

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

**Quarterly Summary of Statistics
February 1999**

DSD

**Department for
Social Development**



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 1.9.

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	May 1997
All components	73371	83913	90866	98107	104447	107839	110390	112691
Higher rate care only	3044	3027	2827	2636	2633	2786	2968	3079
Middle rate care only	6079	6435	6631	6648	6992	7348	7701	8126
Lower rate care only	5392	6791	7825	8570	8882	9083	9359	9658
Higher rate mobility only	10814	11255	11357	11912	12167	12415	12495	12491
Lower rate mobility only	1858	1824	1856	1992	2335	2458	2560	2656
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	12439	14728	16027	17414	18533	19149	19457	19817
Higher rate care and lower rate mobility	4187	4874	5347	5977	6916	7014	6985	6983
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	12983	15906	18084	19773	21091	21777	22315	22781
Middle rate care and lower rate mobility	7003	7987	8917	9785	10373	10327	10308	10245
Lower rate care and higher rate mobility	7350	8985	9831	11033	11989	12805	13424	13915
Lower rate care and lower rate mobility	2222	2101	2164	2367	2536	2677	2818	2940

1.1 continued

	August 1997	November 1997	February 1998	May 1998	August 1998	November 1998	February 1999
All components	114386	116723	118973	120202	121481	123720	125082
Higher rate care only	3160	3227	3239	3131	3019	2913	2849
Middle rate care only	8450	8739	8843	8662	8452	8166	7936
Lower rate care only	10035	10432	10619	10571	10637	10754	10800
Higher rate mobility only	12509	12622	12646	12561	12453	12358	12262
Lower rate mobility only	2750	2868	3069	3188	3292	3417	3451
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	20028	20275	20459	20634	20777	21168	21388
Higher rate care and lower rate mobility	6885	6891	7072	7274	7568	8151	8547
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	22971	23330	23578	23664	23735	24066	24336
Middle rate care and lower rate mobility	10269	10398	10745	11144	11726	12463	13179
Lower rate care and higher rate mobility	14242	14643	15067	15335	15481	15600	15620
Lower rate care and lower rate mobility	3087	3298	3636	4038	4341	4664	4714

Table 1.2: Decisions on initial claims¹

	1992/93 ²	1993/94 ²	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1.4.98 to 28.2.99
Initial claims	17999	41751	40572	35515	35055	27908	19962
Initial claims decided	17959	41471	40147	35148	34822	27730	19866
First awards ¹ :							
All first awards	13305	22539	19546	15495	15282	13535	11419
Higher rate care only	861	853	572	267	720	610	421
Middle rate care only	1536	2265	1455	889	1433	1580	943
Lower rate care only	1071	3065	2874	2205	2190	2331	1395
Higher rate mobility only	2625	2687	2506	1874	1669	1101	508
Lower rate mobility only	791	900	277	293	446	529	494
Higher rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1073	2180	2463	1772	1768	1377	1377
lower rate mobility	470	983	873	874	587	677	1282
Middle rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1520	3537	4044	3138	2578	1865	1452
lower rate mobility	1132	2344	1538	1620	777	1050	1724
Lower rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1405	2589	2507	2119	2543	1808	1042
lower rate mobility	821	1136	437	444	571	607	781
Rejections	4654	18932	20601	19653	19540	14195	8447

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 28.2.99
Requests for review	392	15840	22270	21261	22486	22556	13667
Decisions							
All decisions	377	15356	21170	19614	21699	21901	13302
Review allowed	279	4319	3457	2655	2489	1781	987
Award increased(1)	14	4113	6380	5105	4621	4347	3462
Other decisions	84	6924	11333	11854	14589	15773	8853

1. Rates of either component are increased.

Table 1.4: Awards by sex and age in year ending 28 February 1999¹

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	16514	8147	8367
0-4	1044	637	407
5-9	698	433	265
10-15	471	256	215
16-19	345	170	175
20-24	570	287	283
25-29	871	409	462
30-34	1192	542	650
35-39	1401	650	751
40-44	1406	603	803
45-49	1628	723	905
50-54	1951	953	998
55-59	2135	1062	1073
60-64	2115	1101	1014
65 and over	687	321	366

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 28 February 1999^{1 2}

	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
All conditions	16514	5574	1788	9152
Terminally ill	545	124	9	412
Arthritis	2353	924	281	1148
Back ailments	1290	375	149	766
Muscles/joint/bone disease	1500	681	172	647
Trauma to limbs	124	52	11	61
Blindness	198	73	26	99
Deafness	152	33	11	108
Heart disease	973	275	210	488
Chest disease	383	156	57	170
Asthma	727	515	70	142
Stroke-related	324	89	14	221
Peripheral vascular disease	105	37	26	42
Epilepsy	422	141	23	258
Neurological disorder	325	117	32	176
Multiple sclerosis	112	37	5	70
Chronic fatigue	150	53	12	85
Diabetes	292	148	15	129
Learning difficulties	465	201	57	207
Other mental health causes	4338	827	517	2994
Alcohol abuse	265	77	8	180
Renal disorders	94	43	8	43
Inflammatory bowels	86	39	1	46
Bowels/stomach disorder	100	60	8	32
Skin disease	204	163	3	38
Malignant disease	616	170	23	423
Other	371	164	40	167

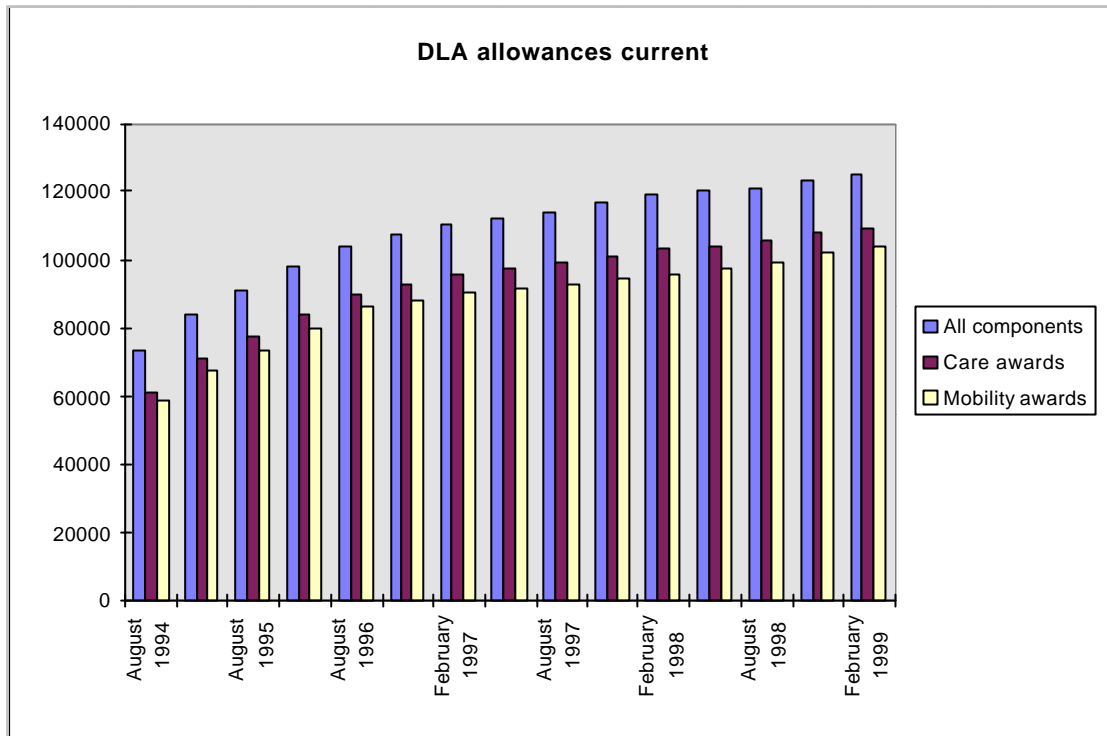
1. Figures relate to first awards made as a result of initial claims, reviews and appeals.

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 28 February 1999

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	125082	59646	65436
0-4	2594	1586	1008
5-9	5368	3305	2063
10-15	4716	2814	1902
16-19	2137	1163	974
20-24	3167	1632	1535
25-29	4561	2267	2294
30-34	6508	3062	3446
35-39	8189	3738	4451
40-44	8753	3963	4790
45-49	10157	4635	5522
50-54	13236	6001	7235
55-59	15567	7124	8443
60-64	17941	8292	9649
65-69	16531	7547	8984
70-74	4787	2174	2613
75-79	731	299	432
80 and over	139	44	95

Chart 1.1: DLA allowances current¹



1. 1994 figures are based on clerical counts.

Chart 1.2: DLA allowances current by age and sex at 28 February 1999

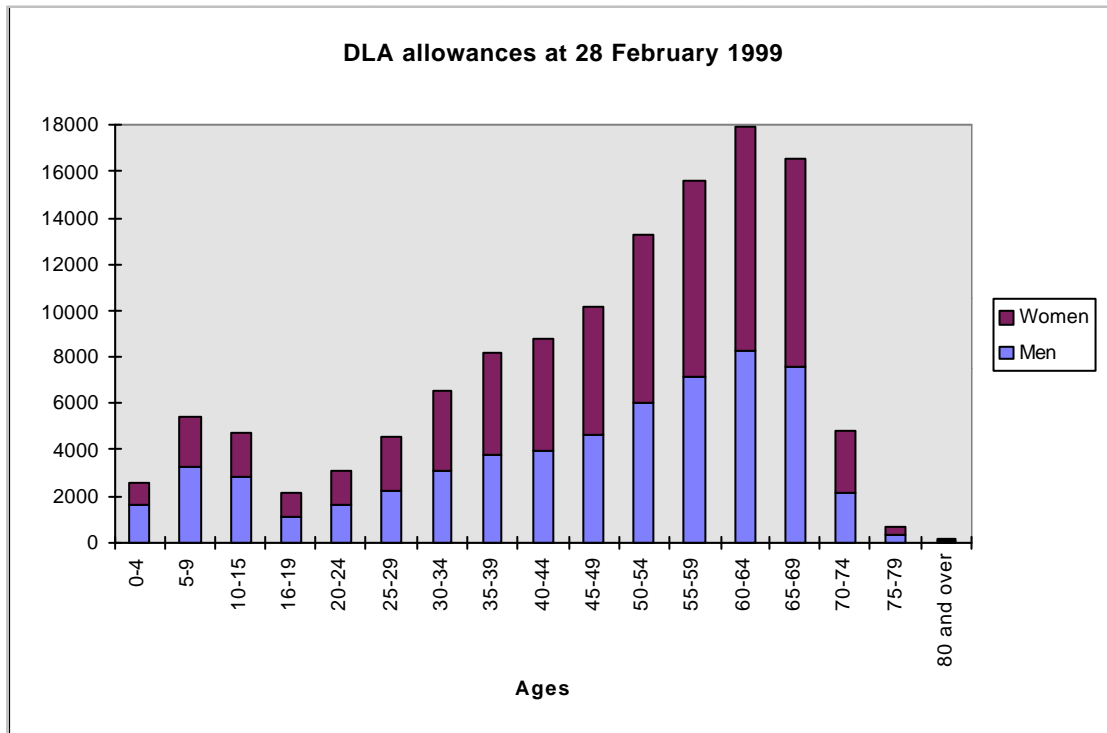


Table 1.7: Allowances current by main disabling condition at 28 February 1999¹

	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
All conditions	125082	21585	15713	87784
Terminally ill	863	32	6	825
Arthritis	24759	3370	2557	18832
Back ailments	9519	1407	1030	7082
Muscles/joint/bone disease	11952	3025	1395	7532
Blindness	1877	83	153	1641
Deafness	1504	126	116	1262
Heart disease	10798	681	2448	7669
Chest disease	4073	207	896	2970
Asthma	6192	3113	805	2274
Stroke-related	2718	245	157	2316
Peripheral vascular disease	1126	28	368	730
Epilepsy	4021	1174	66	2781
Neurological disorder	2375	459	129	1787
Multiple sclerosis	1230	34	70	1126
Chronic fatigue	855	203	63	589
Diabetes	1785	654	88	1043
Learning difficulties	7097	634	616	5847
Other mental health causes	17529	3043	1979	12507
Alcohol abuse	729	223	27	479
Skin disease	1146	854	31	261
Malignant disease	1707	340	79	1288
Conversion*	7144	428	2378	4338
Other	4083	1222	256	2605

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: DLA allowances current by District Council and Sex at 28 February 1999¹

District Council	Male				Female			
	All Allowances	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component	All Allowances	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
Missing Postcode	2372	432	304	1636	2705	442	334	1929
Ards	1727	276	323	1128	1904	287	283	1334
Belfast	13630	2723	1547	9360	15337	2646	1722	10969
Castlereagh	1379	217	237	925	1613	246	266	1101
Down	2059	373	294	1392	2132	331	303	1498
Lisburn	3283	721	443	2119	3798	683	502	2613
North Down	1430	186	271	973	1645	221	271	1153
Newtownabbey	1465	247	258	960	1566	224	259	1083
Antrim	1226	206	244	776	1311	208	212	891
Ballymena	707	126	129	452	762	130	85	547
Ballmoneev	887	169	143	575	1024	180	152	692
Carrickfergus	1207	223	170	814	1273	232	172	869
Coleraine	1378	237	145	996	1440	226	152	1062
Cookstown	815	148	142	525	723	123	104	496
Larne	1033	240	111	682	1116	201	127	788
Magherafelt	409	71	62	276	440	72	75	293
Moyle	2240	379	414	1447	2612	403	402	1807
Armagh	1752	311	232	1209	1871	293	222	1356
Banbridge	1186	171	234	781	1213	166	187	860
Craigavon	3258	618	345	2295	3800	615	441	2744
Duncannon	2015	352	203	1460	2033	324	174	1535
Newry & Mourne	3327	584	399	2344	3401	535	361	2505
Derry	4466	776	531	3159	5035	808	521	3706
Fermanagh	1409	247	176	986	1375	236	148	991
Limavady	978	174	105	699	1028	198	85	745
Omagh	2052	357	175	1520	2094	323	169	1602
Strabane	1956	323	184	1449	2185	345	163	1677
Northern Ireland	59646	10887	7821	40938	65436	10698	7892	46846

¹ Where the claimant's postcode is missing, incorrect or incomplete, the claimant could not be allocated to a District Council

Table 1.9: Rates of DLA

Date	<i>£pw</i>				
	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 ^{1 2}

Year	All awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
31 December 1988	29394	14999	14395
31 December 1989	32374	16287	16087
31 December 1990	36455	18637	17818
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
30 November 1998	64747	44514	20233
28 February 1999	64664	44473	20191

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 claims¹

Year	1.10.95 to 31.3.96	1996/97	1997/98	1.4.98 to 28.2.99
Initial claims	6246	14257	12702	9984
Initial claims decided				
All decisions	6196	14131	12569	9909
First awards:				
Higher rate	3056	7143	6652	4925
Lower rate	1525	3709	2936	2776
Rejections	1615	3279	2981	2208

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

Table 2.3: Decisions on review

Year	1.10.95 to 31.3.96	1996/97	1997/98	1.4.98 to 28.2.99
Requests for review	1189	3963	3455	2393
Decisions				
All decisions	1157	3814	3358	2348
Review allowed	222	908	839	344
Award increased	522	1717	1676	1425
Other decisions	413	1189	843	579

Table 2.4: Awards by sex and age in year ending 28 February 1999¹

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	10229	3908	6321
65-69	1402	568	834
70-74	2344	947	1397
75-79	2744	1088	1656
80-84	2086	783	1303
85-89	1226	410	816
90 and over	427	112	315

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 28 February 1999^{1 2}

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
All conditions	10229	7078	3151
Terminally ill	699	699	0
Arthritis	3193	2072	1121
Back ailments	187	125	62
Muscles/joint/bone disease	142	85	57
Trauma to limbs	82	54	28
Blindness	184	78	106
Heart disease	1090	704	386
Chest disease	465	322	143
Asthma	109	69	40
Stroke-related	532	399	133
Peripheral vascular disease	65	48	17
Frailty	1399	878	521
Neurological disorder	76	56	20
Parkinsons disease	134	101	33
Diabetes	175	110	65
Other mental health causes	861	568	293
Malignant disease	183	144	39
Other	248	170	78
Conversion*	405	396	9

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.

* A breakdown of disabling conditions are not available for current awards made as result of a review, where the initial award was made at the time of the introduction of the present computer system in October 1995.

Table 2.6: AA allowances current by age and sex at 28 February 1999

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	64,664	20,591	44,073
65-69	2851	1112	1739
70-74	14706	5466	9240
75-79	19079	6367	12712
80-84	14519	4366	10153
85-89	9393	2458	6935
90 and over	4116	822	3294

Chart 2.1: AA allowances current

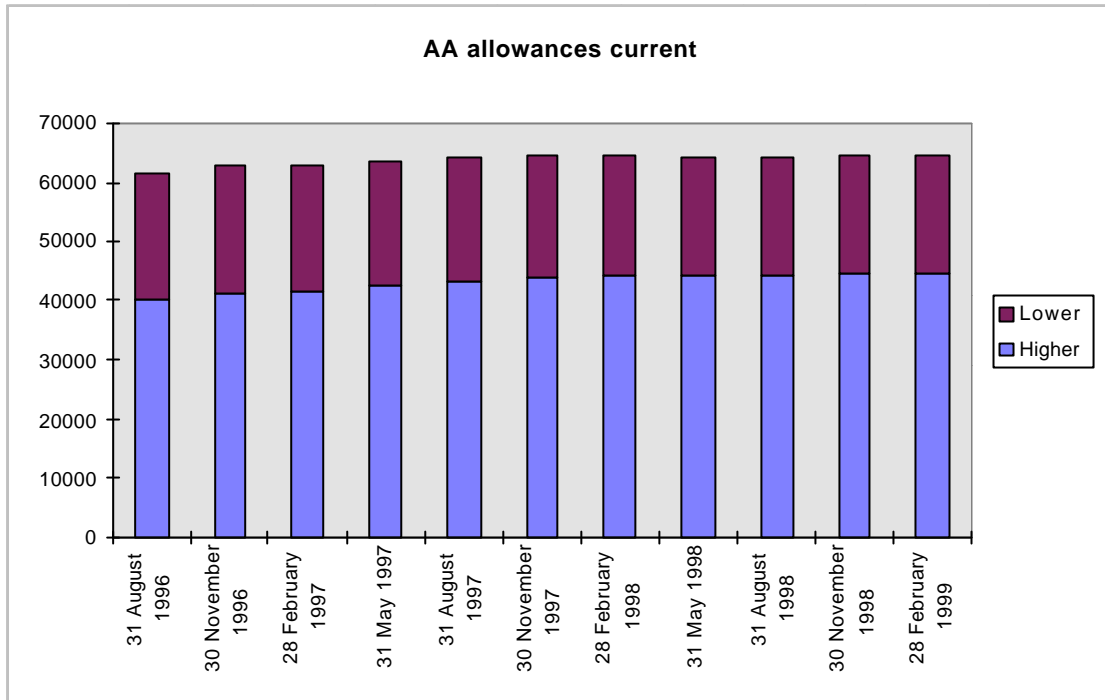


Chart 2.2: AA allowances current by age and sex at 28 February 1999

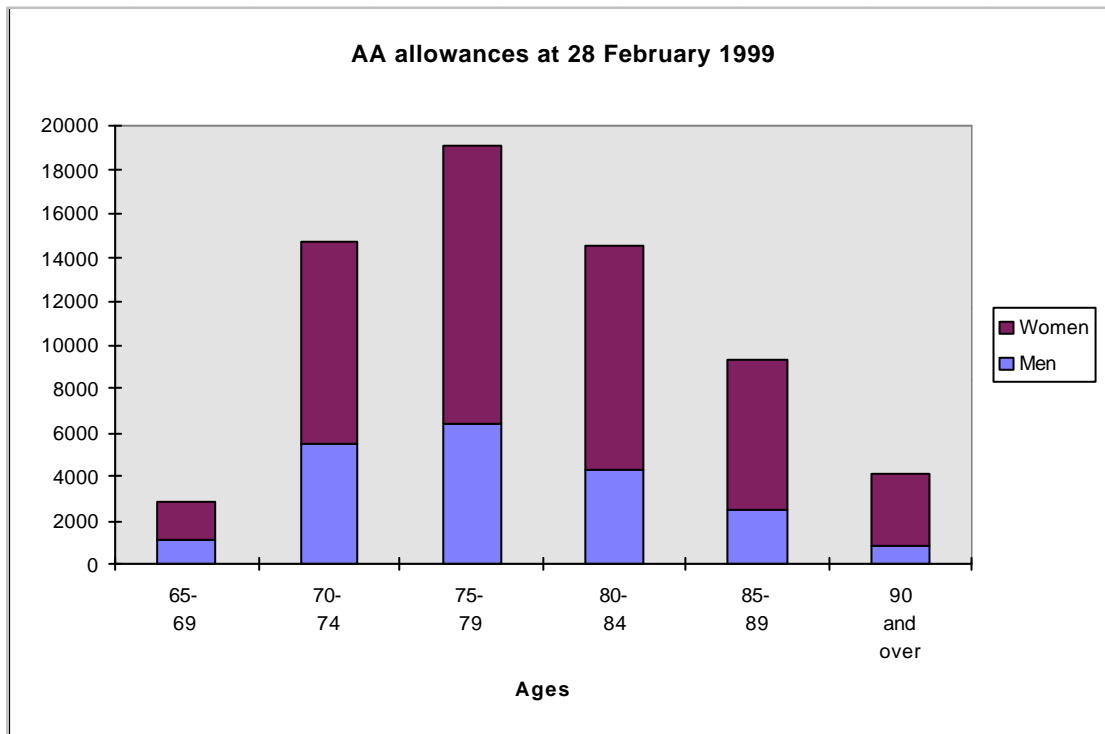


Table 2.7: Allowances current by main disabling condition at 28 February 1999¹

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
All conditions	64664	44473	20191
Terminally ill	591	591	0
Arthritis	11053	7526	3527
Back ailments	720	473	247
Muscles/joint/bone disease	582	382	200
Blindness	862	411	451
Heart disease	4290	2914	1376
Chest disease	1689	1224	465
Asthma	424	314	110
Stroke-related	1746	1300	446
Frailty	2976	1949	1027
Neurological disorder	722	474	248
Parkinsons disease	389	297	92
Diabetes	570	378	192
Other mental health causes	2083	1478	605
Malignant disease	522	409	113
Other	1366	918	448
Conversion*	34079	23435	10644

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: AA allowances current by District Council and Sex at 28 February 1999¹

District Council	All Awards			Male			Female		
	All Awards	Higher Rate	Lower Rate	All Awards	Higher Rate	Lower Rate	All Awards	Higher Rate	Lower Rate
Missing Postcode	1676	1184	492	527	389	138	1149	795	354
Ards	2515	1632	883	766	507	259	1749	1125	624
Belfast	13830	9085	4745	4097	2785	1312	9733	6300	3433
Castlereagh	2221	1427	794	684	467	217	1537	960	577
Down	2271	1537	734	734	492	242	1537	1045	492
Lisburn	3130	1999	1131	919	634	285	2211	1365	846
North Down	2787	1857	930	834	585	249	1953	1272	681
Newtownabbey	1092	715	377	343	251	92	749	464	285
Antrim	1698	1100	598	480	330	150	1218	770	448
Ballymena	868	600	268	302	214	88	566	386	180
Ballymoney	999	610	389	293	191	102	706	419	287
Carrickfergus	1821	1236	585	577	395	182	1244	841	403
Coleraine	1453	1124	329	494	389	105	959	735	224
Cookstown	947	594	353	298	202	96	649	392	257
Larne	1619	1226	393	571	428	143	1048	798	250
Magherafelt	636	440	196	188	141	47	448	299	149
Moyle	2572	1541	1031	791	504	287	1781	1037	744
Armagh	2142	1576	566	739	555	184	1403	1021	382
Banbridge	1528	1011	517	460	309	151	1068	702	366
Craigavon	3059	2083	976	984	699	285	2075	1384	691
Dungannon	2173	1731	442	748	601	147	1425	1130	295
Newry & Mourne	3498	2663	835	1209	949	260	2289	1714	575
Derry	2999	2146	853	970	710	260	2029	1436	593
Fermanagh	2291	1657	634	797	602	195	1494	1055	439
Limavady	1052	793	259	369	283	86	683	510	173
Omagh	2165	1709	456	818	660	158	1347	1049	298
Strabane	1622	1197	425	599	447	152	1023	750	273
Northern Ireland	64664	44473	20191	20591	14719	5872	44073	29754	14319

¹ Where the claimant's postcode is missing, incorrect or incomplete, the claimant could not be allocated to a District Council

Table 2.9: 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

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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
December 1997	30003 ¹	8307	21696
December 1998	31676	9003	22673

1. The 1997 and 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: Claims and awards

Year ending	Claims received	Awards	Disallowances
December 1998	9692	7714	1763

Table 3.3: Allowances current by age and sex at 2 January 1999

	All persons	Men	Women
All Ages	31676	9003	22673
Under 20	382	153	229
20-24	1265	440	825
25-29	2839	716	2123
30-34	4723	1102	3621
35-39	5034	1335	3699
40-44	4425	1242	3183
45-49	3871	1097	2774
50-54	3950	1107	2843
55-59	3260	988	2272
60-64	1609	755	854
65+	318	68	250

Chart 3.1: ICA allowances over time

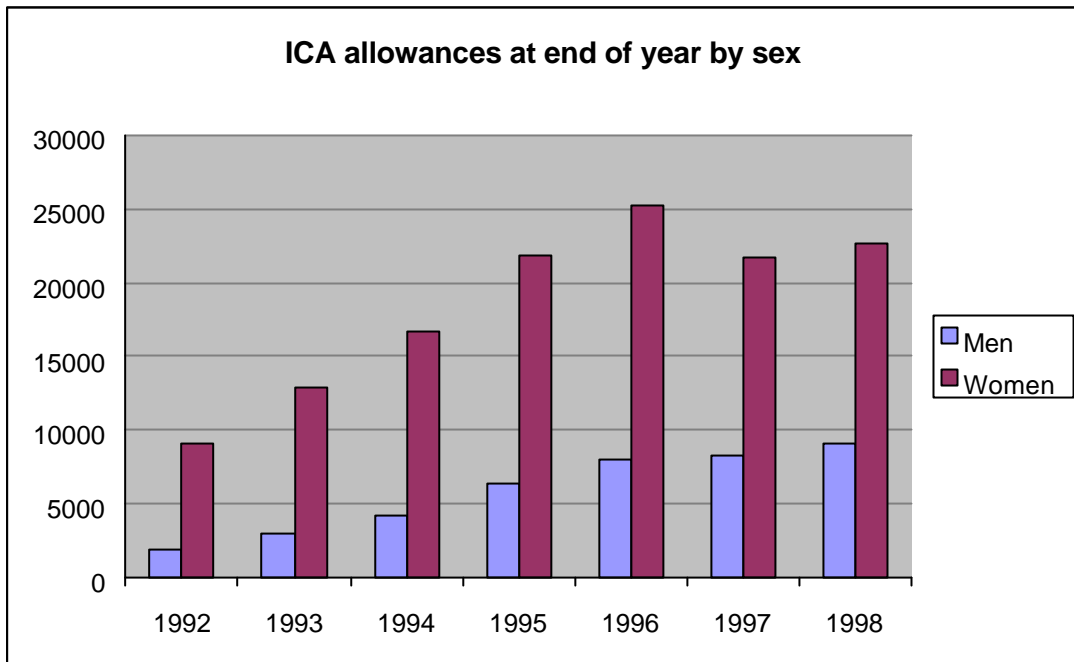


Chart 3.2: ICA allowances by age and sex at 2 January 1999

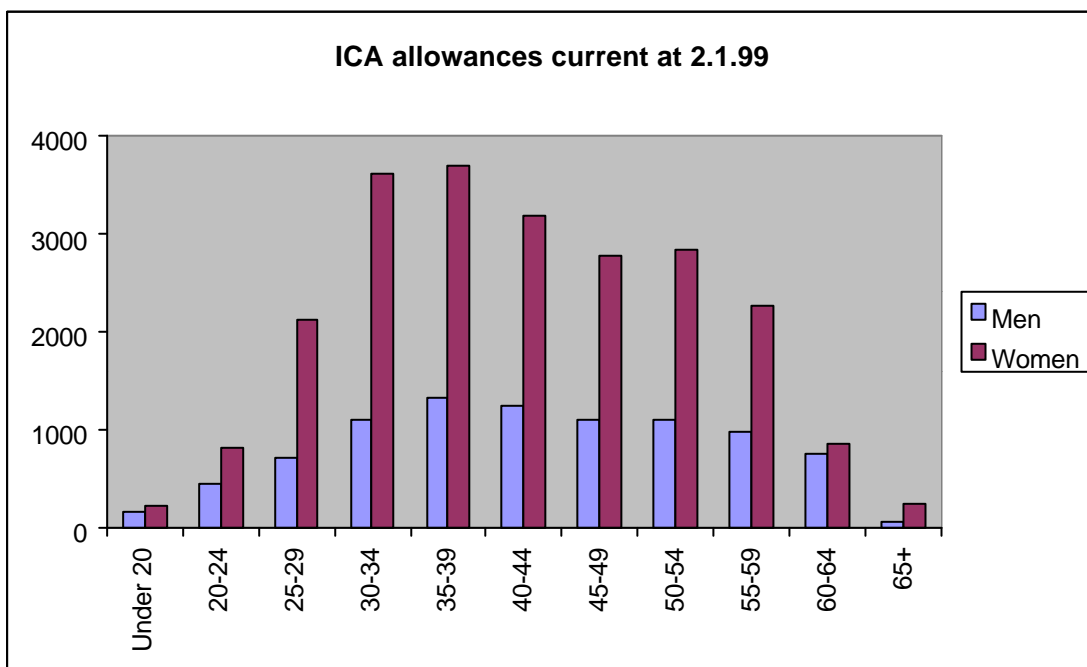


Table 3.4: Rates of Invalid Care Allowance

	£ 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, May, August and November 1998 are available on request.
2. The following tables for DLA, while not included in this publication, are also available for February 1999 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.