

Department for Social Development

**Jobseeker's
Allowance
Summary Statistics**

DSD

**Department for
Social Development**

May 2001



A National Statistics Publication

Department for Social Development

**Jobseeker's
Allowance
Summary Statistics**

May 2001



Published BY

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ISSN 1475-5769

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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 1996 through to May 2001 with the exception of November 1996 which is unavailable. There is a more in-depth analysis for May 2001 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 3.



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 May 2001 JSA Summary Statistics.

Section 1 - Caseload and benefit entitlement

The overall number of unemployed claimants fell by over three thousand (3,489) between May 2000 and May 2001 to 38,766. The majority of this reduction in numbers was accounted for by recipients of income-based benefit - a fall of 2,984 in the year to May 2001.

The proportion of the overall caseload in receipt of only contribution-based JSA increased to 11.1% in May 2001, from 10.6% 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 15.6%.

Section 2 - Duration of claim

There was a slightly higher proportion of claims of short duration (less than 3 months) in May 2001, 30.0% compared to 29.3% a year earlier. Claims of less than 3 months are a proxy for new claims.

There was also a slightly smaller proportion of claims of more than a year in May 2001 (33.7%) than in May 2000 (33.8%). This was also the case in Great Britain, with claims of long duration (more than one year) falling to 21.9% of the overall caseload, from 25.9% in the previous year.

Between May 1998 and May 2001 the proportion of JSA claimants who had been out of work for one year or more decreased from 48.5% to 33.7% 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 33.7% of the overall caseload in May 2001, compared to the GB figure of 21.9%.

Almost two thirds (56.8%) of female and almost half (43.6%) of male unemployed claimants had a current claim duration of less than 6 months in May 2001, 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 87.9% in May 2001 from 88.3% in the previous year. The main reasons for claimants not receiving contribution-based benefit in May 2001 are contribution deficiency (64.2% of all claimants) and entitlement exhausted (19.1% of all claimants).

This was also the case in Great Britain with figures of 59.6% and 14.9% respectively.

The number of JSA claimants who are not entitled to unemployment related benefit rose slightly to 8.1% in May 2001 from 7.9% in the previous year. The corresponding figures for Great Britain between May 2000 and May 2001 rose slightly from 8.9% to 9.9% 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 85.9% in Ards to 95.9% in Cookstown.

Unemployed claimants in Moyle were least likely to be in receipt of only JSA Contribution-based benefit in May 2001 (6.3% compared to 11.1% for Northern Ireland as a whole and 22.6% in Castlereagh).

The proportion of JSA claimants in receipt of only JSA Income-based benefit in May 2001 varied between 66.1% in Ards and 86.0% in Derry.

JSA claimants as a proportion of people of working age in Northern Ireland in May 2001 was 3.8%. These proportions range from 2.2% in Banbridge to 6.6% in Derry.

Foyle Social Security Office (Londonderry) had the largest share of the JSA caseload with 3,171 claimants (8.2% of the total caseload) at May 2001.

Kilkeel Social Security Office had only 202 claimants (0.5% of the total caseload).

Lisburn Social Security Office had the highest proportion of contribution based only claimants (25.1%) while Falls Road Social Security Office had the lowest (4.6%).



Section 5 – United Kingdom Regional analysis

JSA claimants in the United Kingdom have decreased by 11.8% in the year to May 2001. There has been a decrease in every Government Office Region, ranging from 7.1% in Northern Ireland to 17.1% in the South East.

JSA Income-based Beneficiaries as a proportion of the population under state retirement age in the United Kingdom in May 2001 was 2.2%. This is lower than the corresponding figure for Northern Ireland (3.2%). These proportions for the Government Office Regions range from 1.1% in the South East to 3.5% in the North East.

Section 6 - Gender, age and marital status

Men are more likely to claim JSA (77.4% of claimants in May 2001). 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 May 2001 was 76.5% of claimants.

Female unemployed claimants are more likely than males to be in receipt of only JSA contribution-based benefit in May 2001 (15.3% compared with 9.9%) but less likely to receive JSA income-based (69.5% compared to 82.9%).

The age distribution of unemployed claimants has changed very little over the year to May 2001. A quarter (25%) of all claimants are aged under 25, over half (57%) are aged 25-49 and just under a fifth (18%) are aged 50 or over. The figures for Great Britain with regards to age groups in May 2001 were similar.

Section 7 - Amounts of benefit

Single claimants without dependants tend to receive the lowest amounts of benefit, on average £49.60 per week for contribution-based and £49.91 for those with income-based. Recipients of income-based JSA with partners and/or dependants receive higher amounts (£85.34 for couples without dependants and £132.98 for single/couples with dependants).

However the former account for only 4% of all JSA claimants, whilst the latter account for 11%. The corresponding figures for Great Britain in May 2001, with regards to JSA with partners and dependants, are similar.



Table 1.1: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1996 to 2001

	<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
Unemployment Benefit/Income Support						
Feb-96	85,744	76,997	7,704	4,241	65,052	8,747
May-96	82,713	74,210	9,820	1,431	62,959	8,503
Aug-96	93,263	83,826	12,726	1,468	69,632	9,437
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

Note: No figures available for November 1996

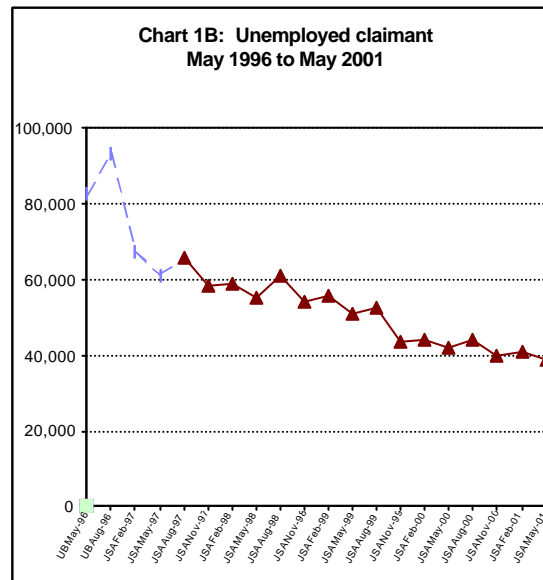
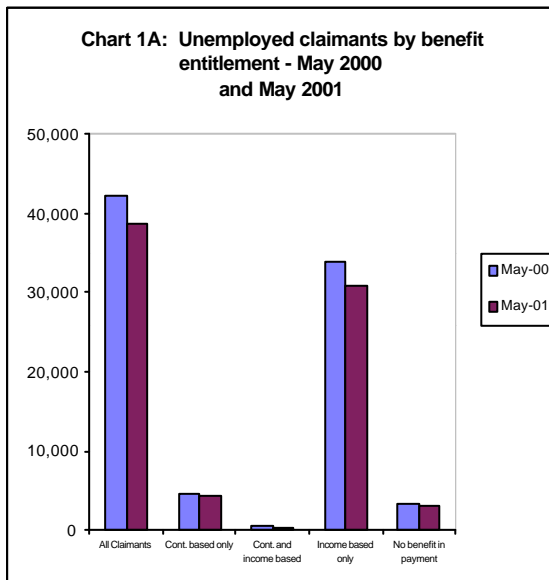


Table 1.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1996 to 2001

	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 %
Unemployment Benefit/Income Support						
May-96	82,713	89.7	11.9	1.7	76.1	10.3
Jobseeker's Allowance						
May-97	61,309	92.6	5.9	1.3	85.4	7.4
May-98	55,323	93.2	8.5	1.1	83.6	6.8
May-99	51,137	93.0	8.6	1.3	83.1	7.0
May-00	42,255	92.1	10.6	1.2	80.3	7.9
May-01	38,766	91.9	11.1	0.9	79.9	8.1

Chart 1C: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1996 to 2001

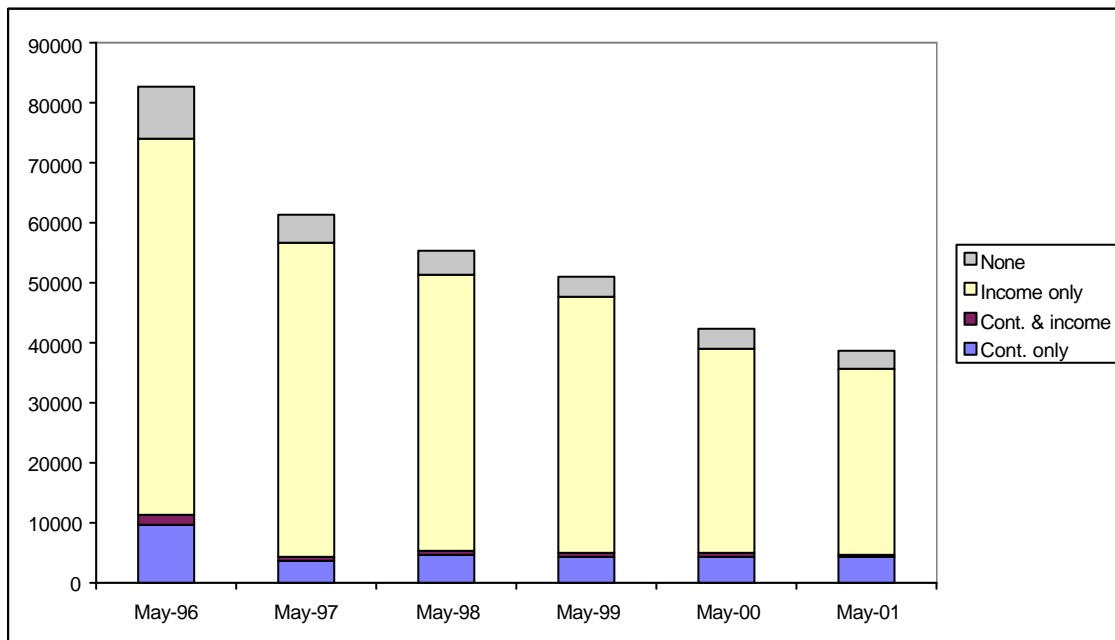


Table 2.1: Unemployed Claimants by duration of claim - May 1998 to May 2001

Duration	May-98	May-99	May-00	May-01
All claimants ('000= 100%)	55,323	51,137	42,255	38,766
Under 3 months	11,441	11,717	12,366	11,626
3 to under 6 months	7,781	8,304	7,614	6,433
6 to under 12 months	9,262	8,573	8,020	7,640
1 to under 2 years	8,268	6,905	6,367	6,190
2 years or over	18,571	15,639	7,888	6,876

Duration	May-98	May-99	May-00	May-01
All claimants ('000= 100%)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Under 3 months	20.7	22.9	29.3	30.0
3 to under 6 months	14.1	16.2	18.0	16.6
6 to under 12 months	16.7	16.8	19.0	19.7
1 to under 2 years	14.9	13.5	15.1	16.0
2 years or over	33.6	30.6	18.7	17.7

Chart 2A: Unemployed Claimants by duration of current claim - May 2001

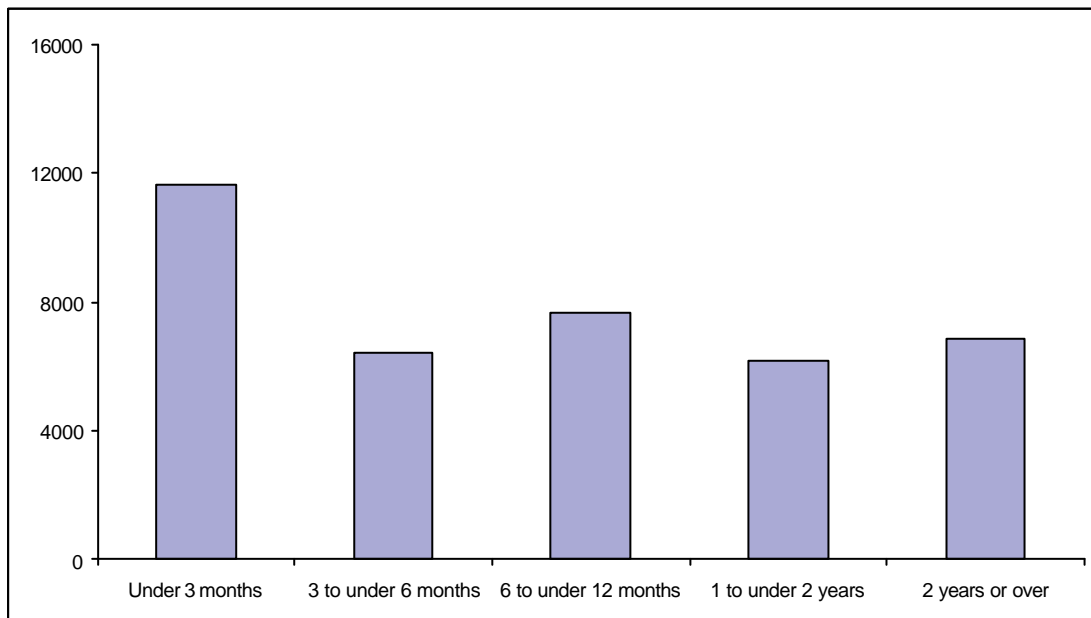


Table 2.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement and duration of current claim - May 2001

	All Claimants	Type of unemployment related benefit				
		All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
Duration						
All ('000=100%)	38,766	35,632	4,313	359	30,961	3,133
% up to 2 weeks	5.3	4.2	10.3	9.5	3.3	18.1
% 2 to under 6 weeks	10.8	10.3	26.8	16.7	7.9	16.4
% 6 to under 13 weeks	13.9	14.1	31.4	34.6	11.4	11.5
% 13 to under 26 weeks	16.6	16.9	31.5	39.2	14.7	12.7
% 26 to under 39 weeks	11.6	11.3	0.0	0.0	13.0	15.1
% 39 weeks to under 1 year	8.1	8.1	0.0	0.0	9.3	7.8
% 1 to under 2 years	16.0	16.3	0.0	0.0	18.7	12.5
% 2 years or over	17.7	18.8	0.0	0.0	21.6	6.0

Table 2.3 Unemployed Claimants by gender, age and duration of current claim - May 2001

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	38,766	46.6	19.7	16.0	17.7
Under 25	9,862	72.2	18.6	7.0	2.2
25 to 49	22,116	40.0	21.0	19.0	20.0
50 or over	6,787	30.9	17.0	18.9	33.2
Males	29,993	43.6	19.5	16.8	20.1
Under 25	6,852	71.6	18.3	7.7	2.5
25 to 49	17,981	36.9	21.2	20.0	22.0
50 or over	5,159	29.8	15.5	17.8	36.9
Females	8,773	56.8	20.3	13.2	9.7
Under 25	3,010	73.7	19.3	5.6	1.4
25 to 49	4,135	53.3	20.4	15.1	11.2
50 or over	1,628	34.3	21.9	22.4	21.4



Table 3.1 Unemployed claimants : receipt / non-receipt of contribution-based benefit by gender - May 2000 and May 2001

	May-00		May-01		% All males	% All females
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants		
All claimants	42,255	100.0	38,766	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of contribution-based benefit(1)	4,955	11.7	4,671	12.1	10.9	15.9
Claimants not in receipt of contribution-based benefit	37,300	88.3	34,094	87.9	89.1	84.1

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 - May 2000 and May 2001

Reason for non-entitlement	May-00		May-01		% All males	% All females
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants		
All without JSA(C)	37,300	88.3	34,094	87.9	89.1	84.1
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	229	0.5	319	0.8	0.8	0.9
Entitlement exhausted	7,939	18.8	7,387	19.1	20.9	12.9
Entitlement not yet determined	654	1.5	692	1.8	1.6	2.5
Contribution deficiency	27,316	64.6	24,887	64.2	63.8	65.6
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	824	1.9	442	1.1	1.0	1.7
Other	21	0.0	20	0.1	0.1	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 - May 2000 and May 2001

	May-00		May-01			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All claimants	42,255	100.0	38,766	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	38,900	92.1	35,632	91.9	93.8	85.4
Claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	3,355	7.9	3,133	8.1	6.2	14.6



Table 3.4: Unemployed claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit by gender and benefit reason - May 2000 and May 2001

Reason for non-entitlement	May-00		May-01		% All males	% All females
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants		
All without JSA	3,355	7.9	3,133	8.1	6.2	14.6
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	229	0.5	319	0.8	0.8	0.9
Entitlement exhausted	1,002	2.4	878	2.3	1.4	5.1
Entitlement not yet determined	102	0.2	330	0.9	0.6	1.6
Contribution deficiency	1,070	2.5	988	2.5	1.7	5.3
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	743	1.8	383	1.0	0.9	1.4
Other	210	0.5	235	0.6	0.7	0.1

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 - May 2001

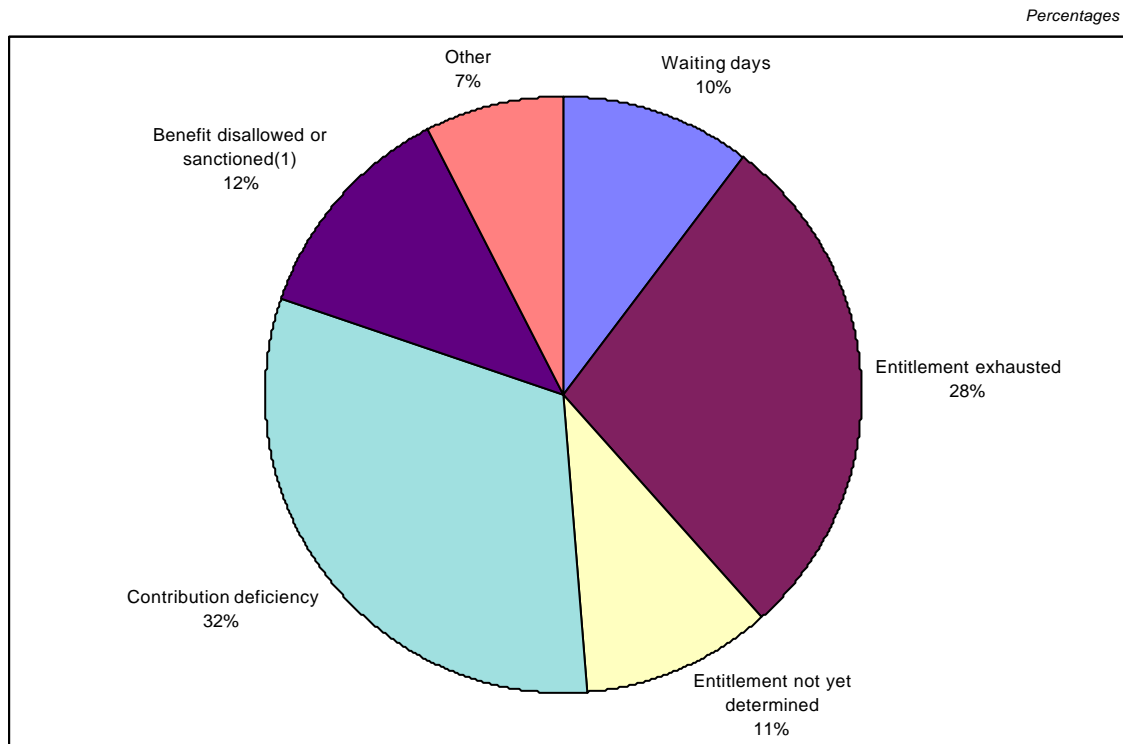


Table 4.1: JSA claimants at May 2001: by District Council and benefit position

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	38,766	35,632	4,313	359	30,961	3,133
Antrim	741	681	147	0	535	60
Ards	1,282	1,102	227	27	848	180
Armagh	1,037	956	109	0	848	81
Ballymena	949	850	156	0	694	99
Ballymoney	529	473	65	4	403	56
Banbridge	554	451	65	5	381	103
Belfast	9,278	8,850	902	108	7,840	428
Carrickfergus	625	558	80	5	474	67
Castlereagh	868	772	196	0	576	96
Coleraine	1,422	1,246	196	23	1,027	176
Cookstown	451	432	61	15	357	19
Craigavon	1,425	1,312	173	19	1,120	113
Derry	4,304	4,063	347	16	3,700	241
Down	1,286	1,144	108	15	1,021	142
Dungannon	737	677	73	0	604	60
Fermanagh	1,720	1,564	123	6	1,435	156
Larne	586	507	53	7	447	79
Limavady	883	788	127	0	661	95
Lisburn	1,757	1,635	272	23	1,340	122
Magherafelt	586	529	88	4	437	57
Moyle	444	393	28	0	365	51
Newry & Mourne	2,162	2,044	170	21	1,853	118
Newtownabbey	1,317	1,170	213	14	943	147
North Down	1,231	1,076	154	26	895	155
Omagh	1,261	1,121	83	5	1,033	140
Strabane	1,331	1,238	98	14	1,126	93

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 May 2001: 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	38,766	91.9%	11.1%	0.9%	79.9%	8.1%
Antrim	741	92.0%	19.8%	0.0%	72.2%	8.0%
Ards	1,282	85.9%	17.7%	2.1%	66.1%	14.1%
Armagh	1,037	92.2%	10.5%	0.0%	81.7%	7.8%
Ballymena	949	89.6%	16.4%	0.0%	73.2%	10.4%
Ballymoney	529	89.4%	12.3%	0.8%	76.2%	10.6%
Banbridge	554	81.3%	11.8%	0.9%	68.7%	18.7%
Belfast	9,278	95.4%	9.7%	1.2%	84.5%	4.6%
Carrickfergus	625	89.4%	12.7%	0.8%	75.9%	10.6%
Castlereagh	868	89.0%	22.6%	0.0%	66.4%	11.0%
Coleraine	1,422	87.6%	13.8%	1.7%	72.2%	12.4%
Cookstown	451	95.9%	13.5%	3.3%	79.1%	4.1%
Craigavon	1,425	92.1%	12.2%	1.3%	78.6%	7.9%
Derry	4,304	94.4%	8.1%	0.4%	86.0%	5.6%
Down	1,286	89.0%	8.4%	1.2%	79.4%	11.0%
Dungannon	737	91.9%	9.9%	0.0%	82.0%	8.1%
Fermanagh	1,720	90.9%	7.2%	0.3%	83.4%	9.1%
Larne	586	86.5%	9.1%	1.1%	76.2%	13.5%
Limavady	883	89.3%	14.4%	0.0%	74.9%	10.7%
Lisburn	1,757	93.1%	15.5%	1.3%	76.2%	6.9%
Magherafelt	586	90.2%	15.0%	0.7%	74.5%	9.8%
Moyle	444	88.6%	6.3%	0.0%	82.3%	11.4%
Newry & Mourne	2,162	94.5%	7.9%	1.0%	85.7%	5.5%
Newtownabbey	1,317	88.9%	16.2%	1.1%	71.6%	11.1%
North Down	1,231	87.4%	12.5%	2.2%	72.7%	12.6%
Omagh	1,261	88.9%	6.6%	0.4%	81.9%	11.1%
Strabane	1,331	93.0%	7.4%	1.1%	84.6%	7.0%

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 May 2001: 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	38,766	1,030,400	3.8%
Antrim	741	32,900	2.3%
Ards	1,282	45,500	2.8%
Armagh	1,037	33,100	3.1%
Ballymena	949	37,000	2.6%
Ballymoney	529	15,900	3.3%
Banbridge	554	25,700	2.2%
Belfast	9,278	165,800	5.6%
Carrickfergus	625	23,800	2.6%
Castlereagh	868	40,200	2.2%
Coleraine	1,422	34,300	4.1%
Cookstown	451	19,200	2.3%
Craigavon	1,425	48,900	2.9%
Derry	4,304	65,300	6.6%
Down	1,286	38,400	3.3%
Dungannon	737	29,300	2.5%
Fermanagh	1,720	34,300	5.0%
Larne	586	18,900	3.1%
Limavady	883	19,700	4.5%
Lisburn	1,757	68,500	2.6%
Magherafelt	586	23,300	2.5%
Moyle	444	9,300	4.8%
Newry & Mourne	2,162	52,400	4.1%
Newtownabbey	1,317	50,700	2.6%
North Down	1,231	45,700	2.7%
Omagh	1,261	29,100	4.3%
Strabane	1,331	23,200	5.7%

* =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 May 2001: 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	38,766	35,632	4,313	359	30,961	3,133
Antrim	892	802	170	0	632	90
Armagh	958	888	79	0	809	70
Ballymena	1,000	893	170	0	723	107
Ballymoney	846	767	88	4	675	78
Ballynahinch	334	270	37	0	233	64
Banbridge	504	415	55	5	355	89
Bangor	1,269	1,097	165	32	900	171
Belfast - Andersonstown	2,026	1,937	199	9	1,729	88
Belfast - Corporation Street	2,235	2,157	226	34	1,897	78
Belfast - Falls Road	1,595	1,569	74	5	1,491	25
Belfast - Holywood Road	1,700	1,548	283	20	1,245	152
Belfast - Knockbreda	915	842	177	5	660	73
Belfast - Shaftsbury Square	1,223	1,140	118	24	998	83
Belfast - Shankill Road	1,466	1,411	119	10	1,282	55
Carrickfergus	617	544	70	5	469	73
Coleraine	1,486	1,295	191	23	1,080	191
Cookstown	348	329	51	10	268	19
Downpatrick	664	583	50	11	522	82
Dungannon	643	589	66	0	523	53
Enniskillen	1,816	1,653	135	11	1,508	163
Kilkeel	206	186	26	5	155	21
Larne	564	498	53	7	438	66
Limavady	783	698	127	0	572	84
Lisburn	846	773	212	14	547	73
Lisnagelvin	1,253	1,149	93	5	1,051	104
Londonderry / Foyle	3,171	3,019	254	11	2,753	152
Lurgan	940	862	119	14	729	78
Magherafelt	702	640	93	9	537	63
Newcastle	389	359	25	5	329	30
Newry	1,951	1,848	144	16	1,688	103
Newtownabbey	1,170	1,032	193	24	815	137
Newtownards	1,060	926	184	21	721	134
Omagh	1,245	1,100	78	0	1,022	145
Portadown	628	572	89	5	479	55
Strabane	1,322	1,239	98	14	1,127	83

Table 4.5: JSA claimants at May 2001: 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	38,766	91.9%	11.1%	0.9%	79.9%	8.1%
Antrim	892	89.9%	19.1%	0.0%	70.8%	10.1%
Armagh	958	92.7%	8.3%	0.0%	84.4%	7.3%
Ballymena	1,000	89.3%	17.0%	0.0%	72.3%	10.7%
Ballymoney	846	90.7%	10.4%	0.5%	79.8%	9.3%
Ballynahinch	334	80.8%	11.0%	0.0%	69.8%	19.2%
Banbridge	504	82.4%	10.9%	1.0%	70.5%	17.6%
Bangor	1,269	86.5%	13.0%	2.5%	70.9%	13.5%
Belfast - Andersonstown	2,026	95.6%	9.8%	0.5%	85.3%	4.4%
Belfast - Corporation Street	2,235	96.5%	10.1%	1.5%	84.9%	3.5%
Belfast - Falls Road	1,595	98.4%	4.6%	0.3%	93.5%	1.6%
Belfast - Holywood Road	1,700	91.1%	16.7%	1.2%	73.2%	8.9%
Belfast - Knockbreda	915	92.0%	19.3%	0.5%	72.1%	8.0%
Belfast - Shaftsbury Square	1,223	93.2%	9.6%	2.0%	81.6%	6.8%
Belfast - Shankill Road	1,466	96.2%	8.1%	0.7%	87.5%	3.8%
Carrickfergus	617	88.2%	11.4%	0.8%	76.0%	11.8%
Coleraine	1,486	87.1%	12.8%	1.6%	72.7%	12.9%
Cookstown	348	94.6%	14.7%	2.8%	77.2%	5.4%
Downpatrick	664	87.7%	7.6%	1.6%	78.5%	12.3%
Dungannon	643	91.7%	10.3%	0.0%	81.4%	8.3%
Enniskillen	1,816	91.0%	7.4%	0.6%	83.0%	9.0%
Kilkeel	206	90.0%	12.5%	2.5%	74.9%	10.0%
Larne	564	88.3%	9.5%	1.2%	77.6%	11.7%
Limavady	783	89.2%	16.2%	0.0%	73.0%	10.8%
Lisburn	846	91.4%	25.1%	1.6%	64.6%	8.6%
Lisnagelvin	1,253	91.7%	7.4%	0.4%	83.9%	8.3%
Londonderry / Foyle	3,171	95.2%	8.0%	0.3%	86.8%	4.8%
Lurgan	940	91.7%	12.7%	1.5%	77.5%	8.3%
Magherafelt	702	91.1%	13.3%	1.3%	76.5%	8.9%
Newcastle	389	92.4%	6.5%	1.2%	84.6%	7.6%
Newry	1,951	94.7%	7.4%	0.8%	86.6%	5.3%
Newtownabbey	1,170	88.3%	16.5%	2.1%	69.7%	11.7%
Newtownards	1,060	87.3%	17.3%	2.0%	68.0%	12.7%
Omagh	1,245	88.3%	6.2%	0.0%	82.1%	11.7%
Portadown	628	91.2%	14.1%	0.8%	76.3%	8.8%
Strabane	1,322	93.7%	7.4%	1.1%	85.2%	6.3%



**Table 5.1: JSA claimants by Government Office Region:
May 2000 and May 2001**

<i>Thousands</i>			
GOR	May 2000	May 2001	Annual % change
United Kingdom	1,111	980	-11.8
North East	75	64	-14.6
North West	141	127	-9.7
Yorks & Humberside	109	98	-10.0
East Midlands	71	66	-7.1
West Midlands	109	101	-7.1
East	66	55	-15.5
London	178	153	-14.1
South East	80	66	-17.1
South West	62	53	-14.5
Wales	57	51	-9.3
Scotland	121	107	-11.5
Northern Ireland	42	39	-7.1



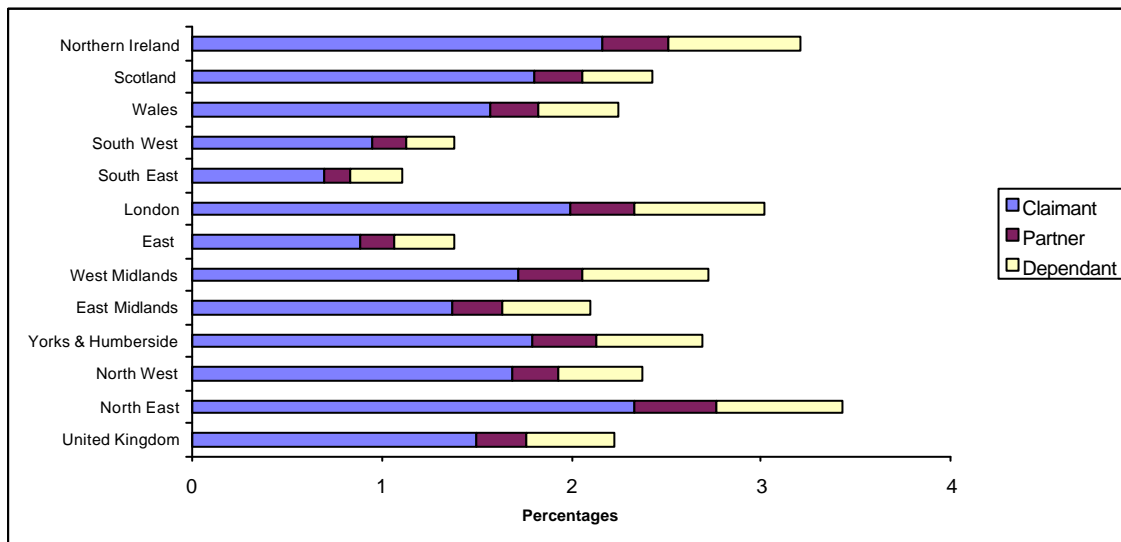
Table 5.2: Beneficiaries of income - based JSA by type and GOR: May 2001

Thousands

GOR	Type of beneficiary				Beneficiaries as % of regions population aged under state retirement age ⁽¹⁾
	All	Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
United Kingdom	1,089	732	128	228	2.2
North East	73	49	9	14	3.5
North West	133	95	14	25	2.4
Yorks & Humberside	112	74	14	23	2.7
East Midlands	72	47	9	16	2.1
West Midlands	119	75	15	29	2.7
East	62	39	8	14	1.4
London	188	124	21	43	3.0
South East	73	46	9	18	1.1
South West	54	37	7	10	1.4
Wales	52	37	6	10	2.2
Scotland	105	78	11	16	2.4
Northern Ireland	46	31	5	10	3.2

⁽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⁾ : May 2001



⁽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 - May 2001

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	38,766	91.9	11.1	0.9	79.9	8.1
All males	29,993	93.8	9.9	1.0	82.9	6.2
Single	22,940	97.0	9.9	0.3	86.9	3.0
With partner	7,052	83.6	10.0	3.5	70.0	16.4
All females	8,773	85.4	15.3	0.6	69.5	14.6
Single	6,988	94.7	10.2	0.4	84.1	5.3
With partner	1,785	48.8	35.5	1.1	12.2	51.2

Chart 6A: Unemployed JSA claimants by gender and marital status - May 2001

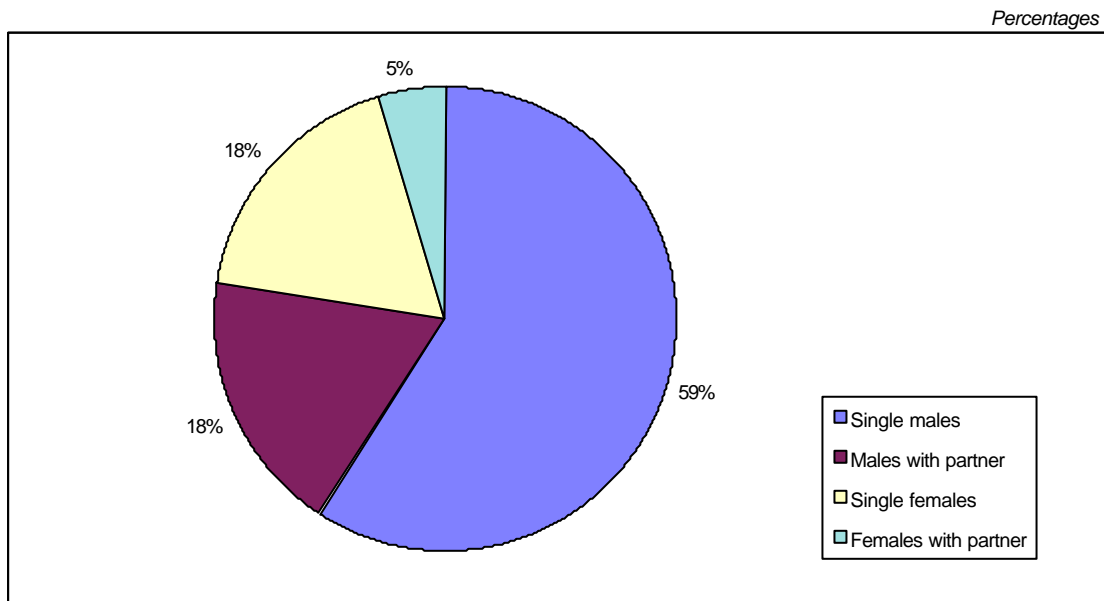


Table 6.2 Unemployed JSA claimants by age and benefit entitlement - May 2001

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	38,766	91.9	11.1	0.9	79.9	8.1
Under 20	3,761	96.3	0.9	0.0	95.3	3.7
20-24	6,102	94.6	15.4	0.5	78.7	5.4
25-29	5,395	95.5	16.3	0.9	78.3	4.5
30-34	4,887	95.6	14.8	1.7	79.2	4.4
35-39	4,508	93.4	10.8	1.3	81.3	6.6
40-44	3,891	92.8	8.9	0.9	83.0	7.2
45-49	3,436	90.1	8.9	1.6	79.6	9.9
50-54	3,603	82.6	8.6	0.6	73.4	17.4
55-59	2,869	78.7	7.1	0.2	71.4	21.3
60 and over	315	84.0	25.9	8.3	49.8	16.0



**Table 6.3: Unemployed claimants by gender and age:
May 2000 and May 2001**

Claimants age	May-00			May-01		
	Total (<i>'000=100%</i>)	Men %	Women %	Total (<i>'000=100%</i>)	Men %	Women %
All ages	42,255	76.8	23.2	38,766	77.4	22.6
Under 20	4,298	62.6	37.4	3,761	63.4	36.6
20-24	6,554	72.6	27.4	6,102	73.2	26.8
25-29	6,033	79.8	20.2	5,395	78.2	21.8
30-34	5,346	82.6	17.4	4,887	84.1	15.9
35-39	4,778	84.5	15.5	4,508	84.7	15.3
40-44	4,302	79.7	20.3	3,891	81.0	19.0
45-49	3,825	77.3	22.7	3,436	78.2	21.8
50-54	3,636	75.7	24.3	3,603	75.9	24.1
55-59	3,175	72.7	27.3	2,869	73.5	26.5
60 and over	308	100.0	0.0	315	100.0	0.0

**Chart 6B: Unemployed claimants by gender and age:
May 2000 and May 2001**

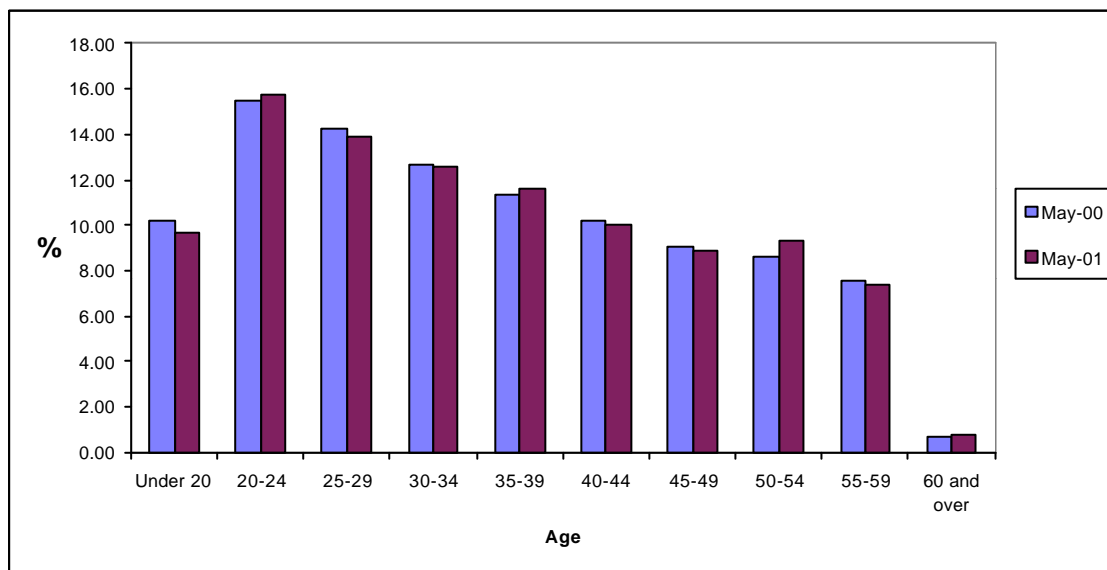


Table 7.1: Unemployed claimants with contribution-based benefit entitlement (1) by average weekly amount - 1997-2001

	All		Personal claim only (2)	
	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw
JSA(1)				
May-97	4,418	£46.92	4,418	£46.92
May-98	5,306	£46.95	5,306	£46.95
May-99	5,065	£48.13	5,065	£48.13
May-00	4,955	£49.11	4,955	£49.11
May-01	4,671	£49.60	4,671	£49.60

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.

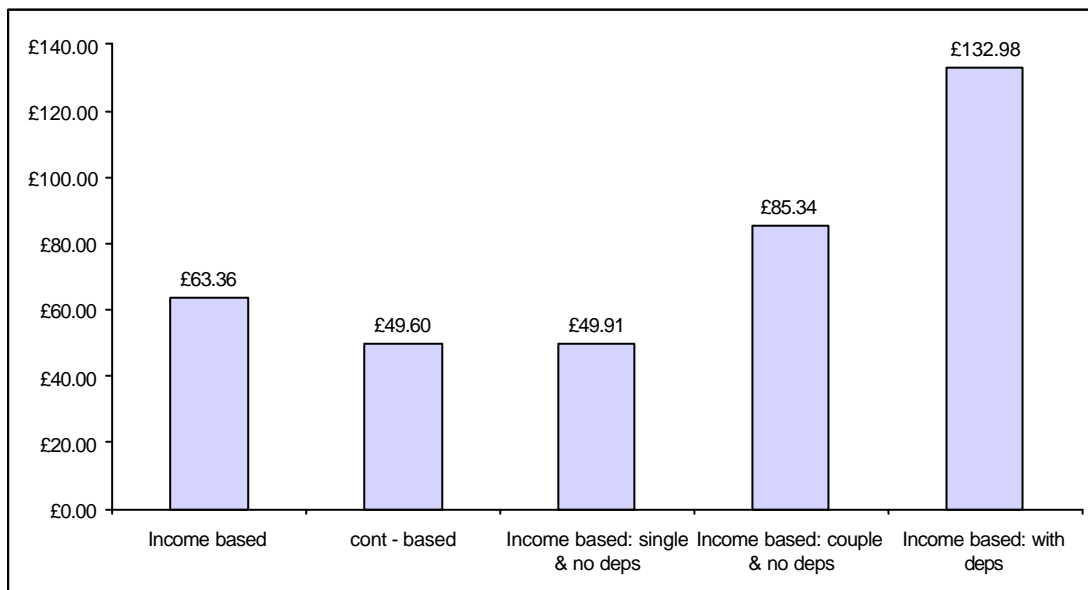


Table 7.2: Unemployed claimants with income-based benefit (1) by average weekly amount - 1997-2001

	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)								
May-97	53,118	£53.91	38,438	£42.08	5,827	£39.79	8,853	£114.56
May-98	46,832	£62.33	34,454	£47.04	3,356	£72.73	9,022	£116.87
May-99	43,138	£63.33	32,871	£48.29	2,633	£82.99	7,634	£121.32
May-00	34,434	£61.67	27,664	£48.83	1,822	£81.65	4,947	£126.10
May-01	31,320	£63.36	25,350	£49.91	1,563	£85.34	4,407	£132.98

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 - May 2001



ANNEX 1: TECHNICAL DETAILS

A 20% sample of all claimants of JSA is conducted on the second Thursday in February, May, 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 May 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 may 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 (+/-)
<i>150</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>300</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>400</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>500</i>	<i>88</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>600</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>700</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>800</i>	<i>111</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>900</i>	<i>118</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>1000</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>2000</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>3000</i>	<i>215</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>4000</i>	<i>248</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>5000</i>	<i>277</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>6000</i>	<i>304</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>7000</i>	<i>328</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>8000</i>	<i>351</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>9000</i>	<i>372</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>10000</i>	<i>392</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>20000</i>	<i>554</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>30000</i>	<i>679</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>40000</i>	<i>784</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>50000</i>	<i>877</i>	<i>2</i>

Warning: Figures in italics should be used with caution



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ISSN 1475-5769