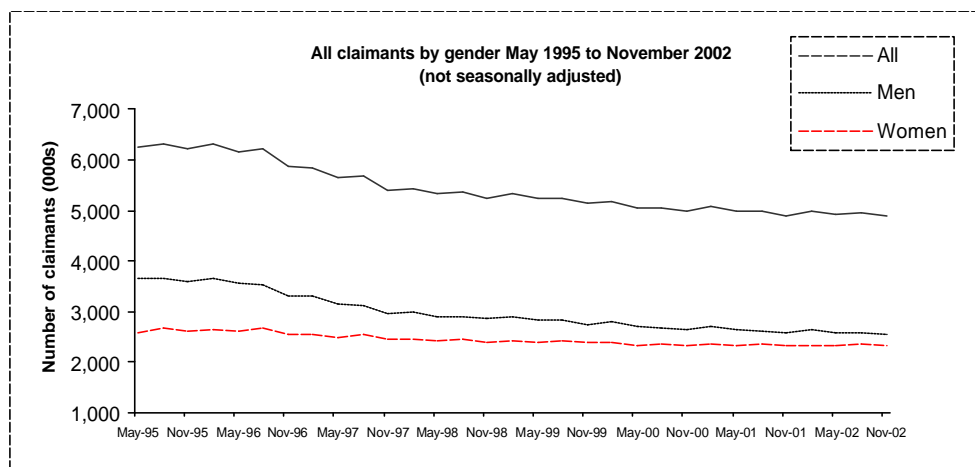


17th April 2003

Coverage: Great Britain
Theme: Social and Welfare

CLIENT GROUP ANALYSIS: QUARTERLY BULLETIN ON THE POPULATION OF WORKING AGE ON KEY BENEFITS – NOVEMBER 2002

4.90 million people of working age were claiming a key benefit in November 2002, down 11,000 from a year previously, and down 51,000 from August 2002. The fall in the last quarter is due to the normal seasonal trend. The number of male claimants fell by 22,000 to 2.56 million and the number of female claimants rose by 10,000 to 2.33 million over the year.



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The number of unemployed claimants fell by 18,000 between November 2001 and November 2002, while lone parents and others fell by 22,000 and 7,000 respectively. The number of claimants who were sick/disabled increased by 36,000.

13.9% of the working age population were claiming a key benefit in November 2002. 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.

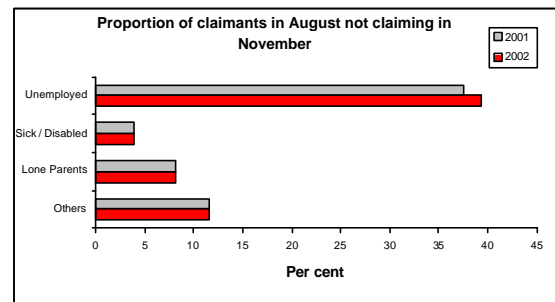
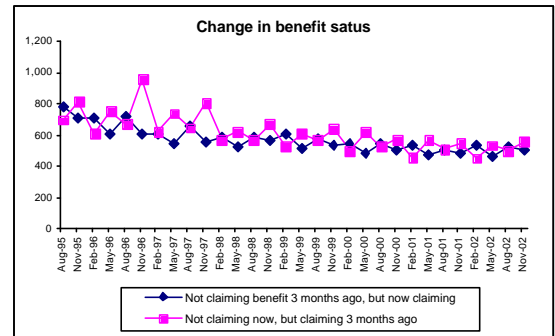
	November 02		Change on a year ago	
	Claimants (Thousands)	% of population working age	Thousands	Percentage points
All	4,896	13.9	-11	-
Unemployed	836	2.4	-18	-0.1
Sick/Disabled	3,044	8.7	36	0.1
Lone parents	823	2.3	-22	-0.1
Others	194	0.6	-7	-

Flows

There were 507 thousand people who were not claiming in August 2002 but were in November 2002, 21,000 higher than a year ago.

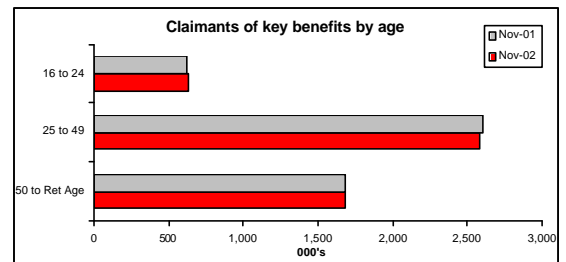
The number of people who stopped claiming between August and November also rose between 2001 and 2002.

The proportion of claimants in August who ceased claiming by November rose between 2001 and 2002 for all of the statistical groups.



Age Groups

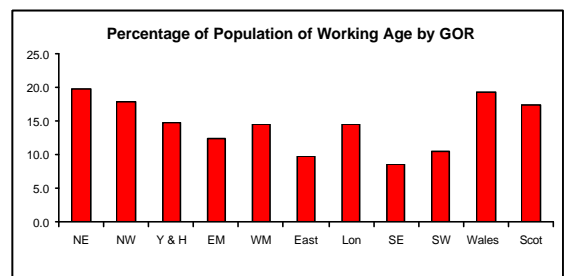
Falls have been seen in the number of claimants in the age categories 25 to 39 and 50 to retirement age over the last year, although there has been a small rise in the 16 to 24 category. The over 25 to 49s saw the largest increase in the number of sick and disabled claimants, whereas the 16 to 24s saw the largest percentage increase



Regions

The proportion of the working age population claiming a key benefit ranged from 19.9% in the North East to 8.6% in the South East.

The number of claimants of key benefits fell in the majority of regions between November 2001 and November 2002, with the exceptions being West Midlands, East of England, London and South East 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 17th April 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 publications and press releases 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 Office for National Statistics have revised the population estimates. Detailed figures with an age breakdown for the years 1991 to 2000 were released on 27th March 2003.

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

November 2002

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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

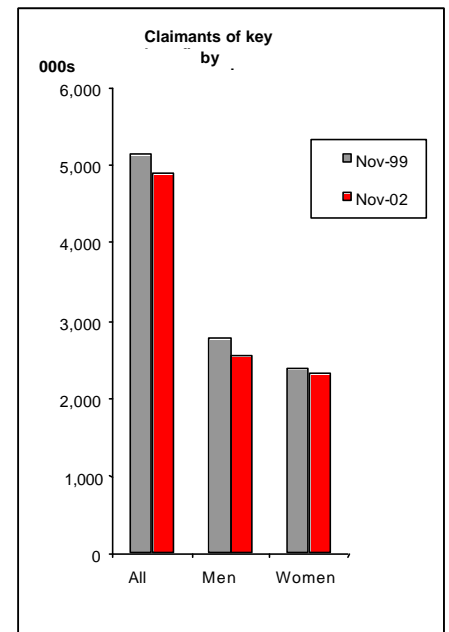
Sections 1 to 6 summarise the main finding from the analysis, whilst section 7 gives quarterly time series. Section 8 contains analysis of those claiming a key benefit and/or a tax credit.

Section 1. Age and Gender

Table 1.1 Claimants of key benefits by gender: November 1999 to November 2002

	<i>Thousands</i>			
	November-99	November-00	November-01	November-02
All	5,143	4,996	4,907	4,896
% of pop.¹	14.8	14.3	14.0	13.9
Men	2,758	2,659	2,583	2,561
% of pop. ¹	15.4	14.8	14.3	14.2
Women	2,385	2,336	2,325	2,335
% of pop. ¹	14.2	13.8	13.6	13.7

¹ Population of working age



- In November 2002 about 13.9% (4.90 million) of **people of working age** claimed a key benefit - 14.8% (5.14 million) in November 1999.
- About 2.56 million **men** of working age claimed one, compared with 2.33 million **women**. The difference is mainly due to differences in retirement age.
- The **overall number of claimants** fell by over 247 thousand between November 1999 and November 2002 - 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 – 20.9% of those aged 55 to 59 claimed one in November 2002, compared to only 11.9% 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 November 1999 with the largest reduction in the 25 to 34 age group (down 176 thousand).

Table 1.2 Claimants of key benefits by age and gender: November 2002

Thousands and percentages

	All		Men		Women	
	(000s)	% of pop in age group	(000s)	% of pop in age group	(000s)	% of pop in age group
All	4,896	13.9	2,561	14.2	2,335	13.7
Under 18	57	4.0	26	3.5	31	4.5
18 to 24	574	11.9	253	10.5	321	13.4
25 to 34	992	12.3	440	11.1	551	13.4
35 to 44	1,100	12.9	522	12.3	578	13.4
45 to 54	1,057	14.0	532	14.2	525	13.8
55 to 59	688	20.9	360	22.1	328	19.7
60 to 64	428	31.2	428	31.2	.	.

Table 1.3 Claimants of key benefits by age: November 1999 to November 2002

Thousands and percentages

	November 1999		November 2000		November 2001		November 2002	
	All	% of pop in age group	All	% of pop in age group	All	% of pop in age group	All	% of pop in age group
All	5,143	14.8	4,996	14.3	4,907	14.0	4,896	13.9
Under 18	56	4.1	54	3.9	53	3.7	57	4.0
18 to 24	612	13.0	582	12.3	568	11.8	574	11.9
25 to 34	1,168	13.8	1,084	13.1	1,023	12.6	992	12.3
35 to 44	1,092	13.3	1,089	13.0	1,093	12.8	1,100	12.9
45 to 54	1,105	14.7	1,090	14.5	1,074	14.2	1,057	14.0
55 to 59	646	21.1	643	20.3	656	19.9	688	20.9
60 to 64	464	33.8	453	32.8	440	32.1	428	31.2

Table 1.4 Claimants of key benefits by age and gender: November 1999 and November 2002

Thousands and percentages

	Men				Women			
	November 1999	% of pop in age group	November 2002	% of pop in age group	November 1999	% of pop in age group	November 2002	% of pop in age group
	(000s)		(000s)		(000s)		(000s)	
All	2,758	15.4	2,561	14.2	2,385	14.2	2,335	13.7
Under 18	24	3.4	26	3.5	32	4.8	31	4.5
18 to 24	277	11.8	253	10.5	335	14.1	321	13.4
25 to 34	528	12.7	440	11.1	640	14.9	551	13.4
35 to 44	532	13.1	522	12.3	560	13.5	578	13.4
45 to 54	579	15.5	532	14.2	526	13.9	525	13.8
55 to 59	355	23.4	360	22.1	291	18.8	328	19.7
60 to 64	464	33.8	428	31.2	.	.	.	.

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 type¹ and gender: November 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
	All	%	Men	%	Women	%
All	4,896	100	2,561	100	2,335	100
All couples	655	13	533	21	123	5
Couple - no children	370	8	298	12	71	3
Couple – children	286	6	234	9	51	2
All single	2,647	54	1,161	45	1,486	64
Single - no children	1,679	34	1,102	43	578	25
Single – children	968	20	60	2	908	39
Not known	1,594	33	868	34	727	31

- Around 2.65 million claimants were **single** or did not receive any additional benefit for a partner in November 2002.
- Over a quarter (1.25 million) of all claimants received **additional benefit for children**. The majority (0.97 million) were single – down 71 thousand since November 1999.
- The number of **single or couple families without children** has fallen by 187 thousand (8%) since November 1999 whilst the number of **single or couple families with children** has fallen by 131 thousand (9%).

¹ 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.

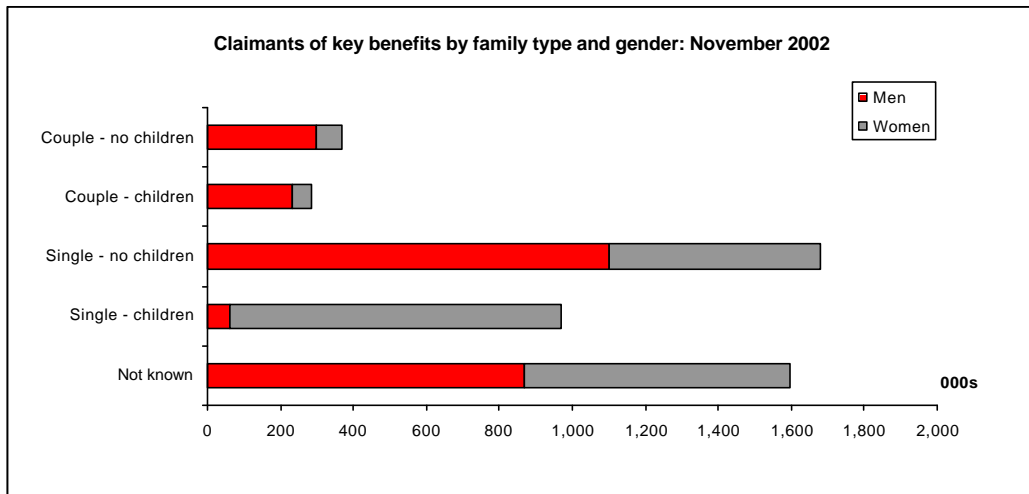


Table 2.2 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ : November 1999 to November 2002

Thousands and percentages

	November 1999		November 2000		November 2001		November 2002	
	All	%	All	%	All	%	All	%
All	5,143	100	4,996	100	4,907	100	4,896	100
All couples	783	15	725	15	685	14	655	13
Couple - no children	438	9	403	8	387	8	370	8
Couple - children	345	7	322	6	298	6	286	6
All single	2,836	55	2,728	55	2,664	54	2,647	54
Single - no children	1,798	35	1,720	34	1,680	34	1,679	34
Single - children	1,038	20	1,008	20	983	20	968	20
Not known	1,523	30	1,543	31	1,559	32	1,594	33

Table 2.3 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ and statistical group: November 2002

Thousands

	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Other
All	4,896	836	3,044	823	194
All couples	655	187	405	.	63
Couple - no children	370	110	220	.	39
Couple - children	286	76	185	.	24
All single	2,647	649	1,044	823	131
Single - no children	1,679	636	914	.	130
Single - children	968	13	130	823	1
Not known	1,594	.	1,594	.	.

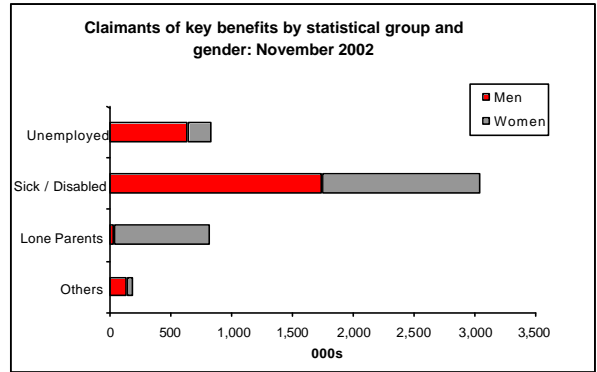
¹ This analysis is based mainly on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. See 'Methodology' at the end of this bulletin for further details

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: November 2002

	<i>Thousands</i>		
	All	Men	Women
All	4,896	2,561	2,335
Unemployed	836	630	206
Sick / Disabled	3,044	1,753	1,291
Lone Parents	823	41	782
Others	194	138	56



- The **overall numbers** fell by 0.25 million between November 1999 and November 2002, mostly because of the **unemployed** group which fell by 0.26 million (down 24%) over the period.
- **Sick / disabled** claimants were consistently the largest group between November 1999 and November 2002, rising from 56% of the total to 62% of the total; **unemployed** claimants were the second largest group.
- The size of the **sick / disabled** group rose by 150 thousand (up 5%) between November 1999 and November 2002, whilst numbers in the **lone parents** and **others** groups have fallen.

Table 3.2 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group: November 1999 to November 2002

Thousands and percentages

	November 1999		November 2000		November 2001		November 2002	
	All	% of pop	All	% of pop	All	% of pop	All	% of pop
All	5,143	14.8	4,996	14.3	4,907	14.0	4,896	13.9
Unemployed	1,096	3.2	954	2.7	853	2.4	836	2.4
Sick / Disabled	2,893	8.3	2,954	8.5	3,008	8.6	3,044	8.7
Lone Parents	909	2.6	874	2.5	845	2.4	823	2.3
Others	244	0.7	214	0.6	201	0.6	194	0.6

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: November 1999 to November 2002

Thousands

	On benefit in current year - status in previous year¹			Not on Benefit	Left benefit since previous year²
	All	Same statistical group	Different statistical group		
Nov 1999	5,143	.	.	.	.
Nov 2000	4,996	3,718	274	1,004	1,151
Nov 2001	4,907	3,674	259	975	1,063
Nov 2002	4,896	3,639	253	1,005	1,016

¹ Some claimants may have left benefit and then returned to it between years

² 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 November 1999 because the numbers who have left benefit have exceeded those who have joined. For example, 1.02 million claimants who were on benefit in November 2001 were no longer there in November 2002 - but only 1.00 million of those on benefit in November 2002 were not there in November 2001.
- Changes in the numbers in each statistical group are also affected by movements between them. For example, 253 thousand claimants who were on benefit in both November 2001 and November 2002 changed statistical group over this period.

Table 3.4 Claimants of key benefits - changes between November 2001 and November 2002

Thousands

Statistical group	All on benefit in November 2001	Movement between November 01 and November 02				Overall change ²	All on benefit in November 2002
		Not on Benefit in November 2002	Not on benefit in November 2001	Net movement between Statistical groups ¹			
All	4,907	1,016	1,005	0	-11	4,896	
Unemployed	853	455	481	-43	-18	836	
Sick / Disabled	3,008	343	338	41	36	3,044	
Lone Parents	845	161	142	-3	-22	823	
Others	201	56	44	4	-7	194	

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

² Overall change between November 2001 and November 2002 i.e. column 3 minus column 2 plus column 4

Table 3.5 Claimants of key benefits in both November 2001 and November 2002 - comparisons of statistical group

Thousands

	Statistical group in November 2002				
	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parent	Other
Comparison of statistical groups in 2001 and 2002¹					
All	3,892	355	2,706	681	150
Statistical group in November 2001					
Unemployed	398	293	78	11	17
Sick / Disabled	2,664	45	2,586	14	19
Lone Parents	684	9	22	650	3
Others	145	8	20	6	110
2001 and 2002					
Total with no change	3,639	293	2,586	650	110
Leaving original statistical group	-253	-105	-79	-34	-35
Joining new statistical group	253	62	120	31	39
Net movement between Statistical groups	-	-43	41	-3	4

¹ For example there were 398 thousand claimants in the Unemployed group in November 2001 who were also on benefit in November 2002:

Of these, 293 thousand were still in this group, 78 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 18 thousand between November 2001 and November 2002. The fall was due to the fact **that more claimants moved out of this group** (105 thousand) than into it (62 thousand), however this was off set by more people joining benefit (481 thousand) than left (455 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 November 1999 with that in November 2002.

Table 3.6 Claimants of key benefits in November 2002 - by status in November 1999

Thousands

Benefit status in November 2002	All on benefit in November 2002	Benefit status in November 1999		
		Not on Benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
All	4,896	1,624	2,869	404
Unemployed	836	537	235	63
Sick / Disabled	3,044	733	2,081	230
Lone Parents	823	278	492	53
Others	194	75	61	58

- Over two thirds (3.3 million) of **claimants of key benefits** in November 2002 were also on benefit in November 1999 and 59% of the overall total (2.87 million) were in the same statistical group.
- Claimants in the **sick / disabled group** in November 2002 were the most likely to have also been on benefit in November 1999 (76% of them – 2.3 million), followed by those in the lone parent group (66% - 0.5 million) - those in the unemployed group (36% - 0.30 million) were least likely. Sick / disabled claimants were also the most likely to have stayed in the same statistical group (68% - 2.08 million).

Table 3.7 Claimants of key benefits in November 1999 - by status in November 2002

Thousands

Benefit status in November 1999	All on Benefit in November 1999	Reached state pension age ¹	Benefit status in November 2002		
			Not on benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
All	5,143	461	1,409	2,869	404
Unemployed	1,096	16	644	235	200
Sick / Disabled	2,893	373	361	2,081	79
Lone Parents	909	2	339	492	77
Others	244	70	66	61	48

¹ 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: November 2002

	<i>Thousands</i>			
	All	Income replacement benefits	Other benefits only	NI Credits only
All	4,896	4,417	307	172
Unemployed	836	753	.	83
Sick / Disabled	3,044	2,647	307	89
Lone Parents	823	823	.	.
Others	194	194	.	.

- 4.42 million claimants received an **income replacement benefit** in November 2002, down from 4.71 million in November 1999.
- 1.35 million people received only a **contributory benefit** in November 2002.
- 2.99 million people received a benefit that is **income related** in November 2002 (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: November 1999 to November 2002

	<i>Thousands</i>			
	Benefit type			
	All	Income replacement benefits	Other Benefits Only	NI Credits Only
Nov 1999	5,143	4,714	240	189
Nov 2000	4,996	4,565	254	177
Nov 2001	4,907	4,455	275	178
Nov 2002	4,896	4,417	307	172

Table 4.3 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and main basis of entitlement: November 2002

Thousands

	Basis of benefit entitlement					
	All	Contributory	Contributory and income related¹	Income related	Other	NI Credits only
All	4,896	1,349	332	2,659	385	172
Unemployed	836	151	17	585	.	83
Sick / Disabled	3,044	1,198	315	1,057	385	89
Lone Parents	823	.	.	823	.	.
Others	194	.	.	194	.	.

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: November 1999 to November 2002

Thousands

	Basis of benefit entitlement					
	All	Contributory	Contributory and income related¹	Income related	Other	NI Credits only
Nov 1999	5,143	1,373	292	2,951	337	189
Nov 2000	4,996	1,355	309	2,808	347	177
Nov 2001	4,907	1,346	325	2,695	364	178
Nov 2002	4,896	1,349	332	2,659	385	172

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: November 2002

	<i>Thousands</i>					
	All	Type of benefit				DLA
		IB Payment	IB Credits	SDA	Income Support	
All Sick / Disabled	3,044	1,512	862	283	1,372	1,453
Single benefit only	1,180	747	89	12	56	275
Two or more benefits of which¹	1,864	765	773	271	1,317	1,178
Incapacity Benefit payment	765	765	.	.	315	613
Incapacity Benefit credits	773	.	773	.	741	260
Severe Disablement Allowance	271	.	.	271	206	250
Income Support	1,317	315	741	206	1,317	630
Disability Living Allowance	1,178	613	260	250	630	1,178

¹ 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% (1.86 million) of the **sick / disabled** claimants received more than one of the key benefits in November 2002 (including those who receive IB National Insurance credits). The main combinations include IB credits and IS (0.74 million), IB payments and DLA (0.61 million) and DLA and IS (0.63 million).

Table 4.6 Claimants of sickness / disability benefits by type of benefit: November 1999 to November 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>							
	November 1999		November 2000		November 2001		November 2002	
	All	%	All	%	All	%	All	%
All Sick / Disabled	2,893	100	2,954	100	3,008	100	3,044	100
Incapacity Only ¹	1,622	56	1,636	55	1,635	54	1,590	52
Incapacity and Disability	1,053	36	1,088	37	1,125	37	1,178	39
Disability Only ²	219	8	231	8	248	8	275	9

¹ Incapacity benefits include IB payments, IB credits, IS on grounds of sickness and SDA

² 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: November 2002

		<i>Thousands</i>				
		Duration of oldest claim ¹				
All		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
All	4,896	582	346	416	546	3,006
Unemployed	836	383	160	132	86	75
Sick / Disabled	3,044	130	117	179	305	2,314
Lone Parents	823	43	50	82	126	521
Others	194	26	19	24	30	95

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- The number of claimants receiving a key benefit for over 2 years is above 3 million for the second consecutive quarter. 61% (3.01 million) of the **claimants of key benefits** in November 2002 had been receiving one for 2 years or more.
- Around 77% of these “longer duration” claimants (2.30 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 9% of those in the unemployed group.

Table 5.2 Claimants of key benefits by gender and duration of claim: November 2002

		<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
		Duration of oldest claim ¹					
All		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over	
All	(000s)	4,896	582	346	416	546	3,006
	%	100	12	7	9	11	61
Men	(000s)	2,561	375	205	231	274	1,476
	%	100	15	8	9	11	58
Women	(000s)	2,335	206	141	186	272	1,530
	%	100	9	6	8	12	66

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

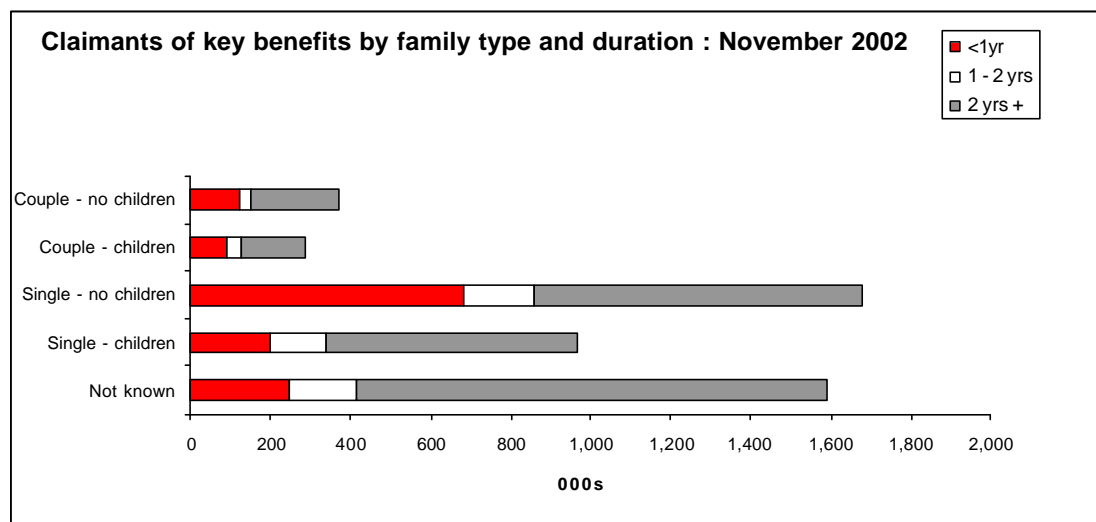
Table 5.3 Claimants of key benefits by family type and duration of claim: November 2002

Thousands

	All	Duration of oldest claim ¹				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 Year	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
All	4,896	582	346	416	546	3,006
All couples	655	105	53	54	68	376
Couple - no children	370	67	29	25	31	218
Couple - children	286	37	24	29	37	158
All single	2,647	398	231	256	311	1,450
Single - no children	1,679	347	174	165	170	822
Single - children	968	51	57	91	141	628
Not known	1,594	79	62	106	166	1,181

¹ 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 : November 2002

	<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
	All		Men		Women	
	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹
Great Britain	4,886	13.9	2,555	14.1	2,331	13.7
England	4,004	13.2	2,083	13.4	1,921	13.1
North East	306	19.9	167	21.1	139	18.7
North West ²	729	17.8	389	18.5	340	17.1
Yorkshire and the Humber	448	14.8	243	15.5	205	14.0
East Midlands	321	12.5	167	12.6	154	12.5
West Midlands	465	14.6	246	14.8	220	14.3
East	319	9.7	158	9.3	161	10.2
London	682	14.5	336	14.2	346	14.8
South East	422	8.6	213	8.4	209	8.8
South West	313	10.6	165	10.8	148	10.5
Wales	335	19.3	178	19.9	157	18.7
Scotland	547	17.4	294	18.3	253	16.4
IB/SDA claimants living abroad	10	.	6	.	4	.

¹ Population of working age

² 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 November 2002 ranges from 8.6% in South East England to 19.9% 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 (13.7%), 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 3.4% in the North East to 1.4% 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>

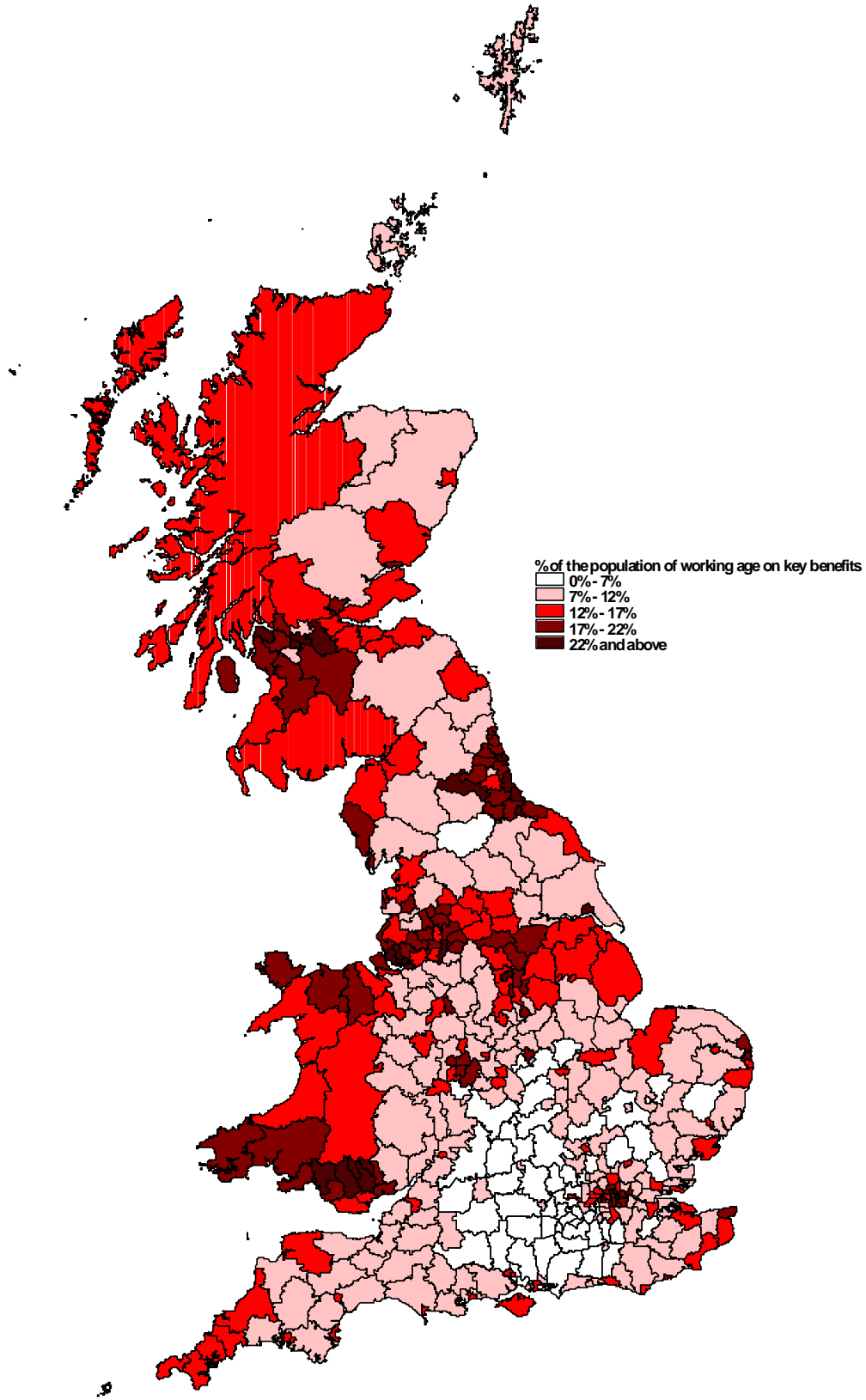
Table 6.2 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and Government Office Region : November 2002

		<i>Thousands and percentages</i>				
		Statistical group				
		All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Others
Great Britain	(000s)	4,886	836	3,033	823	194
	% of pop ¹	13.9	2.4	8.6	2.3	0.6
England	(000s)	4,004	699	2,439	705	162
	% of pop ¹	13.2	2.3	8.1	2.3	0.5
North East	(000s)	306	52	198	44	12
	% of pop ¹	19.9	3.4	12.9	2.9	0.8
North West ²	(000s)	729	107	485	111	27
	% of pop ¹	17.8	2.6	11.9	2.7	0.7
Yorkshire and the Humber	(000s)	448	80	277	71	20
	% of pop ¹	14.8	2.6	9.1	2.3	0.7
East Midlands	(000s)	321	52	206	50	13
	% of pop ¹	12.5	2.0	8.1	1.9	0.5
West Midlands	(000s)	465	87	282	77	20
	% of pop ¹	14.6	2.7	8.8	2.4	0.6
East	(000s)	319	52	194	60	13
	% of pop ¹	9.7	1.6	5.9	1.8	0.4
London	(000s)	682	156	335	160	31
	% of pop ¹	14.5	3.3	7.1	3.4	0.7
South East	(000s)	422	67	256	82	16
	% of pop ¹	8.6	1.4	5.2	1.7	0.3
South West	(000s)	313	45	205	50	12
	% of pop ¹	10.6	1.5	7.0	1.7	0.4
Wales	(000s)	335	44	237	44	10
	% of pop ¹	19.3	2.5	13.7	2.6	0.6
Scotland	(000s)	547	93	358	73	22
	% of pop ¹	17.4	3.0	11.4	2.3	0.7
IB/SDA claimants living abroad	(000s)	10	.	10	.	.

¹ Population of working age

² 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: November 2002



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>					
		All	% Pop¹	Men	% Pop¹	Women	% Pop¹
1995	May	6,244	17.9	3,652	20.6	2,592	15.6
	Aug	6,322	18.1	3,645	20.5	2,677	16.2
	Nov	6,213	18.1	3,588	20.2	2,625	15.8
1996	Feb	6,317	18.4	3,668	20.6	2,649	15.9
	May	6,169	17.9	3,549	20.0	2,620	15.7
	Aug	6,218	18.1	3,533	19.9	2,685	16.1
	Nov	5,866	17.0	3,305	18.6	2,561	15.4
1997	Feb	5,850	17.0	3,302	18.5	2,549	15.3
	May	5,659	16.4	3,157	17.7	2,502	15.0
	Aug	5,665	16.4	3,126	17.6	2,539	15.2
	Nov	5,409	15.7	2,963	16.6	2,446	14.6
1998	Feb	5,429	15.7	2,982	16.7	2,447	14.6
	May	5,331	15.4	2,914	16.3	2,417	14.4
	Aug	5,355	15.5	2,903	16.3	2,452	14.6
	Nov	5,249	15.2	2,853	16.0	2,396	14.3
1999	Feb	5,328	15.3	2,912	16.3	2,416	14.4
	May	5,235	15.1	2,846	15.9	2,389	14.2
	Aug	5,245	15.1	2,822	15.8	2,423	14.4
	Nov	5,143	14.8	2,758	15.4	2,385	14.2
2000	Feb	5,185	14.9	2,802	15.6	2,383	14.1
	May	5,049	14.5	2,703	15.0	2,346	13.9
	Aug	5,063	14.5	2,688	15.0	2,374	14.0
	Nov	4,996	14.3	2,659	14.8	2,336	13.8
2001	Feb	5,077	14.5	2,719	15.0	2,358	13.8
	May	4,982	14.2	2,640	14.6	2,342	13.7
	Aug	4,970	14.1	2,609	14.4	2,361	13.9
	Nov	4,907	14.0	2,583	14.3	2,325	13.6
2002	Feb	4,992	14.2	2,650	14.6	2,342	13.7
	May	4,923	14.0	2,592	14.3	2,332	13.7
	Aug	4,947	14.1	2,584	14.3	2,362	13.9
	Nov	4,896	13.9	2,561	14.2	2,335	13.7

¹ Population of working age

Table 7.1B: Claimants of key benefits by gender - Annual changes Nov 1998 to Nov 2002

		<i>Thousands and percentages</i>					
		All		Men		Women	
		(000s)	%	(000s)	%	(000s)	%
Nov 99 / Nov 98		-106	-2.0	-96	-3.4	-11	-0.5
Nov 00 / Nov 99		-147	-2.9	-98	-3.6	-48	-2.0
Nov 01 / Nov 00		-88	-1.8	-77	-2.9	-12	-0.5
Nov 02 / Nov 01		-11	-0.2	-22	-0.8	10	0.4

Table 7.1C: All Claimants of key benefits by age

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

Table 7.1D: All Claimants of key benefits by age

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

Table 7.1E: Male Claimants of key benefits by age

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

Table 7.1F: Female Claimants of key benefits by age

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

7.2: Family Type

Table 7.2A: All Claimants of key benefits by family type¹

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

Table 7.2B: Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ - Annual changes Nov 1998 to Nov 2002

		<i>Thousands</i>							
		Couples			Single			Not Known	
		All	No Children	With Children	All	No Children	With Children		
Nov 99 / Nov 98		-106	-70	-45	-24	-51	-50	-1	14
Nov 00 / Nov 99		-147	-58	-35	-23	-108	-77	-31	20
Nov 01 / Nov 00		-88	-42	-18	-24	-64	-40	-24	18
Nov 02 / Nov 01		-11	-30	-17	-13	-17	-1	-16	36

¹ 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 type¹

Thousands

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

¹ 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 type¹

Thousands

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

¹ 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 ¹
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

Table 7.3B: Claimants of key benefits by statistical group - Annual changes November 1998 to November 2001

Thousands

	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled	Lone Parents	Others ¹
Nov 99 / Nov 98	-106	-127	40	-10	-9
Nov 00 / Nov 99	-147	-142	61	-36	-30
Nov 01 / Nov 00	-88	-101	54	-28	-13
Nov 02 / Nov 01	-11	-18	36	-22	-7

¹ 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*

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

¹ 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*

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

¹ 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

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

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

Thousands

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

¹ "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 benefit¹

**Table 7.5A Claimants of key benefits by duration of claim of oldest benefit:²
May 1997 – November 2002**

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

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

² 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 duration¹ of claim of oldest benefit:²
May 1997 – November 2002**

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

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

² 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 duration¹ of claim of oldest benefit:²
May 1997 – November 2002**

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

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

² 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

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

Table 7.6B Claimants of key benefits by Government Office Region

Percentages¹

		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	18.2	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	18.4	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	18.1	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	18.3	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	17.9	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	18.0	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	17.0	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	16.9	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	16.4	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	16.4	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	15.7	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	15.7	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	15.4	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	15.5	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	15.2	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	15.3	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	15.1	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	15.1	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	14.8	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	14.8	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	14.4	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	14.5	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	14.3	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	14.4	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	14.2	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	14.1	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	13.9	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	14.2	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	14.0	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	14.1	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	13.9	13.2	19.9	17.8	14.8	12.5	14.6	9.7	14.5	8.6	10.6	19.3	17.4	.

¹ 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.

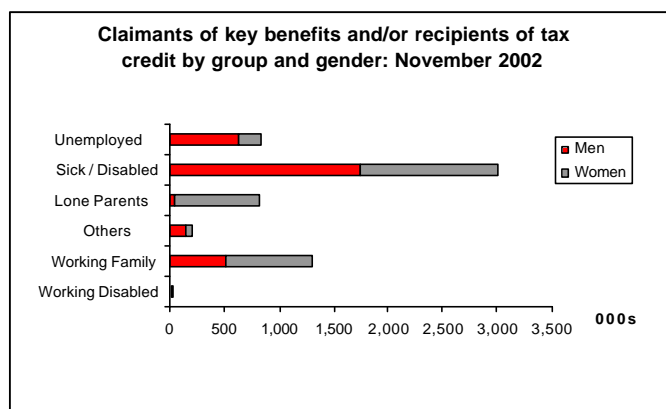
Claimants of key benefits and recipients of tax credits can be divided into groups based mainly on the type of benefit and/or tax credit they receive. This gives an indication of the main reason why they are claiming a benefit and/or receiving a tax credit.

This grouping is defined as:

Unemployed	JSA
Sick / Disabled ¹	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: November 2002

	<i>Thousands</i>		
	All	Men	Women
All	6,196	3,075	3,121
Unemployed	836	630	206
Sick / Disabled ¹	3,019	1,739	1,280
Lone Parents	823	41	782
Others	194	138	56
Working Family	1,292	509	782
Working Disabled	34	19	15



¹ 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 164 thousand between November 1999 and November 2002. However, the **unemployed** group fell by over 0.26 million (down 24%) over the period and this fall has been offset by a rise in the **working family** group of 0.41 million (46%) since November 1999.
- **Sick / disabled** claimants were consistently the largest group between November 1999 and November 2002, rising from 47.7% of the total to 48.7% 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 140 thousand (up 5%), **working families** by 0.41 million (46%) and **working disabled** by 16 thousand (88%) between November 1999 and November 2002, 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: Nov 1999 to Nov 2002

Thousands and percentages

	November 1999		November 2000		November 2001		November 2002	
	All	% of pop	All	% of pop	All	% of pop	All	% of pop
All	6,032	17.4	6,089	17.5	6,131	17.5	6,196	17.6
Unemployed	1,096	3.2	954	2.7	853	2.4	836	2.4
Sick / Disabled ¹	2,879	8.3	2,936	8.4	2,986	8.5	3,019	8.6
Lone Parents	909	2.6	874	2.5	845	2.4	823	2.3
Others	244	0.7	214	0.6	201	0.6	194	0.6
Working Family	886	2.6	1,087	3.1	1,217	3.5	1,292	3.7
Working Disabled	18	0.1	24	0.1	30	0.1	34	0.1

¹ 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.

² 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: November 1999 to November 2002

Thousands

	On benefit/ tax credit in current year – status in previous year ¹				Left benefit and/or Tax credit since previous year ²
	All	Same group	Different Group	Not on benefit or tax credit	
Nov - 99	6,032	.	.	.	.
Nov - 00	6,089	4,323	480	1,286	1,229
Nov - 01	6,131	4,435	457	1,239	1,196
Nov - 02	6,196	4,494	453	1,249	1,184

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

² 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 November 2001 because the numbers who have started claiming benefit and/or receiving tax credits have exceeded those who have stopped. For example, 1.18 million people who were on benefit in November 2001 were no longer there in November 2002 - but 1.25 million of those claiming benefits and/or receiving tax credits in November 2002 were not there in November 2001.
- Changes in the numbers in each group are also affected by movements between them. For example, 453 thousand people who were on benefit and/or tax credits in both November 2001 and November 2002 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 18 thousand between November 2001 and November 2002. This fall was due to the fact **that more claimants moved out of this group** (128 thousand) than into it (79 thousand). This has been partly offset by the fact more people joined benefit (464 thousand) than left (432 thousand)

Table 8.4 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits- changes between November 2001 and November 2002

<i>Thousands</i>						
	All on benefit and/or tax credit in November 2001	Movement between November 2001 and November 2002			Overall change ²	All on benefit and/or tax credit in November 2001
		Not on benefit and/or tax credit in November 2002	Not on benefit and/or tax credit in November 2001	Net movement between groups ¹		
All	6,131	1,184	1,249	-	65	6,196
Unemployed	853	432	464	-49	-18	836
Sick / Disabled ³	2,986	330	318	45	33	3,019
Lone Parents	845	84	106	-45	-22	823
Others	201	54	42	5	-7	194
Working Family	1,217	283	318	40	75	1,292
Working Disabled	30	2	2	5	4	34

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

² Overall change between November 2001 and November 2002 i.e. column 3 minus column 2 plus column 4

³ 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 November 2001 and November 2002 – comparisons of grouping

<i>Thousands</i>							
	Statistical group in November 2002						
	All	Unemployed	Sick / Disabled ²	Lone Parents	Other	Working Family	Working Disabled
Comparison of groups in 2001 and 2002¹							
All	4,947	372	2,701	717	152	973	32
Group in November 2001							
Unemployed	421	293	78	11	17	23	-
Sick / Disabled ²	2,656	44	2,559	14	19	10	9
Lone Parents	762	9	22	650	3	78	-
Others	147	8	20	6	110	2	-
Working Family	934	17	18	36	2	860	1
Working Disabled	28	-	5	-	-	-	22
Total with no change	4,494	293	2,559	650	110	860	22
Leaving original group	-453	-128	-97	-112	-37	-73	-6
Joining new group	453	79	142	67	41	113	10
Net movement between Groups	-	-49	45	-45	5	40	5

¹ For example there were 421 thousand claimants in the Unemployed group in November 2001 who were also on benefit/tax credits in November 2002: Of these, 293 thousand were still in this group, 78 thousand were now in the Sick / Disabled group, 11 thousand in the Lone Parent group, etc.

² 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 November 1999 with that in November 2002.

Table 8.6 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits in November 2002 - by status in November 1999

		<i>Thousands</i>			
Group in November 2002	All on benefit and/or tax credit in November 2002	Benefit/Tax credit status in November 1999			Different group
		Not on benefit	Same group		
All	6,196	2,165	3,301	730	
Unemployed	836	521	235	79	
Sick / Disabled ¹	3,019	697	2,057	264	
Lone Parents	823	239	492	92	
Others	194	72	61	61	
Working Family	1,292	630	446	215	
Working Disabled	34	5	10	19	

¹ 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 (4.03 million) of **claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits** in November 2002 were on benefit or tax credits in November 1999 and around half of the overall total (3.30 million) were in the same group.
- People in the **Working Disabled group** in November 2002 were the most likely to have also been on benefit or tax credits in November 1999 (84% of them – 28 thousand), followed by those in the Sick / Disabled group (77% of them – 2.32 million) and those in the lone parent group (71% - 0.58 million) - those in the unemployed group (38% - 0.31 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 November 1999 - by status in November 2002

		<i>Thousands</i>				
Group in November 1999	All on Benefit/tax credits in November 1999	Benefit and/or tax credit status in November 2002				Different Group
		Reached state pension age ²	Not on benefit or tax credit	Same group		
All	6,032	462	1,539	3,301	730	
Unemployed	1,096	16	601	235	242	
Sick / Disabled ¹	2,879	373	337	2,057	112	
Lone Parents	909	2	189	492	227	
Others	244	70	61	61	53	
Working Family	886	1	349	446	90	
Working Disabled	18	-	2	10	6	

¹ 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.

² 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 published 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 publications.

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 ¹	5,866	5,866
February 97 ¹	5,850	5,850
May 97 ¹	5,659	5,659
November 97 ¹	5,665	5,665

¹ 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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