

**Department for Social Development**

**Income Support  
Summary Statistics**

**DSD**

Department for  
Social Development

**February 2003**



**A Government Statistical Publication**

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

Department for Social Development  
Room 3 Block 4,  
The Village, Stormont,  
Belfast, BT4 3SJ

Telephone: 02890 5/23339

GTN (440) 23339

Fax: 02890 5/22763

e-mail: [srb@dndi.gov.uk](mailto:srb@dndi.gov.uk)

ISSN 1475-5777

Further Statistics for Northern Ireland relating to Social Security Benefits can be obtained by visiting our website;

<http://www.dndi.gov.uk/statistics-research/introduction.asp>

Statistics relating to Social Security Benefits in Great Britain can be obtained by visiting the following website;

<http://www.dss.gov.uk/asd/online.html>



**Contents**

**GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND CONVENTIONS..... 4**

**SUMMARY ..... 5**

**SECTION 1 CASELOAD-KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND AVERAGE PAYMENTS ..... 6**

**SECTION 2 LENGTH OF TIME ON IS ..... 13**

**SECTION 3 MAIN CLAIMANT GROUPS ..... 16**

**SECTION 4 CLAIMANTS, PARTNERS AND DEPENDANTS ..... 20**

**SECTION 5 PREMIUM PAYMENTS ..... 22**

**SECTION 6 CLAIMANTS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE AND NURSING HOMES (RCNH) ..... 26**

**SECTION 7 DISTRICT COUNCIL AND SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE ANALYSES..... 28**

**SECTION 8 UNITED KINGDOM ANALYSES..... 35**

**ANNEX 1: TECHNICAL DETAILS ..... 39**

**ANNEX 2: SAMPLING ERRORS..... 40**

**ANNEX 3: MAIN CHANGES TO BENEFIT RULES..... 41**

**ANNEX 4: PERSONAL ALLOWANCES AND RATES OF PREMIUM ..... 43**

**INDEX..... 45**



## 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 February 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 February 2002 and February 2003 the IS caseload has grown by approximately 2.1% and now stands at 180,180 at February 2003. The total number of IS claimants was higher in February 2003 than at any other time in the preceding six years (180,180 claimants in February 2003 and 158,560 at May 1996). In contrast, in GB the total number of IS claimants has fallen slightly in the same time period, with the total number of claimants at February 2003 standing at 3,960,000 compared to 3,963,000 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 February 2002 and February 2003 the disabled statistical group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 4.3% to 54,900 claimants (30.5% of the total caseload) compared to the GB disabled statistical group increasing by approximately 3.7% to 1,093,000 claimants (27.6% of the total caseload). Similarly, in the statistical group aged 60 or over, between February 2002 and February 2003 this group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 1.5% to 78,840 claimants (43.8% of the total caseload) compared to the GB group aged 60 or over increasing by approximately 1.8% to 1,769,000 claimants (44.7% 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 30,680 in February 2002 to 29,920 in February 2003, with the average weekly payment for this group rising from £103.55 to £110.52. This group has the highest average weekly payment of IS. The number of claimants in the 'Other' statistical group has increased by 6.3% between February 2002 and February 2003 (15,540 to 16,520) 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 February 2003, for example, a single claimant without dependants received on average £54.63 per week, compared to £116.83 received by a single person with dependants. Amongst couples, those without dependants received on average £70.40 per week, while those with dependants received on average £140.40 per week.



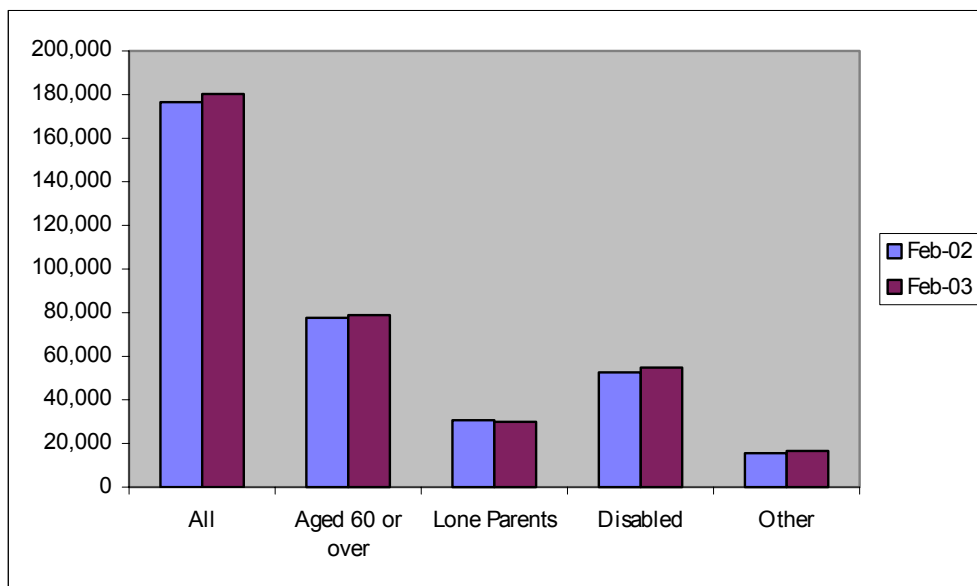
The largest number of male IS claimants lies in the 25-59 year age bracket, followed by the 60 years or over age bracket (40,060 and 29,000 respectively at February 2003). The largest number of females is in the 60 years and over age bracket, closely followed by the 25-59 year age bracket (48,920 and 48,420 respectively at February 2003).



**Table 1.1 Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 to February 2003**

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
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
Nov-02	178,660	78,800	29,580	54,160	16,120
Feb-03	180,180	78,840	29,920	54,900	16,520

**Chart 1A Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 and February 2003**



**Table 1.2 Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 to February 2003**

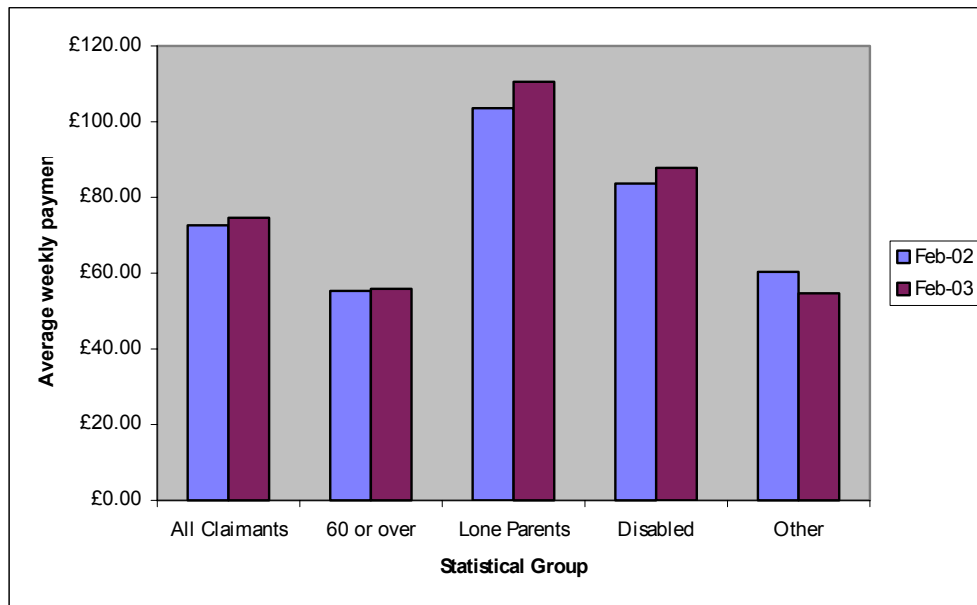
	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		% Aged 60 or over	% Lone Parents	% Disabled	% Other
Feb-02	100%	44%	17%	30%	9%
May-02	100%	44%	17%	30%	9%
Aug-02	100%	44%	17%	30%	9%
Nov-02	100%	44%	17%	30%	9%
Feb-03	100%	44%	17%	30%	9%



**Table 1.3 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 to February 2003 (£pw)**

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Feb-02	<b>£72.62</b>	£55.35	£103.55	£83.71	£60.30
May-02	<b>£73.41</b>	£57.06	£105.71	£85.02	£53.02
Aug-02	<b>£73.32</b>	£56.69	£105.45	£85.86	£52.86
Nov-02	<b>£74.51</b>	£56.20	£111.25	£87.29	£53.64
Feb-03	<b>£74.58</b>	£55.89	£110.52	£87.84	£54.64

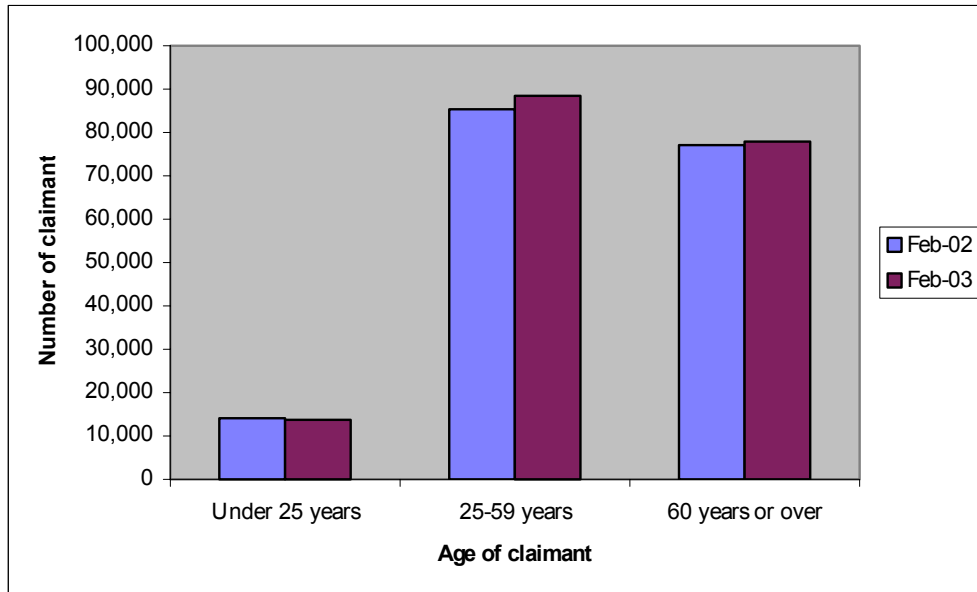
**Chart 1B Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 and February 2003**



**Table 1.4 Income Support claimants by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003**

	All Claimants	All males			All females		
		Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over	Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over
Feb-02	<b>176,500</b>	4,380	37,480	28,080	9,700	47,880	48,980
May-02	<b>176,280</b>	4,240	37,640	28,560	9,780	47,640	48,420
Aug-02	<b>178,080</b>	4,120	38,560	28,860	10,040	47,760	48,740
Nov-02	<b>178,660</b>	4,080	39,360	29,280	9,600	47,600	48,740
Feb-03	<b>180,180</b>	4,160	40,060	29,000	9,620	48,420	48,920

**Chart 1C Income Support claimants by age: February 2002 and February 2003**



**Table 1.5 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003 (£pw)**

	All Claimants	All males			All females		
		Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over	Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over
Feb-02	<b>£72.62</b>	£47.27	£79.25	£61.19	£78.79	£96.70	£51.62
May-02	<b>£73.41</b>	£50.40	£78.34	£63.18	£80.09	£97.06	£53.00
Aug-02	<b>£73.32</b>	£49.96	£78.36	£62.83	£81.16	£97.32	£52.38
Nov-02	<b>£74.51</b>	£54.04	£79.07	£61.88	£84.95	£101.01	£52.18
Feb-03	<b>£74.58</b>	£56.16	£79.46	£62.06	£84.53	£100.89	£51.58

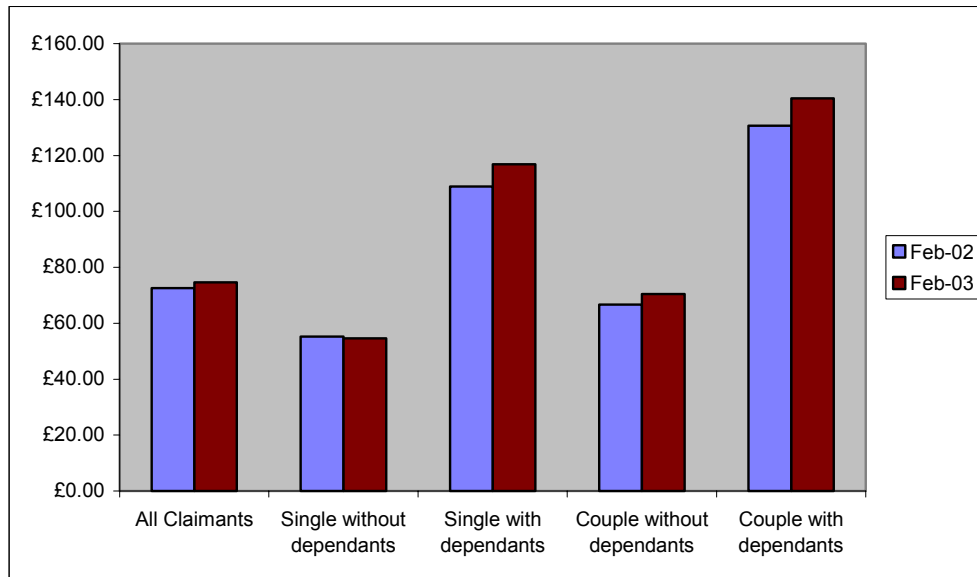


**Table 1.6 Income Support claimants by family type: February 2002 to February 2003**

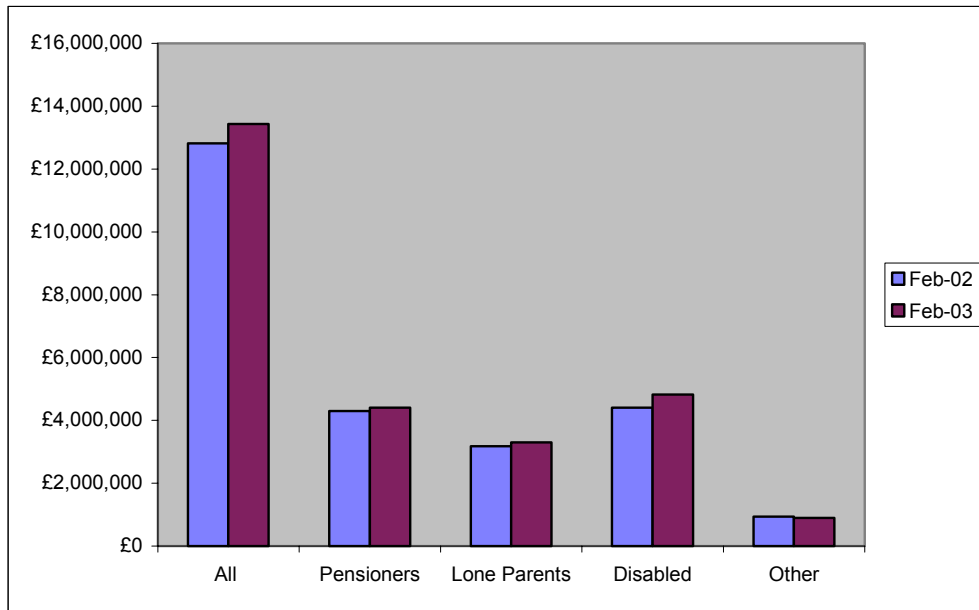
	<b>All Claimants</b>	Single without dependants	Single with dependants	Couples without dependants	Couples with dependants
Feb-02	<b>176,500</b>	107,600	38,680	20,000	10,220
May-02	<b>176,280</b>	108,020	37,980	19,980	10,300
Aug-02	<b>178,080</b>	108,840	38,420	20,340	10,480
Nov-02	<b>178,660</b>	110,260	37,420	20,680	10,300
Feb-03	<b>180,180</b>	110,960	37,920	20,680	10,620

**Table 1.7 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: February 2002 to February 2003 (£pw)**

	<b>All Claimants</b>	Single without dependants	Single with dependants	Couples without dependants	Couples with dependants
Feb-02	<b>£72.62</b>	£55.18	£108.87	£66.69	£130.65
May-02	<b>£73.41</b>	£54.91	£111.35	£71.26	£131.65
Aug-02	<b>£73.32</b>	£54.63	£110.99	£71.60	£132.63
Nov-02	<b>£74.51</b>	£54.80	£117.08	£70.88	£138.11
Feb-03	<b>£74.58</b>	£54.63	£116.83	£70.40	£140.40

**Chart 1D Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: February 2002 and February 2003**

**Chart 1E Estimated Total Weekly Expenditure on Income Support by group (Last week in February): 2002 and 2003**



## 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 increased between February 2002 and February 2003, the proportion of claimants receiving benefit for the duration periods of under 3 months and 3 to under 6 months also increased (2.9% to 3.8% and 4.6% to 4.9% respectively). 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 February 2003 (83.2% had a claim which lasted 2 years or over) whilst those in the 'other' group were likely to have spent the shortest time (35.6% had made their claim in the 6 months to February 2003).

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 February 2003 81.7% of males in this age bracket had a claim lasting 2 Years or longer, while 84.3% of females in this age group had a claim of this duration. Those aged under 25 claiming IS at February 2003 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 (12% males under 25 and 9.6% of females under 25 at February 2003).

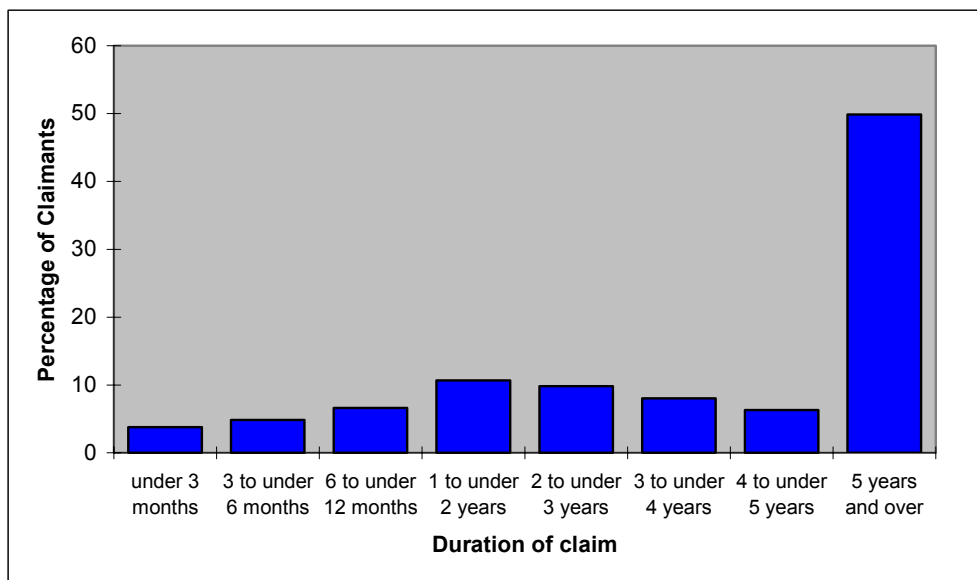
Claimants with longer claim durations were more likely to receive higher amounts of benefit than those claimants with shorter claim durations in February 2003. 39.8% of those with a duration of 2 years or more received £80 or more per week compared with only 25.8% for those with a duration of under 3 months.



**Table 2.1 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim:  
February 2002 to February 2003**

<b>Duration</b>	<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>May 2002</b>	<b>Aug 2002</b>	<b>Nov 2002</b>	<b>Feb 2003</b>
<b>All claimants</b>	<b>176,500</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>178,080</b>	<b>178,660</b>	<b>180,180</b>
% under 3 months	2.9%	3.8%	3.9%	4.3%	3.8%
% 3 to under 6 months	4.6%	3.7%	4.1%	4.0%	4.9%
% 6 to under 12 months	6.9%	6.7%	6.6%	6.4%	6.6%
% 1 to under 2 years	12.6%	12.3%	11.3%	11.1%	10.7%
% 2 to under 3 years	9.5%	9.5%	10.0%	9.9%	9.8%
% 3 to under 4 years	7.3%	7.8%	7.7%	8.2%	8.1%
% 4 to under 5 years	7.2%	6.9%	6.6%	6.4%	6.3%
% 5 years and over	48.9%	49.4%	49.8%	49.8%	49.9%

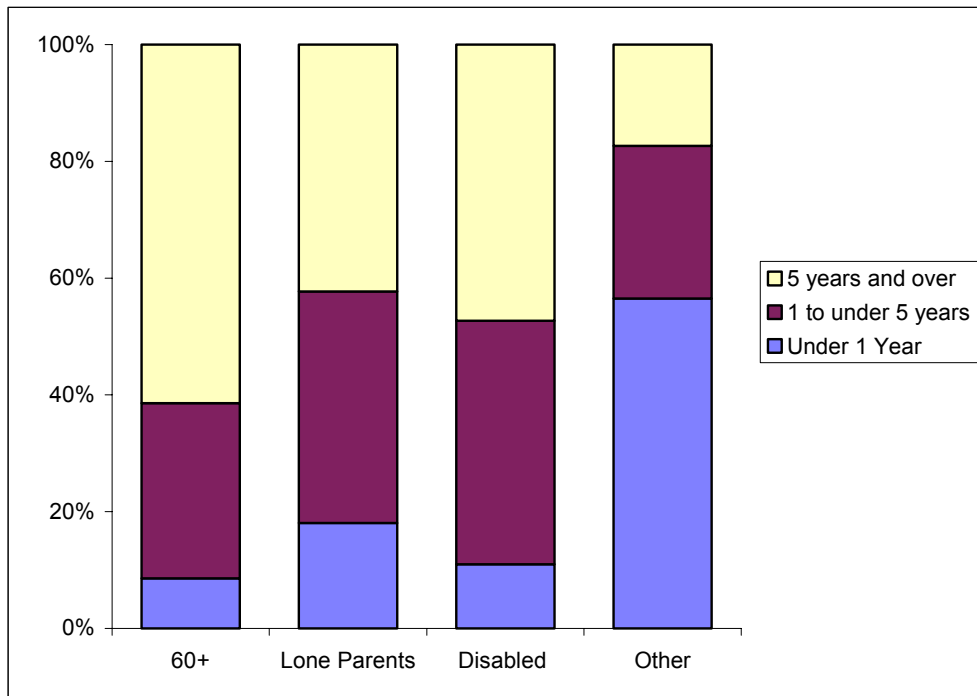
**Chart 2A Income Support claimants by duration of current claim:  
February 2003**



**Table 2.2 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: February 2003**

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Total	180,180	78,840	29,920	54,900	16,520
% under 3 months	3.8	2.0	3.8	2.4	16.8
% 3 to under 6 months	4.9	2.4	6.6	3.2	18.8
% 6 to under 12 months	6.6	4.1	7.7	5.4	20.9
% 1 to under 2 years	10.7	8.2	13.6	13.4	8.1
% 2 to under 3 years	9.8	9.3	10.0	11.3	7.3
% 3 to under 4 years	8.1	6.8	8.8	9.8	6.9
% 4 to under 5 years	6.3	5.8	7.3	7.2	3.9
% 5 years and over	49.9	61.4	42.3	47.3	17.3

**Table 2B: Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: February 2003**



**Table 2.3 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim, age and gender: February 2003**

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>180,180</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>74.1</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>73,220</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>70.1</b>
Under 18	240	8.3	58.3	8.3	25.0	0
18-24	3,920	12.2	12.8	20.9	21.4	32.7
25-59	40,060	5.4	7.1	9.0	12.6	65.9
60 and Over	29,000	2.1	3.0	3.7	9.6	81.7
<b>Female</b>	<b>106,960</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>76.7</b>
Under 18	540	29.6	22.2	25.9	22.2	0
18-24	9,080	8.4	9.0	15.2	22.5	44.9
25-59	48,420	3.3	5.0	5.9	9.8	75.9
60 and Over	48,920	2.0	2.1	4.2	7.3	84.3

**Table 2.4 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and range of weekly IS payment: February 2003**

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
<b>All amounts</b>	<b>180,180</b>	<b>6,820</b>	<b>8,740</b>	<b>11,960</b>	<b>19,220</b>	<b>133,440</b>
Under £10	3.6	11.4	8.7	9.9	6.5	1.9
£10 to under £30	16.0	10.9	10.8	15.2	11.9	17.3
£30 to under £40	7.9	5.6	7.1	6.4	9.3	8.0
£40 to under £50	6.6	16.4	11.4	9.4	4.8	5.8
£50 to under £70	17.8	24.6	27.2	20.4	13.5	17.2
£70 to under £80	9.8	5.3	5.0	8.2	13.5	9.9
£80 to under £100	14.1	9.4	14.0	12.4	17.0	14.0
£100 or over	24.2	16.4	15.8	18.2	23.6	25.8
Average amount £ per week	74.58	63.10	63.42	64.37	75.72	76.65



### **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 February 2003, 36.8% (18,160) of these women were aged 80 years or over compared to just 15.1% (4,460) of men. Those aged 60-64 accounted for 36.4% of males in this premium group, while only 13.2% were in this age bracket for females. This age distribution is broadly similar to that in Great Britain at this time, with 31.8% of males and 12.2% of females falling into the 60-64 years age bracket.

Disabled IS claimants were mainly in the 25-59 age range at February 2003, a situation which has remained relatively unchanged since 1995. 56.8% (31,200) of IS claimants receiving the disability were male, 43.2% (23,700) female. This is mirrored in Great Britain where the percentages are 54.7% male and 45.3% female.

The majority of lone parents were female (94.5%) and concentrated mainly in the 25-59 year old age band. This is again mirrored in Great Britain.

The number of ‘other’ claimants increased from 15,540 in February 2002 to 16,520 in February 2003. There continues to be almost twice as many males than females in this category (10,840 and 5,680 respectively). This distribution is mirrored in GB, with 60.9% (159,000) of ‘other’ claimants being male and 39.1% (102,000) female at February 2003.



**Table 3.1 Income Support claimants receiving a Pensioner premium<sup>1</sup> by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003**

Age/ Gender	Feb-02	May-02	Aug-02	Nov-02	Feb-03
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,640</b>	<b>77,720</b>	<b>78,360</b>	<b>78,800</b>	<b>78,840</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>28,920</b>	<b>29,340</b>	<b>29,740</b>	<b>29,520</b>
60-64	9,680	9,920	10,380	10,660	10,760
65-74	10,760	10,980	10,860	10,960	10,680
75-79	3,380	3,340	3,400	3,520	3,620
80 or over	4,580	4,680	4,700	4,600	4,460
<b>Female</b>	<b>49,240</b>	<b>48,800</b>	<b>49,020</b>	<b>49,060</b>	<b>49,320</b>
60-64	6,140	6,080	6,280	6,380	6,500
65-74	14,940	14,840	14,700	14,640	14,680
75-79	9,640	9,380	9,480	9,760	9,980
80 or over	18,520	18,500	18,560	18,280	18,160

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

<sup>2</sup> 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: February 2002 to February 2003**

Age/ Gender	Feb-02	May-02	Aug-02	Nov-02	Feb-03
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,640</b>	<b>53,180</b>	<b>52,920</b>	<b>54,160</b>	<b>54,900</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>30,040</b>	<b>30,240</b>	<b>29,960</b>	<b>30,800</b>	<b>31,200</b>
Under 18	140	-	100	120	140
18-24	2,440	2,040	1,920	2,040	2,180
25-59	27,460	28,120	27,940	28,640	28,880
<b>Female</b>	<b>22,600</b>	<b>22,940</b>	<b>22,960</b>	<b>23,360</b>	<b>23,700</b>
Under 18	140	100	100	140	100
18-24	1,820	1,680	1,600	1,580	1,560
25-59	20,640	21,160	21,260	21,640	22,040



**Table 3.3 Income Support claimants in receipt of a Lone Parent premium by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003**

<b>Age/ Gender</b>	<b>Feb-02</b>	<b>May-02</b>	<b>Aug-02</b>	<b>Nov-02</b>	<b>Feb-03</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,680</b>	<b>29,960</b>	<b>30,360</b>	<b>29,580</b>	<b>29,920</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>1,460</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,660</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>29,080</b>	<b>28,520</b>	<b>28,900</b>	<b>28,080</b>	<b>28,260</b>
Under 18	200	160	220	260	260
18-24	6,420	6,280	6,680	6,400	6,360
25-59	22,460	22,080	22,000	21,420	21,640

**Table 3.4 "Other" Income Support claimants by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003**

<b>Age/ Gender</b>	<b>Feb-02</b>	<b>May-02</b>	<b>Aug-02</b>	<b>Nov-02</b>	<b>Feb-03</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,540</b>	<b>15,420</b>	<b>16,440</b>	<b>16,120</b>	<b>16,520</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>9,840</b>	<b>10,780</b>	<b>10,680</b>	<b>10,840</b>
Under 18	200	280	140	180	100
18-24	1,560	1,760	1,920	1,680	1,640
25-59	8,140	7,800	8,720	8,820	9,100
<b>Female</b>	<b>5,640</b>	<b>5,580</b>	<b>5,660</b>	<b>5,440</b>	<b>5,680</b>
Under 18	200	260	240	100	180
18-24	920	1,300	1,200	1,120	1,160
25-59	4,520	4,020	4,220	4,220	4,340



## **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 February 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 February 2002, the proportion of the population who are beneficiaries of IS (i.e. a claimant, partner or dependant) has increased slightly from 18% to 18.2% in February 2003. This proportion of the population in GB has remained constant at 11.8% over the same time period.

The proportion of IS claimants having a partner from February 2002 to February 2003 has increased slightly from 17.1% to 17.4%. Similarly, in GB the proportion has increased from 14.5% to 15% over the same period.

The average number of dependants of an IS claimant in Northern Ireland at February 2003 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 February 2003). The highest average number of dependants was mirrored in the 25-34 year old GB age band (2.1 dependants at February 2003).



**Table 4.1 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type: February 2002 to February 2003**

	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as % of population*
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
Feb-02	<b>304,140</b>	176,500	30,220	97,420	18.0%
May-02	<b>303,620</b>	176,280	30,280	97,060	18.0%
Aug-02	<b>306,840</b>	178,080	30,820	97,940	18.2%
Nov-02	<b>303,700</b>	178,660	30,980	94,060	18.0%
Feb-03	<b>308,000</b>	180,180	31,300	96,520	18.2%

**Table 4.2 Income Support claimants by age and number of dependants: February 2003**

	Total	Age of Claimant					
		Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 49	50 to 59	60 or over
<b>All claimants</b>	<b>180,180</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>24,900</b>	<b>41,180</b>	<b>22,400</b>	<b>77,920</b>
Claimants without deps	<b>131,640</b>	500	5,640	10,000	19,580	18,680	77,240
Claimants with deps	<b>48,540</b>	280	7,360	14,900	21,600	3,720	680
Number of Deps							
1	<b>20,620</b>	280	5,420	4,820	7,200	2,460	440
2	<b>15,220</b>	0	1,600	5,280	7,200	960	180
3	<b>7,660</b>	0	320	2700	4340	260	-
4	<b>3,380</b>	0	-	1560	1740	-	-
5	<b>1,260</b>	0	0	400	860	0	0
6 or more	<b>400</b>	0	0	140	260	0	0
Average number of dependants	<b>2.0</b>	1.0	1.3	2.2	2.2	1.4	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 February 2003 received extra help in this way (171,660 claimants, 94.7% 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 1.52 per claimant in February 2002 to 1.53 in February 2003. In GB the average number of premiums per claimant has risen to 1.4 after having been 1.3 premiums per claimant over the last five years.

The number of premiums awarded in Northern Ireland has increased by 2.5% from February 2002 to February 2003 which compares to an increase of 3.3% in GB. The number of premiums linked to disability and age (the various rates of pensioner premium) in Northern Ireland has shown increases from February 2002 to February 2003, 3% and 2.5% respectively. In GB the increases for disability and age are 4.8% and 3.9% respectively.

Single claimants without dependants were mostly in receipt of pensioner premiums, premiums linked with disabilities and the carer premium, but 7.4% of this group were not in receipt of any premium. The situation was similar in GB, with 7.2% of this group not receiving any premium. Claimants with dependants, irrespective of marital status, were in receipt of at least one IS 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: February 2002 to February 2003**

Type of premium	Feb 2002	May 2002	Aug 2002	Nov 2002	Feb 2003
<b>All types</b>	<b>268,260</b>	<b>268,360</b>	<b>270,160</b>	<b>271,760</b>	<b>274,880</b>
Higher pensioner premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	23,640	24,000	24,160	23,700	23,460
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	38,320	38,780	39,260	39,980	40,360
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,460	3,460	3,460	3,700	3,820
Pensioner premium	12,100	12,100	12,240	12,060	11,800
Severe Disability premium - higher	4,220	4,140	4,300	4,240	4,340
Severe Disability premium - lower	43,620	43,460	43,880	44,840	45,660
Disability Premium	52,680	53,180	52,940	54,140	54,880
Enhanced disability premium	11,780	11,300	11,320	11,300	11,240
Disabled child premium	4,900	4,900	4,860	4,760	4,860
Enhanced disabled child premium	2,360	2,380	2,260	2,180	2,160
Family Premium(lone parent)*	15,140	14,320	14,000	13,160	12,660
Family Premium*	33,760	33,920	34,880	34,520	35,880
Carer Premium	22,280	22,420	22,600	23,180	23,760
Claimants not in receipt of an IS premium	8,680	7,820	8,780	8,280	8,520
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	167,820	168,460	169,300	170,380	171,660
Average number of premiums	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.53

\*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: February 2003**

Type of premium	Single Claimants		Couples		
	With Dependants	Without Dependants	With Dependants	Without Dependants	
<b>All premiums</b>	<b>274,880</b>	<b>60,920</b>	<b>151,900</b>	<b>28,300</b>	<b>33,760</b>
Higher Pensioner Premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	23,460	0	21,540	0	1,920
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	40,360	-	28,120	480	11,680
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,820	0	3,580	0	240
Pensioner premium	11,800	100	9,360	160	2,180
Severe Disability premium-higher	4,340	0	-	320	4,000
Severe Disability premium - lower	45,660	4,160	40,800	-	660
Disability Premium	54,880	7,740	34,340	7,660	5,140
Enhanced disability premium	11,240	1,320	6,840	1,600	1,480
Disabled child premium	4,860	3,260	0	1,600	0
Enhanced disabled child premium	2,160	1,440	0	720	0
Family Premium(lone parent)*	12,660	12,660	0	0	0
Family Premium*	35,880	25,260	0	10,620	0
Carer Premium	23,760	4,900	7,300	5,100	6,460
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	171,660	37,920	102,700	10,620	20,420
Claimants with no premium	8,520	0	8,260	0	260
Average number of premiums	1.53	1.61	1.37	2.66	1.63

\*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: February 2003**

Type of premium	All Claimants	Statistical Group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
<b>All premiums</b>	<b>274,880</b>	<b>118,440</b>	<b>37,760</b>	<b>108,180</b>	<b>10,500</b>
Higher pensioner premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	23,460	23,460	0	0	0
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	40,360	40,360	0	0	0
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,820	3,820	0	0	0
Pensioner premium	11,800	11,800	0	0	0
Severe disability premium - higher	4,340	3,720	0	620	0
Severe disability premium - lower	45,660	29,680	0	15,980	0
Disability Premium	54,880	0	0	54,880	0
Enhanced disability premium	11,240	0	0	11,240	0
Disabled child premium	4,860	-	2,460	1,780	580
Enhanced disabled child premium	2,160	-	1,000	760	360
Family Premium (lone parent) <sup>1,2</sup>	12,660	0	12,660	0	0
Family Premium <sup>1,2</sup>	35,880	820	17,260	15,420	2,380
Carer Premium	23,760	4,700	4,380	7,500	7,180
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	171,660	78,460	29,920	54,900	8,380
Claimants with no premium	8,520	380*	0	0	8,140
Average number of premiums	1.53	1.50	1.26	1.97	0.64

<sup>1</sup>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

<sup>2</sup>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

\*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 is 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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**

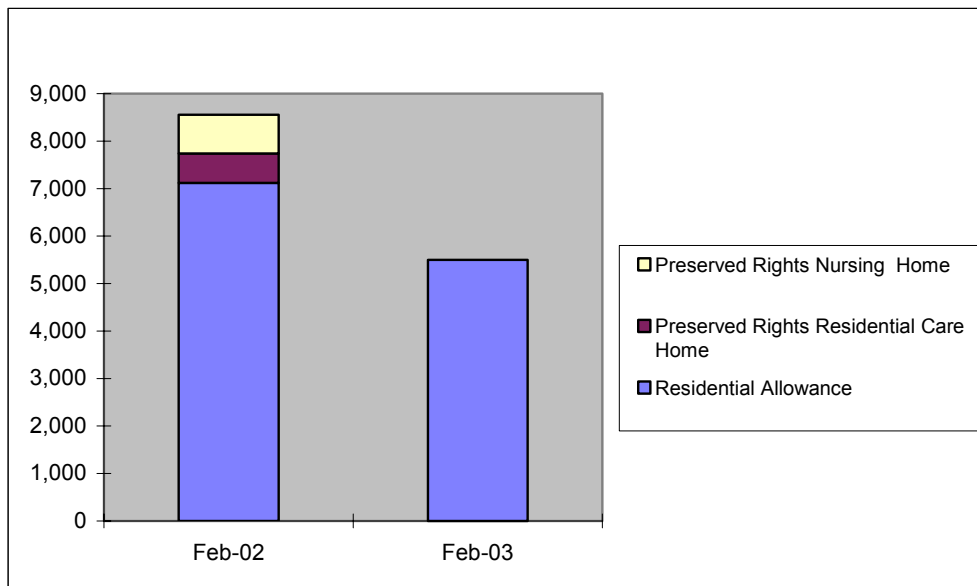
Due to the abolition of preserved rights cases from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2002, the number of preserved rights cases has fallen to zero. The number of Residential allowance cases during the period from February 2002 until February 2003 has decreased from 7,120 to 5,500. The overall number of RCNH claimants has shown a decrease from 8,560 in February 2002 to 5,500 in February 2003. Currently RCNH cases make up 3.1% of the total IS caseload in Northern Ireland. In contrast, the equivalent GB percentage stands at 4%.



**Table 6.1 Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes: February 2002 to February 2003**

	All	Residential allowance	Preserved Rights		
			All	Residential care home	Nursing home
Feb-02	<b>8,560</b>	7,120	1,440	620	820
May-02	<b>6,980</b>	6,980	0	0	0
Aug-02	<b>6,420</b>	6,420	0	0	0
Nov-02	<b>6,020</b>	6,020	0	0	0
Feb-03	<b>5,500</b>	5,500	0	0	0

**Chart 6A Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes by type of care: February 2002 and February 2003**



## 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 February 2002 to February 2003 (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 numbers of claimants were found in the Belfast, Derry and Newry & Mourne district councils. The lowest numbers of claimants were found in Moyle and Larne district councils. When taken as a percentage of the population aged 16 and over, the highest proportion of claimants was in the Derry district council (19.8%), closely followed by Belfast (19.4% of the population). The lowest proportion of claimants aged 16 and over is in the Castlereagh district council (6.5% of population) followed by North Down (7.5% of the population).

Similarly, in regard to beneficiaries as a percentage of total population, the highest proportion of claimants is in Derry district council (26.2%), closely followed by Belfast (25.4%) and Newry & Mourne (24.7%). The lowest proportion of beneficiaries is in the Castlereagh district council (7.8%) followed by North Down (9.2% of the population) and Banbridge (9.3%). Overall 18.2% of the population in Northern Ireland were beneficiaries of IS, compared to 11.8% in GB.

Foyle Social Security Office had the largest share of the IS caseload with 11,080 claimants (6.1% of the caseload) at February 2003, while Newcastle had only 1,420 claimants (0.8% of the caseload) at the same point in time. Shaftesbury Square and Portadown experienced the largest increases in claimant numbers between February 2002 and February 2003. Similarly Falls Road and Shankill Road experienced the largest claimant decreases during this period.

In Bangor 56.5% of the caseload consisted of claimants aged 60 or over, while this category of claimant only accounted for 30.3% of the caseload in Foyle. Newcastle had the highest proportion of lone parents in comparison to Ballynahinch which had the lowest (28.2% and 10% respectively at February 2003). In regard to the disabled claimants, Strabane had the highest proportion while Ballymena had the lowest proportion (36.5% and 20.6% respectively).

The highest number IS beneficiaries was found in the Foyle Social Security Office (21,460 beneficiaries at February 2003) the lowest number being in Newcastle (2,860 beneficiaries at February 2003).



**Table 7.1 Northern Ireland Income Support claimants by District Council:  
February 2002 to February 2003**

<b>District Council</b>	<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>May 2002</b>	<b>August 2002</b>	<b>Nov 2002</b>	<b>Feb 2003</b>
Antrim	4,040	4,100	4,120	4,220	4,040
Ards	4,980	4,980	4,880	5,060	5,200
Armagh	4,600	4,480	4,460	4,620	4,500
Ballymena	4,360	4,320	4,300	4,300	4,420
Ballymoney	2,340	2,360	2,400	2,320	2,360
Banbridge	2,460	2,600	2,620	2,600	2,480
Belfast	41,900	41,900	42,080	41,820	42,040
Carrickfergus	2,360	2,360	2,320	2,440	2,460
Castlereagh	3,320	3,280	3,360	3,280	3,400
Coleraine	5,100	5,160	5,240	5,240	5,220
Cookstown	4,260	4,180	4,120	4,140	4,220
Craigavon	8,320	8,460	8,680	8,880	8,920
Derry	14,920	14,940	15,000	15,000	15,280
Down	5,260	5,000	5,040	5,020	5,100
Dungannon	6,260	6,340	6,340	6,440	6,700
Fermanagh	6,540	6,580	6,640	6,580	6,620
Larne	2,400	2,280	2,340	2,360	2,320
Limavady	3,300	3,460	3,580	3,520	3,400
Lisburn	8,820	8,840	8,860	8,700	9,040
Magherafelt	3,860	3,840	3,800	3,920	3,780
Moyle	1,840	1,760	1,920	2,020	1,960
Newry&Mourne	11,280	11,560	11,620	11,440	11,680
Newtownabbey	5,800	5,600	5,980	6,040	6,180
North Down	4,720	4,620	4,780	4,740	4,600
Omagh	5,420	5,300	5,380	5,440	5,500
Strabane	5,360	5,120	5,240	5,260	5,420
Missing Postcode *	2,680	2,860	2,980	3,260	3,340
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>176,500</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>178,080</b>	<b>178,660</b>	<b>180,180</b>

<sup>†</sup>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: February 2003**

District Council	All Claimants 100%	Statistical group				Claimants as a percentage of the population <sup>1</sup>
		Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Other %	
Ards	5,200	49.2%	13.5%	30.8%	6.5%	9.0%
Antrim	4,040	48.5%	14.4%	29.7%	7.4%	10.9%
Armagh	4,500	54.2%	11.6%	26.7%	7.6%	11.0%
Ballymena	4,420	52.5%	14.9%	22.2%	10.4%	9.6%
Ballymoney	2,360	54.2%	16.1%	23.7%	5.9%	11.4%
Banbridge	2,480	52.4%	12.9%	25.0%	9.7%	7.8%
Belfast	42,040	39.3%	18.9%	31.5%	10.3%	19.4%
Carrickfergus	2,460	37.4%	17.9%	37.4%	7.3%	8.4%
Castlereagh	3,400	48.2%	14.1%	27.1%	10.6%	6.5%
Coleraine	5,220	45.2%	16.9%	29.1%	8.8%	11.9%
Cookstown	4,220	49.8%	9.5%	34.1%	6.6%	17.4%
Craigavon	8,920	44.4%	14.3%	30.7%	10.5%	14.6%
Derry	15,280	33.2%	21.5%	34.7%	10.6%	19.8%
Down	5,100	41.6%	20.0%	31.4%	7.1%	10.6%
Dungannon	6,700	43.9%	13.7%	33.7%	8.7%	18.8%
Fermanagh	6,620	54.7%	10.0%	26.9%	8.5%	15.1%
Larne	2,320	45.7%	15.5%	26.7%	12.1%	9.6%
Limavady	3,400	38.8%	16.5%	31.8%	12.9%	14.0%
Lisburn	9,040	40.7%	20.8%	30.1%	8.4%	11.0%
Magherafelt	3,780	57.7%	12.2%	20.6%	9.5%	12.8%
Moyle	1,960	50.0%	20.4%	17.3%	12.2%	16.1%
Newry&Mourne	11,680	43.5%	13.5%	33.2%	9.8%	18.2%
Newtownabbey	6,180	47.6%	18.1%	27.5%	6.8%	9.8%
North Down	4,600	56.5%	12.2%	28.3%	3.0%	7.5%
Omagh	5,500	48.4%	12.4%	30.9%	8.4%	15.4%
Strabane	5,420	41.0%	14.0%	35.8%	9.2%	19.1%
Missing Postcode*	3,340	29.9%	32.9%	28.7%	8.4%	
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>180,180</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>13.9%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Population aged 16 and over. Mid-Year estimates for 2002 are unavailable at time of release. The Mid-Year estimate for 2001 has therefore been used.

\*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: February 2003**

District Council	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as a percentage of the population <sup>1</sup>
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
Antrim	6,720	4,040	560	2,120	13.8%
Ards	8,380	5,200	900	2,280	11.4%
Armagh	7,140	4,500	920	1,720	13.1%
Ballymena	7,140	4,420	580	2,140	12.1%
Ballymoney	4,060	2,360	520	1,180	15.0%
Banbridge	3,860	2,480	440	940	9.3%
Belfast	70,300	42,040	5,420	22,840	25.4%
Carrickfergus	4,400	2,460	440	1,500	11.7%
Castlereagh	5,180	3,400	500	1,280	7.8%
Coleraine	8,260	5,220	860	2,180	14.6%
Cookstown	7,420	4,220	1,240	1,960	22.7%
Craigavon	15,960	8,920	1,960	5,080	19.7%
Derry	27,640	15,280	2,580	9,780	26.2%
Down	9,080	5,100	760	3,220	14.2%
Dungannon	11,300	6,700	1,380	3,220	23.6%
Fermanagh	10,580	6,620	1,480	2,480	18.3%
Larne	3,980	2,320	460	1,200	12.9%
Limavady	6,220	3,400	720	2,100	19.1%
Lisburn	16,620	9,040	1,360	6,220	15.2%
Magherafelt	6,460	3,780	880	1,800	16.2%
Moyle	3,260	1,960	320	980	20.4%
Newry&Mourne	21,560	11,680	2,560	7,320	24.7%
Newtownabbey	10,140	6,180	1,100	2,860	12.7%
North Down	7,080	4,600	800	1,680	9.2%
Omagh	8,940	5,500	1,180	2,260	18.6%
Strabane	9,260	5,420	960	2,880	24.2%
Missing Postcode*	7,060	3,340	420	3,300	
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>308,000</b>	<b>180,180</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>96,520</b>	<b>18.2%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total Population. Mid-Year estimates for 2002 are unavailable at time of release. The Mid-Year estimate for 2001 has therefore been used.

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: February 2002 to February 2003**

<b>Social Security Office</b>	<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>May 2002</b>	<b>Aug 2002</b>	<b>Nov 2002</b>	<b>Feb 2003</b>
Andersonstown	8,060	8,220	8,380	8,300	8,360
Antrim	4,780	4,860	4,920	5,040	4,900
Armagh	4,360	4,320	4,300	4,520	4,340
Ballymena	5,040	4,880	4,840	4,960	5,060
Ballymoney	4,000	4,000	4,220	4,160	4,140
Ballynahinch	2,020	2,000	2,000	1,980	2,000
Banbridge	2,980	3,160	3,160	3,180	3,120
Bangor	5,000	4,880	5,000	5,020	4,920
Carrickfergus*					
Coleraine	5,200	5,260	5,320	5,340	5,340
Cookstown	3,600	3,580	3,540	3,560	3,620
Corporation Street	10,900	11,140	11,100	11,100	11,000
Downpatrick	2,760	2,680	2,640	2,540	2,680
Dungannon	5,920	5,960	5,960	6,000	6,220
Enniskillen	7,640	7,680	7,720	7,680	7,740
Falls Road	8,760	8,520	8,580	8,240	8,380
Foyle	10,840	10,760	10,820	10,820	11,080
Holywood Road	7,420	7,380	7,660	7,540	7,520
Kilkeel	1,380	1,360	1,420	1,420	1,500
Knockbreda	4,820	4,800	4,680	4,740	4,880
Larne	4,760	4,680	4,640	4,820	4,780
Limavady	3,060	3,200	3,300	3,240	3,180
Lisburn	5,160	5,160	5,240	5,140	5,280
Lisnagelvin	5,100	5,140	5,280	5,320	5,320
Lurgan	5,320	5,380	5,460	5,580	5,620
Magherafelt	4,020	4,000	3,980	4,060	4,040
Newcastle	1,420	1,320	1,380	1,440	1,420
Newry	9,320	9,580	9,580	9,520	9,620
Newtownabbey	4,960	4,780	5,020	5,120	5,220
Newtownards	3,840	3,880	3,820	3,940	4,040
Omagh	5,320	5,160	5,220	5,320	5,420
Portadown	4,040	4,140	4,260	4,320	4,400
Shaftesbury Sq.	4,760	4,780	4,920	5,040	5,200
Shankill Road	4,420	4,280	4,260	4,240	4,300
Strabane	5,500	5,360	5,460	5,420	5,540
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>176,480</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>178,080</b>	<b>178,660</b>	<b>180,180</b>

\*Carrickfergus totals combined with Larne SSO from May 1999



**Table 7.5 Income Support claimants by Statistical group and Social Security Office: February 2003**

Social Security Office	All Claimants 100%	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Other %
Andersonstown	8,360	31.8%	22.7%	32.5%	12.9%
Antrim	4,900	47.3%	13.9%	31.4%	7.3%
Armagh	4,340	55.3%	11.5%	26.3%	6.9%
Ballymena	5,060	53.8%	15.4%	20.6%	10.3%
Ballymoney	4,140	52.2%	15.9%	23.2%	8.7%
Ballynahinch	2,000	52.0%	10.0%	31.0%	7.0%
Banbridge	3,120	51.9%	11.5%	25.0%	11.5%
Bangor	4,920	56.5%	11.4%	29.3%	2.8%
Coleraine	5,340	46.1%	17.2%	27.7%	9.0%
Cookstown	3,620	50.3%	10.5%	32.0%	7.2%
Corporation Street	11,000	38.2%	21.6%	32.5%	7.6%
Downpatrick	2,680	39.6%	20.9%	32.1%	7.5%
Dungannon	6,220	41.8%	14.8%	34.4%	9.0%
Enniskillen	7,740	54.8%	10.9%	26.4%	8.0%
Falls Road	8,380	32.5%	22.0%	33.4%	12.2%
Foyle	11,080	30.3%	25.6%	33.4%	10.6%
Hollywood Road	7,520	47.1%	14.9%	30.3%	7.7%
Kilkeel	1,500	46.7%	10.7%	34.7%	8.0%
Knockbreda	4,880	46.7%	15.6%	29.5%	8.2%
Larne	4,780	41.8%	17.2%	31.4%	9.6%
Limavady	3,180	37.7%	16.4%	32.7%	13.2%
Lisburn	5,280	49.2%	17.0%	26.5%	7.2%
Lisnagelvin	5,320	38.3%	15.4%	35.3%	10.9%
Lurgan	5,620	44.1%	12.5%	31.3%	12.1%
Magherafelt	4,040	52.0%	12.4%	26.2%	9.4%
Newcastle	1,420	38.0%	28.2%	29.6%	4.2%
Newry	9,620	41.4%	14.6%	34.5%	9.6%
Newtownabbey	5,220	48.3%	19.9%	24.9%	6.9%
Newtownards	4,040	48.0%	15.3%	29.2%	7.4%
Omagh	5,420	47.6%	12.9%	31.0%	8.5%
Portadown	4,400	47.7%	15.9%	27.7%	8.6%
Shaftesbury Sq.	5,200	38.5%	15.4%	34.6%	11.5%
Shankill Road	4,300	43.3%	19.1%	25.1%	12.6%
Strabane	5,540	40.1%	14.8%	36.5%	8.7%
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>180,180</b>	<b>76,460</b>	<b>32,400</b>	<b>50,940</b>	<b>15,620</b>



**Table 7.6 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and SSO: February 2003**

Social Security Office	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary		
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant
Andersonstown	16,120	8,360	1,280	6,480
Antrim	7,820	4,900	600	2,320
Armagh	6,840	4,340	840	1,660
Ballymena	8,200	5,060	740	2,400
Ballymoney	7,100	4,140	900	2,060
Ballynahinch	3,120	2,000	300	820
Banbridge	5,080	3,120	640	1,320
Bangor	7,660	4,920	900	1,840
Coleraine	8,360	5,340	820	2,200
Cookstown	6,500	3,620	1,100	1,780
Corporation Street	19,420	11,000	1,460	6,960
Downpatrick	4,600	2,680	380	1,540
Dungannon	10,580	6,220	1,300	3,060
Enniskillen	12,500	7,740	1,660	3,100
Falls Road	14,440	8,380	1,180	4,880
Foyle	21,460	11,080	1,760	8,620
Holywood Road	12,020	7,520	960	3,540
Kilkeel	3,020	1,500	440	1,080
Knockbreda	7,540	4,880	560	2,100
Larne	8,420	4,780	920	2,720
Limavady	5,760	3,180	640	1,940
Lisburn	8,800	5,280	780	2,740
Lisnagelvin	8,700	5,320	1,040	2,340
Lurgan	10,220	5,620	1,240	3,360
Magherafelt	7,020	4,040	900	2,080
Newcastle	2,860	1,420	240	1,200
Newry	17,560	9,620	1,920	6,020
Newtownabbey	8,700	5,220	960	2,520
Newtownards	6,780	4,040	740	2,000
Omagh	8,800	5,420	1,180	2,200
Portadown	7,360	4,400	900	2,060
Shaftesbury Sq.	7,880	5,200	500	2,180
Shankill Road	7,140	4,300	560	2,280
Strabane	9,620	5,540	960	3,120
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>308,000</b>	<b>180,180</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>96,520</b>



## Section 8 United Kingdom analyses

### Summary

A breakdown of the IS caseload is given by Government Office Region (GOR) comparing data from February 1999 to February 2003 (Table 8.1). The caseload is then split by statistical group and GOR at February 2003 (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 February 2003 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 February 1999. The North West is the GOR with the greatest share of the UK caseload (14.5% at February 2003) in comparison with Northern Ireland which has the smallest share of the caseload (4.3% at February 2003). The West Midland has exhibited the largest increase in its share of the caseload, with its share increasing by 0.3% over the period of February 1999 to February 2003.

11.8% of the population in Great Britain were beneficiaries of Income support at February 2003. Among the regions this varied from 7.7% in the South East to 15.6% 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 February 2003 (74% had a claim with a duration of 2 years or more compared with 70.2% for Great Britain as a whole).



**Table 8.1 Income Support claimants by GOR: February 1999 to February 2003**

GOR	Thousands <sup>1</sup>				
	Feb 1999	Feb 2000	Feb 2001	Feb 2002	Feb 2003
North East	213	216	223	227	232
North West	566	561	569	579	576
Yorks & Humberside	342	346	358	363	362
East Midlands	239	240	246	252	254
West Midlands	362	360	372	382	388
East	265	266	273	277	277
London	576	577	571	569	571
South East	355	350	359	363	364
South West	268	265	272	276	275
Wales	227	228	234	235	234
Scotland	401	396	412	418	426
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,815</b>	<b>3,806</b>	<b>3,890</b>	<b>3,941</b>	<b>3,960</b>
Northern Ireland	167	170	175	177	180

<sup>1</sup> Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

**Table 8.2 Income Support claimants by GOR and statistical group: February 2003**

GOR	All Claimants (000s) <sup>1</sup>					Claimants as % of GOR population <sup>2</sup>
		Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Other %	
North East	<b>232</b>	44.7	19.6	28.2	7.5	11.5
North West	<b>576</b>	42.8	19.7	30.9	6.7	10.8
Yorks & Humberside	<b>362</b>	47.2	19.6	26.4	6.8	9.2
East Midlands	<b>254</b>	47.8	19.9	26.2	6.2	7.6
West Midlands	<b>388</b>	48.5	20.3	24.9	6.3	9.3
East	<b>277</b>	48.0	22.3	24.5	5.3	6.4
London	<b>571</b>	37.3	28.4	27.2	7.2	10.0
South East	<b>364</b>	46.4	23.1	24.8	5.7	5.7
South West	<b>275</b>	49.0	18.2	26.9	5.9	6.9
Wales	<b>234</b>	43.1	19.2	31.6	6.1	10.1
Scotland	<b>426</b>	43.9	17.7	30.5	7.9	10.4
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,960</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>8.7</b>
Northern Ireland	<b>180</b>	43.8	16.6	30.5	9.2	13.9

<sup>1</sup> Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

<sup>2</sup> Population aged 16 and over. For Northern Ireland, Mid-Year estimates for 2002 are unavailable at time of release. The Mid-Year estimate for 2001 has therefore been used.



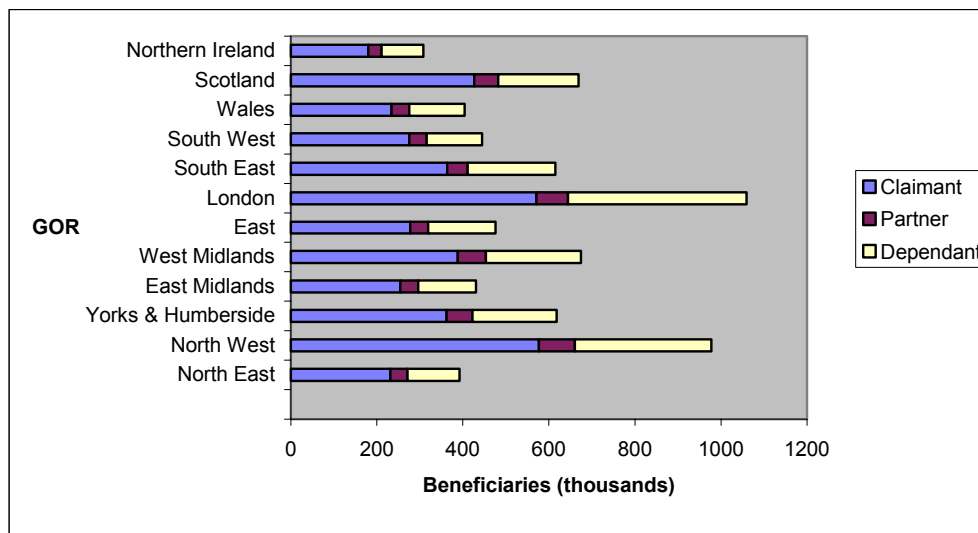
**Table 8.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: February 2003**

GOR	Type of beneficiary				Beneficiaries as % of GOR's population <sup>2</sup>
	All	Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
North East	392	232	40	121	15.6
North West	978	576	84	318	14.5
Yorks & Humberside	618	362	60	196	12.4
East Midlands	431	254	42	134	10.3
West Midlands	674	388	66	221	12.8
East	476	277	42	156	8.8
London	1,060	571	73	415	14.7
South East	615	364	47	204	7.7
South West	444	275	41	128	9.0
Wales	404	234	41	129	13.9
Scotland	669	426	56	187	13.2
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>6,761</b>	<b>3,960</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>2,208</b>	<b>11.8</b>
Northern Ireland	308	180	31	97	18.2

<sup>1</sup> Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

<sup>2</sup> For Northern Ireland, Mid-Year estimates for 2002 are unavailable at time of release. The Mid-Year estimate for 2001 has therefore been used.

**Chart 8A Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: February 2003**



**Table 8.4 Average weekly payment of Income Support by GOR and statistical group: February 2003**

GOR	£pw				
	All Claimants	Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
North East	<b>66.04</b>	42.30	107.67	77.36	56.37
North West	<b>70.11</b>	46.75	111.07	79.83	54.23
Yorks & Humberside	<b>67.72</b>	45.52	110.56	77.99	58.03
East Midlands	<b>67.17</b>	46.33	110.26	74.89	57.10
West Midlands	<b>68.60</b>	46.63	111.91	78.68	58.60
East	<b>69.63</b>	46.85	110.80	79.08	59.39
London	<b>85.32</b>	65.05	114.49	89.29	60.26
South East	<b>69.72</b>	46.80	111.35	76.76	57.25
South West	<b>65.18</b>	45.01	109.38	74.48	54.31
Wales	<b>69.30</b>	46.55	110.51	78.58	52.36
Scotland	<b>65.12</b>	45.61	106.31	73.35	49.57
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>70.51</b>	<b>48.28</b>	<b>110.98</b>	<b>78.94</b>	<b>56.09</b>
Northern Ireland	<b>74.58</b>	55.89	110.52	87.84	54.64

**Table 8.5 Income Support claimants by GOR and duration of current claim: February 2003**

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	<b>232</b>	4.3	5.2	8.8	12.7	68.9
North West	<b>576</b>	3.9	4.9	7.3	12.7	71.2
Yorks & Humberside	<b>362</b>	4.3	5.6	8.5	12.9	68.8
East Midlands	<b>254</b>	4.4	5.2	9.0	13.9	67.5
West Midlands	<b>388</b>	4.0	4.9	8.0	13.3	69.7
East	<b>277</b>	3.6	5.4	8.3	12.5	70.2
London	<b>571</b>	3.5	4.4	7.3	11.7	73.2
South East	<b>364</b>	4.0	5.2	8.4	13.0	69.4
South West	<b>275</b>	4.5	5.2	8.2	13.2	69.0
Wales	<b>234</b>	4.1	4.8	7.6	12.1	71.3
Scotland	<b>426</b>	4.5	5.6	8.2	12.2	69.5
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,960</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>70.2</b>
Northern Ireland	<b>180</b>	3.8	4.9	6.6	10.7	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 28<sup>th</sup> February 2003.

The QSE is based on a sample of approximately 5% of the IS population (1 in every 20 IS claimants). 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 February 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).



- Family Credit and Disability Working Allowance were replaced by Working Families Tax Credit and Disabled Persons Tax Credit 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> April 2002 (April 2002).
- From 8<sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>(1a)</sup>	11 to 16 <sup>(1b)</sup>	16-18 <sup>(1c)</sup>			
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 <sup>(2)</sup>		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 <sup>(3a)</sup>		16-18 <sup>(3b)</sup>			
April 10, 2000 <sup>(3)</sup>		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 <sup>(5)</sup>			Severe Disability		
	child	Carer <sup>(1)</sup>	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				Pensioner		Enhanced Pensioner <sup>(3)</sup>		Higher Pensioner	
	All	Couple	Lone Parent	Lone Parent <sup>(4)</sup>	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 <sup>(4)</sup>	-	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 <sup>(6)</sup>	-	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 <sup>(7)</sup>									
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
6. Alignment of Premiums paid to 'aged 60 or over' (MIG) April 2001
7. Bereavement Premium introduced in April 2002.



## Index

### **Section 1 Caseload-key characteristics and average payments**

Table 1.1 Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 to February 2003

Chart 1A Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 and February 2003

Table 1.2 Income Support claimants by statistical group (%): February 2002 to February 2003

Table 1.3 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 to February 2003

Chart 1B Average weekly payments made of Income Support claimants by statistical group: February 2002 & February 2003

Table 1.4 Income Support claimants by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003

Chart 1C Income Support claimants by age: February 2002 and February 2003

Table 1.5 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 1.6 Income Support claimants by family type: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 1.7 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: February 2002 to February 2003

Chart 1D Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: February 2002 and February 2003

Chart 1E Estimated total weekly expenditure on Income Support by group (£): February 2002 and February 2003



**Section 2 Length of time on IS**

Table 2.1 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim: February 2002 to February 2003

Chart 2A Income Support claimants by duration of current claim: February 2003

Table 2.2 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: February 2003

Chart 2B Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: February 2003

Table 2.3 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim, age and gender: February 2003

Table 2.4 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and range of weekly IS payment: February 2003

**Section 3 Main claimant groups**

Table 3.1 Income Support claimants receiving a Pensioner premium by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 3.2 Income Support claimants in receipt of a Disability premium by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 3.3 Income Support claimants in receipt of a Lone Parent premium by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 3.4 "Other" Income Support claimants by age and gender: February 2002 to February 2003

**Section 4 Claimants, partners and dependants**

Table 4.1 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 4.2 Income Support claimants by age and number of dependants: February 2003



**Section 5 Premium payments**

Table 5.1 Income Support premiums by type and number: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 5.2 Income Support claimants with premiums by family and premium type: February 2003

Table 5.3 Income Support premiums by type and statistical group: February 2003

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

Table 6.1 Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes: February 2002 to February 2003

Chart 6A Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes by type of care: February 2002 and February 2003

**Section 7 District council and Social Security Office analyses**

Table 7.1 Income Support claimants by District Council: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 7.2 Income Support claimants by statistical group and District Council: February 2003

Table 7.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and District Council: February 2003

Table 7.4 Income Support claimants by Social Security Office: February 2002 to February 2003

Table 7.5 Income Support claimants by statistical group and Social Security Office: February 2003

Table 7.6 Income Support claimants by type and Social Security Office: February 2003



## **Section 8 United Kingdom Analysis**

Table 8.1 Income Support claimants by GOR: February 1998 to February 2003

Table 8.2 Income Support by GOR and statistical group: February 2003

Table 8.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: February 2003

Chart 8A Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: February 2003

Table 8.4 Average weekly payment of Income Support by GOR and statistical group: February 2003

Table 8.5 Income Support claimants by GOR and duration of current claim: February 2003



**ISSN 1475-5777**

