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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@dndni.gov.uk](mailto:srb@dndni.gov.uk)

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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 the more specialised sections later in the report.

Between November 2000 and November 2001 the IS caseload has grown by approximately 1.3% and now stands at 176,600 at November 2001.

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 November 2000 and November 2001 the disabled statistical group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 4.9% to 52,060 claimants (29% of the total caseload) compared to the GB disabled statistical group increasing by approximately 5.2% to 1,044,000 claimants (26.4% of the total caseload). Similarly, in the statistical group aged 60 or over, between November 2000 and November 2001 this group in Northern Ireland increased by approximately 2.1% to 77,660 claimants (44% of the total caseload) compared to the GB group aged 60 or over increasing by approximately 3.9% to 1,741,000 claimants (44.1% 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 32,140 in November 2000 to 30,680 in November 2001, with the average weekly payment for this group rising from £97.38 to £106.25. This group has the highest average weekly payment of IS. The number of claimants in the 'Other' statistical group has decreased between November 2000 and November 2001 (16,520 to 16,200) and makes up 9.2% of the IS caseload.

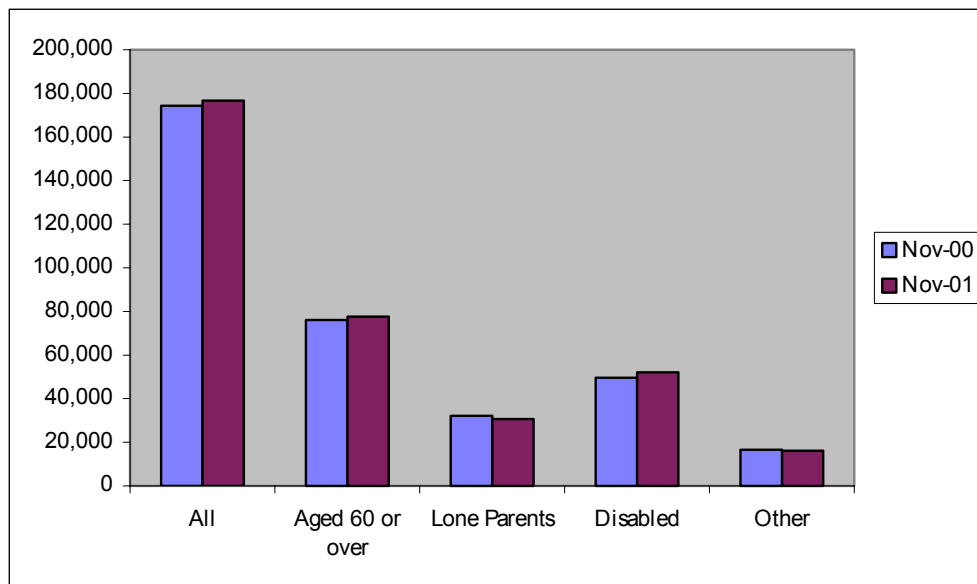
Generally, claimants with dependants receive a higher weekly payment of IS compared to those without dependants, irrespective of marital status. At November 2001, for example, a single claimant without dependants received on average £55.38 per week, compared to £109.03 received by a single person with dependants. Amongst couples, those without dependants received on average £66.94 per week, while those with dependants received on average £130.66 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 (37,760 and 27,720 respectively at November 2001). The largest number of females is in the 60 years and over age bracket, closely followed by the 25-59 year age bracket (49,280 and 47,680 respectively at November 2001).



**Table 1.1 Income Support claimants by statistical group: November 2000 to November 2001**

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Nov-00	174,360	76,060	32,140	49,640	16,520
Feb-01	175,160	76,520	32,580	49,800	16,260
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

**Chart 1A Income Support claimants by statistical group: November 2000 and November 2001****Table 1.2 Income Support claimants by statistical group: November 2000 to November 2001**

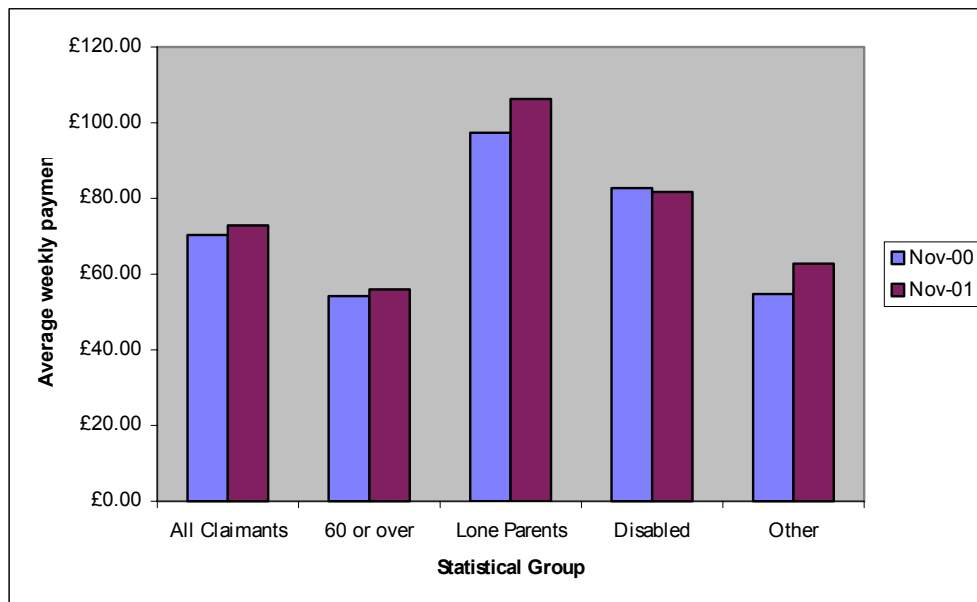
	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		% Aged 60 or over	% Lone Parents	% Disabled	% Other
Nov-00	100%	44%	18%	28%	9%
Feb-01	100%	44%	19%	28%	9%
May-01	100%	44%	18%	29%	9%
Aug-01	100%	44%	18%	29%	9%
Nov-01	100%	44%	17%	29%	9%



**Table 1.3 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: November 2000 to November 2001 (£pw)**

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Nov-00	<b>£70.37</b>	£54.16	£97.38	£82.72	£54.77
Feb-01	<b>£69.05</b>	£53.48	£97.80	£80.15	£50.91
May-01	<b>£73.54</b>	£57.02	£102.87	£85.00	£58.10
Aug-01	<b>£72.74</b>	£56.04	£106.42	£81.17	£61.09
Nov-01	<b>£72.86</b>	£55.94	£106.25	£81.67	£62.82

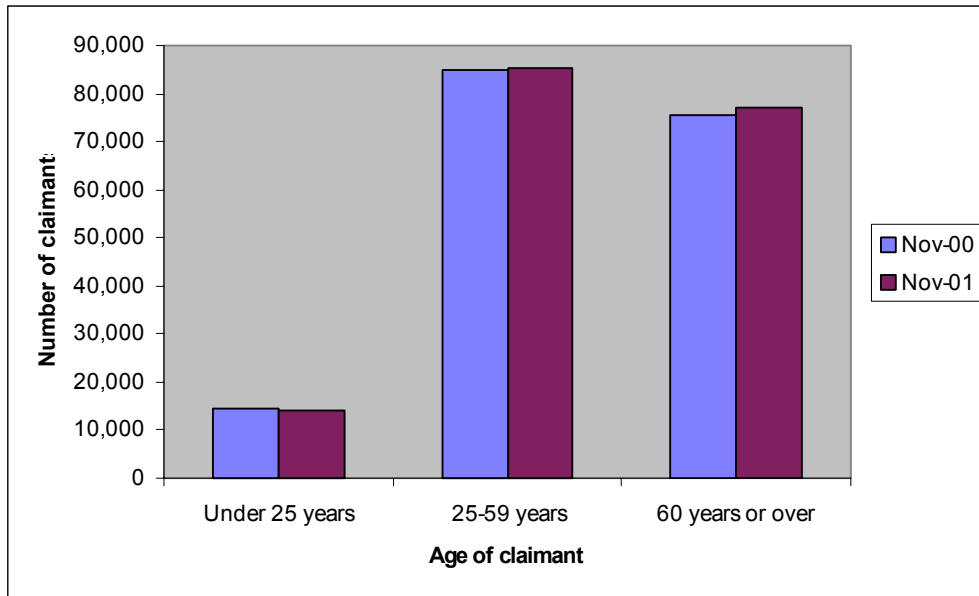
**Chart 1B Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: November 2000 and November 2001**



**Table 1.4 Income Support claimants by age and gender: November 2000 to November 2001**

	All Claimants	All males			All females		
		Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over	Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over
Nov-00	<b>174,360</b>	4,180	36,940	26,580	10,160	47,580	48,920
Feb-01	<b>175,160</b>	4,240	37,180	26,620	10,540	47,320	49,260
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

**Chart 1C Income Support claimants by age: November 2000 and November 2001**



**Table 1.5 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by age and gender: November 2000 to November 2001 (£pw)**

	All Claimants	All males			All females		
		Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over	Under 25 years	25-59	60 or over
Nov-00	<b>£68.85</b>	£48.70	£73.24	£57.66	£75.99	£91.52	£49.80
Feb-01	<b>£68.39</b>	£47.45	£72.85	£57.18	£75.79	£91.31	£49.30
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

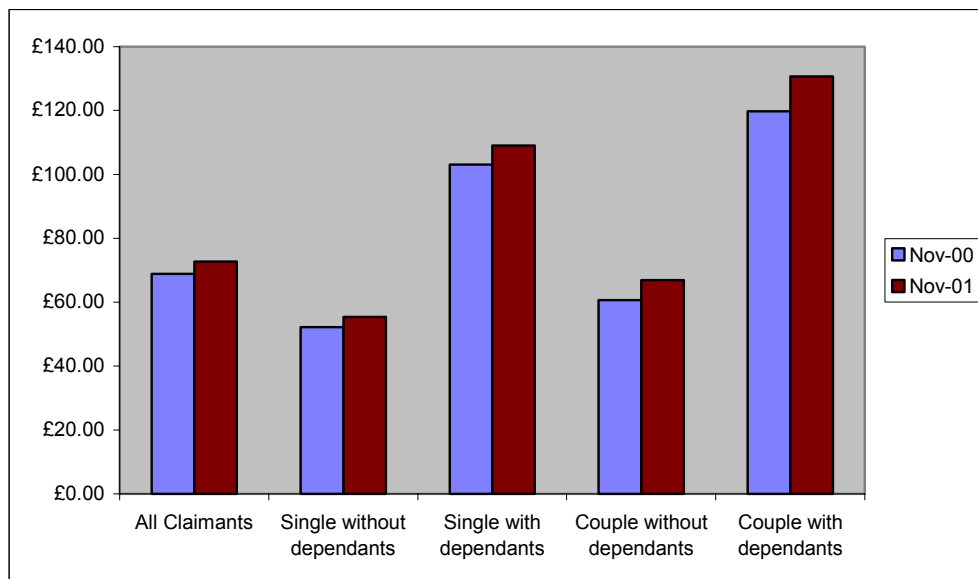


**Table 1.6 Income Support claimants by family type: November 2000 to November 2001**

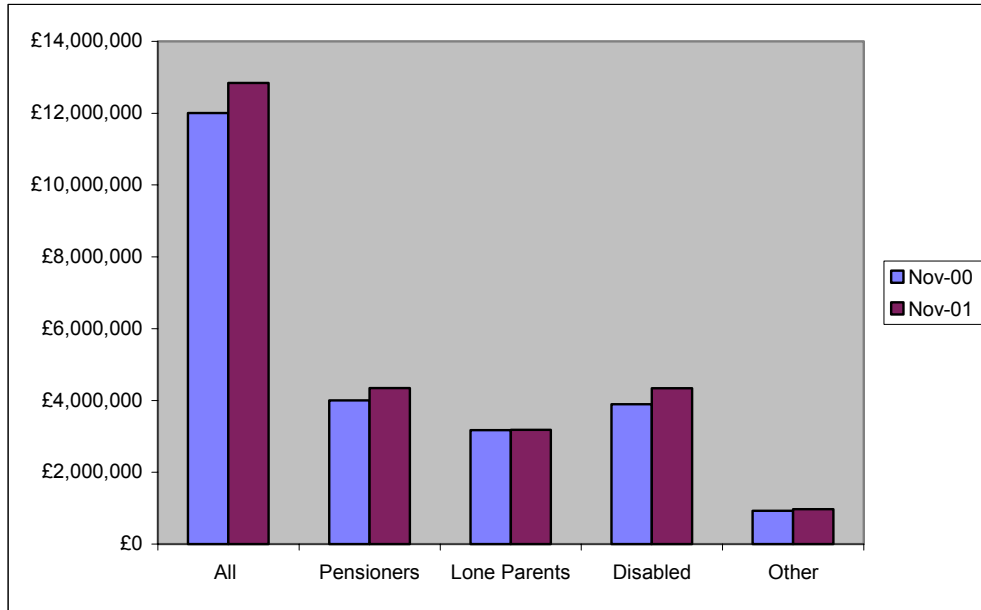
	<b>All Claimants</b>	Single without dependants	Single with dependants	Couples without dependants	Couples with dependants
Nov-00	<b>174,360</b>	105,160	39,680	18,760	10,760
Feb-01	<b>175,160</b>	105,620	39,920	18,940	10,680
May-01	<b>175,420</b>	105,960	39,800	19,040	10,620
Aug-01	<b>176,880</b>	106,960	40,160	19,160	10,600
Nov-01	<b>176,600</b>	108,180	38,660	19,640	10,120

**Table 1.7 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: November 2000 to November 2001 (£pw)**

	<b>All Claimants</b>	Single without dependants	Single with dependants	Couples without dependants	Couples with dependants
Nov-00	<b>£68.85</b>	£52.21	£103.03	£60.65	£119.76
Feb-01	<b>£68.39</b>	£51.75	£102.79	£60.62	£118.22
May-01	<b>£73.10</b>	£55.62	£106.84	£68.21	£129.76
Aug-01	<b>£72.58</b>	£55.39	£106.17	£67.71	£127.58
Nov-01	<b>£72.72</b>	£55.38	£109.03	£66.94	£130.66

**Chart 1D Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by family type: November 2000 and November 2001**

**Chart 1E Estimated Total Weekly Expenditure on Income Support by group (Last week in November): 2000 and 2001**



## 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 November 2000 and November 2001, 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 (4.4% to 4.1%, 4.9% to 3.8% and 7.9% to 7.3% 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 November 2001 (80% had a claim which lasted 2 years or over) whilst those in the 'other' group were likely to have spent the shortest time (33.5% had made their claim in the 6 months to November 2001).

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 November 2001 78.6% of males in this age bracket had a claim lasting 2 Years or longer, while 80.9% of females in this age group had a claim of this duration. Those aged under 25 claiming IS at November 2001 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 (18.5% males under 25 and 10.1% of females under 25 at November 2001).

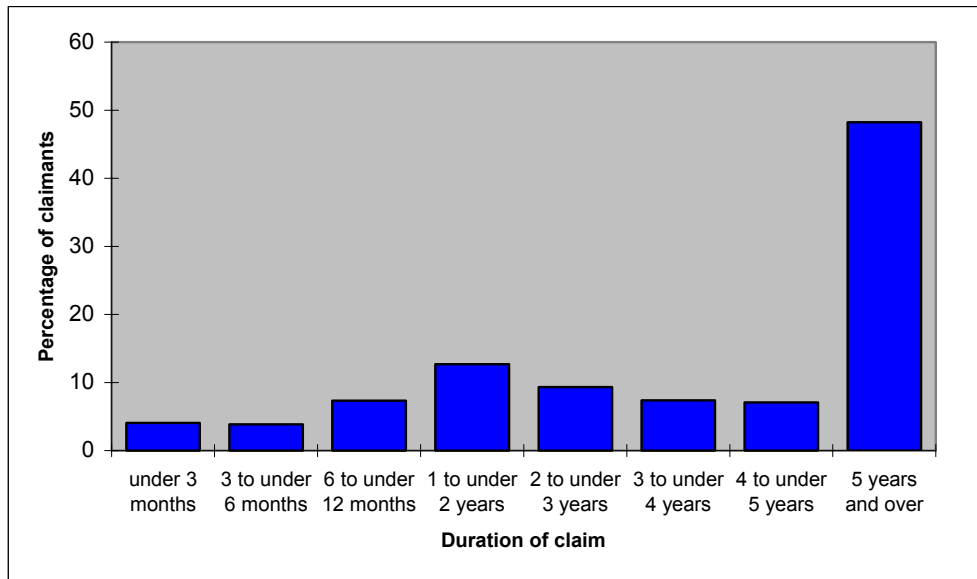
Claimants with longer claim durations were more likely to receive higher amounts of benefit than those claimants with shorter claim durations in November 2001. 40.8% of those with a duration of 2 years or more received £80 or more per week compared with only 30.3% for those with a duration of under 3 months.



**Table 2.1 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim:  
November 2000 to November 2001**

<b>Duration</b>	<b>Nov 2000</b>	<b>Feb 2001</b>	<b>May 2001</b>	<b>Aug 2001</b>	<b>Nov 2001</b>
<b>All claimants</b>	<b>174,360</b>	<b>175,160</b>	<b>175,420</b>	<b>176,880</b>	<b>176,600</b>
% under 3 months	4.4%	3.5%	4.1%	3.6%	4.1%
% 3 to under 6 months	4.9%	5.5%	4.1%	4.9%	3.8%
% 6 to under 12 months	7.9%	8.2%	8.2%	7.5%	7.3%
% 1 to under 2 years	11.5%	11.5%	11.9%	12.5%	12.7%
% 2 to under 3 years	8.7%	8.6%	9.0%	9.1%	9.3%
% 3 to under 4 years	8.4%	8.3%	8.0%	7.5%	7.4%
% 4 to under 5 years	6.1%	6.1%	6.6%	7.2%	7.1%
% 5 years and over	48.0%	48.3%	48.2%	47.8%	48.2%

**Chart 2A Income Support claimants by duration of current claim:  
November 2001**

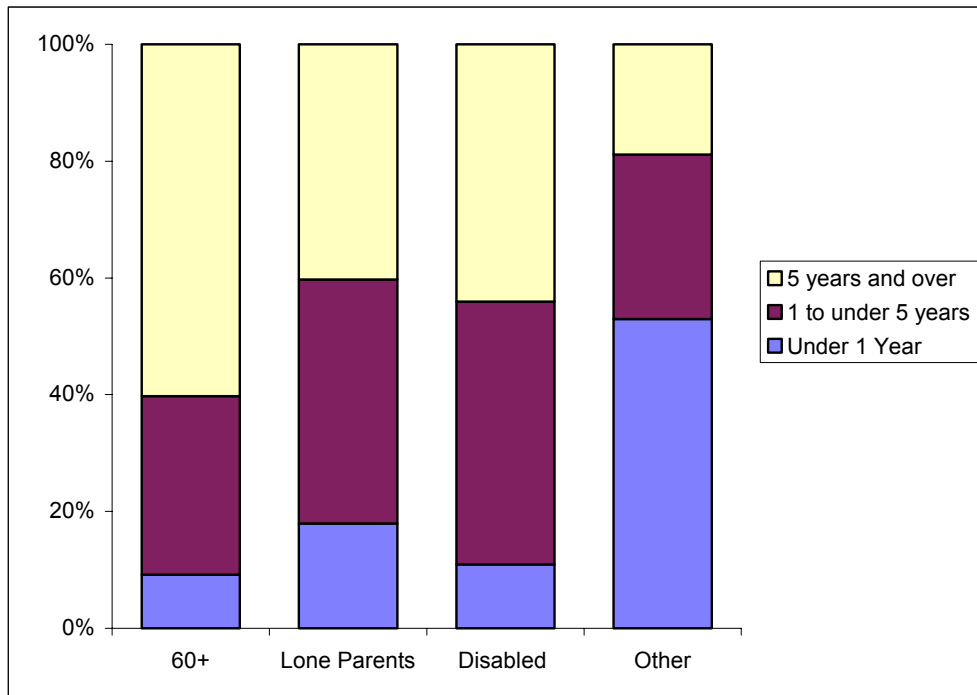


**Table 2.2 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: November 2001**

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Total	176,600	77,660	30,680	52,060	16,200
% under 3 months	4.1	2.0	5.1	2.2	18.5
% 3 to under 6 months	3.8	2.2	4.4	2.5	14.9
% 6 to under 12 months	7.3	5.0	8.5	6.3	19.5
% 1 to under 2 years	12.7	10.8	13.0	15.6	11.9
% 2 to under 3 years	9.3	6.9	11.1	12.7	7.0
% 3 to under 4 years	7.4	6.1	9.3	9.0	4.8
% 4 to under 5 years	7.1	6.7	8.4	7.6	4.4
% 5 years and over	48.2	60.3	40.3	44.1	18.9

**Chart 2B: Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and statistical group: November 2001**

*Percentages*



**Table 2.3 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim, age and gender: November 2001**

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>176,600</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>72.0</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>69,920</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>67.5</b>
Under 18	340	35.3	23.5	23.5	17.6	-
18-24	4,100	17.1	10.7	16.6	23.4	32.2
25-59	37,760	5.1	5.4	9.6	16.2	63.8
60 and Over	27,720	2.4	2.6	5.8	10.6	78.6
<b>Female</b>	<b>106,680</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>75.0</b>
Under 18	520	34.6	19.2	30.8	15.4	-
18-24	9,200	8.7	8.5	15.0	21.7	46.1
25-59	47,680	4.2	3.4	6.6	10.4	75.4
60 and Over	49,280	1.7	1.9	4.5	10.9	80.9

**Table 2.4 Income Support claimants by duration of current claim and range of weekly IS payment: November 2001**

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>176,600</b>	<b>7,200</b>	<b>6,760</b>	<b>12,940</b>	<b>22,460</b>	<b>127,240</b>
Under £10	3.7	8.3	10.7	10.4	6.7	1.8
£10 to under £30	17.2	11.1	10.9	14.2	17.1	18.2
£30 to under £40	7.1	8.1	10.9	7.7	8.5	6.5
£40 to under £50	7.3	16.9	14.2	9.4	8.1	6.1
£50 to under £70	16.9	21.7	17.2	18.4	12.0	17.4
£70 to under £80	8.9	3.6	6.2	6.0	11.8	9.1
£80 to under £100	14.5	13.6	15.1	15.5	15.0	14.3
£100 or over	24.3	16.7	14.8	18.4	20.7	26.5
Average amount £ per week	72.72	61.48	60.37	63.43	67.34	75.91



### **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 November 2001, 37.6% (18,620) of these women were aged 80 years or over compared to just 16.2% (4,540) of men. Those aged 60-64 accounted for 34.5% 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 32.9% of males and 11.5% of females falling into the 60-64 years age bracket.

Disabled IS claimants were mainly in the 25-59 age range at November 2001, a situation which has remained relatively unchanged since 1995. 57.2% (29,760) of IS claimants receiving the disability were male, 42.8% (22,300) female. This is mirrored in Great Britain where the percentages are 55.3% male and 44.7% female.

The majority of lone parents were female (94.9%) 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 16,520 in November 2000 to 16,200 in November 2001. There continues to be almost twice as many males than females in this category (10,520 and 5,680 respectively). This distribution is mirrored in GB, with 61.7% (184,000) of ‘other’ claimants being male and 38.3% (113,000) female at November 2001.



**Table 3.1 Income Support claimants receiving a Pensioner premium<sup>1</sup> by age and gender: November 2000 to November 2001**

Age/ Gender	Nov-00	Feb-01	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,060</b>	<b>76,520</b>	<b>76,440</b>	<b>77,220</b>	<b>77,660</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>26,840</b>	<b>26,960</b>	<b>27,140</b>	<b>27,560</b>	<b>28,080</b>
60-64	9,140	9,320	9,300	9,460	9,680
65-74	10,120	10,080	10,260	10,440	10,640
75-79	3,180	3,080	3,100	3,100	3,220
80 or over	4,400	4,480	4,480	4,560	4,540
<b>Female</b>	<b>49,220</b>	<b>49,560</b>	<b>49,300</b>	<b>49,660</b>	<b>49,580</b>
60-64	5,980	5,940	6,020	6,120	6,080
65-74	14,740	14,900	15,100	15,280	15,140
75-79	9,800	9,880	9,660	9,720	9,740
80 or over	18,700	18,840	18,520	18,540	18,620

<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: November 2000 to November 2001**

Age/ Gender	Nov-00	Feb-01	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,640</b>	<b>49,800</b>	<b>50,940</b>	<b>51,800</b>	<b>52,060</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>28,380</b>	<b>28,600</b>	<b>29,260</b>	<b>29,880</b>	<b>29,760</b>
Under 18	100	100	160	200	200
18-24	2,240	2,300	2,300	2,260	2,340
25-59	26,040	26,200	26,800	27,420	27,220
<b>Female</b>	<b>21,260</b>	<b>21,200</b>	<b>21,680</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>22,300</b>
Under 18	140	140	140	120	140
18-24	1,900	1,820	1,960	1,940	1,940
25-59	19,220	19,240	19,580	19,860	20,220



**Table 3.3 Income Support claimants in receipt of a Lone Parent premium by age and gender: November 2000 to November 2001**

<b>Age/ Gender</b>	Nov-00	Feb-01	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,140</b>	<b>32,580</b>	<b>32,400</b>	<b>32,220</b>	<b>30,680</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,560</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>30,660</b>	<b>31,080</b>	<b>30,820</b>	<b>30,720</b>	<b>29,120</b>
Under 18	280	200	200	160	240
18-24	6,880	7,380	6,800	6,980	6,260
25-59	23,500	23,500	23,820	23,580	22,620

**Table 3.4 "Other" Income Support claimants by age and gender: November 2000 to November 2001**

<b>Age/ Gender</b>	Nov-00	Feb-01	May-01	Aug-01	Nov-01
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,520</b>	<b>16,260</b>	<b>15,620</b>	<b>15,640</b>	<b>16,200</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>10,980</b>	<b>10,380</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>10,520</b>
Under 18	140	120	-	-	140
18-24	1,620	1,640	1,720	1,640	1,680
25-59	9,240	9,220	8,580	8,600	8,700
<b>Female</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>5,280</b>	<b>5,240</b>	<b>5,340</b>	<b>5,680</b>
Under 18	140	140	180	240	140
18-24	820	860	760	820	1,000
25-59	4,560	4,280	4,300	4,280	4,540



## **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 November 2000, the proportion of the population who are beneficiaries of IS (i.e. a claimant, partner or dependant) has decreased slightly from 18.2% to 18.1% in November 2001. In contrast this proportion of the population in GB has increased from 11.6% to 11.7% during this period.

The proportion of IS claimants having a partner from November 2000 to November 2001 has remained the same at 16.9%. In GB the proportion increased slightly from 14.3% to 14.5% over the same period.

The average number of dependants of an IS claimant in Northern Ireland at November 2001 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 November 2001). The highest average number of dependants was mirrored in the 25-34 and 35-49 year old GB age bands (2.1 dependants at November 2001).



**Table 4.1 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type: November 2000 to November 2001**

	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as % of population
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
Nov-00	<b>305,600</b>	174,360	29,520	101,720	18.2%
Feb-01	<b>306,020</b>	175,160	29,620	101,240	18.2%
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%

**Table 4.2 Income Support claimants by age and number of dependants: November 2001**

	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>176,600</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>13,300</b>	<b>25,420</b>	<b>38,480</b>	<b>21,540</b>	<b>77,000</b>
Claimants without deps	<b>127,820</b>	620	6,360	9,140	17,660	17,860	76,180
Claimants with deps	<b>48,780</b>	240	6,940	16,280	20,820	3,680	820
Number of Deps							
1	<b>21,020</b>	240	5,020	5,440	7,280	2,420	620
2	<b>14,740</b>	0	1,660	5,560	6,480	880	160
3	<b>7,440</b>	0	220	2,940	4,060	200	-
4	<b>3,800</b>	0	-	1,760	1,860	140	-
5	<b>1,180</b>	0	0	360	820	0	0
6 or more	<b>540</b>	0	0	220	320	0	0
Average number of dependants	<b>2.0</b>	1.0	1.3	2.2	2.2	1.5	1.3



## 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 2001 received extra help in this way (167,160 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 1.41 per claimant in November 2000 to 1.51 in November 2001. This increase is principally due to the inclusion of two new premiums - the enhanced disability premium and the enhanced disabled child premium. In GB 1.3 premiums per claimant has been the average over the last four years.

The number of premiums awarded in Northern Ireland has increased by 8.5% from November 2000 to November 2001, in comparison to an increase of 7% in GB during the same time frame. This increase is predominantly due to the inclusion of the new premiums for enhanced disability and enhanced disabled child. The number of premiums linked to disability and age (the various rates of pensioner premium) in Northern Ireland have both shown increases from November 2000 to November 2001, 5.1% and 2.6% respectively (numbers for enhanced disability premium and the enhanced disabled child premium ignored for comparative purposes). In GB the increases for disability and age are 5.7% and 4.5% respectively.

All single claimants and couples who had dependants were receiving the family premium. Single claimants without dependants were mostly in receipt of pensioner premiums, premiums linked with disabilities and the carer premium, but 8.4% of this group were not in receipt of any premium. The situation was similar in GB, with 10.1% 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: November 2000 to November 2001**

Type of premium	Nov 2000	Feb 2001	May 2001	Aug 2001	Nov 2001
<b>All types</b>	<b>245,700</b>	<b>247,440</b>	<b>262,660</b>	<b>266,740</b>	<b>266,660</b>
Higher pensioner premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	23,160	23,460	23,260	23,420	23,560
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	37,420	37,760	37,460	37,820	38,400
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,300	3,320	3,260	3,260	3,400
Pensioner premium	11,560	11,460	12,020	12,340	12,020
Severe Disability premium - higher	4,120	4,080	4,080	3,940	3,980
Severe Disability premium - lower	40,560	41,000	41,380	42,740	43,580
Disability Premium	49,640	49,780	50,960	51,820	52,060
Enhanced disability premium	0	0	11,240	11,460	11,660
Disabled child premium	5,280	5,220	5,140	5,180	5,040
Enhanced disabled child premium	0	0	2,460	2,460	2,520
Family Premium(lone parent)*	0	-	16,600	16,520	15,440
Family Premium*	50,400	50,540	33,800	34,240	33,340
Carer Premium	20,260	20,800	21,000	21,540	21,660
Claimants not in receipt of an IS premium	10,320	10,040	9,420	9,040	9,440
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	164,040	165,100	166,000	167,840	167,160
Average number of premiums	1.41	1.41	1.50	1.51	1.51

\*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: November 2001**

Type of premium	Single Claimants		Couples		
	With Dependants	Without Dependants	With Dependants	Without Dependants	
<b>All premiums</b>	<b>266,660</b>	<b>61,540</b>	<b>146,880</b>	<b>26,820</b>	<b>31,420</b>
Higher Pensioner Premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	23,560	0	21,520	0	2,040
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	38,400	140	27,160	460	10,640
Enhanced pensioner premium	3,400	0	3,040	0	360
Pensioner premium	12,020	100	9,720	180	2,020
Severe Disability premium-higher	3,980	0	0	220	3,760
Severe Disability premium - lower	43,580	3,660	39,280	-	580
Disability Premium	52,060	7,720	32,100	7,260	4,980
Enhanced disability premium	11,660	1,440	7,240	1,460	1,520
Disabled child premium	5,040	3,480	0	1,560	0
Enhanced disabled child premium	2,520	1,680	0	840	0
Family Premium(lone parent)*	15,440	15,440	0	0	0
Family Premium*	33,340	23,220	0	10,120	0
Carer Premium	21,660	4,660	6,820	4,660	5,520
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	167,160	38,660	99,140	10,120	19,240
Claimants with no premium	9,440	0	9,040	0	400
Average number of premiums	1.51	1.59	1.36	2.65	1.60

\*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: November 2001**

Type of premium	All Claimants	Statistical Group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
<b>All premiums</b>	<b>266,660</b>	<b>114,440</b>	<b>38,680</b>	<b>103,440</b>	<b>10,100</b>
Higher pensioner premium					
Claimant/partner aged 80 or over	<b>23,560</b>	23,560	0	0	0
Claimant/partner aged 60-79	<b>38,400</b>	38,400	0	0	0
Enhanced pensioner premium	<b>3,400</b>	3,400	0	0	0
Pensioner premium	<b>12,020</b>	12,020	0	0	0
Severe disability premium - higher	<b>3,980</b>	3,540	0	440	0
Severe disability premium - lower	<b>43,580</b>	29,160	0	14,420	0
Disability Premium	<b>52,060</b>	0	0	52,060	0
Enhanced disability premium	<b>11,660</b>	0	0	11,660	0
Disabled child premium	<b>5,040</b>	-	2,660	1,820	540
Enhanced disabled child premium	<b>2,520</b>	0	1,220	940	360
Family Premium (lone parent) <sup>1,2</sup>	<b>15,440</b>	0	15,440	0	0
Family Premium <sup>1,2</sup>	<b>33,340</b>	880	15,240	14,980	2,240
Carer Premium	<b>21,660</b>	3,460	4,120	7,120	6,960
Claimants with 1 or more premiums	<b>167,160</b>	76,320	30,680	52,060	8,100
Claimants with no premium	<b>9,440</b>	1,340	0	0	8,100
Average number of premiums	1.51	1.47	1.26	1.99	0.62

<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).

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**

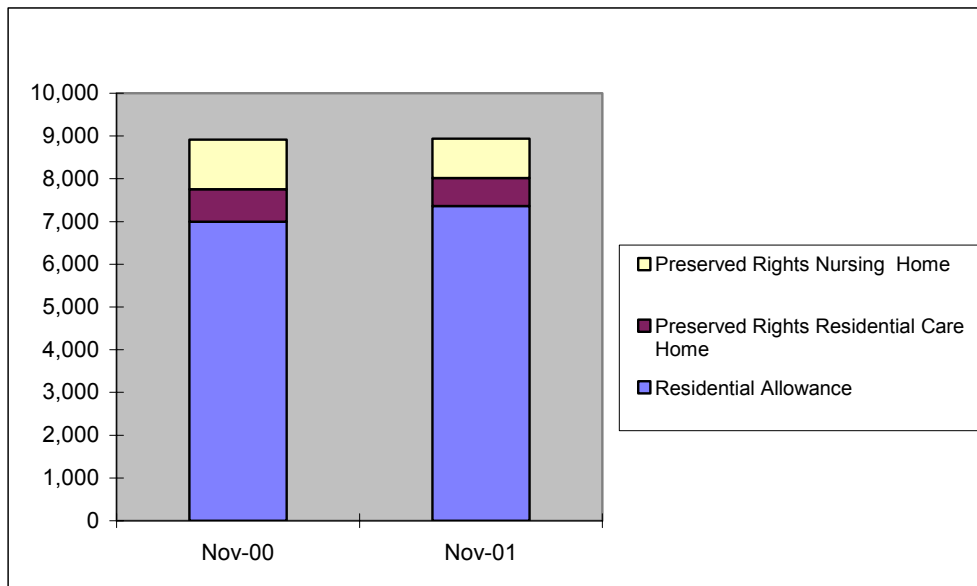
The number of preserved rights cases (i.e. those who entered RCNH before April 1993) has been falling steadily in Northern Ireland over the last six years, from 4,780 in May 1996 to 1,580 in November 2001. The number of Residential allowance cases during this same time period has increased from 5,100 to 7,360. The overall number of RCNH claimants has shown a slight increase from 8,920 in November 2000 to 8,940 in November 2001. Currently RCNH cases make up 5.1% of the total IS caseload in Northern Ireland. In contrast, the equivalent GB percentage stands at 6.9%.



**Table 6.1 Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes: November 2000 to November 2001**

	All	Residential allowance	Preserved Rights		
			All	Residential care home	Nursing home
Nov-00	<b>8,920</b>	7,000	1,920	760	1,160
Feb-01	<b>9,160</b>	7,360	1,800	740	1,060
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

**Chart 6A Income Support claimants in residential care and nursing homes by type of care: November 2000 and November 2001**



## **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 November 2000 to November 2001 (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. When taken as a percentage of the population aged 16 and over, the highest proportion of claimants were in the Strabane district council (19.5% of the population), closely followed by Belfast (19.3% of the population). The lowest proportion of claimants is in the Castlereagh district council (6.9% of population) followed by Carrickfergus (7.9% of the population) and Banbridge (8% of the population).

Similarly, in regard to the percentage of beneficiaries as a percentage of total population, the highest proportion of claimants is in Derry district council (26%), closely followed by Belfast (25.5%) and Strabane (25.1%). The lowest proportion of beneficiaries is in the Castlereagh district council (8.5%) followed by Banbridge (9.9% of the population) and Carrickfergus (10%). Overall 18.1% of the population in Northern Ireland were beneficiaries of IS, compared to 11.7% in GB.

Corporation Street Social Security Office had the largest share of the IS caseload with 10,980 claimants (6.2% of the caseload) at November 2001, while Newcastle had only 1,340 claimants (0.8% of the caseload) at the same point in time. Newtownards, Foyle and Dungannon respectively experienced the largest increases in claimant numbers between November 2000 and November 2001. Similarly Corporation Street, Andersonstown and Ballymena Offices all experienced the largest claimant decreases during this period.

In Magherafelt 56.9% of the caseload consisted of claimants aged 60 or over, while this category of claimant only accounted for 29% of the caseload in Foyle. Newcastle had the highest proportion of lone parents in comparison to Kilkeel which had the lowest (28.4% and 8.5% respectively at November 2001). In regard to the disabled claimants, Strabane had the highest proportion while Ballymena had the lowest proportion (37.1% and 21.3% respectively).

The highest number IS beneficiaries was found in the Foyle Social Security Office (21,280 beneficiaries at November 2001) the lowest number being in Newcastle (2,680 beneficiaries at November 2001).



**Table 7.1 Northern Ireland Income Support claimants by District Council:  
November 2000 to November 2001**

<b>District Council</b>	<b>Nov 2000</b>	<b>Feb 2001</b>	<b>May 2001</b>	<b>Aug 2001</b>	<b>Nov 2001</b>
Antrim	4,160	3,960	3,960	4,140	4,080
Ards	4,680	4,740	4,860	5,000	5,040
Armagh	4,620	4,660	4,700	4,780	4,560
Ballymena	4,440	4,380	4,380	4,380	4,260
Ballymoney	2,100	2,040	2,000	2,160	2,220
Banbridge	2,420	2,380	2,360	2,460	2,480
Belfast	42,080	42,200	42,080	41,500	42,060
Carrickfergus	2,220	2,340	2,200	2,120	2,300
Castlereagh	3,560	3,640	3,620	3,580	3,580
Coleraine	4,980	5,060	4,980	5,160	5,080
Cookstown	4,280	4,200	4,300	4,260	4,300
Craigavon	7,920	8,140	8,280	8,300	8,380
Derry	14,860	14,960	15,260	15,280	14,820
Down	4,880	5,060	5,040	5,140	5,180
Dungannon	5,960	5,980	6,180	6,200	6,220
Fermanagh	6,440	6,520	6,540	6,700	6,540
Larne	2,300	2,340	2,340	2,460	2,380
Limavady	2,980	3,080	3,140	3,200	3,160
Lisburn	8,840	9,000	8,960	9,080	8,800
Magherafelt	3,980	3,940	3,880	3,940	3,980
Moyle	1,900	1,940	1,820	1,880	1,780
Newry&Mourne	11,100	11,140	10,960	11,300	11,240
Newtownabbey	5,700	5,680	5,840	5,800	5,740
North Down	4,880	4,780	4,860	4,920	4,980
Omagh	5,140	5,100	5,160	5,300	5,300
Strabane	5,620	5,640	5,560	5,580	5,480
Missing Postcode *	2,320	2,260	2,160	2,260	2,660
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>174,360</b>	<b>175,160</b>	<b>175,420</b>	<b>176,880</b>	<b>176,600</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: November 2001**

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 %	
Antrim	4,080	49.0%	13.7%	29.9%	7.4%	11.0%
Ards	5,040	49.2%	13.5%	29.0%	8.3%	8.8%
Armagh	4,560	52.6%	12.7%	27.2%	7.5%	11.5%
Ballymena	4,260	54.0%	16.4%	22.5%	7.0%	9.4%
Ballymoney	2,220	53.2%	18.9%	21.6%	6.3%	11.1%
Banbridge	2,480	54.0%	17.7%	20.2%	8.1%	8.0%
Belfast	42,060	39.2%	19.9%	31.5%	9.4%	19.3%
Carrickfergus	2,300	40.0%	18.3%	33.0%	8.7%	7.9%
Castlereagh	3,580	48.0%	17.9%	25.7%	8.4%	6.9%
Coleraine	5,080	46.1%	16.1%	25.6%	12.2%	11.7%
Cookstown	4,300	47.0%	9.3%	35.3%	8.4%	18.1%
Craigavon	8,380	47.0%	16.2%	28.2%	8.6%	14.0%
Derry	14,820	32.0%	22.3%	35.8%	10.0%	19.2%
Down	5,180	40.2%	19.3%	28.6%	12.0%	10.9%
Dungannon	6,220	42.4%	14.8%	29.3%	13.5%	17.8%
Fermanagh	6,540	56.0%	10.7%	25.1%	8.3%	15.2%
Larne	2,380	50.4%	14.3%	28.6%	6.7%	9.8%
Limavady	3,160	38.0%	17.7%	34.8%	9.5%	13.3%
Lisburn	8,800	39.5%	23.9%	28.4%	8.2%	10.7%
Magherafelt	3,980	61.3%	12.6%	18.6%	7.5%	13.8%
Moyle	1,780	55.1%	18.0%	18.0%	9.0%	14.8%
Newry&Mourne	11,240	44.3%	14.1%	31.9%	9.8%	18.0%
Newtownabbey	5,740	48.8%	16.7%	27.2%	7.3%	9.2%
North Down	4,980	54.2%	14.9%	22.1%	8.8%	8.2%
Omagh	5,300	50.2%	12.5%	27.5%	9.8%	14.9%
Strabane	5,480	38.3%	16.4%	37.6%	7.7%	19.5%
Missing Postcode*	2,660	32.3%	27.1%	28.6%	12.0%	
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>176,600</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>13.8%</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.



**Table 7.3 Northern Ireland Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and District Council: November 2001**

District Council	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as a percentage of the population <sup>1</sup>
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
Antrim	6,680	4,080	580	2,020	13.7%
Ards	8,140	5,040	900	2,200	11.2%
Armagh	7,540	4,560	1,000	1,980	14.2%
Ballymena	7,040	4,260	560	2,220	12.1%
Ballymoney	3,800	2,220	440	1,140	14.4%
Banbridge	4,020	2,480	380	1,160	9.9%
Belfast	71,660	42,060	5,140	24,460	25.5%
Carrickfergus	3,780	2,300	380	1,100	10.0%
Castlereagh	5,640	3,580	600	1,460	8.5%
Coleraine	8,020	5,080	820	2,120	14.3%
Cookstown	7,660	4,300	1,240	2,120	23.8%
Craigavon	15,040	8,380	1,620	5,040	18.8%
Derry	27,600	14,820	2,460	10,320	26.0%
Down	9,140	5,180	780	3,180	14.4%
Dungannon	10,740	6,220	1,300	3,220	22.7%
Fermanagh	10,140	6,540	1,200	2,400	17.8%
Larne	3,860	2,380	460	1,020	12.4%
Limavady	5,540	3,160	640	1,740	17.3%
Lisburn	17,040	8,800	1,340	6,900	15.6%
Magherafelt	6,660	3,980	980	1,700	16.9%
Moyle	3,000	1,780	380	840	19.0%
Newry&Mourne	20,920	11,240	2,480	7,200	24.3%
Newtownabbey	9,200	5,740	980	2,480	11.5%
North Down	7,940	4,980	860	2,100	10.5%
Omagh	8,380	5,300	1,000	2,080	17.5%
Strabane	9,540	5,480	940	3,120	25.1%
Missing Postcode*	5,400	2,660	300	2,440	
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>304,120</b>	<b>176,600</b>	<b>29,760</b>	<b>97,760</b>	<b>18.1%</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: November 2000 to November 2001**

<b>Social Security Office</b>	<b>Nov 2000</b>	<b>Feb 2001</b>	<b>May 2001</b>	<b>Aug 2001</b>	<b>Nov 2001</b>
Andersonstown	8,160	8,160	7,960	7,900	7,960
Antrim	5,000	4,780	4,720	4,940	4,820
Armagh	4,300	4,300	4,340	4,500	4,320
Ballymena	5,080	4,920	4,940	4,980	4,880
Ballymoney	3,800	3,820	3,720	3,940	3,860
Ballynahinch	1,840	1,960	1,820	1,840	1,980
Banbridge	3,040	2,980	2,940	3,020	3,000
Bangor	5,200	5,120	5,120	5,160	5,200
Carrickfergus*					
Coleraine	5,100	5,180	5,060	5,260	5,160
Cookstown	3,680	3,640	3,640	3,620	3,700
Corporation Street	11,280	11,200	11,200	11,060	10,980
Downpatrick	2,460	2,580	2,560	2,660	2,700
Dungannon	5,600	5,540	5,800	5,860	5,920
Enniskillen	7,400	7,500	7,540	7,700	7,640
Falls Road	8,560	8,520	8,640	8,500	8,780
Foyle	10,440	10,560	10,800	10,900	10,820
Hollywood Road	7,560	7,540	7,540	7,520	7,580
Kilkeel	1,400	1,460	1,440	1,500	1,420
Knockbreda	5,200	5,240	5,160	5,120	5,060
Larne	4,560	4,700	4,620	4,600	4,660
Limavady	2,740	2,860	2,900	2,960	2,980
Lisburn	5,060	5,200	5,220	5,340	5,200
Lisnagelvin	5,040	4,960	5,020	5,060	5,000
Lurgan	5,300	5,480	5,380	5,360	5,340
Magherafelt	4,100	4,100	4,040	4,040	4,080
Newcastle	1,420	1,400	1,460	1,440	1,340
Newry	9,120	9,080	9,040	9,320	9,320
Newtownabbey	4,800	4,900	5,080	4,980	4,880
Newtownards	3,540	3,560	3,760	3,920	3,940
Omagh	5,060	5,080	5,120	5,240	5,260
Portadown	3,780	3,900	4,020	4,020	4,020
Shaftesbury Sq.	4,680	4,880	4,900	4,780	4,820
Shankill Road	4,360	4,320	4,260	4,180	4,420
Strabane	5,700	5,740	5,660	5,660	5,560
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>174,360</b>	<b>175,160</b>	<b>175,420</b>	<b>176,880</b>	<b>176,600</b>

\*Carrickfergus totals combined with Larne SSO from May 1999



**Table 7.5 Income Support claimants by Statistical group and Social Security Office: November 2001**

Social Security Office	All Claimants 100%	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Other %
Andersonstown	7,960	30.2%	28.1%	30.9%	10.8%
Antrim	4,820	47.7%	13.3%	30.3%	8.7%
Armagh	4,320	52.3%	12.5%	26.9%	8.3%
Ballymena	4,880	55.3%	16.8%	21.3%	6.6%
Ballymoney	3,860	54.9%	15.0%	21.8%	8.3%
Ballynahinch	1,980	52.5%	11.1%	25.3%	11.1%
Banbridge	3,000	53.3%	15.3%	22.0%	9.3%
Bangor	5,200	52.7%	13.5%	25.4%	8.5%
Coleraine	5,160	46.5%	17.1%	24.0%	12.4%
Cookstown	3,700	46.5%	10.3%	34.1%	9.2%
Corporation Street	10,980	36.6%	20.8%	33.0%	9.7%
Downpatrick	2,700	40.7%	20.0%	31.1%	8.1%
Dungannon	5,920	40.9%	15.2%	31.4%	12.5%
Enniskillen	7,640	56.0%	10.7%	24.9%	8.4%
Falls Road	8,780	33.7%	22.3%	33.9%	10.0%
Foyle	10,820	29.0%	25.3%	36.2%	9.4%
Holywood Road	7,580	48.3%	15.6%	26.9%	9.2%
Kilkeel	1,420	49.3%	8.5%	31.0%	11.3%
Knockbreda	5,060	46.2%	15.4%	30.4%	7.9%
Larne	4,660	45.9%	16.3%	30.0%	7.7%
Limavady	2,980	36.2%	20.1%	33.6%	10.1%
Lisburn	5,200	49.2%	17.7%	25.0%	8.1%
Lisnagelvin	5,000	38.4%	16.0%	33.6%	12.0%
Lurgan	5,340	46.1%	16.1%	28.1%	9.7%
Magherafelt	4,080	56.9%	13.7%	22.5%	6.9%
Newcastle	1,340	32.8%	28.4%	26.9%	11.9%
Newry	9,320	42.1%	15.5%	32.8%	9.7%
Newtownabbey	4,880	49.2%	18.9%	26.2%	5.7%
Newtownards	3,940	50.3%	15.2%	25.9%	8.6%
Omagh	5,260	49.4%	12.5%	28.1%	9.9%
Portadown	4,020	50.7%	15.4%	26.9%	7.0%
Shaftesbury Sq.	4,820	41.5%	17.0%	32.0%	9.5%
Shankill Road	4,420	40.7%	23.1%	29.4%	6.8%
Strabane	5,560	37.8%	16.9%	37.1%	8.3%
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>176,600</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: November 2001**

Social Security Office	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary		
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant
Andersonstown	16,500	7,960	1,140	7,400
Antrim	7,640	4,820	600	2,220
Armagh	7,240	4,320	900	2,020
Ballymena	8,120	4,880	720	2,520
Ballymoney	6,520	3,860	860	1,800
Ballynahinch	3,160	1,980	300	880
Banbridge	4,980	3,000	600	1,380
Bangor	8,440	5,200	900	2,340
Coleraine	8,120	5,160	800	2,160
Cookstown	6,720	3,700	1,120	1,900
Corporation Street	19,260	10,980	1,360	6,920
Downpatrick	4,720	2,700	380	1,640
Dungannon	10,420	5,920	1,280	3,220
Enniskillen	11,940	7,640	1,380	2,920
Falls Road	15,880	8,780	1,220	5,880
Foyle	21,280	10,820	1,700	8,760
Holywood Road	12,180	7,580	1,000	3,600
Kilkeel	2,780	1,420	400	960
Knockbreda	7,820	5,060	560	2,200
Larne	7,640	4,660	860	2,120
Limavady	5,180	2,980	540	1,660
Lisburn	8,940	5,200	860	2,880
Lisnagelvin	8,400	5,000	960	2,440
Lurgan	9,500	5,340	980	3,180
Magherafelt	7,020	4,080	960	1,980
Newcastle	2,680	1,340	240	1,100
Newry	17,200	9,320	1,860	6,020
Newtownabbey	7,780	4,880	820	2,080
Newtownards	6,420	3,940	740	1,740
Omagh	8,260	5,260	1,000	2,000
Portadown	7,000	4,020	820	2,160
Shaftesbury Sq.	7,300	4,820	440	2,040
Shankill Road	7,380	4,420	540	2,420
Strabane	9,700	5,560	920	3,220
<b>All Claimants</b>	<b>304,120</b>	<b>176,600</b>	<b>29,760</b>	<b>97,760</b>



## Section 8 United Kingdom analyses

### Summary

A breakdown of the IS caseload is given by Government Office Region (GOR) comparing data from November 1997 to November 2001 (Table 8.1). The caseload is then split by statistical group and GOR at November 2001 (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 November 2001 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 November 1997. The North West is the GOR with the greatest share of the UK caseload (14.1% at November 2001) in comparison with Northern Ireland that has the smallest share of the caseload (4.3% at November 2001). The London GOR is the only area that has exhibited a decrease in claimants over the period from November 2000 to November 2001. Yorks & Humberside has exhibited the largest increase in its share of the caseload, with its share increasing by 0.3% over the period of November 1997 to November 2001.

11.7% of the population in Great Britain were beneficiaries of Income support at November 2001. Among the regions this varied from 7.5% in the South East to 15.1% in the North East. In Northern Ireland 18.1% of the population were beneficiaries of IS. IS claimants in Northern Ireland were likely to have spent a longer time on benefit at November 2001 (72% had a claim with a duration of 2 years or more compared with 67.7% for Great Britain as a whole).



**Table 8.1 Income Support claimants by GOR: November 1997 to November 2001**

GOR	Thousands <sup>1</sup>				
	November 1997	November 1998	November 1999	November 2000	November 2001
North East	218	212	218	223	228
North West	589	570	564	570	580
Yorks & Humberside	350	342	347	355	363
East Midlands	249	241	242	243	253
West Midlands	376	364	364	370	382
East	273	267	267	272	277
London	595	575	582	574	571
South East	373	360	355	357	363
South West	274	267	268	271	276
Wales	231	225	229	233	235
Scotland	409	400	399	409	421
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,938</b>	<b>3,824</b>	<b>3,835</b>	<b>3,877</b>	<b>3,950</b>
Northern Ireland	167	168	169	174	177

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

**Table 8.2 Income Support claimants by GOR and statistical group: November 2001**

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	228	44.0	20.2	27.8	8.0	11.0
North West	580	42.4	20.6	29.7	7.3	10.6
Yorks & Humberside	363	46.4	21.2	24.9	7.5	9.0
East Midlands	253	46.9	20.7	25.0	7.3	7.5
West Midlands	382	47.6	21.0	24.2	7.2	9.0
East	277	47.6	22.5	23.6	6.4	6.3
London	571	36.7	29.0	26.0	8.4	9.7
South East	363	46.5	23.0	23.0	7.5	5.6
South West	276	48.4	19.8	23.9	7.9	6.9
Wales	235	42.7	19.9	30.7	6.7	10.0
Scotland	421	43.2	18.8	30.0	8.1	10.2
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,950</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>
Northern Ireland	177	44.0	17.4	29.5	9.2	13.8

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

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

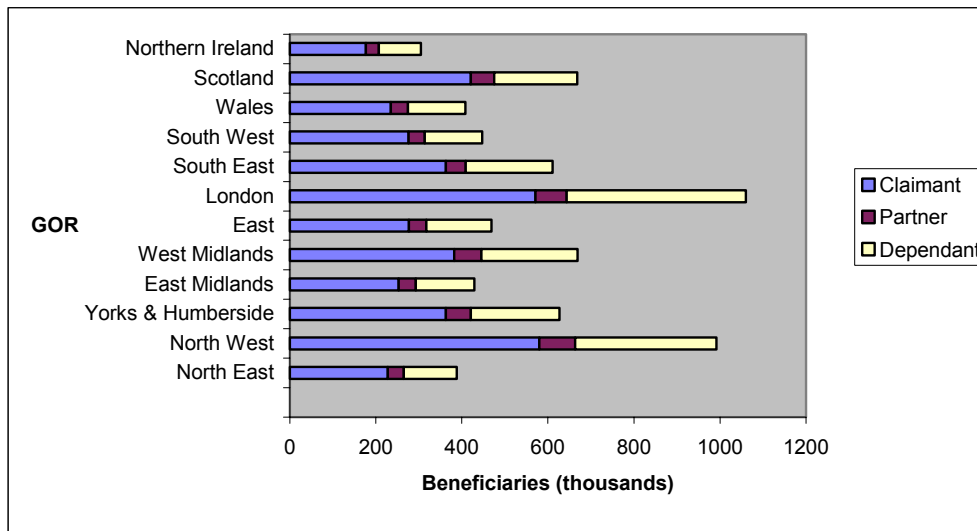


**Table 8.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: November 2001**

GOR	All	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as % GOR's population
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
North East	388	228	37	123	15.1
North West	991	580	83	329	14.4
Yorks & Humberside	628	363	58	206	12.4
East Midlands	430	253	40	136	10.2
West Midlands	670	382	63	224	12.5
East	469	277	40	152	8.6
London	1,060	571	73	416	14.4
South East	611	363	46	202	7.5
South West	448	276	38	133	9.0
Wales	408	235	40	133	13.9
Scotland	668	421	54	193	13.1
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>6,770</b>	<b>3,950</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>2,247</b>	<b>11.7</b>
Northern Ireland	304	177	30	98	18.1

\* Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

**Chart 8A Beneficiaries of Income Support by type and GOR: November 2001**



**Table 8.4 Average weekly payment of Income Support by GOR and statistical group: November 2001**

GOR	All Claimants	£pw			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
North East	<b>65.36</b>	43.55	101.58	74.20	63.21
North West	<b>69.79</b>	48.99	103.81	76.52	66.93
Yorks & Humberside	<b>68.00</b>	47.87	103.08	74.50	71.80
East Midlands	<b>67.93</b>	48.55	103.67	72.49	75.33
West Midlands	<b>67.99</b>	47.89	104.49	75.13	70.57
East	<b>68.51</b>	47.66	103.95	75.22	74.27
London	<b>81.94</b>	63.47	106.22	84.96	69.43
South East	<b>71.77</b>	50.25	105.10	76.43	88.96
South West	<b>69.01</b>	49.82	103.05	73.23	88.64
Wales	<b>67.72</b>	47.28	103.90	73.97	61.98
Scotland	<b>64.51</b>	45.71	99.78	70.32	61.44
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>70.18</b>	<b>49.81</b>	<b>103.87</b>	<b>75.81</b>	<b>71.56</b>
Northern Ireland	<b>72.86</b>	55.94	106.25	81.67	62.82

**Table 8.5 Income Support claimants by GOR and duration of current claim: November 2001**

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>228</b>	4.7	5.4	9.1	13.9	67.0
North West	<b>580</b>	4.4	4.9	8.5	13.3	68.8
Yorks & Humberside	<b>363</b>	5.2	5.2	8.9	14.4	66.3
East Midlands	<b>253</b>	4.8	5.1	10.3	14.3	65.5
West Midlands	<b>382</b>	4.5	5.3	9.0	13.7	67.5
East	<b>277</b>	4.5	4.8	9.2	14.2	67.3
London	<b>571</b>	3.7	4.2	7.6	12.8	71.7
South East	<b>363</b>	4.6	4.8	9.1	14.9	66.6
South West	<b>276</b>	4.7	5.6	9.4	15.0	65.3
Wales	<b>235</b>	4.8	4.6	8.5	13.5	68.6
Scotland	<b>421</b>	4.7	5.3	8.8	14.9	66.4
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>3,950</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>67.7</b>
Northern Ireland	<b>177</b>	4.1	3.8	7.3	12.7	72.0



## **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> November 2001.

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 November 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).



- 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).



## Annex 4: Personal Allowances and Rates of Premium

### Table 1: Income Support: personal allowance 1989 to 2001

	£ 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	
	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			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>			26.60	31.75				
October 23, 2000			30.95	31.75				
April 9, 2001			31.45	32.25				

## 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 2001**

	<i>£ per week</i>									
	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

	Family		Lone Parent <sup>(4)</sup>		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
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

## 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 &amp; Lone parent premium.

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