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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 May 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 May 2001 and May 2002 the IS caseload has grown by approximately 0.5% and now stands at 176,280 at May 2002.

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 May 2001 and May 2002 the disabled statistical group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 4.4% to 53,180 claimants (30.2% of the total caseload) compared to the GB disabled statistical group increasing by approximately 4.9% to 1,067,000 claimants (27.2% of the total caseload). Similarly, in the statistical group aged 60 or over, between May 2001 and May 2002 this group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 1.6% to 77,720 claimants (44.1% of the total caseload) compared to the GB group aged 60 or over increasing by approximately 1.7% to 1,746,000 claimants (44.4% of the total caseload).

Lone Parents, along with the 'Other' statistical 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 32,400 in May 2001 to 29,960 in May 2002, with the average weekly payment for this group rising from £102.05 to £105.71. This group has the highest average weekly payment of IS. The number of claimants in the 'Other' statistical group has decreased between May 2001 and May 2002 (15,620 to 15,420) and makes up 8.7% 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 May 2002, for example, a single claimant without dependants received on average £54.91 per week, compared to £111.35 received by a single person with dependants. Amongst couples, those without dependants received on average £71.26 per week, while those with dependants received on average £131.65 per week.

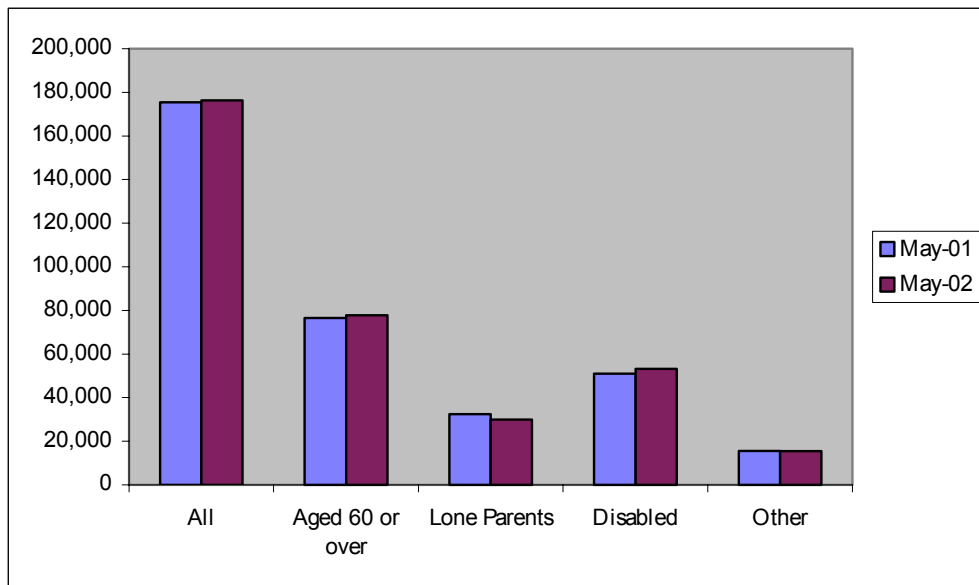
The largest number of male IS claimants lies in the 25-59 year age bracket, followed by the 60 years or over age bracket (37,640 and 28,560 respectively at May 2002). The largest number of females is in the 60 years and over age bracket, closely followed by the 25-59 year age bracket (48,420 and 47,640 respectively at May 2002).



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

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
May-01	175,420	76,460	32,400	50,940	15,620
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

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



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

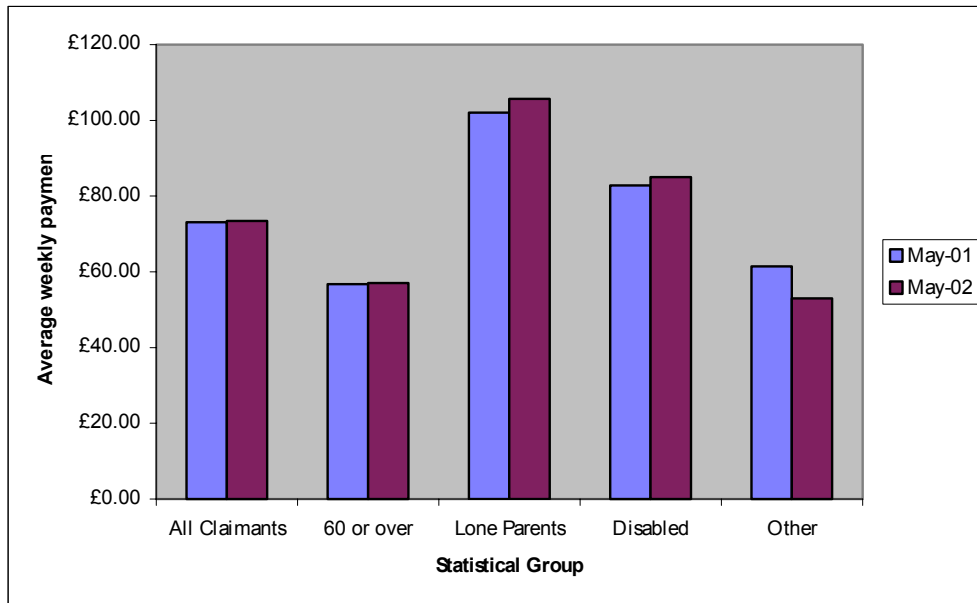
	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		% Aged 60 or over	% Lone Parents	% Disabled	% Other
May-01	100%	44%	18%	29%	9%
Aug-01	100%	44%	18%	29%	9%
Nov-01	100%	44%	17%	29%	9%
Feb-02	100%	44%	17%	30%	9%
May-02	100%	44%	17%	30%	9%



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

	Statistical group				
	All Claimants	Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
May-01	<b>£73.10</b>	£56.72	£102.05	£82.83	£61.45
Aug-01	<b>£72.58</b>	£56.35	£101.33	£82.49	£60.70
Nov-01	<b>£72.72</b>	£55.99	£103.76	£83.43	£59.79
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

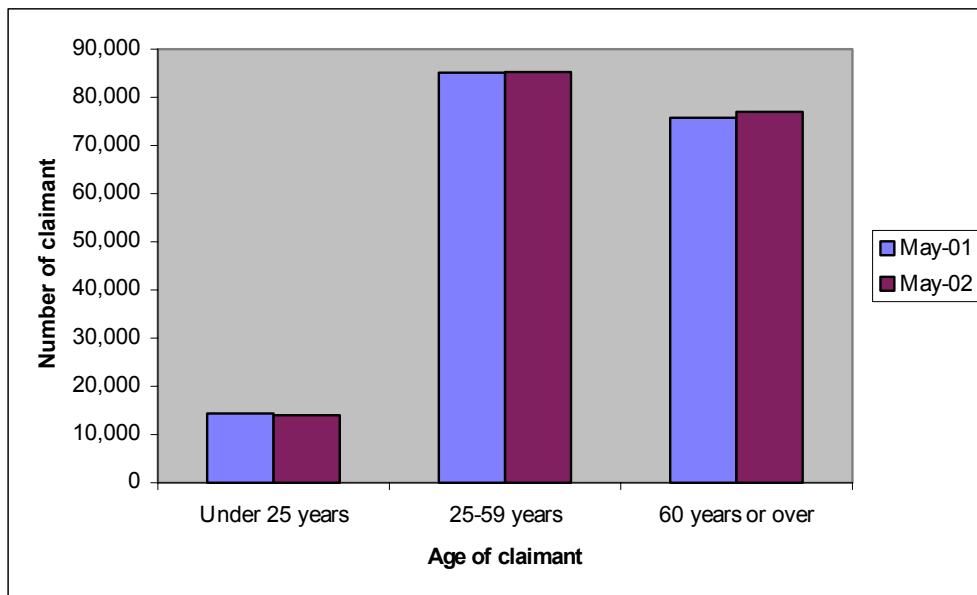
**Chart 1B Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: May 2001 and May 2002**



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

	All Claimants	All males			All females		
		Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over	Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over
May-01	<b>175,420</b>	4,340	37,240	26,800	10,040	48,020	48,980
Aug-01	<b>176,880</b>	4,200	37,840	27,200	10,260	47,980	49,400
Nov-01	<b>176,600</b>	4,440	37,760	27,720	9,720	47,680	49,280
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

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



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

	All Claimants	All males			All females		
		Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over	Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over
May-01	<b>£73.10</b>	£47.31	£79.17	£63.12	£78.66	£95.74	£52.87
Aug-01	<b>£72.58</b>	£45.99	£78.44	£62.84	£77.59	£95.49	£52.42
Nov-01	<b>£72.72</b>	£45.83	£78.81	£61.71	£78.91	£96.58	£52.37
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

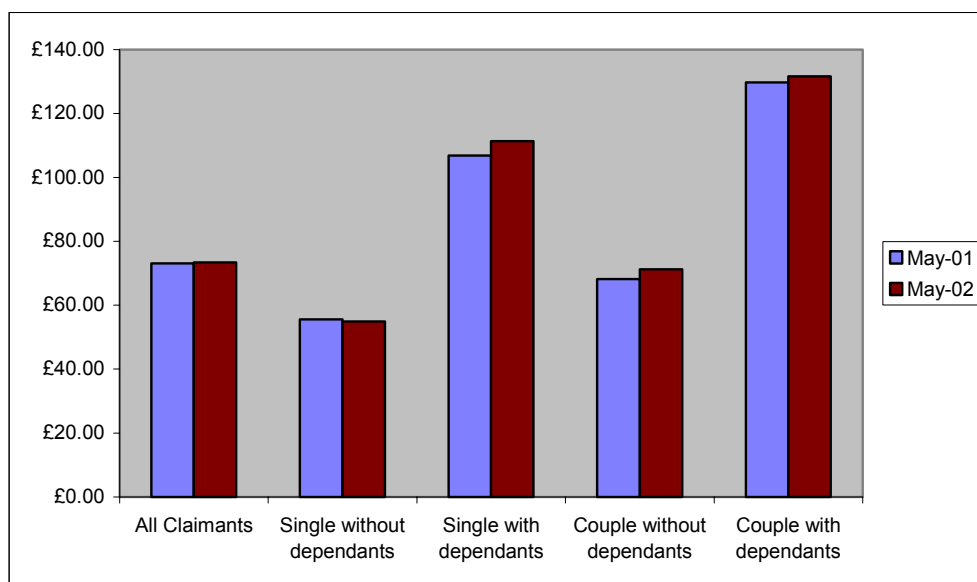


**Table 1.6 Income Support claimants by family type: May 2001 to May 2002**

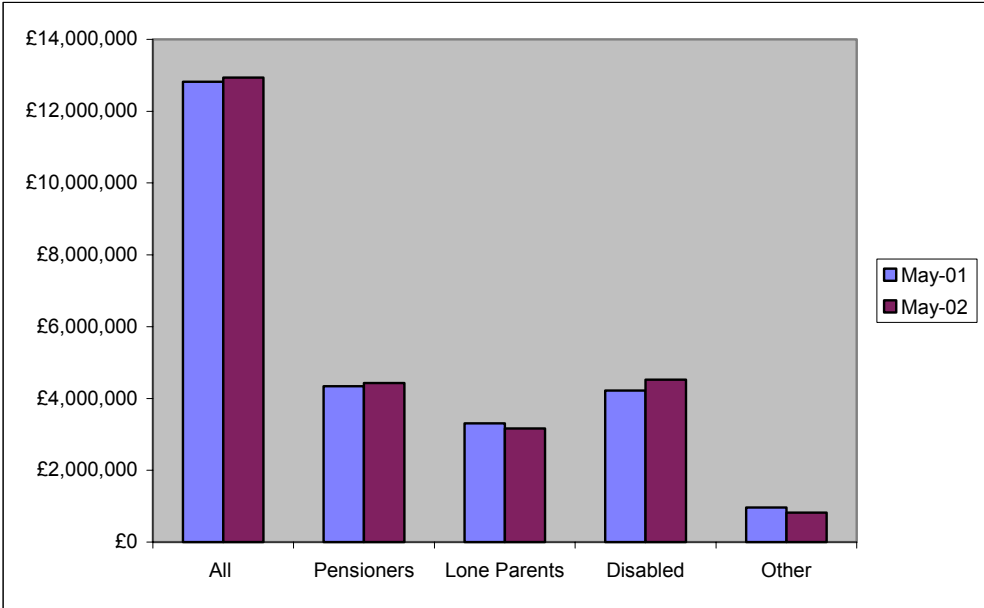
	All Claimants	Single without dependants	Single with dependants	Couples without dependants	Couples with dependants
May-01	175,420	105,960	39,800	19,040	10,620
Aug-01	176,880	106,960	40,160	19,160	10,600
Nov-01	176,600	108,180	38,660	19,640	10,120
Feb-02	176,500	107,600	38,680	20,000	10,220
May-02	176,280	108,020	37,980	19,980	10,300

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

	All Claimants	Single without dependants	Single with dependants	Couples without dependants	Couples with dependants
May-01	£73.10	£55.62	£106.84	£68.21	£129.76
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

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

**Chart 1E Estimated Total Weekly Expenditure on Income Support by group (Last week in May): 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

Although the overall numbers claiming IS has increased between May 2001 and May 2002, the proportion of claimants receiving benefit for the duration periods of under 3 months, 3 to under 6 months and 6 to under 12 months have decreased slightly (4.1% to 3.8%, 4.1% to 3.7% and 8.2% to 6.7% respectively). This decrease suggests a slight downturn 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 May 2002 (81.9% had a claim which lasted 2 years or over) whilst those in the 'other' group were likely to have spent the shortest time (36.2% had made their claim in the 6 months to May 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 May 2002 79.9% of males in this age bracket had a claim lasting 2 Years or longer, while 83.2% of females in this age group had a claim of this duration. Those aged under 25 claiming IS at May 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 (15.6% males under 25 and 11.5% of females under 25 at May 2002).

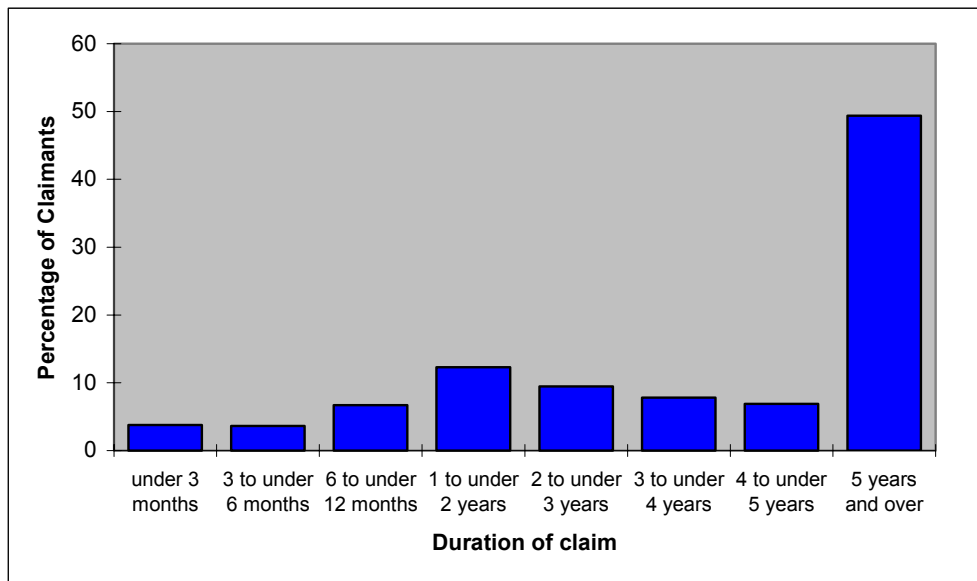
Claimants with longer claim durations were more likely to receive higher amounts of benefit than those claimants with shorter claim durations in May 2002. 40.2% of those with a duration of 2 years or more received £80 or more per week compared with only 27.1% for those with a duration of under 3 months.



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

<b>Duration</b>	<b>May 2001</b>	<b>Aug 2001</b>	<b>Nov 2001</b>	<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>May 2002</b>
<b>All claimants</b>	<b>175,420</b>	<b>176,880</b>	<b>176,600</b>	<b>176,500</b>	<b>176,280</b>
% under 3 months	4.1%	3.6%	4.1%	2.9%	3.8%
% 3 to under 6 months	4.1%	4.9%	3.8%	4.6%	3.7%
% 6 to under 12 months	8.2%	7.5%	7.3%	6.9%	6.7%
% 1 to under 2 years	11.9%	12.5%	12.7%	12.6%	12.3%
% 2 to under 3 years	9.0%	9.1%	9.3%	9.5%	9.5%
% 3 to under 4 years	8.0%	7.5%	7.4%	7.3%	7.8%
% 4 to under 5 years	6.6%	7.2%	7.1%	7.2%	6.9%
% 5 years and over	48.2%	47.8%	48.2%	48.9%	49.4%

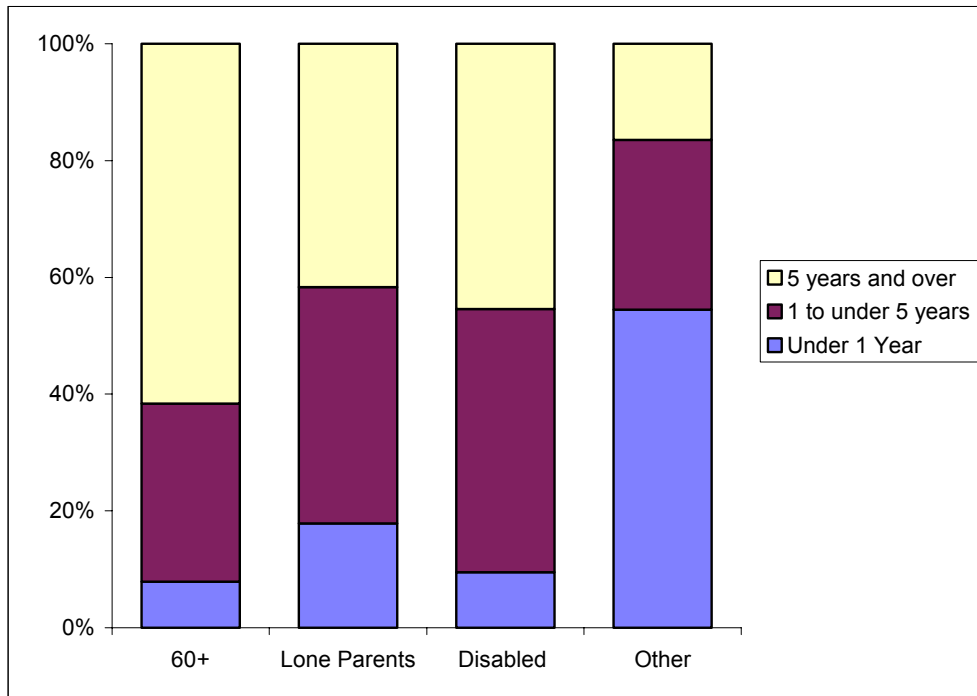
**Chart 2A Income Support claimants by duration of current claim: May 2002**



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

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Total	176,280	77,720	29,960	53,180	15,420
% under 3 months	3.8	1.4	4.2	1.9	21.5
% 3 to under 6 months	3.7	2.0	4.6	2.4	14.7
% 6 to under 12 months	6.7	4.6	9.0	5.2	18.3
% 1 to under 2 years	12.3	10.2	13.1	15.1	11.5
% 2 to under 3 years	9.5	7.5	9.9	12.4	8.6
% 3 to under 4 years	7.8	6.8	9.8	9.2	4.3
% 4 to under 5 years	6.9	6.0	7.7	8.4	4.7
% 5 years and over	49.4	61.6	41.7	45.4	16.5

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



**Table 2.3 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim, age and gender: May 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>73.6</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>70,440</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>69.5</b>
Under 18	360	44.4	11.1	44.4	-	-
18-24	3,880	12.9	10.3	21.6	24.2	30.9
25-59	37,640	5.6	5.0	7.3	15.9	66.2
60 and Over	28,560	2.0	2.1	5.2	10.9	79.9
<b>Female</b>	<b>105,840</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>76.3</b>
Under 18	520	19.2	19.2	50.0	11.5	-
18-24	9,260	11.0	10.2	14.3	19.2	45.4
25-59	47,640	3.6	3.4	6.3	10.6	76.2
60 and Over	48,420	1.0	1.8	4.3	9.8	83.2

**Table 2.4 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and range of weekly IS payment: May 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
<b>All amounts</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>6,640</b>	<b>6,440</b>	<b>11,840</b>	<b>21,660</b>	<b>129,700</b>
Under £10	2.9	7.8	7.1	5.4	6.2	1.6
£10 to under £30	16.3	11.1	9.0	11.8	16.6	17.3
£30 to under £40	8.0	7.5	9.0	10.1	8.6	7.7
£40 to under £50	6.8	18.1	15.5	10.8	6.5	5.5
£50 to under £70	18.1	25.3	19.6	19.3	13.8	18.3
£70 to under £80	9.2	3.0	5.9	7.6	12.7	9.3
£80 to under £100	14.5	9.6	17.4	17.6	14.9	14.3
£100 or over	24.0	17.5	16.5	17.4	20.9	25.9
Average amount £ per week	73.41	62.87	66.44	67.54	70.05	75.39



## 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 May 2002, 37.9% (18,500) of these women were aged 80 years or over compared to just 16.2% (4,680) of men. Those aged 60-64 accounted for 34.3% of males in this premium group, while only 12.3% were in this age bracket for females. This age distribution is broadly similar to that in Great Britain at this time, with 32.4% of males and 11.8% of females falling into the 60-64 years age bracket.

Disabled IS claimants were mainly in the 25-59 age range at May 2002, a situation which has remained relatively unchanged since 1995. 56.9% (30,240) of IS claimants receiving the disability were male, 43.1% (22,940) female. This is mirrored in Great Britain where the percentages are 55.1% male and 44.9% 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 fell from 15,620 in May 2001 to 15,420 in May 2002. There continues to be almost twice as many males than females in this category (9,840 and 5,580 respectively). This distribution is mirrored in GB, with 62.1% (162,000) of ‘other’ claimants being male and 37.9% (99,000) female at May 2002.



**Table 3.1 Income Support claimants receiving a Pensioner premium<sup>1</sup> by age and gender: May 2001 to May 2002**

Age/ Gender	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01	Feb-02	May-02
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,440</b>	<b>77,220</b>	<b>77,660</b>	<b>77,640</b>	<b>77,720</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>27,140</b>	<b>27,560</b>	<b>28,080</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>28,920</b>
60-64	9,300	9,460	9,680	9,680	9,920
65-74	10,260	10,440	10,640	10,760	10,980
75-79	3,100	3,100	3,220	3,380	3,340
80 or over	4,480	4,560	4,540	4,580	4,680
<b>Female</b>	<b>49,300</b>	<b>49,660</b>	<b>49,580</b>	<b>49,240</b>	<b>48,800</b>
60-64	6,020	6,120	6,080	6,140	6,080
65-74	15,100	15,280	15,140	14,940	14,840
75-79	9,660	9,720	9,740	9,640	9,380
80 or over	18,520	18,540	18,620	18,520	18,500

<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: May 2001 to May 2002**

Age/ Gender	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01	Feb-02	May-02
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,940</b>	<b>51,800</b>	<b>52,060</b>	<b>52,640</b>	<b>53,180</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>29,260</b>	<b>29,880</b>	<b>29,760</b>	<b>30,040</b>	<b>30,240</b>
Under 18	160	200	200	140	-
18-24	2,300	2,260	2,340	2,440	2,040
25-59	26,800	27,420	27,220	27,460	28,120
<b>Female</b>	<b>21,680</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>22,300</b>	<b>22,600</b>	<b>22,940</b>
Under 18	140	120	140	140	100
18-24	1,960	1,940	1,940	1,820	1,680
25-59	19,580	19,860	20,220	20,640	21,160



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

<b>Age/ Gender</b>	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01	Feb-02	May-02
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,400</b>	<b>32,220</b>	<b>30,680</b>	<b>30,680</b>	<b>29,960</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,440</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>30,820</b>	<b>30,720</b>	<b>29,120</b>	<b>29,080</b>	<b>28,520</b>
Under 18	200	160	240	200	160
18-24	6,800	6,980	6,260	6,420	6,280
25-59	23,820	23,580	22,620	22,460	22,080

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

<b>Age/ Gender</b>	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01	Feb-02	May-02
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,620</b>	<b>15,640</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>15,540</b>	<b>15,420</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>10,380</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>10,520</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>9,840</b>
Under 18	-	-	140	200	280
18-24	1,720	1,640	1,680	1,560	1,760
25-59	8,580	8,600	8,700	8,140	7,800
<b>Female</b>	<b>5,240</b>	<b>5,340</b>	<b>5,680</b>	<b>5,640</b>	<b>5,580</b>
Under 18	180	240	140	200	260
18-24	760	820	1,000	920	1,300
25-59	4,300	4,280	4,540	4,520	4,020



## **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 may 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's 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 May 2001 the proportion of the population who are beneficiaries of IS (i.e. a claimant, partner or dependant) has decreased slightly from 18.2% to 18% in May 2002. This proportion of the population in GB has also decreased from 11.7% to 11.6% during this period.

The proportion of IS claimants having a partner from May 2001 to May 2002 has increased slightly from 16.9% to 17.2%. 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 May 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 May 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 May 2002).



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

	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as % of population
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
May-01	<b>306,220</b>	175,420	29,660	101,140	18.2%
Aug-01	<b>308,080</b>	176,880	29,760	101,440	18.3%
Nov-01	<b>304,120</b>	176,600	29,760	97,760	18.1%
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%

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

	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>176,280</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>13,140</b>	<b>24,700</b>	<b>39,140</b>	<b>21,440</b>	<b>76,980</b>
Claimants without deps	<b>128,000</b>	720	6,000	9,060	18,300	17,800	76,120
Claimants with deps	<b>48,280</b>	160	7,140	15,640	20,840	3,640	860
Number of Deps							
1	<b>20,420</b>	160	5,160	5,140	6,960	2,420	580
2	<b>14,820</b>	0	1,640	5,360	6,680	920	220
3	<b>7,700</b>	0	280	2,900	4,320	160	-
4	<b>3,600</b>	0	-	1,620	1,780	140	-
5	<b>1,180</b>	0	0	440	740	0	0
6 or more	<b>540</b>	0	0	180	360	0	0
Average number of dependants	<b>2.0</b>	1.0	1.3	2.2	2.2	1.5	1.4



## 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 the 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 May 2002 received extra help in this way (168,460 claimants, 95.6% 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 1.50 per claimant in May 2001 to 1.52 in May 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 2.2% from May 2001 to May 2002 which compares to an increase of 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 May 2001 to May 2002, 3.6% and 3.1% respectively. In GB the increases for disability and age are 5% and 4.1% respectively.

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% of this group were not in receipt of any premium. The situation was similar in GB, with 7.3% 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: May 2001 to May 2002**

Type of premium	May 2001	Aug 2001	Nov 2001	Feb 2002	May 2002
<b>All types</b>	<b>262,660</b>	<b>266,740</b>	<b>266,660</b>	<b>268,260</b>	<b>268,360</b>
Higher pensioner premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	23,260	23,420	23,560	23,640	24,000
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	37,460	37,820	38,400	38,320	38,780
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,260	3,260	3,400	3,460	3,460
Pensioner premium	12,020	12,340	12,020	12,100	12,100
Severe Disability premium - higher	4,080	3,940	3,980	4,220	4,140
Severe Disability premium - lower	41,380	42,740	43,580	43,620	43,460
Disability Premium	50,960	51,820	52,060	52,680	53,180
Enhanced disability premium	11,240	11,460	11,660	11,780	11,300
Disabled child premium	5,140	5,180	5,040	4,900	4,900
Enhanced disabled child premium	2,460	2,460	2,520	2,360	2,380
Family Premium(lone parent)*	16,600	16,520	15,440	15,140	14,320
Family Premium*	33,800	34,240	33,340	33,760	33,920
Carer Premium	21,000	21,540	21,660	22,280	22,420
Claimants not in receipt of an IS premium	9,420	9,040	9,440	8,680	7,820
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	166,000	167,840	167,160	167,820	168,460
Average number of premiums	1.50	1.51	1.51	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: May 2002**

Type of premium		Single Claimants		Couples	
		With Dependants	Without Dependants	With Dependants	Without Dependants
<b>All premiums</b>	<b>268,360</b>	<b>60,940</b>	<b>147,740</b>	<b>27,580</b>	<b>32,100</b>
Higher Pensioner Premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	24,000	0	21,920	0	2,080
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	38,780	200	27,220	460	10,900
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,460	0	3,200	0	260
Pensioner premium	12,100	0	9,660	180	2,200
Severe Disability premium-higher	4,140	0	0	260	3,880
Severe Disability premium - lower	43,460	3,980	38,960	-	480
Disability Premium	53,180	7,740	32,820	7,560	5,060
Enhanced disability premium	11,300	1,380	6,800	1,600	1,520
Disabled child premium	4,900	3,400	0	1,500	0
Enhanced disabled child premium	2,380	1,580	0	800	0
Family Premium(lone parent)*	14,320	14,320	0	0	0
Family Premium*	33,920	23,640	0	10,280	0
Carer Premium	22,420	4,640	7,160	4,900	5,720
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	168,460	37,980	100,500	10,300	19,680
Claimants with no premium	7,820	0	7,520	0	300
Average number of premiums	1.52	1.60	1.37	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: May 2002**

Type of premium	All Claimants	Statistical Group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
<b>All premiums</b>	<b>268,360</b>	<b>115,760</b>	<b>37,740</b>	<b>104,940</b>	<b>9,920</b>
Higher pensioner premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	24,000	24,000	0	0	0
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	38,780	38,780	0	0	0
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,460	3,460	0	0	0
Pensioner premium	12,100	12,100	0	0	0
Severe disability premium - higher	4,140	3,620	0	520	0
Severe disability premium - lower	43,460	28,900	0	14,560	0
Disability Premium	53,180	0	0	53,180	0
Enhanced disability premium	11,300	0	0	11,300	0
Disabled child premium	4,900	-	2,580	1,800	480
Enhanced disabled child premium	2,380	-	1,060	960	320
Family Premium(lone parent) <sup>1,2</sup>	14,320	0	14,320	0	0
Family Premium <sup>1,2</sup>	33,920	900	15,640	15,280	2,100
Carer Premium	22,420	3,920	4,140	7,340	7,020
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	168,460	77,300	29,960	53,180	8,020
Claimants with no premium	7,400	420*	0	0	7,400
Average number of premiums	1.52	1.49	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 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 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**

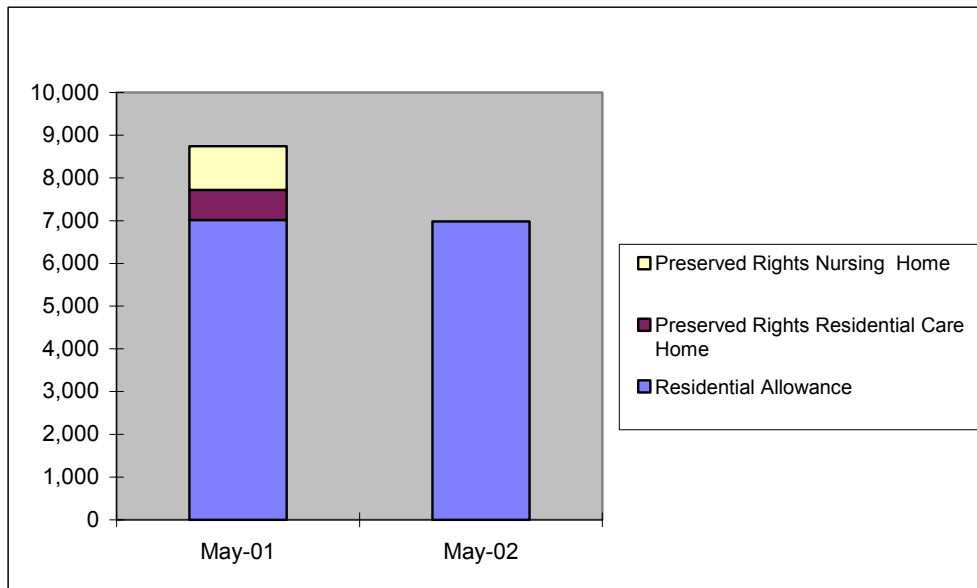
Due to the abolition of preserved rights cases from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2002, the number of preserved rights cases has fallen to zero. The number of Residential allowance cases during the period from May 2001 until May 2002 has decreased from 7,020 to 6,980. The overall number of RCNH claimants has shown a decrease from 8,740 in May 2001 to 6,980 in May 2002. Currently RCNH cases make up 4% of the total IS caseload in Northern Ireland. In contrast, the equivalent GB percentage stands at 5.2%.



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

	All	Residential allowance	Preserved Rights		
			All	Residential care home	Nursing home
May-01	<b>8,740</b>	7,020	1,720	700	1,020
Aug-01	<b>9,020</b>	7,380	1,640	640	1,000
Nov-01	<b>8,940</b>	7,360	1,580	660	920
Feb-02	<b>8,560</b>	7,120	1,440	620	820
May-02	<b>6,980</b>	6,980	0	0	0

**Chart 6A Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes by type of care: May 2001 and May 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 May 2001 to May 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 were found in the Belfast, Derry and Newry & Mourne district councils. The lowest number of claimants was found in Moyle and Larne 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% and 19.3% of the population respectively), closely followed by Strabane (18.1% of the population). The lowest proportion of claimants aged 16 and over is in the Castlereagh district council (6.3% 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 (26.4%), closely followed by Belfast (25.7%) and Newry & Mourne (24.5%). The lowest proportion of beneficiaries is in the Castlereagh district council (7.7%) followed by North Down (9.4% of the population) and Carrickfergus (10.5%). Overall 18% of the population in Northern Ireland were beneficiaries of IS, compared to 11.6% in GB.

Corporation Street Social Security Office had the largest share of the IS caseload with 11,140 claimants (6.3% of the caseload) at May 2002, while Newcastle had only 1,320 claimants (0.7% of the caseload) at the same point in time. Newry, Limavady and Ballymoney respectively experienced the largest increases in claimant numbers between May 2001 and May 2002. Similarly Knockbreda, Newtownabbey and Strabane all experienced the largest claimant decreases during this period.

In Magherafelt 57.5% of the caseload consisted of claimants aged 60 or over, while this category of claimant only accounted for 28.6% of the caseload in Foyle. Newcastle had the highest proportion of lone parents in comparison to Kilkeel which had the lowest (31.8% and 7.4% respectively at May 2002). In regard to the disabled claimants, Kilkeel had the highest proportion while Ballymena had the lowest proportion (38.2% and 20.5% respectively).

The highest number IS beneficiaries was found in the Foyle Social Security Office (21,000 beneficiaries at May 2002) the lowest number being in Newcastle (2,560 beneficiaries at May 2002).



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

<b>District Council</b>	<b>May 2001</b>	<b>Aug 2001</b>	<b>Nov 2001</b>	<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>May 2002</b>
Antrim	3,960	4,140	4,080	4,040	4,100
Ards	4,860	5,000	5,040	4,980	4,980
Armagh	4,700	4,780	4,560	4,600	4,480
Ballymena	4,380	4,380	4,260	4,360	4,320
Ballymoney	2,000	2,160	2,220	2,340	2,360
Banbridge	2,360	2,460	2,480	2,460	2,600
Belfast	42,080	41,500	42,060	41,900	41,900
Carrickfergus	2,200	2,120	2,300	2,360	2,360
Castlereagh	3,620	3,580	3,580	3,320	3,280
Coleraine	4,980	5,160	5,080	5,100	5,160
Cookstown	4,300	4,260	4,300	4,260	4,180
Craigavon	8,280	8,300	8,380	8,320	8,460
Derry	15,260	15,280	14,820	14,920	14,940
Down	5,040	5,140	5,180	5,260	5,000
Dungannon	6,180	6,200	6,220	6,260	6,340
Fermanagh	6,540	6,700	6,540	6,540	6,580
Larne	2,340	2,460	2,380	2,400	2,280
Limavady	3,140	3,200	3,160	3,300	3,460
Lisburn	8,960	9,080	8,800	8,820	8,840
Magherafelt	3,880	3,940	3,980	3,860	3,840
Moyle	1,820	1,880	1,780	1,840	1,760
Newry&Mourne	10,960	11,300	11,240	11,280	11,560
Newtownabbey	5,840	5,800	5,740	5,800	5,600
North Down	4,860	4,920	4,980	4,720	4,620
Omagh	5,160	5,300	5,300	5,420	5,300
Strabane	5,560	5,580	5,480	5,360	5,120
Missing Postcode *	2,160	2,260	2,660	2,680	2,860
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>175,420</b>	<b>176,880</b>	<b>176,600</b>	<b>176,500</b>	<b>176,280</b>

\* 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: May 2002**

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	4,980	47.8%	13.3%	29.3%	9.6%	8.6%
Antrim	4,100	46.8%	13.7%	32.7%	6.8%	11.0%
Armagh	4,480	54.0%	13.4%	28.1%	4.5%	11.0%
Ballymena	4,320	55.6%	16.2%	21.8%	6.5%	9.4%
Ballymoney	2,360	51.7%	16.9%	22.9%	8.5%	11.4%
Banbridge	2,600	54.6%	19.2%	20.0%	6.2%	8.2%
Belfast	41,900	40.0%	19.3%	31.4%	9.2%	19.3%
Carrickfergus	2,360	40.7%	17.8%	36.4%	5.1%	8.1%
Castlereagh	3,280	50.0%	14.6%	27.4%	7.9%	6.3%
Coleraine	5,160	44.2%	17.1%	28.3%	10.5%	11.8%
Cookstown	4,180	49.3%	10.0%	34.0%	6.7%	17.2%
Craigavon	8,460	45.6%	15.4%	28.4%	10.6%	13.9%
Derry	14,940	31.6%	23.3%	35.9%	9.2%	19.4%
Down	5,000	40.8%	18.4%	30.4%	10.4%	10.4%
Dungannon	6,340	45.4%	12.3%	30.0%	12.3%	17.8%
Fermanagh	6,580	55.0%	10.9%	25.5%	8.5%	15.0%
Larne	2,280	50.9%	13.2%	27.2%	8.8%	9.4%
Limavady	3,460	35.8%	17.9%	34.1%	12.1%	14.2%
Lisburn	8,840	40.0%	22.6%	29.4%	7.9%	10.7%
Magherafelt	3,840	62.0%	10.9%	21.9%	5.2%	13.0%
Moyle	1,760	54.5%	14.8%	20.5%	10.2%	14.4%
Newry&Mourne	11,560	42.9%	14.4%	32.9%	9.9%	18.0%
Newtownabbey	5,600	46.8%	18.2%	27.9%	7.1%	8.9%
North Down	4,620	55.8%	13.9%	26.8%	3.5%	7.5%
Omagh	5,300	48.7%	13.2%	29.8%	8.3%	14.8%
Strabane	5,120	42.2%	12.9%	36.3%	8.6%	18.1%
Missing Postcode*	2,860	32.9%	26.6%	28.7%	11.9%	
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>13.6%</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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. City Council.



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

District Council	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as a percentage of the population <sup>1</sup>
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
Antrim	6,800	4,100	620	2,080	13.9%
Ards	8,160	4,980	900	2,280	11.1%
Armagh	7,100	4,480	880	1,740	13.0%
Ballymena	7,060	4,320	600	2,140	12.0%
Ballymoney	4,080	2,360	500	1,220	15.1%
Banbridge	4,460	2,600	440	1,420	10.7%
Belfast	71,260	41,900	5,300	24,060	25.7%
Carrickfergus	3,960	2,360	340	1,260	10.5%
Castlereagh	5,120	3,280	620	1,220	7.7%
Coleraine	8,320	5,160	800	2,360	14.7%
Cookstown	7,460	4,180	1,200	2,080	22.8%
Craigavon	15,380	8,460	1,800	5,120	19.0%
Derry	27,820	14,940	2,420	10,460	26.4%
Down	8,460	5,000	680	2,780	13.2%
Dungannon	10,640	6,340	1,340	2,960	22.2%
Fermanagh	10,320	6,580	1,280	2,460	17.9%
Lame	3,780	2,280	520	980	12.3%
Limavady	6,300	3,460	720	2,120	19.3%
Lisburn	16,800	8,840	1,340	6,620	15.4%
Magherafelt	6,640	3,840	960	1,840	16.6%
Moyle	2,800	1,760	320	720	17.5%
Newry&Mourne	21,420	11,560	2,580	7,280	24.5%
Newtownabbey	9,180	5,600	1,000	2,580	11.5%
North Down	7,200	4,620	820	1,760	9.4%
Omagh	8,320	5,300	1,000	2,020	17.3%
Strabane	8,880	5,120	940	2,820	23.2%
Missing Postcode*	5,900	2,860	360	2,680	
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>303,620</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>30,280</b>	<b>97,060</b>	<b>18.0%</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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: May 2001 to May 2002**

<b>Social Security Office</b>	<b>May 2001</b>	<b>Aug 2001</b>	<b>Nov 2001</b>	<b>Feb 2002</b>	<b>May 2002</b>
Andersonstown	7,960	7,900	7,960	8,060	8,220
Antrim	4,720	4,940	4,820	4,780	4,860
Armagh	4,340	4,500	4,320	4,360	4,320
Ballymena	4,940	4,980	4,880	5,040	4,880
Ballymoney	3,720	3,940	3,860	4,000	4,000
Ballynahinch	1,820	1,840	1,980	2,020	2,000
Banbridge	2,940	3,020	3,000	2,980	3,160
Bangor	5,120	5,160	5,200	5,000	4,880
Carrickfergus*					
Coleraine	5,060	5,260	5,160	5,200	5,260
Cookstown	3,640	3,620	3,700	3,600	3,580
Corporation Street	11,200	11,060	10,980	10,900	11,140
Downpatrick	2,560	2,660	2,700	2,760	2,680
Dungannon	5,800	5,860	5,920	5,920	5,960
Enniskillen	7,540	7,700	7,640	7,640	7,680
Falls Road	8,640	8,500	8,780	8,760	8,520
Foyle	10,800	10,900	10,820	10,840	10,760
Holywood Road	7,540	7,520	7,580	7,420	7,380
Kilkeel	1,440	1,500	1,420	1,380	1,360
Knockbreda	5,160	5,120	5,060	4,820	4,800
Larne	4,620	4,600	4,660	4,760	4,680
Limavady	2,900	2,960	2,980	3,060	3,200
Lisburn	5,220	5,340	5,200	5,160	5,160
Lisnagelvin	5,020	5,060	5,000	5,100	5,140
Lurgan	5,380	5,360	5,340	5,320	5,380
Magherafelt	4,040	4,040	4,080	4,020	4,000
Newcastle	1,460	1,440	1,340	1,420	1,320
Newry	9,040	9,320	9,320	9,320	9,580
Newtownabbey	5,080	4,980	4,880	4,960	4,780
Newtownards	3,760	3,920	3,940	3,840	3,880
Omagh	5,120	5,240	5,260	5,320	5,160
Portadown	4,020	4,020	4,020	4,040	4,140
Shaftesbury Sq.	4,900	4,780	4,820	4,760	4,780
Shankill Road	4,260	4,180	4,420	4,420	4,280
Strabane	5,660	5,660	5,560	5,500	5,360
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>175,420</b>	<b>176,880</b>	<b>176,600</b>	<b>176,480</b>	<b>176,280</b>

\*Carrickfergus totals combined with Larne SSO from May 1999



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

Social Security Office	All Claimants 100%	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Other %
Andersonstown	8,220	29.9%	27.0%	31.4%	11.7%
Antrim	4,860	45.7%	14.0%	33.7%	6.6%
Armagh	4,320	53.7%	13.9%	27.3%	5.1%
Ballymena	4,880	57.0%	16.0%	20.5%	6.6%
Ballymoney	4,000	53.0%	13.0%	23.5%	10.5%
Ballynahinch	2,000	52.0%	11.0%	29.0%	8.0%
Banbridge	3,160	53.2%	16.5%	21.5%	8.9%
Bangor	4,880	55.3%	12.7%	27.9%	4.1%
Coleraine	5,260	44.9%	17.9%	27.4%	9.9%
Cookstown	3,580	49.7%	11.2%	32.4%	6.7%
Corporation Street	11,140	37.3%	21.9%	32.3%	8.4%
Downpatrick	2,680	41.8%	16.4%	31.3%	10.4%
Dungannon	5,960	43.0%	13.1%	32.9%	11.1%
Enniskillen	7,680	55.2%	11.7%	24.0%	9.1%
Falls Road	8,520	34.0%	21.4%	32.9%	11.7%
Foyle	7,380	48.8%	13.8%	29.3%	8.1%
Hollywood Road	1,360	50.0%	7.4%	38.2%	4.4%
Kilkeel	4,800	48.3%	15.8%	30.8%	5.0%
Knockbreda	4,680	45.7%	15.4%	31.6%	7.3%
Larne	3,200	35.0%	18.1%	33.8%	13.1%
Limavady	5,160	50.0%	15.1%	27.1%	7.8%
Lisburn	5,140	38.1%	17.1%	34.6%	10.1%
Lisnagelvin	10,760	28.6%	26.8%	35.9%	8.7%
Lurgan	5,380	43.9%	15.2%	28.3%	12.6%
Magherafelt	4,000	57.5%	12.5%	25.5%	4.5%
Newcastle	1,320	31.8%	31.8%	27.3%	9.1%
Newry	9,580	40.7%	15.4%	33.6%	10.2%
Newtownabbey	4,780	46.9%	20.1%	25.5%	7.5%
Newtownards	3,880	47.4%	14.4%	27.8%	10.3%
Omagh	5,160	48.4%	12.4%	30.6%	8.5%
Portadown	4,140	51.2%	14.0%	27.1%	7.7%
Shaftesbury Sq.	4,780	42.3%	15.1%	32.6%	10.0%
Shankill Road	4,280	44.4%	21.5%	28.0%	6.1%
Strabane	5,360	41.0%	14.2%	36.2%	8.6%
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>176,280</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: May 2002**

Social Security Office	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary		
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant
Andersonstown	16,840	8,220	1,200	7,420
Antrim	7,840	4,860	660	2,320
Armagh	6,940	4,320	820	1,800
Ballymena	8,040	4,880	760	2,400
Ballymoney	6,720	4,000	900	1,820
Ballynahinch	3,120	2,000	280	840
Banbridge	5,480	3,160	700	1,620
Bangor	7,680	4,880	860	1,940
Coleraine	8,360	5,260	740	2,360
Cookstown	6,560	3,580	1,080	1,900
Corporation Street	19,580	11,140	1,400	7,040
Downpatrick	4,400	2,680	340	1,380
Dungannon	10,140	5,960	1,280	2,900
Enniskillen	12,280	7,680	1,460	3,140
Falls Road	15,160	8,520	1,300	5,340
Foyle	21,000	10,760	1,620	8,620
Hollywood Road	11,920	7,380	1,060	3,480
Kilkeel	2,720	1,360	400	960
Knockbreda	7,440	4,800	520	2,120
Larne	7,800	4,680	880	2,240
Limavady	5,680	3,200	620	1,860
Lisburn	8,620	5,160	820	2,640
Lisnagelvin	8,960	5,140	1,000	2,820
Lurgan	9,840	5,380	1,100	3,360
Magherafelt	7,080	4,000	960	2,120
Newcastle	2,560	1,320	200	1,040
Newry	17,540	9,580	1,920	6,040
Newtownabbey	7,820	4,780	820	2,220
Newtownards	6,420	3,880	740	1,800
Omagh	8,020	5,160	1,000	1,860
Portadown	7,080	4,140	880	2,060
Shaftesbury Sq.	7,300	4,780	460	2,060
Shankill Road	7,280	4,280	560	2,440
Strabane	9,400	5,360	940	3,100
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>303,620</b>	<b>176,280</b>	<b>30,280</b>	<b>97,060</b>



## Section 8 United Kingdom analyses

### Summary

A breakdown of the IS caseload is given by Government Office Region (GOR) comparing data from May 1998 to May 2002 (Table 8.1). The caseload is then split by statistical group and GOR at May 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 May 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 May 1998. The North West is the GOR with the greatest share of the UK caseload (14% at May 2002) in comparison with Northern Ireland which has the smallest share of the caseload (4.3% at May 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 May 1998 to May 2002.

11.6% of the population in Great Britain were beneficiaries of Income support at May 2002. Among the regions this varied from 7.5% in the South East to 15.2% in the North East. In Northern Ireland 18% of the population were beneficiaries of IS. IS claimants in Northern Ireland were likely to have spent a longer time on benefit at May 2002 (73.6% had a claim with a duration of 2 years or more compared with 68.4% for Great Britain as a whole).



**Table 8.1 Income Support claimants by GOR: May 1998 to May 2002**

GOR	Thousands <sup>1</sup>				
	May 1998	May 1999	May 2000	May 2001	May 2002
North East	212	214	219	226	229
North West	575	565	559	577	576
Yorks & Humberside	345	343	348	361	362
East Midlands	243	240	241	250	253
West Midlands	366	362	364	376	382
East	268	265	266	276	275
London	582	575	573	572	567
South East	363	354	351	363	359
South West	268	269	264	274	274
Wales	226	228	229	236	234
Scotland	404	400	398	417	419
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,853</b>	<b>3,814</b>	<b>3,811</b>	<b>3,928</b>	<b>3,930</b>
Northern Ireland	167	167	171	175	176

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

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

GOR	All Claimants (000s) <sup>1</sup>	%				
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other	Claimants as % of GOR population <sup>2</sup>
North East	229	44.3	20.4	28.3	7.0	11.1
North West	576	42.5	20.4	30.5	6.6	10.5
Yorks & Humberside	362	47.0	20.8	25.6	6.6	9.0
East Midlands	253	47.4	20.7	25.8	6.1	7.5
West Midlands	382	48.1	20.7	24.8	6.4	9.0
East	275	48.1	22.3	24.4	5.2	6.3
London	567	37.2	28.9	26.3	7.7	9.6
South East	359	46.7	23.1	24.7	5.5	5.5
South West	274	48.5	19.3	25.9	6.3	6.8
Wales	234	42.8	19.9	30.8	6.5	10.0
Scotland	419	43.6	18.5	30.1	7.8	10.2
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>8.5</b>
Northern Ireland	176	44.1	17.0	30.2	8.7	13.6

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

<sup>2</sup> Aged 16 and over

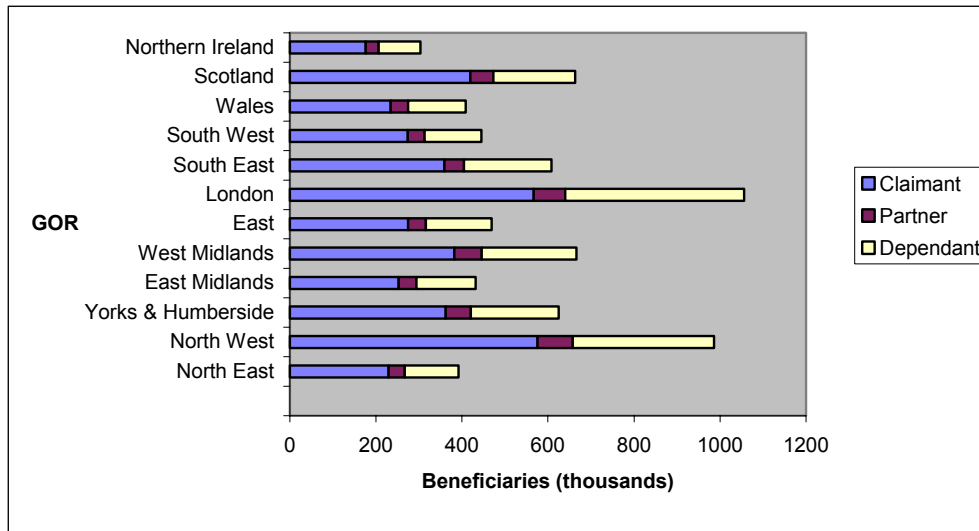


**Table 8.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: May 2002**

GOR	All	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as % GOR's population
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
North East	392	229	38	125	15.2
North West	987	576	82	328	14.3
Yorks & Humberside	624	362	59	204	12.3
East Midlands	431	253	41	138	10.2
West Midlands	666	382	64	220	12.5
East	469	275	41	153	8.6
London	1,056	567	73	416	14.3
South East	608	359	46	203	7.5
South West	446	274	39	132	9.0
Wales	408	234	41	134	13.9
Scotland	663	419	54	190	13.0
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>6,749</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>2,242</b>	<b>11.6</b>
Northern Ireland	304	176	30	97	18.0

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

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



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

GOR	£pw				
	All Claimants	Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
North East	65.56	43.64	102.41	75.49	56.57
North West	69.37	48.39	105.19	77.74	55.16
Yorks & Humberside	67.36	47.08	105.56	75.99	57.57
East Midlands	66.91	48.06	104.92	73.19	57.88
West Midlands	67.86	48.40	106.22	76.45	56.67
East	68.07	48.08	105.03	76.07	56.83
London	83.11	65.75	107.88	86.89	61.07
South East	68.61	47.85	105.90	75.78	56.25
South West	65.14	46.49	104.88	73.17	53.74
Wales	68.30	47.67	105.24	76.16	53.98
Scotland	64.87	47.29	101.69	71.43	50.33
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>69.64</b>	<b>49.69</b>	<b>105.39</b>	<b>76.92</b>	<b>56.16</b>
Northern Ireland	73.41	57.06	105.71	85.02	53.02

**Table 8.5 Income Support claimants by GOR and duration of current claim: May 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	229	5.7	4.5	8.0	14.3	67.6
North West	576	4.6	4.3	7.6	14.2	69.3
Yorks & Humberside	362	5.4	4.6	8.3	14.9	66.8
East Midlands	253	5.5	4.8	8.2	16.1	65.5
West Midlands	382	4.6	4.5	8.2	14.6	68.1
East	275	4.7	4.5	7.8	14.9	68.1
London	567	3.6	3.9	7.1	13.1	72.2
South East	359	4.5	4.5	8.0	15.6	67.4
South West	274	5.2	4.6	8.1	16.0	66.1
Wales	234	4.8	4.1	7.6	13.8	69.7
Scotland	419	5.2	4.5	7.7	15.1	67.5
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>68.4</b>
Northern Ireland	176	3.8	3.7	6.7	12.3	73.6



## **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> May 2002.

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 May sample produce 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) that 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 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		Lone Parent		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
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