

**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Disability Living Allowance  
Attendance Allowance  
Invalid Care Allowance**

**Quarterly Summary of Statistics**

**August 1998**



**A Government Statistical Publication**

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## **Glossary of terms and conventions**

### **Glossary of terms**

#### *Allowances current*

The number of people in receipt of DLA or AA. This excludes people with entitlement where payment has been suspended.

#### *Main disabling condition*

This is the medical cause of the main disability which gives rise to the award of DLA or AA.

#### *Review*

A person who is dissatisfied with the result of their last claim can ask for the claim to be reviewed.

### **Conventions**

.. Not available

## Section 1: Disability Living Allowance

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## Introduction

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) replaced and extended Attendance Allowance and Mobility Allowance in April 1992 for people who became disabled before the age of 65. People already in receipt of either Attendance Allowance or Mobility Allowance before April 1992 were invited to make a 'top up' claim for the other component.

DLA is payable to people who are disabled and who have personal care needs, mobility needs or both. DLA consists of two components:

The care component: for people who need help with personal care;

The mobility component: for people who need help with getting around (this component is not available to children under five).

The care component is paid at one of three rates and the mobility component at one of two rates. These are shown in table 1.8.

To qualify for DLA the need for help must have existed for three months (the qualifying period) and be expected to last for at least a further six months (the prospective test). People who are not expected to live longer than six months because of an illness do not have to satisfy either the qualifying period or the prospective test. Once awarded, DLA will continue to be paid as long as the conditions of entitlement are met.

**Table 1.1: DLA allowances current**

	August 1994	February 1995	August 1995	February 1996	August 1996	November 1996	February 1997
<b>All components</b>	<b>73371</b>	<b>83913</b>	<b>90866</b>	<b>98107</b>	<b>104447</b>	<b>107839</b>	<b>110390</b>
Higher rate care only	3044	3027	2827	2636	2633	2786	2968
Middle rate care only	6079	6435	6631	6648	6992	7348	7701
Lower rate care only	5392	6791	7825	8570	8882	9083	9359
Higher rate mobility only	10814	11255	11357	11912	12167	12415	12495
Lower rate mobility only	1858	1824	1856	1992	2335	2458	2560
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	12439	14728	16027	17414	18533	19149	19457
Higher rate care and lower rate mobility	4187	4874	5347	5977	6916	7014	6985
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	12983	15906	18084	19773	21091	21777	22315
Middle rate care and lower rate mobility	7003	7987	8917	9785	10373	10327	10308
Lower rate care and higher rate mobility	7350	8985	9831	11033	11989	12805	13424
Lower rate care and lower rate mobility	2222	2101	2164	2367	2536	2677	2818

**1.1 continued**

	May 1997	August 1997	November 1997	February 1998	May 1998	August 1998
<b>All components</b>	<b>112691</b>	<b>114386</b>	<b>116723</b>	<b>118973</b>	<b>120202</b>	<b>121481</b>
Higher rate care only	3079	3160	3227	3239	3131	3019
Middle rate care only	8126	8450	8739	8843	8662	8452
Lower rate care only	9658	10035	10432	10619	10571	10637
Higher rate mobility only	12491	12509	12622	12646	12561	12453
Lower rate mobility only	2656	2750	2868	3069	3188	3292
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	19817	20028	20275	20459	20634	20777
Higher rate care and lower rate mobility	6983	6885	6891	7072	7274	7568
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	22781	22971	23330	23578	23664	23735
Middle rate care and lower rate mobility	10245	10269	10398	10745	11144	11726
Lower rate care and higher rate mobility	13915	14242	14643	15067	15335	15481
Lower rate care and lower rate mobility	2940	3087	3298	3636	4038	4341

**Table 1.2: Decisions on initial claims<sup>1</sup>**

	1992/93 <sup>2</sup>	1993/94 <sup>2</sup>	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1.4.98 to 31.8.98
Initial claims	17999	41751	40572	35515	35055	27908	8170
<b>Initial claims decided</b>	<b>17959</b>	<b>41471</b>	<b>40147</b>	<b>35148</b>	<b>34822</b>	<b>27730</b>	<b>8128</b>
First awards <sup>1</sup> :							
<b>All first awards</b>	<b>13305</b>	<b>22539</b>	<b>19546</b>	<b>15495</b>	<b>15282</b>	<b>13535</b>	<b>4576</b>
Higher rate care only	861	853	572	267	720	610	167
Middle rate care only	1536	2265	1455	889	1433	1580	398
Lower rate care only	1071	3065	2874	2205	2190	2331	582
Higher rate mobility only	2625	2687	2506	1874	1669	1101	208
Lower rate mobility only	791	900	277	293	446	529	209
Higher rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1073	2180	2463	1772	1768	1377	513
lower rate mobility	470	983	873	874	587	677	443
Middle rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1520	3537	4044	3138	2578	1865	518
lower rate mobility	1132	2344	1538	1620	777	1050	619
Lower rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1405	2589	2507	2119	2543	1808	485
lower rate mobility	821	1136	437	444	571	607	434
Rejections	4654	18932	20601	19653	19540	14195	3552

1. Figures do not include first awards made as a result of review or appeal decisions.

2. Includes top ups.

**Table 1.3: Decisions on review**

Year	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1.4.98 to 31.8.98
Requests for review	392	15840	22270	21261	22486	22556	5877
Decisions							
<b>All decisions</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>15356</b>	<b>21170</b>	<b>19614</b>	<b>21699</b>	<b>21901</b>	<b>5721</b>
Review allowed	279	4319	3457	2655	2489	1781	483
Award increased(1)	14	4113	6380	5105	4621	4347	1457
Other decisions	84	6924	11333	11854	14589	15773	3781

1. Rates of either component are increased.

**Table 1.4: Awards by sex and age in year ending 31 August 1998<sup>1</sup>**

	Total	Men	Women
<b>All ages</b>	<b>17545</b>	<b>8655</b>	<b>8890</b>
0-4	1128	687	441
5-9	725	459	266
10-15	449	264	185
16-19	364	180	184
20-24	549	280	269
25-29	835	399	436
30-34	1285	545	740
35-39	1416	624	792
40-44	1475	656	819
45-49	1661	753	908
50-54	2170	1044	1126
55-59	2391	1208	1183
60-64	2339	1205	1134
65 and over	758	351	407

1. Figures relate to first awards made as a result of initial claims, reviews or appeals.

**Table 1.5: Awards by main disabling condition in year ending 31 August 1998<sup>1 2</sup>**

	<b>All Awards</b>	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
<b>All conditions</b>	<b>17545</b>	<b>6402</b>	<b>2254</b>	<b>8889</b>
Terminally ill	570	132	16	422
Arthritis	2686	1036	401	1249
Back ailments	1494	430	209	855
Muscles/joint/bone disease	1553	705	195	653
Trauma to limbs	109	45	13	51
Blindness	232	85	34	113
Deafness	175	45	22	108
Heart disease	1209	358	298	553
Chest disease	421	143	86	192
Asthma	847	588	88	171
Stroke-related	313	99	15	199
Peripheral vascular disease	100	26	35	39
Epilepsy	482	242	29	211
Neurological disorder	342	152	30	160
Multiple sclerosis	121	41	10	70
Chronic fatigue	168	71	13	84
Diabetes	310	173	27	110
Learning difficulties	461	198	56	207
Other mental health causes	4231	1067	573	2591
Alcohol abuse	241	81	10	150
Renal disorders	105	42	11	52
Bowels/stomach disorder	116	71	9	36
Skin disease	231	178	5	48
Malignant disease	588	177	29	382
Other	440	217	40	183

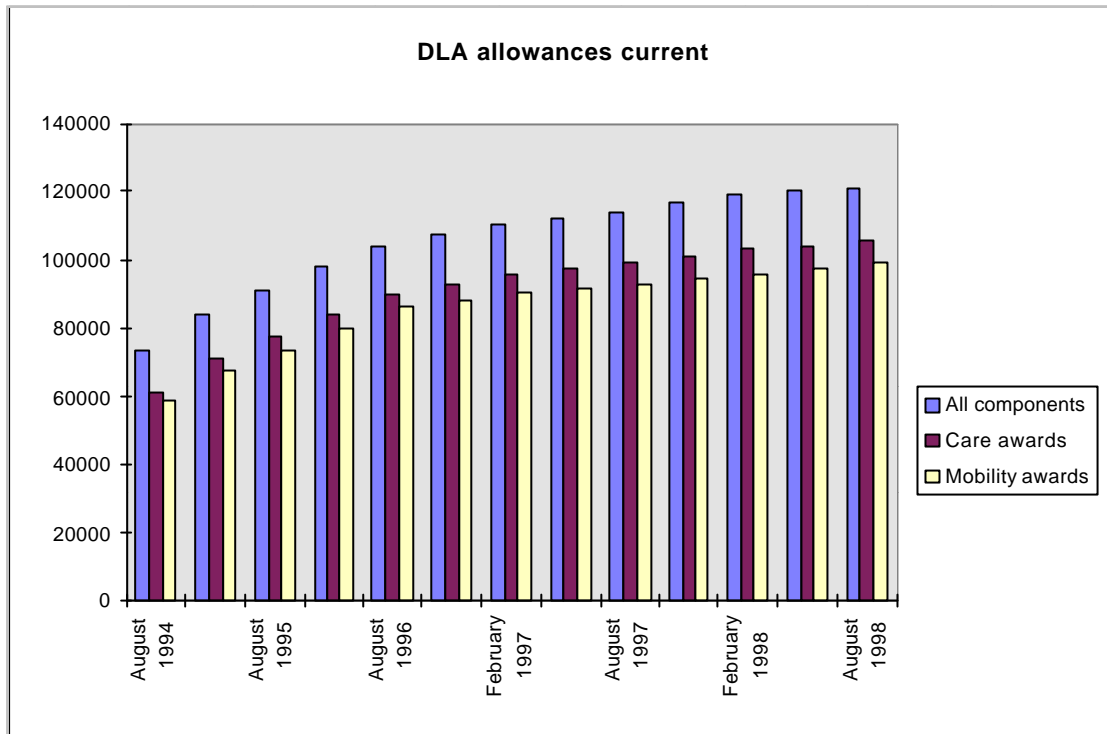
1. Figures relate to first awards made as a result of initial claims, reviews and appeals.

2. Where more than one disability is present only the main disabling condition is recorded.

**Table 1.6: DLA allowances current by age and sex at 31 August 1998**

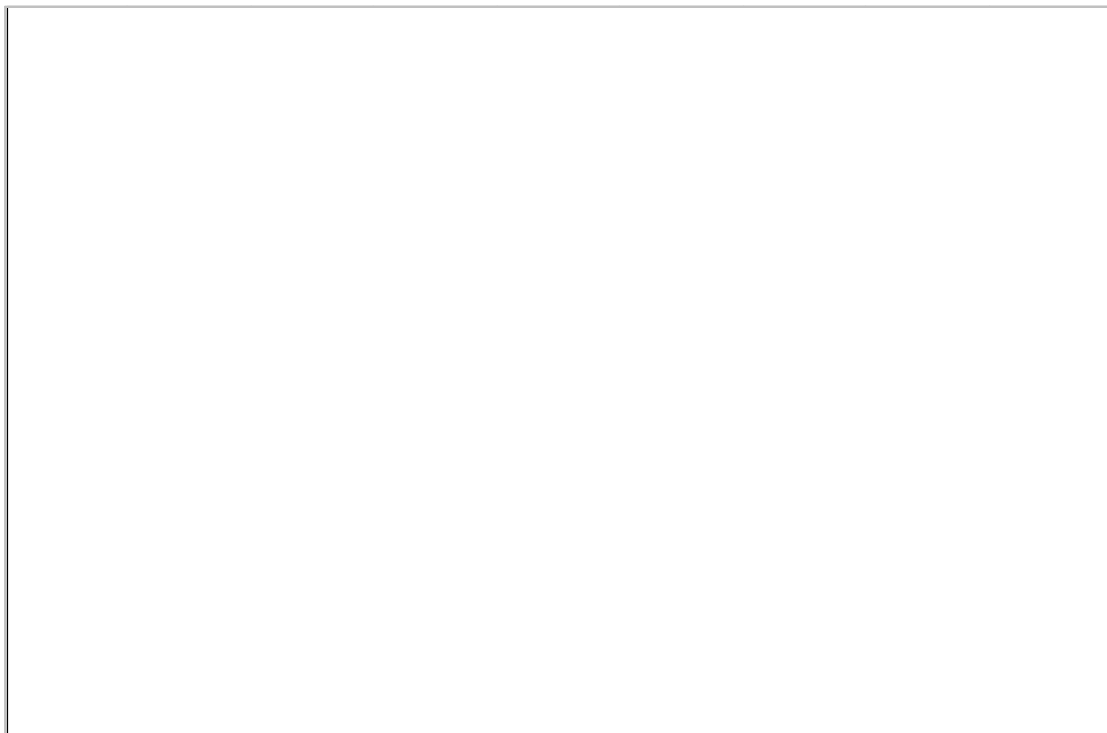
	Total	Men	Women
<b>All ages</b>	<b>121481</b>	<b>58094</b>	<b>63387</b>
0-4	2802	1708	1094
5-9	5528	3402	2126
10-15	4604	2741	1863
16-19	2105	1150	955
20-24	3027	1582	1445
25-29	4466	2214	2252
30-34	6305	2971	3334
35-39	7811	3558	4253
40-44	8405	3816	4589
45-49	9802	4495	5307
50-54	12927	5830	7097
55-59	15207	6981	8226
60-64	17592	8125	9467
65-69	16123	7405	8718
70-74	3963	1792	2171
75-79	689	283	406
80 and over	125	41	84

**Chart 1.1: DLA allowances current<sup>1</sup>**



1. 1994 figures are based on clerical counts.

**Chart 1.2: DLA allowances current by age and sex at 31 August 1998**



**Table 1.7: Allowances current by main disabling condition at 31 August 1998<sup>1</sup>**

	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
<b>All conditions</b>	<b>121481</b>	<b>22108</b>	<b>15745</b>	<b>83628</b>
Terminally ill	869	35	6	828
Arthritis	23983	3227	2548	18208
Back ailments	9247	1360	1050	6837
Muscles/joint/bone disease	11697	2968	1417	7312
Blindness	1832	82	148	1602
Deafness	1450	124	117	1209
Heart disease	10649	659	2455	7535
Chest disease	4075	210	908	2957
Asthma	6538	3478	817	2243
Stroke-related	2621	236	151	2234
Peripheral vascular disease	1120	25	377	718
Epilepsy	3974	1359	60	2555
Neurological disorder	2289	473	124	1692
Multiple sclerosis	1188	26	71	1091
Chronic fatigue	798	193	60	545
Diabetes	1706	657	86	963
Learning difficulties	6972	622	610	5740
Other mental health causes	15816	3286	1884	10646
Alcohol abuse	613	217	20	376
Skin disease	1167	889	30	248
Malignant disease	1580	332	77	1171
Conversion*	7393	463	2478	4452
Other	3904	1187	251	2466

1. Where more than one disability is present only the main disabling condition is recorded.

\* Disabling conditions were not recorded for existing cases when they were transferred to the computer system.

**Table 1.8: Rates of DLA**

Date	Care component			Mobility component	
	Higher rate	Middle rate	Lower rate	Higher rate	Lower rate
6 April 1992	43.35	28.95	11.55	30.30	11.55
10 April 1993	44.90	30.00	11.95	31.40	11.95
11 April 1994	45.70	30.55	12.15	31.95	12.15
10 April 1995	46.70	31.20	12.40	32.65	12.40
8 April 1996	48.50	32.40	12.90	33.90	12.90
7 April 1997	49.50	33.10	13.15	34.60	13.15
8 April 1998	51.30	34.30	13.60	35.85	13.60

## Section 2: Attendance Allowance

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## Introduction

Attendance allowance (AA) is a benefit for people who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need someone with them to help with personal care. They could need either frequent help coping with their bodily functions or constant care to stop them hurting themselves or others. This could be either during the day or night.

A claimant who needs help both during the day and at night can get the higher rate of AA. A claimant who needs help either during the day or at night gets the lower rate. Since October 1990, people who have a terminal illness, and are therefore not likely to live for more than 6 months, have also been invited to claim. Since April 1992, people who were disabled before the age of 65 receive Disability Living Allowance instead of AA.

**Table 2.1: AA allowances current <sup>1 2</sup>**

Year	All awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
31 December 1991	38877	19258	19619
31 December 1992	32977	17392	15585
31 December 1993	54767	29033	25734
31 December 1994	56111		
31 December 1995	63137		
31 August 1996	61389	40120	21269
30 November 1996	62697	41350	21347
28 February 1997	62607	41542	21065
31 May 1997	63472	42491	20981
31 August 1997	64282	43350	20932
30 November 1997	64671	43880	20791
28 February 1998	64517	44010	20507
31 May 1998	64422	44231	20191
31 August 1998	64367	44208	20159

1. 1988-1995 figures are taken from the Northern Ireland Annual Abstract of Statistics. and are based on clerical counts. 1996 figures and beyond are taken from the quarterly computer scan and do not include clerical cases.
2. Due to computerisation, rate breakdowns for 1994 and 1995 are not available.

**Table 2.2: Decisions on initial claims<sup>1</sup>**

Year	1.10.95 to		1.4.98 to	
	31.3.96	1996/97	1997/98	30.8.98
Initial claims	6246	14257	12702	4129
Initial claims decided				
<b>All decisions</b>	<b>6196</b>	<b>14131</b>	<b>12569</b>	<b>4089</b>
First awards:				
Higher rate	3056	7143	6652	2063
Lower rate	1525	3709	2936	1021
Rejections	1615	3279	2981	1005

1. Figures exclude first awards made as a result of review or appeal decisions.

\* Data are unavailable.

**Table 2.3: Decisions on review**

Year	1.10.95 to 31.3.96	1996/97	1997/98	1.4.98 to 30.8.98
Requests for Review	1189	3963	3455	922
Decisions				
<b>All decisions</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>3814</b>	<b>3358</b>	<b>900</b>
Review Allowed	222	908	839	148
Award Increased	522	1717	1676	547
Other Decisions	413	1189	843	205

**Table 2.4: Awards by sex and age in year ending 31 August 1998<sup>1</sup>**

	Total	Men	Women
<b>All ages</b>	<b>10044</b>	<b>2755</b>	<b>4444</b>
65-69	1044	412	632
70-74	1632	677	955
75-79	1907	779	1128
80-84	1446	534	912
85-89	873	276	597
90 and over	3142	77	220

1. Figures relate to first awards made as a result of initial claims, reviews or appeals.

**Table 2.5: Awards by main disabling condition in year ending 31 August 1998<sup>1 2</sup>**

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
<b>All conditions</b>	<b>10044</b>	<b>7262</b>	<b>2782</b>
Terminally ill	715	715	0
Arthritis	2835	1942	893
Back ailments	212	149	63
Muscles/joint/bone disease	184	129	55
Trauma to limbs	80	54	26
Blindness	226	111	115
Heart disease	1228	853	375
Chest disease	519	384	135
Asthma	82	58	24
Stroke-related	573	427	146
Peripheral vascular disease	73	53	20
Frailty	1019	678	341
Neurological disorder	198	137	61
Parkinsons disease	126	92	34
Diabetes	208	140	68
Other mental health causes	911	623	288
Malignant disease	258	208	50
Other	267	187	80
Conversion*	330	322	8

1. Figures relate to first awards made as a result of initial claims, reviews and appeals.

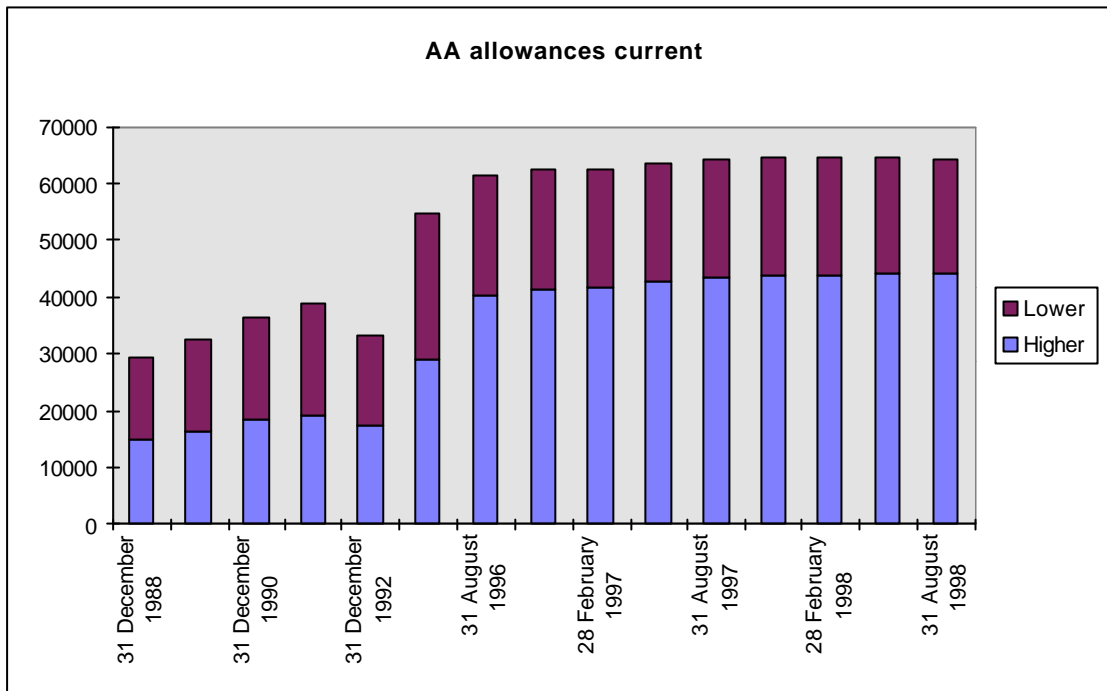
2. Where more than one disability is present only the main disabling condition is recorded.

\* Disabling conditions were not recorded for existing cases when they were transferred to the computer system.

**Table 2.6: AA allowances current by age and sex at 31 August 1998**

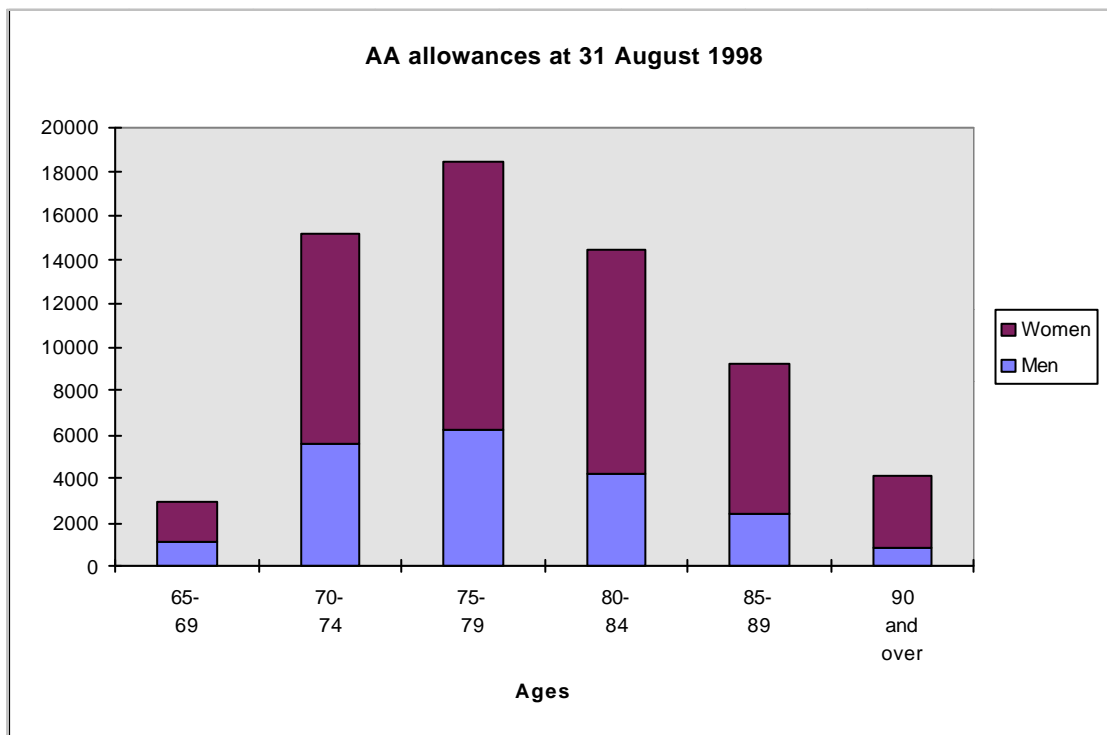
	Total	Men	Women
<b>All ages</b>	<b>64,367</b>	<b>20,509</b>	<b>43,858</b>
65-69	2932	1132	1800
70-74	15132	5655	9477
75-79	18506	6252	12254
80-84	14489	4252	10237
85-89	9219	2384	6835
90 and over	4089	834	3255

**Chart 2.1: AA allowances current<sup>1</sup>**



1. 1988-1995 figures are taken from the Northern Ireland Annual Abstract of Statistics. Due to computerisation, rate breakdowns for 1994 and 1995 are not available.

**Chart 2.2: AA allowances current by age and sex at 31 August 1998**



**Table 2.7: Allowances current by main disabling condition at 31 August 1998<sup>1</sup>**

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
<b>All conditions</b>	<b>64367</b>	<b>44208</b>	<b>20159</b>
Terminally ill	589	589	0
Arthritis	9618	6630	2988
Back ailments	655	431	224
Muscles/joint/bone disease	528	359	169
Blindness	818	396	422
Heart disease	3999	2747	1252
Chest disease	1613	1183	430
Asthma	365	275	90
Stroke-related	1616	1201	415
Frailty	2464	1627	837
Neurological disorder	739	479	260
Parkinsons disease	360	275	85
Diabetes	524	345	179
Other mental health causes	1928	1382	546
Malignant disease	512	405	107
Other	1252	846	406
Conversion*	36787	25038	11749

1. Where more than one disability is present only the main disabling condition is recorded.

\* Disabling conditions were not recorded for existing cases when they were transferred to the computer system.

**Table 2.8: Rates of AA**

Date	£pw	
	Higher rate	Lower rate
6 April 1992	43.35	28.95
10 April 1993	44.90	30.00
11 April 1994	45.70	30.55
10 April 1995	46.70	31.20
8 April 1996	48.50	32.40
7 April 1997	49.50	33.10
8 April 1998	51.30	34.30

### Section 3: Invalid Care Allowance

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## Introduction

Invalid Care Allowance (ICA) is a non-contributory benefit for men and women:

- who look after a severely disabled person for at least 35 hours a week
- who are eligible before their 65th birthday
- who are not gainfully employed (i.e. not earning more than £50 per week after certain deductions) and
- who are not in full-time education

The severely disabled person must be getting either

- the higher or middle rate of DLA care component, or
- AA, or
- a Constant Attendance Allowance at the maximum rate under the War Pensions or Industrial Injuries Scheme.

Someone who gets ICA can have extra money added on for their dependants.

**Table 3.1: Allowances current at end of year by sex**

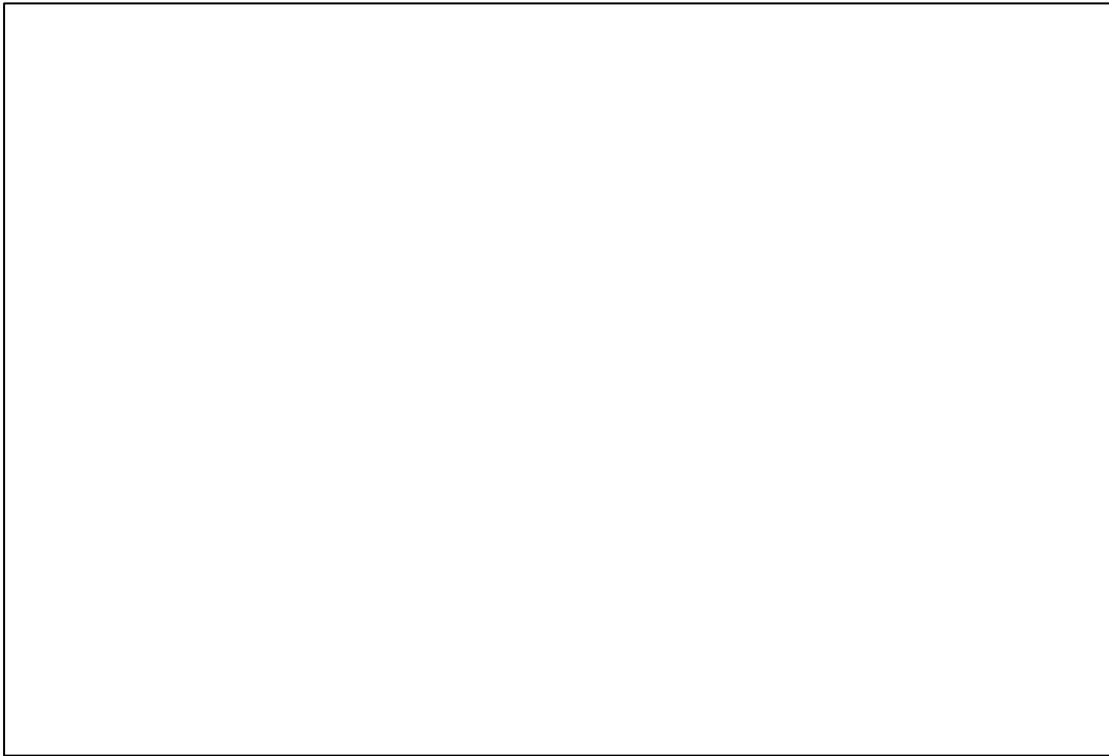
Year ending	All persons	Men	Women
November 1992	10927	1846	9081
November 1993	15921	3009	12912
November 1994	20900	4240	16660
November 1995	28139	6318	21821
November 1996	33294	7979	25315
January 1998	30003 <sup>1</sup>	8307	21696

1. The January 1998 figures were obtained from the new ICA computer system which was introduced in May 1997. These figures are therefore not directly comparable to those for previous years.

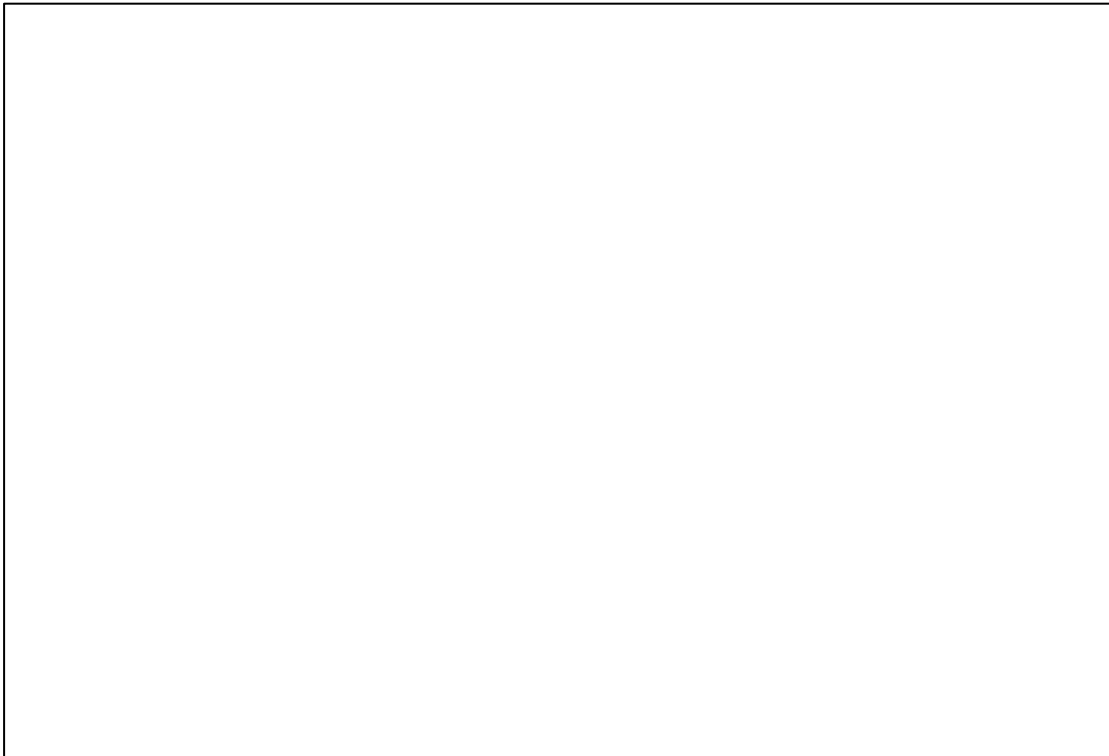
**Table 3.2: Allowances current by age and sex at 30 June 1998**

	All persons	Men	Women
All Ages	<b>30941</b>	<b>8670</b>	<b>22271</b>
Under 20	<b>364</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>220</b>
20-24	<b>1284</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>864</b>
25-29	<b>2859</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>2168</b>
30-34	<b>4736</b>	<b>1117</b>	<b>3619</b>
35-39	<b>4909</b>	<b>1279</b>	<b>3630</b>
40-44	<b>4250</b>	<b>1232</b>	<b>3018</b>
45-49	<b>3784</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>2751</b>
50-54	<b>3803</b>	<b>1047</b>	<b>2756</b>
55-59	<b>3121</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>2177</b>
60-64	<b>1538</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>828</b>
65+	<b>293</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>240</b>

**Chart 3.1: ICA allowances over time**



**Chart 3.2: ICA allowances by age and sex at 14 January 1998**



**Table 3.4: Rates of Invalid Care Allowance**

	£ per week			
	Standard	Adult	Rate for dependants	
			First child	Other children
14 November 1977	10.50	6.30	7.40	5.95
13 November 1978	11.70	7.05	6.35	6.35
12 November 1979	14.00	8.40	7.10	7.10
24 November 1980	16.30	9.80	7.50	7.50
23 November 1981	17.75	10.65	7.70	7.70
22 November 1982	19.70	11.80	7.95	7.95
21 November 1983	20.45	12.25	7.60	7.60
26 November 1984	21.50	12.85	7.65	7.65
25 November 1985	23.00	13.75	8.05	8.05
30 July 1986	23.25	13.90	8.05	8.05
06 April 1987	23.75	14.20	8.05	8.05
11 April 1988	24.75	14.80	8.40	8.40
10 April 1989	26.20	15.65	8.95	8.95
09 April 1990	28.20	16.85	9.65	9.65
08 April 1991	31.25	18.70	10.70	10.70
06 April 1992	32.25	19.45	10.85	10.85
12 April 1993	33.70	20.15	9.80	9.80
11 April 1994	34.50	20.65	9.80	11.00
10 April 1995	35.25	21.10	9.85	11.05
08 April 1996	36.60	21.90	9.90	11.15
07 April 1997	37.35	22.35	9.90	11.20
06 April 1998	38.70	23.15	9.90	11.30

## Annex

1. Figures for Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and Attendance Allowance (AA) for February and May 1997 are available on request.
2. The following tables for DLA, while not included in this publication, are also available for August 1997 on request.
  - A. Awards of care by medical code and rate.
  - B. Awards of care by sex, age and rate.
  - C. Awards of mobility by medical code and rate.
  - D. Awards of mobility by sex, age and rate.
  - E. First awards by medical code.
  - F. Decision on length of awards for claims awarded.
  - G. Decision on length of awards for claims awarded by rate.
  - H. Terminally ill beneficiaries.
  - I. Terminally ill durations on benefit for awards terminating.
  - J. Quarterly payload by care and mobility rates
  - K. Payload by disability by rate of care.
  - L. Payload by disability by rate of mobility.
  - M. Payload by age and sex.
  - N. Care and mobility payload by age.