

Department for Social Development

**Jobseeker's
Allowance
Summary Statistics**

DSD

Department for
Social Development

August 2002



A National Statistics Publication

Published BY

Statistics & Research Branch
Department for Social Development
Room 3 Block 4,
The Village, Stormont,
Belfast, BT4 3SJ

Telephone: 02890 5/22803
GTN (440) 22803
Fax: 02890 5/22763
e-mail: srb@dsdni.gov.uk

ISSN 1475-5769

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

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

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

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.htm>

Contents

	Page
Introduction	3
Glossary of terms and conventions	4
Main Findings	6
Section 1: Caseload by Benefit entitlement	9
Section 2: Duration of Claim	11
Section 3: Claimants without contribution and income-based benefit	13
Section 4: District Council and Social Security Office Analysis.....	16
Section 5: United Kingdom Regional Analysis	21
Section 6: Gender, age and marital status	23
Section 7: Amounts of benefit	26
Annex 1: Technical details.....	28
Annex 2: Background to JSA.....	29
Annex 3: Sampling Errors.....	30
List of Tables	31

Introduction

This publication presents data from the Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) Quarterly Statistical Enquiry (QSE), and also historical data on unemployed claimants of Unemployment Benefit and Income Support. Data is based on a 20% sample of all JSA claimants which is conducted on the second Thursday of February, May, August and November. The publication provides numbers of unemployed claimants for each quarter from February 1997 through to August 2002. There is a more in-depth analysis for August 2002 and comparisons with the previous year.

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) replaced Unemployment Benefit and Income Support for unemployed people on 7 October 1996. JSA can be claimed by people who are available for and actively seeking employment, including those in work for less than 16 hours a week on average, and by people on a Government training scheme. They must not be in relevant education and must be under pensionable age (i.e. 60 years for females and 65 for males). Young people aged 16-17 are generally excluded from claiming, however there are exceptions such as suffering severe hardship (See Annexe 2 for more details).

Jobseeker's Allowance data is extracted from the JSA payment system (JSAPS). Unemployment Benefit data is extracted from the National Unemployment Benefits System (NUBS). Claimants are selected for the 20% sample based on National Insurance number endings. The Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment (DETI) unemployment count is used to gross up the sample (See Technical Details in Annexe 1).

Further advice on analysis can be obtained from the contact point on page 1.

Glossary of Terms and Conventions

Glossary of Terms

Benefit entitlement

Contribution-based:-

Benefit based on National Insurance contributions paid at a personal rate for up to 6 months.

Income-based:-

Benefit based on claimants and dependants needs payable for as long as qualifying conditions are met.

Contribution and income-based:-

A claimant can receive either contribution or income-based benefit, but not both. However for the purposes of this publication, claimants who satisfy the conditions for contribution-based JSA, but receive income-based JSA are shown separately.

Child

A dependant aged under 16. (Also dependants aged 16-18 for whom Child Benefit is in receipt).

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.

Disallowances

Refusals of claims to benefit because of failure to satisfy the qualifying conditions.

Duration of claim

The length of time a claimant has been unemployed in the current claim.



Income Support (IS)

Income Support is an income-related benefit which provides financial help for people who are not required to be available for work, are not in remunerative work and whose income from all sources is below a minimum level set by parliament. JSA replaced Income Support for the unemployed in October 1996.

Marital status

Whether the claimant is without a partner (single) or with a partner (couple) - see Partner.

Partner

One of a married or unmarried couple, living together.

Sanctions

The non-payment of JSA for a specified period because the jobseeker has unreasonably caused or perpetuated their own unemployment.

Single

A claimant who is not living as one of a couple.

Unemployment related benefits

Benefits paid due to unemployment. From October 1996 they are Jobseeker's Allowance, including JSA (Cont), JSA (IB) or Hardship payments. Prior to October 1996 they were Unemployment Benefit and/or Income Support.

Conventions

JSA	Jobseeker's Allowance
JSA (Cont)	Contribution-based JSA
JSA (IB)	Income-based JSA
IS	Income Support
GOR	Government Office Region
-	Nil or Negligible
.	Not applicable
n/a	Not available
<i>Italics</i>	<i>Counts in italics are not statistically reliable</i>

Main findings

This section summarises the key findings of the August 2002 JSA Summary Statistics.

Section 1 - Caseload and benefit entitlement

The overall number of unemployed claimants fell by almost four thousand (3,977) between August 2001 and August 2002 to 38,257. The majority of this reduction in numbers was accounted for by recipients of income-based benefit - a fall of 3,651 in the year to August 2002.

The proportion of the overall caseload in receipt of only contribution-based JSA increased to 13.9% in August 2002, from 13.4% in the previous year. This figure is lower than that of Great Britain, which has a proportion of the overall caseload in receipt of only contribution-based benefit of 17.9%.

Section 2 - Duration of claim

There was a slightly higher proportion of claims of short duration (less than 3 months) in August 2002, 37.8% compared to 35.7% a year earlier. Claims of less than 3 months are a proxy for new claims.

There were also a smaller proportion of claims of more than a year in August 2002 (27.2%) than in August 2001 (31.8%). Claims of long duration (more than one year) in Great Britain fell to 18.4% of the overall caseload, from 21.5% in the previous year.

Between August 1999 and August 2002 the proportion of JSA claimants who had been out of work for one year or more decreased from 37.8% to 27.2% of all JSA claimants. Some of this decrease will be due to changing economic circumstances. But, it will also be impacted upon by the introduction of the New Deal for 18 to 24 year olds and the New Deal for 25+ both of which are designed to assist the longer-term unemployed into work or training.

When compared with the corresponding figures for Great Britain, Northern Ireland is shown to have a greater proportion of claims of long duration (more than one year), namely 27.2% of the overall caseload in August 2002, compared to the GB figure of 18.4%.

Over two thirds (67.7%) of female and almost half (49.3%) of male unemployed claimants had a current claim duration of less than 6 months in August 2002, with a far greater percentage of males having a claim duration of over 1 year.



Section 3 - Claimants without contribution and/or income-based benefit

The proportion of claimants not receiving contribution-based benefit has decreased to 84.9% in August 2002 from 85.7% in the previous year. The main reasons for claimants not receiving contribution-based benefit in August 2002 are contribution deficiency (54.5% of all claimants) and entitlement exhausted (14.2% of all claimants).

This was also the case in Great Britain with figures of 57.7% for contribution deficiency and 13.8% for entitlement exhausted.

The number of JSA claimants who are not entitled to unemployment related benefit rose to 8.5% in August 2002 from 7.9% in the previous year. The corresponding figures for Great Britain between August 2001 and August 2002 remained steady at 9.8% of the overall caseload. The main reason for non-entitlement once again was contribution deficiency and entitlement exhausted.

Section 4 – District Council and Social Security Office analysis

The proportion of JSA claimants with benefit varied between 81.3% in Ards to 95.7% in Magherafelt.

Unemployed claimants in Strabane were least likely to be in receipt of only JSA Contribution-based benefit in August 2002 (5.7% compared to 13.9% for Northern Ireland as a whole and 30.1% in Larne).

The proportion of JSA claimants in receipt of only JSA Income-based benefit in August 2002 varied between 57.6% in Larne and 84.4% in Derry.

JSA claimants as a proportion of people of working age in Northern Ireland in August 2002 was 3.7%. These proportions range from 2.1% in Banbridge to 6.2% in Derry.

Foyle Social Security Office (Londonderry) had the largest share of the JSA caseload with 3,198 claimants (8.4% of the total caseload) at August 2002. Kilkeel Social Security Office had only 222 claimants (0.6% of the total caseload).

Larne Social Security Office had the highest proportion of contribution based only claimants (31.2%) while Strabane Social Security Office had the lowest (5.1%).

Section 5 – United Kingdom Regional analysis

JSA claimants in the United Kingdom have decreased by 1.0% in the year to August 2002. There has been a decrease in the majority of Government Office Regions, ranging from 2.3% in Scotland to 7.1% in Yorkshire & Humberside. There has been an increase in three Government Office Regions, ranging from 7.0% in the East to 10.7% in the South East.

JSA Income-based Beneficiaries as a proportion of the population under state retirement age in the United Kingdom in August 2002 was 2.0%. This is lower than the corresponding figure for Northern Ireland (2.9%). These proportions for the Government Office Regions range from 1.1% in the South East to 3.1% in London.

Section 6 - Gender, age and marital status

Men are more likely to claim JSA (73.3% of claimants in August 2002). This is partly because income-based benefit is claimed on behalf of couples by only one partner, normally the man. The corresponding figure for men in Great Britain in August 2002 was 74.4% of claimants.

Female unemployed claimants are more likely than males to be in receipt of only JSA contribution-based benefit in August 2002 (20.6% compared with 11.5%) but less likely to receive JSA income-based (65.4% compared to 80.3%).

The age distribution of unemployed claimants has changed very little over the year to August 2002. Over a quarter (32.6%) of all claimants are aged under 25, over half (50%) are aged 25-49 and just over a fifth (17%) are aged 50 or over. The figures for Great Britain with regards to age groups in August 2002 were similar.

Section 7 - Amounts of benefit

Single claimants without dependants tend to receive the lowest amounts of benefit, on average £50.52 per week for contribution-based and £49.96 for those with income-based. Recipients of income-based JSA with partners and/or dependants receive higher amounts (£88.06 for couples without dependants and £134.88 for single/couples with dependants).

However the former account for only 5% of all JSA claimants, whilst the latter account for 11%. The corresponding figures for Great Britain in August 2002, with regards to JSA with partners and dependants, are similar.



Table 1.1: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1997 to 2002

	<u>Type of unemployment related benefit</u>					
	All Claimants	All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
Jobseeker's Allowance						
Feb-97	67,541	62,089	5,914	826	55,349	5,452
May-97	61,309	56,765	3,646	772	52,346	4,544
Aug-97	65,727	60,889	6,570	649	53,669	4,838
Nov-97	58,305	54,242	5,054	586	48,602	4,063
Feb-98	59,161	55,049	5,807	622	48,620	4,112
May-98	55,323	51,552	4,720	586	46,246	3,771
Aug-98	61,175	56,914	6,716	679	49,519	4,261
Nov-98	54,327	50,443	5,076	525	44,842	3,884
Feb-99	55,796	51,834	5,397	663	45,774	3,962
May-99	51,137	47,561	4,423	642	42,496	3,577
Aug-99	52,652	48,339	5,383	538	42,417	4,313
Nov-99	43,720	40,383	4,035	410	35,939	3,337
Feb-00	44,018	40,756	4,792	491	35,473	3,262
May-00	42,255	38,900	4,466	489	33,945	3,355
Aug-00	44,123	40,667	5,351	444	34,872	3,456
Nov-00	40,007	36,527	4,536	429	31,562	3,480
Feb-01	40,971	37,772	4,822	359	32,592	3,199
May-01	38,766	35,632	4,313	359	30,961	3,133
Aug-01	42,234	38,901	5,660	391	32,850	3,333
Nov-01	36,854	33,764	4,616	369	28,780	3,090
Feb-02	38,260	34,933	4,868	493	29,571	3,327
May-02	35,747	32,709	4,503	456	27,750	3,038
Aug-02	38,257	34,987	5,332	456	29,199	3,270

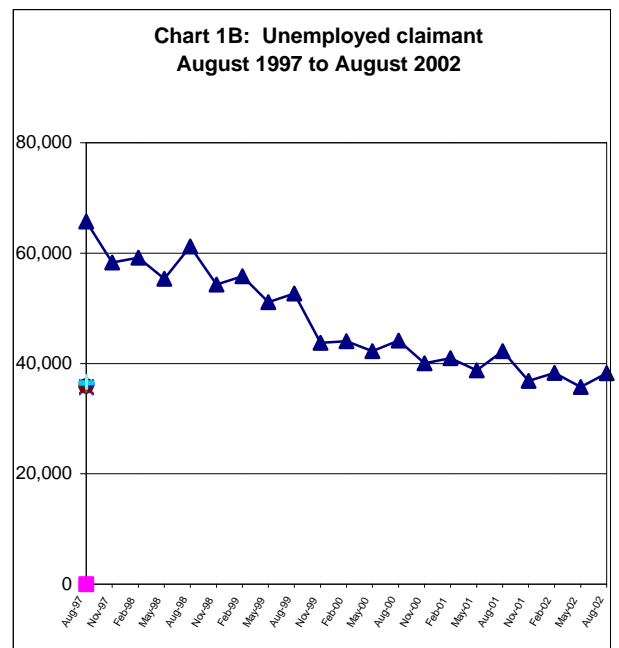
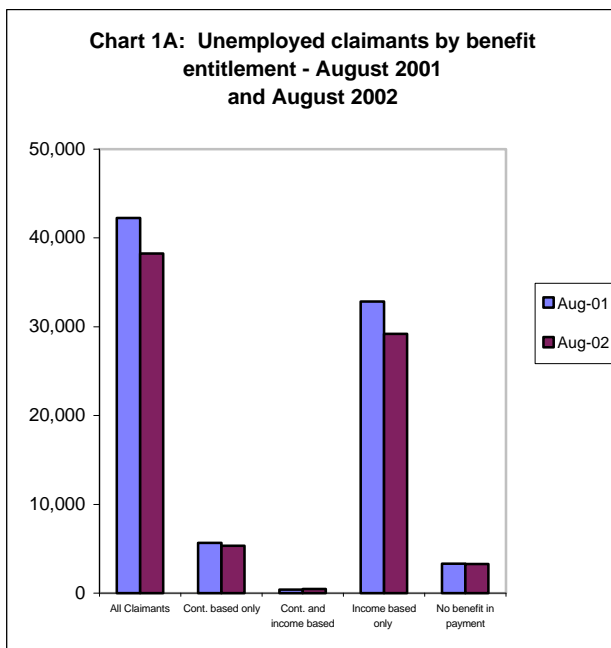


Table 1.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1997 to 2002

	All Claimants ('000=100%)	All with benefit %	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only %	Contribution and income based %	Income based only %	No benefit in payment %
Jobseeker's Allowance						
Aug-97	65,727	92.6	10.0	1.0	81.7	7.4
Aug-98	61,175	93.0	11.0	1.1	80.9	7.0
Aug-99	52,652	91.8	10.2	1.0	80.6	8.2
Aug-00	44,123	92.2	12.1	1.0	79.0	7.8
Aug-01	42,234	92.1	13.4	0.9	77.8	7.9
Aug-02	38,257	91.5	13.9	1.2	76.3	8.5

Chart 1C: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1997 to 2002

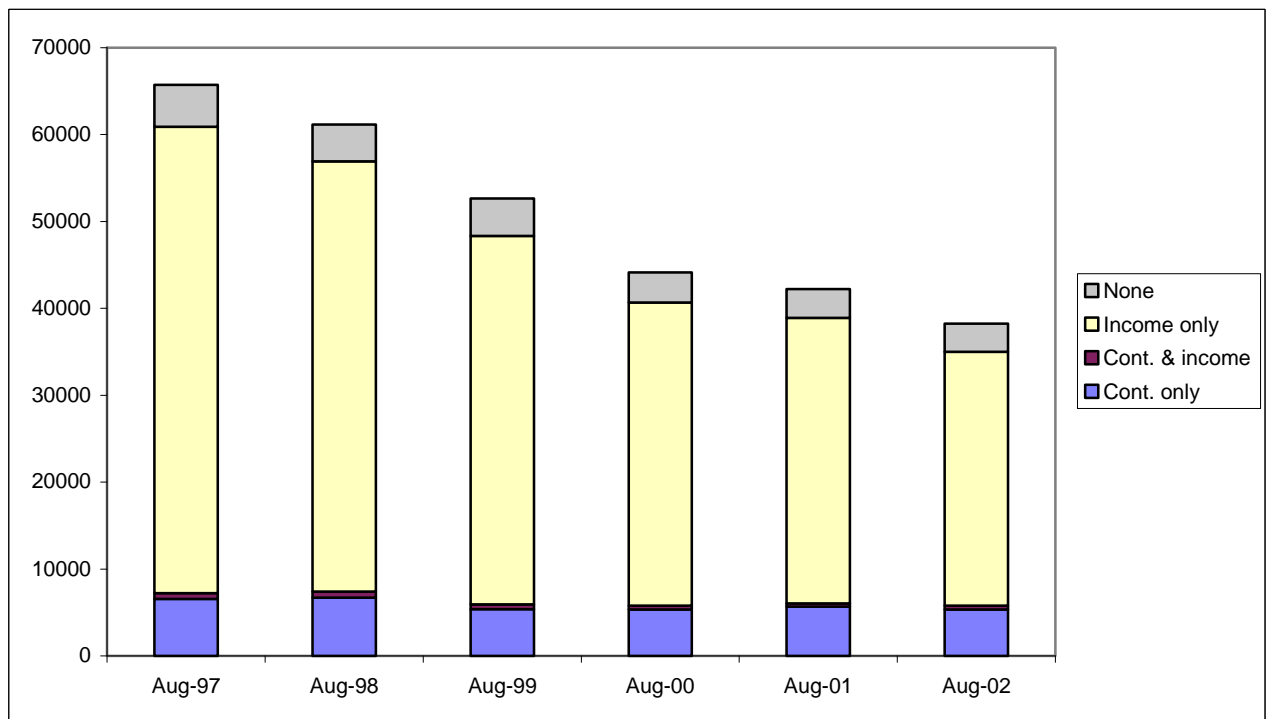


Table 2.1: Unemployed Claimants by duration of claim - August 1999 to August 2002

Duration	Aug-99	Aug-00	Aug-01	Aug-02
All claimants ('000= 100%)	52,652	44,123	42,234	38,257
Under 3 months	17,240	16,444	15,091	14,465
3 to under 6 months	6,863	6,852	6,663	6,264
6 to under 12 months	8,632	7,533	7,057	7,146
1 to under 2 years	6,474	6,208	6,670	5,417
2 years or over	13,444	7,085	6,753	4,965

Duration	Aug-99	Aug-00	Aug-01	Aug-02
All claimants ('000= 100%)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Under 3 months	32.7	37.3	35.7	37.8
3 to under 6 months	13.0	15.5	15.8	16.4
6 to under 12 months	16.4	17.1	16.7	18.7
1 to under 2 years	12.3	14.1	15.8	14.2
2 years or over	25.5	16.1	16.0	13.0

Chart 2A: Unemployed Claimants by duration of current claim - August 2002

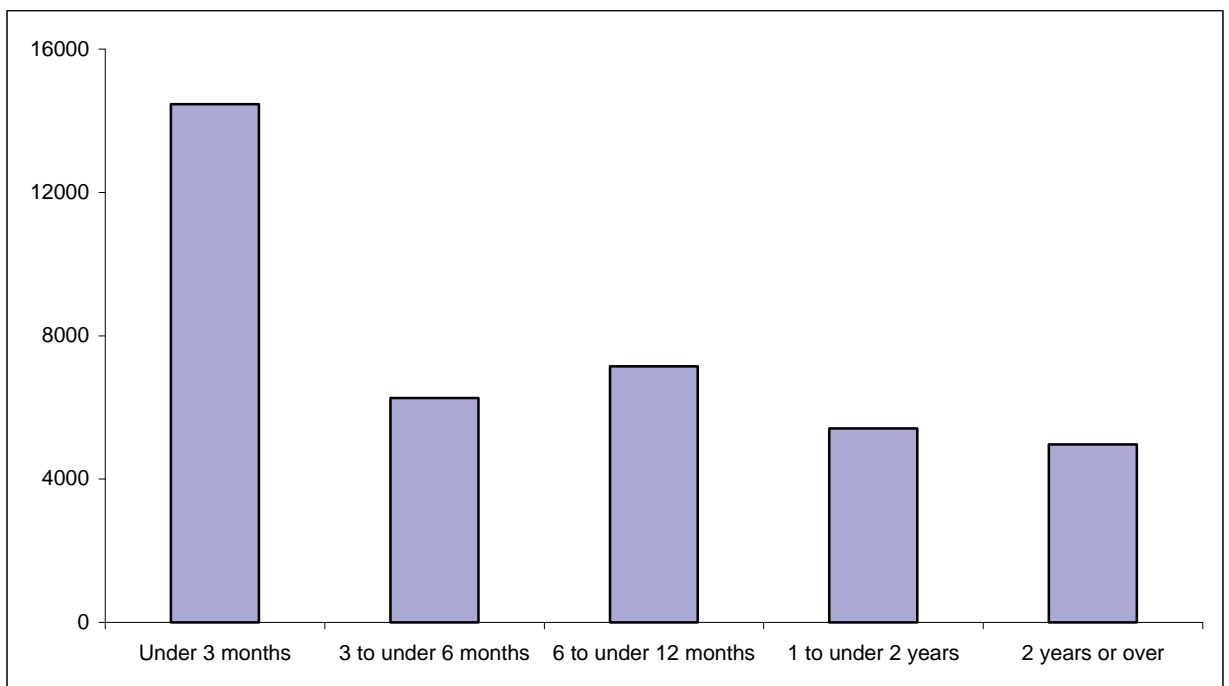


Table 2.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement and duration of current claim - August 2002

	All Claimants	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
Duration						
All ('000=100%)	38,257	34,987	5,332	456	29,199	3,270
% up to 2 weeks	6.9	5.5	11.8	15.0	4.2	21.7
% 2 to under 6 weeks	14.4	14.2	30.4	19.7	11.2	15.8
% 6 to under 13 weeks	16.5	17.0	30.1	22.7	14.6	11.2
% 13 to under 26 weeks	16.4	17.0	27.7	42.6	14.6	9.9
% 26 to under 39 weeks	10.7	10.7	0.0	0.0	12.8	11.2
% 39 weeks to under 1 year	7.9	7.7	0.0	0.0	9.2	10.3
% 1 to under 2 years	14.2	14.3	0.0	0.0	17.1	12.9
% 2 years or over	13.0	13.5	0.0	0.0	16.2	7.1

Table 2.3 Unemployed Claimants by gender, age and duration of current claim - August 2002

Age	All Claimants ('000=100%)	Duration of current claim			
		Under 6 months %	6 months to under 1 year %	1 to under 2 years %	2 years or more %
All persons	38,257	54.2	18.7	14.2	13.0
Under 25	12,464	75.7	16.9	5.8	1.6
25 to 49	19,226	48.2	21.1	18.6	12.2
50 or over	6,566	30.9	15.1	17.1	37.0
Males	28,048	49.3	20.4	15.4	14.9
Under 25	8,117	72.9	19.0	6.4	1.7
25 to 49	15,079	43.7	22.8	19.9	13.5
50 or over	4,851	26.9	15.4	16.6	41.1
Females	10,209	67.7	13.9	10.6	7.8
Under 25	4,347	81.0	12.9	4.8	1.4
25 to 49	4,147	64.4	14.9	13.5	7.2
50 or over	1,715	42.0	14.3	18.4	25.3

Table 3.1 Unemployed claimants : receipt / non-receipt of contribution-based benefit by gender - August 2001 and August 2002

	Aug-01		Aug-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All claimants	42,234	100.0	38,257	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of contribution-based benefit(1)	6,050	14.3	5,789	15.1	13.0	21.0
Claimants not in receipt of contribution-based benefit	36,184	85.7	32,468	84.9	87.0	79.0

1. Includes claimants in receipt of income-based JSA, but who would also be entitled via the contributory route.

Table 3.2: Unemployed claimants not in receipt of contribution-based benefit by gender and benefit reason - August 2001 and August 2002

Reason for non-entitlement	Aug-01		Aug-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All without JSA(C)	36,184	93.3	32,468	84.9	87.0	79.0
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	369	1.0	428	1.1	0.9	1.7
Entitlement exhausted	6,908	17.8	5,440	14.2	16.2	8.7
Entitlement not yet determined	1,479	3.8	5,050	13.2	13.7	11.8
Contribution deficiency	26,491	68.3	20,840	54.5	54.3	55.0
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	535	1.4	507	1.3	1.3	1.4
Other	26	0.1	5	0.0	0.0	0.0

1. Includes claimants who lose entitlement because they have earnings or income above prescribed levels

Table 3.3: Unemployed claimants: receipt / non-receipt of unemployment-related benefit by gender - August 2001 and August 2002

	Aug-01		Aug-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All claimants	42,234	100.0	38,257	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	38,901	92.1	34,987	91.5	93.3	86.3
Claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	3,333	7.9	3,270	8.5	6.7	13.7

Table 3.4: Unemployed claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit by gender and benefit reason - August 2001 and August 2002

Reason for non-entitlement	Aug-01		Aug-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All without JSA	3,333	8.6	3,270	8.5	6.7	13.7
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	369	1.0	428	1.1	0.9	1.7
Entitlement exhausted	844	2.2	878	2.3	1.8	3.5
Entitlement not yet determined	539	1.4	667	1.7	1.2	3.2
Contribution deficiency	877	2.3	725	1.9	1.3	3.5
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	427	1.1	441	1.2	1.1	1.3
Other	276	0.7	130	0.3	0.3	0.2

1. Includes claimants who lose entitlement because they have earnings or income above prescribed levels

Chart 3A: Unemployed JSA claimants not in receipt of any unemployment-related benefit by reason for non-payment - August 2002

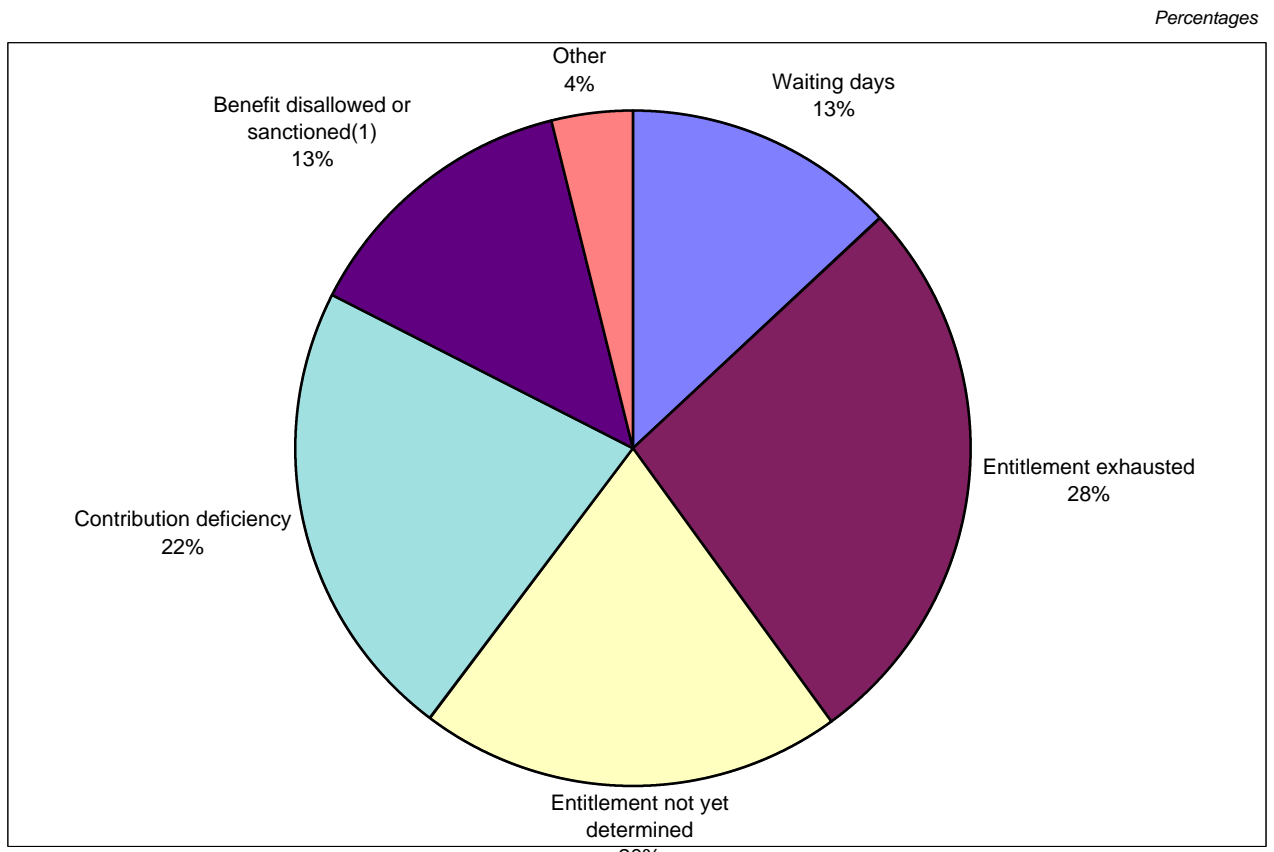


Table 4.1: JSA claimants at August 2002: by District Council and benefit position

District Council	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	Type of unemployment related benefit				
		All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
All	38,257	34,987	5,332	456	29,199	3,270
Antrim	759	700	121	11	569	59
Ards	1,161	943	192	11	741	218
Armagh	1,018	928	184	5	738	91
Ballymena	981	895	174	20	702	86
Ballymoney	428	381	90	10	281	47
Banbridge	542	503	114	16	374	39
Belfast	9,171	8,692	1,060	71	7,561	479
Carrickfergus	740	691	138	16	538	49
Castlereagh	933	803	148	0	655	130
Coleraine	1,251	1,123	164	19	940	128
Cookstown	514	466	66	19	381	48
Craigavon	1,450	1,294	223	5	1,067	156
Derry	4,065	3,799	356	11	3,432	266
Down	1,267	1,162	163	5	993	105
Dungannon	737	701	127	23	550	36
Fermanagh	1,764	1,598	144	27	1,427	166
Larne	644	584	194	19	371	60
Limavady	772	707	124	11	572	65
Lisburn	1,730	1,591	336	33	1,222	139
Magherafelt	536	513	93	11	408	23
Moyle	444	387	32	0	355	57
Newry & Mourne	2,113	1,971	283	32	1,657	142
Newtownabbey	1,554	1,326	367	12	948	228
North Down	1,183	1,000	218	28	754	183
Omagh	1,210	1,057	147	19	891	153
Strabane	1,290	1,173	74	24	1,075	117

Note: The allocation of allowances to District Council is based on the postcode of the recipient. There is evidence that this process is not equally accurate for all District Councils.

Table 4.2: JSA claimants at August 2002: by District Council and benefit position

District Council	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	Type of unemployment related benefit				
		All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
All	38,257	91.5%	13.9%	1.2%	76.3%	8.5%
Antrim	759	92.3%	15.9%	1.4%	74.9%	7.7%
Ards	1,161	81.3%	16.5%	1.0%	63.8%	18.7%
Armagh	1,018	91.1%	18.1%	0.5%	72.5%	8.9%
Ballymena	981	91.3%	17.7%	2.0%	71.5%	8.7%
Ballymoney	428	89.0%	21.1%	2.3%	65.6%	11.0%
Banbridge	542	92.9%	21.1%	2.9%	68.9%	7.1%
Belfast	9,171	94.8%	11.6%	0.8%	82.4%	5.2%
Carrickfergus	740	93.4%	18.6%	2.1%	72.7%	6.6%
Castlereagh	933	86.1%	15.9%	0.0%	70.2%	13.9%
Coleraine	1,251	89.8%	13.1%	1.5%	75.1%	10.2%
Cookstown	514	90.7%	12.9%	3.8%	74.1%	9.3%
Craigavon	1,450	89.2%	15.4%	0.3%	73.6%	10.8%
Derry	4,065	93.5%	8.8%	0.3%	84.4%	6.5%
Down	1,267	91.7%	12.9%	0.4%	78.4%	8.3%
Dungannon	737	95.1%	17.3%	3.1%	74.7%	4.9%
Fermanagh	1,764	90.6%	8.1%	1.5%	80.9%	9.4%
Larne	644	90.6%	30.1%	2.9%	57.6%	9.4%
Limavady	772	91.6%	16.1%	1.4%	74.1%	8.4%
Lisburn	1,730	91.9%	19.4%	1.9%	70.6%	8.1%
Magherafelt	536	95.7%	17.4%	2.1%	76.2%	4.3%
Moyle	444	87.1%	7.2%	0.0%	79.9%	12.9%
Newry & Mourne	2,113	93.3%	13.4%	1.5%	78.4%	6.7%
Newtownabbey	1,554	85.3%	23.6%	0.8%	61.0%	14.7%
North Down	1,183	84.5%	18.4%	2.4%	63.7%	15.5%
Omagh	1,210	87.4%	12.2%	1.6%	73.7%	12.6%
Strabane	1,290	90.9%	5.7%	1.9%	83.3%	9.1%

Note: The allocation of allowances to District Council is based on the postcode of the recipient. There is evidence that this process is not equally accurate for all District Councils.



Table 4.3: JSA claimants at August 2002: by District Council and as a percentage of the working age population

District Council	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	Working age Population *	Claimants as % of Population
All	38,257	1,030,400	3.7%
Antrim	759	32,900	2.3%
Ards	1,161	45,500	2.6%
Armagh	1,018	33,100	3.1%
Ballymena	981	37,000	2.7%
Ballymoney	428	15,900	2.7%
Banbridge	542	25,700	2.1%
Belfast	9,171	165,800	5.5%
Carrickfergus	740	23,800	3.1%
Castlereagh	933	40,200	2.3%
Coleraine	1,251	34,300	3.6%
Cookstown	514	19,200	2.7%
Craigavon	1,450	48,900	3.0%
Derry	4,065	65,300	6.2%
Down	1,267	38,400	3.3%
Dungannon	737	29,300	2.5%
Fermanagh	1,764	34,300	5.1%
Larne	644	18,900	3.4%
Limavady	772	19,700	3.9%
Lisburn	1,730	68,500	2.5%
Magherafelt	536	23,300	2.3%
Moyle	444	9,300	4.8%
Newry & Mourne	2,113	52,400	4.0%
Newtownabbey	1,554	50,700	3.1%
North Down	1,183	45,700	2.6%
Omagh	1,210	29,100	4.2%
Strabane	1,290	23,200	5.6%

* =Mid 2000 estimates. Population of working age. Namely 16-59 for Females, and ages 16-64 for Males.

Note: The allocation of allowances to District Council is based on the postcode of the recipient.

There is evidence that this process is not equally accurate for all District Councils.

Table 4.4: JSA claimants at August 2002: by Social Security Office and benefit position

Social Security Office	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	Type of unemployment related benefit				
		All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
All	38,257	34,987	5,332	456	29,199	3,270
Antrim	846	777	153	5	619	69
Armagh	888	818	138	5	676	70
Ballymena	1,083	982	163	20	799	101
Ballymoney	727	649	131	19	499	78
Ballynahinch	292	270	48	0	223	22
Banbridge	533	485	110	16	359	49
Bangor	1,152	978	229	28	721	174
Belfast - Andersonstown	2,016	1,933	202	22	1,709	82
Belfast - Corporation Street	1,916	1,824	173	20	1,631	91
Belfast - Falls Road	1,630	1,599	117	5	1,477	30
Belfast - Holywood Road	1,477	1,296	269	0	1,027	181
Belfast - Knockbreda	1,177	1,019	169	20	830	158
Belfast - Shaftsbury Square	1,502	1,424	282	5	1,137	78
Belfast - Shankill Road	1,312	1,266	91	10	1,164	45
Carrickfergus	750	697	139	16	542	53
Coleraine	1,292	1,154	155	10	988	138
Cookstown	419	379	52	13	314	40
Downpatrick	665	613	79	5	528	53
Dungannon	634	595	104	23	469	39
Enniskillen	1,888	1,712	158	27	1,527	176
Kilkeel	222	192	51	0	141	30
Larne	602	542	188	19	335	60
Limavady	701	642	119	11	512	60
Lisburn	936	818	258	27	532	118
Lisnagelvin	961	839	116	5	717	122
Londonderry / Foyle	3,198	3,044	254	5	2,785	154
Lurgan	1,030	933	142	5	786	97
Magherafelt	621	597	107	18	473	23
Newcastle	395	363	42	0	322	32
Newry	1,865	1,762	232	32	1,499	102
Newtownabbey	1,453	1,234	354	12	869	218
Newtownards	999	806	146	11	649	192
Omagh	1,167	1,031	152	19	860	137
Portadown	620	551	148	0	403	70
Strabane	1,288	1,165	65	24	1,075	123

Table 4.5: JSA claimants at August 2002: by Social Security Office and benefit position

Social Security Office	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	Type of unemployment related benefit				
		All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
All	38,257	91.5%	13.9%	1.2%	76.3%	8.5%
Antrim	846	91.9%	18.1%	0.6%	73.2%	8.1%
Armagh	888	92.1%	15.5%	0.6%	76.1%	7.9%
Ballymena	1,083	90.6%	15.1%	1.8%	73.8%	9.4%
Ballymoney	727	89.3%	18.0%	2.6%	68.7%	10.7%
Ballynahinch	292	92.4%	16.3%	0.0%	76.1%	7.6%
Banbridge	533	90.9%	20.6%	2.9%	67.3%	9.1%
Bangor	1,152	84.9%	19.9%	2.4%	62.5%	15.1%
Belfast - Andersonstown	2,016	95.9%	10.0%	1.1%	84.8%	4.1%
Belfast - Corporation Street	1,916	95.2%	9.0%	1.1%	85.1%	4.8%
Belfast - Falls Road	1,630	98.1%	7.2%	0.3%	90.6%	1.9%
Belfast - Holywood Road	1,477	87.7%	18.2%	0.0%	69.5%	12.3%
Belfast - Knockbreda	1,177	86.5%	14.3%	1.7%	70.5%	13.5%
Belfast - Shaftsbury Square	1,502	94.8%	18.7%	0.4%	75.7%	5.2%
Belfast - Shankill Road	1,312	96.5%	7.0%	0.8%	88.8%	3.5%
Carrickfergus	750	92.9%	18.5%	2.1%	72.3%	7.1%
Coleraine	1,292	89.3%	12.0%	0.8%	76.5%	10.7%
Cookstown	419	90.4%	12.3%	3.1%	75.0%	9.6%
Downpatrick	665	92.1%	11.9%	0.8%	79.4%	7.9%
Dungannon	634	93.8%	16.3%	3.6%	73.9%	6.2%
Enniskillen	1,888	90.7%	8.4%	1.4%	80.9%	9.3%
Kilkeel	222	86.4%	22.9%	0.0%	63.5%	13.6%
Larne	602	90.0%	31.2%	3.1%	55.7%	10.0%
Limavady	701	91.5%	17.0%	1.6%	73.0%	8.5%
Lisburn	936	87.3%	27.6%	2.9%	56.9%	12.7%
Lisnagelvin	961	87.3%	12.1%	0.5%	74.6%	12.7%
Londonderry / Foyle	3,198	95.2%	7.9%	0.2%	87.1%	4.8%
Lurgan	1,030	90.5%	13.8%	0.5%	76.3%	9.5%
Magherafelt	621	96.3%	17.2%	2.9%	76.2%	3.7%
Newcastle	395	92.0%	10.5%	0.0%	81.5%	8.0%
Newry	1,865	94.5%	12.4%	1.7%	80.4%	5.5%
Newtownabbey	1,453	85.0%	24.3%	0.8%	59.8%	15.0%
Newtownards	999	80.7%	14.6%	1.1%	65.0%	19.3%
Omagh	1,167	88.3%	13.0%	1.6%	73.7%	11.7%
Portadown	620	88.8%	23.9%	0.0%	64.9%	11.2%
Strabane	1,288	90.5%	5.1%	1.9%	83.5%	9.5%

**Table 5.1: JSA claimants by Government Office Region:
August 2001 and August 2002**

<i>Thousands</i>			
GOR	August 2001	August 2002	Annual % change
United Kingdom	973	963	-1.0
North East	62	58	-6.0
North West	125	120	-4.1
Yorks & Humberside	97	90	-7.1
East Midlands	63	59	-6.7
West Midlands	100	96	-4.5
East	54	58	7.0
London	155	169	9.3
South East	65	72	10.7
South West	51	49	-3.3
Wales	50	47	-6.2
Scotland	109	107	-2.3
Northern Ireland	42	38	-9.5

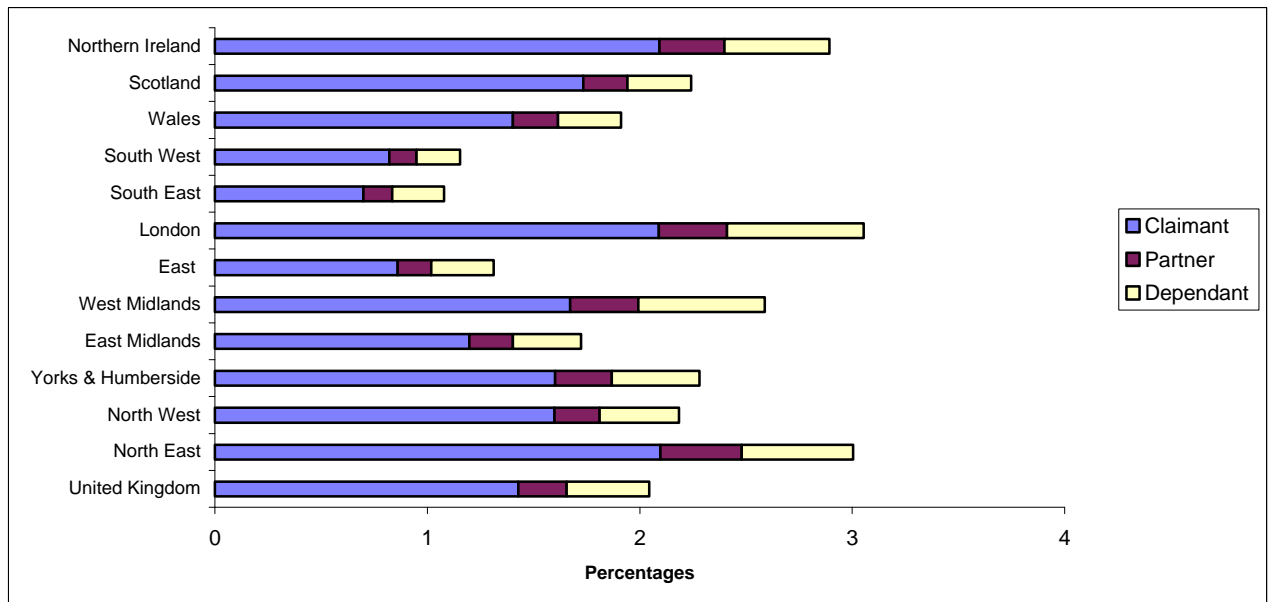
Table 5.2: Beneficiaries of income - based JSA by type and GOR: August 2002

Thousands

GOR	Type of beneficiary				Beneficiaries as % of regions population aged under state retirement age ⁽¹⁾ %
	All	Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
United Kingdom	997	698	111	190	2.0
North East	62	44	8	11	3.0
North West	123	90	12	21	2.2
Yorks & Humberside	94	66	11	17	2.3
East Midlands	59	41	7	11	1.7
West Midlands	112	73	14	26	2.6
East	58	38	7	13	1.3
London	190	130	20	40	3.1
South East	70	46	9	16	1.1
South West	46	32	5	8	1.2
Wales	45	33	5	7	1.9
Scotland	97	75	9	13	2.2
Northern Ireland	41	30	4	7	2.9

⁽¹⁾ 65 for men and 60 for women. Based on mid-year 2000 population estimates.

Chart 5A: Beneficiaries of income - based JSA by type as a percentage of the population aged under state retirement age (1) : August 2002



⁽¹⁾ 65 for men and 60 for women. Based on mid-year 2000 population estimates.

Table 6.1 Unemployed JSA claimants by gender, marital status and benefit entitlement - August 2002

Claimants	All Claimants ('000=100%)	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only %	Contribution and income based %	Income based only %	No benefit in payment %
All	38,257	91.5	13.9	1.2	76.3	8.5
All males	28,048	93.3	11.5	1.5	80.3	6.7
Single	22,118	96.4	11.5	0.3	84.6	3.6
With partner	5,930	81.8	11.6	5.9	64.3	18.2
All females	10,209	86.3	20.6	0.4	65.4	13.7
Single	8,182	93.6	14.2	0.4	79.0	6.4
With partner	2,027	57.0	46.2	0.4	10.3	43.0

Chart 6A: Unemployed JSA claimants by gender and marital status - August 2002

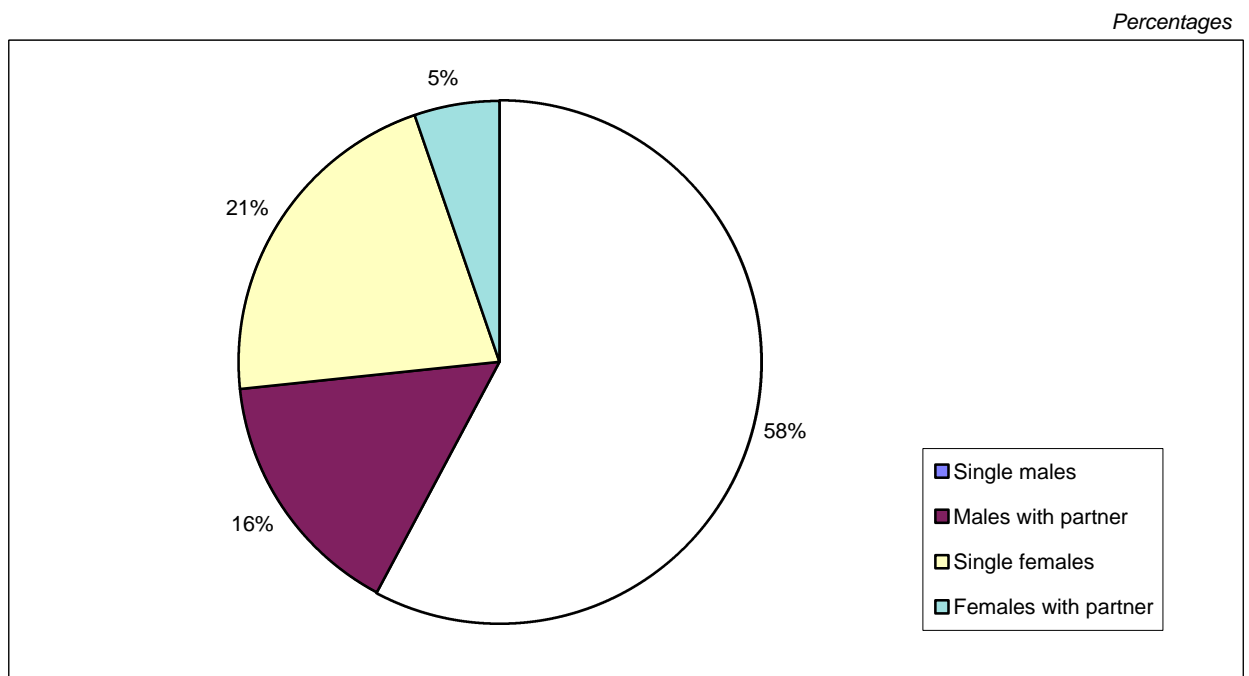


Table 6.2 Unemployed JSA claimants by age and benefit entitlement - August 2002

Claimants age	All Claimants (^{'000=100%})	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only %	Contribution and income based %	Income based only %	No benefit in payment %
All ages	38,257	91.5	13.9	1.2	76.3	8.5
Under 20	3,946	95.4	0.6	0.1	94.7	4.6
20-24	8,519	95.4	17.1	0.3	77.9	4.6
25-29	5,298	94.3	20.6	1.2	72.6	5.7
30-34	4,088	94.1	18.6	2.2	73.3	5.9
35-39	3,690	94.1	14.9	2.4	76.7	5.9
40-44	3,206	91.6	13.5	1.6	76.5	8.4
45-49	2,943	89.0	13.9	1.6	73.5	11.0
50-54	3,193	83.2	8.8	1.2	73.2	16.8
55-59	3,120	76.1	8.3	0.9	67.0	23.9
60 and over	254	75.7	24.3	8.3	43.0	24.3

**Table 6.3: Unemployed claimants by gender and age:
August 2001 and August 2002**

Claimants age	Aug-01 Total (<i>'000=100%</i>)	Men %	Women %	Aug-02 Total (<i>'000=100%</i>)	Men %	Women %
All ages	42,234	72.5	27.5	38,257	73.3	26.7
Under 20	4,275	59.3	40.7	3,946	62.5	37.5
20-24	8,521	64.0	36.0	8,519	66.4	33.6
25-29	6,054	73.0	27.0	5,298	76.6	23.4
30-34	4,830	81.7	18.3	4,088	81.4	18.6
35-39	4,380	83.7	16.3	3,690	83.9	16.1
40-44	3,940	75.9	24.1	3,206	76.6	23.4
45-49	3,416	74.4	25.6	2,943	72.9	27.1
50-54	3,607	74.0	26.0	3,193	74.3	25.7
55-59	2,933	71.7	28.3	3,120	71.6	28.4
60 and over	279	100.0	0.0	254	96.4	3.6

**Chart 6B: Unemployed claimants by gender and age:
August 2001 and August 2002**

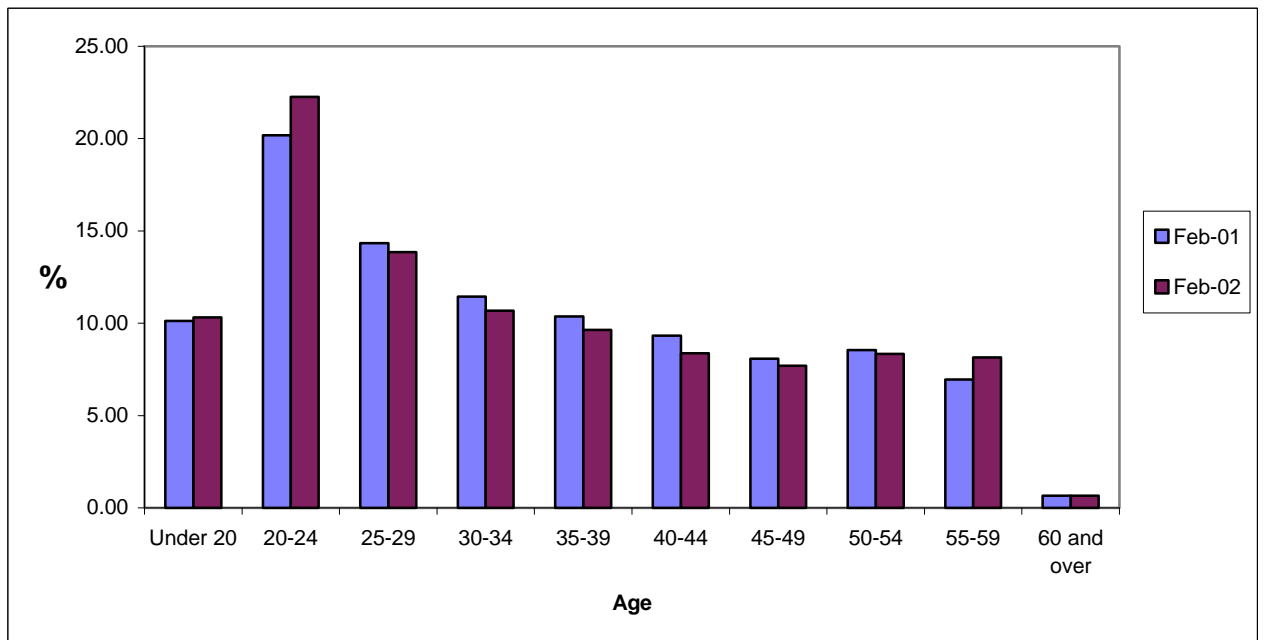


Table 7.1: Unemployed claimants with contribution-based benefit entitlement (1) by average weekly amount - 1998-2002

	All		Personal claim only (2)	
	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw
JSA(1)				
Aug-98	7,395	£47.27	7,395	£47.27
Aug-99	5,921	£48.42	5,921	£48.42
Aug-00	5,795	£48.65	5,795	£48.65
Aug-01	6,050	£49.58	6,050	£49.58
Aug-02	5,789	£50.52	5,789	£50.52

1. Includes claimants in receipt of income-based JSA who would be entitled to the contributory element.

2. Adult dependency increase is not payable to claimants coming onto benefit after October 1996 and ceased in April 1997.

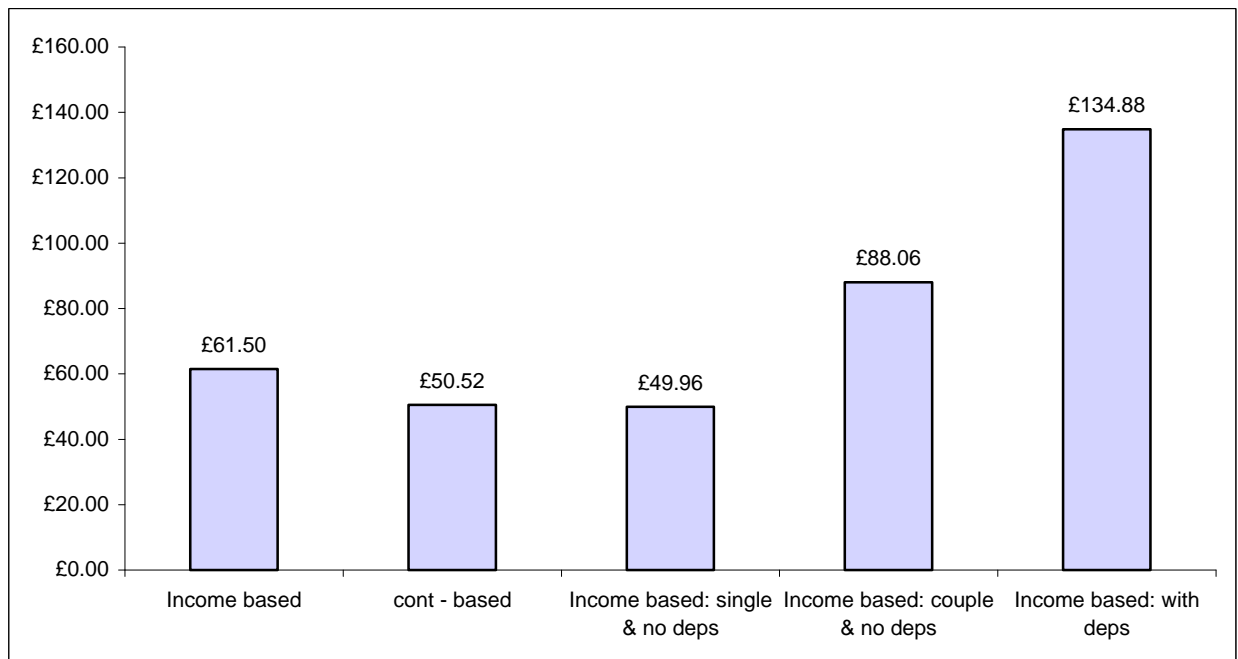


Table 7.2: Unemployed claimants with income-based benefit (1) by average weekly amount - 1998-2002

	All		Single without dependants		Couple without dependants		Single or couple with dependants	
	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw
JSA(1)								
Aug-98	50,198	£60.73	37,801	£46.58	3,391	£73.22	9,006	£115.40
Aug-99	42,956	£61.45	33,559	£47.93	2,470	£81.83	6,927	£119.70
Aug-00	35,315	£60.28	28,922	£48.34	1,683	£81.39	4,711	£126.04
Aug-01	33,241	£61.56	27,482	£49.26	1,497	£87.34	4,262	£131.77
Aug-02	29,655	£61.50	24,793	£49.96	1,508	£88.06	3,354	£134.88

1. Includes claimants in receipt of income-based JSA who would be entitled to the contributory element. Only the amount of income-based award above the level of contributon based award is included.

Chart 7A: Average weekly amount of JSA in payment by benefit and family type - August 2002



ANNEX 1: TECHNICAL DETAILS

A 20% sample of all claimants of JSA is conducted on the second Thursday in February, November, August and November of each year. The sample data are used to make estimates of the total number of JSA claimants in Northern Ireland.

The JSA QSE covers all unemployed people who claim JSA, including credits only cases. The JSA QSE also collects data on participants of government training schemes. However, analysis of this group is not yet possible.

The data is extracted from the JSA payment system (JSAPS). Claimants are selected for the sample based on National Insurance endings. The same endings are used each quarter to ensure continuity. The data is physically extracted from JSAPS 21 days after the enquiry date. This allows for claims, which had not been put on the system at the enquiry date, or claims, which had ended before the enquiry date and should have been excluded.

The Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment (DETI) unemployment count is used to gross up the sample. The JSA QSE is taken from the same source as the DETI unemployed claimant count. The DETI count also includes clerically processed claims, which means these are also reflected in the results. Temporarily stopped cases are now omitted for post-JSA cases, as these on average number less than fifty. Both the JSA QSE and the DETI count allow 21 days after the enquiry date for late claims and early terminations.

Automated validation checks have been carried out on data from November 1998 only. The JSA QSE is designed to cover all people who claim JSA, including those on government training schemes, however the training scheme cases are not included in this analysis. The data are not seasonally adjusted. DETI produce a headline count of claimant unemployment each month. DETI exclude claimants on government training schemes in their count. Data from each can be used to complement one another to provide consistent estimates of the number of unemployed JSA claimants.

ANNEX 2: BACKGROUND TO JSA

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) replaced Unemployment Benefit and Income Support for unemployed people on 7 October 1996. JSA is for people who are unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week, are available for work for at least 40 hours a week, actively looking for work, and people on a Government training scheme. They must not be in relevant education and be under pensionable age (i.e. 60 years for females and 65 for males). Young people aged 16-17 are generally excluded from claiming, however there are exceptions such as suffering severe hardship.

There are two routes of entry into JSA, contribution-based JSA and income-based JSA. Contribution-based is payable for up to 6 months to those people who have paid sufficient national insurances and is taxable. Income-based JSA is means-tested and taxable. It is usually paid when someone does not qualify for contribution-based or as a top up to contribution-based JSA. Claimants can not claim both income-based and contribution-based JSA, however in this publication we have classified claimants who receive income-based JSA but who have underlying rights to contribution-based JSA into a group on their own.

Credits are awarded for each week of claiming JSA. Credits can be awarded even though the person is not being paid JSA. This is the case when either they have not paid enough contributions, they already have received their full entitlement of contribution-based JSA, they are not entitled to income-based JSA or they choose not to claim JSA.

Benefit may be disallowed if the claimant does not fulfil the basic 'labour market' conditions. In some cases even if you do satisfy the basic conditions your benefit may be 'sanctioned' and payment stopped for a limited period. In this instance you may be eligible for a hardship payment which is a reduced rate income-based JSA payment.

ANNEX 3: SAMPLING ERRORS

The estimates in the tables in this report are based on a 20% sample and are therefore subject to 'sampling error', i.e. the number of cases in the sample November produce rated up population estimates which are lower or higher than the true population value.

An indication of the effect of these sampling errors can be gained from the tables of 'confidence intervals' shown below. The figures shown in this report are a best estimate based on the sample data. The true number will lie somewhere in a range around this estimate. The size of this range is based on a "95% confidence interval" i.e. there is a 1 in 20 chance that the true value lies outside this range. Thus, for example, an estimate of 1,000 is really showing that the true value could lie anywhere in the range of 876 to 1,124. This applies only to estimates of numbers of cases and not to other features, e.g. amounts of benefit.

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 (+/-)
150	48	32
300	68	23
400	78	20
500	88	18
600	96	16
700	104	15
800	111	14
900	118	13
1000	124	12
2000	175	9
3000	215	7
4000	248	6
5000	277	6
6000	304	5
7000	328	5
8000	351	4
9000	372	4
10000	392	4
20000	554	3
30000	679	2
40000	784	2
50000	877	2

Warning: Figures in italics should be used with caution

List of Tables

Section 1: Caseload by benefit entitlement

Table 1.1 Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1997 to 2002

Table 1.2 Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1997 to 2002

Section 2: Duration of claim

Table 2.1 Unemployed Claimants by duration of claim – August 1999 to August 2002

Table 2.2 Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement and duration of current claim – August 2002

Table 2.3 Unemployed Claimants by gender, age and duration of current claim - August 2002

Section 3: Claims without contribution and income-based benefit

Table 3.1 Unemployed Claimants : receipt/non-receipt of contribution-based benefit by gender – August 2001 and August 2002

Table 3.2 Unemployed Claimants not in receipt of contribution-based benefit by gender and benefit reason – August 2001 and August 2002

Table 3.3 Unemployed Claimants : receipt/non-receipt of unemployment-related benefit by gender – August 2001 and August 2002

Table 3.4 Unemployed Claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit by gender and benefit reason – August 2001 and August 2002

Section 4: District Council and Social Security Office analysis

Table 4.1 JSA Claimants at August 2002: by District Council and benefit position

Table 4.2 JSA Claimants at August 2002: by District Council and benefit position

Table 4.3 JSA Claimants at August 2002: by District Council and as a percentage of the working age population



Table 4.4 JSA Claimants at August 2002: by Social Security Office and benefit position

Table 4.5 JSA Claimants at August 2002: by Social Security Office and benefit position

Section 5: United Kingdom Regional analysis

Table 5.1 JSA Claimants by Government Office Region: August 2001 and August 2002

Table 5.2 Beneficiaries of income-based JSA by type and Government Office Region: August 2002

Section 6: Gender, age and marital status

Table 6.1 Unemployed JSA Claimants by gender, marital status and benefit entitlement - August 2002

Table 6.2 Unemployed JSA Claimants by age and benefit entitlement - August 2002

Table 6.3 Unemployed Claimants by gender and age - August 2001 and August 2002

Section 7: Amounts of Benefit

Table 7.1 Unemployed Claimants with contribution-based benefit entitlement by average weekly amount – 1998 - 2002

Table 7.2 Unemployed Claimants with income-based benefit by average weekly amount – 1998 - 2002



ISSN 1475-5769