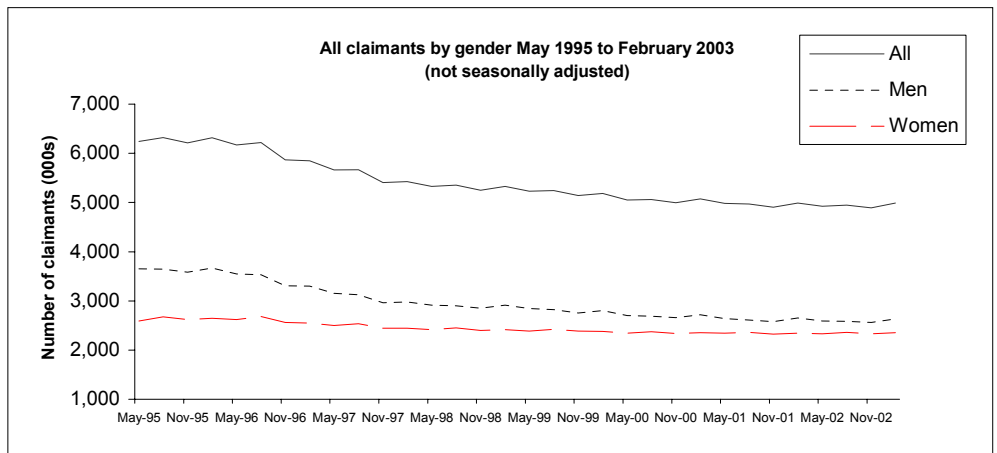


19<sup>th</sup> June 2003

Coverage: Great Britain  
Theme: Social and Welfare

## CLIENT GROUP ANALYSIS: QUARTERLY BULLETIN ON THE POPULATION OF WORKING AGE ON KEY BENEFITS – FEBRUARY 2003

4.99 million people of working age were claiming a key benefit in February 2003, no change from a year previously, and up 96,000 from November 2002. The rise in the last quarter is due to the normal seasonal trend. The number of male claimants fell by 15,000 to 2.63 million and the number of female claimants rose by 15,000 to 2.36 million over the year.



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**Next Publication:**  
18<sup>th</sup> September 2003.

The number of unemployed claimants fell by 10,000 between February 2002 and February 2003, while lone parents and others fell by 24,000 and 6,000 respectively. The number of claimants who were sick/disabled increased by 39,000.

14.2% of the working age population were claiming a key benefit in February 2003. There were falls for each of the statistical groups with the exception of sick/disabled which increased from 8.6% to 8.7% over the year.

	February 03		Change on a year ago	
	Claimants (Thousands)	% of population working age	Thousands	Percentage points
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>	-	-
Unemployed	936	2.7	-10	-
Sick/Disabled	3,049	8.7	39	0.1
Lone Parents	817	2.3	-24	-0.1
Others	191	0.5	-6	-

## Flows

There were 526 thousand people who were not claiming in November 2002 but were in February 2003, 10,000 higher than a year ago.

The number of people who stopped claiming between November and February fell between 2002 and 2003.

The proportion of claimants in November who ceased claiming by February rose between 2002 and 2003 for the Sick and Disabled and Others statistical groups.

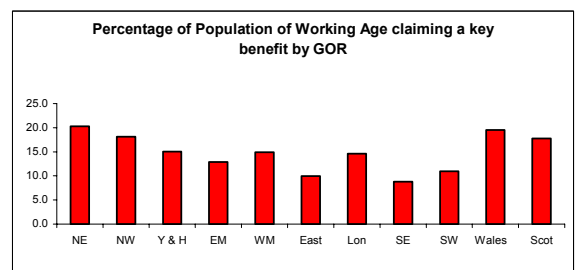
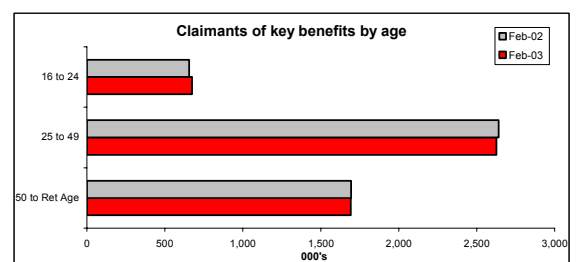
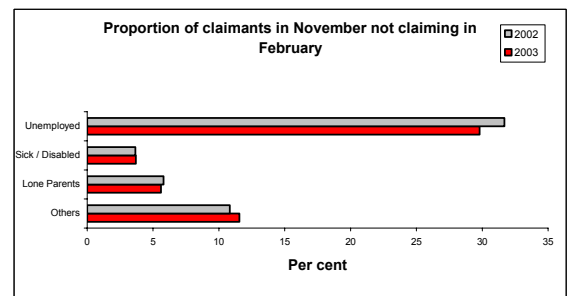
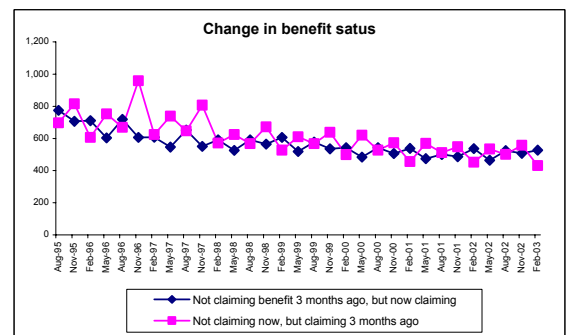
## Age Groups

Falls have been seen in the number of claimants in the age categories 25 to 49 and 50 to state pension age over the last year, although there has been a rise in the 16 to 24 category. The 25 to 49s saw the largest increase in the number of sick and disabled claimants, whereas the other claimants in the same group saw the largest percentage decrease.

## Regions

The proportion of the working age population claiming a key benefit ranged from 20.3% in the North East to 8.8% in the South East.

The number of claimants of key benefits fell in the majority of regions between February 2002 and February 2003, with the exceptions being West Midlands, East of England, London, South East of England and South West of England.



## Key Benefits

Claimants who receive at least one of:

- Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA);
- Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance (IB & SDA);
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA);
- Income Support (IS);
- National Insurance Credits (through JSA or IB).

## **Notes to editors**

DWP Information and Analysis Directorate (IAD) have developed these analyses from its existing samples of administrative data on the population of working age. This work was done primarily to help improve the relevance of DWP data to monitor the Government's Welfare Reform agenda.

By matching data from individual 5% samples, an estimate can be made of the number of people who were claiming at least one of the key benefits that are available to the population of working age with the main exception of Bereavement Benefit, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit. Information on the key characteristics of these claimants is also available, such as age, sex, geography, family type, statistical group and duration of claim. It is also possible to look at changes in the composition of this group in the benefits system over time, including those that affect individual claimants.

Sections 6 and 7, which previously contained information on children, are no longer included in this bulletin. This information is included in "Client Group Analysis: Quarterly Bulletin on families with children on key benefits", which is also published on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2003.

These analyses are based on information collected for the administration of benefits. This means that analyses of such things as family type are based mainly on those for whom some additional allowance of benefit is payable.

Figures are published on a quarterly basis via the attached statistical bulletin. The definitive estimates of caseloads and characteristics of claimants of each individual benefit can be found in the separate tables that IAD also issues on behalf of DWP.

Previous issues of the bulletin relating to November 1999 and before included those claiming Family Credit (FC) or Disability Working Allowance (DWA). These benefits ceased to be available to new claimants in October 1999 and were completely phased out by April 2000. They were replaced by Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC) and Disabled Person's Tax Credit (DPTC) and are administered by Inland Revenue. Analysis of people claiming key benefits and/or receiving tax credits is available in Section 8 of the main bulletin or on request. Data on awards of WFTC and DPTC are supplied by, and used with agreement of, Inland Revenue.

The full version of this bulletin in adobe acrobat format is placed on the Internet on the DWP website. The full address is: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/cga.html>

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# **Client Group Analysis**

## **Quarterly bulletin on the population of working age on key benefits**

### **February 2003**

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## Definitions and conventions

### Key benefits

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

### Symbols and conventions

Working age is 16 to 64 years for men  
16 to 59 years for women

Population estimates are mid year 1995 - 2001  
“..” not available  
“-” less than 500  
“.” not applicable

### Inland Revenue Tax Credits

Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC) [Family Credit (FC) prior to October 1999]  
Disabled Person's Tax Credit (DPTC) [Disability Working Allowance (DWA) prior to October 1999]

### Statistical group

Claimant of at least one of:

Unemployed	JSA
Sick/Disabled	IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
Lone Parent	Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
Other	IS claimant not in other groups, e.g. carers, asylum seekers, pensioners (Minimum Income Guarantee)(Men aged 60-64)

### Family Type

This is based mainly on whether the claimant has a partner and dependants for which additional amounts of benefit are payable. These are payable with all benefits except:

JSA (Contribution-based)	(Details still available for partners)
DLA	no details available
IB/SDA	details available only for claimants who qualify for a child and/or partner allowance (not payable in all cases)

### Benefit type

Income replacement	IS, JSA, IB and SDA
Other	DLA
NI Credits only	Through claiming JSA or IB

### Benefit entitlement

Contributory benefits	IB, Contribution-based JSA
Income related benefits	IS and Income based JSA
Other benefits	SDA, DLA

## Summaries

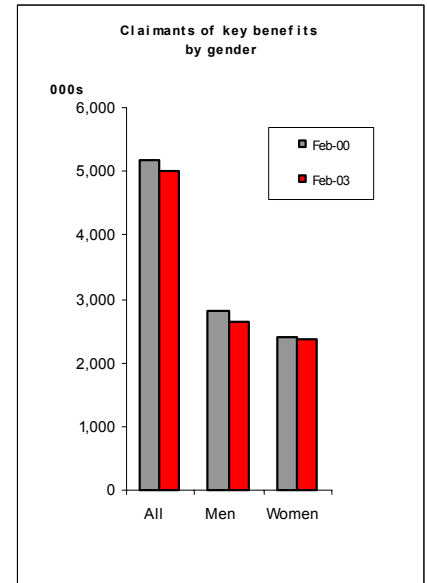
Sections 1 to 6 summarise the main finding from the analysis, whilst section 7 gives quarterly time series. Section 8 contains analysis of those claiming a key benefit and/or a tax credit.

## Section 1. Age and Gender

**Table 1.1 Claimants of key benefits by gender: February 2000 to February 2003**

	<i>Thousands</i>			
	February-00	February-01	February-02	February-03
<b>All</b>	<b>5,185</b>	<b>5,077</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>4,992</b>
<b>% of pop.<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Men	2,802	2,719	2,650	2,634
% of pop. <sup>1</sup>	15.6	15.0	14.6	14.6
Women	2,383	2,358	2,342	2,358
% of pop. <sup>1</sup>	14.1	13.8	13.7	13.8

<sup>1</sup> Population of working age



- In February 2003 about 14.2% (4.99 million) of **people of working age** claimed a key benefit - 14.9% (5.18 million) in February 2000.
- About 2.63 million **men** of working age claimed one, compared with 2.36 million **women**. The difference is mainly due to differences in retirement age.
- The **overall number of claimants** fell by over 193 thousand between February 2000 and February 2003 - the majority accounted for by **men**. The gap between men and women has therefore narrowed.
- Older people are more likely to be claiming a key benefit than younger ones – 21.1% of those aged 55 to 59 claimed one in February 2003, compared to only 12.8% of those aged 18 to 24. This is mainly due to the fact that older people are more likely to claim a disability benefit.
- Four of the seven age groups have fallen in size since February 2000 with the largest reduction in the 25 to 34 age group (down 161 thousand).

**Table 1.2 Claimants of key benefits by age and gender: February 2003**

*Thousands and percentages*

	<b>All</b>		<b>Men</b>		<b>Women</b>	
	(000s)	% of pop in age group	(000s)	% of pop in age group	(000s)	% of pop in age group
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>2,358</b>	<b>13.8</b>
Under 18	60	4.2	28	3.7	33	4.7
18 to 24	614	12.8	282	11.7	331	13.8
25 to 34	1,005	12.4	455	11.5	550	13.3
35 to 44	1,119	13.1	536	12.7	583	13.5
45 to 54	1,069	14.2	541	14.4	529	13.9
55 to 59	696	21.1	365	22.4	331	19.9
60 to 64	428	31.1	428	31.1	.	.

**Table 1.3 Claimants of key benefits by age: February 2000 to February 2003**

*Thousands and percentages*

	<b>February 2000</b>		<b>February 2001</b>		<b>February 2002</b>		<b>February 2003</b>	
	All	% of pop in age group	All	% of pop in age group	All	% of pop in age group	All	% of pop in age group
<b>All</b>	<b>5,185</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>5,077</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Under 18	56	4.1	56	3.9	56	3.9	60	4.2
18 to 24	629	13.3	613	12.7	600	12.5	614	12.8
25 to 34	1,166	14.1	1,094	13.5	1,035	12.8	1,005	12.4
35 to 44	1,107	13.2	1,110	13.0	1,113	13.0	1,119	13.1
45 to 54	1,115	14.8	1,104	14.6	1,080	14.3	1,069	14.2
55 to 59	650	20.6	647	19.6	669	20.3	696	21.1
60 to 64	461	33.3	453	33.0	438	31.9	428	31.1

**Table 1.4 Claimants of key benefits by age and gender: February 2000 and February 2003**

*Thousands and percentages*

	<b>Men</b>				<b>Women</b>			
	<b>February 2000</b>		<b>February 2003</b>		<b>February 2000</b>		<b>February 2003</b>	
	(000s)	% of pop in age group	(000s)	% of pop in age group	(000s)	% of pop in age group	(000s)	% of pop in age group
<b>All</b>	<b>2,802</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>2,383</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>2,358</b>	<b>13.8</b>
Under 18	25	3.5	28	3.7	31	4.7	33	4.7
18 to 24	294	12.5	282	11.7	335	14.1	331	13.8
25 to 34	534	13.2	455	11.5	632	15.0	550	13.3
35 to 44	543	13.1	536	12.7	564	13.3	583	13.5
45 to 54	587	15.7	541	14.4	528	13.9	529	13.9
55 to 59	358	22.9	365	22.4	292	18.3	331	19.9
60 to 64	461	33.3	428	31.1	.	.	.	.

## Section 2. Family Type

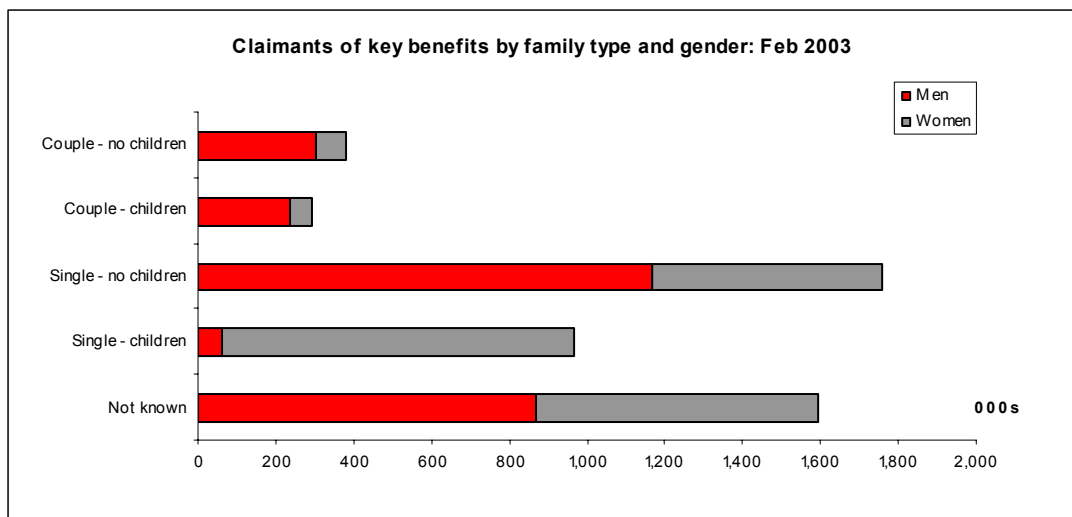
Analyses of the type of family in which claimants live can be produced, based mainly on whether they receive additional amounts of benefit for partners or dependants. Some benefits do not have these allowances so a family type cannot be assigned in every case (Not known) - about half are thought to be single. A small proportion of the partners of these claimants also claim at least one of the key benefits in their own right.

**Table 2.1 Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup> and gender: February 2003**

<i>Thousands and percentages</i>						
	All	%	Men	%	Women	%
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,358</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>All couples</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>6</b>
Couple - no children	382	8	303	12	79	3
Couple – children	291	6	239	9	52	2
<b>All single</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1,225</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1,499</b>	<b>64</b>
Single - no children	1,759	35	1,165	44	593	25
Single – children	965	19	60	2	906	38
<b>Not known</b>	<b>1,595</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>31</b>

- Around 2.72 million claimants were **single** or did not receive any additional benefit for a partner in February 2002.
- Over a quarter (1.26 million) of all claimants received **additional benefit for children**. The majority (0.97 million) were single – down 65 thousand since February 2000.
- The number of **single or couple families without children** has fallen by 143 thousand (6%) since February 2000 whilst the number of **single or couple families with children** has fallen by 121 thousand (9%).

<sup>1</sup> This analysis is based on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. See 'Methodology' at the end of this bulletin for further details.



**Table 2.2 Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup> : February 2000 to February 2003**

*Thousands and percentages*

	February 2000		February 2001		February 2002		February 2003	
	All	%	All	%	All	%	All	%
<b>All</b>	<b>5,185</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,077</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>All couples</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>13</b>
Couple - no children	448	9	413	8	396	8	382	8
Couple - children	347	7	328	6	304	6	291	6
<b>All single</b>	<b>2,865</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2,791</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>55</b>
Single - no children	1,835	35	1,781	35	1,753	35	1,759	35
Single - children	1,030	20	1,010	20	981	20	965	19
<b>Not known</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1,546</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,559</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1,595</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 2.3 Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup> and statistical group: February 2002**

*Thousands*

	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Other
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>3,049</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>All couples</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>404</b>	.	<b>62</b>
Couple - no children	382	125	218	.	39
Couple - children	291	82	186	.	23
<b>All single</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>129</b>
Single - no children	1,759	714	917	.	128
Single - children	965	15	133	817	1
<b>Not known</b>	<b>1,595</b>	.	1,595	.	.

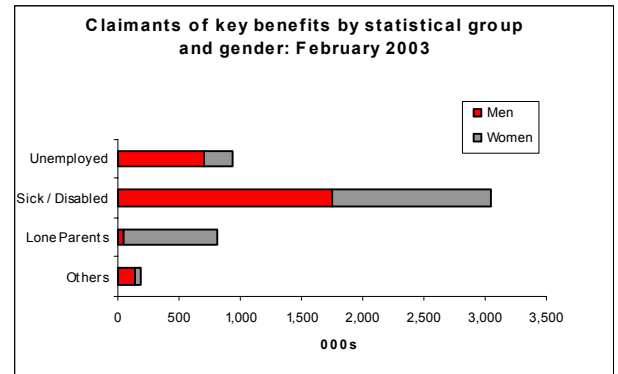
<sup>1</sup> This analysis is based mainly on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. See 'Methodology' at the end of this bulletin for further details

### Section 3. Statistical group and transitions

The claimants of these benefits can be divided into statistical groups, based mainly on the type of benefit they receive (see 'Definitions and conventions'). This gives an indication of the main reason why they are in the benefit system.

**Table 3.1 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and gender: February 2003**

	<i>Thousands</i>		
	All	Men	Women
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>2,358</b>
Unemployed	936	706	230
Sick / Disabled	3,049	1,753	1,296
Lone Parents	817	40	776
Others	191	135	55



- The **overall numbers** fell by 0.19 million between February 2000 and February 2003, mostly because of the **unemployed** group which fell by 0.21 million (down 19%) over the period.
- **Sick / disabled** claimants were consistently the largest group between February 2000 and February 2003, rising from 56% of the total to 61% of the total; **unemployed** claimants were the second largest group.
- The size of the **sick / disabled** group rose by 154 thousand (up 5%) between February 2000 and February 2003, whilst numbers in the **lone parents** and **others** groups have fallen.

**Table 3.2 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group: February 2000 to February 2003**

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>							
	February 2000		February 2001		February 2002		February 2003	
	All	% of pop	All	% of pop	All	% of pop	All	% of pop
<b>All</b>	<b>5,185</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>5,077</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Unemployed	1,151	3.3	1,026	2.9	946	2.7	936	2.7
Sick / Disabled	2,895	8.3	2,968	8.4	3,009	8.6	3,049	8.7
Lone Parents	900	2.6	875	2.5	840	2.4	817	2.3
Others	240	0.7	208	0.6	197	0.6	191	0.5

These statistical group analyses show the stock of claimants on key benefits at a fixed point in time at the end of each quarter. By comparing records for the individual claimants who appear in these “snapshots” over time, the analyses can give an indication of how people move in and out of the benefit system. They can also look at how people move between benefits and/or statistical group. This methodology does not therefore cover all flows into and out of the benefit system. For example, it misses claims that start and end between “snapshot” dates and does not capture changes in benefit for couples where the partner becomes the claimant (see ‘Methodology’ at the end of this bulletin).

**Table 3.3 Claimants of key benefits by status in previous year: February 2000 to February 2003**

*Thousands*

	On benefit in current year - status in previous year <sup>1</sup>			Not on Benefit	Left benefit since previous year <sup>2</sup>
	All	Same statistical group	Different statistical group		
<b>Feb 2000</b>	<b>5,185</b>	.	.	.	.
<b>Feb 2001</b>	<b>5,077</b>	3,752	274	1,051	<b>1,159</b>
<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>4,992</b>	3,706	263	1,024	<b>1,109</b>
<b>Feb 2003</b>	<b>4,992</b>	3,677	261	1,054	<b>1,054</b>

<sup>1</sup> Some claimants may have left benefit and then returned to it between years

<sup>2</sup> Includes a small number of claimants who will have remained on benefit but reached state pension age

- The overall number of claimants of key benefits has fallen since February 2000 because the numbers who have left benefit have exceeded those who have joined. For example, 1.11 million claimants who were on benefit in February 2001 were no longer there in February 2002 - but only 1.02 million of those on benefit in February 2002 were not there in February 2001.
- Changes in the numbers in each statistical group are also affected by movements between them. For example, 261 thousand claimants who were on benefit in both February 2002 and February 2003 changed statistical group over this period.

**Table 3.4 Claimants of key benefits - changes between February 2002 and February 2003**

Thousands

Statistical group	All on benefit in February 2002	Movement between February 02 and February 03			Overall change <sup>2</sup>	All on benefit in February 2003
		Not on Benefit in February 2003	Not on benefit in February 2002	Net movement between Statistical groups <sup>1</sup>		
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>1,054</b>	-	-	<b>4,992</b>
Unemployed	946	502	535	-43	-10	936
Sick / Disabled	3,009	339	338	41	39	3,049
Lone Parents	840	158	138	-3	-24	817
Others	197	54	43	5	-6	191

<sup>1</sup> Numbers coming into statistical group less numbers moving out - see bottom half of table 3.5 for breakdown

<sup>2</sup> Overall change between February 2002 and February 2003 i.e. column 3 minus column 2 plus column 4

**Table 3.5 Claimants of key benefits in both February 2002 and February 2003 - comparisons of statistical group**

Thousands

Comparison of statistical groups in 2002 and 2003 <sup>1</sup>	Statistical group in February 2003				
	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parent	Other
<b>All</b>	<b>3,938</b>	401	2,711	679	148
<b>Statistical group in February 2002</b>					
Unemployed	444	334	80	11	17
Sick / Disabled	2,670	48	2,588	14	19
Lone Parents	682	10	22	646	3
Others	143	8	20	7	108
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>					
<b>2002 and 2003</b>					
<b>Total with no change</b>	<b>3,677</b>	334	2,588	646	108
Leaving original statistical group	-261	-109	-82	-35	-35
Joining new statistical group	261	67	123	32	40
Net movement between Statistical groups	-	-43	41	-3	5

<sup>1</sup> For example there were 444 thousand claimants in the Unemployed group in February 2002 who were also on benefit in February 2003:

Of these, 334 thousand were still in this group, 80 thousand were now in the Sick / Disabled group, 11 thousand in the Lone Parent group, etc.

- Both movements onto and off benefit and movements between groups can affect the numbers in individual statistical groups. For example, the overall number of **unemployed** claimants fell by 10 thousand between February 2002 and February 2003. The fall was due to the fact **that more claimants moved out of this group** (109 thousand) than into it (67 thousand), however this was off set by more people joining benefit (535 thousand) than left (502 thousand).

These analyses can also look at changes over longer time periods, as well as comparisons over the latest year. Tables 3.6 and 3.7 compare the status of the stock of claimants in February 2000 with that in February 2003.

**Table 3.6 Claimants of key benefits in February 2003 - by status in February 2000**

*Thousands*

Benefit status in February 2003	All on benefit in February 2003	Benefit status in February 2000		
		Not on Benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>1,692</b>	<b>2,887</b>	<b>413</b>
Unemployed	936	614	254	68
Sick / Disabled	3,049	729	2,085	234
Lone Parents	817	276	488	53
Others	191	73	59	58

- Over two thirds (3.3 million) of **claimants of key benefits** in February 2003 were also on benefit in February 2000 and 58% of the overall total (2.89 million) were in the same statistical group.
- Claimants in the **sick / disabled group** in February 2003 were the most likely to have also been on benefit in February 2000 (76% of them – 2.3 million), followed by those in the lone parent group (66% - 0.5 million) - those in the unemployed group (34% - 0.32 million) were least likely. Sick / disabled claimants were also the most likely to have stayed in the same statistical group (68% - 2.09 million).

**Table 3.7 Claimants of key benefits in February 2000 - by status in February 2003**

*Thousands*

Benefit status in February 2000	All on Benefit in February 2000	Reached state pension age <sup>1</sup>	Benefit status in February 2003		
			Not on benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
<b>All</b>	<b>5,185</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>2,887</b>	<b>413</b>
Unemployed	1,151	18	672	254	206
Sick / Disabled	2,895	372	356	2,085	82
Lone Parents	900	2	332	488	79
Others	240	69	65	59	47

<sup>1</sup> Some of these claimants may also have left benefit.

## Section 4. Benefit entitlement

The analyses can give an indication of the level of support that claimants receive from the benefit system. Some benefits are designed to be a claimant's main source of income. There are also benefits for special needs, such as disability, which are not linked to financial circumstances. It is also possible to see whether claimants qualified for benefit through National Insurance contributions, an income assessment or by another route. Many of those in the sick / disabled group receive more than one benefit.

**Table 4.1 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and type of benefit: February 2003**

<i>Thousands</i>				
	<b>All</b>	Income replacement benefits	Other benefits only	NI Credits only
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	4,502	312	178
Unemployed	<b>936</b>	843	.	93
Sick / Disabled	<b>3,049</b>	2,651	312	85
Lone Parents	<b>817</b>	817	.	.
Others	<b>191</b>	191	.	.

- 4.50 million claimants received an **income replacement benefit** in February 2003, down from 4.75 million in February 2000.
- 1.38 million people received only a **contributory benefit** in February 2003.
- 3.05 million people received a benefit that is **income related** in February 2003 (including those who also received or satisfied the qualifying conditions for a contributory benefit).

**Table 4.2 Claimants of key benefits by type of benefit: February 2000 to February 2003**

<i>Thousands</i>				
	<b>All</b>	<b>Benefit type</b>		
		Income replacement benefits	Other Benefits Only	NI Credits Only
<b>Feb 2000</b>	<b>5,185</b>	4,755	241	189
<b>Feb 2001</b>	<b>5,077</b>	4,643	254	180
<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>4,992</b>	4,533	280	180
<b>Feb 2003</b>	<b>4,992</b>	4,502	312	178

**Table 4.3 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and main basis of entitlement: February 2003**

*Thousands*

	<b>Basis of benefit entitlement</b>					
	<b>All</b>	<b>Contributory</b>	<b>Contributory and income related<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Income related</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>NI Credits only</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	1,379	336	2,712	388	178
Unemployed	<b>936</b>	182	19	643	.	93
Sick / Disabled	<b>3,049</b>	1,197	318	1,061	388	85
Lone Parents	<b>817</b>	.	.	817	.	.
Others	<b>191</b>	.	.	191	.	.

*1 "Contributory and income related" includes JSA claimants who receive income based benefit but who also satisfy the conditions for receiving contribution-based JSA*

**Table 4.4 Claimants of key benefits by main basis of entitlement: February 2000 to February 2003**

*Thousands*

	<b>Basis of benefit entitlement</b>					
	<b>All</b>	<b>Contributory</b>	<b>Contributory and income related<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Income related</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>NI Credits only</b>
<b>Feb 2000</b>	<b>5,185</b>	1,399	295	2,965	337	189
<b>Feb 2001</b>	<b>5,077</b>	1,388	317	2,845	348	180
<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>4,992</b>	1,377	330	2,739	367	180
<b>Feb 2003</b>	<b>4,992</b>	1,379	336	2,712	388	178

*1 "Contributory and income related" includes JSA claimants who receive income based benefit but who also satisfy the conditions for receiving contribution-based JSA*

**Table 4.5 Claimants of sickness / disability benefits by combinations of benefits: February 2003**

	<i>Thousands</i>					
	All	Type of benefit				DLA
		IB Payment	IB Credits	SDA	Income Support	
<b>All Sick / Disabled</b>	<b>3,049</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>1,379</b>	<b>1,470</b>
<b>Single benefit only</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>Two or more benefits of which<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,874</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>1,325</b>	<b>1,190</b>
Incapacity Benefit payment	771	771	.	.	318	619
Incapacity Benefit credits	779	.	779	.	746	267
Severe Disablement Allowance	268	.	.	268	204	247
Income Support	1,325	318	746	204	1,325	640
Disability Living Allowance	1,190	619	267	247	640	1,190

<sup>1</sup> Claimants with three or more benefits in payment are counted in each combination - therefore numbers by each combination of benefit exceed the overall total

- 61% (1.87 million) of the **sick / disabled** claimants received more than one of the key benefits in February 2003 (including those who receive IB National Insurance credits). The main combinations include IB credits and IS (0.75 million), IB payments and DLA (0.62 million) and DLA and IS (0.64 million).

**Table 4.6 Claimants of sickness / disability benefits by type of benefit: February 2000 to February 2003**

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>							
	February 2000		February 2001		February 2002		February 2003	
	All	%	All	%	All	%	All	%
<b>All Sick / Disabled</b>	<b>2,895</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,968</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3,009</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3,049</b>	<b>100</b>
Incapacity Only <sup>1</sup>	1,619	56	1,643	55	1,624	54	1,579	52
Incapacity and Disability	1,055	36	1,094	37	1,133	38	1,190	39
Disability Only <sup>2</sup>	220	8	231	8	252	8	280	9

<sup>1</sup> Incapacity benefits include IB payments, IB credits, IS on grounds of sickness and SDA

<sup>2</sup> Disability benefit is DLA. Some of these claimants may also be working

## Section 5. Duration on benefit

These analyses show the length of time for which claimants have been receiving their current benefit. In many instances this will be the same as the length of time for which they have been in the benefits system, but a significant minority may have been receiving a different benefit immediately prior to their current claim. For those who receive multiple benefits, duration is based on the one they have received for the longest time.

**Table 5.1 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and duration of claim: February 2003**

		<i>Thousands</i>				
		Duration of oldest claim <sup>1</sup>				
All		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>3,014</b>
Unemployed	936	429	198	144	92	73
Sick / Disabled	3,049	116	124	185	299	2,325
Lone Parents	817	34	50	87	122	523
Others	191	23	20	26	28	93

<sup>1</sup> Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- The number of claimants receiving a key benefit for over 2 years is above 3.01 million. 60% (3.01 million) of the **claimants of key benefits** in February 2003 had been receiving one for 2 years or more.
- Around 77% of these “longer duration” claimants (2.33 million) were in the **sick / disabled** group. This group was therefore more likely to have been on benefit for longer periods than all others - 76% had been on for 2 years or more compared with only 8% of those in the unemployed group.

**Table 5.2 Claimants of key benefits by gender and duration of claim: February 2003**

		<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
		Duration of oldest claim <sup>1</sup>					
All		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over	
<b>All</b>	<b>(000s)</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>3,014</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>60</b>
Men	(000s)	2,634	399	238	244	275	1,478
	%	100	15	9	9	10	56
Women	(000s)	2,358	203	154	198	267	1,537
	%	100	9	7	8	11	65

<sup>1</sup> Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

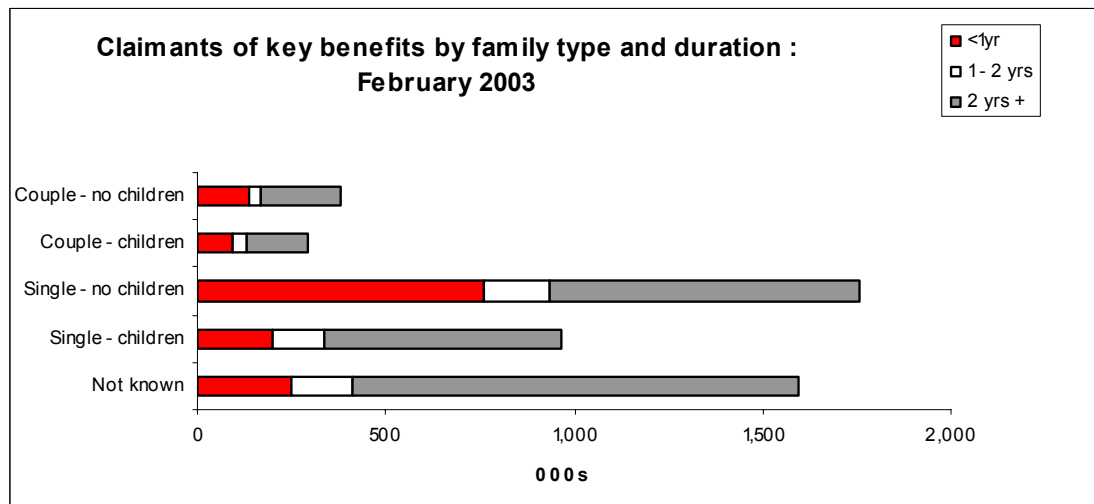
**Table 5.3 Claimants of key benefits by family type and duration of claim: February 2003**

Thousands

	All	Duration of oldest claim <sup>1</sup>				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 Year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
<b>All</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>3,014</b>
<b>All couples</b>	<b>673</b>	108	65	59	65	375
Couple - no children	382	73	36	27	29	216
Couple - children	291	35	29	32	36	159
<b>All single</b>	<b>2,724</b>	419	263	276	312	1,455
Single - no children	1,759	378	206	177	175	824
Single - children	965	41	57	99	137	632
<b>Not known</b>	<b>1,595</b>	75	64	108	164	1,184

<sup>1</sup> Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- About 65% of **single people** who received additional benefit for children or young adult dependants had been on benefit for two years or more compared with only 55% of couples who did so.



## Section 6. Regional Analysis

These analyses show numbers of claimants of key benefits in each Government Office Region.

**Table 6.1 Claimants of key benefits by gender and Government Office Region : February 2003**

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
	All		Men		Women	
	(000s)	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	(000s)	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	(000s)	% of pop <sup>1</sup>
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>4,982</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>2,628</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>2,354</b>	<b>13.8</b>
England	4,084	13.5	2,143	13.7	1,941	13.2
North East	312	20.3	171	21.6	140	18.8
North West <sup>2</sup>	742	18.1	399	19.0	343	17.3
Yorkshire and the Humber	455	15.0	250	16.0	205	14.0
East Midlands	330	12.9	173	13.0	157	12.7
West Midlands	476	14.9	254	15.3	222	14.5
East	328	10.0	164	9.6	164	10.4
London	687	14.6	340	14.4	347	14.9
South East	432	8.8	221	8.7	211	8.9
South West	322	10.9	172	11.2	150	10.7
Wales	339	19.5	181	20.3	157	18.7
Scotland	559	17.8	304	18.9	256	16.6
IB/SDA claimants living abroad	10	.	6	.	4	.

<sup>1</sup> Population of working age

<sup>2</sup> The old Merseyside GOR was merged with North West GOR on 3rd May 1999

- The proportion of the population of working age **claiming a key benefit** in February 2003 ranges from 8.8% in South East England to 20.3% in North East England.
- A similar pattern is revealed when the figures are broken down by statistical group. The region with the greatest proportion of the working age claiming a key **sickness / disability benefit** is Wales (13.6%), followed by the North East (12.9%), North West (11.9%) and Scotland (11.4%). The East of England (5.9%) and South East (5.2%) have the lowest proportions.
- The proportion of the population of working age in the unemployed group ranges from 3.8% in the North East to 1.6% in the South East of England.
- For more information on regional statistics and ward level figures visit the National Statistics - Neighbourhood Statistics Website using the following URL  
<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/home.asp>

**Table 6.2 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and Government Office Region : February 2003**

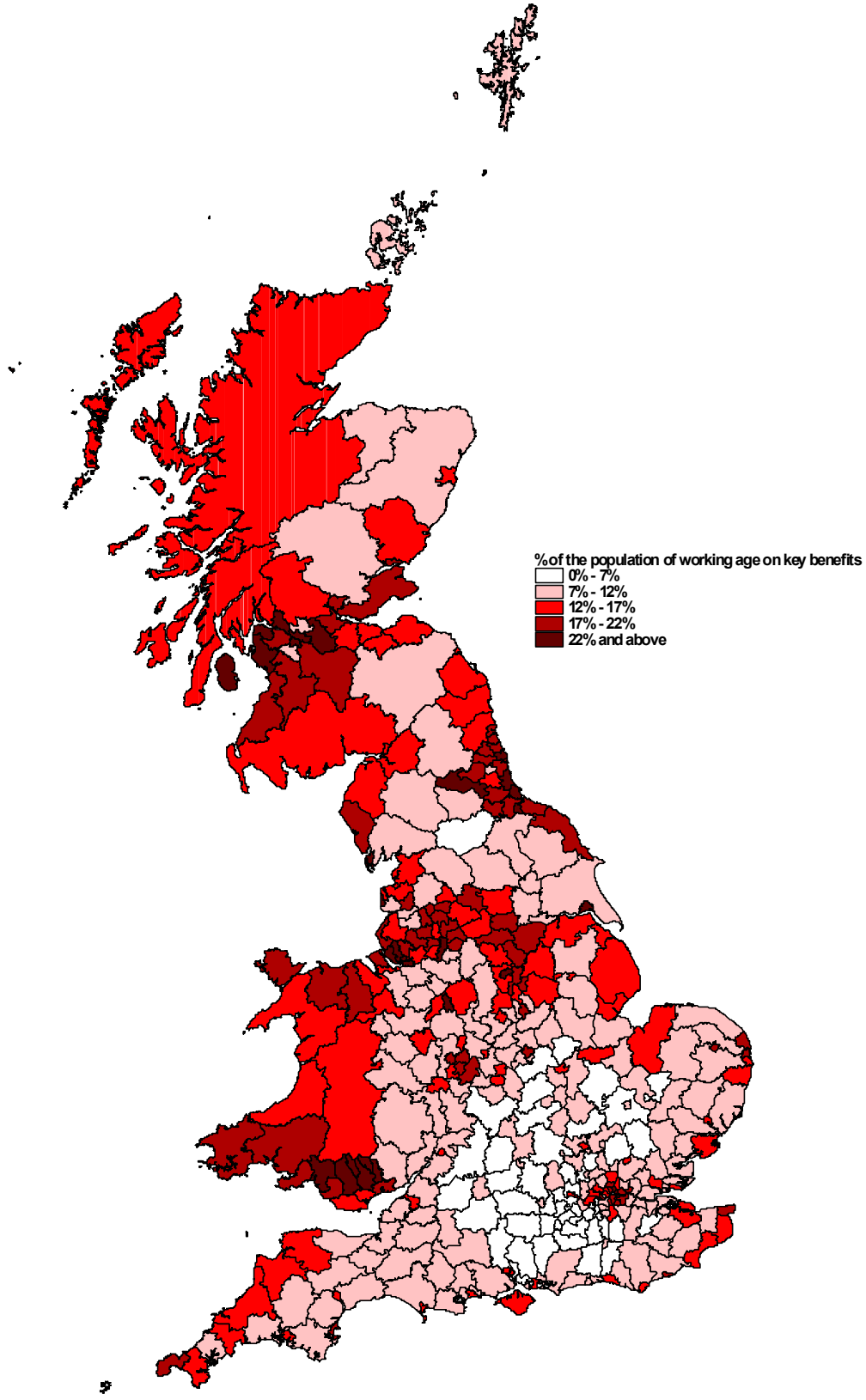
*Thousands and percentages*

		Statistical group				
		All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Others
<b>Great Britain</b>	(000s)	<b>4,982</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>3,039</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>191</b>
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.5</b>
England	(000s)	<b>4,084</b>	782	2,444	700	159
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>13.5</b>	2.6	8.1	2.3	0.5
North East	(000s)	<b>312</b>	58	198	44	12
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>20.3</b>	3.8	12.9	2.9	0.8
North West <sup>2</sup>	(000s)	<b>742</b>	120	486	110	26
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>18.1</b>	2.9	11.9	2.7	0.6
Yorkshire and the Humber	(000s)	<b>455</b>	90	276	69	19
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>15.0</b>	3.0	9.1	2.3	0.6
East Midlands	(000s)	<b>330</b>	62	207	49	12
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>12.9</b>	2.4	8.1	1.9	0.5
West Midlands	(000s)	<b>476</b>	97	282	77	20
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>14.9</b>	3.0	8.8	2.4	0.6
East	(000s)	<b>328</b>	61	195	61	12
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>10.0</b>	1.8	5.9	1.9	0.4
London	(000s)	<b>687</b>	164	336	158	30
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>14.6</b>	3.5	7.1	3.4	0.6
South East	(000s)	<b>432</b>	76	257	82	16
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>8.8</b>	1.6	5.2	1.7	0.3
South West	(000s)	<b>322</b>	54	207	49	12
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>10.9</b>	1.8	7.0	1.7	0.4
Wales	(000s)	<b>339</b>	48	236	44	10
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>19.5</b>	2.8	13.6	2.5	0.6
Scotland	(000s)	<b>559</b>	106	358	73	22
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>17.8</b>	3.4	11.4	2.3	0.7
IB/SDA claimants living abroad	(000s)	<b>10</b>	.	10	.	.

<sup>1</sup> Population of working age

<sup>2</sup> The old Merseyside GOR was merged with North West GOR on 3rd November 1998

# Percentage of the population of working age claiming a key benefit by Local Authority: February 2003



These figures are not seasonally adjusted. Any comparisons should be made "year on year".

## Section 7. Quarterly Tables

### 7.1: Age and Gender

Table 7.1A: Claimants of key benefits by gender

		<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
		<b>All % Pop<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>Men % Pop<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>Women % Pop<sup>1</sup></b>	
1995	May	<b>6,244</b>	<b>17.9</b>	3,652	20.6	2,592	15.6
	Aug	<b>6,322</b>	<b>18.1</b>	3,645	20.5	2,677	16.2
	Nov	<b>6,213</b>	<b>18.1</b>	3,588	20.2	2,625	15.8
1996	Feb	<b>6,317</b>	<b>18.4</b>	3,668	20.6	2,649	15.9
	May	<b>6,169</b>	<b>17.9</b>	3,549	20.0	2,620	15.7
	Aug	<b>6,218</b>	<b>18.1</b>	3,533	19.9	2,685	16.1
	Nov	<b>5,866</b>	<b>17.0</b>	3,305	18.6	2,561	15.4
1997	Feb	<b>5,850</b>	<b>17.0</b>	3,302	18.5	2,549	15.3
	May	<b>5,659</b>	<b>16.4</b>	3,157	17.7	2,502	15.0
	Aug	<b>5,665</b>	<b>16.4</b>	3,126	17.6	2,539	15.2
	Nov	<b>5,409</b>	<b>15.7</b>	2,963	16.6	2,446	14.6
1998	Feb	<b>5,429</b>	<b>15.7</b>	2,982	16.7	2,447	14.6
	May	<b>5,331</b>	<b>15.4</b>	2,914	16.3	2,417	14.4
	Aug	<b>5,355</b>	<b>15.5</b>	2,903	16.3	2,452	14.6
	Nov	<b>5,249</b>	<b>15.2</b>	2,853	16.0	2,396	14.3
1999	Feb	<b>5,328</b>	<b>15.3</b>	2,912	16.3	2,416	14.4
	May	<b>5,235</b>	<b>15.1</b>	2,846	15.9	2,389	14.2
	Aug	<b>5,245</b>	<b>15.1</b>	2,822	15.8	2,423	14.4
	Nov	<b>5,143</b>	<b>14.8</b>	2,758	15.4	2,385	14.2
2000	Feb	<b>5,185</b>	<b>14.9</b>	2,802	15.6	2,383	14.1
	May	<b>5,049</b>	<b>14.5</b>	2,703	15.0	2,346	13.9
	Aug	<b>5,063</b>	<b>14.5</b>	2,688	15.0	2,374	14.0
	Nov	<b>4,996</b>	<b>14.3</b>	2,659	14.8	2,336	13.8
2001	Feb	<b>5,077</b>	<b>14.5</b>	2,719	15.0	2,358	13.8
	May	<b>4,982</b>	<b>14.2</b>	2,640	14.6	2,342	13.7
	Aug	<b>4,970</b>	<b>14.1</b>	2,609	14.4	2,361	13.9
	Nov	<b>4,907</b>	<b>14.0</b>	2,583	14.3	2,325	13.6
2002	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>	2,650	14.6	2,342	13.7
	May	<b>4,923</b>	<b>14.0</b>	2,592	14.3	2,332	13.7
	Aug	<b>4,947</b>	<b>14.1</b>	2,584	14.3	2,362	13.9
	Nov	<b>4,896</b>	<b>13.9</b>	2,561	14.2	2,335	13.7
2003	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	<b>14.2</b>	2,634	14.6	2,358	13.8

<sup>1</sup> Population of working age

Table 7.1B: Claimants of key benefits by gender - Annual changes Feb 1999 to Feb 2003

		<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
		<b>All</b>		<b>Men</b>		<b>Women</b>	
		<b>(000s)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>(000s)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>(000s)</b>	<b>%</b>
Feb 00 / Feb 99		<b>-143</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	-110	-3.8	-33	-1.4
Feb 01 / Feb 00		<b>-108</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	-83	-3.0	-25	-1.0
Feb 02 / Feb 01		<b>-85</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	-69	-2.5	-16	-0.7
Feb 03 / Feb 02		<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	-15	-0.6	15	0.7

**Table 7.1C: All Claimants of key benefits by age**

		<i>Thousands</i>							
		<b>All</b>	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
1995	May	<b>6,244</b>	54	993	1,614	1,177	1,198	703	506
	Aug	<b>6,322</b>	55	1,046	1,622	1,186	1,201	704	507
	Nov	<b>6,213</b>	57	970	1,595	1,176	1,203	705	507
1996	Feb	<b>6,317</b>	59	981	1,629	1,204	1,225	714	505
	May	<b>6,169</b>	58	917	1,583	1,188	1,218	703	502
	Aug	<b>6,218</b>	58	966	1,576	1,197	1,222	697	501
	Nov	<b>5,866</b>	57	827	1,468	1,145	1,185	689	496
1997	Feb	<b>5,850</b>	59	823	1,456	1,151	1,184	686	492
	May	<b>5,659</b>	58	760	1,394	1,126	1,164	672	486
	Aug	<b>5,665</b>	58	791	1,387	1,125	1,156	664	484
	Nov	<b>5,409</b>	55	700	1,304	1,084	1,131	655	481
1998	Feb	<b>5,429</b>	57	710	1,306	1,093	1,135	650	477
	May	<b>5,331</b>	56	674	1,268	1,084	1,127	648	475
	Aug	<b>5,355</b>	55	700	1,263	1,089	1,129	647	472
	Nov	<b>5,249</b>	55	639	1,231	1,084	1,119	648	472
1999	Feb	<b>5,328</b>	59	662	1,245	1,109	1,136	647	469
	May	<b>5,235</b>	58	628	1,212	1,098	1,122	647	470
	Aug	<b>5,245</b>	58	656	1,201	1,101	1,117	645	467
	Nov	<b>5,143</b>	56	612	1,168	1,092	1,105	646	464
2000	Feb	<b>5,185</b>	56	629	1,166	1,107	1,115	650	461
	May	<b>5,049</b>	54	588	1,121	1,089	1,101	642	455
	Aug	<b>5,063</b>	54	612	1,113	1,091	1,098	640	455
	Nov	<b>4,996</b>	54	582	1,084	1,089	1,090	643	453
2001	Feb	<b>5,077</b>	56	613	1,094	1,110	1,104	647	453
	May	<b>4,982</b>	56	582	1,063	1,096	1,093	646	445
	Aug	<b>4,970</b>	55	592	1,050	1,098	1,082	651	442
	Nov	<b>4,907</b>	53	568	1,023	1,093	1,074	656	440
2002	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	56	600	1,035	1,113	1,080	669	438
	May	<b>4,923</b>	55	575	1,012	1,103	1,069	675	434
	Aug	<b>4,947</b>	54	599	1,010	1,108	1,062	682	431
	Nov	<b>4,896</b>	57	574	992	1,100	1,057	688	428
2003	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	60	614	1,005	1,119	1,069	696	428

**Table 7.1D: All Claimants of key benefits by age**

		<i>Percentages</i>							
		<b>All</b>	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
1995	May	<b>100</b>	1	16	26	19	19	11	8
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	17	26	19	19	11	8
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	16	26	19	19	11	8
1996	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	16	26	19	19	11	8
	May	<b>100</b>	1	15	26	19	20	11	8
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	16	25	19	20	11	8
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	14	25	20	20	12	8
1997	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	14	25	20	20	12	8
	May	<b>100</b>	1	13	25	20	21	12	9
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	14	24	20	20	12	9
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	13	24	20	21	12	9
1998	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	13	24	20	21	12	9
	May	<b>100</b>	1	13	24	20	21	12	9
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	13	24	20	21	12	9
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	12	23	21	21	12	9
1999	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	12	23	21	21	12	9
	May	<b>100</b>	1	12	23	21	21	12	9
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	13	23	21	21	12	9
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	12	23	21	21	13	9
2000	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	12	22	21	22	13	9
	May	<b>100</b>	1	12	22	22	22	13	9
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	12	22	22	22	13	9
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	12	22	22	22	13	9
2001	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	12	22	22	22	13	9
	May	<b>100</b>	1	12	21	22	22	13	9
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	12	21	22	22	13	9
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	12	21	22	22	13	9
2002	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	12	21	22	22	13	9
	May	<b>100</b>	1	12	21	22	22	14	9
	Aug	<b>100</b>	1	12	20	22	21	14	9
	Nov	<b>100</b>	1	12	20	22	22	14	9
2003	Feb	<b>100</b>	1	12	20	22	21	14	9

**Table 7.1E: Male Claimants of key benefits by age**

		<i>Thousands</i>							
		<b>All</b>	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
1995	May	<b>3,652</b>	24	521	829	647	697	430	506
	Aug	<b>3,645</b>	23	543	819	641	686	425	507
	Nov	<b>3,588</b>	24	501	805	637	690	425	507
1996	Feb	<b>3,668</b>	26	514	832	659	703	430	505
	May	<b>3,549</b>	25	476	794	641	692	419	502
	Aug	<b>3,533</b>	25	496	783	633	685	411	501
	Nov	<b>3,305</b>	23	412	713	599	659	403	496
1997	Feb	<b>3,302</b>	25	415	709	602	658	401	492
	May	<b>3,157</b>	25	374	667	577	640	387	486
	Aug	<b>3,126</b>	25	384	655	570	629	379	484
	Nov	<b>2,963</b>	24	331	603	542	610	372	481
1998	Feb	<b>2,982</b>	26	342	610	548	611	369	477
	May	<b>2,914</b>	25	322	584	541	604	364	475
	Aug	<b>2,903</b>	24	332	580	536	598	361	472
	Nov	<b>2,853</b>	24	299	565	537	595	362	472
1999	Feb	<b>2,912</b>	26	317	581	553	604	362	469
	May	<b>2,846</b>	26	294	558	544	594	359	470
	Aug	<b>2,822</b>	25	304	547	539	586	355	467
	Nov	<b>2,758</b>	24	277	528	532	579	355	464
2000	Feb	<b>2,802</b>	25	294	534	543	587	358	461
	May	<b>2,703</b>	24	267	505	527	574	352	455
	Aug	<b>2,688</b>	24	273	497	523	568	348	455
	Nov	<b>2,659</b>	24	260	486	525	563	348	453
2001	Feb	<b>2,719</b>	27	285	497	537	570	349	453
	May	<b>2,640</b>	26	262	476	525	562	345	445
	Aug	<b>2,609</b>	25	262	462	521	552	345	442
	Nov	<b>2,583</b>	24	253	452	520	547	347	440
2002	Feb	<b>2,650</b>	26	278	466	534	552	355	438
	May	<b>2,592</b>	26	257	451	525	543	357	434
	Aug	<b>2,584</b>	25	266	446	523	536	357	431
	Nov	<b>2,561</b>	26	253	440	522	532	360	428
2003	Feb	<b>2,634</b>	28	282	455	536	541	365	428

**Table 7.1F: Female Claimants of key benefits by age**

		<i>Thousands</i>							
		<b>All</b>	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
1995	May	<b>2,592</b>	31	472	785	530	501	273	-
	Aug	<b>2,677</b>	32	503	804	545	515	279	-
	Nov	<b>2,625</b>	33	470	791	539	514	280	-
1996	Feb	<b>2,649</b>	33	467	797	545	522	284	-
	May	<b>2,620</b>	33	440	789	547	526	285	-
	Aug	<b>2,685</b>	33	470	793	565	538	286	-
	Nov	<b>2,561</b>	34	414	754	547	526	286	-
1997	Feb	<b>2,549</b>	33	408	747	549	526	285	-
	May	<b>2,502</b>	32	386	728	548	524	285	-
	Aug	<b>2,539</b>	32	408	733	555	528	285	-
	Nov	<b>2,446</b>	30	369	701	542	521	283	-
1998	Feb	<b>2,447</b>	31	368	697	546	524	281	-
	May	<b>2,417</b>	31	352	684	543	524	284	-
	Aug	<b>2,452</b>	31	368	683	553	531	287	-
	Nov	<b>2,396</b>	31	340	666	547	524	287	-
1999	Feb	<b>2,416</b>	33	345	664	556	532	286	-
	May	<b>2,389</b>	33	333	654	553	528	288	-
	Aug	<b>2,423</b>	33	352	654	563	531	290	-
	Nov	<b>2,385</b>	32	335	640	560	526	291	-
2000	Feb	<b>2,383</b>	31	335	632	564	528	292	-
	May	<b>2,346</b>	30	321	616	562	527	290	-
	Aug	<b>2,374</b>	30	338	616	568	530	292	-
	Nov	<b>2,336</b>	30	322	598	564	527	295	-
2001	Feb	<b>2,358</b>	30	328	597	573	533	298	-
	May	<b>2,342</b>	30	321	588	571	532	301	-
	Aug	<b>2,361</b>	30	331	587	577	530	305	-
	Nov	<b>2,325</b>	29	315	571	573	527	309	-
2002	Feb	<b>2,342</b>	30	322	569	579	528	314	-
	May	<b>2,332</b>	30	318	562	578	526	319	-
	Aug	<b>2,362</b>	29	333	564	585	526	325	-
	Nov	<b>2,335</b>	31	321	551	578	525	328	-
2003	Feb	<b>2,358</b>	33	331	550	583	529	331	-

## 7.2: Family Type

**Table 7.2A: All Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup>**

		<i>Thousands</i>									
		Couples				Single				Not Known	
		All	No Children	With Children	All	No Children	With Children				
1995	May	<b>6,244</b>	<b>1,300</b>	770	530	<b>3,510</b>	2,392	1,118	<b>1,434</b>		
	Aug	<b>6,322</b>	<b>1,283</b>	772	511	<b>3,582</b>	2,450	1,131	<b>1,457</b>		
	Nov	<b>6,213</b>	<b>1,247</b>	740	507	<b>3,508</b>	2,381	1,127	<b>1,458</b>		
1996	Feb	<b>6,317</b>	<b>1,274</b>	759	515	<b>3,583</b>	2,454	1,128	<b>1,461</b>		
	May	<b>6,169</b>	<b>1,218</b>	721	496	<b>3,487</b>	2,356	1,130	<b>1,465</b>		
	Aug	<b>6,218</b>	<b>1,195</b>	716	479	<b>3,551</b>	2,417	1,134	<b>1,472</b>		
	Nov	<b>5,866</b>	<b>1,083</b>	635	448	<b>3,298</b>	2,186	1,112	<b>1,486</b>		
1997	Feb	<b>5,850</b>	<b>1,068</b>	611	458	<b>3,288</b>	2,173	1,115	<b>1,494</b>		
	May	<b>5,659</b>	<b>999</b>	564	435	<b>3,171</b>	2,060	1,110	<b>1,489</b>		
	Aug	<b>5,665</b>	<b>972</b>	563	409	<b>3,201</b>	2,091	1,110	<b>1,492</b>		
	Nov	<b>5,409</b>	<b>917</b>	519	398	<b>2,993</b>	1,915	1,078	<b>1,500</b>		
1998	Feb	<b>5,429</b>	<b>915</b>	517	398	<b>3,013</b>	1,943	1,070	<b>1,501</b>		
	May	<b>5,331</b>	<b>881</b>	497	385	<b>2,947</b>	1,886	1,061	<b>1,503</b>		
	Aug	<b>5,355</b>	<b>876</b>	497	379	<b>2,974</b>	1,917	1,057	<b>1,505</b>		
	Nov	<b>5,249</b>	<b>851</b>	482	369	<b>2,887</b>	1,847	1,040	<b>1,511</b>		
1999	Feb	<b>5,328</b>	<b>860</b>	485	375	<b>2,963</b>	1,918	1,045	<b>1,505</b>		
	May	<b>5,235</b>	<b>828</b>	464	364	<b>2,894</b>	1,851	1,043	<b>1,513</b>		
	Aug	<b>5,245</b>	<b>809</b>	452	357	<b>2,919</b>	1,868	1,051	<b>1,517</b>		
	Nov	<b>5,143</b>	<b>783</b>	438	345	<b>2,836</b>	1,798	1,038	<b>1,523</b>		
2000	Feb	<b>5,185</b>	<b>795</b>	448	347	<b>2,865</b>	1,835	1,030	<b>1,524</b>		
	May	<b>5,049</b>	<b>752</b>	420	332	<b>2,773</b>	1,751	1,023	<b>1,523</b>		
	Aug	<b>5,063</b>	<b>739</b>	410	329	<b>2,794</b>	1,767	1,026	<b>1,530</b>		
	Nov	<b>4,996</b>	<b>725</b>	403	322	<b>2,728</b>	1,720	1,008	<b>1,543</b>		
2001	Feb	<b>5,077</b>	<b>740</b>	413	328	<b>2,791</b>	1,781	1,010	<b>1,546</b>		
	May	<b>4,982</b>	<b>701</b>	385	315	<b>2,725</b>	1,720	1,005	<b>1,556</b>		
	Aug	<b>4,970</b>	<b>684</b>	376	308	<b>2,725</b>	1,714	1,011	<b>1,560</b>		
	Nov	<b>4,907</b>	<b>685</b>	387	298	<b>2,664</b>	1,680	983	<b>1,559</b>		
2002	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	<b>699</b>	396	304	<b>2,734</b>	1,753	981	<b>1,559</b>		
	May	<b>4,923</b>	<b>677</b>	379	297	<b>2,667</b>	1,688	979	<b>1,580</b>		
	Aug	<b>4,947</b>	<b>667</b>	374	293	<b>2,698</b>	1,711	986	<b>1,582</b>		
	Nov	<b>4,896</b>	<b>655</b>	370	286	<b>2,647</b>	1,679	968	<b>1,594</b>		
2003	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	<b>673</b>	382	291	<b>2,724</b>	1,759	965	<b>1,595</b>		

**Table 7.2B: Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup> - Annual changes Feb 1999 to Feb 2003**

		<i>Thousands</i>									
		Couples				Single				Not Known	
		All	No Children	With Children	All	No Children	With Children				
Feb 00 / Feb 99		<b>-143</b>	<b>-64</b>	-36	-28	<b>-98</b>	-83	-15	<b>19</b>		
Feb 01 / Feb 00		<b>-108</b>	<b>-56</b>	-36	-20	<b>-74</b>	-54	-20	<b>22</b>		
Feb 02 / Feb 01		<b>-85</b>	<b>-45</b>	-20	-26	<b>-57</b>	-28	-30	<b>18</b>		
Feb 03 / Feb 02		<b>0</b>	<b>-26</b>	-14	-13	<b>-10</b>	5	-15	<b>36</b>		

<sup>1</sup> This analysis is based mainly on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. See notes on 'Methodology', at the end of this bulletin for further details

**Table 7.2C: Male Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup>**

*Thousands*

		All	Couples		Single			Not known	
			All	No Children	With Children	All	No Children		With Children
1995	May	<b>3,652</b>	<b>1,125</b>	633	492	<b>1,715</b>	1,646	70	<b>812</b>
	Aug	<b>3,645</b>	<b>1,094</b>	620	473	<b>1,727</b>	1,657	70	<b>824</b>
	Nov	<b>3,588</b>	<b>1,075</b>	608	467	<b>1,691</b>	1,621	70	<b>822</b>
1996	Feb	<b>3,668</b>	<b>1,094</b>	620	473	<b>1,753</b>	1,683	70	<b>822</b>
	May	<b>3,549</b>	<b>1,044</b>	590	455	<b>1,682</b>	1,613	70	<b>822</b>
	Aug	<b>3,533</b>	<b>1,009</b>	572	437	<b>1,700</b>	1,630	70	<b>824</b>
	Nov	<b>3,305</b>	<b>930</b>	523	407	<b>1,545</b>	1,475	70	<b>830</b>
1997	Feb	<b>3,302</b>	<b>922</b>	506	416	<b>1,546</b>	1,476	70	<b>834</b>
	May	<b>3,157</b>	<b>865</b>	472	393	<b>1,466</b>	1,396	70	<b>826</b>
	Aug	<b>3,126</b>	<b>831</b>	465	366	<b>1,467</b>	1,399	68	<b>827</b>
	Nov	<b>2,963</b>	<b>789</b>	435	354	<b>1,345</b>	1,279	66	<b>829</b>
1998	Feb	<b>2,982</b>	<b>781</b>	428	353	<b>1,372</b>	1,306	65	<b>830</b>
	May	<b>2,914</b>	<b>753</b>	412	341	<b>1,333</b>	1,267	65	<b>828</b>
	Aug	<b>2,903</b>	<b>735</b>	400	335	<b>1,339</b>	1,276	64	<b>829</b>
	Nov	<b>2,853</b>	<b>723</b>	398	325	<b>1,297</b>	1,236	62	<b>833</b>
1999	Feb	<b>2,912</b>	<b>729</b>	400	329	<b>1,355</b>	1,292	63	<b>829</b>
	May	<b>2,846</b>	<b>702</b>	384	318	<b>1,309</b>	1,246	63	<b>835</b>
	Aug	<b>2,822</b>	<b>681</b>	371	310	<b>1,306</b>	1,243	63	<b>835</b>
	Nov	<b>2,758</b>	<b>664</b>	364	299	<b>1,256</b>	1,193	63	<b>838</b>
2000	Feb	<b>2,802</b>	<b>669</b>	369	301	<b>1,294</b>	1,232	62	<b>839</b>
	May	<b>2,703</b>	<b>634</b>	348	285	<b>1,233</b>	1,171	62	<b>836</b>
	Aug	<b>2,688</b>	<b>619</b>	338	281	<b>1,229</b>	1,166	63	<b>840</b>
	Nov	<b>2,659</b>	<b>609</b>	335	274	<b>1,202</b>	1,140	62	<b>848</b>
2001	Feb	<b>2,719</b>	<b>618</b>	340	278	<b>1,250</b>	1,188	62	<b>851</b>
	May	<b>2,640</b>	<b>585</b>	318	267	<b>1,203</b>	1,141	62	<b>853</b>
	Aug	<b>2,609</b>	<b>567</b>	307	260	<b>1,187</b>	1,125	62	<b>855</b>
	Nov	<b>2,583</b>	<b>566</b>	317	249	<b>1,165</b>	1,105	60	<b>852</b>
2002	Feb	<b>2,650</b>	<b>574</b>	320	254	<b>1,224</b>	1,165	60	<b>851</b>
	May	<b>2,592</b>	<b>554</b>	308	246	<b>1,176</b>	1,116	60	<b>861</b>
	Aug	<b>2,584</b>	<b>541</b>	300	242	<b>1,182</b>	1,122	60	<b>861</b>
	Nov	<b>2,561</b>	<b>533</b>	298	234	<b>1,161</b>	1,102	60	<b>868</b>
2003	Feb	<b>2,634</b>	<b>542</b>	303	239	<b>1,225</b>	1,165	60	<b>867</b>

<sup>1</sup> This analysis is based mainly on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. See notes on 'Methodology', at the end of this bulletin for further details

**Table 7.2D: Female Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup>**

*Thousands*

		All	Couples			Single			Not known
			All	No Children	With Children	All	No Children	With Children	
1995	May	<b>2,592</b>	<b>175</b>	137	38	<b>1,795</b>	747	1,048	<b>622</b>
	Aug	<b>2,677</b>	<b>190</b>	151	38	<b>1,854</b>	793	1,061	<b>633</b>
	Nov	<b>2,625</b>	<b>172</b>	132	40	<b>1,817</b>	760	1,057	<b>635</b>
1996	Feb	<b>2,649</b>	<b>180</b>	139	41	<b>1,830</b>	772	1,058	<b>639</b>
	May	<b>2,620</b>	<b>173</b>	132	41	<b>1,804</b>	743	1,061	<b>642</b>
	Aug	<b>2,685</b>	<b>186</b>	144	42	<b>1,851</b>	787	1,064	<b>648</b>
	Nov	<b>2,561</b>	<b>153</b>	112	41	<b>1,753</b>	711	1,042	<b>656</b>
1997	Feb	<b>2,549</b>	<b>147</b>	105	42	<b>1,742</b>	697	1,045	<b>660</b>
	May	<b>2,502</b>	<b>135</b>	92	42	<b>1,705</b>	665	1,040	<b>663</b>
	Aug	<b>2,539</b>	<b>141</b>	98	43	<b>1,734</b>	692	1,042	<b>665</b>
	Nov	<b>2,446</b>	<b>128</b>	84	44	<b>1,648</b>	636	1,012	<b>671</b>
1998	Feb	<b>2,447</b>	<b>134</b>	90	44	<b>1,641</b>	636	1,005	<b>671</b>
	May	<b>2,417</b>	<b>128</b>	84	44	<b>1,615</b>	619	996	<b>674</b>
	Aug	<b>2,452</b>	<b>141</b>	97	44	<b>1,635</b>	641	993	<b>676</b>
	Nov	<b>2,396</b>	<b>128</b>	83	45	<b>1,590</b>	612	978	<b>678</b>
1999	Feb	<b>2,416</b>	<b>131</b>	85	46	<b>1,609</b>	626	983	<b>676</b>
	May	<b>2,389</b>	<b>126</b>	80	46	<b>1,585</b>	605	980	<b>678</b>
	Aug	<b>2,423</b>	<b>128</b>	81	47	<b>1,613</b>	626	987	<b>681</b>
	Nov	<b>2,385</b>	<b>120</b>	74	46	<b>1,580</b>	604	976	<b>685</b>
2000	Feb	<b>2,383</b>	<b>126</b>	79	47	<b>1,571</b>	603	968	<b>686</b>
	May	<b>2,346</b>	<b>118</b>	71	47	<b>1,541</b>	580	961	<b>687</b>
	Aug	<b>2,374</b>	<b>120</b>	72	48	<b>1,565</b>	602	963	<b>690</b>
	Nov	<b>2,336</b>	<b>116</b>	67	49	<b>1,526</b>	580	946	<b>695</b>
2001	Feb	<b>2,358</b>	<b>122</b>	73	49	<b>1,541</b>	593	948	<b>695</b>
	May	<b>2,342</b>	<b>116</b>	67	49	<b>1,522</b>	579	943	<b>703</b>
	Aug	<b>2,361</b>	<b>117</b>	69	48	<b>1,538</b>	589	949	<b>706</b>
	Nov	<b>2,325</b>	<b>119</b>	70	49	<b>1,499</b>	575	924	<b>707</b>
2002	Feb	<b>2,342</b>	<b>125</b>	75	50	<b>1,509</b>	588	921	<b>708</b>
	May	<b>2,332</b>	<b>122</b>	71	51	<b>1,490</b>	571	919	<b>719</b>
	Aug	<b>2,362</b>	<b>125</b>	74	51	<b>1,516</b>	590	926	<b>721</b>
	Nov	<b>2,335</b>	<b>123</b>	71	51	<b>1,486</b>	578	908	<b>727</b>
2003	Feb	<b>2,358</b>	<b>131</b>	79	52	<b>1,499</b>	593	906	<b>728</b>

<sup>1</sup> This analysis is based mainly on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. See notes on 'Methodology, at the end of this bulletin for further details

### 7.3: Statistical group

**Table 7.3A: All Claimants of key benefits by statistical group**

*Thousands*

		All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Others <sup>1</sup>
1995	May	6,244	2,219	2,662	1,020	344
	Aug	6,322	2,258	2,702	1,029	332
	Nov	6,213	2,117	2,719	1,026	351
1996	Feb	6,317	2,222	2,728	1,025	342
	May	6,169	2,069	2,740	1,024	337
	Aug	6,218	2,099	2,758	1,025	336
	Nov	5,866	1,784	2,784	1,002	298
1997	Feb	5,850	1,755	2,801	1,001	293
	May	5,659	1,574	2,809	993	283
	Aug	5,665	1,565	2,828	991	281
	Nov	5,409	1,320	2,854	963	273
1998	Feb	5,429	1,363	2,849	953	264
	May	5,331	1,293	2,841	941	257
	Aug	5,355	1,320	2,844	935	256
	Nov	5,249	1,223	2,853	920	253
1999	Feb	5,328	1,303	2,855	920	250
	May	5,235	1,208	2,865	917	246
	Aug	5,245	1,200	2,879	920	245
	Nov	5,143	1,096	2,893	909	244
2000	Feb	5,185	1,151	2,895	900	240
	May	5,049	1,024	2,902	891	232
	Aug	5,063	1,023	2,926	889	225
	Nov	4,996	954	2,954	874	214
2001	Feb	5,077	1,026	2,968	875	208
	May	4,982	925	2,984	868	205
	Aug	4,970	895	3,000	871	203
	Nov	4,907	853	3,008	845	201
2002	Feb	4,992	946	3,009	840	197
	May	4,923	880	3,011	836	196
	Aug	4,947	889	3,023	839	195
	Nov	4,896	836	3,044	823	194
2003	Feb	4,992	936	3,049	817	191

**Table 7.3B: Claimants of key benefits by statistical group - Annual changes February 1999 to February 2003**

*Thousands*

	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Others <sup>1</sup>
Feb 00 / Feb 99	-143	-153	40	-20	-10
Feb 01 / Feb 00	-108	-125	73	-25	-31
Feb 02 / Feb 01	-85	-80	42	-35	-11
Feb 03 / Feb 02	0	-10	39	-24	-6

<sup>1</sup> Prior to the introduction of JSA in October 1996, the "others" group includes IS claimants who were on Government Training schemes. See notes on 'Methodology', at the end of this bulletin for further details

**Table 7.3C: Male Claimants of key benefits by statistical group***Thousands*

		<b>All</b>	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Others <sup>1</sup>
1995	May	<b>3,652</b>	1,701	1,640	54	257
	Aug	<b>3,645</b>	1,684	1,659	54	248
	Nov	<b>3,588</b>	1,610	1,664	54	260
1996	Feb	<b>3,668</b>	1,696	1,665	54	254
	May	<b>3,549</b>	1,582	1,664	54	249
	Aug	<b>3,533</b>	1,560	1,670	54	249
	Nov	<b>3,305</b>	1,354	1,681	53	217
1997	Feb	<b>3,302</b>	1,344	1,690	53	215
	May	<b>3,157</b>	1,210	1,687	52	208
	Aug	<b>3,126</b>	1,174	1,696	51	205
	Nov	<b>2,963</b>	1,006	1,709	49	200
1998	Feb	<b>2,982</b>	1,039	1,701	48	194
	May	<b>2,914</b>	987	1,690	48	190
	Aug	<b>2,903</b>	982	1,687	47	188
	Nov	<b>2,853</b>	933	1,689	45	187
1999	Feb	<b>2,912</b>	996	1,686	45	185
	May	<b>2,846</b>	928	1,692	45	180
	Aug	<b>2,822</b>	901	1,697	45	180
	Nov	<b>2,758</b>	832	1,702	44	180
2000	Feb	<b>2,802</b>	880	1,702	43	177
	May	<b>2,703</b>	785	1,702	43	173
	Aug	<b>2,688</b>	765	1,713	43	167
	Nov	<b>2,659</b>	730	1,729	43	158
2001	Feb	<b>2,719</b>	785	1,737	43	154
	May	<b>2,640</b>	707	1,741	43	149
	Aug	<b>2,609</b>	670	1,748	44	148
	Nov	<b>2,583</b>	646	1,749	42	146
2002	Feb	<b>2,650</b>	719	1,748	41	142
	May	<b>2,592</b>	667	1,743	41	141
	Aug	<b>2,584</b>	662	1,744	41	138
	Nov	<b>2,561</b>	630	1,753	41	138
2003	Feb	<b>2,634</b>	706	1,753	40	135

<sup>1</sup> Prior to the introduction of JSA in October 1996, the "others" group includes IS claimants who were on Government Training schemes. See notes on 'Methodology', at the end of this bulletin for further details

**Table 7.3D: Female Claimants of key benefits by statistical group***Thousands*

		<b>All</b>	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Others <sup>1</sup>
1995	May	<b>2,592</b>	517	1,021	966	87
	Aug	<b>2,677</b>	574	1,043	975	84
	Nov	<b>2,625</b>	507	1,055	972	91
1996	Feb	<b>2,649</b>	526	1,063	971	89
	May	<b>2,620</b>	487	1,076	970	88
	Aug	<b>2,685</b>	539	1,088	971	87
	Nov	<b>2,561</b>	430	1,102	948	81
1997	Feb	<b>2,549</b>	411	1,111	947	79
	May	<b>2,502</b>	364	1,122	941	75
	Aug	<b>2,539</b>	391	1,133	941	76
	Nov	<b>2,446</b>	314	1,145	914	73
1998	Feb	<b>2,447</b>	325	1,147	905	70
	May	<b>2,417</b>	306	1,151	893	67
	Aug	<b>2,452</b>	338	1,157	889	68
	Nov	<b>2,396</b>	290	1,164	874	67
1999	Feb	<b>2,416</b>	307	1,169	875	65
	May	<b>2,389</b>	280	1,173	871	65
	Aug	<b>2,423</b>	300	1,183	875	65
	Nov	<b>2,385</b>	264	1,191	866	65
2000	Feb	<b>2,383</b>	271	1,193	857	63
	May	<b>2,346</b>	239	1,200	848	59
	Aug	<b>2,374</b>	258	1,212	846	59
	Nov	<b>2,336</b>	224	1,225	831	56
2001	Feb	<b>2,358</b>	241	1,231	832	54
	May	<b>2,342</b>	218	1,243	824	56
	Aug	<b>2,361</b>	225	1,253	827	56
	Nov	<b>2,325</b>	207	1,259	803	55
2002	Feb	<b>2,342</b>	227	1,262	799	55
	May	<b>2,332</b>	213	1,268	796	55
	Aug	<b>2,362</b>	228	1,279	799	57
	Nov	<b>2,335</b>	206	1,291	782	56
2003	Feb	<b>2,358</b>	230	1,296	776	55

<sup>1</sup> Prior to the introduction of JSA in October 1996, the "others" group includes IS claimants who were on Government Training schemes. See notes on 'Methodology', at the end of this bulletin for further details

## 7.4: Benefit entitlement

**Table 7.4A: Claimants of key benefits by type of benefit**

*Thousands*

		<b>All</b>	Income replacement benefits	Other benefits	NI Credits only
1995	May	<b>6,244</b>	5,768	177	300
	Aug	<b>6,322</b>	5,831	176	315
	Nov	<b>6,213</b>	5,746	182	285
1996	Feb	<b>6,317</b>	5,835	188	295
	May	<b>6,169</b>	5,707	189	273
	Aug	<b>6,218</b>	5,732	192	295
	Nov	<b>5,866</b>	5,441	199	226
1997	Feb	<b>5,850</b>	5,421	205	224
	May	<b>5,659</b>	5,230	207	222
	Aug	<b>5,665</b>	5,234	212	220
	Nov	<b>5,409</b>	4,999	216	195
1998	Feb	<b>5,429</b>	5,017	222	190
	May	<b>5,331</b>	4,922	224	185
	Aug	<b>5,355</b>	4,939	226	190
	Nov	<b>5,249</b>	4,827	228	194
1999	Feb	<b>5,328</b>	4,894	234	201
	May	<b>5,235</b>	4,809	232	194
	Aug	<b>5,245</b>	4,818	235	191
	Nov	<b>5,143</b>	4,714	240	189
2000	Feb	<b>5,185</b>	4,755	241	189
	May	<b>5,049</b>	4,633	244	172
	Aug	<b>5,063</b>	4,639	249	175
	Nov	<b>4,996</b>	4,565	254	177
2001	Feb	<b>5,077</b>	4,643	254	180
	May	<b>4,982</b>	4,540	263	179
	Aug	<b>4,970</b>	4,526	267	176
	Nov	<b>4,907</b>	4,455	275	178
2002	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	4,533	280	180
	May	<b>4,923</b>	4,460	286	177
	Aug	<b>4,947</b>	4,480	291	176
	Nov	<b>4,896</b>	4,417	307	172
2003	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	4,502	312	178

**Table 7.4B: Claimants of key benefits by main basis of entitlement**

*Thousands*

		Basis of benefit entitlement					
		All	Contributory	Contributory and income related <sup>1</sup>	Income related	Other	NI Credits only
1995	May	<b>6,244</b>	1,624	354	3,695	271	300
	Aug	<b>6,322</b>	1,649	355	3,732	271	315
	Nov	<b>6,213</b>	1,610	356	3,684	279	285
1996	Feb	<b>6,317</b>	1,633	374	3,730	286	295
	May	<b>6,169</b>	1,666	299	3,643	287	273
	Aug	<b>6,218</b>	1,669	298	3,666	290	295
	Nov	<b>5,866</b>	1,605	293	3,442	299	226
1997	Feb	<b>5,850</b>	1,559	298	3,463	306	224
	May	<b>5,659</b>	1,484	289	3,356	307	222
	Aug	<b>5,665</b>	1,475	294	3,363	313	220
	Nov	<b>5,409</b>	1,442	299	3,158	317	195
1998	Feb	<b>5,429</b>	1,454	300	3,163	322	190
	May	<b>5,331</b>	1,423	292	3,107	324	185
	Aug	<b>5,355</b>	1,429	291	3,119	326	190
	Nov	<b>5,249</b>	1,408	295	3,022	329	194
1999	Feb	<b>5,328</b>	1,417	301	3,074	334	201
	May	<b>5,235</b>	1,400	293	3,016	332	194
	Aug	<b>5,245</b>	1,400	292	3,029	333	191
	Nov	<b>5,143</b>	1,373	292	2,951	337	189
2000	Feb	<b>5,185</b>	1,399	295	2,965	337	189
	May	<b>5,049</b>	1,366	296	2,876	340	172
	Aug	<b>5,063</b>	1,363	303	2,878	343	175
	Nov	<b>4,996</b>	1,355	309	2,808	347	177
2001	Feb	<b>5,077</b>	1,388	317	2,845	348	180
	May	<b>4,982</b>	1,361	319	2,767	356	179
	Aug	<b>4,970</b>	1,354	322	2,758	359	176
	Nov	<b>4,907</b>	1,346	325	2,695	364	178
2002	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	1,377	330	2,739	367	180
	May	<b>4,923</b>	1,370	326	2,683	367	177
	Aug	<b>4,947</b>	1,367	328	2,706	369	176
	Nov	<b>4,896</b>	1,349	332	2,659	385	172
2003	Feb	<b>4,992</b>	1,379	336	2,712	388	178

<sup>1</sup> "Contributory and income related" includes JSA claimants who receive income based benefit, but who also satisfy the conditions for receiving contribution-based JSA

## 7.5: Duration of benefit<sup>1</sup>

**Table 7.5A Claimants of key benefits by duration of claim of oldest benefit:<sup>2</sup>  
May 1997 – February 2003**

			<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
			All	Under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
1997	May	(000s)	<b>5,659</b>	742	466	586	726	3,140
		%	<b>100</b>	13	8	10	13	55
	Aug	(000s)	<b>5,665</b>	792	454	575	694	3,149
		%	<b>100</b>	14	8	10	12	56
	Nov	(000s)	<b>5,409</b>	720	450	538	633	3,069
		%	<b>100</b>	13	8	10	12	57
1998	Feb	(000s)	<b>5,429</b>	712	474	574	638	3,030
		%	<b>100</b>	13	9	11	12	56
	May	(000s)	<b>5,331</b>	633	428	593	658	3,019
		%	<b>100</b>	12	8	11	12	57
	Aug	(000s)	<b>5,355</b>	722	399	553	682	2,999
		%	<b>100</b>	13	7	10	13	56
	Nov	(000s)	<b>5,249</b>	704	401	491	672	2,981
		%	<b>100</b>	13	8	9	13	57
1999	Feb	(000s)	<b>5,328</b>	728	459	509	661	2,971
		%	<b>100</b>	14	9	10	12	56
	May	(000s)	<b>5,235</b>	650	421	541	640	2,983
		%	<b>100</b>	12	8	10	12	57
	Aug	(000s)	<b>5,245</b>	699	407	523	624	2,991
		%	<b>100</b>	13	8	10	12	57
	Nov	(000s)	<b>5,143</b>	661	395	490	605	2,992
		%	<b>100</b>	13	8	10	12	58
2000	Feb	(000s)	<b>5,185</b>	654	427	505	609	2,990
		%	<b>100</b>	13	8	10	12	58
	May	(000s)	<b>5,049</b>	590	384	501	604	2,971
		%	<b>100</b>	12	8	10	12	59
	Aug	(000s)	<b>5,063</b>	648	371	471	601	2,971
		%	<b>100</b>	13	7	9	12	59
	Nov	(000s)	<b>4,996</b>	624	368	446	587	2,972
		%	<b>100</b>	12	7	9	12	59
2001	Feb	(000s)	<b>5,077</b>	642	403	470	582	2,981
		%	<b>100</b>	13	8	9	11	59
	May	(000)	<b>4,982</b>	578	372	473	577	2,983
		%	<b>100</b>	12	7	9	12	60
	Aug	(000)	<b>4,970</b>	597	356	451	574	2,991
		%	<b>100</b>	12	7	9	12	60
	Nov	(000)	<b>4,907</b>	581	345	430	560	2,991
		%	<b>100</b>	12	7	9	11	61
2002	Feb	(000)	<b>4,992</b>	603	385	449	562	2,993
		%	<b>100</b>	12	8	9	11	60
	May	(000)	<b>4,923</b>	562	356	448	562	2,995
		%	<b>100</b>	11	7	9	11	61
	Aug	(000)	<b>4,947</b>	588	359	432	559	3,009
		%	<b>100</b>	12	7	9	11	61
	Nov	(000)	<b>4,896</b>	<b>582</b>	346	416	546	3,006
		%	<b>100</b>	<b>12</b>	7	9	11	61
2003	Feb	(000)	<b>4,992</b>	602	392	442	541	3,014
		%	<b>100</b>	12	8	9	11	60

<sup>1</sup> Reliable information on the duration of claim for IB/SDA claimants is only available from May 1997 onwards.

<sup>2</sup> Duration is based on the benefit which the claimant has been receiving for the longest time during their current claim

**Table 7.5B Male claimants of key benefits by duration<sup>1</sup> of claim of oldest benefit:<sup>2</sup>  
May 1997 – February 2003**

			<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
			<b>All</b>	Under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
1997	May	(000s)	<b>3,157</b>	479	289	341	393	1,655
		%	<b>100</b>	15	9	11	12	52
	Aug	(000s)	<b>3,126</b>	486	274	337	369	1,660
		%	<b>100</b>	16	9	11	12	53
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,963</b>	457	269	311	327	1,599
		%	<b>100</b>	15	9	10	11	54
1998	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,982</b>	463	288	330	334	1,567
		%	<b>100</b>	16	10	11	11	53
	May	(000s)	<b>2,914</b>	403	263	342	349	1,556
		%	<b>100</b>	14	9	12	12	53
	Aug	(000s)	<b>2,903</b>	439	238	320	368	1,538
		%	<b>100</b>	15	8	11	13	53
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,853</b>	450	234	281	358	1,530
		%	<b>100</b>	16	8	10	13	54
1999	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,912</b>	476	279	286	351	1,520
		%	<b>100</b>	16	10	10	12	52
	May	(000s)	<b>2,846</b>	422	258	304	337	1,525
		%	<b>100</b>	15	9	11	12	54
	Aug	(000s)	<b>2,822</b>	437	244	295	323	1,523
		%	<b>100</b>	15	9	10	11	54
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,758</b>	424	232	274	308	1,520
		%	<b>100</b>	15	8	10	11	55
2000	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,802</b>	435	262	282	308	1,516
		%	<b>100</b>	16	9	10	11	54
	May	(000s)	<b>2,703</b>	382	236	280	304	1,500
		%	<b>100</b>	14	9	10	11	56
	Aug	(000s)	<b>2,688</b>	408	220	265	301	1,494
		%	<b>100</b>	15	8	10	11	56
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,659</b>	407	218	248	296	1,491
		%	<b>100</b>	15	8	9	11	56
2001	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,719</b>	426	246	261	294	1,491
		%	<b>100</b>	16	9	10	11	55
	May	(000)	<b>2,640</b>	374	227	262	290	1,486
		%	<b>100</b>	14	9	10	11	56
	Aug	(000)	<b>2,609</b>	376	210	251	288	1,484
		%	<b>100</b>	14	8	10	11	57
	Nov	(000)	<b>2,583</b>	380	205	236	280	1,482
		%	<b>100</b>	15	8	9	11	57
2002	Feb	(000)	<b>2,650</b>	405	238	246	282	1,478
		%	<b>100</b>	15	9	9	11	56
	May	(000)	<b>2,592</b>	364	220	251	279	1,478
		%	<b>100</b>	14	9	10	11	57
	Aug	(000)	<b>2,584</b>	372	212	246	276	1,479
		%	<b>100</b>	14	8	9	11	57
	Nov	(000)	<b>2,561</b>	375	205	231	274	1,476
		%	<b>100</b>	15	8	9	11	58
2003	Feb	(000)	<b>2,634</b>	399	238	244	275	1,478
		%	<b>100</b>	15	9	9	10	56

<sup>1</sup> Reliable information on the duration of claim for IB/SDA claimants is only available from May 1997 onwards.

<sup>2</sup> Duration is based on the benefit which the claimant has been receiving for the longest time during their current claim

**Table 7.5C Female claimants of key benefits by duration<sup>1</sup> of claim of oldest benefit:<sup>2</sup>  
May 1997 – February 2003**

*Thousands and percentages*

			All	Under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
1997	May	(000s)	<b>2,502</b>	263	177	245	333	1,485
		%	<b>100</b>	10	7	10	13	59
	Aug	(000s)	<b>2,539</b>	307	180	238	325	1,489
		%	<b>100</b>	12	7	9	13	59
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,446</b>	262	181	227	306	1,470
		%	<b>100</b>	11	7	9	13	60
1998	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,447</b>	249	186	244	304	1,463
		%	<b>100</b>	10	8	10	12	60
	May	(000s)	<b>2,417</b>	231	164	251	309	1,463
		%	<b>100</b>	10	7	10	13	61
	Aug	(000s)	<b>2,452</b>	283	161	234	314	1,460
		%	<b>100</b>	12	7	10	13	60
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,396</b>	253	167	210	314	1,452
		%	<b>100</b>	11	7	9	13	61
1999	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,416</b>	251	180	223	310	1,452
		%	<b>100</b>	10	7	9	13	60
	May	(000s)	<b>2,389</b>	228	163	238	303	1,458
		%	<b>100</b>	10	7	10	13	61
	Aug	(000s)	<b>2,423</b>	262	163	228	301	1,468
		%	<b>100</b>	11	7	9	12	61
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,385</b>	237	163	216	297	1,471
		%	<b>100</b>	10	7	9	12	62
2000	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,383</b>	219	166	224	301	1,474
		%	<b>100</b>	9	7	9	13	62
	May	(000s)	<b>2,346</b>	208	147	221	300	1,470
		%	<b>100</b>	9	6	9	13	63
	Aug	(000s)	<b>2,374</b>	241	151	207	300	1,477
		%	<b>100</b>	10	6	9	13	62
	Nov	(000s)	<b>2,336</b>	217	150	198	291	1,481
		%	<b>100</b>	9	6	8	12	63
2001	Feb	(000s)	<b>2,358</b>	216	157	208	288	1,490
		%	<b>100</b>	9	7	9	12	63
	May	(000)	<b>2,342</b>	204	145	210	286	1,497
		%	<b>100</b>	9	6	9	12	64
	Aug	(000)	<b>2,361</b>	222	146	200	286	1,507
		%	<b>100</b>	9	6	8	12	64
	Nov	(000)	<b>2,325</b>	201	141	194	280	1,509
		%	<b>100</b>	9	6	8	12	65
2002	Feb	(000)	<b>2,342</b>	198	146	203	280	1,515
		%	<b>100</b>	8	6	9	12	65
	May	(000)	<b>2,332</b>	198	136	197	283	1,518
		%	<b>100</b>	8	6	8	12	65
	Aug	(000)	<b>2,362</b>	216	147	186	283	1,530
		%	<b>100</b>	9	6	8	12	65
	Nov	(000)	<b>2,335</b>	206	141	186	272	1,530
		%	<b>100</b>	9	6	8	12	66
2003	Feb	(000)	<b>2,358</b>	203	154	198	267	1,537
		%	<b>100</b>	9	7	8	11	65

<sup>1</sup> Reliable information on the duration of claim for IB/SDA claimants is only available from May 1997 onwards.

<sup>2</sup> Duration is based on the benefit which the claimant has been receiving for the longest time during their current claim

## 7.6: Regional Analysis –

**Table 7.6A Claimants of key benefits by Government Office Region**

*Thousands*

		<b>Great Britain</b>	England	North East	North West	Yorks & Humberside	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Claimants living abroad
1995	May	<b>6,236</b>	5,166	388	923	567	392	569	418	944	558	407	403	666	8
	Aug	<b>6,313</b>	5,224	393	934	575	398	580	418	952	567	407	411	678	8
	Nov	<b>6,204</b>	5,139	387	920	566	390	564	412	939	554	408	403	662	9
1996	Feb	<b>6,308</b>	5,223	390	933	579	402	572	420	938	567	421	411	675	9
	May	<b>6,160</b>	5,094	381	916	561	392	558	409	926	550	402	401	665	9
	Aug	<b>6,209</b>	5,125	381	925	565	391	566	410	934	550	403	406	677	9
	Nov	<b>5,857</b>	4,831	361	879	534	367	530	384	875	516	385	389	637	9
1997	Feb	<b>5,841</b>	4,810	360	881	537	367	527	383	856	513	384	388	644	9
	May	<b>5,650</b>	4,646	351	856	520	357	511	366	830	489	365	379	625	9
	Aug	<b>5,656</b>	4,646	350	860	522	359	516	364	829	484	362	379	632	9
	Nov	<b>5,401</b>	4,433	340	824	498	341	491	347	785	460	347	367	600	9
1998	Feb	<b>5,420</b>	4,444	340	827	503	345	493	350	775	460	351	368	607	9
	May	<b>5,322</b>	4,366	333	813	495	339	486	340	771	450	340	360	597	9
	Aug	<b>5,346</b>	4,378	333	813	497	340	489	339	773	452	342	362	606	9
	Nov	<b>5,240</b>	4,296	331	794	487	333	479	334	752	448	338	358	586	9
1999	Feb	<b>5,319</b>	4,360	337	803	496	344	491	341	749	452	348	364	596	9
	May	<b>5,226</b>	4,285	332	792	486	339	484	332	743	441	336	357	584	8
	Aug	<b>5,236</b>	4,291	330	791	487	340	490	333	746	440	333	356	589	9
	Nov	<b>5,134</b>	4,209	326	773	477	332	475	328	734	435	330	349	575	9
2000	Feb	<b>5,176</b>	4,240	330	783	482	337	479	331	727	438	332	353	582	9
	May	<b>5,040</b>	4,128	322	764	467	330	473	321	708	423	321	345	567	9
	Aug	<b>5,054</b>	4,131	321	765	470	333	479	321	700	423	320	347	575	9
	Nov	<b>4,987</b>	4,081	319	753	462	327	473	318	689	420	320	345	561	9
2001	Feb	<b>5,068</b>	4,145	323	768	476	337	480	323	688	424	326	351	572	9
	May	<b>4,973</b>	4,069	316	756	465	333	472	318	677	414	319	343	561	9
	Aug	<b>4,961</b>	4,056	315	751	464	329	473	316	678	412	316	342	563	9
	Nov	<b>4,898</b>	4,009	314	739	455	324	464	315	675	410	314	336	553	9
2002	Feb	<b>4,983</b>	4,079	318	753	461	331	471	324	679	421	321	341	562	9
	May	<b>4,914</b>	4,024	310	743	451	326	465	319	679	415	315	334	555	10
	Aug	<b>4,936</b>	4,038	311	742	453	324	472	319	684	418	315	338	561	10
	Nov	<b>4,886</b>	4,004	306	729	448	321	465	319	682	422	313	335	547	10
2003	Feb	<b>4,982</b>	4,084	312	742	455	330	476	328	687	432	322	339	559	10

**Table 7.6B Claimants of key benefits by Government Office Region**

Percentages<sup>1</sup>

		Great Britain	England	North East	North West	Yorks & Humberside	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Claimants living abroad
1995	May	<b>18.2</b>	17.5	24.9	22.5	18.9	15.7	17.9	13.2	21.6	11.8	14.4	23.6	21.1	.
	Aug	<b>18.4</b>	17.7	25.2	22.7	19.2	15.9	18.2	13.2	21.8	12.0	14.4	24.1	21.5	.
	Nov	<b>18.1</b>	17.4	24.8	22.4	18.8	15.6	17.7	13.0	21.5	11.7	14.4	23.6	21.0	.
1996	Feb	<b>18.3</b>	17.7	25.0	22.8	19.3	16.0	17.9	13.2	21.4	11.9	14.8	24.0	21.4	.
	May	<b>17.9</b>	17.2	24.5	22.3	18.7	15.6	17.5	12.8	21.1	11.5	14.1	23.4	21.1	.
	Aug	<b>18.0</b>	17.3	24.5	22.6	18.8	15.6	17.7	12.8	21.3	11.5	14.2	23.7	21.5	.
	Nov	<b>17.0</b>	16.3	23.2	21.4	17.8	14.6	16.6	12.0	19.9	10.8	13.5	22.7	20.2	.
1997	Feb	<b>16.9</b>	16.2	23.2	21.5	17.9	14.6	16.5	11.9	19.4	10.7	13.4	22.6	20.4	.
	May	<b>16.4</b>	15.7	22.6	21.0	17.4	14.2	16.0	11.4	18.8	10.2	12.7	22.1	19.9	.
	Aug	<b>16.4</b>	15.7	22.6	21.1	17.4	14.2	16.2	11.3	18.8	10.1	12.6	22.1	20.1	.
	Nov	<b>15.7</b>	15.0	21.9	20.2	16.6	13.5	15.4	10.8	17.8	9.6	12.1	21.4	19.1	.
1998	Feb	<b>15.7</b>	15.0	22.0	20.3	16.8	13.7	15.5	10.8	17.4	9.5	12.2	21.5	19.3	.
	May	<b>15.4</b>	14.7	21.5	19.9	16.5	13.4	15.3	10.5	17.3	9.3	11.8	21.0	19.0	.
	Aug	<b>15.5</b>	14.7	21.5	19.9	16.6	13.5	15.4	10.5	17.4	9.4	11.9	21.1	19.3	.
	Nov	<b>15.2</b>	14.5	21.4	19.4	16.2	13.2	15.0	10.3	16.9	9.3	11.8	20.9	18.6	.
1999	Feb	<b>15.3</b>	14.6	21.9	19.7	16.5	13.6	15.4	10.5	16.6	9.3	12.0	21.1	19.0	.
	May	<b>15.1</b>	14.4	21.6	19.5	16.2	13.4	15.2	10.2	16.4	9.1	11.6	20.7	18.6	.
	Aug	<b>15.1</b>	14.4	21.5	19.4	16.3	13.4	15.4	10.2	16.5	9.0	11.5	20.7	18.7	.
	Nov	<b>14.8</b>	14.1	21.2	19.0	15.9	13.1	14.9	10.1	16.2	8.9	11.4	20.3	18.3	.
2000	Feb	<b>14.8</b>	14.1	21.5	19.2	16.0	13.3	15.0	10.1	15.8	9.0	11.4	20.4	18.5	.
	May	<b>14.4</b>	13.7	21.0	18.7	15.5	12.9	14.9	9.8	15.4	8.7	11.0	20.0	18.1	.
	Aug	<b>14.5</b>	13.8	20.9	18.7	15.7	13.1	15.0	9.8	15.2	8.7	10.9	20.1	18.3	.
	Nov	<b>14.3</b>	13.6	20.8	18.5	15.4	12.9	14.8	9.7	15.0	8.6	10.9	20.0	17.9	.
2001	Feb	<b>14.4</b>	13.7	21.0	18.8	15.7	13.2	15.0	9.8	14.6	8.6	11.1	20.3	18.2	.
	May	<b>14.2</b>	13.5	20.5	18.5	15.4	13.0	14.8	9.7	14.4	8.4	10.8	19.8	17.8	.
	Aug	<b>14.1</b>	13.4	20.5	18.4	15.3	12.9	14.8	9.6	14.4	8.4	10.8	19.7	17.9	.
	Nov	<b>13.9</b>	13.3	20.5	18.1	15.0	12.6	14.5	9.6	14.4	8.4	10.7	19.4	17.5	.
2002	Feb	<b>14.2</b>	13.5	20.7	18.4	15.2	12.9	14.7	9.8	14.5	8.6	10.9	19.7	17.9	.
	May	<b>14.0</b>	13.3	20.2	18.2	14.9	12.7	14.6	9.7	14.5	8.5	10.7	19.3	17.6	.
	Aug	<b>14.1</b>	13.4	20.2	18.2	15.0	12.6	14.8	9.7	14.6	8.5	10.7	19.5	17.8	.
	Nov	<b>13.9</b>	13.2	19.9	17.8	14.8	12.5	14.6	9.7	14.5	8.6	10.6	19.3	17.4	.
2003	Feb	<b>14.2</b>	13.5	20.3	18.1	15.0	12.9	14.9	10.0	14.6	8.8	10.9	19.5	17.8	.

<sup>1</sup> Percentage of working age

## Section 8. Benefits and Tax Credits

Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC) replaced Family Credit (FC) from 5 October 1999. It is a tax credit available to working families with children. Disabled Person's Tax Credit (DPTC) replaced Disability Working Allowance (DWA) from 5 October 1999. It is a tax credit available to working people who have an illness or disability, which puts them at a disadvantage in getting a job. Both are administered by Inland Revenue. A small number of people are in receipt of both benefits and tax credits.

### Note on Working Families' Tax Credit and Disabled Person's Tax Credit figures

Awards of WFTC/ DPTC covered 26 weeks. For awards terminating before December 2002, recipients could apply for renewal awards, and the number of recipients increased to the extent that the number with new awards exceeded the number not renewing. To ensure a smooth transition to Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit at April 2003, all WFTC/ DPTC awards terminating from Monday 2 December 2002 were automatically extended to 7 April 2003, without any reassessment of the applicants' circumstances or incomes. This meant that the growth in the number of recipients after 2 December 2002 equalled the number of new awards, without any offsetting numbers falling out of receipt. This explains the larger than normal growth in the number of recipients between November 2002 and February 2003 shown.

Claimants of key benefits and recipients of tax credits can be divided into groups based mainly on the type of benefit and/or tax credit they receive. This gives an indication of the main reason why they are claiming a benefit and/or receiving a tax credit.

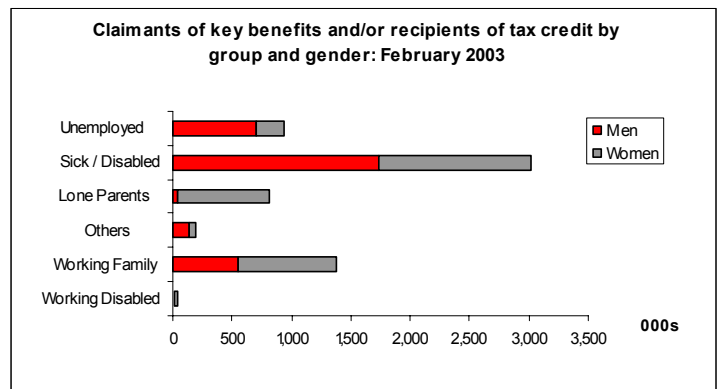
This grouping is defined as:

Unemployed	JSA
Sick / Disabled <sup>1</sup>	IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
Lone Parents	Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
Other	IS claimant not in other groups, e.g. carers, asylum seekers, pensioners (Minimum Income Guarantee)
Working Family	FC or WFTC
Working Disabled	DWA or DPTC

**Table 8.1 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group and gender: February 2003**

*Thousands*

	All	Men	Women
<b>All</b>	<b>6,383</b>	<b>3,185</b>	<b>3,198</b>
Unemployed	936	706	230
Sick / Disabled <sup>1</sup>	3,022	1,738	1,284
Lone Parents	817	40	776
Others	191	135	55
Working Family	1,382	546	836
Working Disabled	36	19	16



<sup>1</sup> Due to the inclusion of FC/ WFTC and DWA/ DPTC data, the "Sick / Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the bulletin as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

- The **overall numbers** of people claiming a benefit or receiving a tax credit rose by 247 thousand between February 2000 and February 2003. However, the **unemployed** group fell by over 0.21 million (down 19%) over the period and this fall has been offset by a rise in the **working family** group of 0.43 million (46%) since February 2000.
- **Sick / disabled** claimants were consistently the largest group between February 2000 and February 2003, rising from 46.9% of the total to 47.3% of the total; **unemployed** claimants were the second largest group, but have now been overtaken by the **working family** group.
- The size of the **sick / disabled** group rose by 142 thousand (up 5%), **working families** by 0.43 million (46%) and **working disabled** by 17 thousand (88%) between February 2000 and February 2003, whilst numbers in the **lone parents** and **others** groups have fallen.

**Table 8.2 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group: February 2000 to February 2003**  
Thousands and percentages

	February 2000		February 2001		February 2002		February 2003	
	All	% of pop <sup>2</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>2</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>2</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>2</sup>
<b>All</b>	<b>6,136</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>6,223</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>6,231</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>6,383</b>	<b>18.2</b>
Unemployed	1,151	3.3	1,026	2.9	946	2.7	936	2.7
Sick / Disabled <sup>1</sup>	2,880	8.3	2,949	8.4	2,987	8.5	3,022	8.6
Lone Parents	900	2.6	875	2.5	840	2.4	817	2.3
Others	240	0.7	208	0.6	197	0.6	191	0.5
Working Family	947	2.7	1,139	3.2	1,230	3.5	1,382	3.9
Working Disabled	19	0.1	25	0.1	31	0.1	36	0.1

<sup>1</sup> Due to the inclusion of FC/ WFTC and DWA/ DPTC data, the "Sick / Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the bulletin as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

<sup>2</sup> Population of working age

These analyses show the stock of people claiming key benefits and/or receiving tax credits at a fixed point in time at the end of each quarter. By comparing records for the individual people who appear in these "snapshots" over time, the analyses can give an indication of how people move on and off benefits and tax credits. They can also look at how people move between benefits and tax credits. This methodology does not therefore cover all flows on and off benefits and/or tax credits. For example, it misses people who start and end claims for benefit between "snapshot" dates and does not capture changes in benefit status for couples where the partner becomes the claimant (see "Methodology" at the end of this bulletin).

**Table 8.3 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by status in previous year: February 2000 to February 2003**

	On benefit/ tax credit in current year – status in previous year <sup>1</sup>				Left benefit and/or Tax credit since previous year <sup>2</sup>
	All	Same group	Different Group	Not on benefit or tax credit	
<b>Feb - 00</b>	<b>6,136</b>	.	.	.	.
<b>Feb - 01</b>	<b>6,223</b>	4,406	484	1,333	1,246
<b>Feb - 02</b>	<b>6,231</b>	4,497	468	1,265	1,258
<b>Feb - 03</b>	<b>6,383</b>	4,604	466	1,312	1,160

<sup>1</sup> Some people may have left benefit/ tax credit and then returned to it between years

<sup>2</sup> Includes a small number of people who will have remained on benefit but reached state pension age

- The overall number of people claiming key benefits and/or receiving tax credits has increased since February 2002 because the numbers who have started claiming benefit and/or receiving tax credits have exceeded those who have stopped. For example, 1.16 million people who were on benefit in February 2002 were no longer there in February 2003 - but 1.31 million of those claiming benefits and/or receiving tax credits in February 2003 were not there in February 2002.
- Changes in the numbers in each group are also affected by movements between them. For example, 466 thousand people who were on benefit and/or tax credits in both February 2002 and February 2003 changed group over this period.
- Both movements onto and off benefit/ tax credits and movements between groups can affect the numbers in individual groups. For example, the overall number of **unemployed** claimants fell by 10 thousand between February 2002 and February 2003. This fall was due to the fact **that more claimants moved out of this group** (136 thousand) than into it (85 thousand). This has been partly offset by the fact more people joined benefit (516 thousand) than left (475 thousand)

**Table 8.4 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits- changes between February 2002 and February 2003**

	Movement between February 2002 and February 2003					<i>Thousands</i>	
	All on benefit and/or tax credit in February 2002	Not on benefit and/or tax credit in February 2003	Not on benefit and/or tax credit in February 2002	Net movement between groups <sup>1</sup>	Overall change <sup>2</sup>	All on benefit and/or tax credit in February 2003	
<b>All</b>	<b>6,231</b>	1,160	1,312	-	152	<b>6,383</b>	
Unemployed	<b>946</b>	475	516	-51	-10	<b>936</b>	
Sick / Disabled <sup>3</sup>	<b>2,987</b>	325	318	42	35	<b>3,022</b>	
Lone Parents	<b>840</b>	77	106	-52	-24	<b>817</b>	
Others	<b>197</b>	52	41	5	-6	<b>191</b>	
Working Family	<b>1,230</b>	228	329	51	152	<b>1,382</b>	
Working Disabled	<b>31</b>	2	1	6	5	<b>36</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Numbers coming into group less numbers moving out - see bottom half of table 8.5 for breakdown

<sup>2</sup> Overall change between February 2002 and February 2003 i.e. column 3 minus column 2 plus column 4

<sup>3</sup> Due to the inclusion of FC/ WFTC and DWA/ DPTC data, the "Sick / Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the bulletin as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working

**Table 8.5 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits in both February 2002 and February 2003 – comparisons of grouping**

Thousands

	Statistical group in February 2003						
	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled <sup>2</sup>	Lone Parents	Other	Working Family	Working Disabled
<b>Comparison of groups in 2002 and 2003<sup>1</sup></b>							
<b>All</b>	<b>5,071</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>2,704</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>1,053</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Group in February 2002</b>							
Unemployed	470	334	80	11	17	27	1
Sick / Disabled <sup>2</sup>	2,662	48	2,561	14	19	10	10
Lone Parents	763	10	22	646	3	81	-
Others	145	8	20	7	108	2	-
Working Family	1,002	18	17	32	2	932	1
Working Disabled	29	-	5	-	-	-	23
<b>Total with no change</b>	<b>4,604</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>23</b>
Leaving original group	-466	-136	-101	-116	-37	-70	-5
Joining new group	466	85	143	64	42	120	11
Net movement between Groups	-	-51	42	-52	5	50	6

<sup>1</sup> For example there were 470 thousand claimants in the Unemployed group in February 2002 who were also on benefit/tax credits in February 2003: Of these, 334 thousand were still in this group, 80 thousand were now in the Sick / Disabled group, 11 thousand in the Lone Parent group, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Due to the inclusion of FC/ WFTC and DWA/ DPTC data, the "Sick / Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the bulletin as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working

These analyses can also look at changes over longer time periods, as well as comparisons over the latest year. Tables 8.6 and 8.7 compare the status of the stock of claimants in February 2000 with that in February 2003.

**Table 8.6 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits in February 2003 - by status in February 2000**

Thousands

Group in February 2003	All on benefit and/or tax credit in February 2003	Benefit/Tax credit status in February 2000		
		Not on benefit	Same group	Different group
<b>All</b>	<b>6,383</b>	<b>2,257</b>	<b>3,373</b>	<b>753</b>
Unemployed	936	596	254	86
Sick / Disabled <sup>1</sup>	3,022	692	2,061	270
Lone Parents	817	237	488	92
Others	191	71	59	61
Working Family	1,382	656	501	225
Working Disabled	36	5	11	20

<sup>1</sup> Due to the inclusion of FC/ WFTC and DWA/ DPTC data, the "Sick / Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the bulletin as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

- Under two thirds (4.13 million) of **claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits** in February 2003 were on benefit or tax credits in February 2000 and over half of the overall total (3.37 million) were in the same group.
- People in the **Working Disabled group** in February 2003 were the most likely to have also been on benefit or tax credits in February 2000 (85% of them – 30 thousand), followed by those in the Sick / Disabled group (77% of them – 2.33 million) and those in the lone parent group (71% - 0.58 million) - those in the unemployed group (36% - 0.34 million) were least likely. Sick / Disabled claimants were the most likely to have stayed in the same group (68% - 2.06 million).

**Table 8.7 Claimants of key benefits / tax credits in February 2000 - by status in February 2003**

*Thousands*

Group in February 2000	Benefit and/or tax credit status in February 2003				
	All on Benefit/tax credits in February 2000	Reached State pension age <sup>2</sup>	Not on benefit or tax credit	Same group	Different Group
<b>All</b>	<b>6,136</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>1,548</b>	<b>3,373</b>	<b>753</b>
Unemployed	1,151	18	625	254	253
Sick / Disabled <sup>1</sup>	2,880	372	331	2,061	117
Lone Parents	900	2	177	488	233
Others	240	69	60	59	51
Working Family	947	2	352	501	93
Working Disabled	19	-	2	11	6

<sup>1</sup> Due to the inclusion of FC/ WFTC and DWA/ DPTC data, the "Sick / Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the bulletin as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

<sup>2</sup> Some of these people may also have left benefit/ tax credits

## 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 in the Notes to Editors.

These analyses are based on data collected through the administration of the individual benefits and tax credits. They are designed to give a good indication of the size of the population on these benefits and/or tax credits and how this changes over time. However, they are affected by changes to the conditions of entitlement and to the existence of the benefits/tax credits themselves. This includes such things as: the replacement of Unemployment Benefit with Jobseeker's Allowance and the associated impact on the coverage of Income Support; and the impact of the introduction of tests to assess incapacity for Incapacity Benefit; the replacement of Family Credit and Disability Working Allowance with Working Families' Tax Credit and Disabled Person's Tax Credit respectively. No attempt has been made to adjust the series for such factors.

### *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 that they have a live claim.

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 is 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 (for example, the sample of JSA claimants is taken about two weeks before the snapshot date). The best estimates the numbers claiming each benefit or receiving each tax credit are still given by the individual samples from which the data are drawn. Benefit statistics are released by DWP Information and Analysis Directorate and tax credit statistics are published by Inland Revenue Analysis and Research.

### *Family type and "People on benefits"*

The Family Type analyses in section 2 are based primarily on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. These amounts are payable for all partners and dependants of claimants of income related benefits, which are received by the majority of claimants covered by these analyses. The main gap comes from claimants of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance where additional benefit is payable only to those who have a partner who is not working and is looking after children. Most of these IB/SDA claimants do not qualify for these allowances, though the Family Resources Survey (FRS) suggests that about half have a partner.

In theory, it is possible to produce an estimate of the "Total number of people who receive assistance from the key benefits" - i.e. claimants plus partners and dependants for whom some additional benefit is payable. This has not been done in the tables because it is possible for the partners of claimants of income related benefits to claim some of the other benefits in their own right (i.e. IB/SDA, DLA and Contribution-Based JSA). The FRS suggests that only a relatively small proportion of these partners do so, but we cannot identify which ones from the client group analysis data sets.

This table explains the definitions used in the Family Type tables:

Family Type	Definition
Couple	Claimants who receive an additional allowance of benefit for their partner; or those in receipt of contribution-based JSA or JSA National Insurance credits only, with a partner recorded.
Single	Claimants who have their status recorded as single and therefore do not receive an additional allowance of benefit for a partner.
Children	Claimants who receive an additional allowance of benefit for children or young adult dependants; or those in receipt of contribution-based JSA or JSA National Insurance credits only, with children or young adult dependants recorded.
No Children	Claimants who have zero children or young adult dependants recorded; or those where the actual number of dependants is not recorded but they are not in receipt of an additional allowance of benefit for any children or young adult dependants.
Not Known	Claimants who do not have a marital status recorded and are not receiving an additional allowance of benefit for a partner. These are mainly IB/SDA claimants and include a small number who receive allowances for dependants but not partners.

### *Statistical groups*

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

In section 8, claimants of key benefits and recipients of tax credits have been divided into groups based mainly on the type of benefit and/or tax credit they receive. This gives an indication of the main reason why they are claiming a benefit and/or receiving a tax credit. As WFTC and DPTC awards can remain in payment after employment has ended (they are paid for six months irrespective of circumstances), those people who also receive a key benefit (other than DLA) are allocated to the appropriate group based on the benefit received. For example, a person receiving WFTC who also receives IS as a lone parent has been allocated to the "Lone Parents" group. This explains why the numbers in some groups shown in this bulletin can differ from those shown in the separate DWP and IR benefit and tax credit tables.

### *Transitions analyses*

The transitions analyses shown in section 3 of this bulletin are produced by matching the "snapshot" data for the stock of claimants with a live claim at the end of each quarter. By matching claimants who appear in different quarters, we can get an indication of how many move on, off and between the benefits that are included. These analyses do not cover all claimants who come on and go off these benefits over the period covered by the analyses. For example, they do not cover those claims of very short duration, which start and end between the "snapshot" dates.

Also, as they are based on matching NINOs of claimants of these benefits (for tax credit recipients, the NINO used for matching is that of the main earner in the family), they do not cover all possible movements into and out of the benefit system. For example, if a claimant leaves Income Support because his partner claims Jobseeker's Allowance, the analyses will not capture this change. The transitions analysis shown in section 8 of this bulletin additionally show movements between benefits and tax credits. They are subject to similar constraints as the analysis in section 3 described above.

The importance of these "missing flows" will depend mainly upon the use that is made of the data. If, for example, we want to analyse the number of different benefits that a claimant receives over a three year period, these analyses should be able to produce a good measure of it. However, if we were attempting to produce a similar analysis based on benefit units, we could miss a significant number flows - for example, where the partners in a couple alternate as to who makes the claim for a benefit when the family circumstances change.

### *IS claimants on Government Training schemes*

Prior to the introduction of JSA, people on Government Training schemes could claim Income Support. These claimants (around 40 to 60 thousand) are included in the "others" group in the tables in this bulletin for the quarters up to and including November 1996. When JSA was introduced in October 1996, these claimants now had to claim Income-based JSA. They are not included in the client group analysis in this bulletin as validated source data are not currently available.

The table below shows the total number of people of working age who were claiming a key benefit between November 1995 and February 1998. It shows the figures as quoted in this bulletin and also shows the figures excluding those on a Government Training scheme.

	<i>Thousands</i>	
	All claimants (as quoted in this bulletin)	All claimants (excluding those on a Govt Training scheme)
November 95	6,322	6,258
November 95	6,213	6,154
February 96	6,317	6,259
May 96	6,169	6,122
November 96	6,218	6,174
November 96 <sup>1</sup>	5,866	5,866
February 97 <sup>1</sup>	5,850	5,850
May 97 <sup>1</sup>	5,659	5,659
November 97 <sup>1</sup>	5,665	5,665

<sup>1</sup> The "All claimants" figure quoted in this bulletin already excludes those on a Government Training scheme.

### *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 Unemployment Benefit and/or Income Support claims where clerical cases are included.

### Sampling Errors

The analyses in this report are subject to 'sampling error', i.e. by chance the number of cases in the sample with certain characterisations (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 tables 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 lie somewhere in a range around the 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 lies in the range of 9,100 to 10,900.

Approximate 95% confidence intervals (rounded to the nearest 100) 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 claimants and not to other characteristics.





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