarchy:

<i>If claimant receives</i>	JSA (including credits)	<i>then family assigned to:</i>	Unemployed
<i>Otherwise, if claimant receives</i>	IB (including credits)	" "	Sick & Disabled
" "	SDA	" "	Sick & Disabled
" "	IS, with disability premium	" "	Sick & Disabled
" "	IS, single	" "	Lone Parents
" "	IS	" "	Others

For example, if a claimant who is single receives IS but no disability premium then the family is assigned to 'Lone Parents'; but they also receive the disability premium then the family is assigned to 'Sick & Disabled'.

Main Findings

- At August 2002, 2.5 million children were living in families claiming a key benefit and receiving additional benefit for them (the term 'children' refers collectively to children aged 0-15 and young adult dependants aged 16-18 in full-time education). This figure is down 3.3% from last year. While numbers classed as 'Unemployed' fell by 10.2% over this period, and those classed as 'Lone Parents' by 3.2% the Sick & Disabled fell by 0.9% (Table 1).
- Although the number of children less than 16 years old, living in families where the benefit claimant was single, fell from the previous year (as did the number where the claimant had a partner), a greater *proportion* of children (under 16) were living in families where the claimant was single (73.1% compared with 72.4% a year ago) (Table 3).
- Amongst the Sick & Disabled Group proportionally fewer children were under the age of five compared to other statistical groups. This reflects the older age profile of those claiming a sickness and/or disability benefit (although some of this group's ages were unknown) (Table 4)
- Of those children in families on a key benefit, 64% had been on benefit for at least two years. This increased from 62% in August 2001. For the Sick & Disabled group the figure was higher: 77% (Table 5) at August 2002 compared to 75% at August 2001.
- The percentage of children (aged under 16 or aged 16-18 and in full-time education) living in families claiming a key benefit varied from 28% in the London Government Office Region (GOR) down to 13% in the South East GOR (Table 7), showing a variation between local authorities in regions.
- 67% of 'key benefit' children were in families that were claiming IS only (Table 8).
- While 4% of families claiming child benefit had four or more children (August 2002), the figure was 8.5% for families on key benefits. For the Unemployed statistical group the figure was higher: 11.3% (Table 13).

Tables and charts

Children on Benefit

Table 1 Children and young adult dependants of claimants of key benefits by statistical group: August 2000 to August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
	Number of children/dependants ¹		August-01		August-02	
	August-00	%	August-01	%	August-02	%
All statistical groups	2,674	100	2,593	100	2,509	100
Unemployed	261	10	215	8	193	8
Sick & Disabled	663	25	670	26	664	26
Lone Parents	1,680	63	1,646	63	1,594	64
Others	71	3	62	2	58	2

Notes:

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

- At August 2002, 2.5 million children (19.4% of the total population of children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 in full-time education), were living in families claiming a key benefit and receiving additional amounts of benefit for them. This represents a fall of 3.3% from the previous year.
- While numbers classed as 'Unemployed' fell by 10.2% in the last year, and those classed as 'Lone Parents' by 3.2%, the 'Sick & Disabled' group fell by 0.9%.

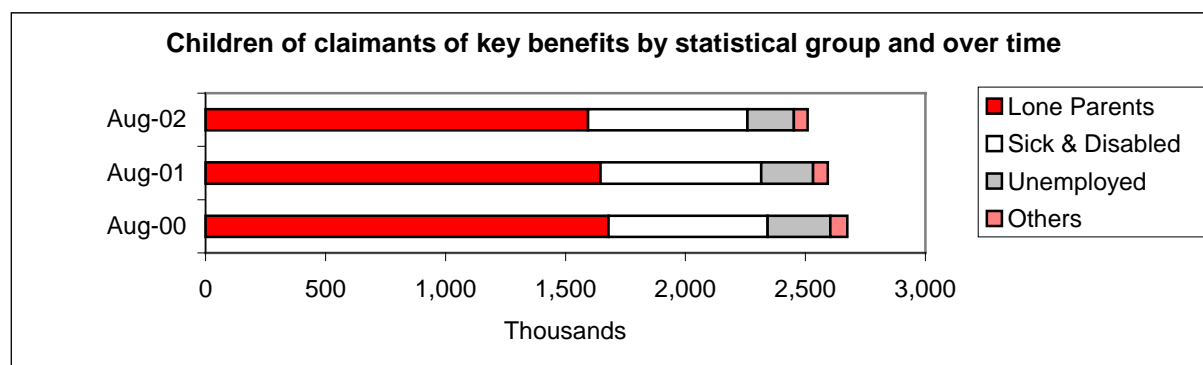


Table 2 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group of family & family type: August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	Children aged under 16 years					Young dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	% pop aged under 16	Family Type			All	% pop aged 16-18 ²	Family Type		
			Couple	Single	Not Known			Couple	Single	Not known
All statistical groups	2,314	20	574	1,691	49	195	13	65	130	-
Unemployed	171	1	164	6	-	23	2	12	11	-
Sick & Disabled	582	5	360	173	49	82	6	46	36	-
Lone Parents	1,511	13	-	1,511	-	83	6	-	83	-
Others	51	-	50	1	-	7	-	6	1	-

Notes:

1. Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable.
2. Population figures are based on 16 to 18 year olds in full time education (see definitions and conventions)..

- The percentage of under-16s living in key benefit households was 20% at August 2002; this compared with 13% for those aged 16-18 in full time education.

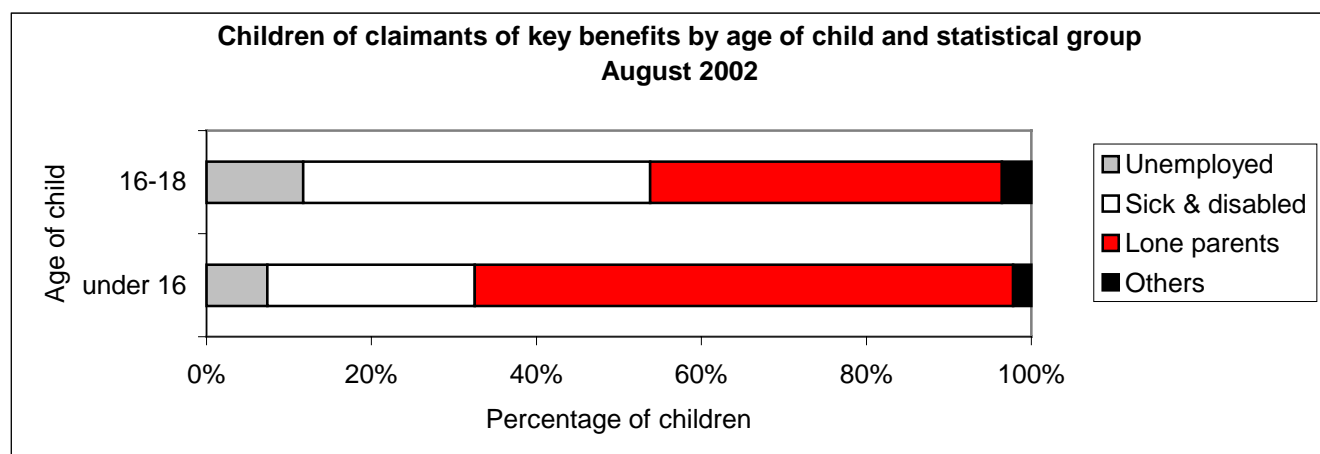


Table 3 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits by family type: August 2000 to August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>									
	Children aged under 16 years					Young dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	% pop aged under 16	Family type			All	% pop aged 16-18 ²	Family Type		
Couple			Single	Not known	Couple			Single	Not Known	
Aug 2000	2,483	..	653	1,771	59	191	..	67	124	-
Aug 2001	2,402	21	608	1,739	55	192	13	67	125	-
Aug 2002	2,314	20	574	1,691	49	195	13	65	130	-

Notes:

1. Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable
2. Population figures are based on 16 to 18 year olds in full time education (see definitions and conventions).
3. Population figures for August 2000 are not currently available. See methodology for more details.

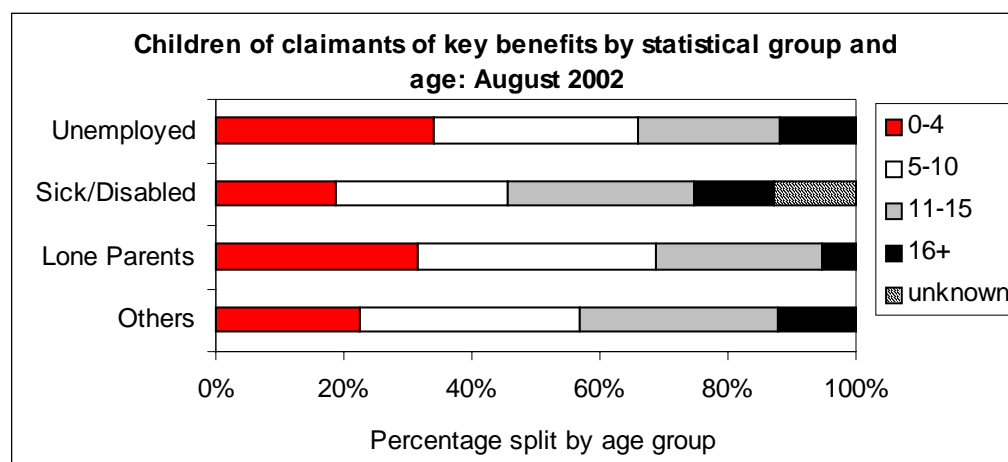
- Although the number of children less than 16 years old living in families where the benefit claimant was single, fell between August 2001 and August 2002 (as did the number where the claimant had a partner), a greater *proportion* of children (under 16) were living in families where the claimant was single (73.1% compared with 72.4% a year earlier), reflecting the faster falls in the married / cohabiting unit.
- For 16-18 year olds the *proportion* of children living in families where the claimant was single was 65.2% in August 2001. This increased to 66.9% in August 2002.

Table 4 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group of family and age of youngest child: August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>											
	All children/deps	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known	%
All statistical groups	2,509	100	707	28	851	34	670	27	195	8	86	3
Unemployed	193	100	66	34	62	32	43	22	23	12	-	0
Sick & Disabled	664	100	124	19	179	27	193	29	82	12	86	13
Lone Parents	1,594	100	505	32	590	37	416	26	83	5	-	0
Others	58	100	13	22	20	34	18	31	7	12	-	0

Notes:

1. Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).



- Amongst the Sick & Disabled Group proportionally fewer children were under the age of five compared to other statistical groups. This reflects the older age profile of those claiming a sickness and/or disability benefit (although many of this group's ages were unknown). The children of lone parents had the youngest profile, with 68.7% being aged under 11.

Table 5 Children and young adult dependants¹ of key benefits by statistical group of family and duration of claim: August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	All durations	%	Duration of oldest claim ²									
			Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years or over	%
All statistical groups	2,509	100	163	6	157	6	225	9	350	14	1,614	64
Unemployed	193	100	62	32	37	19	42	22	31	16	22	11
Sick & Disabled	664	100	16	2	23	3	41	6	75	11	510	77
Lone Parents	1,594	100	79	5	91	6	137	9	235	15	1,051	66
Others	58	100	6	10	6	10	6	10	9	16	31	53

Notes:

1. Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable.
2. Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt (see definitions and conventions).

- Of those children in families on a key benefit, 64% had been on benefit for at least two years (compared to 62% at August 2001). For the Sick & Disabled group the figure was 77%, while that for the unemployed was only 11%.
- Of those children in families classed as unemployed, 73% had been on benefit for less than a year.

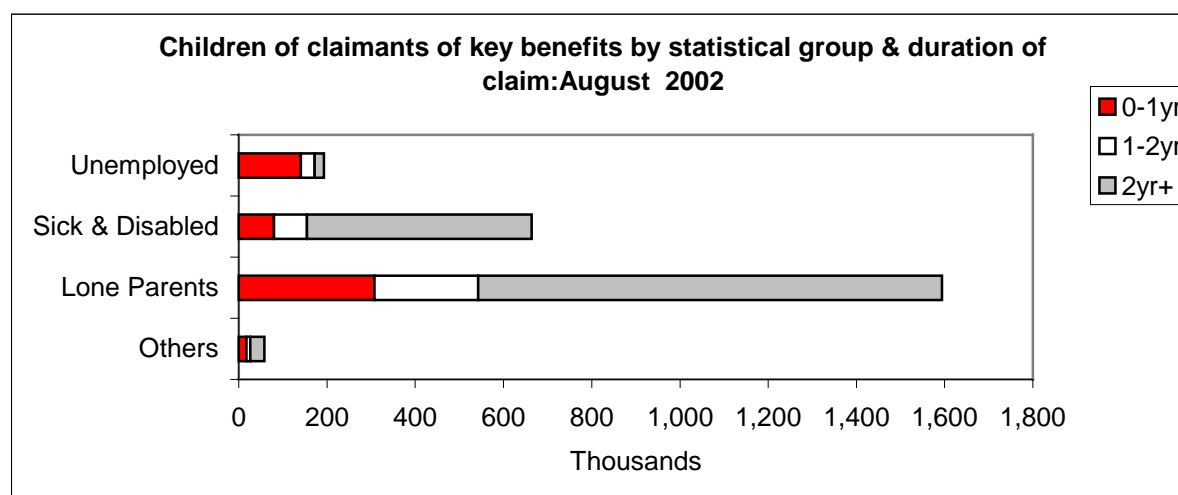


Table 6: Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits by duration of claim: August 2000 to August 2002.

Thousands and percentages

	All durations	Duration of oldest claim ²				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
August 2000	2,674	206	175	268	413	1,612
%	100	8	7	10	15	60
August 2001	2,593	178	162	251	382	1,620
%	100	7	6	10	15	62
August 2002	2,509	163	157	225	350	1,614
%	100	6	6	9	14	64

Notes:

- 1 Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable
- 2 Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt (see definitions and conventions).

- The percentage of children in families claiming benefit for at least two years was 64% in August 2002. This increased from 62% in August 2001. Conversely, the percentage of children in families claiming benefit for under one year has dropped from 23% in August 2001 to 22% in August 2002

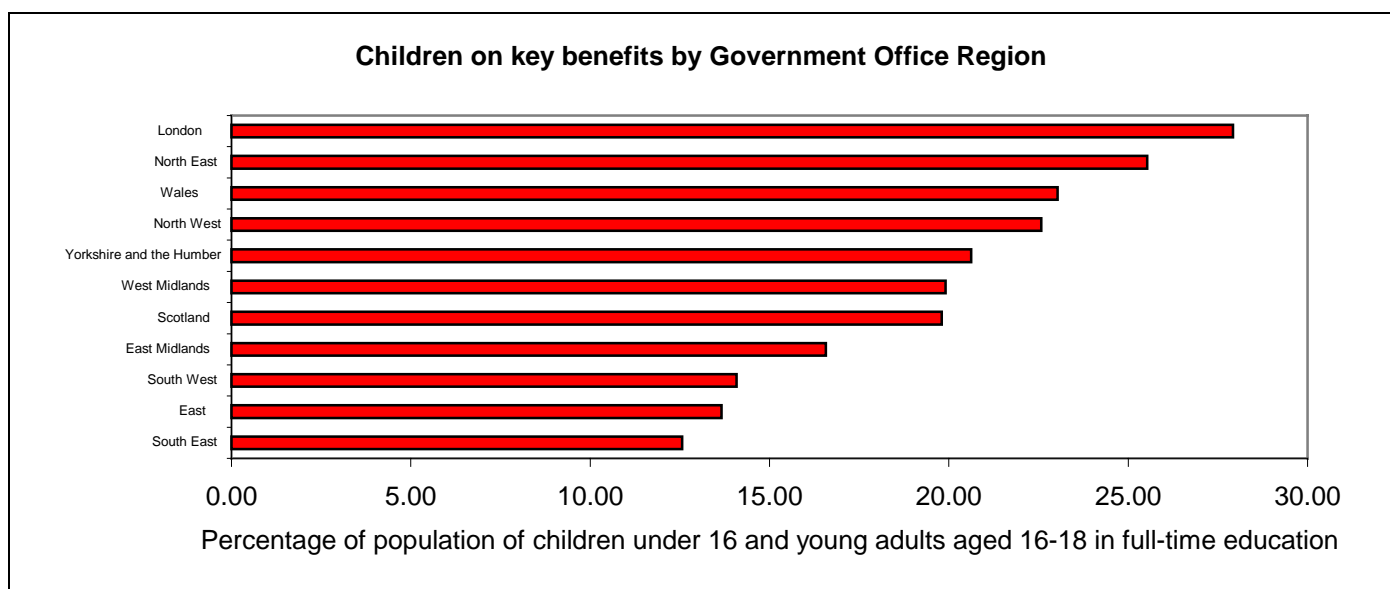
Table 7 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits by Government Office Region: August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>	
	'000	% of pop ²
Great Britain	2,508	19
England	2,145	19
North East	143	26
North West	363	23
Yorkshire and the Humber	227	20
East Midlands	156	17
West Midlands	255	21
East	172	14
London	457	28
South East	226	13
South West	145	14
Wales	150	23
Scotland	213	20
SDA/IB claimants living abroad	1	.

Notes:

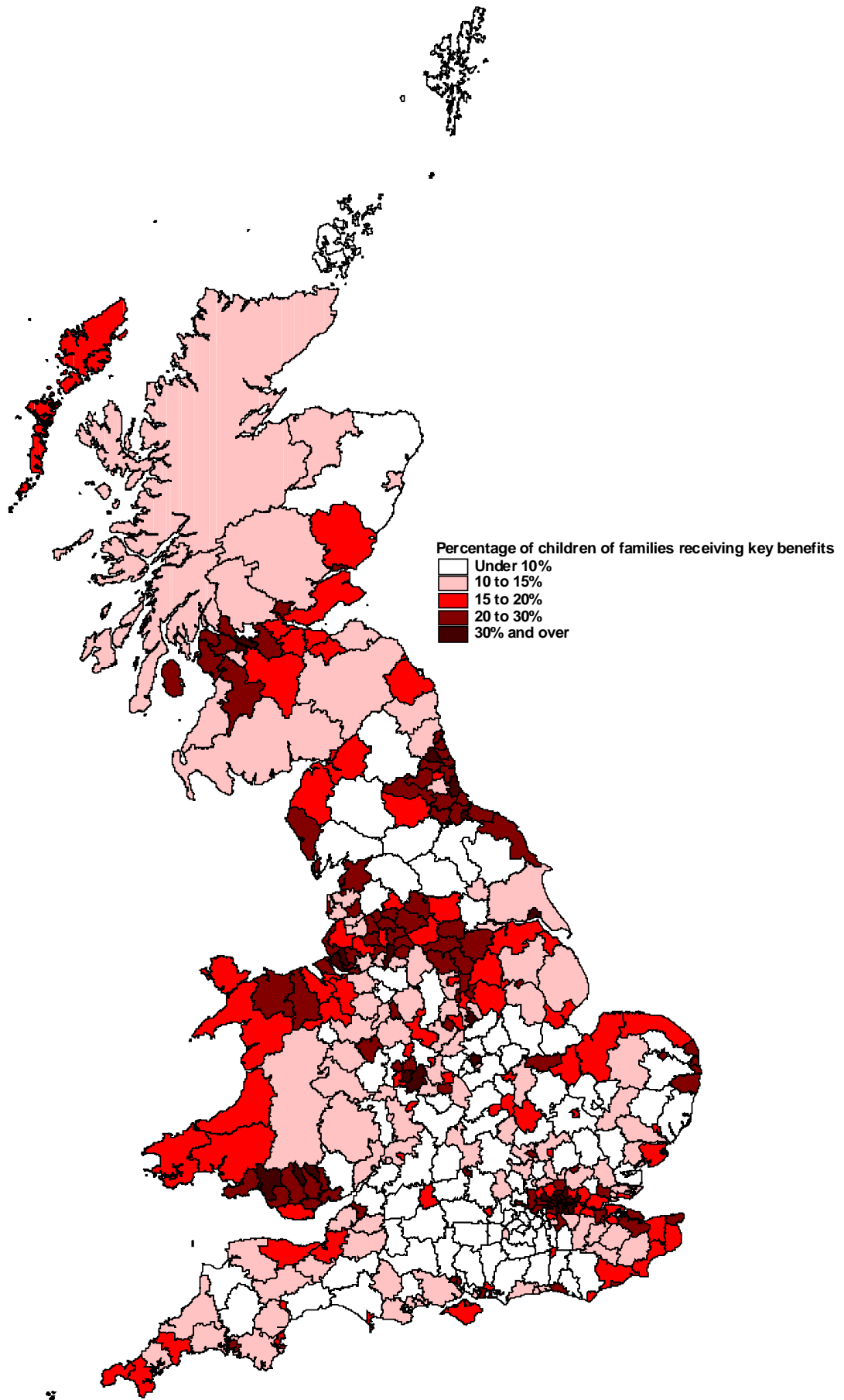
1. Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).
2. Population aged under 16 plus population aged 16 to 18 in full-time education (from Child Benefit estimates)

- The percentage of children (aged under 16 or aged 16-18 and in full-time education) living in families claiming a key benefit varied from 28% in the London Government Office Region (GOR) down to 13% in the South East GOR. All regions have areas with high and low proportion of children living in families on key benefits. For example, in the North East 11% of children in Castle Morpeth lived in families on key benefits compared to 32% of children in Easington.



Further regional benefit statistics can be accessed at the Neighbourhood Statistics Service web site at: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/home.asp>

Children of claimants of key benefits, as a percentage of population aged under 16 or aged 16-19 in full time education: August 2002



These figures are not seasonally adjusted. Comparisons should be made 'year on year'.

Table 8 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of combinations of key benefits: August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>	
	Number of children/deps	% population ²
All combinations	2,509	19
IS only	1,687	13
JSA only	190	1
IS & IB	311	2
IS,IB & DLA ³	153	1
IB only	45	-
IB & DLA	38	-
IS & DLA	49	-
IS, DLA & SDA	22	-
IS & SDA	7	-
DLA & SDA	2	-
DLA & JSA	1	-
SDA only	1	-
Others ⁴	3	-

Notes:

- 1 *Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable*
- 2 *Population aged under 16 plus population aged 16-18 in full-time education*
- 3 *No allowance payable for dependants of recipients of DLA only, therefore no such dependants included in figures*
- 4 *Due to slight differences in dates of benefit data extracts, includes anomalies such as IB with JSA (see definitions and conventions).*

- 67% of 'key benefit' children were in families claiming IS only, reflecting the fact that lone parents form the majority of families with children dependent on key benefits.

Families on Benefit

Table 9 Families¹ on key benefits by statistical group and duration of claim: August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	All durations	%	Duration of oldest claim ²									
			Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years or over	%
All statistical groups	1,310	100	87	7	85	6	123	9	192	15	823	63
Unemployed	95	100	32	34	18	19	20	21	14	15	10	11
Sick & Disabled	352	100	8	2	12	3	21	6	40	11	271	77
Lone Parents	839	100	44	5	53	6	79	9	134	16	529	63
Others	24	100	3	13	3	13	3	13	4	17	13	54

Notes:

1. Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable
2. Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt (see definitions and conventions).

- 63% of families on key benefits had been on benefit for at least two years. For the sick and disabled group the figure was 77% while that for the unemployed was 11%.
- 75% of families classed as unemployed had been on benefit for less than a year.

Table 10 Families¹ on key benefits by duration of claim: August 2000 to August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	All durations	Duration of oldest claim ²				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
August 2000	1,392	107	94	145	219	827
%	100	8	7	10	16	59
August 2001	1,352	94	88	139	204	828
%	100	7	6	10	15	61
August 2002	1,310	87	85	123	192	823
%	100	7	7	9	15	63

Notes:

1. Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).
2. Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- In the last two years the number of families on a benefit for at least two years increased from 59% in August 2000 to 63% in August 2002. In the same period the percentage of families on a benefit for under one year dropped from 25% to 23%.

Table 11 Families¹ on key benefits by statistical group and age of youngest child: August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	All ages		Age of youngest child								Not known	
		%	Under 5	%	5-11	%	11-16	%	16+	%	known	%
All statistical groups	1,310	100	564	43	395	30	240	18	60	5	52	4
Unemployed	95	100	48	51	21	22	13	14	13	14	-	-
Sick & Disabled	352	100	96	27	86	24	81	23	37	11	52	15
Lone Parents	839	100	410	49	281	33	141	17	8	1	-	-
Others	24	100	10	42	7	29	5	21	2	8	-	-

Notes:

1. Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

- Of the youngest children of families on key benefits, 43% were under the age of five.
- For the Sick & Disabled the age profile of the youngest children was older (although many of this group's ages were unknown).

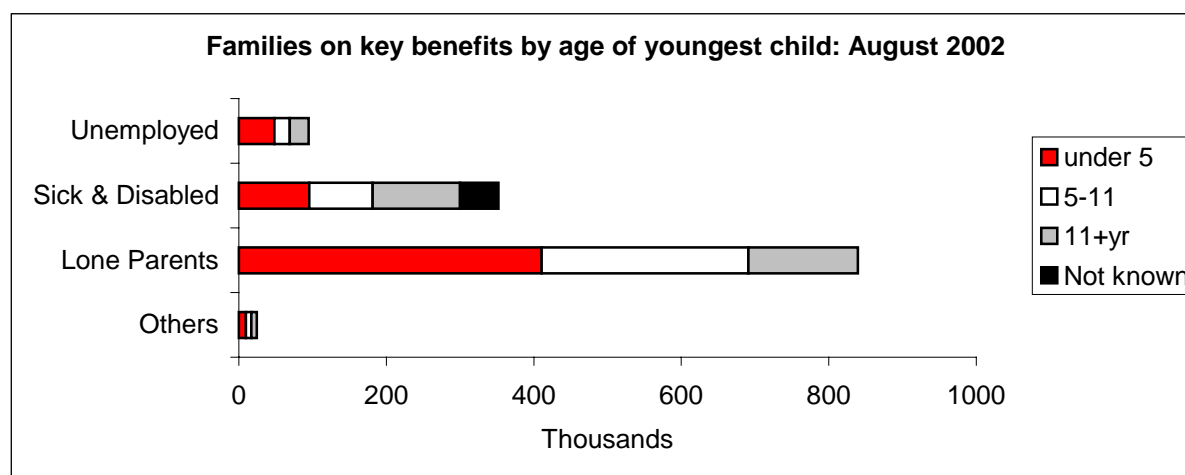


Table 12 Families¹ on key benefits with children and/or young adult dependants: August 2000 to August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	All families	Age of youngest child					Not known
		Under 5	5 to under 11	11 to under 16	16 or over		
August 2000	1,392	610	421	238	59	63	
%	100	44	30	17	4	5	
August 2001	1,353	590	408	239	58	58	
%	100	44	30	18	4	4	
August 2002	1,310	564	395	240	60	52	
%	100	43	30	18	5	4	

Notes:

1 Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

- Between August 2000 and August 2002 there has been a gradual shift in the age profile of the youngest child in families on key benefits, with the proportion of families with the youngest child under 11 slightly falling.

Table 13 Families¹ on key benefits by statistical group and number of children: August 2002

Thousands

	All families	Number of children			
		One	Two	Three	Four or more
All statistical groups	1,310	581	422	196	111
Unemployed	95	38	30	16	11
Sick & Disabled	352	167	105	48	31
Lone Parents	839	368	279	127	65
Others	24	8	7	5	5

Notes:

1 Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

- While 4% of families claiming Child Benefit had four or more children (August 2002), the figure was 8.5% for families on key benefits. For the unemployed the figure was higher: 11.3%.

Table 14 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group of family: August 2000 to August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	Number of children/dependants ¹					
	Aug-00	%	Aug-01	%	Aug-02	%
All statistical groups	4,769	100	4,982	100	5,029	100
Unemployed	262	5	217	4	195	4
Sick & Disabled	673	14	682	14	676	13
Lone Parents	1,680	35	1,646	33	1,594	32
Others	71	1	62	1	58	1
Working Family	2,064	43	2,351	47	2,479	49
Working Disabled	19	-	24	-	28	1

Notes:

1. Children aged under 16 and young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

Table 15 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group of family & family type: August 2002

Thousands and percentages

	Children aged under 16 years					Young dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	% pop aged under 16	Family Type			All	% pop aged 16-18 ²	Family Type		
			Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known
All statistical groups	4,636	40	1,870	2,717	48	393	27	145	248	-
Unemployed	172	2	165	7	-	23	2	12	11	-
Sick & Disabled	592	5	366	178	48	83	6	46	37	-
Lone Parents	1,511	13	-	1,511	-	83	6	-	83	-
Others	51	-	50	1	-	7	-	6	1	-
Working Family	2,285	20	1,275	1,011	-	193	13	78	115	-
Working Disabled	24	-	15	9	-	3	-	2	2	-

Notes:

1 Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

2 Population figures based on 16 to 18 year olds in full time education and for whom Child Benefit is payable

Table 16 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group of family and age of child: August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>											
	Number of children/dependants ¹											
	All ages	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known	%
All statistical groups	5,029	100	1,396	28	1,758	35	1,396	28	393	8	85	2
Unemployed	195	100	66	34	62	32	43	22	23	12	-	-
Sick & Disabled	676	100	126	19	184	27	198	29	83	12	85	13
Lone Parents	1,594	100	505	32	590	37	416	26	83	5	-	-
Others	58	100	13	22	20	34	18	31	7	12	-	-
Working Family	2,479	100	680	27	893	36	712	29	193	8	-	-
Working Disabled	28	100	5	18	9	32	10	36	3	11	-	-

Notes:

1 Children aged under 16 and young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

Table 17 Children and young adult dependants¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group of family and duration of claim: August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>											
	Duration of oldest claim ²											
	All durations	%	Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years or over	%
All statistical groups	5,029	100	457	9	523	10	652	13	915	18	2,481	49
Unemployed	195	100	51	26	40	21	45	23	34	17	25	13
Sick & Disabled	676	100	15	2	24	4	43	6	77	11	516	76
Lone Parents	1,594	100	74	5	92	6	139	9	237	15	1,053	66
Others	58	100	5	9	6	10	6	10	9	16	32	55
Working Family	2,479	100	312	13	361	15	417	17	552	22	837	34
Working Disabled	28	100	1	4	1	4	2	7	5	18	18	64

Notes:

1 Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit payable (see definitions and conventions).

2 Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

Table 18 Families¹ on key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group of family and duration: August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>											
	All durations		Duration of oldest claim ²									
			Under 3 months		3 to under 6 months		6 months to under 1 year		1 to under 2 years		2 years or over	
	%		%		%		%		%		%	
All statistical groups	2,603	100	244	9	278	11	345	13	478	18	1,259	48
Unemployed	96	100	27	28	20	21	22	23	16	17	11	11
Sick & Disabled	358	100	8	2	12	3	22	6	41	11	275	77
Lone Parents	839	100	41	5	53	6	80	10	135	16	530	63
Others	24	100	2	8	3	13	3	13	4	17	13	54
Working Family	1,271	100	166	13	189	15	217	17	280	22	420	33
Working Disabled	15	100	1	7	1	7	1	7	2	13	10	67

Notes:

- 1 Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).
- 2 Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt.

Table 19 Families¹ on key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group of family and age of youngest child: August 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>											
	All ages		Age of youngest child									
			Under 5		5-11		11-16		16+		Not known	
	%		%		%		%		%		%	
All statistical groups	2,603	100	1,108	43	826	32	498	19	120	5	52	2
Unemployed	96	100	49	51	21	22	13	14	13	14	-	-
Sick & Disabled	358	100	98	27	88	25	83	23	38	11	52	15
Lone Parents	839	100	410	49	281	33	141	17	8	1	-	-
Others	24	100	10	42	7	29	5	21	2	8	-	-
Working Family	1,271	100	537	42	537	42	252	20	58	5	-	-
Working Disabled	15	100	4	27	5	33	4	27	2	13	-	-

Notes:

1. Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).

Table 20 Families¹ on key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group and number of children: August 2002

	All families	Number of children			
		One	Two	Three	Four or more
All statistical groups	2,603	1,082	907	409	205
Unemployed	96	39	31	16	11
Sick & Disabled	358	170	107	50	32
Lone Parents	839	368	279	127	65
Others	24	8	7	5	5
Working family	1,271	492	477	210	92
Working disabled	15	7	6	2	1

Notes:

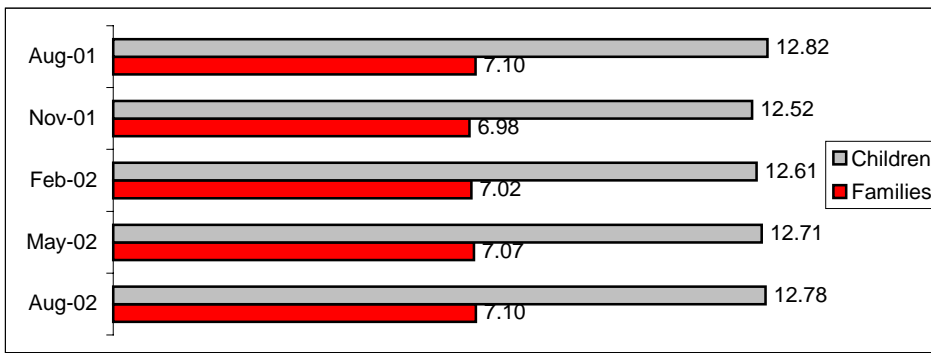
1. *Claimants with children under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18 for whom additional benefit allowance payable (see definitions and conventions).*

Appendices

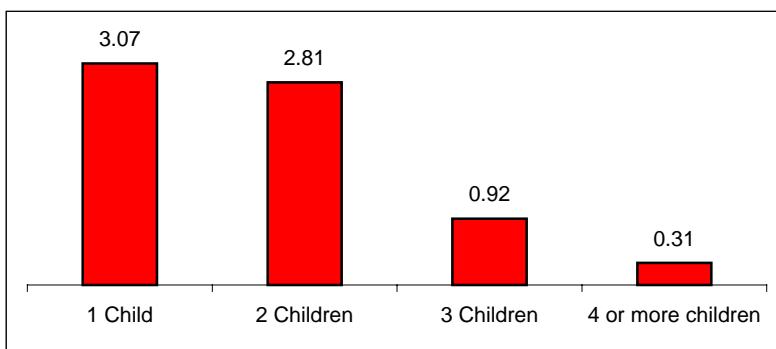
Appendix 1 – Child Benefit

- At the end of August 2002 there were around 7.10 million families receiving a payment of Child Benefit and 12.78 million children for whom a payment of Child Benefit was being made. Both remain virtually the same as at the same point a year earlier, in line with the long-term trend.
- Within academic years, the caseload rises as new births outstrip those 16-18 year olds leaving full-time education - up to A-level or NVQ level 3 standard - and so no longer being eligible for Child Benefit. At the end of each academic year (early September, officially), the volume of 16-18 year olds leaving full-time education is at its greatest, outstripping new births, and the Child Benefit caseload falls again.

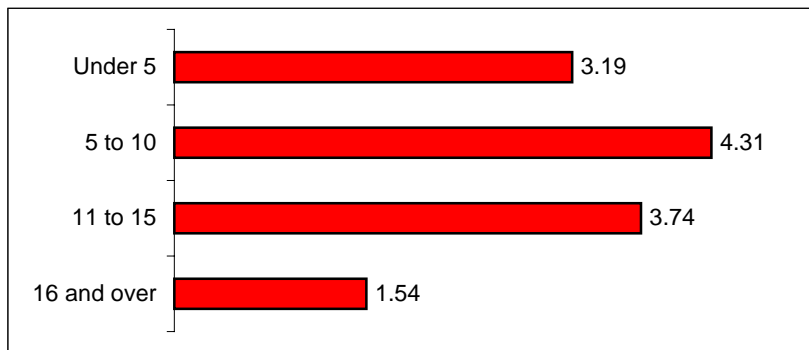
Child Benefit caseload: Families and children (millions), August 2002



Child Benefit families by number of children, August 2002 (millions)



Child Benefit caseload by age of children, August 2002 (millions)

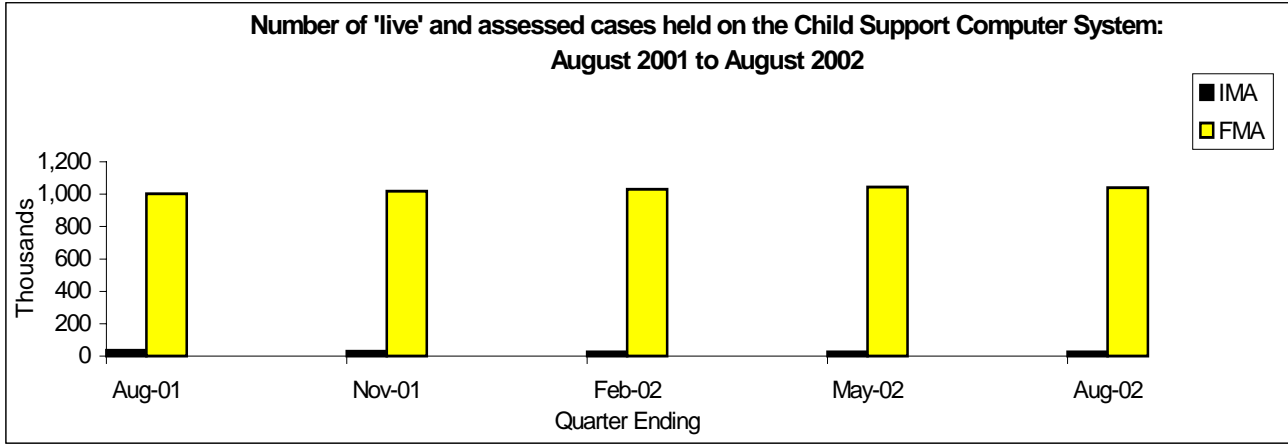


Child Benefit rates

	<i>£ per week</i>		
	Eldest qualifying child of a couple	Eldest qualifying child of a lone parent	Each other child
Apr-92	9.65	15.50	7.80
Apr-93	10.00	16.05	8.10
Apr-94	10.20	16.35	8.25
Apr-95	10.40	16.70	8.45
Apr-96	10.80	17.10	8.80
Apr-97	11.05	17.10	9.00
Apr-98	11.45	17.10	9.30
Apr-99	14.40	17.10	9.60
Apr-00	15.00	17.55	10.00
Apr-01	15.50	17.55	10.35
Apr-02	15.75	17.55	10.55

Appendix 2 – Child Support Agency

At the end of August 2002 there were 1,041.1 thousand 'live' and fully assessed cases held on the Child Support Computer System (CSCS).



- The average weekly maintenance assessment for all 'live' fully assessed cases rose from £20.77 to £21.16 during the period August 2001 to August 2002. NRPs with regular income working as an employee had an average weekly full maintenance assessment of £39.15 at the end of August 2002, compared with £22.71 for the self-employed. However, the NRP benefit/employment status used to produce these figures may not fully reflect the current position.

Table 1 Number of NRPs with a full maintenance assessment and average value of assessment: August 2001 to August 2002

<i>NRPs with a full maintenance assessment</i>		
	FMA (thousands)	Average £ pw
August 2001	1,001.5	£20.77
November 2001	1,019.0	£20.81
February 2002	1,031.8	£20.87
May 2002	1,045.7	£21.10
August 2002	1,041.1	£21.16

- PWCs are assigned to a benefit status according to the following order of priority: receiving Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC), receiving income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA(IB)), receiving Income Support (IS), and 'Other' (i.e. cases not covered earlier in the list whose income is from other sources, such as pensions, investments, irregular employment income, and other benefits).

These figures are not seasonally adjusted. Comparisons should be made 'year on year'.

Table 2 Benefit Status of PWC, August 2001 – August 2002: full assessments

Thousands and percentages

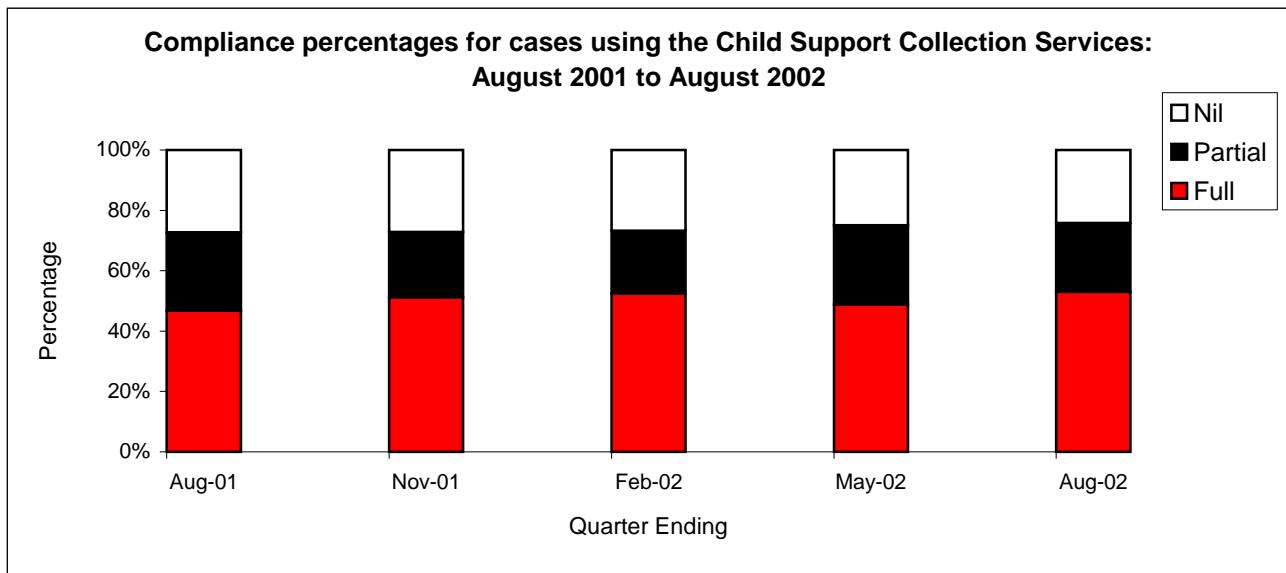
	Total	PWC Benefit Status							
		Income Support		JSA (IB)		WFTC		Other	
			%		%		%		%
August 2001	1,001.5	383.9	38.3	9.6	1.0	252.6	25.2	355.4	35.5
November 2001	1,019.0	380.9	37.4	8.6	0.8	258.0	25.3	371.4	36.4
February 2002	1,031.8	383.0	37.1	9.2	0.9	261.8	25.4	377.8	36.6
May 2002	1,045.7	386.5	37.0	8.7	0.8	262.3	25.1	388.2	37.1
August 2002	1,041.1	387.2	37.2	8.2	0.8	274.6	26.4	371.2	35.7

- In the following table, the 'Not Applicable' category includes those cases where payment is not via the collection service, or where the NRP was not charged anything during the quarter.

Table 3 Compliance levels for 'live and fully assessed' cases, August 2001 to August 2002 caseload

Thousands

	Total	Not Applicable	Full	Partial	Nil
August 2001	1,001.5	631.5	173.2	95.8	101.0
November 2001	1,019.0	647.4	190.4	80.4	100.7
February 2002	1,031.8	663.9	193.1	76.3	98.5
May 2002	1,045.7	674.4	181.5	97.4	92.4
August 2002	1,041.1	667.8	197.7	85.1	90.4



These figures are not seasonally adjusted. Comparisons should be made 'year on year'.

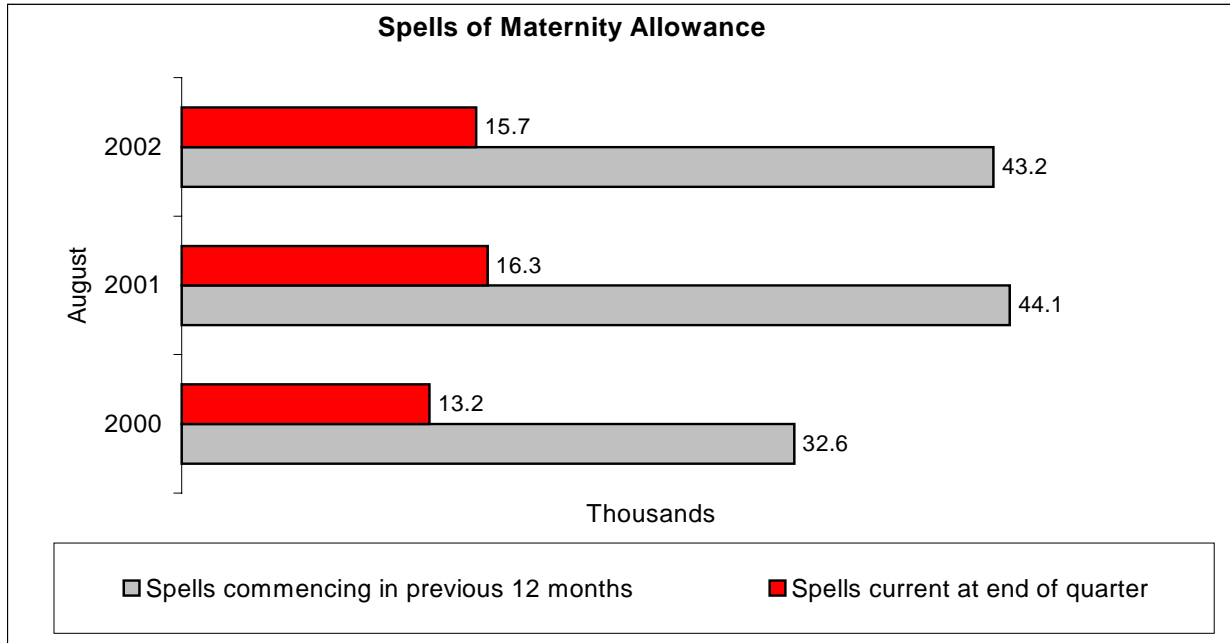
The number of qualifying children in the fully assessed caseload has increased by 3% overall since August 2001.



These figures are not seasonally adjusted. Comparisons should be made 'year on year'.

Appendix 3 – Maternity Allowance

At the end of August 2002 there were 15.7 thousand spells of Maternity Allowance in payment, 18.8% up on two years earlier, and reflecting the increase in the number of new spells.



Maternity Allowance rates

	Higher rate ¹	Lower rate	Increase for dependants	<i>£ per week</i>
Apr-92	.	42.25		25.50
Apr-93	.	43.75		26.40
Apr-94	.	44.55		26.90
Oct-94	52.50	44.55		26.90
Apr-95	52.50	45.55		27.50
Apr-96	54.55	47.35		28.55
Apr-97	55.70	48.35		29.15
Apr-98	57.70	50.10		30.20
Apr-99	59.55	51.70		31.15
Apr-00	60.20	52.25		31.50
Apr-01 ²	62.20 ²	.		32.55
Apr-02 ²	75.00	.		33.10

Notes:

1. The woman must be an employee in the 15th week before the baby is expected (the 'qualifying week').
2. In April 2001 the higher and lower rates of maternity allowance were abolished and replaced by a standard rate.

Methodology

A full description of the methodology used to produce these analyses and the possible uses that can be made of the data is available from the contact point listed earlier in this publication.

Summary of methodology

These analyses have been constructed by matching 5% samples for the individual benefits/tax credits that they cover. People in these individual samples are selected using the last two digits of the national insurance number (NINO). This sampling scheme ensures that the same set of people will be selected for each individual benefit/tax credit and time period for which they have a live claim or award.

To produce the client group analyses, a common 'snapshot' date is chosen and the NINOs for each person claiming a benefit or receiving a tax credit on this date are selected. The NINOs are then matched to produce an overall data set for those who are claiming at least one benefit or receiving a tax credit on the snapshot date. The individual data items used for the various analyses (e.g. age, sex, number of children for which additional benefit payable) are then taken from the source data sets and additional variables are then derived (e.g. statistical group, family type).

This methodology gives a 'best estimate' of the overall number of claimants of benefits and recipients of tax credits. However, there are some minor limitations, e.g. the sample of JSA claimants is taken about two weeks before the snapshot date. The best estimates for the numbers claiming each benefit are still given by the individual samples from which the data are drawn. These are published by DWP Information and Analysis Directorate and tax credit statistics are published by Inland Revenue Analysis and Research Services.

Children and Families

These analyses are based on children in families where the claimant receives an additional allowance of benefit for children or young adult dependants (i.e. those aged 16-18 and still in full-time education); AND those children in families in receipt of contribution-based JSA or JSA National Insurance credits only, with children or young adult dependants recorded in the assessment. Additional amounts are payable for all dependant children in families receiving income related benefits (i.e. Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based)) or tax credits. The main gaps are children of claimants of Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance, for whom children information is incomplete; and children of claimants of Disability Living Allowance, for whom no children information is recorded.

Family type

The 'family type' analyses (i.e. single, couple, not known) in tables 2, 3 and 15 are based primarily on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit or tax credit for their partner. These amounts are payable for all partners of claimants of income related benefits or recipients of tax credits, which are received by the majority of people covered by these analyses. The main gap comes from claimants of IB/SDA where additional benefit is payable only to those who have a partner who is not working and is looking after children. Most IB/SDA claimants do not qualify for these allowances, though the DWP Family Resources Survey (FRS) suggests that about half have a partner.

This table explains the definitions used in the 'family type' tables:

Family type	Definition
Couple	People who receive an additional allowance of benefit or tax credit for their partner; or those in receipt of contribution-based JSA or JSA national insurance credits only, with a partner recorded.
Single	People who have their status recorded as single and therefore do not receive an additional allowance of benefit or tax credit for a partner.
Not known	People who do not have a marital status recorded and are not receiving an additional allowance of benefit or tax credit for a partner. These are mainly IB/SDA claimants and include a small number who receive allowances for dependants but not partners.

Clerical cases

Some of the claims to each of the key benefits featured in this bulletin are not administered using the relevant DWP computer system. These claims are administered clerically and make up a very small proportion of people of working age who claim a key benefit. Therefore most clerical cases have been excluded, except Income Support claims where clerical cases are included.

Population Estimates

The Office of National Statistics have revised the population estimates. The figures for the years 1991-2000 will not be released until 13th February 2003. Therefore there are currently no comparisons available for percentage of the population.

Sampling error

The analyses in this report are subject to 'sampling error', i.e. by chance the number of cases in the sample with certain characteristics (e.g. "with children") may produce rated up estimates for the population which are slightly lower or slightly higher than the true population value. An indication of the effect of these sampling errors can be gained from the table of 'confidence intervals' below. Each figure shown in the tables in this report is a best estimate based on the sample data. The true number will most probably lie somewhere in a range around this estimate. The size of this range is usually indicated by a '95% confidence interval'. There is only a 1 in 20 chance that the true value lies outside of this range. Usually this interval is approximately symmetric so, for example, an estimate of 10,000 is really showing that the true value probably lies in the range 9,100 to 10,900.

Approximate 95% confidence intervals for a sample based on 1 in every 20 cases in the population are shown below for estimates of 1,000 or more.

Estimated value	95% confidence interval (+ or -)	Confidence interval as % of estimate (+ or -)
1,000	270	27
2,000	382	19
3,000	468	16
4,000	540	14
5,000	604	12
6,000	662	11
7,000	715	10
8,000	764	10
9,000	811	9
10,000	854	9
20,000	1,208	6
30,000	1,480	5
40,000	1,709	4
50,000	1,910	4
100,000	2,702	3
200,000	3,821	2
300,000	4,679	2
400,000	5,403	1
500,000	6,041	1
600,000	6,618	1
700,000	7,148	1
800,000	7,641	1
900,000	8,105	1
1,000,000	8,543	1

The above method applies only to estimates of numbers of people and not to other characteristics (such as percentages).

