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Theme: Social and Welfare

DWP QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Introduction

This Statistical Summary aims to give users a structured overview of the National Statistics published by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Statistics are grouped by component area of DWP and, for each statistic, links are given for users to access more detailed information.

Key benefit statistics and New Deal statistics from 100% sources are available on an internet-based tabulation tool. A similar tabulation tool derived from 5% sample data is also available, however wherever possible 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as they are more accurate and form DWP's headline statistics. Data is also released via the NOMIS website and the Neighbourhood Statistics website.

The latest National Statistics on benefit claimants, employment programmes, labour market decisions and vacancies produced by DWP were released on 12th November 2008 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority. Not all DWP National Statistics are covered by this release. Some statistics have their own first releases, but links to these are given throughout.

Key Findings

- The number of people claiming incapacity benefits of working age has fallen by 47 thousand to 2.6 million in the year to May 2008.
- The lone parent caseload fell from 919 thousand to 766 thousand between May 2000 and May 2007. This decrease continued in the year to May 2008 when the caseload stood at 739 thousand.
- 3.22 million people had started on a New Deal programme up to August 2008. To date, 2.05 million people have gained a job through the New Deal programme, with 101 thousand people gaining a job through Employment Zones.
- At May 2008, there were 12.28 million people of state pension age claiming a key benefit, an increase of 226 thousand since May 2007. Of these, 66% were claiming State Pension only.
- At May 2008, there were 12.07 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 229 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 37% were male and 63% female.
- At May 2008, there were 2.72 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.32 million including partners), a fall of 14 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 882 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.25 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 591 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only.
- At the end of September 2008, the total Child Support Agency (CSA) caseload stood at 1.3 million cases, of which 52% were new scheme cases.
- At May 2008, there were 2.97 million recipients of Disability Living Allowance, 481 thousand recipients of Carer's Allowance, and 1.55 million recipients of Attendance Allowance.

Experimental statistics on benefit flows show:

- There were 581 thousand new claims to working age Incapacity Benefit, 591 thousand new claims to Income Support, 26 thousand new claims to Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit and 675 thousand new claims to State Pension in the year to May 2008.
- There were 588 thousand benefit exits for working age Incapacity Benefit, 624 thousand for Income Support, 48 thousand for Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit and 498 thousand benefit exits for to State pension in the year to May 2008.

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Contents

1. Working Age

	<i>Page</i>
1.1 Working age Client Group	3
Individual Benefits	
1.2 Jobseeker's Allowance	5
1.3 Incapacity Benefits	6
1.4 Income Support	8
1.5 Housing Benefit	9
1.6 Council Tax Benefit	9
1.7 Widow's Benefit & Bereavement Benefit	10
1.8 Fraud and Error statistics (links only)	11
1.9 Take-Up of income-related benefits (links only)	11
1.10 Jobseeker's Allowance sanctions and disallowances	11
1.11 New Deals & Employment Zones	12
1.12 Vacancies handled by Jobcentre Plus	13

2. Pensioners

2.1 Pensioner Client Group	14
2.2 State Pension	15
2.3 Pension Credit	16

3. Disabled and Carers

3.1 Disability Living Allowance	17
3.2 Attendance Allowance	17
3.3 Carer's Allowance	18
3.4 Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit	19

4. Families & Children

4.1 Child Support Agency cases	20
--------------------------------	----

5. Appeals Service

5.1 Appeals Service lodgements	22
--------------------------------	----

Notes to Editors	23
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1. Working Age

1.1 Working Age client group

Combines data collected for Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Bereavement Benefit and Income Support for working age claimants (including Pension Credit for males aged 60 to 64).

Between May 2000 and May 2005, the number of jobseekers fell from 1,037 thousand to 801 thousand, and rose to 896 thousand in May 2006. It has fallen again to 788 thousand at May 2008. The preferred source of JSA figures is the ONS claimant count measure (which is seasonally adjusted) and this has been rising since January 2008.

The incapacity benefits caseload has continued to gradually fall in the period from August 2004 to May 2008. Headline figures for incapacity benefits are shown in Table 1.2 and differ slightly to figures shown in Table 1.1 due to slight methodological differences.

The lone parent caseload fell from 919 thousand to 766 thousand between May 2000 and May 2007. This decrease continued in the year to May 2008, to stand at 739 thousand.

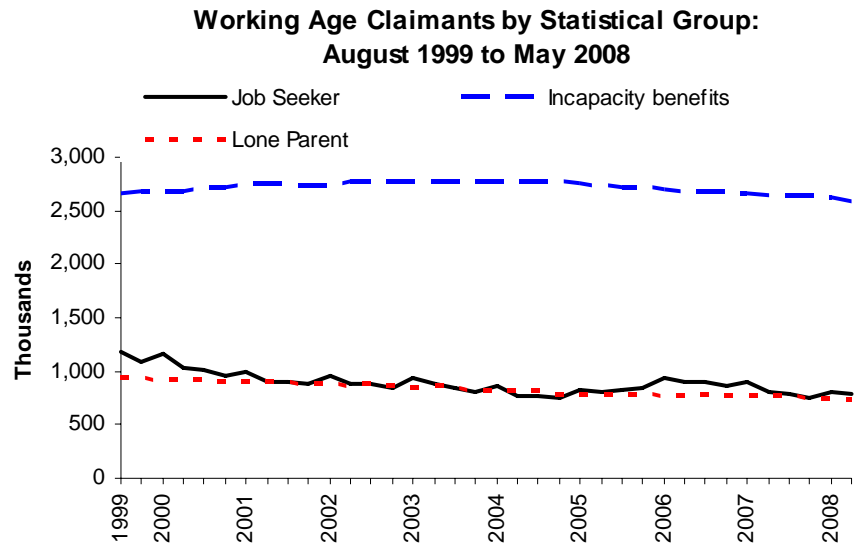




Table 1.1 Working Age claimants by Statistical Group: August 1999 – May 2008

Thousands

	Total	Job Seeker ²	Incapacity Benefits ³	Lone Parent ⁴	Carer ⁵	Income Related ⁶	Disabled ⁷	Bereaved ⁸
Aug -99	"	1,181.86	2,655.38	945.06	316.13	221.31	"	"
Nov -99	"	1,083.03	2,674.71	930.24	316.50	218.37	"	"
Feb -00	"	1,154.97	2,676.39	923.47	313.58	216.97	"	"
May -00	"	1,037.01	2,686.30	919.43	310.88	210.80	"	"
Aug -00	"	1,015.83	2,714.85	920.10	309.67	197.95	"	"
Nov -00	"	948.66	2,722.57	905.76	311.56	196.69	"	"
Feb -01	"	1,001.08	2,750.45	908.21	313.96	182.81	"	"
May -01	"	909.15	2,753.66	900.43	319.59	180.15	"	"
Aug -01	"	907.68	2,763.62	900.22	323.83	175.41	"	"
Nov -01	"	880.36	2,746.02	878.59	328.62	179.08	"	"
Feb -02	"	955.45	2,745.58	877.11	332.02	176.62	"	"
May -02	5,455.75	877.38	2,765.73	870.95	335.79	165.60	245.27	195.02
Aug -02	5,481.48	890.54	2,769.36	875.04	339.91	167.19	249.72	189.71
Nov -02	5,428.63	850.05	2,776.56	856.23	343.72	161.36	256.58	184.13
Feb -03	5,514.28	946.16	2,776.54	848.85	346.17	156.33	260.92	179.32
May -03	5,459.68	885.78	2,773.61	855.81	347.94	155.96	266.25	174.33
Aug -03	5,425.85	851.37	2,777.06	851.73	350.41	155.26	270.15	169.88
Nov -03	5,363.74	803.88	2,780.49	831.75	353.25	154.20	275.51	164.67
Feb -04	5,426.42	867.42	2,777.53	830.25	355.81	155.20	280.13	160.09
May -04	5,327.35	777.40	2,772.85	823.27	359.25	155.42	283.33	155.83
Aug -04	5,321.26	769.25	2,774.93	818.10	360.08	158.20	289.12	151.59
Nov -04	5,270.77	741.06	2,772.18	796.53	361.42	157.94	294.15	147.49
Feb -05	5,327.77	819.68	2,757.65	793.13	362.04	153.93	297.23	144.11
May -05	5,289.13	800.66	2,741.62	789.32	363.76	151.09	300.96	141.73
Aug -05	5,302.72	825.11	2,725.47	789.35	365.08	153.71	305.84	138.17
Nov -05	5,287.66	836.71	2,710.50	778.56	363.34	155.74	309.31	133.51
Feb -06	5,384.74	935.20	2,705.47	777.10	368.66	153.06	313.85	131.40
May -06	5,325.77	895.88	2,688.02	774.86	368.50	152.70	317.04	128.78
Aug -06	5,335.22	900.92	2,683.00	783.19	369.81	153.12	319.13	126.06
Nov -06	5,288.35	860.22	2,672.97	775.62	371.71	161.10	326.64	120.09
Feb -07	5,321.68	904.04	2,662.13	771.35	373.83	163.32	329.75	117.26
May -07	5,207.27	807.27	2,643.21	765.62	374.84	167.05	335.14	114.15
Aug -07	5,187.14	788.45	2,641.11	763.55	376.03	167.84	340.61	109.55
Nov -07	5,124.68	741.10	2,641.70	741.83	379.35	167.29	346.16	107.25
Feb -08	5,174.88	806.70	2,617.88	741.71	384.49	169.95	349.38	104.78
May -08	5,142.63	787.87	2,595.83	738.64	387.56	173.33	356.50	102.90

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. Claimants have been assigned to a statistical group according to a hierarchy. The order is shown in the table, i.e. 'Job Seekers' followed by 'Incapacity Benefits', etc. For example, lone parents with both Incapacity Benefits and Income Support will fall into the 'Incapacity Benefits' category.
2. 'Job Seekers' are recipients of Job Seekers Allowance.
3. 'Incapacity Benefits' refer to recipients of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance.
4. 'Lone Parents' are single recipients of Income Support with a child under 16.
5. 'Carers' are recipients of Carers Allowance.
6. 'Others on Income Related Benefit' are other recipients of Income Support (including Income Support Disability Premium) or Pension Credit.
7. 'Disabled' are recipients of Disability Living Allowance. Industrial Injuries benefits data is not available.
8. 'Bereaved' are recipients of Widow's Benefit or Bereavement Benefit.
9. Totals are not shown prior to May 2002 as Disability Living Allowance data is not available. Also means that complete data for 'Disabled' and 'Bereaved' statistical groups are not available either.
10. Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit data are not currently available but it is in progress.

Latest statistical data available from:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>



1.2 Jobseeker's Allowance

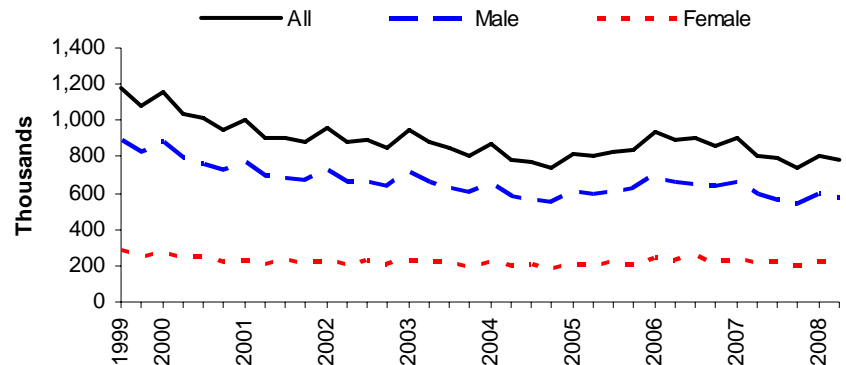
Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) was introduced on 7th October 1996 and has both contributory and income-related elements. It is paid to people under state pension age who are available for and actively seeking work of at least forty hours per week.

The preferred source of JSA figures is the ONS claimant count measure (which is seasonally adjusted) and this has been rising since January 2008.

DWP produce a separate set of Jobseeker's Allowance figures to enable cross-benefit analysis and supply a wider range of breakdowns, and these are provided in this release.

At May 2008, the total number of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants was 788 thousand. Female claimants represented 27% of the JSA caseload (212 thousand), while males represented 73% (576 thousand). The total caseload has fallen by 19 thousand since a year earlier.

**Jobseekers Allowance by Gender:
August 1999 to May 2008**



Latest statistical data available from:

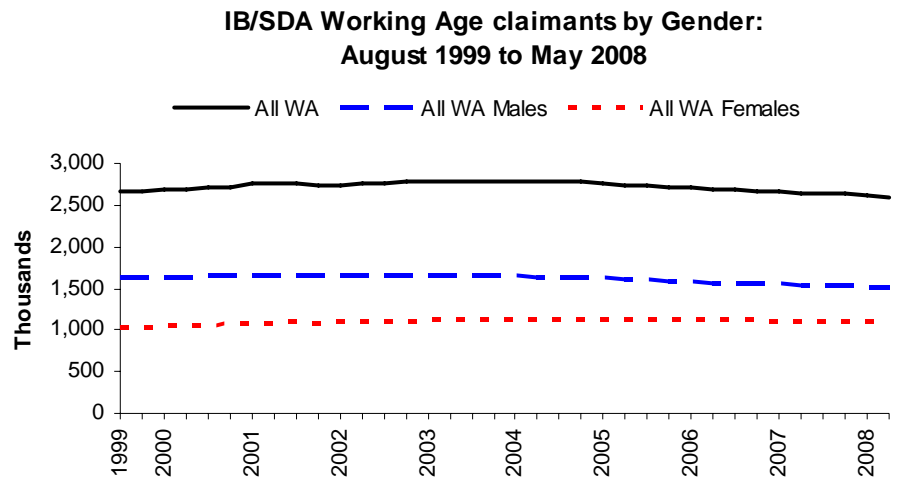
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>



1.3 Incapacity Benefits

Incapacity benefits consist of Incapacity Benefit (introduced on 13th April 1995 and paid to people who are incapable of work and who have paid sufficient contributions throughout their working life) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA).

At May 2008, there were 2.6 million working age claimants of incapacity benefits (Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance), a fall of 47 thousand on a year earlier. 58% of claimants were men and 42% women. Both the male and female caseloads are now falling: males by 33 thousand and females by 14 thousand in the year to May 2008.



At May 2008, 61% (1.59 million) of working age claimants were beneficiaries (i.e. were paid benefit), with the remaining 1 million receiving National Insurance Credits only. A further 42 thousand were claimants above state pension age: these were almost all recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance.

There were 140 thousand new working age claimants of incapacity benefits in the May 2008 quarter, which represents 5% of the May 2008 caseload. Over the same period, 151 thousand working age claimants left the benefits, 6% of the caseload at May 2008.

In the year to May 2008, there were a total of 581 thousand new claims for working age incapacity benefits and 588 thousand claims were closed.



Table 1.2 Incapacity Benefits claimants & beneficiaries: August 1999 – May 2008

Thousands

	All IB/SDA claimants ^{1,2}			All IB/SDA beneficiaries ^{1,2}		
	All ages	Working Age	State Pension Age	All ages	Working Age	State Pension Age
Aug -99	2,732.50	2,655.46	77.05	1,978.56	1,902.14	76.42
Nov -99	2,738.13	2,674.81	63.32	1,967.96	1,905.13	62.83
Feb -00	2,724.03	2,676.50	47.53	1,949.96	1,902.81	47.15
May -00	2,728.09	2,686.40	41.69	1,941.20	1,899.81	41.39
Aug -00	2,756.51	2,714.95	41.55	1,949.08	1,907.75	41.33
Nov -00	2,764.14	2,722.65	41.49	1,945.44	1,904.11	41.33
Feb -01	2,792.03	2,750.53	41.50	1,961.19	1,919.80	41.39
May -01	2,795.34	2,753.74	41.60	1,955.00	1,913.52	41.49
Aug -01	2,805.45	2,763.87	41.58	1,947.63	1,906.15	41.49
Nov -01	2,787.71	2,746.07	41.64	1,926.79	1,885.22	41.56
Feb -02	2,787.22	2,745.67	41.56	1,923.90	1,882.45	41.45
May -02	2,807.63	2,765.82	41.80	1,925.86	1,884.16	41.70
Aug -02	2,811.43	2,769.70	41.73	1,918.07	1,876.43	41.63
Nov -02	2,818.48	2,776.64	41.83	1,912.53	1,870.79	41.74
Feb -03	2,818.57	2,776.63	41.94	1,908.90	1,867.06	41.84
May -03	2,815.66	2,773.71	41.95	1,897.03	1,855.19	41.84
Aug -03	2,819.05	2,777.28	41.77	1,888.80	1,847.11	41.69
Nov -03	2,822.27	2,780.58	41.70	1,881.88	1,840.25	41.63
Feb -04	2,819.16	2,777.62	41.54	1,873.81	1,832.35	41.46
May -04	2,814.71	2,772.93	41.79	1,859.96	1,818.25	41.70
Aug -04	2,817.01	2,775.10	41.90	1,849.78	1,807.95	41.83
Nov -04	2,814.41	2,772.23	42.17	1,840.28	1,798.18	42.10
Feb -05	2,799.87	2,757.71	42.17	1,827.15	1,785.08	42.08
May -05	2,783.72	2,741.67	42.05	1,809.98	1,768.02	41.96
Aug -05	2,767.74	2,725.55	42.20	1,793.00	1,750.89	42.11
Nov -05	2,752.90	2,710.74	42.16	1,780.31	1,738.21	42.10
Feb -06	2,747.49	2,705.58	41.91	1,768.66	1,726.82	41.84
May -06	2,730.00	2,688.14	41.86	1,750.91	1,709.12	41.79
Aug -06	2,724.98	2,683.13	41.85	1,738.64	1,696.87	41.78
Nov -06	2,714.95	2,673.05	41.90	1,724.35	1,682.52	41.83
Feb -07	2,704.10	2,662.21	41.89	1,711.63	1,669.81	41.82
May -07	2,685.32	2,643.29	42.03	1,692.66	1,650.71	41.95
Aug -07	2,683.16	2,641.11	42.05	1,681.86	1,639.88	41.98
Nov -07	2,683.75	2,641.71	42.05	1,673.10	1,631.12	41.98
Feb -08	2,659.65	2,617.88	41.77	1,655.01	1,613.31	41.70
May -08	2,637.56	2,595.83	41.73	1,634.92	1,593.27	41.65

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. 'IB' – Incapacity Benefit, 'SDA' – Severe Disablement Allowance.
2. Figures on 'IB' beneficiaries show those claimants who are receiving money. 'IB' claimants include those beneficiaries plus, those receiving National Insurance Credits and no monetary payment.
3. 'Incapacity Benefits' refer to recipients of 'IB' or 'SDA'. Numbers of Working Age claimants of 'Incapacity Benefits' (IB/SDA) are shown in both the Working Age Client Group and IB/SDA sections of this release. Working Age IB/SDA totals vary slightly between the two sections (a difference of approx. 0.5%) because of minor differences in methodology.

Latest statistical data available from:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

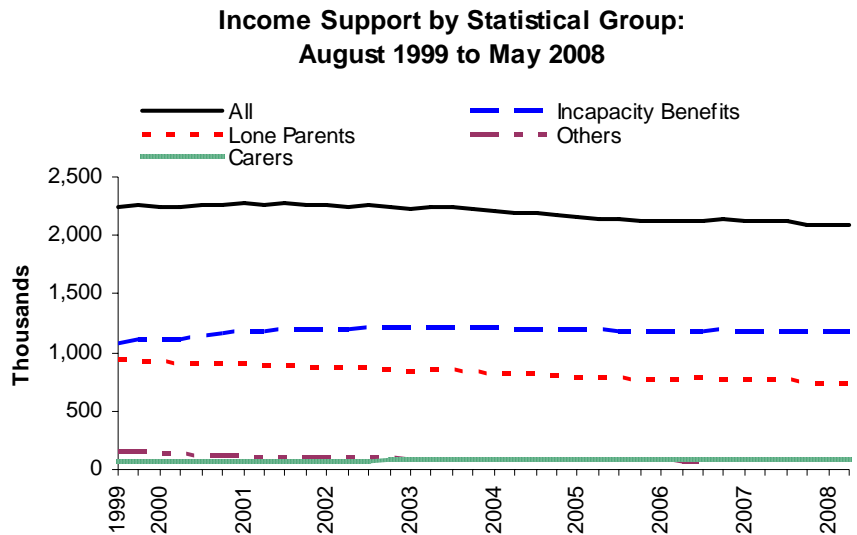


1.4 Income Support

Income Support (IS) was introduced on 11th April 1988 and is an income-related benefit that can be claimed by people aged 16-59 that work fewer than 16 hours a week and have insufficient income to meet their needs. Prior to the introduction of Pension Credit in October 2003, IS was available to people aged 60 and over.

Pension Credit (PC) replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) in Income Support on 6 October 2003. MIG claimants have been excluded from these data.

At May 2008, the total number of Income Support (IS) claimants was 2.09 million. Claimants of incapacity benefits represented 57% of the IS caseload (1.18 million). Lone Parents (all single claimants with dependants excluding claimants of incapacity benefits) represented 35% of the IS caseload (739 thousand), while Carers and Others represented 8% of the caseload (170 thousand).



There were 145 thousand new claimants of Income Support in the May 2008 quarter, which represents 7% of the May caseload. Over the same period, 147 thousand claimants left the benefit, 7% of the caseload at end of May 2008.

In the year to May 2008, there were a total of 590 thousand new claims for Income Support and 611 thousand claims were closed.

Table 1.3 Income Support Lone Parents claimants: May 2008

	<i>Thousands</i>		
	Total	Female	Male
all ages	738.64	705.63	33.01
unknown age	0.01	0.01	-
under 18	5.55	5.53	0.02
18-24	157.99	156.58	1.41
25-34	272.44	264.46	7.98
35-44	232.12	217.03	15.09
45-54	65.84	58.45	7.39
55-59	4.69	3.56	1.12

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. Lone Parents are all single claimants with dependants, but excluding claimants of incapacity benefits

Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

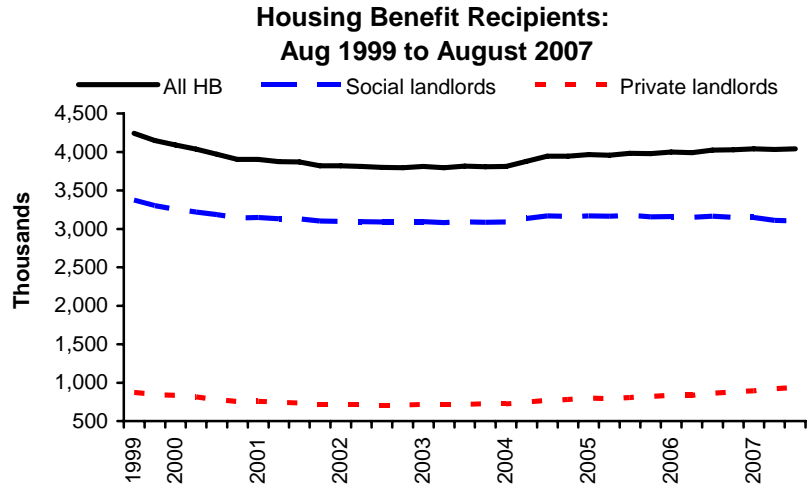
1.5 Housing Benefit

Housing Benefit (HB) was introduced on 1st April 1983 and is an income-related benefit designed to help people on low incomes pay for rented accommodation whether in or out of work.

At August 2007 there were 4.04 million recipients of Housing Benefit, of whom 1.50 million were aged 60 and over. The average weekly amount of Housing Benefit was £71.

73% of Housing Benefit recipients were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Pension Credit (GC).

Figures for November 2007 are not yet available as we are changing data sources and therefore increasing quality assurance to ensure accuracy.



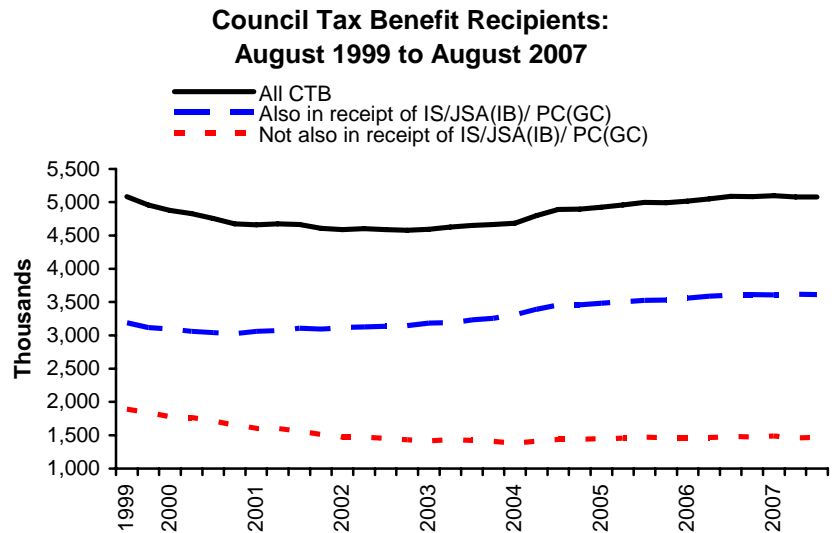
Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>

1.6 Council Tax Benefit

Council Tax Benefit (CTB) was introduced on 1st April 1993 and is an income-related benefit, calculated in a similar way to Housing Benefit, which has been designed to help people on low incomes pay their Council Tax.

At August 2007 there were 5.08 million recipients of Council Tax Benefit (figure excludes second adult rebates), of whom 2.53 million were aged 60 and over. The average weekly amount of Council Tax Benefit was £15. 71% of Council Tax Benefit recipients were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Pension Credit (GC).

Figures for November 2007 are not yet available as we are changing data sources and therefore increasing quality assurance to ensure accuracy.



Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>



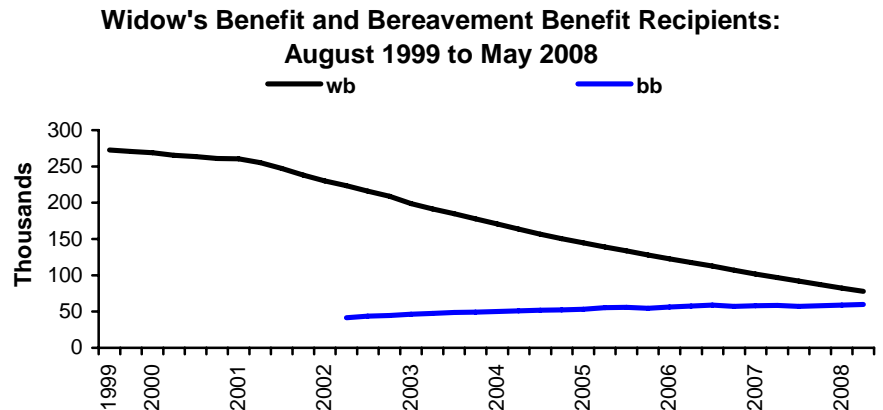
1.7 Widow's Benefit & Bereavement Benefit

Widow's Benefit (WB) was introduced on 6th July 1948 and is payable to women widowed between 11th April 1988 and 8th April 2001 inclusive. There are three types of WB: Widow's Payment, Widowed Mother's Allowance and Widow's Pension. Women widowed before 11th April 1988 continue to receive Widow's Benefit based on the rules that existed before that date.

Bereavement Benefit (BB) was introduced on 9th April 2001 as a replacement for Widow's Benefit. It is payable to both men and women widowed on or after 9th April 2001. There are three types of BB: Bereavement Payment, Widowed Parent's Allowance and Bereavement Allowance.

At May 2008, there were 78 thousand claimants of Widow's Benefit, a fall of 19 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 64.8 thousand were in receipt of Widow's Pension and 13.1 thousand Widowed Mother's Allowance.

At May 2008, there were 60 thousand claimants of Bereavement Benefit, an increase of 1.3 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 19 thousand were in receipt of Bereavement Allowance and 41 thousand in receipt of Widowed Parent's Allowance.



There were 6.5 thousand new claimants of Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit in the May 2008 quarter, which represents 5% of the May 2008 caseload.

Over the same period, 10.5 thousand claimants left the benefits, 8% of the caseload at May 2008.

In the year to May 2008, there were a total of 26 thousand new claims for Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit and 48 thousand claims were closed.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>



1.8 Fraud and Error statistics (link)

National Statistics are published regularly, presenting six-monthly estimates of fraud and error in claims for Income Support, Jobseeker’s Allowance, Pension Credit and Housing Benefit, along with an annual estimate of the level of fraud and error in the benefit system as a whole. One-off benefit reviews have been carried out from time to time to estimate fraud and error in claims for other benefits. All these reports can be found at http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd2/fraud_error.asp

1.9 Take-Up of Income-Related Benefits (link)

Publications contain information on the take-up of the main income-related benefits in Great Britain: Income Support, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and Jobseeker’s Allowance (income based). Take-up is measured in two ways. Expenditure take-up compares the total amount of benefit received in the course of a year with the total amount that would have been received if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Caseload take-up compares the number of benefit claimants – averaged over the year – with the number who would be receiving if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Data is sourced from the Family Resources Survey and administrative benefit records. Latest published figures are available at <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/irb.asp>

1.10 Jobseeker’s Allowance sanction and disallowance decisions

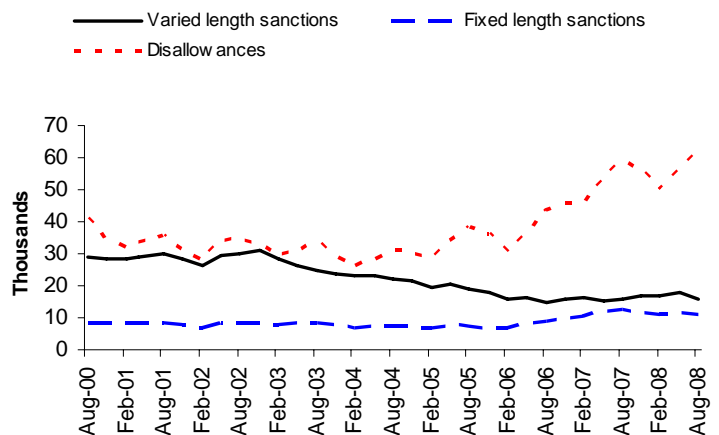
A JSA claimant can have their claim sanctioned (payment is temporarily suspended) or disallowed (entitlement ends) if they are deemed not to have just cause for failing to fulfil the conditions of their claim. Sanctions can be ‘Varied length’ (anything up to 26 weeks) or ‘Fixed length’ (2, 4 or 26 weeks). Disallowances result in the claim ending.

In the quarter ending August 2008 there were 148 thousand decisions made, of which 89 thousand were adverse decisions (i.e. a sanction or disallowance was applied).

Of these, 16 thousand were varied length sanctions, 11 thousand were fixed length sanctions and 62 thousand were disallowance decisions. 60% of decisions made in this quarter resulted in an adverse decision.

NB – this summary includes data on decisions made for sanction referrals only, not opinions.

Adverse decisions for JSA Labour Market questions for sanctions and disallowances per quarter: August 2000 to August 2008



Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/sanction/sanction/LIVE/tabtool.html>



1.11 New Deals & Employment Zones

New Deal for Young People was established in 1998 aimed at people aged 18 to 24 unemployed for at least 6 months. Since then a range of other mandatory and voluntary New Deal programmes have been established aimed at specific client groups.

3.22 million people had started on a New Deal programme up to August 2008.

To date, some 2.05 million people have gained a job through the New Deal programme up to May 2008, with over 100 thousand people also gaining a job through Employment Zones up to July 2008.

People Starting a New Deal, Cumulative to Aug 2008

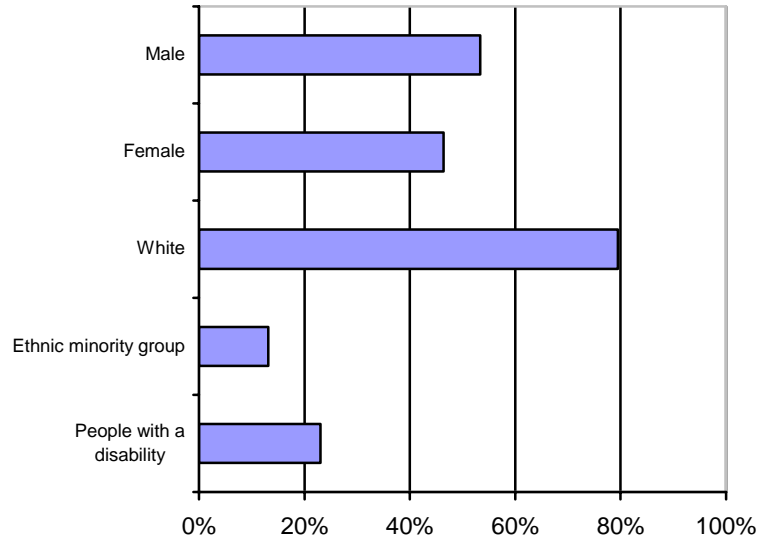


Table 1.4 Summary of New Deal and Employment Zones

Thousands

	New Deal for:						Employment Zones
	Young People	25+	Lone Parents	Disabled People	50+ ³	Partners ⁴	
<i>latest data 1:</i>							
People Starting ²	1,334.9	786.8	901.1	306.2	100.0	18.0	206.4
Currently Participating	75.6	60.0	73.1	-	-	4.2	25.5
People gaining a Job	833.7	341.5	581.1	189.4	187.8	7.2	100.8

Source: New Deal Evaluation Database

1. Latest data relates to end of August 2008 for people starting NDYP, ND25+, NDLP, NDDP, ND50+ and NDP. For current participants and people gaining a job through NDYP, ND25+, NDLP, NDDP, ND50+ and NDP, latest data relates to the end of May 2008. Latest Employment Zone data is from July 2008.
2. The sum of people starting and gaining a job for each separate New Deal will not equal the number of people starting and gaining a job through the New Deal as a whole (as indicated above) because some people will start and gain a job through more than one New Deal programme.
3. Starts for ND50+ are from January 2004 onwards. The jobs figures for ND50+ also include 98,040 individuals who had received Employment Credit up to March 2003.
4. Starts for NDP also include 7,820 individuals from starts up to March 2004 and jobs for NDP also include a further 1,860 jobs from up to March 2004.
5. Statistics relating to current participants and leavers from ND50plus and NDDP have been withdrawn for quality reasons.

Latest statistical data available from: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/tabtool_nd.asp

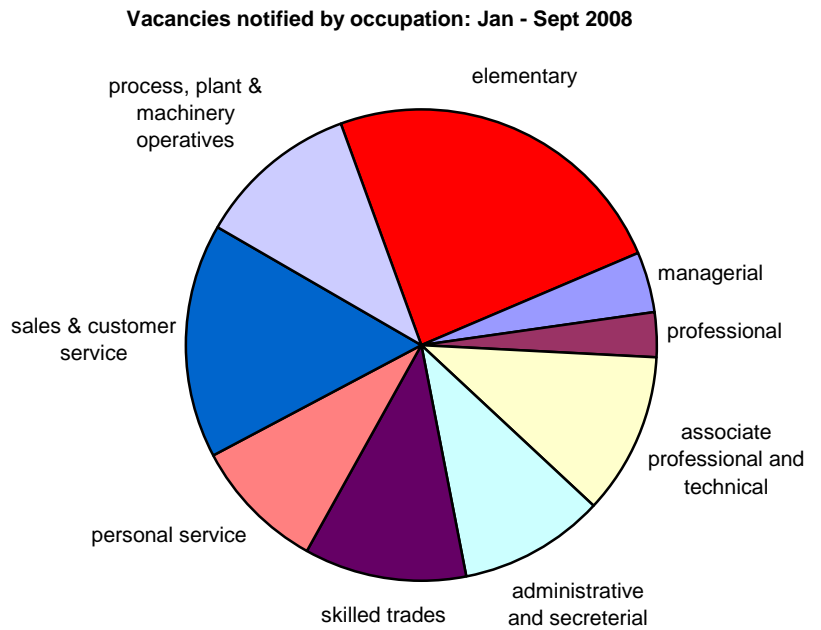


1.12 Vacancies handled by Jobcentre Plus

As the public employment service for Great Britain, Jobcentre Plus handle a significant share of all vacancies advertised by employers, albeit that vacancies notified to Jobcentre Plus do not represent the total number of vacancies in the whole economy.

On average, 355 thousand vacancies were notified to Jobcentre Plus between January and September 2008. Most commonly these are for elementary occupations (24%) and sales/customer services (16%). 14% of notified vacancies are in the North West region compared to 9% in London, 5% Wales and 9% Scotland.

As at September 2008, the number of unfilled vacancies available to jobseekers was 374 thousand.



Latest statistical data available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/vacancies.asp>

2. Pensioners

2.1 Pensioner client group

The Pensioner client group covers claimants, over State Pension age (currently 60 for females and 65 for males), of at least one of the following benefits: State Pension, Pension Credit, Attendance Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, and Severe Disablement Allowance. They are split into statistical groups that reflect their main reason for claiming benefit.

At May 2008 there were 12.28 million claimants in the Pensioner Client Group, an increase of 226 thousand since May 2007. Of these, 20% were in receipt of Pension Credit. 49% of these Pension Credit claimants were disabled.

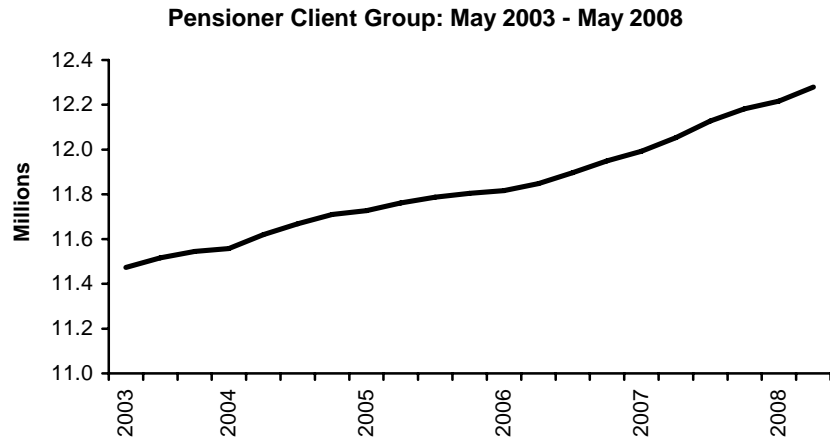


Table 2.1 Pensioner Client Group recipients: May 2003 – May 2008

Thousands

	Total	SP and PC: Disabled	SP and PC: Not Disabled	SP but not PC: Disabled	SP but not PC: Not Disabled	PC but not SP: Disabled	PC but not SP: Not Disabled	Neither SP nor PC: Disabled	Neither SP nor PC: Not Disabled
May -03	11,473.09	713.55	723.21	1,455.05	8,376.88	70.78	69.30	39.34	24.97
Aug -03	11,515.97	725.58	734.00	1,474.14	8,378.73	71.00	69.44	38.55	24.53
Nov -03	11,544.62	806.98	952.06	1,414.29	8,165.73	71.35	70.28	39.17	24.76
Feb -04	11,557.87	868.52	1,083.74	1,360.45	8,039.64	71.27	70.62	38.89	24.72
May -04	11,620.15	959.75	1,193.56	1,296.11	7,964.86	71.80	71.35	38.08	24.64
Aug -04	11,668.11	1,003.82	1,245.69	1,282.39	7,929.91	72.57	71.81	37.76	24.16
Nov -04	11,710.58	1,028.05	1,255.69	1,280.46	7,938.11	73.38	72.83	37.97	24.10
Feb -05	11,726.47	1,037.26	1,268.33	1,273.89	7,938.28	73.49	73.51	37.74	23.98
May -05	11,760.74	1,052.43	1,281.60	1,281.06	7,939.49	73.17	72.88	37.11	23.00
Aug -05	11,786.58	1,065.96	1,280.72	1,298.46	7,933.04	73.71	73.80	37.60	23.30
Nov -05	11,804.43	1,075.10	1,278.42	1,307.14	7,929.69	75.54	75.42	39.48	23.63
Feb -06	11,817.23	1,081.17	1,277.97	1,315.46	7,934.50	73.53	73.75	37.77	23.08
May -06	11,847.97	1,088.48	1,278.31	1,322.93	7,949.50	73.76	74.05	38.06	22.88
Aug -06	11,896.50	1,100.55	1,274.33	1,338.09	7,973.44	74.29	74.59	38.42	22.78
Nov -06	11,949.62	1,113.70	1,269.09	1,351.57	8,004.82	74.87	74.34	38.69	22.54
Feb -07	11,992.45	1,114.06	1,260.09	1,356.42	8,052.20	74.56	74.19	38.60	22.33
May -07	12,053.77	1,122.36	1,252.29	1,370.93	8,097.85	74.82	74.26	38.97	22.29
Aug -07	12,127.16	1,133.46	1,243.25	1,389.71	8,152.28	74.55	73.62	38.92	21.37
Nov -07	12,182.27	1,140.25	1,234.23	1,403.83	8,197.32	74.21	73.15	38.72	20.56
Feb -08	12,216.39	1,139.13	1,223.86	1,410.21	8,237.94	73.56	72.92	38.75	20.02
May -08	12,279.39	1,144.14	1,214.40	1,428.68	8,287.34	73.68	72.69	38.97	19.50

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study



2.2 State Pension

State Pension (SP) was introduced on 1st January 1909 and is paid to people who have reached the state pension age and who fulfil the residency and contributions conditions. The state pension age for men is 65 whilst the State Pension age for women born on or after 6 April 1950 but before 6 April 1955 is rising from 60 to 65 between 2010 and 2020. The State Pension age for women born on or after 6 April 1955 but before 6 April 1959 is 65. State Pension age will increase for both men and women from age 65 to 68 between 2024 and 2046.

At May 2008, there were 12.07 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 229 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 37% were male and 63% female.

The average weekly amount in payment at May 2008 was £96.13, a rise of £4.50 since May 2007.

There were 175 thousand new claimants of State Pension in the May 2008 quarter, which represents 1% of the May caseload.

Over the same period, 124 thousand claimants left the benefits, 1% of the caseload at May 2008.

In the year to May 2008, there were a total of 675 thousand new claims for State Pension and 498 thousand claims were closed.

State Pension Recipients: May 2003 - May 2008

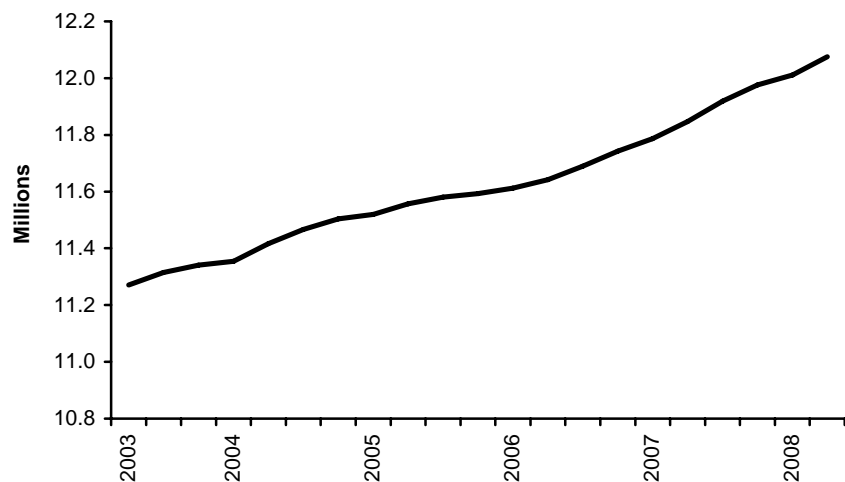


Table 2.2 State Pension recipients: May 2003 – May 2008

	All	Male	Thousands Female
May -03	11,271.62	4,216.74	7,054.88
Aug -03	11,315.22	4,237.46	7,077.76
Nov -03	11,340.71	4,249.69	7,091.01
Feb -04	11,354.10	4,255.94	7,098.16
May -04	11,416.15	4,281.06	7,135.09
Aug -04	11,466.30	4,301.68	7,164.61
Nov -04	11,504.32	4,315.80	7,188.52
Feb -05	11,519.88	4,322.52	7,197.36
May -05	11,556.81	4,342.15	7,214.66
Aug -05	11,580.50	4,354.75	7,225.74
Nov -05	11,592.75	4,362.20	7,230.55
Feb -06	11,611.59	4,369.79	7,241.80
May -06	11,641.83	4,379.54	7,262.29
Aug -06	11,689.12	4,393.60	7,295.52
Nov -06	11,742.01	4,408.91	7,333.10
Feb -07	11,785.67	4,418.99	7,366.68
May -07	11,846.43	4,437.99	7,408.44
Aug -07	11,919.12	4,463.09	7,456.04
Nov -07	11,976.03	4,484.97	7,491.06
Feb -08	12,011.54	4,499.53	7,512.02
May -08	12,074.99	4,526.79	7,548.20

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study

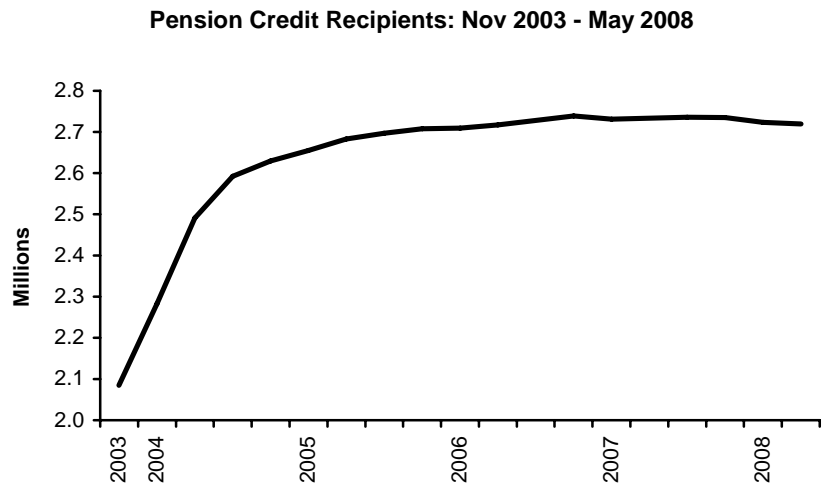


2.3 Pension Credit

Pension Credit (PC) was introduced on 6th October 2003 and replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). For people aged 60 or over, the Guarantee Credit element guarantees an income at a set level. People aged 65 or over (and couples where one member is 65 or over) may also be entitled to Savings Credit if they have modest income from savings, investments or a second pension.

At May 2008, there were 2.72 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.32 million including partners), a fall of 14 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 882 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.25 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 591 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only

The average weekly amount of Pension Credit in payment at May 2008 was £52.69, a rise of £2.65 since May 2007.



Experimental statistics on benefit flows show there were 234 thousand new claims to Pension Credit in the year to May 2008. A small number of claims take a long time to process and are still outstanding at the cut off point for producing these statistics. This means that the statistics undercounts the final number of claims by a small percentage (around two percent).

Table 2.2 Pension Credit claimants: Nov 2003 – May 2008

	<i>Thousands</i>				
	Total	Guarantee Credit only	Guarantee Credit & Savings Credit	Savings Credit only	Still on Minimum Income Guarantee
Nov-03	2,084.70	709.31	1,133.01	242.01	0.37
Feb-04	2,282.29	719.18	1,196.59	365.26	1.25
May -04	2,490.76	735.03	1,269.45	485.98	0.31
Aug -04	2,592.59	749.17	1,293.25	549.99	0.18
Nov -04	2,629.58	759.90	1,298.96	570.58	0.14
Feb -05	2,654.67	763.15	1,313.11	578.36	0.06
May -05	2,682.73	767.26	1,321.68	593.74	0.04
Aug -05	2,696.66	772.40	1,317.18	607.04	0.04
Nov -05	2,708.05	776.94	1,313.48	617.60	0.04
Feb -06	2,709.22	773.16	1,332.11	603.93	0.04
May -06	2,717.39	775.57	1,343.23	598.56	0.02
Aug -06	2,728.15	787.30	1,334.41	606.41	0.02
Nov -06	2,738.56	798.13	1,325.87	614.54	0.02
Feb -07	2,730.94	800.11	1,327.78	603.03	0.03
May -07	2,733.50	805.73	1,330.09	597.65	0.02
Aug -07	2,735.72	814.42	1,321.95	599.33	0.03
Nov -07	2,734.54	823.57	1,310.05	600.90	0.03
Feb -08	2,723.14	865.19	1,265.43	592.50	0.02
May -08	2,719.14	882.07	1,246.24	590.80	0.03

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. Pension Credit replaced MIG on the 6th Oct 2003, however a small number of cases are yet to be converted to PC

Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

3. Disabled and Carers

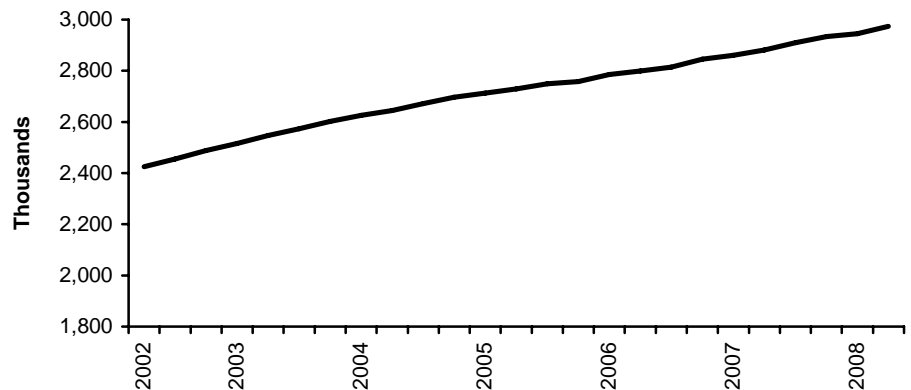
3.1 Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) was introduced on 1st April 1992 and is a benefit for people who have become disabled before the age of 65 and who need assistance with personal care or mobility.

At May 2008, 2.97 million people were receiving Disability Living Allowance (not including suspended cases), a rise of 92 thousand on a year earlier. Of these claimants 50% were male. Both the male and female caseloads are rising, males by 44 thousand and females by 48 thousand in the year to May 2008.

At May 2008, 10% of recipients were children, 57% were working age and 33% were pension age (a small number are an unknown age).

**Disability Living Allowance Recipients:
May 2002 to May 2008**



Latest statistical data available from:

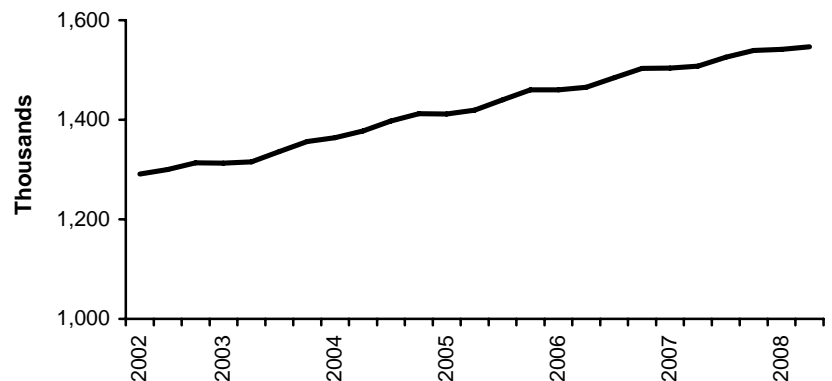
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

3.2 Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance (AA) was introduced on 6th December 1971 and is a benefit for people over the age of 65 who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need a great deal of help with personal care or supervision. Those requiring constant help receive the higher rate of benefit.

At May 2008 there were 1.55 million people receiving Attendance Allowance (excluding suspended cases), a rise of 39 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 32% were male and 68% female. Both the male and female caseloads are rising, males by 19 thousand and females by 20 thousand in the year to May 2008. At May 2008, 66% were aged 80 or over.

**Attendance Allowance Cases in Payment:
May 2002 to May 2008**



Latest statistical data available from:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>



3.3 Carer's Allowance

Carer's Allowance (CA) was introduced on 5th July 1976; it is paid to carers who look after a severely disabled person for at least 35 hours a week. The severely disabled person must be getting either higher or middle rate DLA care component or AA or maximum rate Constant Attendance Allowance with their War Pension or Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit.

At May 2008, there were 481 thousand people receiving Carer's Allowance (not including underlying entitlement cases). 26% of claimants were male, and 74% female.

At May 2008, there were a further 402 thousand people entitled to Carer's Allowance but not receiving any payment due to overlapping benefit provisions (i.e. underlying entitlement cases).

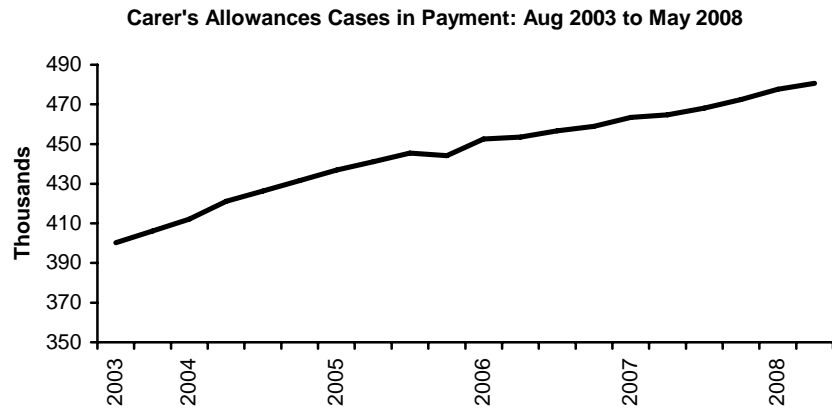


Table 3.1 Awards currently in payment for Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance, and all entitled cases for Attendance Allowance: May 2002 – May 2008

Thousands

	Disability Living Allowance	Attendance Allowance	Carer's Allowance ¹
May-02	2,424.35	1,290.77	"
Aug-02	2,454.34	1,300.09	"
Nov -02	2,488.49	1,313.74	"
Feb -03	2,516.13	1,312.75	"
May -03	2,547.09	1,315.64	"
Aug -03	2,573.54	1,336.21	400.18
Nov -03	2,601.88	1,356.31	406.23
Feb -04	2,625.39	1,363.81	412.12
May -04	2,644.28	1,377.35	421.18
Aug -04	2,672.16	1,397.30	426.34
Nov -04	2,696.28	1,412.50	431.66
Feb -05	2,712.91	1,411.33	436.94
May -05	2,729.72	1,419.42	441.03
Aug -05	2,749.48	1,440.09	445.43
Nov -05	2,757.64	1,460.25	444.09
Feb -06	2,785.68	1,460.57	452.54
May -06	2,799.16	1,465.59	453.54
Aug -06	2,814.29	1,484.58	456.70
Nov -06	2,845.75	1,503.05	458.93
Feb -07	2,860.79	1,503.85	463.50
May -07	2,881.83	1,507.50	464.67
Aug -07	2,909.98	1,525.61	468.06
Nov -07	2,934.44	1,539.32	472.42
Feb -08	2,945.57	1,541.58	477.66
May -08	2,973.54	1,546.68	480.73

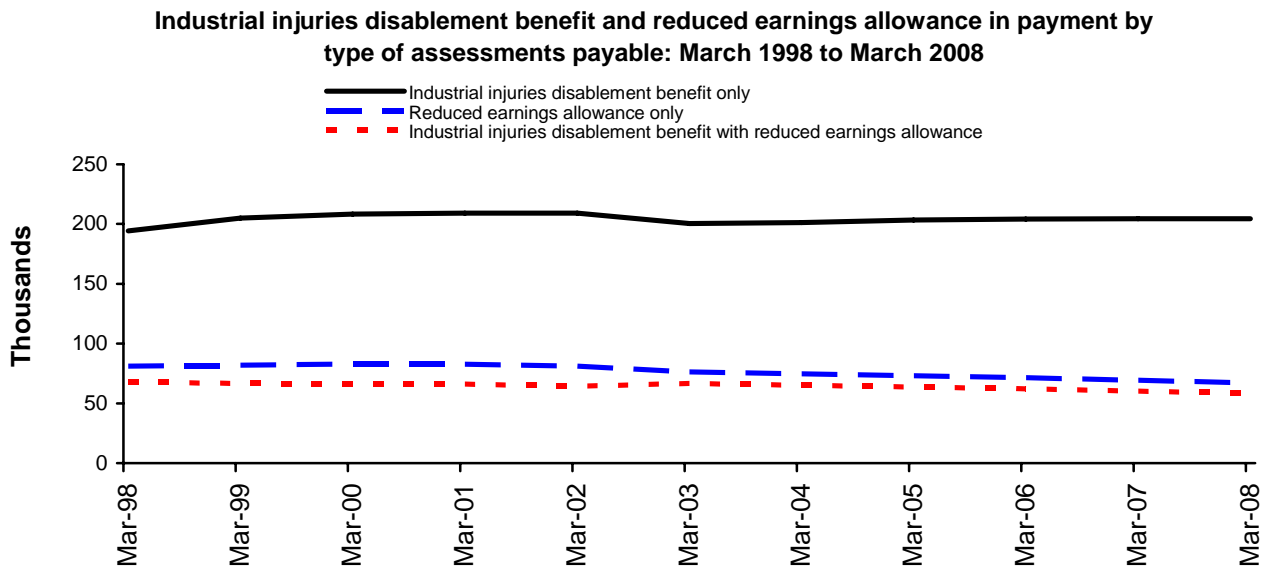
Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. Data is not available prior to August 2003.

3.4 Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) was introduced on 5th July 1948 and is a benefit for people who are disabled because of an industrial accident or prescribed industrial disease. Since 1st October 1986 any claim resulting in an assessment of less than 14% disabled does not normally attract benefit.

There were 330 thousand people claiming under the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit scheme in March 2008, of whom 62% received Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit only, 20% received Reduced Earnings Allowance only, and 18% received both. The number of people claiming benefit was 1.3% lower than in March 2007. The average weekly payment was £44.04.



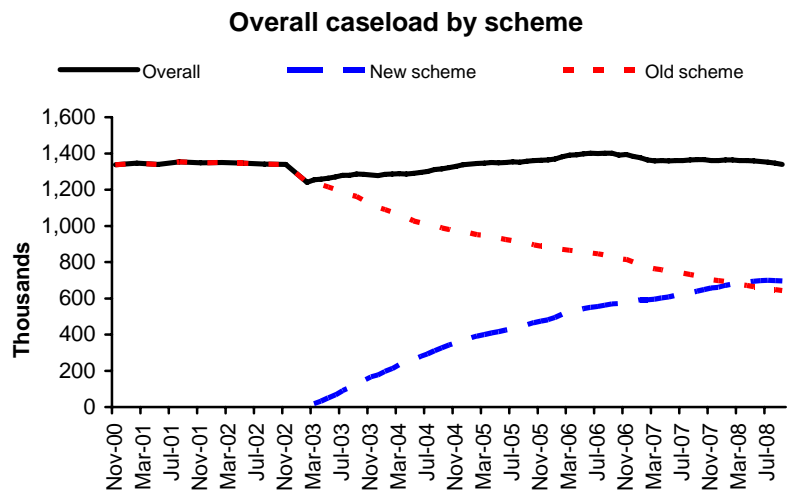
Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/iidb.asp>

4. Families & Children

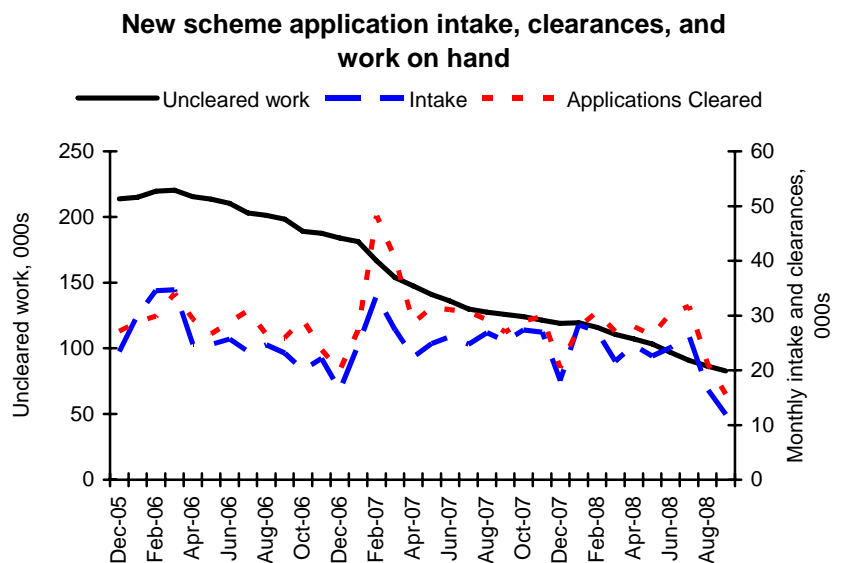
4.1 Child Support Agency cases

Launched on 5th April 1993, the Child Support Agency (CSA) is an executive agency of the Department for Work and Pensions, set up to implement the Child Support Act 1991 and operate the new child maintenance system in Great Britain (there is a separate but parallel agency for Northern Ireland). The CSA is responsible for tracing non-resident parents, working out how much maintenance they should pay, and can collect and enforce payments. Prior to 3rd March 2003, CSA stored information on the Child Support Computer System (CSCS). Since the introduction of the new computer system (CS2) on that date, all new Child Support applications have been assessed under a new scheme on the new system, now referred to as the current scheme. The CSA statistics presented here were released on 29th October 2008. These charts reproduce those numbers to provide a complete picture of DWP business.

At the end of September 2008, the CSA caseload stood at 1.3 million.



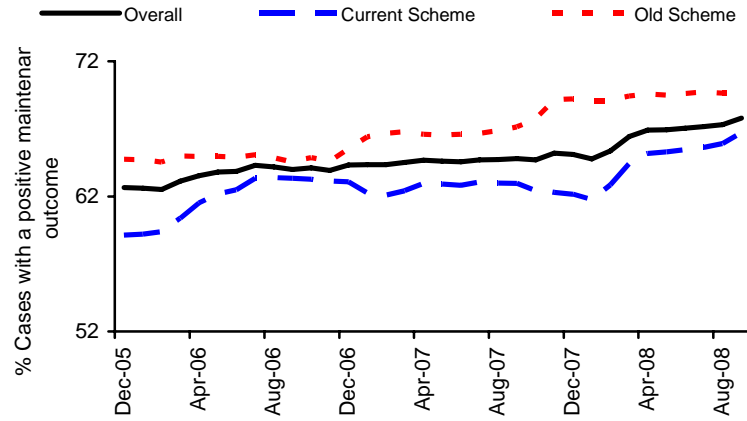
At the end of September 2008, there were 103,000 uncleared applications across both schemes, a fall of 34% over the previous twelve months. The volume of uncleared current scheme applications has fallen by 43,000 since September 2007 and, at 76,000 (including clerical cases) is at its lowest since July 2003. This represents a fall of 39% since September 2007.





In the quarter ending September 2008 68% of all cases (including clerical cases) in which maintenance was due had either received maintenance via the CSA collection service, or had a maintenance direct arrangement in place. This figure has remained stable in recent months and currently equates to 567,200 cases.

Rolling last quarter positive maintenance outcomes for 'live' and assessed CS2 and CSCS cases with a positive maintenance liability



Latest statistical data available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/csa.asp>



5. Appeals Service

5.1 Appeals Service lodgements

The Independent Tribunal Service was introduced in 1984 to provide an independent appeals system. It was replaced by the Appeals Service (tAS) in April 2000. From 1st April 2006 the Appeals Service, was renamed as the Social Security and Child Support Appeals Tribunal (SSCSA) and became part of The Tribunals Service (a new Executive agency within the Department for Constitutional Affairs). For operational reasons, the DWP is continuing to produce statistics on its behalf. In a rolling program over 2006, SSCSA has replaced GAPS (the Generic Appeals Processing System) with a new system: GAPS2. The last month for which reliable figures can be produced (under GAPS1) is May 2006. It is not yet possible to provide reliable figures for the Statistical Summary under the new system. Therefore no figures are published here. When reliable figures become available the Appeals Section of the Statistical Summary will be resumed.

Latest statistical data available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/qat.asp>



NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Modernisation of DWP statistics

The National Statistics paper “DWP statistics transformed: the modernisation of the DWP’s data sources and statistical publications” announced major changes to the National Statistics the Department publishes, both in the data sources employed and the methods of dissemination. The paper is available from:
http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_consultation/modstats.pdf

2. Links to internet-based statistical tables

For each statistic in this publication, access to more detailed statistics are available by clicking on the web links. For benefit, New Deal and vacancy statistics derived from 100% sources, an internet-based Tabulation Tool is available with the ability for users to define their own statistical queries (available at: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>). A similar Tabulation Tool, derived from 5% sample data, is also available. Data on key benefits continue to be available via NOMIS (<http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>). Whenever possible, 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as these are both more accurate and form DWP’s headline statistics. Some statistics remain outside the scope of the Tabulation Tool but will continue to be available via the internet as pre-defined summary tables.

3. Statistical groups

DWP has introduced a new typology to define Statistical Groups within the client group classifications. The aim of the Statistical Group typology is to present each person by the main reasons they are in contact with the Department. Like the client group classification, each client is classified just once, permitting the estimation of the total number of people claiming one or more benefits. The Statistical Group hierarchy is:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a] Jobseeker | f] Disabled |
| b] Incapacity benefits | g] Bereaved |
| c] Lone parents | h] Housing Benefit |
| d] Carer’s | i] State Pension only recipients |
| e] Other income-related benefits | |

More information can be found in the National Statistics paper described in paragraph 1 above.

4. Jobseeker’s Allowance figures at ONS

The preferred source of numbers for Jobseeker’s Allowance is the ONS claimant count figure; these are more up to date and contain clerical cases. However the reason we use the DWP JSA figures is that they are consistent with the other benefits used to produce DWP National Statistics, and permit a wider set of breakdowns.

5. Flows on and off benefit

Also available are quarterly experimental figures on flows on and off all the main benefits. It is important that users clearly understand the status of these series and the cautions that apply (which will vary for each statistic). The particular limitations of each series is explained in the information that accompanies them

6. National Insurance Number Allocations to Overseas Nationals data

In line with the recommendations from the Inter-Departmental Taskforce on Migration Statistics, and to ensure our information can be considered alongside other relevant statistics on migration and employment, quarterly data on allocations of National Insurance numbers to overseas nationals has now been published. Latest publications can be viewed here: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>



7. Other National Statistics issued by the Department for Work and Pensions

Abstract of Statistics for Benefits and Contributions and Indices of Prices and Earnings (annual) – provides a reference source for those people interested in the main aspects of benefits, contributions and indices of prices and earnings. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/other_stats.asp

Appeal Tribunal Statistics (quarterly) – provides statistics on appeals and decisions. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/qat.asp>

Child Support Agency Quarterly Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on the Child Support Agency. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/csa.asp>

Contributions and Qualifying Years for Retirement Pension (annual) – provides statistics on the number of people who have qualified for State Pension.

Family Resources Survey (annual) - provides information on the incomes and circumstances of private households in the United Kingdom: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs>

Households Below Average Income (annual) - provides information on potential living standards as determined by disposable income, changes in income patterns over time and income mobility: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai.asp>

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Annual Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on Housing Benefit /Council Tax Benefit from a 1 per cent sample of data from Local Authorities. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Quarterly Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on Housing Benefit /Council Tax Benefit from quarterly caseload counts and also includes average amounts of benefit. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Quarterly Performance Statistics – provides high level statistics on Local Authority processing of Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit from quarterly administrative returns and also includes speed of processing new claims and charges of circumstances. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/performance/performance.asp

Housing Benefit Quarterly Fraud Performance Statistics – provides high level statistics on Local Authority fraud performance from quarterly administrative returns and also includes numbers of referrals, investigations actioned and sanctions administered. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/performance/performance.asp

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit and Reduced Earnings Allowance Statistics (annual) – provides statistics on current assessments and movements during statistical period. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/iidb.asp>

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit Quarterly Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on people in receipt of Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, new claims and newly diagnosed prescribed diseases. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/iidb.asp>

National Insurance numbers allocated to overseas nationals (Previously migrant workers statistics – quarterly) provides statistics on migrant workers. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp#ni_alloc

Neighbourhood Statistics – Quarterly ward and Lower Super Outputs Area caseloads for Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefits, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit and State Pension are available from: <http://193.115.152.21/NESS/page1.htm>

Pensioner Income Series (annual) - examines the levels, sources and distribution of pensioners' incomes and the position of pensioners within the population income distribution. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd6/pensioners_income.asp



Second Tier Pension Provision (annual) – *contains analysis of contracted out pension schemes. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/dsu/second_tier/second_tier.asp*

Tax/Benefit Model Tables (annual) – *designed to illustrate the weekly financial circumstances of a selection of hypothetical local authority and private tenants. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tbmt.asp>*

8. Other statistical outputs issued by the Department for Work and Pensions

Benefit Expenditure Tables - financial year historic information on benefit expenditure and caseloads, along with forecasts are available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd4/expenditure.asp>