

## Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB) Monthly Caseload National Statistics

### Geographical Breakdowns

**Latest publication date:** Last updated with December 2010 data on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011

**Available from:** <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=hbctb>

### Background

Monthly HB/CTB caseload National Statistics are currently published on the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) website: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=hbctb>

Excel tables show a number of breakdowns, including local authority (LA) [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb\\_ctb/hbctb\\_release\\_mar11.xls](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/hbctb_release_mar11.xls)

Current local authority tables identify a HB/CTB claim based on the local authority that administers the benefit. Therefore, it is possible for the recipient to reside in a different LA to the one administering their HB/CTB claim.

DWP are enhancing the geographical information available for the HB / CTB recipients. By using the recipients address, a range of geographical areas can be obtained and reported on. We plan to release new geographical breakdowns for the HB / CTB caseload statistics, starting with a parliamentary constituency breakdown, in the near future.

However, we are seeking views from users as to how local authority breakdowns are published now that a breakdown based on recipients address is available as well as local authority based on administration of the claim.

For the majority of local authorities, the caseload numbers based on residence are very similar to those based on administration. Table 1 shows the local authorities with the biggest differences.

A large number of these local authorities are in the Greater London area.

The two local authorities with the largest effect are Havant (which would see it's HB recipients increase by 55.6 per cent) and Portsmouth (which would see it's HB recipients fall by 16.0 per cent). The reason for this is largely due to many tenants living in the Leigh Park area of Havant who rent social housing through Portsmouth City Council<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leigh\\_Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leigh_Park)

## **Local Authority Publication Options**

There are several ways that publication of local authority data could proceed.

1. Move to residence-based local authority data and no longer publish administering local authority data.
2. Continue to publish administering local authority data and do not publish address-based local authority data.
3. Publish both sets of local authority data.

### **Advantages of moving to address-based LA data**

- Local authority data based on the residence will be in line with other geographical outputs that will soon be available. For example, Parliamentary Constituency and the super output area statistical areas data will necessarily be derived from recipient's residence. Therefore, direct comparisons can be made between all geographical breakdowns.
- Local authority breakdowns based on the residence will be in line with other geographical outputs for other DWP benefits. Therefore, more accurate direct comparisons can be made between HB/CTB and other benefits.

### **Disadvantages of moving to address-based LA data**

- Specific uses of data based on administration boundaries would not be possible.
- Current time-series analysis of HB / CTB caseload would have a small (for majority of local authorities) discontinuity.

## **Feedback and Contact Details**

- We are seeking feedback from users of HB / CTB caseload National Statistics

If you would like to comment on any of the above please email

[Elaine.willis@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Elaine.willis@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Timing**

It would be appreciated if comments were returned to the above email address no later than Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

Table 1

<b>Local authority name</b>	<b>Published HB recipients (based on administration)</b>	<b>HB recipients (based on residence)</b>	<b>Percentage increase / decrease if based on residence</b>
Havant	5,840	9,090	55.6
Brentwood	3,120	3,350	7.3
Broxbourne	5,500	5,720	4.1
Wokingham UA	3,950	4,070	3.0
Redbridge	18,120	18,510	2.1
Gedling	5,820	5,940	2.1
Enfield	30,940	31,420	1.5
Barking and Dagenham	21,420	21,710	1.4
Broadland	4,640	4,690	1.1
Inverclyde	9,550	9,450	-1.1
Sutton	12,220	12,090	-1.1
Cheshire West and Chester UA	21,090	20,860	-1.1
West Berkshire UA	7,410	7,330	-1.1
East Lindsey	10,700	10,580	-1.1
Greenwich	27,500	27,200	-1.1
South Somerset	9,680	9,570	-1.1
Wiltshire UA	24,220	23,950	-1.1
Salford	28,190	27,880	-1.1
East Hertfordshire	5,810	5,750	-1.1
Cornwall UA	39,800	39,360	-1.1
Monmouthshire / Sir Fynwy	4,850	4,800	-1.1
Chichester	6,440	6,370	-1.1
Mid Suffolk	3,830	3,790	-1.1
Swale	10,330	10,210	-1.1
Camden	28,430	28,110	-1.1
Braintree	8,880	8,780	-1.1
Dover	8,430	8,330	-1.2
East Dorset	3,430	3,390	-1.2
Milton Keynes UA	20,300	20,060	-1.2
Cambridge	7,710	7,620	-1.2
Thanet	14,370	14,200	-1.2
North Dorset	3,270	3,230	-1.2
Shepway	8,640	8,540	-1.2
Tewkesbury	4,060	4,010	-1.2
East Hampshire	4,530	4,470	-1.2
Melton	2,220	2,190	-1.2
Moray	5,180	5,120	-1.2
Wellingborough	5,400	5,330	-1.2
Arun	9,470	9,350	-1.2
St Albans	5,650	5,580	-1.3
Cheshire East UA	18,240	18,010	-1.3
Maldon	3,130	3,090	-1.3
Hambleton	4,050	4,000	-1.3
South Kesteven	7,740	7,640	-1.3
North Kesteven	4,680	4,620	-1.4
Isle of Wight UA	11,130	10,970	-1.4
South Ayrshire	9,970	9,830	-1.4
Epsom and Ewell	2,840	2,800	-1.4

Selby	3,960	3,900	-1.4
Uttlesford	3,300	3,250	-1.4
Wealden	5,930	5,840	-1.4
Teignbridge	7,400	7,290	-1.4
Hartlepool UA	11,160	10,990	-1.5
Peterborough UA	15,290	15,060	-1.5
Mendip	6,540	6,440	-1.5
Basingstoke and Deane	8,860	8,720	-1.5
Breckland	8,050	7,930	-1.5
Aberdeenshire	10,730	10,560	-1.6
Highland	15,560	15,320	-1.6
Rutland UA	1,420	1,400	-1.6
West Lothian	15,020	14,770	-1.7
South Gloucestershire UA	11,240	11,050	-1.7
Vale of White Horse	4,820	4,740	-1.7
Crawley	8,870	8,720	-1.7
East Lothian	6,730	6,610	-1.8
Sedgemoor	7,730	7,590	-1.8
Haringey	35,540	34,900	-1.8
Lambeth	40,170	39,430	-1.8
Reading UA	12,720	12,490	-1.8
Derbyshire Dales	3,220	3,160	-1.9
South Cambridgeshire	5,500	5,400	-1.9
Slough UA	11,210	11,000	-1.9
Oxford	10,950	10,740	-1.9
Herefordshire, County of UA	11,050	10,840	-1.9
Swindon UA	14,580	14,300	-1.9
Rushmoor	5,800	5,690	-1.9
Watford	5,750	5,640	-2.0
South Derbyshire	4,360	4,270	-2.0
West Devon	2,770	2,710	-2.0
Eilean Siar	1,460	1,430	-2.1
West Lindsey	5,510	5,390	-2.1
Forest Heath	3,460	3,380	-2.2
Bracknell Forest UA	5,920	5,790	-2.3
Ashford	6,950	6,790	-2.3
South Norfolk	5,950	5,810	-2.4
Tonbridge and Malling	6,260	6,110	-2.4
Eastleigh	5,650	5,500	-2.6
Huntingdonshire	7,650	7,450	-2.7
Tower Hamlets	35,890	34,930	-2.7
Shetland Islands	1,040	1,010	-2.7
Kensington and Chelsea	17,800	17,310	-2.7
Maidstone	8,460	8,220	-2.8
Newham	36,040	34,730	-3.6
Aylesbury Vale	7,740	7,450	-3.7
Midlothian	6,300	6,050	-3.9
Harborough	2,670	2,550	-4.6
Westminster	27,680	26,140	-5.6
Portsmouth UA	22,340	18,770	-16.0
City of London	1,100	480	-56.8