

Department of Health and Social Services

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

Quarterly Summary of Statistics

November 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
All components	73371	83913	90866	98107	104447	107839	110390
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	November 1998
All components	112691	114386	116723	118973	120202	121481	123720
Higher rate care only	3079	3160	3227	3239	3131	3019	2913
Middle rate care only	8126	8450	8739	8843	8662	8452	8166
Lower rate care only	9658	10035	10432	10619	10571	10637	10754
Higher rate mobility only	12491	12509	12622	12646	12561	12453	12358
Lower rate mobility only	2656	2750	2868	3069	3188	3292	3417
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	19817	20028	20275	20459	20634	20777	21168
Higher rate care and lower rate mobility	6983	6885	6891	7072	7274	7568	8151
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	22781	22971	23330	23578	23664	23735	24066
Middle rate care and lower rate mobility	10245	10269	10398	10745	11144	11726	12463
Lower rate care and higher rate mobility	13915	14242	14643	15067	15335	15481	15600
Lower rate care and lower rate mobility	2940	3087	3298	3636	4038	4341	4664

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 30.11.98
Initial claims	17999	41751	40572	35515	35055	27908	14652
Initial claims decided	17959	41471	40147	35148	34822	27730	14591
First awards ¹ :							
All first awards	13305	22539	19546	15495	15282	13535	8385
Higher rate care only	861	853	572	267	720	610	295
Middle rate care only	1536	2265	1455	889	1433	1580	669
Lower rate care only	1071	3065	2874	2205	2190	2331	1040
Higher rate mobility only	2625	2687	2506	1874	1669	1101	373
Lower rate mobility only	791	900	277	293	446	529	376
Higher rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1073	2180	2463	1772	1768	1377	1001
lower rate mobility	470	983	873	874	587	677	945
Middle rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1520	3537	4044	3138	2578	1865	1026
lower rate mobility	1132	2344	1538	1620	777	1050	1175
Lower rate care &:- higher rate mobility	1405	2589	2507	2119	2543	1808	821
lower rate mobility	821	1136	437	444	571	607	664
Rejections	4654	18932	20601	19653	19540	14195	6206

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 30.11.98
Requests for review	392	15840	22270	21261	22486	22556	10160
Decisions							
All decisions	377	15356	21170	19614	21699	21901	9896
Review allowed	279	4319	3457	2655	2489	1781	760
Award increased(1)	14	4113	6380	5105	4621	4347	2523
Other decisions	84	6924	11333	11854	14589	15773	6613

1. Rates of either component are increased.

Table 1.4: Awards by sex and age in year ending 30 November 1998¹

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	17358	8614	8744
0-4	1126	690	436
5-9	747	476	271
10-15	481	267	214
16-19	371	186	185
20-24	561	288	273
25-29	899	435	464
30-34	1293	567	726
35-39	1450	658	792
40-44	1462	631	831
45-49	1670	758	912
50-54	2075	1028	1047
55-59	2297	1157	1140
60-64	2208	1142	1066
65 and over	718	331	387

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 30 November 1998^{1 2}

	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
All conditions	17358	5890	2066	9402
Terminally ill	571	129	9	433
Arthritis	2484	937	328	1219
Back ailments	1380	390	181	809
Muscles/joint/bone disease	1549	669	194	686
Trauma to limbs	122	52	14	56
Blindness	211	79	32	100
Deafness	168	41	18	109
Heart disease	1113	320	249	544
Chest disease	408	155	66	187
Asthma	834	582	87	165
Stroke-related	320	99	17	204
Peripheral vascular disease	104	36	27	41
Epilepsy	463	172	30	261
Neurological disorder	331	122	35	174
Multiple sclerosis	121	39	5	77
Chronic fatigue	149	54	12	83
Diabetes	313	160	23	130
Learning difficulties	470	197	62	211
Other mental health causes	4467	918	568	2981
Alcohol abuse	259	69	9	181
Renal disorders	101	42	10	49
Inflammatory bowels	87	42	5	40
Bowels/stomach disorder	110	62	11	37
Skin disease	230	180	6	44
Malignant disease	612	166	30	416
Other	381	178	38	165

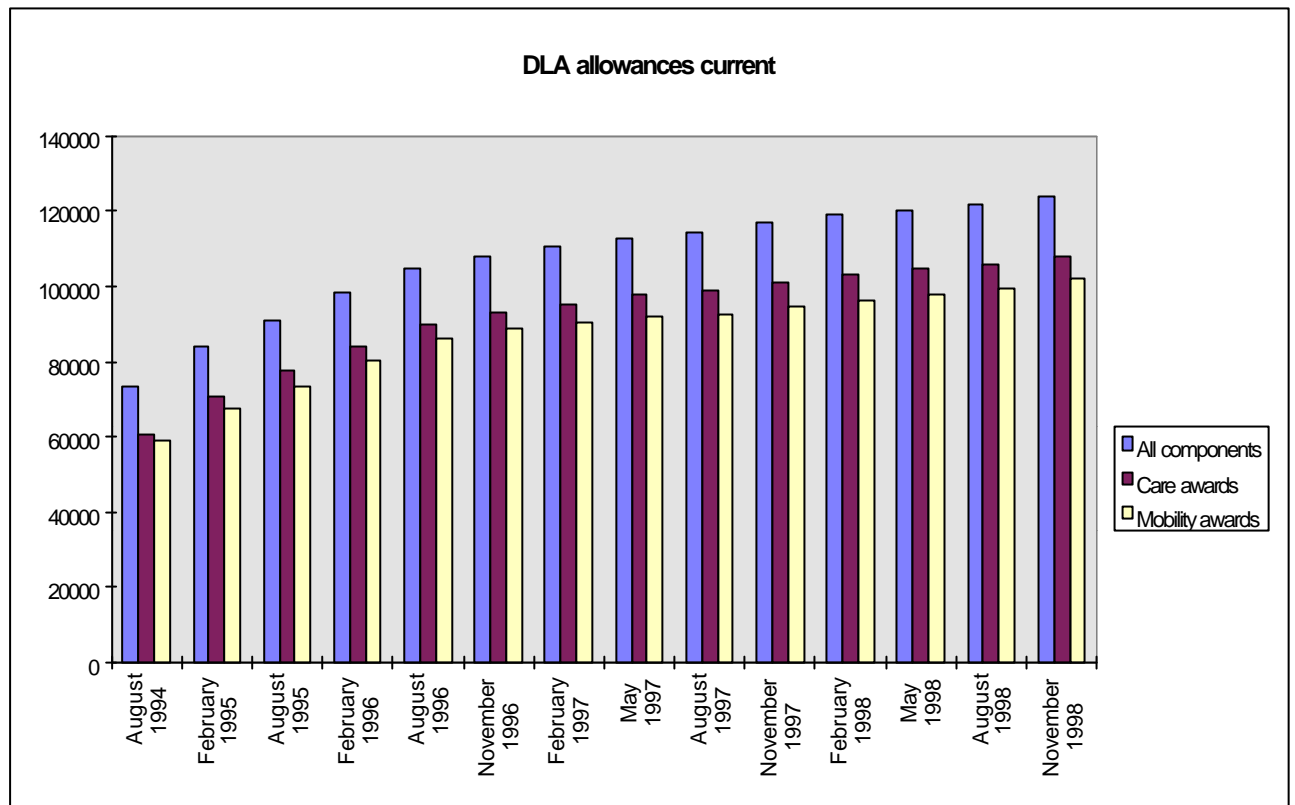
1. Figures relate to first awards made as a result of initial claims, reviews and appeals.

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 30 November 1998

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	123720	59164	64556
0-4	2694	1663	1031
5-9	5494	3383	2111
10-15	4664	2778	1886
16-19	2127	1166	961
20-24	3120	1623	1497
25-29	4531	2259	2272
30-34	6477	3047	3430
35-39	8003	3665	4338
40-44	8645	3928	4717
45-49	10050	4580	5470
50-54	13111	5949	7162
55-59	15462	7108	8354
60-64	17809	8222	9587
65-69	16316	7477	8839
70-74	4372	1980	2392
75-79	714	295	419
80 and over	131	41	90

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 30 November 1998

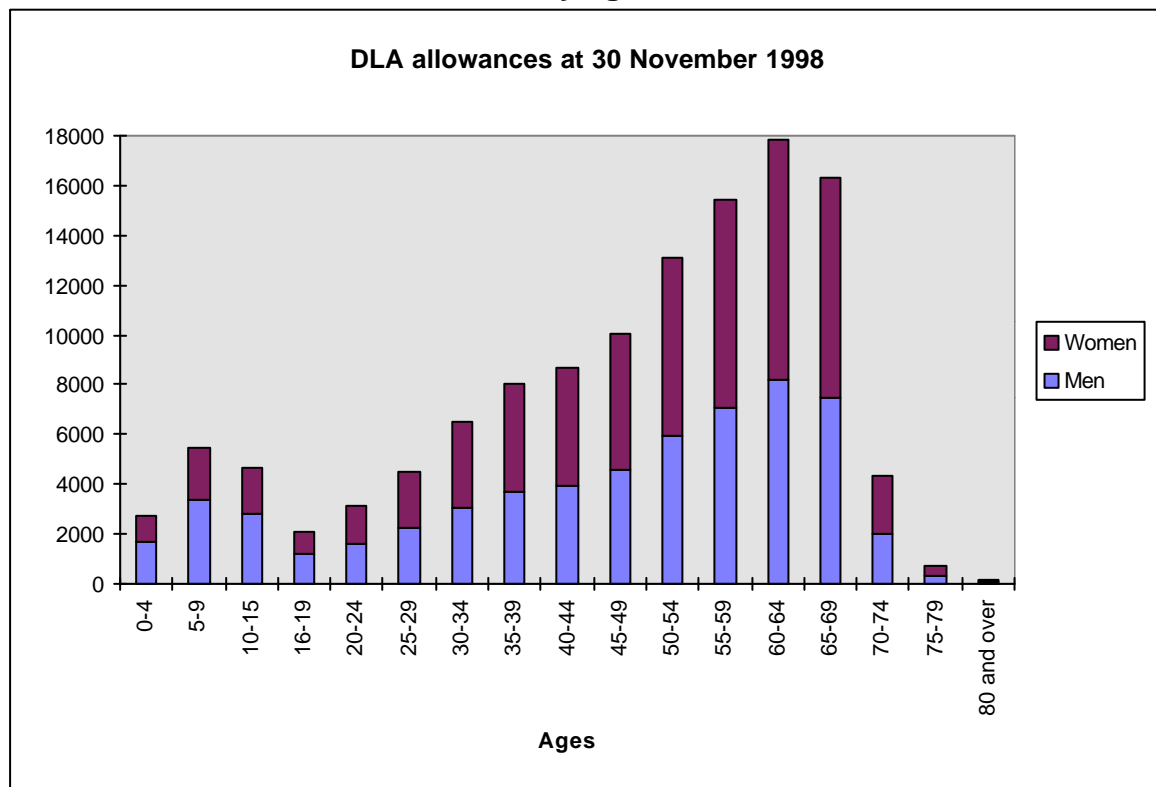


Table 1.7: Allowances current by main disabling condition at 30 November 1998¹

	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
All conditions	123720	21833	15775	86112
Terminally ill	880	33	8	839
Arthritis	24439	3309	2559	18571
Back ailments	9379	1380	1034	6965
Muscles/joint/bone disease	11895	3016	1426	7453
Blindness	1851	83	150	1618
Deafness	1481	121	119	1241
Heart disease	10762	662	2451	7649
Chest disease	4091	208	902	2981
Asthma	6366	3304	812	2250
Stroke-related	2673	239	155	2279
Peripheral vascular disease	1127	26	369	732
Epilepsy	4020	1273	66	2681
Neurological disorder	2358	466	132	1760
Multiple sclerosis	1212	27	71	1114
Chronic fatigue	822	192	58	572
Diabetes	1756	653	89	1014
Learning difficulties	7033	616	612	5805
Other mental health causes	16817	3152	1944	11721
Alcohol abuse	665	214	24	427
Skin disease	1160	872	32	256
Malignant disease	1640	335	81	1224
Conversion*	7277	444	2423	4410
Other	4016	1208	258	2550

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 ^{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

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		1.4.98 to	
	31.3.96	1996/97	1997/98	30.11.98
Initial claims	6246	14257	12702	7377
Initial claims decided				
All decisions	6196	14131	12569	7313
First awards:				
Higher rate	3056	7143	6652	3572
Lower rate	1525	3709	2936	2005
Rejections	1615	3279	2981	1736

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 30.11.98
Requests for review	1189	3963	3455	1818
Decisions				
All decisions	1157	3814	3358	1787
Review allowed	222	908	839	274
Award increased	522	1717	1676	1060
Other decisions	413	1189	843	453

Table 2.4: Awards by sex and age in year ending 30 November 1998¹

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	10231	939	1565
65-69	302	116	186
70-74	565	221	344
75-79	689	278	411
80-84	500	185	315
85-89	326	111	215
90 and over	7849	28	94

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 30 November '98^{1 2}

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
All conditions	10231	7247	2984
Terminally ill	715	715	0
Arthritis	3063	2038	1025
Back ailments	195	135	60
Muscles/joint/bone disease	161	109	52
Trauma to limbs	76	50	26
Blindness	207	91	116
Heart disease	1155	767	388
Chest disease	509	362	147
Asthma	92	66	26
Stroke-related	572	430	142
Peripheral vascular disease	69	49	20
Frailty	1209	778	431
Neurological disorder	142	108	34
Parkinsons disease	129	98	31
Diabetes	193	124	69
Other mental health causes	908	622	286
Malignant disease	215	170	45
Other	258	179	79
Conversion*	363	356	7

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

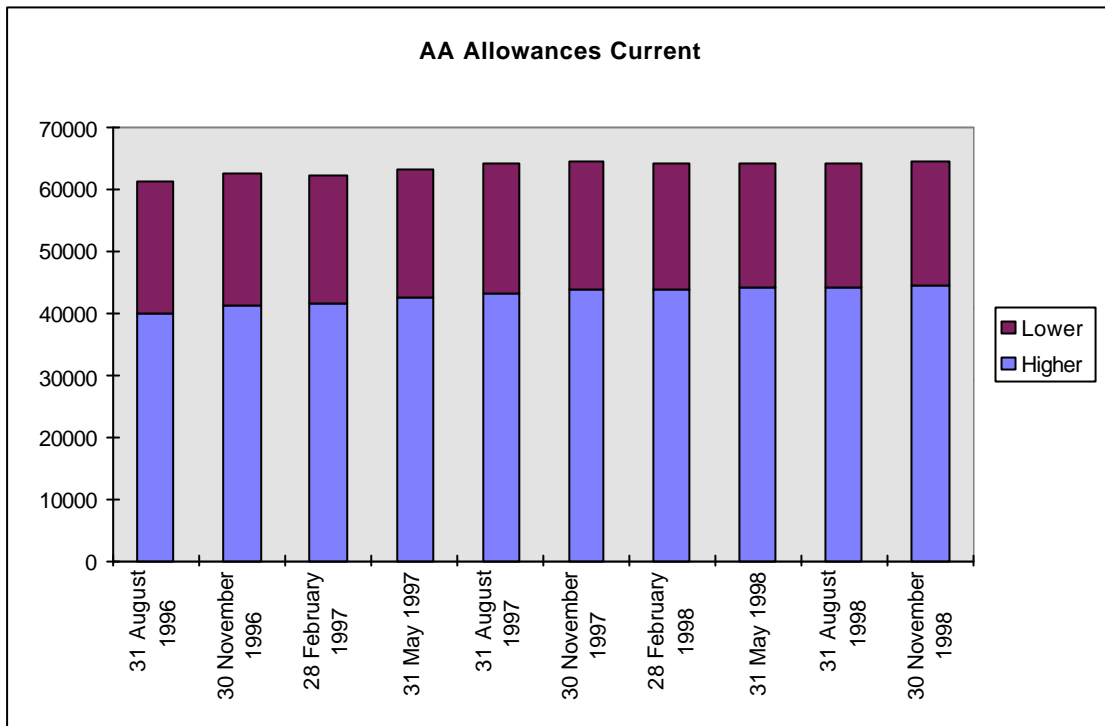
2. Where more than one disability is present only the main disabling condition is recorded.

* 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 30 November 1998

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	64,747	20,663	44,084
65-69	2907	1140	1767
70-74	14988	5599	9389
75-79	18771	6295	12476
80-84	14650	4343	10307
85-89	9324	2447	6877
90 and over	4107	839	3268

Chart 2.1: AA allowances current¹



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 30 November 1998

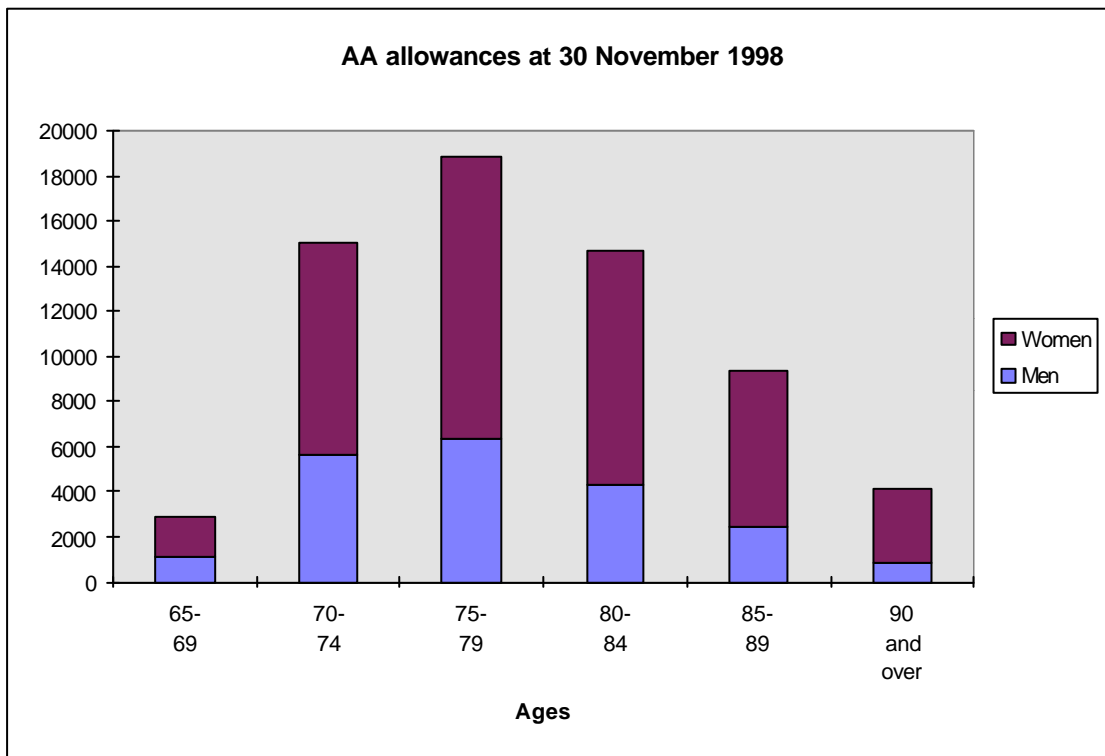


Table 2.7: Allowances current by main disabling condition at 30 November 1998¹

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
All conditions	64747	44514	20233
Terminally ill	600	600	0
Arthritis	10401	7116	3285
Back ailments	687	452	235
Muscles/joint/bone disease	560	368	192
Blindness	846	403	443
Heart disease	4189	2855	1334
Chest disease	1676	1220	456
Asthma	391	292	99
Stroke-related	1729	1287	442
Frailty	2741	1785	956
Neurological disorder	737	483	254
Parkinsons disease	379	290	89
Diabetes	557	371	186
Other mental health causes	2033	1449	584
Malignant disease	522	412	110
Other	1311	880	431
Conversion*	35388	24251	11137

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 ¹	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 14 January 1998

	All persons	Men	Women
All Ages	31160	8814	22346
Under 20	367	143	224
20-24	1294	441	853
25-29	2814	691	2123
30-34	4714	1113	3601
35-39	4972	1310	3662
40-44	4334	1249	3085
45-49	3781	1058	2723
50-54	3848	1065	2783
55-59	3180	953	2227
60-64	1561	739	822
65+	295	52	243

Chart 3.1: ICA allowances over time

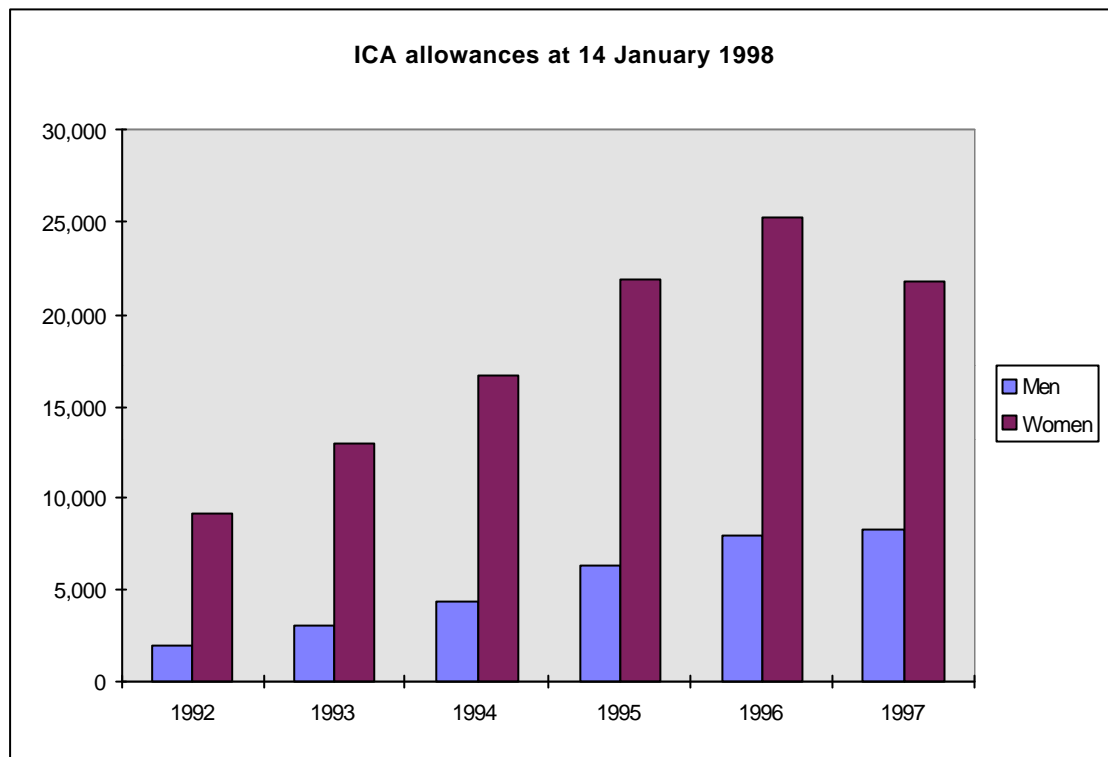


Chart 3.2: ICA allowances by age and sex at 14 January 1998

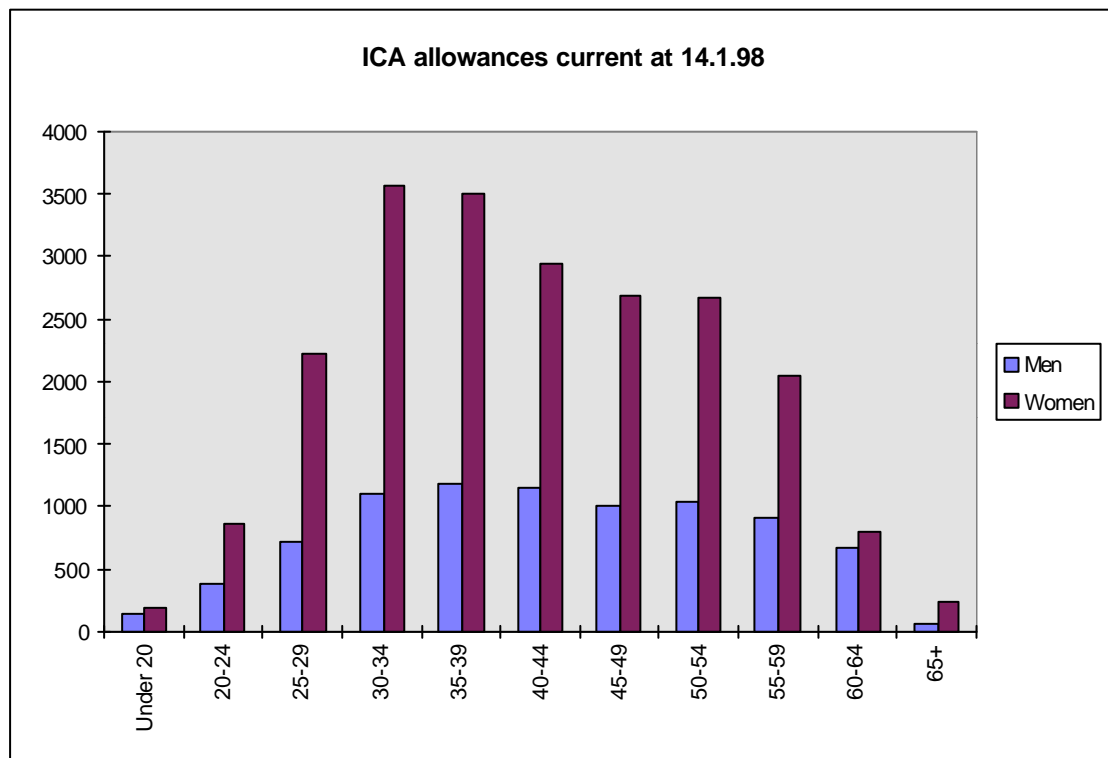


Table 3.4: Rates of Invalid Care Allowance

£ 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.