

Department for Social Development

**Income Support
Summary Statistics**

DSD

Department for
Social Development

August 2002



A Government Statistical Publication

Published by***Statistics & Research Branch***

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ISSN 1475-5777

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Glossary of Terms and Conventions

Glossary of Terms

Couple

Two persons either married or living together as husband and wife

Dependant

A person who is not a partner and whose resources and requirements are included with those of the claimant

Duration of claim

Duration of current period in receipt of Income Support

Family Type

Single or couple, with or without dependants

Lone Parent

A single parent aged under 60 and not in the disabled group

Partner

One of a married or unmarried couple living together

Single

A claimant who is not living as one of a couple

Single Parent

A claimant without a partner but with one or more dependants

Statistical Group

The main groups of claimants

Conventions

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| IS | Income Support |
| JSA | Jobseekers Allowance |
| £pw | Pounds per week |
| £million | Millions of pounds |
| QSE | Quarterly Statistical Enquiry |
| RCNH | Residential Care Nursing Homes |
| GOR | Government Office Region |
| - | Numbers are too small to be statistically reliable |
| <i>Italics</i> | Counts in italics are not statistically reliable |



Summary

Income Support (IS) is a means-tested benefit, intended to provide for basic living expenses for an individual and their family. A customer can claim for self, partner and any dependent children under the age of 19, providing they are not able to claim in their own right. Only one person in the family can be the primary customer at one time. The main types of people who receive IS are pensioners, lone parents, long and short-term sick, people with disabilities and other special groups.

Prior to October 1996, unemployed people or those on a government training scheme could claim IS, but now claim Jobseekers Allowance (JSA). In order for valid comparisons to be drawn of the IS population before and after the introduction of JSA, unemployed IS claimants and those on government training schemes have been excluded from those tables which show data prior to August 1997.

IS is made up of a personal allowance, a premium payment and where applicable help in meeting accommodation costs. The personal allowance provides money for normal expenses for the customer (and partner and dependants if appropriate). Premium payments are extra payments for groups of people whose expenses are likely to be higher than normal. The maximum amount that a customer can receive is normally reduced by any amount of income they have from most other benefits or other sources.



Section 1 Caseload-key characteristics and average payments

Summary

The opening section of this report looks at the IS caseload and the average amount of benefit in payment per week (Table 1.3). Breakdowns according to certain key characteristics (statistical group, age, gender) are also given, although more detailed information is given in more specialised sections later in the report.

Between August 2001 and August 2002 the IS caseload has grown by approximately 0.7% and now stands at 178,080 at August 2002. The total number of IS claimants was higher in August 2002 than at any other time in the preceding six years (178,080 claimants in August 2002 and 158,560 at May 1996).

A large proportion of this increase was due to the increased number of claimants receiving a disability premium or those aged 60 or over. This effect was also seen in GB. Between August 2001 and August 2002 the disabled statistical group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 2.2% to 52,920 claimants (29.7% of the total caseload) compared to the GB disabled statistical group increasing by approximately 4.3% to 1,077,000 claimants (27.2% of the total caseload). Similarly, in the statistical group aged 60 or over, between August 2001 and August 2002 this group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 1.5% to 78,360 claimants (44% of the total caseload) compared to the GB group aged 60 or over increasing by approximately 1.3% to 1,758,000 claimants (44.4% of the total caseload).

The Lone Parent group has shown a decrease in both the numbers claiming IS and the proportion of the total IS caseload. The number of lone parent claimants has fallen from 32,220 in August 2001 to 30,360 in August 2002, with the average weekly payment for this group rising from £101.33 to £105.45. This group has the highest average weekly payment of IS. The number of claimants in the 'Other' statistical group has increased between August 2001 and August 2002 (15,640 to 16,440) and makes up 9.2% of the IS caseload.

Generally, claimants with dependants receive a higher weekly payment of IS compared to those without dependants, irrespective of marital status. At August 2002, for example, a single claimant without dependants received on average £54.63 per week, compared to £110.99 received by a single person with dependants. Amongst couples, those without dependants received on average £71.60 per week, while those with dependants received on average £132.63 per week.

The largest number of male IS claimants lies in the 25-59 year age bracket, followed by the 60 years or over age bracket (38,560 and 28,860 respectively at August 2002). The largest number of females is in the 60 years and over age bracket, closely followed by the 25-59 year age bracket (48,740 and 47,760 respectively at August 2002).



Table 1.1 Income Support claimants by statistical group: August 2001 to August 2002

| | All Claimants | Statistical group | | | |
|--------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|----------|--------|
| | | Aged 60 or over | Lone Parents | Disabled | Other |
| Aug-01 | 176,880 | 77,220 | 32,220 | 51,800 | 15,640 |
| Nov-01 | 176,600 | 77,660 | 30,680 | 52,060 | 16,200 |
| Feb-02 | 176,500 | 77,640 | 30,680 | 52,640 | 15,540 |
| May-02 | 176,280 | 77,720 | 29,960 | 53,180 | 15,420 |
| Aug-02 | 178,080 | 78,360 | 30,360 | 52,920 | 16,440 |

Chart 1A Income Support claimants by statistical group: August 2001 and August 2002

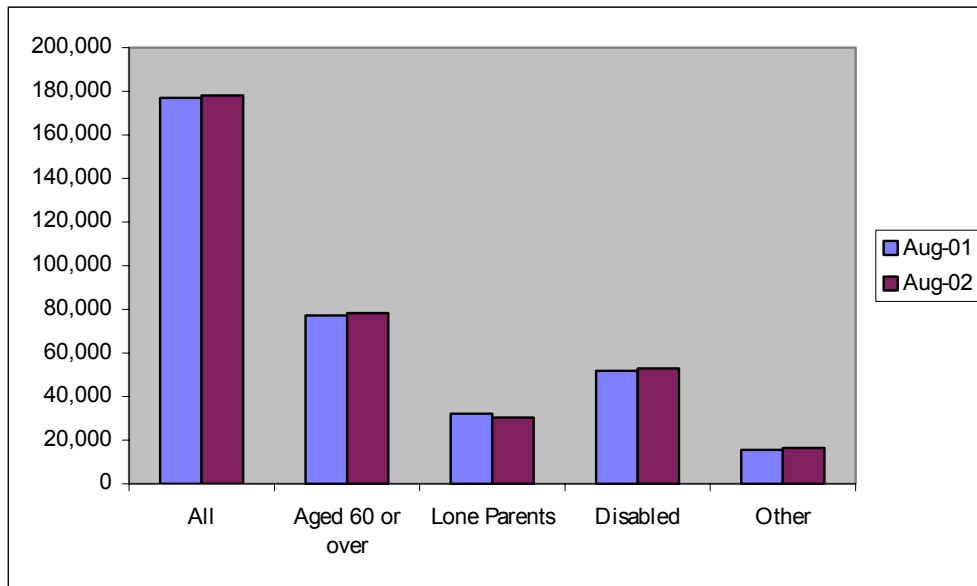


Table 1.2 Income Support claimants by statistical group: August 2001 to August 2002

| | All Claimants | Statistical group | | | |
|--------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|---------|
| | | % Aged 60 or over | % Lone Parents | % Disabled | % Other |
| Aug-01 | 100% | 44% | 18% | 29% | 9% |
| Nov-01 | 100% | 44% | 17% | 29% | 9% |
| Feb-02 | 100% | 44% | 17% | 30% | 9% |
| May-02 | 100% | 44% | 17% | 30% | 9% |
| Aug-02 | 100% | 44% | 17% | 30% | 9% |



Table 1.3 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: August 2001 to August 2002 (£pw)

| | All Claimants | Statistical group | | | |
|--------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|----------|--------|
| | | Aged 60 or over | Lone Parents | Disabled | Other |
| Aug-01 | £72.58 | £56.35 | £101.33 | £82.49 | £60.70 |
| Nov-01 | £72.72 | £55.99 | £103.76 | £83.43 | £59.79 |
| Feb-02 | £72.62 | £55.35 | £103.55 | £83.71 | £60.30 |
| May-02 | £73.41 | £57.06 | £105.71 | £85.02 | £53.02 |
| Aug-02 | £73.32 | £56.69 | £105.45 | £85.86 | £52.86 |

Chart 1B Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: August 2001 and August 2002

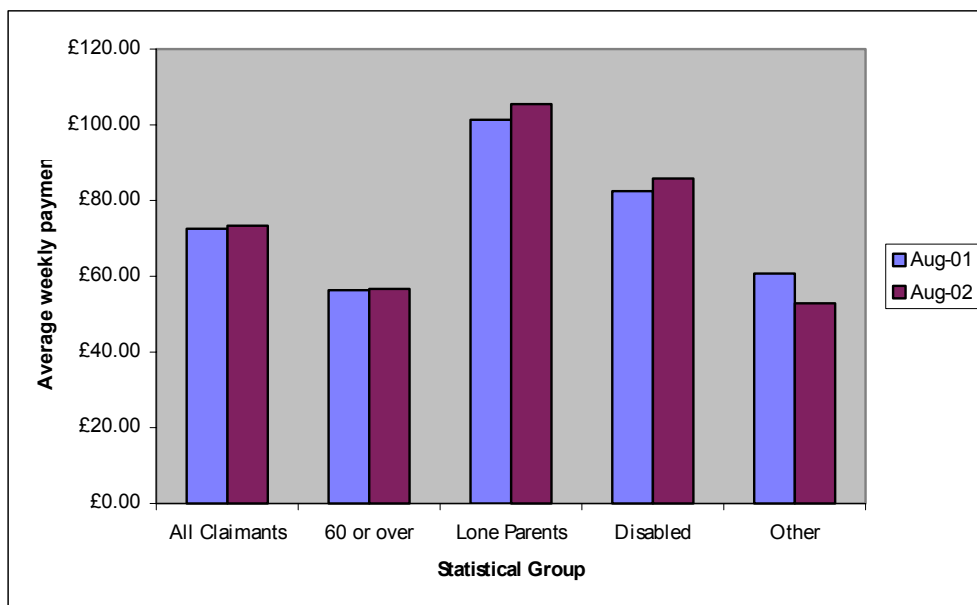


Table 1.4 Income Support claimants by age and gender: August 2001 to August 2002

| | All Claimants | All males | | | All females | | |
|--------|----------------|----------------|--------|------------|----------------|--------|------------|
| | | Under 25 years | 25-59 | 60 or over | Under 25 years | 25-59 | 60 or over |
| Aug-01 | 176,880 | 4,200 | 37,840 | 27,200 | 10,260 | 47,980 | 49,400 |
| Nov-01 | 176,600 | 4,440 | 37,760 | 27,720 | 9,720 | 47,680 | 49,280 |
| Feb-02 | 176,500 | 4,380 | 37,480 | 28,080 | 9,700 | 47,880 | 48,980 |
| May-02 | 176,280 | 4,240 | 37,640 | 28,560 | 9,780 | 47,640 | 48,420 |
| Aug-02 | 178,080 | 4,120 | 38,560 | 28,860 | 10,040 | 47,760 | 48,740 |

Chart 1C Income Support claimants by age: August 2001 and August 2002

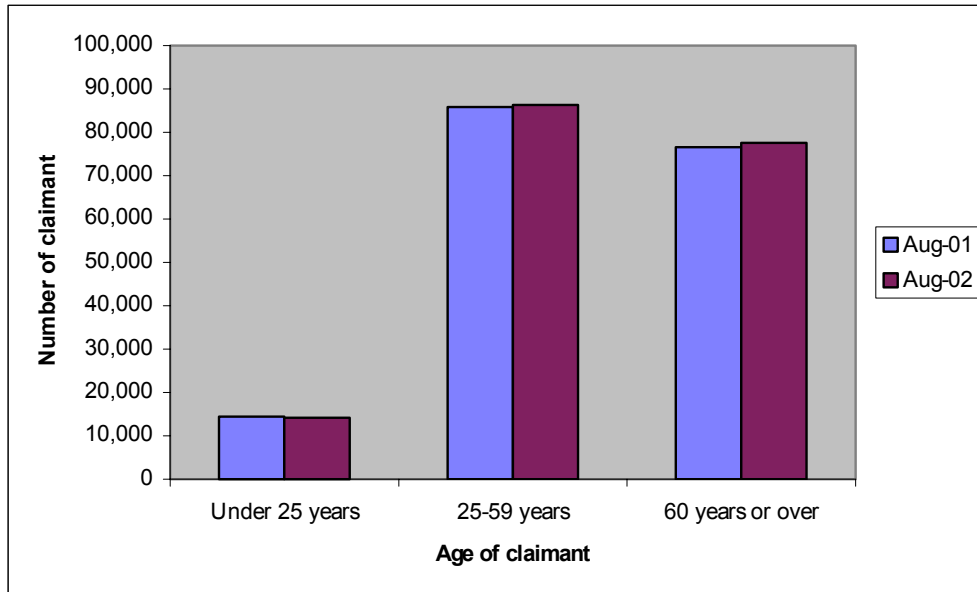


Table 1.5 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by age and gender: August 2001 to August 2002 (£pw)

| | All Claimants | All males | | | All females | | |
|--------|---------------|----------------|--------|------------|----------------|--------|------------|
| | | Under 25 years | 25-59 | 60 or over | Under 25 years | 25-59 | 60 or over |
| Aug-01 | £72.58 | £45.99 | £78.44 | £62.84 | £77.59 | £95.49 | £52.42 |
| Nov-01 | £72.72 | £45.83 | £78.81 | £61.71 | £78.91 | £96.58 | £52.37 |
| Feb-02 | £72.62 | £47.27 | £79.25 | £61.19 | £78.79 | £96.70 | £51.62 |
| May-02 | £73.41 | £50.40 | £78.34 | £63.18 | £80.09 | £97.06 | £53.00 |
| Aug-02 | £73.32 | £49.96 | £78.36 | £62.83 | £81.16 | £97.32 | £52.38 |



Table 1.6 Income Support claimants by family type: August 2001 to August 2002

| | All Claimants | Single without dependants | Single with dependants | Couples without dependants | Couples with dependants |
|--------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Aug-01 | 176,880 | 106,960 | 40,160 | 19,160 | 10,600 |
| Nov-01 | 176,600 | 108,180 | 38,660 | 19,640 | 10,120 |
| Feb-02 | 176,500 | 107,600 | 38,680 | 20,000 | 10,220 |
| May-02 | 176,280 | 108,020 | 37,980 | 19,980 | 10,300 |
| Aug-02 | 178,080 | 108,840 | 38,420 | 20,340 | 10,480 |

Table 1.7 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: August 2001 to August 2002 (£pw)

| | All Claimants | Single without dependants | Single with dependants | Couples without dependants | Couples with dependants |
|--------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Aug-01 | £72.58 | £55.39 | £106.17 | £67.71 | £127.58 |
| Nov-01 | £72.72 | £55.38 | £109.03 | £66.94 | £130.66 |
| Feb-02 | £72.62 | £55.18 | £108.87 | £66.69 | £130.65 |
| May-02 | £73.41 | £54.91 | £111.35 | £71.26 | £131.65 |
| Aug-02 | £73.32 | £54.63 | £110.99 | £71.60 | £132.63 |

Chart 1D Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: August 2001 and August 2002

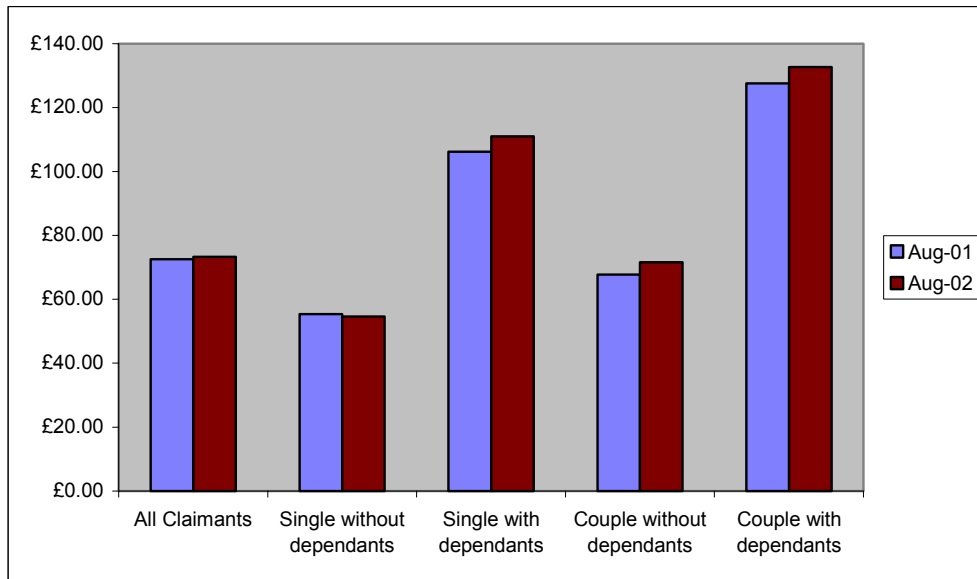
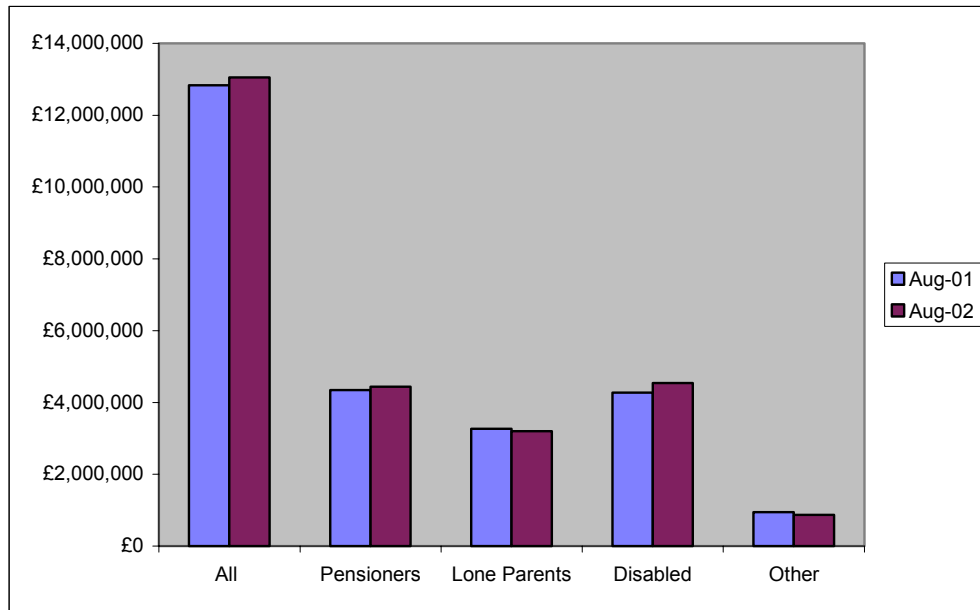


Chart 1E Estimated Total Weekly Expenditure on Income Support by group (Last week in August): 2001 and 2002



Section 2 Length of time on IS

Summary

This section examines the length of time customers spend on IS with respect to their key characteristics (Table 2.2, 2.3). A comparison over time is also given (Table 2.1).

Duration data may have an indication of changes in the flow of claimants on and off benefit. A sudden increase in the number of claimants on benefit indicates that more individuals are flowing into the benefit than leaving and may lead to a rise in the number of claimants having relatively short spells of benefit receipt. On the other hand, an increase that occurs over a longer period of time may be due to claimants having longer spells of benefit receipt, reflected in longer durations on benefit.

Main Findings

While the overall numbers claiming IS has increased between August 2001 and August 2002, the proportion of claimants receiving benefit for the duration periods of under 3 months have increased slightly (3.6% to 3.9%). This increase suggests a slight up-turn in the number of new applicants over the last year. Approximately 72% of all IS claimants have been in receipt of the benefit for at least 2 years since 1997. Claimants in the statistical group aged 60 or over were most likely to have spent the longest time on IS in August 2002 (82.6% had a claim which lasted 2 years or over) whilst those in the 'other' group were likely to have spent the shortest time (37.8% had made their claim in the 6 months to August 2002).

The majority of claimants over 25 have been in receipt of IS for 2 years or more. Older claimants (over 60), both male and female, are the most likely to have spent the longest time on Income Support. At August 2002 80.8% of males in this age bracket had a claim lasting 2 Years or longer, while 83.8% of females in this age group had a claim of this duration. Those aged under 25 claiming IS at August 2002 also tended to be claiming benefit for longer durations although, when compared with other age groups, more young claimants were claiming for less than 3 months (14.1% males under 25 and 10.4% of females under 25 at August 2002).

Claimants with longer claim durations were more likely to receive higher amounts of benefit than those claimants with shorter claim durations in August 2002. 40.1% of those with a duration of 2 years or more received £80 or more per week compared with only 25.7% for those with a duration of under 3 months.



Table 2.1 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim: August 2001 to August 2002

| Duration | Aug 2001 | Nov 2001 | Feb 2002 | May 2002 | Aug 2002 |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| All claimants | 176,880 | 176,600 | 176,500 | 176,280 | 178,080 |
| % under 3 months | 3.6% | 4.1% | 2.9% | 3.8% | 3.9% |
| % 3 to under 6 months | 4.9% | 3.8% | 4.6% | 3.7% | 4.1% |
| % 6 to under 12 months | 7.5% | 7.3% | 6.9% | 6.7% | 6.6% |
| % 1 to under 2 years | 12.5% | 12.7% | 12.6% | 12.3% | 11.3% |
| % 2 to under 3 years | 9.1% | 9.3% | 9.5% | 9.5% | 10.0% |
| % 3 to under 4 years | 7.5% | 7.4% | 7.3% | 7.8% | 7.7% |
| % 4 to under 5 years | 7.2% | 7.1% | 7.2% | 6.9% | 6.6% |
| % 5 years and over | 47.8% | 48.2% | 48.9% | 49.4% | 49.8% |

Chart 2A Income Support claimants by duration of current claim: August 2002

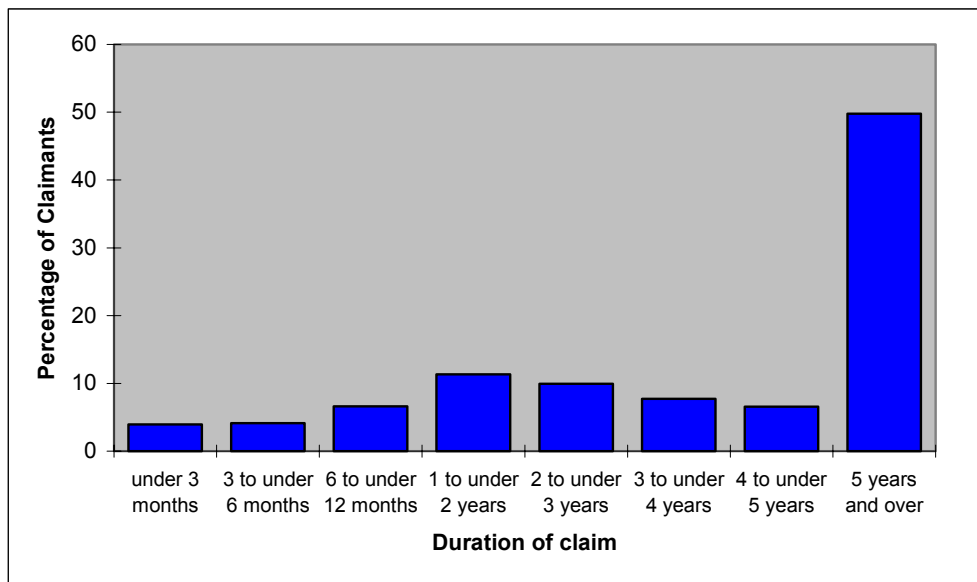


Table 2.2 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: August 2002

| | All Claimants | Statistical group | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|----------|--------|
| | | Aged 60 or over | Lone Parents | Disabled | Other |
| Total | 178,080 | 78,360 | 30,360 | 52,920 | 16,440 |
| % under 3 months | 3.9 | 1.9 | 4.4 | 1.9 | 19.2 |
| % 3 to under 6 months | 4.1 | 1.8 | 4.8 | 2.6 | 18.6 |
| % 6 to under 12 months | 6.6 | 4.3 | 8.8 | 5.1 | 18.1 |
| % 1 to under 2 years | 11.3 | 9.3 | 12.6 | 13.8 | 10.5 |
| % 2 to under 3 years | 10.0 | 8.6 | 10.5 | 12.3 | 8.2 |
| % 3 to under 4 years | 7.7 | 6.4 | 9.0 | 9.9 | 4.5 |
| % 4 to under 5 years | 6.6 | 5.8 | 7.0 | 8.1 | 4.4 |
| % 5 years and over | 49.8 | 61.7 | 42.9 | 46.4 | 16.5 |

Table 2B: Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: August 2002

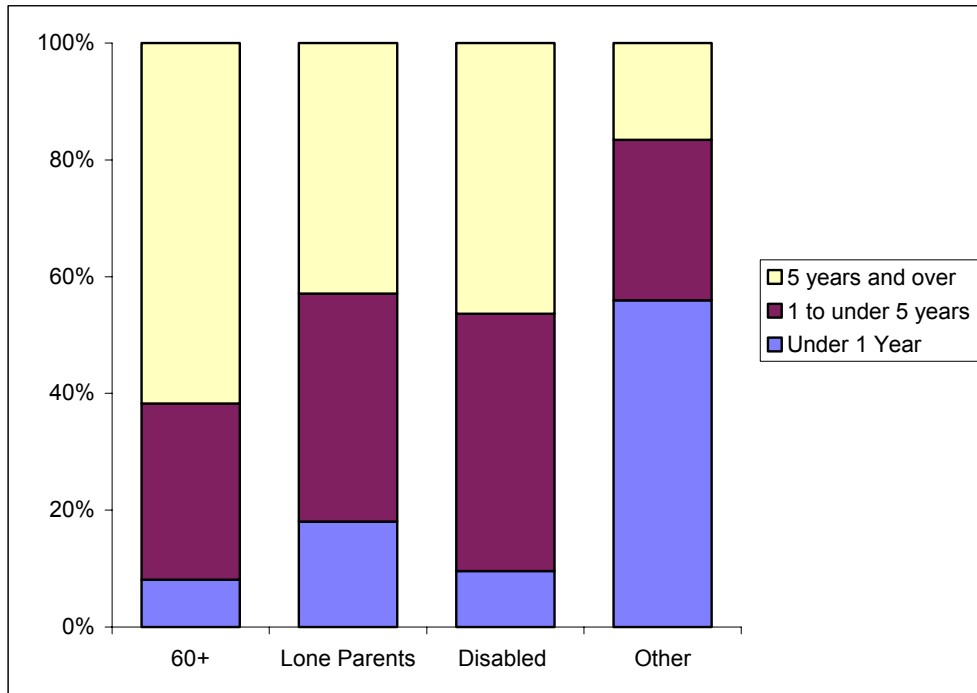


Table 2.3 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim, age and gender: August 2002

| Age/ Gender | All Claimants | Duration | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | % Under 3 Months | % 3 months to under 6 months | % 6 months to under 1 year | % 1 year to under 2 years | % 2 years or over |
| Total | 178,080 | 3.9 | 4.1 | 6.6 | 11.3 | 74.0 |
| Male | 71,540 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 7.3 | 12.7 | 70.3 |
| Under 18 | 240 | 16.7 | 33.3 | 41.7 | 8.3 | - |
| 18-24 | 3,880 | 13.9 | 14.4 | 18.0 | 23.2 | 30.4 |
| 25-59 | 38,560 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 7.8 | 13.4 | 66.8 |
| 60 and Over | 28,860 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 4.9 | 10.3 | 80.8 |
| Female | 106,540 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 6.1 | 10.4 | 76.6 |
| Under 18 | 560 | 28.6 | 25.0 | 28.6 | 17.9 | - |
| 18-24 | 9,480 | 9.3 | 10.1 | 16.0 | 19.6 | 44.9 |
| 25-59 | 47,760 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 6.2 | 10.3 | 76.3 |
| 60 and Over | 48,740 | 2.2 | 1.5 | 3.9 | 8.6 | 83.8 |

Table 2.4 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and range of weekly IS payment: August 2002

| Age/ Gender | All Claimants | Duration | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | % Under 3 Months | % 3 months to under 6 months | % 6 months to under 1 year | % 1 year to under 2 years | % 2 years or over |
| All amounts | 178,080 | 7,000 | 7,340 | 11,780 | 20,140 | 131,820 |
| Under £10 | 3.1 | 10.0 | 9.3 | 5.1 | 6.5 | 1.7 |
| £10 to under £30 | 16.2 | 12.9 | 12.8 | 11.2 | 15.2 | 17.2 |
| £30 to under £40 | 8.0 | 6.0 | 8.4 | 9.8 | 9.7 | 7.6 |
| £40 to under £50 | 6.7 | 15.7 | 12.0 | 10.2 | 5.6 | 5.8 |
| £50 to under £70 | 18.1 | 24.9 | 20.7 | 18.2 | 14.5 | 18.2 |
| £70 to under £80 | 9.1 | 4.9 | 5.7 | 7.1 | 11.9 | 9.3 |
| £80 to under £100 | 14.5 | 12.0 | 14.2 | 18.7 | 15.1 | 14.2 |
| £100 or over | 24.1 | 13.7 | 16.9 | 19.7 | 21.5 | 25.9 |
| Average amount £ per week | 73.32 | 58.93 | 63.14 | 69.52 | 70.76 | 75.38 |



Section 3 Main claimant groups

Summary

This section looks at the main claimant groups within the overall caseload (60 or over, disabled, lone parents and “others”). Claimants are allocated to groups based firstly upon entitlement to pensioner or disability premiums, and then to the lone parent group if they are single with dependants and not already classed as a pensioner or disabled.

Eligibility for the pensioner or disability premium may be based on either the claimant’s or their partner’s circumstances. For example, a 59-year-old claimant with a 62-year-old partner would receive a pensioner premium. Some claimants are eligible for more than one of these premiums but their benefit is assessed using only the one that gives them the highest allowance. They are therefore allocated to statistical groups in the following order: pensioner, disabled, lone parent and “other” (i.e. not in one of the other groups). There are several rates of pensioner premium that can be paid to people in the 60 or over group, depending upon age and disability.

This section presents a set of tables for each group, and identifies key claimant characteristics.

Main Findings

Females in the aged 60 or over statistical group tended to be older than the male claimants in this category, which is also the trend in the general population. In August 2002, 37.9% (18,560) of these women were aged 80 years or over compared to just 16% (4,700) of men in this age group. Those aged 60-64 accounted for 35.4% of males in this premium group, while only 12.8% were in this age bracket for females. This age distribution is broadly similar to that in Great Britain at this time, with 32.1% of males and 12.1% of females falling into the 60-64 years age bracket.

Disabled IS claimants were mainly in the 25-59 age range at August 2002, a situation which has remained relatively unchanged since 1995. 56.6% (29,960) of IS claimants receiving the disability were male, 43.4% (22,980) female. This is mirrored in Great Britain where the percentages are 54.9% male and 45.1% female.

The majority of lone parents were female (95.2%) and concentrated mainly in the 25-59 year old age band. This is again mirrored in Great Britain.

The number of ‘other’ claimants rose from 15,640 in August 2001 to 16,440 in August 2002. There continues to be almost twice as many males than females in this category (10,780 and 5,660 respectively). This distribution is mirrored in GB, with 61.2% (161,000) of ‘other’ claimants being male and 38.8% (102,000) female at August 2002.



Table 3.1 Income Support claimants receiving a Pensioner premium¹ by age and gender: August 2001 to August 2002

| Age/ Gender | Aug-01 | Nov-01 | Feb-02 | May-02 | Aug-02 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total | 77,220 | 77,660 | 77,640 | 77,720 | 78,360 |
| Male | 27,560 | 28,080 | 28,400 | 28,920 | 29,340 |
| 60-64 | 9,460 | 9,680 | 9,680 | 9,920 | 10,380 |
| 65-74 | 10,440 | 10,640 | 10,760 | 10,980 | 10,860 |
| 75-79 | 3,100 | 3,220 | 3,380 | 3,340 | 3,400 |
| 80 or over | 4,560 | 4,540 | 4,580 | 4,680 | 4,700 |
| Female | 49,660 | 49,580 | 49,240 | 48,800 | 49,020 |
| 60-64 | 6,120 | 6,080 | 6,140 | 6,080 | 6,280 |
| 65-74 | 15,280 | 15,140 | 14,940 | 14,840 | 14,700 |
| 75-79 | 9,720 | 9,740 | 9,640 | 9,380 | 9,480 |
| 80 or over | 18,540 | 18,620 | 18,520 | 18,500 | 18,560 |

¹ This includes cases where the claimant/partner is aged 60 or over

² 60-64 age band includes claimants aged under 60 where there is a partner aged 60 or over/ in receipt of a pensioner premium

Table 3.2 Income Support claimants in receipt of a Disability premium by age and gender: August 2001 to August 2002

| Age/ Gender | Aug-01 | Nov-01 | Feb-02 | May-02 | Aug-02 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total | 51,800 | 52,060 | 52,640 | 53,180 | 52,920 |
| Male | 29,880 | 29,760 | 30,040 | 30,240 | 29,960 |
| Under 18 | 200 | 200 | 140 | - | 100 |
| 18-24 | 2,260 | 2,340 | 2,440 | 2,040 | 1,920 |
| 25-59 | 27,420 | 27,220 | 27,460 | 28,120 | 27,940 |
| Female | 21,920 | 22,300 | 22,600 | 22,940 | 22,960 |
| Under 18 | 120 | 140 | 140 | 100 | 100 |
| 18-24 | 1,940 | 1,940 | 1,820 | 1,680 | 1,600 |
| 25-59 | 19,860 | 20,220 | 20,640 | 21,160 | 21,260 |



Table 3.3 Income Support claimants in receipt of a Lone Parent premium by age and gender: August 2001 to August 2002

| Age/ Gender | Aug-01 | Nov-01 | Feb-02 | May-02 | Aug-02 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total | 32,220 | 30,680 | 30,680 | 29,960 | 30,360 |
| Male | 1,500 | 1,560 | 1,600 | 1,440 | 1,460 |
| Female | 30,720 | 29,120 | 29,080 | 28,520 | 28,900 |
| Under 18 | 160 | 240 | 200 | 160 | 220 |
| 18-24 | 6,980 | 6,260 | 6,420 | 6,280 | 6,680 |
| 25-59 | 23,580 | 22,620 | 22,460 | 22,080 | 22,000 |

Table 3.4 "Other" Income Support claimants by age and gender: August 2001 to August 2002

| Age/ Gender | Aug-01 | Nov-01 | Feb-02 | May-02 | Aug-02 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total | 15,640 | 16,200 | 15,540 | 15,420 | 16,440 |
| Male | 10,300 | 10,520 | 9,900 | 9,840 | 10,780 |
| Under 18 | - | 140 | 200 | 280 | 140 |
| 18-24 | 1,640 | 1,680 | 1,560 | 1,760 | 1,920 |
| 25-59 | 8,600 | 8,700 | 8,140 | 7,800 | 8,720 |
| Female | 5,340 | 5,680 | 5,640 | 5,580 | 5,660 |
| Under 18 | 240 | 140 | 200 | 260 | 240 |
| 18-24 | 820 | 1,000 | 920 | 1,300 | 1,200 |
| 25-59 | 4,280 | 4,540 | 4,520 | 4,020 | 4,220 |



Section 4 Claimants, partners and dependants

Summary

In this section beneficiaries of IS are classified by type (claimant, partner or dependant). Data is given according to the age and number of dependants of the claimant (Table 4.2). Income Support August be claimed by either member of a couple, but only one person in the family can be the primary customer at any one time. In other words a customer claims on behalf of themselves, their partner and any dependent children. Entitlement to IS takes account of the claimant and partner's circumstances and is based on a personal allowance, plus allowances for a partner and any dependent children.

Main Findings

In comparison to August 2001 the proportion of the population who are beneficiaries of IS (i.e. a claimant, partner or dependant) has decreased slightly from 18.3% to 18.2% in August 2002. This proportion of the population in GB at August 2002 is 11.9%. Historical data for this proportion is unavailable due to the revision of population estimates for GB.

The proportion of IS claimants having a partner from August 2001 to August 2002 has increased slightly from 16.8% to 17.3%. Similarly, in GB the proportion has increased from 14.4% to 14.7% over the same period.

The average number of dependants of an IS claimant in Northern Ireland at August 2002 was 2.0 which compares to 1.9 in GB. The highest average number of dependants was found in the 25-34 and 35-49 year old age bands in Northern Ireland (2.2 dependants at August 2002). The highest average number of dependants was mirrored in the 25-34 and 35-49 year old GB age bands (2.1 dependants at August 2002).



Table 4.1 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type: August 2001 to August 2002

| | All Beneficiaries | Type of beneficiary | | | Beneficiaries as % of population |
|--------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| | | Claimant | Partner | Dependant | |
| Aug-01 | 308,080 | 176,880 | 29,760 | 101,440 | 18.3% |
| Nov-01 | 304,120 | 176,600 | 29,760 | 97,760 | 18.1% |
| Feb-02 | 304,140 | 176,500 | 30,220 | 97,420 | 18.0% |
| May-02 | 303,620 | 176,280 | 30,280 | 97,060 | 18.0% |
| Aug-02 | 306,840 | 178,080 | 30,820 | 97,940 | 18.2% |

Table 4.2 Income Support claimants by age and number of dependants: August 2002

| | Total | Age of Claimant | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Under 18 | 18 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 49 | 50 to 59 | 60 or over |
| All claimants | 178,080 | 800 | 13,360 | 24,780 | 39,840 | 21,700 | 77,600 |
| Claimants without deps | 129,180 | 580 | 5,920 | 9,620 | 18,420 | 17,840 | 76,800 |
| Claimants with deps | 48,900 | 220 | 7,440 | 15,160 | 21,420 | 3,860 | 800 |
| Number of Deps | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 20,820 | 220 | 5,480 | 4,980 | 7,120 | 2,520 | 500 |
| 2 | 15,040 | 0 | 1,660 | 5,180 | 6,940 | 1,040 | 220 |
| 3 | 7,660 | 0 | 260 | 2,900 | 4,280 | 160 | - |
| 4 | 3,660 | 0 | - | 1,540 | 1,920 | 140 | - |
| 5 | 1,180 | 0 | 0 | 400 | 780 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 or more | 540 | 0 | 0 | 160 | 380 | 0 | 0 |
| Average number of dependants | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 1.5 | 1.5 |



Section 5 Premium payments

Summary

Where it is recognised that a customer has special needs, an additional amount, known as a premium is awarded. The allocation of claimants to statistical groups is governed by the premiums mentioned in Section 3, i.e. pensioner premiums, disability premium and lone parent premium. Of these premiums, claimants benefit from one giving the highest allowance. Other types of premiums e.g. severe disability, caring responsibilities, may be paid in combination with these.

This section gives a breakdown of the IS caseload by the type of premium which a claimant is receiving (Table 5.1). The claimants are subsequently further classified, firstly by family type (Table 5.2) and then by statistical group (Table 5.3).

A comparison over time is given.

Main Findings

The premium structure of Income Support is designed for those claimants who have extra expenses. The majority of IS claimants in August 2002 received extra help in this way (169,300 claimants, 95.1% of the total IS caseload). The proportion of claimants receiving one or more premiums has consistently been above 90% since 1996. In Northern Ireland the average number of premiums per claimant has risen from 1.51 per claimant in August 2001 to 1.52 in August 2002. In GB 1.3 premiums per claimant has been the average over the last five years.

The number of premiums awarded in Northern Ireland has increased by 1.3% from August 2001 to August 2002 which compares to an increase of 2.7% in GB. The number of premiums linked to disability and age (the various rates of pensioner premium) in Northern Ireland has shown increases from August 2001 to August 2002, 1.7% and 3% respectively. In GB the increases for disability and age are 4.6% and 3.5% respectively during this time period.

All single people with dependants and couples with dependants were in receipt of at least one premium. Single claimants without dependants were mostly in receipt of pensioner premiums, premiums linked with disabilities and the carer premium, but 7.8% of this group were not in receipt of any premium. The situation was similar in GB, with 7.4% of this group not receiving any premium.

Those receiving the severe disability (lower and higher rate) premium were mainly in the aged 60 or over statistical group, the remainder falling into the disabled category. The majority of claimants receiving a premium for a disabled child were in the lone parent statistical group, followed by claimants in the disabled and other groups.



Table 5.1 Income Support premiums by type and number: August 2001 to August 2002

| Type of premium | Aug 2001 | Nov 2001 | Feb 2002 | May 2002 | Aug 2002 |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| All types | 266,740 | 266,660 | 268,260 | 268,360 | 270,160 |
| Higher pensioner premium | | | | | |
| Claimant/partner aged 80 or over | 23,420 | 23,560 | 23,640 | 24,000 | 24,160 |
| Claimant/partner aged 60-79 | 37,820 | 38,400 | 38,320 | 38,780 | 39,260 |
| Enhanced pensioner premium | 3,260 | 3,400 | 3,460 | 3,460 | 3,460 |
| Pensioner premium | 12,340 | 12,020 | 12,100 | 12,100 | 12,240 |
| Severe Disability premium - higher | 3,940 | 3,980 | 4,220 | 4,140 | 4,300 |
| Severe Disability premium - lower | 42,740 | 43,580 | 43,620 | 43,460 | 43,880 |
| Disability Premium | 51,820 | 52,060 | 52,680 | 53,180 | 52,940 |
| Enhanced disability premium | 11,460 | 11,660 | 11,780 | 11,300 | 11,320 |
| Disabled child premium | 5,180 | 5,040 | 4,900 | 4,900 | 4,860 |
| Enhanced disabled child premium | 2,460 | 2,520 | 2,360 | 2,380 | 2,260 |
| Family Premium(lone parent)* | 16,520 | 15,440 | 15,140 | 14,320 | 14,000 |
| Family Premium* | 34,240 | 33,340 | 33,760 | 33,920 | 34,880 |
| Carer Premium | 21,540 | 21,660 | 22,280 | 22,420 | 22,600 |
| Claimants not in receipt of an IS premium | 9,040 | 9,440 | 8,680 | 7,820 | 8,780 |
| Claimants with 1 or more premiums | 167,840 | 167,160 | 167,820 | 168,460 | 169,300 |
| Average number of premiums | 1.51 | 1.51 | 1.52 | 1.52 | 1.52 |

*As from April 1997 the Lone Parent Premium was amalgamated with the Family Premium to form a single higher rate Family premium for Lone Parents

*From April 1998 the Family Premium (Lone Parent) was abolished, although those in receipt at that time continue to receive it until a relevant change of circumstances



Table 5.2 Income Support claimants with premiums by family and premium type: August 2002

| Type of premium | Single Claimants | | Couples | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | With Dependants | Without Dependants | With Dependants | Without Dependants | |
| All premiums | 270,160 | 61,400 | 147,880 | 28,040 | 32,840 |
| Higher Pensioner Premium | | | | | |
| Claimant/partner aged 80 or over | 24,160 | 0 | 22,080 | 0 | 2,080 |
| Claimant/partner aged 60-79 | 39,260 | 160 | 27,400 | 520 | 11,180 |
| Enhanced pensioner premium | 3,460 | 0 | 3,200 | 0 | 260 |
| Pensioner premium | 12,240 | - | 9,660 | 220 | 2,320 |
| Severe Disability premium-higher | 4,300 | 0 | 0 | 300 | 4,000 |
| Severe Disability premium - lower | 43,880 | 4,020 | 39,260 | - | 560 |
| Disability Premium | 52,940 | 7,820 | 32,460 | 7,620 | 5,040 |
| Enhanced disability premium | 11,320 | 1,380 | 6,800 | 1,640 | 1,500 |
| Disabled child premium | 4,860 | 3,320 | 0 | 1,540 | 0 |
| Enhanced disabled child premium | 2,260 | 1,480 | 0 | 780 | 0 |
| Family Premium(lone parent)* | 14,000 | 14,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Family Premium* | 34,880 | 24,400 | 0 | 10,480 | 0 |
| Carer Premium | 22,600 | 4,780 | 7,020 | 4,900 | 5,900 |
| Claimants with 1 or more premiums | 169,300 | 38,420 | 100,360 | 10,480 | 20,040 |
| Claimants with no premium | 8,780 | 0 | 8,480 | 0 | 300 |
| Average number of premiums | 1.52 | 1.60 | 1.36 | 2.68 | 1.61 |

*As from April 1997 the Lone Parent Premium was amalgamated with the Family Premium to form a single higher rate Family premium for Lone Parents

*From April 1998 the Family Premium (Lone Parent) was abolished, although those in receipt at that time continue to receive it until a relevant change of circumstances



Table 5.3 Income Support claimants' premiums by type and statistical group of claimant: August 2002

| Type of premium | All Claimants | Statistical Group | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| | | Aged 60 or over | Lone Parents | Disabled | Other |
| All premiums | 270,160 | 117,120 | 38,180 | 104,980 | 9,880 |
| Higher pensioner premium | | | | | |
| Claimant/partner aged 80 or over | 24,160 | 24,160 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Claimant/partner aged 60-79 | 39,260 | 39,260 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enhanced pensioner premium | 3,460 | 3,460 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pensioner premium | 12,240 | 12,240 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Severe disability premium - higher | 4,300 | 3,660 | 0 | 640 | 0 |
| Severe disability premium - lower | 43,880 | 29,080 | 0 | 14,800 | 0 |
| Disability Premium | 52,940 | - | 0 | 52,920 | 0 |
| Enhanced disability premium | 11,320 | 0 | 0 | 11,320 | 0 |
| Disabled child premium | 4,860 | - | 2,520 | 1,780 | 500 |
| Enhanced disabled child premium | 2,260 | - | 1,020 | 860 | 340 |
| Family Premium (lone parent) ^{1,2} | 14,000 | 0 | 14,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Family Premium ^{1,2} | 34,880 | 940 | 16,360 | 15,420 | 2,160 |
| Carer Premium | 22,600 | 4,200 | 4,280 | 7,240 | 6,880 |
| Claimants with 1 or more premiums | 169,300 | 78,080 | 30,360 | 52,920 | 7,940 |
| Claimants with no premium | 8,780 | 280 | 0 | 0 | 8,500 |
| Average number of premiums | 1.52 | 1.49 | 1.26 | 1.98 | 0.60 |

¹As from April 1997 the Lone Parent Premium was amalgamated with the Family Premium to form a single higher rate Family premium for Lone Parents

²From April 1998 the Family Premium (Lone Parent) was abolished, although those in receipt at that time continue to receive it until a relevant change of circumstances

*Those aged 60 or over without premiums are in Residential Care/Nursing Homes



Section 6 Claimants in residential care and nursing homes (RCNH)

Summary

As well as the categories of IS claimants previously mentioned, there are individuals whose entitlement to IS takes into account special circumstances. A large proportion of these cases are made up of individuals receiving care in residential care or nursing homes (Table 6.1).

The date on which a customer entered a residential care nursing home determines the rules by which their entitlement to IS is assessed.

People who entered homes prior to April 1993 qualified for help with their fees directly through IS payments. These fees could be met in full or up to a maximum limit, depending on the type of care required. Those who were still in residential care nursing homes after the introduction of the new scheme in April 1993 had preserved rights to IS payments under the old scheme (this includes those who were not claiming at the point of the change, but have since done so). From 8th April 2002 preserved rights cases were abolished and are now the financial responsibility of the Local Authorities.

The amount of IS received by people who entered residential homes after April 1993 is assessed on a broadly similar basis to people living in their own homes and does not depend directly on the fees for care. This means they are entitled to IS premiums. Their assessment also contains a residential allowance (RA) to assist with the recognised extra accommodation costs incurred.

Main Findings

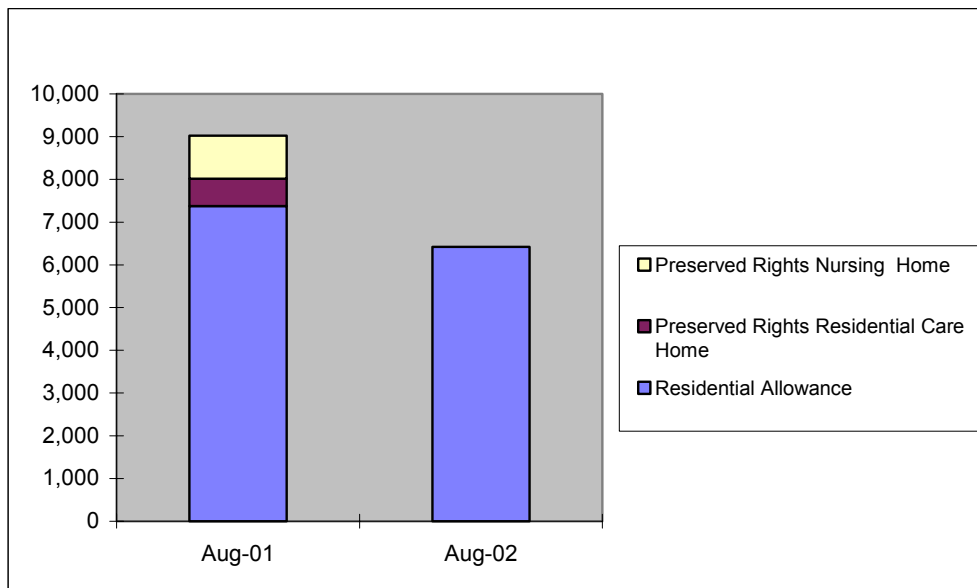
Due to the abolition of preserved rights cases from 8th April 2002, the number of preserved rights cases has fallen to zero. The number of Residential allowance cases during the period from August 2001 until August 2002 has decreased from 7,380 to 6,420. The overall number of RCNH claimants has shown a decrease from 9,020 in August 2001 to 6,420 in August 2002. Currently RCNH cases make up 3.6% of the total IS caseload in Northern Ireland. In contrast, the equivalent GB percentage stands at 4.8%.



Table 6.1 Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes: August 2001 to August 2002

| | All | Residential allowance | Preserved Rights | | |
|--------|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | | | All | Residential care home | Nursing home |
| Aug-01 | 9,020 | 7,380 | 1,640 | 640 | 1,000 |
| Nov-01 | 8,940 | 7,360 | 1,580 | 660 | 920 |
| Feb-02 | 8,560 | 7,120 | 1,440 | 620 | 820 |
| May-02 | 6,980 | 6,980 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aug-02 | 6,420 | 6,420 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Chart 6A Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes by type of care: August 2001 and August 2002



Section 7 District Council and Social Security Office analyses

Summary

A breakdown of the IS caseload is given by District Council and Social Security Office, comparing data from August 2001 to August 2002 (Tables 7.1 and 7.4). The caseload is also split by statistical group (Tables 7.2 and 7.5) and a distribution of IS beneficiaries given (Tables 7.3 and 7.6).

The highest number of claimants was found in the Belfast, Derry and Newry & Mourne district councils. The lowest number of claimants was found in Moyle and Carrickfergus district councils. When taken as a percentage of the population aged 16 and over, the highest proportion of claimants were in the Derry and Belfast district councils (19.4%), closely followed by Strabane (18.5% of the population). The lowest number of claimants was found in Moyle and Carrickfergus district councils. The lowest proportion of claimants aged 16 and over is in the Castlereagh district council (6.4% of population) followed by North Down (7.8% of the population).

Similarly, in regard to beneficiaries as a percentage of total population, the highest proportion of claimants is in Derry district council (26.3%), closely followed by Belfast (25.8%) and Newry & Mourne (24.8%). The lowest proportion of beneficiaries is in the Castlereagh district council (7.9%) followed by North Down (9.6% of the population) and Banbridge (10.4%). Overall 18.2% of the population in Northern Ireland were beneficiaries of IS, compared to 11.9% in GB.

Corporation Street Social Security Office had the largest share of the IS caseload with 11,100 claimants (6.2% of the caseload) at August 2002, while Newcastle had only 1,380 claimants (0.8% of the caseload) at the same point in time. Andersonstown, Limavady and Ballymoney respectively experienced the largest increases in claimant numbers between August 2001 and August 2002. Similarly Knockbreda, Armagh and Strabane all experienced the largest claimant decreases during this period.

In Magherafelt and Ballymena 55.8% of the caseload consisted of claimants aged 60 or over, while this category of claimant only accounted for 29.2% of the caseload in Foyle. Newcastle had the highest proportion of lone parents in comparison to Kilkeel which had the lowest (31.9% and 8.5% respectively at August 2002). In regard to the disabled claimants, Strabane had the highest proportion while Ballymena had the lowest proportion (36.6% and 20.7% respectively).

The highest number IS beneficiaries was found in the Foyle Social Security Office (21,140 beneficiaries at August 2002) the lowest number being in Kilkeel (2,760 beneficiaries at August 2002).



**Table 7.1 Northern Ireland Income Support claimants by District Council:
August 2001 to August 2002**

| District Council | Aug 2001 | Nov 2001 | Feb 2002 | May 2002 | August 2002 |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Antrim | 4,140 | 4,080 | 4,040 | 4,100 | 4,120 |
| Ards | 5,000 | 5,040 | 4,980 | 4,980 | 4,880 |
| Armagh | 4,780 | 4,560 | 4,600 | 4,480 | 4,460 |
| Ballymena | 4,380 | 4,260 | 4,360 | 4,320 | 4,300 |
| Ballymoney | 2,160 | 2,220 | 2,340 | 2,360 | 2,400 |
| Banbridge | 2,460 | 2,480 | 2,460 | 2,600 | 2,620 |
| Belfast | 41,500 | 42,060 | 41,900 | 41,900 | 42,080 |
| Carrickfergus | 2,120 | 2,300 | 2,360 | 2,360 | 2,320 |
| Castlereagh | 3,580 | 3,580 | 3,320 | 3,280 | 3,360 |
| Coleraine | 5,160 | 5,080 | 5,100 | 5,160 | 5,240 |
| Cookstown | 4,260 | 4,300 | 4,260 | 4,180 | 4,120 |
| Craigavon | 8,300 | 8,380 | 8,320 | 8,460 | 8,680 |
| Derry | 15,280 | 14,820 | 14,920 | 14,940 | 15,000 |
| Down | 5,140 | 5,180 | 5,260 | 5,000 | 5,040 |
| Dungannon | 6,200 | 6,220 | 6,260 | 6,340 | 6,340 |
| Fermanagh | 6,700 | 6,540 | 6,540 | 6,580 | 6,640 |
| Larne | 2,460 | 2,380 | 2,400 | 2,280 | 2,340 |
| Limavady | 3,200 | 3,160 | 3,300 | 3,460 | 3,580 |
| Lisburn | 9,080 | 8,800 | 8,820 | 8,840 | 8,860 |
| Magherafelt | 3,940 | 3,980 | 3,860 | 3,840 | 3,800 |
| Moyle | 1,880 | 1,780 | 1,840 | 1,760 | 1,920 |
| Newry&Mourne | 11,300 | 11,240 | 11,280 | 11,560 | 11,620 |
| Newtownabbey | 5,800 | 5,740 | 5,800 | 5,600 | 5,980 |
| North Down | 4,920 | 4,980 | 4,720 | 4,620 | 4,780 |
| Omagh | 5,300 | 5,300 | 5,420 | 5,300 | 5,380 |
| Strabane | 5,580 | 5,480 | 5,360 | 5,120 | 5,240 |
| Missing Postcode * | 2,260 | 2,660 | 2,680 | 2,860 | 2,980 |
| All Claimants | 176,880 | 176,600 | 176,500 | 176,280 | 178,080 |

In producing this analysis, individual records were attributed on the basis of their postcode. Not all records can be correctly allocated to a ward using this method, and some cannot be allocated at all. Past investigation has demonstrated that mis-allocations and non-allocations do not necessarily occur randomly between areas, and at ward level, the proportion of records mis-allocated or unallocated can be substantial. At present it seems likely that a higher than average proportion of the records that can not be attributed to a ward are in the following areas: Fermanagh District Council, Derry District Council and parts of Belfast City Council.



Table 7.2 Northern Ireland Income Support claimants by Statistical group and District Council: August 2002

| District Council | All Claimants 100% | Statistical group | | | | Claimants as a percentage of the population ¹ |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Aged 60 or over % | Lone Parents % | Disabled % | Other % | |
| Antrim | 4,120 | 46.1% | 14.1% | 31.6% | 8.3% | 11.1% |
| Ards | 4,880 | 50.4% | 13.5% | 27.5% | 8.6% | 8.4% |
| Armagh | 4,460 | 54.3% | 12.6% | 27.4% | 5.8% | 10.9% |
| Ballymena | 4,300 | 54.0% | 17.7% | 21.9% | 6.5% | 9.4% |
| Ballymoney | 2,400 | 50.8% | 15.8% | 22.5% | 10.8% | 11.6% |
| Banbridge | 2,620 | 51.9% | 16.8% | 20.6% | 10.7% | 8.2% |
| Belfast | 42,080 | 39.7% | 19.1% | 30.9% | 10.4% | 19.4% |
| Carrickfergus | 2,320 | 39.7% | 19.8% | 36.2% | 4.3% | 7.9% |
| Castlereagh | 3,360 | 50.0% | 13.7% | 26.8% | 9.5% | 6.4% |
| Coleraine | 5,240 | 45.8% | 17.6% | 26.7% | 9.9% | 11.9% |
| Cookstown | 4,120 | 49.5% | 10.7% | 34.0% | 5.8% | 17.0% |
| Craigavon | 8,680 | 45.4% | 14.7% | 29.3% | 10.6% | 14.2% |
| Derry | 15,000 | 32.3% | 22.5% | 35.1% | 10.1% | 19.4% |
| Down | 5,040 | 39.7% | 19.4% | 31.0% | 9.9% | 10.4% |
| Dungannon | 6,340 | 44.8% | 13.9% | 30.9% | 10.4% | 17.8% |
| Fermanagh | 6,640 | 53.9% | 10.5% | 26.2% | 9.3% | 15.1% |
| Larne | 2,340 | 51.3% | 13.7% | 25.6% | 9.4% | 9.7% |
| Limavady | 3,580 | 36.3% | 17.3% | 31.8% | 14.5% | 14.7% |
| Lisburn | 8,860 | 40.4% | 22.8% | 28.7% | 8.1% | 10.8% |
| Magherafelt | 3,800 | 60.5% | 11.1% | 20.0% | 8.4% | 12.9% |
| Moyle | 1,920 | 53.1% | 18.8% | 17.7% | 10.4% | 15.7% |
| Newry&Mourne | 11,620 | 43.4% | 14.3% | 33.0% | 9.3% | 18.1% |
| Newtownabbey | 5,980 | 46.5% | 19.1% | 27.1% | 7.4% | 9.5% |
| North Down | 4,780 | 55.2% | 14.6% | 26.8% | 3.3% | 7.8% |
| Omagh | 5,380 | 49.1% | 13.8% | 29.0% | 8.2% | 15.0% |
| Strabane | 5,240 | 42.4% | 12.6% | 36.3% | 8.8% | 18.5% |
| Missing Postcode* | 2,980 | 34.2% | 27.5% | 28.9% | 9.4% | |
| All Claimants | 178,080 | 44% | 17% | 30% | 9% | 13.8% |

¹ Population aged 16 and over

*In producing this analysis, individual records were attributed on the basis of their postcode. Not all records can be correctly allocated to a ward using this method, and some cannot be allocated at all. Past investigation has demonstrated that mis-allocations and non-allocations do not necessarily occur randomly between areas, and at ward level, the proportion of records mis-allocated or unallocated can be substantial. At present it seems likely that a higher than average proportion of the records that can not be attributed to a ward are in the following areas: Fermanagh District Council, Derry District Council and parts of Belfast City Council.



Table 7.3 Northern Ireland Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and District Council: August 2002

| District Council | All Beneficiaries | Type of beneficiary | | | Beneficiaries as a percentage of the population ¹ |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Claimant | Partner | Dependant | |
| Antrim | 6,820 | 4,120 | 520 | 2,180 | 14.0% |
| Ards | 7,860 | 4,880 | 820 | 2,160 | 10.7% |
| Armagh | 7,460 | 4,460 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 13.7% |
| Ballymena | 7,000 | 4,300 | 560 | 2,140 | 11.9% |
| Ballymoney | 4,240 | 2,400 | 560 | 1,280 | 15.7% |
| Banbridge | 4,320 | 2,620 | 500 | 1,200 | 10.4% |
| Belfast | 71,640 | 42,080 | 5,540 | 24,020 | 25.8% |
| Carrickfergus | 4,020 | 2,320 | 360 | 1,340 | 10.7% |
| Castlereagh | 5,260 | 3,360 | 600 | 1,300 | 7.9% |
| Coleraine | 8,540 | 5,240 | 840 | 2,460 | 15.1% |
| Cookstown | 7,420 | 4,120 | 1,240 | 2,060 | 22.7% |
| Craigavon | 15,520 | 8,680 | 1,820 | 5,020 | 19.2% |
| Derry | 27,720 | 15,000 | 2,420 | 10,300 | 26.3% |
| Down | 8,820 | 5,040 | 720 | 3,060 | 13.7% |
| Dungannon | 10,560 | 6,340 | 1,300 | 2,920 | 22.1% |
| Fermanagh | 10,440 | 6,640 | 1,340 | 2,460 | 18.1% |
| Larne | 3,820 | 2,340 | 500 | 980 | 12.4% |
| Limavady | 6,460 | 3,580 | 760 | 2,120 | 19.8% |
| Lisburn | 16,640 | 8,860 | 1,300 | 6,480 | 15.3% |
| Magherafelt | 6,640 | 3,800 | 920 | 1,920 | 16.6% |
| Moyle | 3,160 | 1,920 | 340 | 900 | 19.8% |
| Newry&Mourne | 21,680 | 11,620 | 2,600 | 7,460 | 24.8% |
| Newtownabbey | 9,840 | 5,980 | 1,080 | 2,780 | 12.3% |
| North Down | 7,380 | 4,780 | 780 | 1,820 | 9.6% |
| Omagh | 8,640 | 5,380 | 1,100 | 2,160 | 18.0% |
| Strabane | 8,940 | 5,240 | 960 | 2,740 | 23.4% |
| Missing Postcode* | 6,000 | 2,980 | 340 | 2,680 | |
| All Claimants | 306,840 | 178,080 | 30,820 | 97,940 | 18.2% |

¹ Total Population

In producing this analysis, individual records were attributed on the basis of their postcode. Not all records can be correctly allocated to a ward using this method, and some cannot be allocated at all. Past investigation has demonstrated that mis-allocations and non-allocations do not necessarily occur randomly between areas, and at ward level, the proportion of records mis-allocated or unallocated can be substantial. At present it seems likely that a higher than average proportion of the records that can not be attributed to a ward are in the following areas: Fermanagh District Council, Derry District Council and parts of Belfast City Council.



Table 7.4 Income Support claimants by Social Security Office: August 2001 to August 2002

| Social Security Office | Aug 2001 | Nov 2001 | Feb 2002 | May 2002 | Aug 2002 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Andersonstown | 7,900 | 7,960 | 8,060 | 8,220 | 8,380 |
| Antrim | 4,940 | 4,820 | 4,780 | 4,860 | 4,920 |
| Armagh | 4,500 | 4,320 | 4,360 | 4,320 | 4,300 |
| Ballymena | 4,980 | 4,880 | 5,040 | 4,880 | 4,840 |
| Ballymoney | 3,940 | 3,860 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,220 |
| Ballynahinch | 1,840 | 1,980 | 2,020 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Banbridge | 3,020 | 3,000 | 2,980 | 3,160 | 3,160 |
| Bangor | 5,160 | 5,200 | 5,000 | 4,880 | 5,000 |
| Carrickfergus* | | | | | |
| Coleraine | 5,260 | 5,160 | 5,200 | 5,260 | 5,320 |
| Cookstown | 3,620 | 3,700 | 3,600 | 3,580 | 3,540 |
| Corporation Street | 11,060 | 10,980 | 10,900 | 11,140 | 11,100 |
| Downpatrick | 2,660 | 2,700 | 2,760 | 2,680 | 2,640 |
| Dungannon | 5,860 | 5,920 | 5,920 | 5,960 | 5,960 |
| Enniskillen | 7,700 | 7,640 | 7,640 | 7,680 | 7,720 |
| Falls Road | 8,500 | 8,780 | 8,760 | 8,520 | 8,580 |
| Foyle | 10,900 | 10,820 | 10,840 | 10,760 | 10,820 |
| Holywood Road | 7,520 | 7,580 | 7,420 | 7,380 | 7,660 |
| Kilkeel | 1,500 | 1,420 | 1,380 | 1,360 | 1,420 |
| Knockbreda | 5,120 | 5,060 | 4,820 | 4,800 | 4,680 |
| Larne | 4,600 | 4,660 | 4,760 | 4,680 | 4,640 |
| Limavady | 2,960 | 2,980 | 3,060 | 3,200 | 3,300 |
| Lisburn | 5,340 | 5,200 | 5,160 | 5,160 | 5,240 |
| Lisnagelvin | 5,060 | 5,000 | 5,100 | 5,140 | 5,280 |
| Lurgan | 5,360 | 5,340 | 5,320 | 5,380 | 5,460 |
| Magherafelt | 4,040 | 4,080 | 4,020 | 4,000 | 3,980 |
| Newcastle | 1,440 | 1,340 | 1,420 | 1,320 | 1,380 |
| Newry | 9,320 | 9,320 | 9,320 | 9,580 | 9,580 |
| Newtownabbey | 4,980 | 4,880 | 4,960 | 4,780 | 5,020 |
| Newtownards | 3,920 | 3,940 | 3,840 | 3,880 | 3,820 |
| Omagh | 5,240 | 5,260 | 5,320 | 5,160 | 5,220 |
| Portadown | 4,020 | 4,020 | 4,040 | 4,140 | 4,260 |
| Shaftesbury Sq. | 4,780 | 4,820 | 4,760 | 4,780 | 4,920 |
| Shankill Road | 4,180 | 4,420 | 4,420 | 4,280 | 4,260 |
| Strabane | 5,660 | 5,560 | 5,500 | 5,360 | 5,460 |
| All Claimants | 176,880 | 176,600 | 176,480 | 176,280 | 178,080 |

*Carrickfergus totals combined with Larne SSO from May 1999



Table 7.5 Income Support claimants by Statistical group and Social Security Office: August 2002

| Social Security Office | All Claimants 100% | Statistical group | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Aged 60 or over % | Lone Parents % | Disabled % | Other % |
| Andersonstown | 8,380 | 30.3% | 26.0% | 31.0% | 12.6% |
| Antrim | 4,920 | 45.5% | 14.2% | 32.1% | 8.1% |
| Armagh | 4,300 | 53.5% | 13.0% | 27.4% | 6.0% |
| Ballymena | 4,840 | 55.8% | 17.4% | 20.7% | 6.2% |
| Ballymoney | 4,220 | 51.2% | 14.2% | 22.7% | 11.8% |
| Ballynahinch | 2,000 | 51.0% | 11.0% | 31.0% | 7.0% |
| Banbridge | 3,160 | 51.9% | 14.6% | 22.2% | 11.4% |
| Bangor | 5,000 | 55.2% | 13.6% | 27.6% | 3.6% |
| Coleraine | 5,320 | 46.6% | 18.0% | 25.9% | 9.4% |
| Cookstown | 3,540 | 49.2% | 11.9% | 32.2% | 6.8% |
| Corporation Street | 11,100 | 37.7% | 22.7% | 32.4% | 7.2% |
| Downpatrick | 2,640 | 39.4% | 20.5% | 31.8% | 8.3% |
| Dungannon | 5,960 | 43.3% | 14.8% | 32.6% | 9.4% |
| Enniskillen | 7,720 | 54.7% | 10.9% | 25.1% | 9.3% |
| Falls Road | 8,580 | 34.0% | 20.5% | 32.2% | 13.3% |
| Foyle | 10,820 | 29.2% | 26.6% | 34.8% | 9.4% |
| Hollywood Road | 7,660 | 47.3% | 14.6% | 30.0% | 8.1% |
| Kilkeel | 1,420 | 49.3% | 8.5% | 33.8% | 8.5% |
| Knockbreda | 4,680 | 48.7% | 15.4% | 29.5% | 6.4% |
| Larne | 4,640 | 46.1% | 16.8% | 30.6% | 6.5% |
| Limavady | 3,300 | 35.2% | 18.2% | 31.5% | 15.2% |
| Lisburn | 5,240 | 48.5% | 16.4% | 26.0% | 9.2% |
| Lisnagelvin | 5,280 | 38.6% | 15.9% | 33.3% | 12.1% |
| Lurgan | 5,460 | 45.1% | 13.9% | 28.6% | 12.5% |
| Magherafelt | 3,980 | 55.8% | 12.1% | 24.1% | 8.0% |
| Newcastle | 1,380 | 33.3% | 31.9% | 26.1% | 8.7% |
| Newry | 9,580 | 41.5% | 15.0% | 34.0% | 9.4% |
| Newtownabbey | 5,020 | 47.0% | 20.7% | 24.7% | 7.6% |
| Newtownards | 3,820 | 50.3% | 14.1% | 25.7% | 9.9% |
| Omagh | 5,220 | 49.0% | 12.6% | 29.9% | 8.4% |
| Portadown | 4,260 | 49.3% | 15.0% | 28.2% | 7.5% |
| Shaftesbury Sq. | 4,920 | 40.7% | 13.4% | 32.9% | 13.0% |
| Shankill Road | 4,260 | 44.6% | 20.2% | 24.9% | 10.3% |
| Strabane | 5,460 | 41.0% | 13.9% | 36.6% | 8.4% |
| All Claimants | 178,080 | 78,360 | 30,360 | 52,920 | 16,440 |



Table 7.6 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and SSO: August 2002

| Social Security Office | All Beneficiaries | Type of beneficiary | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Claimant | Partner | Dependant |
| Andersonstown | 16,640 | 8,380 | 1,220 | 7,040 |
| Antrim | 7,980 | 4,920 | 620 | 2,440 |
| Armagh | 7,300 | 4,300 | 920 | 2,080 |
| Ballymena | 7,960 | 4,840 | 720 | 2,400 |
| Ballymoney | 7,280 | 4,220 | 980 | 2,080 |
| Ballynahinch | 3,180 | 2,000 | 320 | 860 |
| Banbridge | 5,320 | 3,160 | 760 | 1,400 |
| Bangor | 7,740 | 5,000 | 820 | 1,920 |
| Coleraine | 8,520 | 5,320 | 780 | 2,420 |
| Cookstown | 6,560 | 3,540 | 1,120 | 1,900 |
| Corporation Street | 19,920 | 11,100 | 1,500 | 7,320 |
| Downpatrick | 4,460 | 2,640 | 300 | 1,520 |
| Dungannon | 9,980 | 5,960 | 1,240 | 2,780 |
| Enniskillen | 12,340 | 7,720 | 1,520 | 3,100 |
| Falls Road | 15,040 | 8,580 | 1,300 | 5,160 |
| Foyle | 21,140 | 10,820 | 1,620 | 8,700 |
| Hollywood Road | 12,460 | 7,660 | 1,140 | 3,660 |
| Kilkeel | 2,760 | 1,420 | 380 | 960 |
| Knockbreda | 7,380 | 4,680 | 520 | 2,180 |
| Larne | 7,840 | 4,640 | 880 | 2,320 |
| Limavady | 5,920 | 3,300 | 660 | 1,960 |
| Lisburn | 8,820 | 5,240 | 760 | 2,820 |
| Lisnagelvin | 8,860 | 5,280 | 1,000 | 2,580 |
| Lurgan | 9,760 | 5,460 | 1,120 | 3,180 |
| Magherafelt | 7,060 | 3,980 | 920 | 2,160 |
| Newcastle | 2,880 | 1,380 | 240 | 1,260 |
| Newry | 17,680 | 9,580 | 1,940 | 6,160 |
| Newtownabbey | 8,260 | 5,020 | 880 | 2,360 |
| Newtownards | 6,260 | 3,820 | 680 | 1,760 |
| Omagh | 8,300 | 5,220 | 1,100 | 1,980 |
| Portadown | 7,260 | 4,260 | 880 | 2,120 |
| Shaftesbury Sq. | 7,440 | 4,920 | 460 | 2,060 |
| Shankill Road | 7,120 | 4,260 | 560 | 2,300 |
| Strabane | 9,420 | 5,460 | 960 | 3,000 |
| All Claimants | 306,840 | 178,080 | 30,820 | 97,940 |



Section 8 United Kingdom analyses

Summary

A breakdown of the IS caseload is given by Government Office Region (GOR) comparing data from August 1998 to August 2002 (Table 8.1). The caseload is then split by statistical group and GOR at August 2002 (Table 8.2). The average weekly payment of IS by statistical group is given (Table 8.4). The caseload is also given by the duration of the current claim to IS (Table 8.5).

GB data was taken from the August 2002 IS QSE published by the Information and Analysis Directorate of the Department for Work and Pensions

There has been little change in the distribution of Income Support claimants between Government Office Regions since August 1998. The North West is the GOR with the greatest share of the UK caseload (14% at August 2002) in comparison with Northern Ireland which has the smallest share of the caseload (4.3% at August 2002). The North East has exhibited the largest increase in its share of the caseload, with its share increasing by 0.3% over the period of August 1998 to August 2002.

11.9% of the population in Great Britain were beneficiaries of Income support at August 2002. Among the regions this varied from 7.7% in the South East to 15.7% in the North East. In Northern Ireland 18.2% of the population were beneficiaries of IS. IS claimants in Northern Ireland were likely to have spent a longer time on benefit at August 2002 (74% had a claim with a duration of 2 years or more compared with 69.1% for Great Britain as a whole).



Table 8.1 Income Support claimants by GOR: August 1998 to August 2002

| GOR | Thousands ¹ | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | August 1998 | August 1999 | August 2000 | August 2001 | August 2002 |
| North East | 213 | 215 | 221 | 229 | 231 |
| North West | 574 | 565 | 565 | 583 | 579 |
| Yorks & Humberside | 344 | 348 | 353 | 364 | 362 |
| East Midlands | 241 | 242 | 242 | 254 | 255 |
| West Midlands | 365 | 363 | 367 | 382 | 385 |
| East | 268 | 267 | 268 | 278 | 277 |
| London | 581 | 579 | 573 | 573 | 570 |
| South East | 361 | 356 | 354 | 364 | 363 |
| South West | 268 | 269 | 265 | 277 | 275 |
| Wales | 227 | 229 | 232 | 236 | 237 |
| Scotland | 403 | 401 | 404 | 422 | 425 |
| Great Britain | 3,845 | 3,835 | 3,845 | 3,963 | 3,960 |
| Northern Ireland | 167 | 171 | 175 | 177 | 178 |

¹ Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

Table 8.2 Income Support claimants by GOR and statistical group: August 2002

| GOR | All Claimants (000s) ¹ | | | | | % |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| | | Aged 60 or over % | Lone Parents % | Disabled % | Other % | Claimants as % of GOR population ² |
| North East | 231 | 44.6 | 20.2 | 28.1 | 7.0 | 11.4 |
| North West | 579 | 42.4 | 20.4 | 30.6 | 6.6 | 10.8 |
| Yorks & Humberside | 362 | 46.6 | 20.7 | 25.9 | 6.8 | 9.2 |
| East Midlands | 255 | 47.5 | 20.8 | 25.6 | 6.2 | 7.6 |
| West Midlands | 385 | 48.1 | 20.8 | 24.7 | 6.4 | 9.2 |
| East | 277 | 48.2 | 22.1 | 24.4 | 5.4 | 6.4 |
| London | 570 | 37.2 | 28.9 | 26.6 | 7.3 | 9.9 |
| South East | 363 | 46.4 | 23.2 | 24.7 | 5.7 | 5.7 |
| South West | 275 | 48.6 | 19.2 | 26.2 | 6.0 | 6.9 |
| Wales | 237 | 42.9 | 19.8 | 30.7 | 6.6 | 10.2 |
| Scotland | 425 | 43.6 | 18.3 | 30.0 | 8.1 | 10.4 |
| Great Britain | 3,960 | 44.4 | 21.7 | 27.2 | 6.6 | 8.7 |
| Northern Ireland | 178 | 44.0 | 17.0 | 29.7 | 9.2 | 13.6 |

¹ Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

² Aged 16 and over



Table 8.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: August 2002

| GOR | All | Type of beneficiary | | | Beneficiaries as % GOR's population |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------------------------|
| | | Claimant | Partner | Dependant | |
| North East | 395 | 231 | 39 | 125 | 15.7 |
| North West | 991 | 579 | 83 | 329 | 14.7 |
| Yorks & Humberside | 625 | 362 | 59 | 204 | 12.6 |
| East Midlands | 434 | 255 | 41 | 138 | 10.4 |
| West Midlands | 675 | 385 | 65 | 225 | 12.8 |
| East | 473 | 277 | 41 | 154 | 8.8 |
| London | 1,065 | 570 | 73 | 422 | 14.8 |
| South East | 614 | 363 | 46 | 205 | 7.7 |
| South West | 447 | 275 | 40 | 132 | 9.1 |
| Wales | 412 | 237 | 41 | 134 | 14.2 |
| Scotland | 672 | 425 | 55 | 191 | 13.3 |
| Great Britain | 6,801 | 3,960 | 583 | 2,259 | 11.9 |
| Northern Ireland | 307 | 178 | 31 | 98 | 18.2 |

¹ Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

Chart 8A Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: August 2002

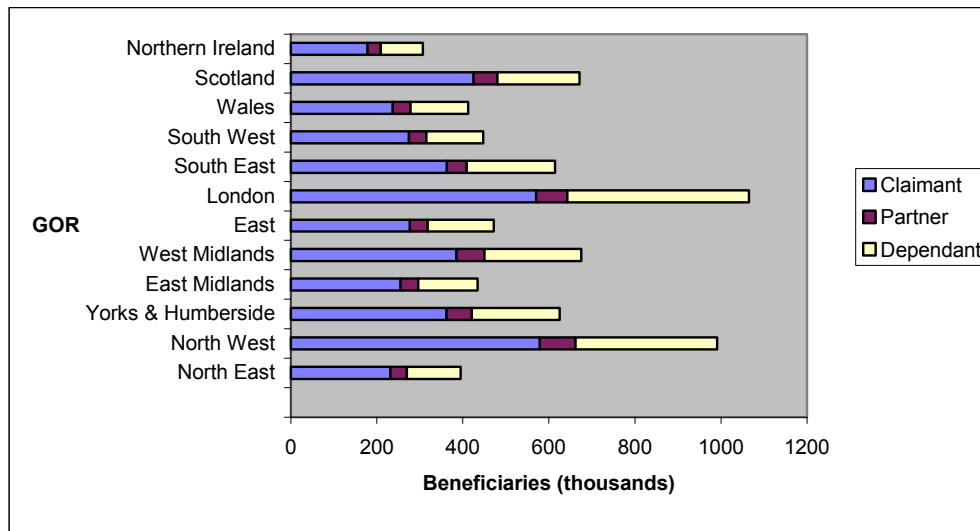


Table 8.4 Average weekly payment of Income Support by GOR and statistical group: August 2002

| GOR | £pw | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | All Claimants | Aged 60 or over | Lone Parents | Disabled | Other |
| North East | 65.00 | 42.66 | 102.59 | 75.66 | 55.88 |
| North West | 69.09 | 47.81 | 105.17 | 77.94 | 53.33 |
| Yorks & Humberside | 67.06 | 46.51 | 105.52 | 75.96 | 57.30 |
| East Midlands | 66.57 | 47.39 | 104.92 | 73.24 | 57.15 |
| West Midlands | 67.61 | 47.53 | 106.13 | 77.06 | 56.74 |
| East | 68.02 | 47.64 | 105.48 | 77.04 | 56.34 |
| London | 83.21 | 65.19 | 108.11 | 87.40 | 61.06 |
| South East | 68.39 | 47.39 | 105.20 | 76.09 | 56.14 |
| South West | 64.77 | 45.79 | 104.29 | 73.32 | 54.78 |
| Wales | 67.78 | 47.11 | 104.56 | 76.10 | 52.94 |
| Scotland | 64.41 | 46.34 | 101.51 | 71.93 | 49.76 |
| Great Britain | 69.37 | 49.02 | 105.30 | 77.25 | 55.62 |
| Northern Ireland | 73.32 | 56.69 | 105.45 | 85.86 | 52.86 |

Table 8.5 Income Support claimants by GOR and duration of current claim: August 2002

| GOR | All Claimants (000s) | Duration of claim | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| | | % Under 3 Months | % 3 months to under 6 months | % 6 months to under 1 year | % 1 year to under 2 years | % 2 years or over |
| North East | 231 | 5.2 | 5.9 | 7.2 | 13.9 | 67.9 |
| North West | 579 | 4.4 | 4.7 | 7.0 | 13.7 | 70.2 |
| Yorks & Humberside | 362 | 5.0 | 5.7 | 7.8 | 14.0 | 67.6 |
| East Midlands | 255 | 4.7 | 5.7 | 8.2 | 15.0 | 66.3 |
| West Midlands | 385 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 7.4 | 14.5 | 68.7 |
| East | 277 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 7.5 | 14.1 | 68.8 |
| London | 570 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 6.9 | 12.4 | 72.7 |
| South East | 363 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 7.8 | 14.5 | 68.1 |
| South West | 275 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 7.5 | 15.3 | 67.4 |
| Wales | 237 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 7.1 | 13.1 | 70.0 |
| Scotland | 425 | 5.4 | 5.2 | 7.3 | 13.8 | 68.4 |
| Great Britain | 3,960 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 7.4 | 13.9 | 69.1 |
| Northern Ireland | 178 | 3.9 | 4.1 | 6.6 | 11.3 | 74.0 |



Annex 1: Technical Details

Income Support Quarterly Statistical Enquiry

The Income Support Quarterly Statistical Enquiry (QSE) is a sample survey that collects information on the number and characteristics of claimants receiving Income Support in Northern Ireland. The QSE includes all people who are recorded as having entitlement to receive benefit on the enquiry date. This is based on claims held on the Income Support Computer System on that day. It therefore misses claims where entitlement had not been established, but is subsequently backdated.

This publication refers to the QSE conducted on 28th August 2002.

The QSE is based on a sample of approximately 5% of the IS population (1 in every 20 IS claimants). To generate a sample for Northern Ireland the National Insurance Numbers ending in 4 and 7 are used, and also the Local Social Security Office code. The data in each table has been rated up by a factor of 20 to give estimates for the population of IS claimants in Northern Ireland.

The data collected from the QSE is used to provide information to monitor and evaluate IS, answer parliamentary Questions and queries from the public, academics and researchers.

Impact of Jobseekers Allowance

Unemployed claimants or those participating in government training schemes now claim JSA instead of IS. Data that relates to periods prior to the introduction of JSA therefore excludes these claimants.

Data sources and validation

Information in the Northern Ireland QSE is taken directly from the Income Support Computer System, which is used to administer the benefit.

Validation procedures are carried out both by Information and Analysis Directorate and Statistics and Research Branch (Department for Social Development) on the data collected. Amendments are made where it is obvious that some of the information recorded for individual cases is inconsistent e.g. where the recorded statistical group does not match the appropriate premium.



Annex 2: Sampling Errors

The analyses carried out on the QSE are subject to sampling error. That is, there is a chance that the number of cases in the August sample produces population estimates that are in fact higher or lower than the true value in the population.

The effects of these sampling errors are indicated below in the table of confidence intervals. The figures in this report are the best estimate based on the sample data. The true number will lie in a range around the estimate. The 95% confidence interval means that there is only a 1 in 20 chance that the actual value lies outside this range.

The figures in the table below give the 95% confidence intervals for the true value in the population, based on the estimated value from the 5% sample.

| Estimated Value | 95% Confidence Interval | Confidence interval as a % of the estimate |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 100 | +/-86 | +/-86% |
| 200 | +/-121 | +/-61% |
| 300 | +/-148 | +/-49% |
| 400 | +/-171 | +/-43% |
| 500 | +/-191 | +/-38% |
| 600 | +/-209 | +/-35% |
| 700 | +/-226 | +/-32% |
| 800 | +/-242 | +/-30% |
| 900 | +/-256 | +/-28% |
| 1,000 | +/-270 | +/-27% |
| 2,000 | +/-382 | +/-19% |
| 3,000 | +/-468 | +/-16% |
| 4,000 | +/-540 | +/-14% |
| 5,000 | +/-604 | +/-12% |
| 6,000 | +/-662 | +/-11% |
| 7,000 | +/-715 | +/-10% |
| 8,000 | +/-764 | +/-10% |
| 9,000 | +/-811 | +/-9% |
| 10,000 | +/-854 | +/-9% |
| 20,000 | +/-1,208 | +/-6% |
| 30,000 | +/-1,480 | +/-5% |
| 40,000 | +/-1,709 | +/-4% |
| 50,000 | +/-1,910 | +/-4% |
| 100,000 | +/-2,702 | +/-3% |
| 200,000 | +/-3,821 | +/-2% |
| 300,000 | +/-4,679 | +/-2% |



Annex 3: Main changes to benefit rules

- Mortgage interest paid direct to lender for most claimants who receive the full amount (November 1992).
- A new scheme to provide support to claimants in residential care and nursing homes was introduced (April 1993).
- Special rules over the treatment of capital held by claimants in residential care, nursing home (RCNH) were introduced (April 1995).
- On 2nd October 1995 waiting periods were introduced for claimants without a pensioner premium before help is given (8 weeks for those with loans taken out before that date and 9 months for those with loans taken out thereafter). From the same date, most claimants with mortgage interest payments have them calculated using a standard rate based on the average of the largest building societies' basic mortgage rates (October 1995).
- Claimants in RCHN, part III accommodation are allowed capital of up to £16,000. Tariff income is payable where the savings are over £10,000 (April 1996).
- Changes to the rules for asylum seekers (November 1996).
- Family premium and lone parent premium were combined to form family premium (lone parent) which was paid to all eligible claimants (April 1997).
- One parent benefit was replaced by a new rate of child benefit for lone parents (April 1997).
- Deductions for payment of arrears of mortgage interest abolished (April 1997).
- Family premium (lone parent) was abolished, although those in receipt at that time continue to receive it until a relevant change of circumstances (April 1998).
- The dependants allowance payable for each child under 11 was increased by £2.50 per week (November 1998).
- The Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) was introduced increasing the amount payable to those aged 60 or over, except for special category cases (April 1999).
- Introduction of the new budgeting loan scheme.
- The dependants allowance payable for each child under 11 was increased by a further £4.70 per week (October 1999).



- Working Families Tax Credit and Disabled Persons Tax Credit replaced Family Credit and Disability Working Allowance respectively (October 1999).
- The dependants allowance for under 11's was abolished increasing the amount payable for children aged under 11 to match that of the under 16's: There are now two remaining rates for: dependants under 16, and the dependants aged 16 and over (April 2000).
- The MIG was updated in line with earnings (April 2000).
- Persons claiming asylum on or after 3rd April 2000 and who are awaiting decisions from the Home Office will be excluded from claiming social security benefits. They will receive support from either the National Asylum Support Service (set up by the Home Office) or local authorities (April 2000).
- Further increase (by £4.35) in the amount payable in respect of children aged up to 16 in October 2000.
- Claimants aged over 60 that are not in residential accommodation are now allowed up to £6000 in capital assets before their benefit is affected by tariff income. If capital totals more than £12000 the claimant is not entitled to Income Support (April 2001).
- All pensioner premiums are paid at the same rate i.e. the HPP rate (April 2001).
- The Government introduced a new Disability Income Guarantee (DIG) for severely disabled people and the Enhanced Disability Premium (April 2001).
- Preserved rights on all existing claims were abolished; these cases became the financial responsibility of the Local Authorities (April 2002).
- Part III/RA was transitionally protected if still in payment on the 8th April 2002 (April 2002).
- From 8th April 2002 claimants on Part III or who are still permanent residents of RCNH had their higher capital limits protected (April 2002).



Annex 4: Personal Allowances and Rates of Premium

Table 1: Income Support: personal allowance 1989 to 2002

| | £ per week | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------|
| | Single Person | | | | Lone Parent | | | |
| | Under 18 | | 18 or over | | Under 18 | | 18 or over | |
| | Usual rate | Higher rate | 18 to 24 | 25 or over | Usual rate | Higher rate | | |
| April 10, 1989 | 20.80 | - | 27.40 | 34.90 | 20.80 | - | | 34.90 |
| April 9, 1990 | 21.90 | 28.80 | 28.80 | 36.70 | 21.90 | - | | 36.70 |
| April 8, 1991 | 23.65 | 31.15 | 31.15 | 39.65 | 23.65 | 31.15 | | 39.65 |
| October 7, 1991 | 23.90 | 31.40 | 31.40 | 39.65 | 23.90 | 31.40 | | 39.65 |
| April 6, 1992 | 25.55 | 33.60 | 33.60 | 42.45 | 25.55 | 33.60 | | 42.45 |
| April 12, 1993 | 26.45 | 34.80 | 34.80 | 44.00 | 26.45 | 34.80 | | 44.00 |
| April 11, 1994 | 27.50 | 36.15 | 36.15 | 45.70 | 27.50 | 36.15 | | 45.70 |
| April 10, 1995 | 28.00 | 36.80 | 36.80 | 46.50 | 28.00 | 36.80 | | 46.50 |
| April 8, 1996 | 28.85 | 37.90 | 37.90 | 47.90 | 28.85 | 37.90 | | 47.90 |
| April 7, 1997 | 29.60 | 38.90 | 38.90 | 49.15 | 29.60 | 38.90 | | 49.15 |
| April 6, 1998 | 30.30 | 39.85 | 39.85 | 50.35 | 30.30 | 39.85 | | 50.35 |
| April 12, 1999 | 30.95 | 40.70 | 40.70 | 51.40 | 30.95 | 40.70 | | 51.40 |
| April 10, 2000 | 31.45 | 41.35 | 41.35 | 52.20 | 31.45 | 41.35 | | 52.20 |
| April 9, 2001 | 31.95 | 42.00 | 42.00 | 53.05 | 31.95 | 42.00 | | 53.05 |
| April 8, 2002 | 32.50 | 42.70 | 42.70 | 53.95 | 32.50 | 42.70 | | 53.95 |
| | Couple | | Dependant children | | | | | |
| | Both under 18 | One or both 18 or over | Under 11 | 11 to 15 | 16 to 17 | 18 | | |
| April 10, 1989 | 41.60 | 54.80 | 11.75 | 17.35 | 20.80 | 27.40 | | |
| April 9, 1990 | 43.80 | 57.60 | 12.35 | 18.25 | 21.90 | 28.80 | | |
| April 8, 1991 | 47.30 | 62.25 | 13.35 | 19.75 | 23.65 | 31.15 | | |
| October 7, 1991 | 47.30 | 62.25 | 13.60 | 20.00 | 23.90 | 31.40 | | |
| April 6, 1992 | 50.60 | 66.60 | 14.55 | 21.40 | 25.55 | 33.60 | | |
| April 12, 1993 | 52.40 | 69.00 | 15.05 | 22.15 | 26.45 | 34.80 | | |
| April 11, 1994 | 54.55 | 71.70 | 15.65 | 23.00 | 27.50 | 36.15 | | |
| April 10, 1995 | 55.55 | 73.00 | 15.95 | 23.40 | 28.00 | 36.80 | | |
| April 8, 1996 | 57.20 | 75.20 | 16.45 | 24.10 | 28.85 | 37.90 | | |
| | | | | Dependant children | | | | |
| | | | | Under 11 ^(1a) | 11 to 16 ^(1b) | 16-18 ^(1c) | | |
| April 7, 1997 | 58.70 | 77.15 | | 16.90 | 24.75 | 29.60 | | |
| April 6, 1998 | 60.10 | 79.00 | | 17.30 | 25.35 | 30.30 | | |
| November 5, 1998 | 60.10 | 79.00 | | 19.80 | 25.35 | 30.30 | | |
| April 12, 1999 ⁽²⁾ | | 80.65 | | 20.20 | 25.90 | 30.95 | | |
| October 4, 1999 | | 80.65 | | 24.90 | 25.90 | 30.95 | | |
| | | | | Dependant children | | | | |
| | | | | Up to and inc 16 ^(3a) | 16-18 ^(3b) | | | |
| April 10, 2000 ⁽³⁾ | | 81.95 | | 26.60 | 31.75 | | | |
| October 23, 2000 | | 81.95 | | 30.95 | 31.75 | | | |
| April 9, 2001 | | 83.25 | | 31.45 | 32.25 | | | |
| October 22, 2001 | | 83.25 | | 32.95 | 33.75 | | | |
| April 8, 2002 | | 84.65 | | 33.50 | 34.30 | | | |

Notes

1. From 7 April 1997 the age banding used for the benefit calculation of dependant children have changed.

from this date the banding are as follows:

- a. Birth to September following 11th birthday.
- b. From September following the 11th birthday to September following the 16th birthday
- c. From September following the 16th birthday to the day before the 19th birthday.

Some children will remain eligible for a different rate of benefit i.e. have 'protected rights'. These are as follows:-

*Child aged 11 before 7 April 1997 : allowance £25.35

*Child aged 16 before 7 April 1997 : allowance £30.30

*Child aged 18 before 7 April 1997 : allowance £39.85

2. From 12 April 1999 the personal allowance for married or unmarried couples where both members are not yet 18 or one of the couple is aged 18 or over depends on the couple's circumstances. They may be entitled to a couple allowance or a single person's allowance dependant upon certain criteria.

3. From 10 April 2000 there are only 2 age bands for dependants. From this date the age banding are as follows:

(a) Birth to September following 16th birthday.

(b) From September following 16th birthday to the day before th 19th birthday.



Table 2: Income Support: Rates of Premium 1988 to 2002

| | £ per week | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | Disabled | | Disability | | Enhanced Disability ⁽⁵⁾ | | | Severe Disability | | |
| | child | Carer ⁽¹⁾ | Single | Couple | Child | Single | Couple | Single | Couple (one) | Couple (both) |
| April 11, 1988 | 6.15 | - | 13.05 | 18.60 | - | - | - | 24.75 | 24.75 | 49.50 |
| April 10, 1989 | 6.50 | - | 13.70 | 19.50 | - | - | - | 26.20 | 26.20 | 52.40 |
| April 9, 1990 | 15.40 | 10.00 | 15.40 | 22.10 | - | - | - | 28.20 | 28.20 | 56.40 |
| April 8, 1991 | 16.65 | 10.80 | 16.65 | 23.90 | - | - | - | 31.25 | 31.25 | 62.50 |
| April 6, 1992 | 17.80 | 11.55 | 17.80 | 25.55 | - | - | - | 32.55 | 32.55 | 65.10 |
| April 12, 1993 | 18.45 | 11.95 | 18.45 | 26.45 | - | - | - | 33.70 | 33.70 | 67.40 |
| April 11, 1994 | 19.45 | 12.40 | 19.45 | 27.80 | - | - | - | 34.30 | 34.40 | 68.60 |
| April 10, 1995 | 19.80 | 12.60 | 19.80 | 28.30 | - | - | - | 35.05 | 35.05 | 70.10 |
| April 8, 1996 | 20.40 | 13.00 | 20.40 | 29.15 | - | - | - | 36.40 | 36.40 | 72.80 |
| April 7, 1997 | 20.95 | 13.35 | 20.95 | 29.90 | - | - | - | 37.15 | 37.15 | 74.30 |
| April 6, 1998 | 21.45 | 13.65 | 21.45 | 30.60 | - | - | - | 38.50 | 38.50 | 77.00 |
| April 12, 1999 | 21.90 | 13.95 | 21.90 | 31.25 | - | - | - | 39.75 | 39.75 | 79.50 |
| April 10, 2000 | 22.25 | 14.15 | 22.25 | 31.75 | - | - | - | 40.20 | 40.20 | 80.40 |
| April 9, 2001 | 30.00 | 24.40 | 22.60 | 32.25 | 11.05 | 11.05 | 16.00 | 41.55 | 41.55 | 83.10 |
| April 8, 2002 | 35.50 | 24.80 | 23.00 | 32.80 | 11.25 | 11.25 | 16.25 | 42.25 | 42.25 | 84.50 |
| | Family | | Lone Parent | | Pensioner | | Enhanced Pensioner ⁽³⁾ | | Higher Pensioner | |
| | All | Couple | Lone Parent | Lone Parent ⁽⁴⁾ | Single | Couple | Single | Couple | Single | Couple |
| April 11, 1988 | 6.15 | - | - | 3.70 | 10.65 | 16.25 | - | - | 13.05 | 18.60 |
| April 10, 1989 | 6.50 | - | - | 3.90 | 11.20 | 17.05 | - | - | 13.70 | 19.50 |
| October 9, 1989 | 6.50 | - | - | 3.90 | 11.20 | 17.05 | 13.70 | 20.55 | 16.20 | 23.00 |
| April 9, 1990 | 7.35 | - | - | 4.10 | 11.80 | 17.95 | 14.40 | 21.60 | 17.05 | 24.25 |
| April 8, 1991 | 7.95 | - | - | 4.45 | 13.75 | 20.90 | 15.55 | 23.35 | 18.45 | 26.20 |
| April 6, 1992 | 9.30 | - | - | 4.75 | 14.70 | 22.35 | 16.65 | 25.00 | 20.75 | 29.55 |
| April 12, 1993 | 9.65 | - | - | 4.90 | 17.30 | 26.25 | 19.30 | 29.00 | 23.55 | 33.70 |
| April 11, 1994 | 10.05 | - | - | 5.10 | 18.25 | 27.55 | 20.35 | 30.40 | 24.70 | 35.30 |
| April 10, 1995 | 10.25 | - | - | 5.20 | 18.60 | 28.05 | 20.70 | 30.95 | 25.15 | 35.95 |
| April 8, 1996 | 10.55 | - | - | 5.20 | 19.15 | 28.90 | 21.30 | 31.90 | 25.90 | 37.05 |
| April 7, 1997 | - | 10.80 | 15.75 | - | 19.65 | 29.65 | 21.85 | 32.75 | 26.55 | 38.00 |
| April 6, 1998 | - | 11.05 | 15.75 ⁽⁴⁾ | - | 20.10 | 30.35 | 22.35 | 33.55 | 27.20 | 38.90 |
| April 12, 1999 | - | 13.90 | 15.75 | - | 23.60 | 35.95 | 25.90 | 39.20 | 30.85 | 44.65 |
| April 10, 2000 | - | 14.25 | 15.90 | - | 26.25 | 40.00 | 28.65 | 43.40 | 33.85 | 49.10 |
| April 9, 2001 ⁽⁶⁾ | - | 14.20 | 15.90 | - | 39.10 | 57.30 | 39.10 | 57.30 | 39.10 | 57.30 |
| April 8, 2002 | - | 14.75 | 15.90 | - | 44.20 | 65.15 | 44.20 | 65.15 | 44.20 | 65.15 |
| April 8, 2002 | Bereavement ⁽⁷⁾ | | | | | | | | | |
| April 8, 2002 | 21.55 | | | | | | | | | |

Notes

1. Carer premium introduced in October 1990.
2. Family Premium increased to £8.70 from 7 October 1991.
3. Enhanced Pensioner premium introduced in October 1989.
4. From 7 April 1997 Lone parents receive one premium (Family premium-Lone parent rate) instead of two separate premiums i.e. Family premium & Lone parent premium.
5. Enhanced Disability Premium introduced in April 2001
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