

Department for Social Development

**Jobseeker's
Allowance
Summary Statistics**

DSD

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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>



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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 1997 through to May 2002. There is a more in-depth analysis for May 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 May 2002 JSA Summary Statistics.

Section 1 - Caseload and benefit entitlement

The overall number of unemployed claimants fell by over two thousand (3,019) between May 2001 and May 2002 to 35,747. The majority of this reduction in numbers was accounted for by recipients of income-based benefit - a fall of 3,211 in the year to May 2002.

The proportion of the overall caseload in receipt of only contribution-based JSA increased to 12.6% in May 2002, from 11.1% 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 17.7%.

Section 2 - Duration of claim

There was a slightly higher proportion of claims of short duration (less than 3 months) in May 2002, 30.7% compared to 30.0% a year earlier. Claims of less than 3 months are a proxy for new claims.

There were also a slightly smaller proportion of claims of more than a year in May 2002 (30.2%) than in May 2001 (33.7%). Claims of long duration (more than one year) in Great Britain fell to 18.7% of the overall caseload, from 21.9% in the previous year.

Between May 1999 and May 2002 the proportion of JSA claimants who had been out of work for one year or more decreased from 44.1% to 30.2% 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 30.2% of the overall caseload in May 2002, compared to the GB figure of 18.7%.

Almost two thirds (57.6%) of female and almost half (47.4%) of male unemployed claimants had a current claim duration of less than 6 months in May 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 86.1% in May 2002 from 87.9% in the previous year. The main reasons for claimants not receiving contribution-based benefit in May 2002 are contribution deficiency (50.8% of all claimants) and entitlement not yet determined (17.3% of all claimants).

This was almost the case in Great Britain with figures of 57.8% for contribution deficiency and 14.3% for entitlement exhausted.

The number of JSA claimants who are not entitled to unemployment related benefit rose to 8.5% in May 2002 from 8.1% in the previous year. The corresponding figures for Great Britain between May 2001 and May 2002 remained steady at 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 83.9% in Ards to 95.3% in Belfast.

Unemployed claimants in Strabane were least likely to be in receipt of only JSA Contribution-based benefit in May 2002 (6.9% compared to 12.6% 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 May 2002 varied between 61.5% in North Down and 84.1% in Belfast.

JSA claimants as a proportion of people of working age in Northern Ireland in May 2002 was 3.5%. These proportions range from 1.9% in Banbridge and Castlereagh to 6.3% in Derry.

Foyle Social Security Office (Londonderry) had the largest share of the JSA caseload with 3,275 claimants (9.2% of the total caseload) at May 2002.

Kilkeel Social Security Office had only 185 claimants (0.5% of the total caseload).

Larne Social Security Office had the highest proportion of contribution based only claimants (31.1%) while Shankill Road Social Security Office had the lowest (6.0%).

Section 5 – United Kingdom Regional analysis

JSA claimants in the United Kingdom have decreased by 2.6% in the year to May 2002. There has been a decrease in the majority of Government Office Regions, ranging from 1.9% in London to 9.2% in Wales, Yorkshire & Humberside, and the East.

JSA Income-based Beneficiaries as a proportion of the population under state retirement age in the United Kingdom in May 2002 was 2.1%. This is lower than the corresponding figure for Northern Ireland (2.8%). These proportions for the Government Office Regions range from 1.1% in the South East to 3.1% in the North East and London.

Section 6 - Gender, age and marital status

Men are more likely to claim JSA (77.6% of claimants in May 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 May 2002 was 75.8% of claimants.

Female unemployed claimants are more likely than males to be in receipt of only JSA contribution-based benefit in May 2002 (16.9% compared with 11.4%) but less likely to receive JSA income-based (68.1% compared to 80.4%).

The age distribution of unemployed claimants has changed very little over the year to May 2002. Over a quarter (25.4%) of all claimants are aged under 25, over half (57%) are aged 25-49 and just over a fifth (18%) are aged 50 or over. The figures for Great Britain with regards to age groups in May 2002 were similar.

Section 7 - Amounts of benefit

Single claimants without dependants tend to receive the lowest amounts of benefit, on average £50.50 per week for contribution-based and £50.41 for those with income-based. Recipients of income-based JSA with partners and/or dependants receive higher amounts (£86.75 for couples without dependants and £135.95 for single/couples with dependants). However the former account for only 5% of all JSA claimants, whilst the latter account for 12%. The corresponding figures for Great Britain in May 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

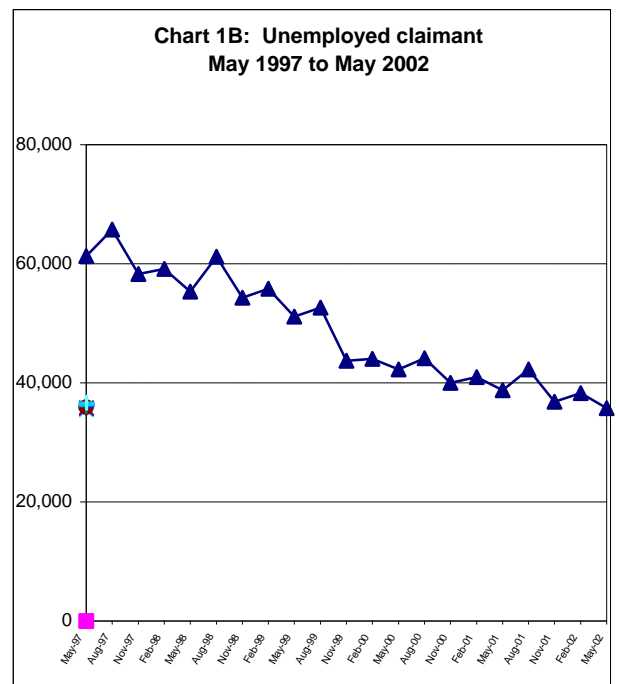
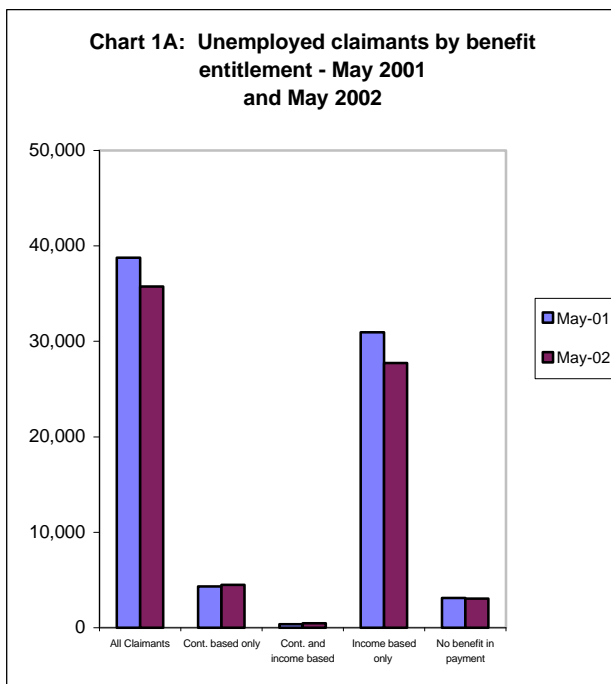


Table 1.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1997 to 2002

	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						
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
May-02	35,747	91.5	12.6	1.3	77.6	8.5

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

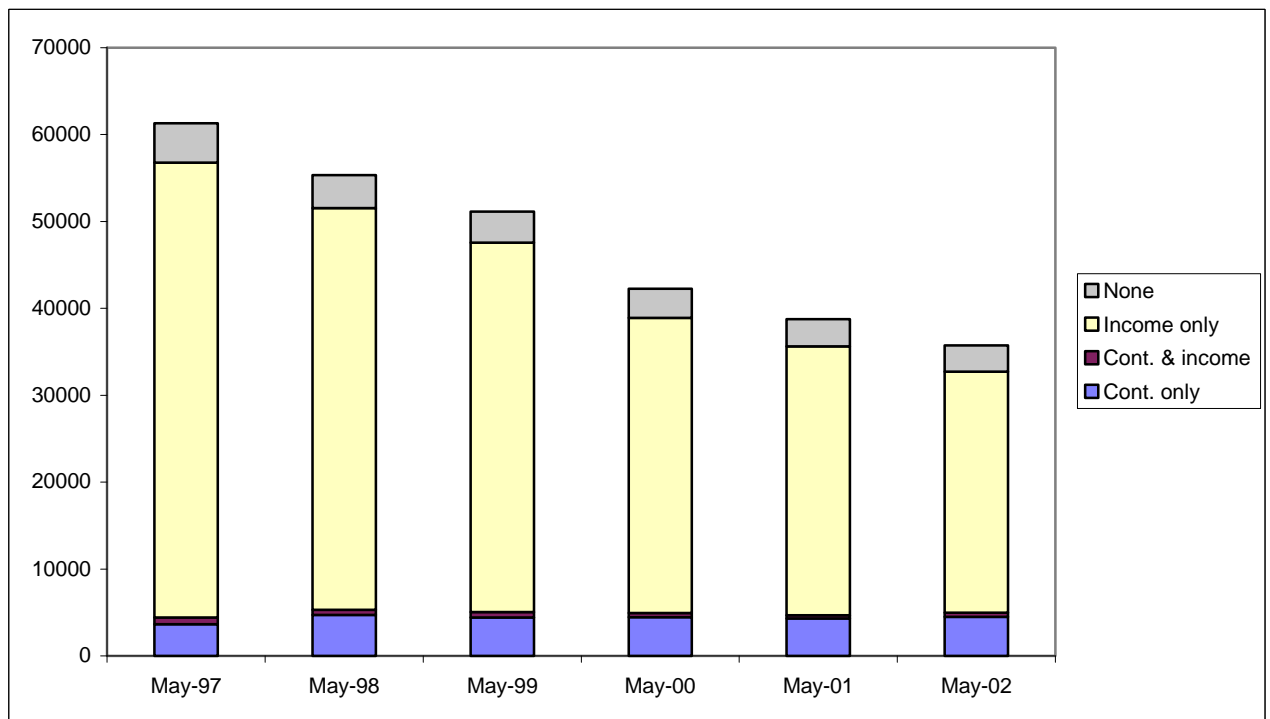


Table 2.1: Unemployed Claimants by duration of claim - May 1999 to May 2002

Duration	May-99	May-00	May-01	May-02
All claimants ('000= 100%)	51,137	42,255	38,766	35,747
Under 3 months	11,717	12,366	11,626	10,966
3 to under 6 months	8,304	7,614	6,433	6,795
6 to under 12 months	8,573	8,020	7,640	7,194
1 to under 2 years	6,905	6,367	6,190	5,668
2 years or over	15,639	7,888	6,876	5,124

Duration	May-99	May-00	May-01	May-02
All claimants ('000= 100%)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Under 3 months	22.9	29.3	30.0	30.7
3 to under 6 months	16.2	18.0	16.6	19.0
6 to under 12 months	16.8	19.0	19.7	20.1
1 to under 2 years	13.5	15.1	16.0	15.9
2 years or over	30.6	18.7	17.7	14.3

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

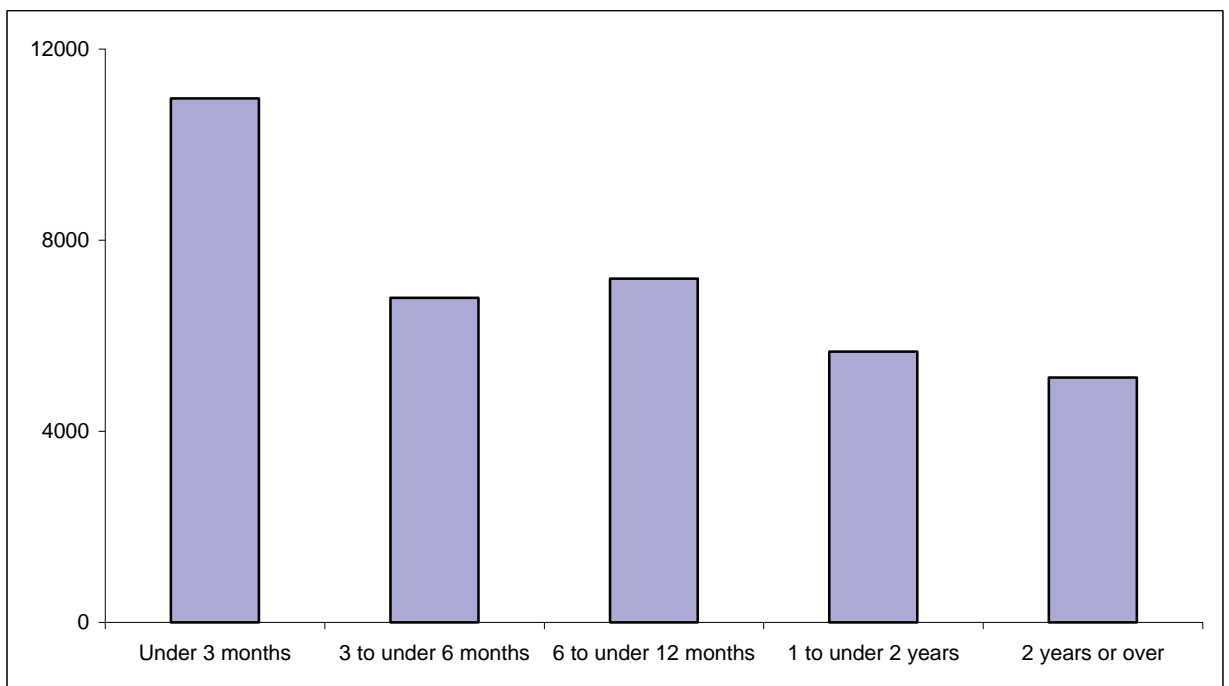


Table 2.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement and duration of current claim - May 2002

	All Claimants	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			No benefit in payment
			Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	
Duration						
All ('000=100%)	35,747	32,709	4,503	456	27,750	3,038
% up to 2 weeks	6.2	4.9	11.9	15.6	3.6	19.8
% 2 to under 6 weeks	10.0	9.8	24.2	13.8	7.3	12.5
% 6 to under 13 weeks	14.5	15.0	29.2	27.4	12.4	9.7
% 13 to under 26 weeks	19.0	19.8	34.7	43.2	17.0	10.5
% 26 to under 39 weeks	12.8	12.3	0.0	0.0	14.5	17.9
% 39 weeks to under 1 year	7.3	7.3	0.0	0.0	8.6	7.9
% 1 to under 2 years	15.9	16.1	0.0	0.0	18.9	13.7
% 2 years or over	14.3	14.9	0.0	0.0	17.6	8.0

Table 2.3 Unemployed Claimants by gender, age and duration of current claim - May 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	35,747	49.7	20.1	15.9	14.3
Under 25	10,213	69.5	23.0	5.6	1.9
25 to 49	19,129	45.9	20.3	20.4	13.4
50 or over	6,404	29.4	15.1	18.7	36.8
Males	27,751	47.4	20.1	16.6	15.8
Under 25	7,242	69.7	22.7	5.6	2.0
25 to 49	15,682	43.3	20.9	21.1	14.7
50 or over	4,827	27.3	13.9	18.8	40.0
Females	7,996	57.6	20.1	13.1	9.2
Under 25	2,971	69.2	23.7	5.4	1.6
25 to 49	3,447	57.5	17.6	17.3	7.6
50 or over	1,577	35.7	18.8	18.4	27.2

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

	May-01		May-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All claimants	38,766	100.0	35,747	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of contribution-based benefit(1)	4,671	12.1	4,959	13.9	12.8	17.4
Claimants not in receipt of contribution-based benefit	34,094	87.9	30,788	86.1	87.2	82.6

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 2001 and May 2002

Reason for non-entitlement	May-01		May-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All without JSA(C)	34,094	87.9	30,788	86.1	87.2	82.6
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	319	0.8	359	1.0	0.9	1.3
Entitlement exhausted	7,387	19.1	5,288	14.8	15.9	11.0
Entitlement not yet determined	692	1.8	6,191	17.3	18.0	14.9
Contribution deficiency	24,887	64.2	18,157	50.8	50.1	53.1
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	442	1.1	604	1.7	1.7	1.8
Other	20	0.1	17	0.0	0.0	0.1

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 2001 and May 2002

	May-01		May-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All claimants	38,766	100.0	35,747	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	35,632	91.9	32,709	91.5	93.2	85.6
Claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	3,133	8.1	3,038	8.5	6.8	14.4

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

Reason for non-entitlement	May-01		May-02			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All without JSA	3,133	8.1	3,038	8.5	6.8	14.4
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	319	0.8	359	1.0	0.9	1.3
Entitlement exhausted	878	2.3	827	2.3	1.7	4.6
Entitlement not yet determined	330	0.9	548	1.5	1.2	2.6
Contribution deficiency	988	2.5	693	1.9	1.4	3.8
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	383	1.0	490	1.4	1.3	1.7
Other	235	0.6	121	0.3	0.3	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 2002

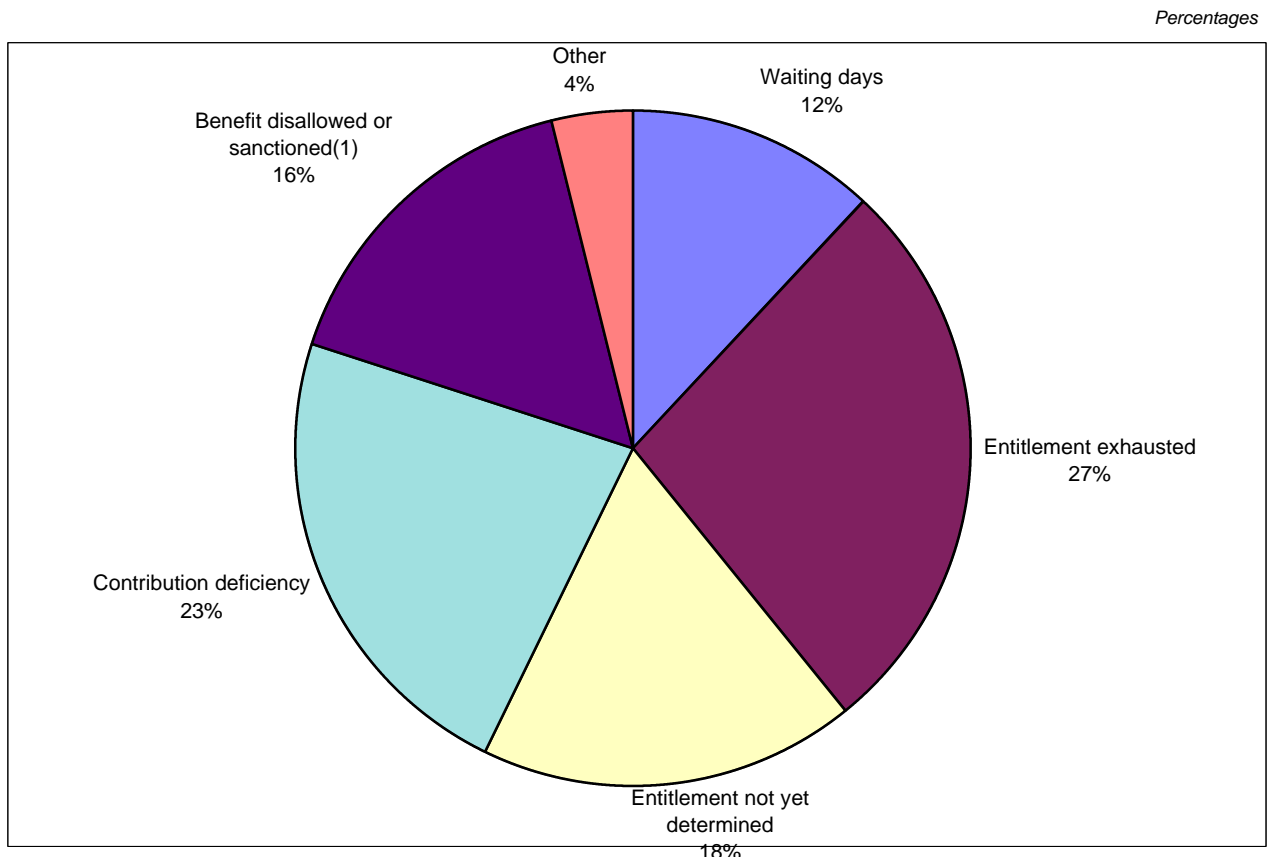


Table 4.1: JSA claimants at May 2002: by District Council and benefit position

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	35,747	32,709	4,503	456	27,750	3,038
Antrim	724	663	168	27	468	61
Ards	1,107	929	189	6	734	178
Armagh	848	786	124	5	657	62
Ballymena	846	742	150	25	567	104
Ballymoney	485	456	87	9	360	29
Banbridge	494	440	80	16	343	54
Belfast	8,711	8,303	915	60	7,328	408
Carrickfergus	654	593	102	0	491	61
Castlereagh	757	653	92	6	555	104
Coleraine	1,217	1,066	135	15	917	151
Cookstown	381	342	37	15	291	39
Craigavon	1,330	1,217	218	25	975	113
Derry	4,082	3,764	334	16	3,414	318
Down	1,105	999	117	11	872	106
Dungannon	608	561	79	20	462	47
Fermanagh	1,650	1,479	124	21	1,333	171
Larne	610	562	184	0	379	48
Limavady	717	654	81	5	568	63
Lisburn	1,678	1,577	250	17	1,310	101
Magherafelt	481	444	71	21	352	37
Moyle	446	388	42	10	336	58
Newry & Mourne	1,952	1,834	173	54	1,608	118
Newtownabbey	1,431	1,230	313	27	890	201
North Down	1,100	937	248	12	677	163
Omagh	1,087	960	105	20	835	127
Strabane	1,246	1,128	86	15	1,027	118

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 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	35,747	91.5%	12.6%	1.3%	77.6%	8.5%
Antrim	724	91.6%	23.2%	3.7%	64.7%	8.4%
Ards	1,107	83.9%	17.1%	0.5%	66.3%	16.1%
Armagh	848	92.7%	14.6%	0.6%	77.5%	7.3%
Ballymena	846	87.7%	17.8%	3.0%	67.0%	12.3%
Ballymoney	485	94.0%	17.9%	1.9%	74.3%	6.0%
Banbridge	494	89.0%	16.3%	3.2%	69.5%	11.0%
Belfast	8,711	95.3%	10.5%	0.7%	84.1%	4.7%
Carrickfergus	654	90.6%	15.5%	0.0%	75.1%	9.4%
Castlereagh	757	86.3%	12.1%	0.8%	73.3%	13.7%
Coleraine	1,217	87.6%	11.1%	1.2%	75.3%	12.4%
Cookstown	381	89.9%	9.7%	3.8%	76.4%	10.1%
Craigavon	1,330	91.5%	16.4%	1.9%	73.3%	8.5%
Derry	4,082	92.2%	8.2%	0.4%	83.6%	7.8%
Down	1,105	90.4%	10.6%	1.0%	78.9%	9.6%
Dungannon	608	92.2%	13.0%	3.3%	75.9%	7.8%
Fermanagh	1,650	89.6%	7.5%	1.3%	80.8%	10.4%
Larne	610	92.2%	30.1%	0.0%	62.1%	7.8%
Limavady	717	91.3%	11.3%	0.7%	79.3%	8.7%
Lisburn	1,678	94.0%	14.9%	1.0%	78.1%	6.0%
Magherafelt	481	92.2%	14.7%	4.3%	73.3%	7.8%
Moyle	446	87.1%	9.5%	2.2%	75.4%	12.9%
Newry & Mourne	1,952	94.0%	8.8%	2.7%	82.4%	6.0%
Newtownabbey	1,431	85.9%	21.8%	1.9%	62.2%	14.1%
North Down	1,100	85.2%	22.5%	1.1%	61.5%	14.8%
Omagh	1,087	88.3%	9.7%	1.8%	76.8%	11.7%
Strabane	1,246	90.6%	6.9%	1.2%	82.4%	9.4%

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 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	35,747	1,030,400	3.5%
Antrim	724	32,900	2.2%
Ards	1,107	45,500	2.4%
Armagh	848	33,100	2.6%
Ballymena	846	37,000	2.3%
Ballymoney	485	15,900	3.1%
Banbridge	494	25,700	1.9%
Belfast	8,711	165,800	5.3%
Carrickfergus	654	23,800	2.7%
Castlereagh	757	40,200	1.9%
Coleraine	1,217	34,300	3.5%
Cookstown	381	19,200	2.0%
Craigavon	1,330	48,900	2.7%
Derry	4,082	65,300	6.3%
Down	1,105	38,400	2.9%
Dungannon	608	29,300	2.1%
Fermanagh	1,650	34,300	4.8%
Larne	610	18,900	3.2%
Limavady	717	19,700	3.6%
Lisburn	1,678	68,500	2.4%
Magherafelt	481	23,300	2.1%
Moyle	446	9,300	4.8%
Newry & Mourne	1,952	52,400	3.7%
Newtownabbey	1,431	50,700	2.8%
North Down	1,100	45,700	2.4%
Omagh	1,087	29,100	3.7%
Strabane	1,246	23,200	5.4%

* =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 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	35,747	32,709	4,503	456	27,750	3,038
Antrim	853	787	181	27	579	66
Armagh	716	673	89	5	579	43
Ballymena	920	807	156	25	625	113
Ballymoney	810	734	110	14	610	76
Ballynahinch	237	231	32	5	194	6
Banbridge	476	433	90	16	327	44
Bangor	1,073	917	240	12	665	156
Belfast - Andersonstown	2,044	1,970	146	10	1,814	74
Belfast - Corporation Street	1,912	1,836	197	20	1,619	76
Belfast - Falls Road	1,655	1,630	156	0	1,474	25
Belfast - Hollywood Road	1,350	1,193	207	6	979	157
Belfast - Knockbreda	961	821	113	5	703	140
Belfast - Shaftsbury Square	1,173	1,117	176	10	931	56
Belfast - Shankill Road	1,325	1,265	80	15	1,170	60
Carrickfergus	656	600	102	0	498	56
Coleraine	1,290	1,139	140	20	979	151
Cookstown	300	278	42	5	230	22
Downpatrick	590	516	53	0	463	74
Dungannon	525	466	59	24	383	59
Enniskillen	1,753	1,572	135	16	1,421	182
Kilkeel	185	164	16	5	143	20
Larne	591	543	184	0	360	48
Limavady	677	614	86	5	523	63
Lisburn	860	799	188	22	589	62
Lisnagelvin	872	777	117	11	650	95
Londonderry / Foyle	3,275	3,047	212	5	2,830	228
Lurgan	884	794	110	10	675	90
Magherafelt	508	469	82	26	361	39
Newcastle	362	325	42	5	277	37
Newry	1,737	1,645	161	48	1,435	92
Newtownabbey	1,288	1,088	310	22	756	200
Newtownards	933	796	150	6	640	138
Omagh	1,069	948	99	25	823	121
Portadown	643	589	149	15	426	54
Strabane	1,243	1,126	92	15	1,019	118

Table 4.5: JSA claimants at May 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	35,747	91.5%	12.6%	1.3%	77.6%	8.5%
Antrim	853	92.2%	21.2%	3.1%	67.9%	7.8%
Armagh	716	94.1%	12.4%	0.7%	81.0%	5.9%
Ballymena	920	87.7%	17.0%	2.7%	68.0%	12.3%
Ballymoney	810	90.7%	13.6%	1.7%	75.3%	9.3%
Ballynahinch	237	97.6%	13.7%	2.2%	81.6%	2.4%
Banbridge	476	90.8%	18.9%	3.3%	68.6%	9.2%
Bangor	1,073	85.5%	22.4%	1.2%	61.9%	14.5%
Belfast - Andersonstown	2,044	96.4%	7.2%	0.5%	88.8%	3.6%
Belfast - Corporation Street	1,912	96.0%	10.3%	1.1%	84.7%	4.0%
Belfast - Falls Road	1,655	98.5%	9.4%	0.0%	89.1%	1.5%
Belfast - Holywood Road	1,350	88.4%	15.4%	0.5%	72.6%	11.6%
Belfast - Knockbreda	961	85.5%	11.8%	0.5%	73.2%	14.5%
Belfast - Shaftsbury Square	1,173	95.3%	15.0%	0.9%	79.4%	4.7%
Belfast - Shankill Road	1,325	95.5%	6.0%	1.1%	88.3%	4.5%
Carrickfergus	656	91.5%	15.5%	0.0%	76.0%	8.5%
Coleraine	1,290	88.3%	10.9%	1.5%	75.9%	11.7%
Cookstown	300	92.7%	14.0%	1.8%	76.9%	7.3%
Downpatrick	590	87.4%	9.0%	0.0%	78.4%	12.6%
Dungannon	525	88.8%	11.3%	4.5%	72.9%	11.2%
Enniskillen	1,753	89.6%	7.7%	0.9%	81.0%	10.4%
Kilkeel	185	89.0%	8.8%	2.9%	77.2%	11.0%
Larne	591	91.9%	31.1%	0.0%	60.8%	8.1%
Limavady	677	90.7%	12.8%	0.7%	77.2%	9.3%
Lisburn	860	92.8%	21.8%	2.6%	68.4%	7.2%
Lisnagelvin	872	89.1%	13.4%	1.2%	74.5%	10.9%
Londonderry / Foyle	3,275	93.0%	6.5%	0.2%	86.4%	7.0%
Lurgan	884	89.9%	12.4%	1.1%	76.3%	10.1%
Magherafelt	508	92.4%	16.2%	5.1%	71.0%	7.6%
Newcastle	362	89.8%	11.7%	1.5%	76.5%	10.2%
Newry	1,737	94.7%	9.3%	2.8%	82.6%	5.3%
Newtownabbey	1,288	84.4%	24.1%	1.7%	58.7%	15.6%
Newtownards	933	85.3%	16.0%	0.6%	68.6%	14.7%
Omagh	1,069	88.7%	9.3%	2.4%	77.0%	11.3%
Portadown	643	91.7%	23.1%	2.3%	66.2%	8.3%
Strabane	1,243	90.5%	7.4%	1.2%	81.9%	9.5%

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

Thousands

GOR	May 2001	May 2002	Annual % change
United Kingdom	980	955	-2.6
North East	64	59	-7.4
North West	127	120	-5.2
Yorks & Humberside	98	89	-9.2
East Midlands	66	60	-9.2
West Midlands	101	94	-7.6
East	55	57	3.0
London	153	167	9.0
South East	66	71	8.0
South West	53	50	-6.1
Wales	51	47	-9.2
Scotland	107	105	-1.9
Northern Ireland	39	36	-7.7

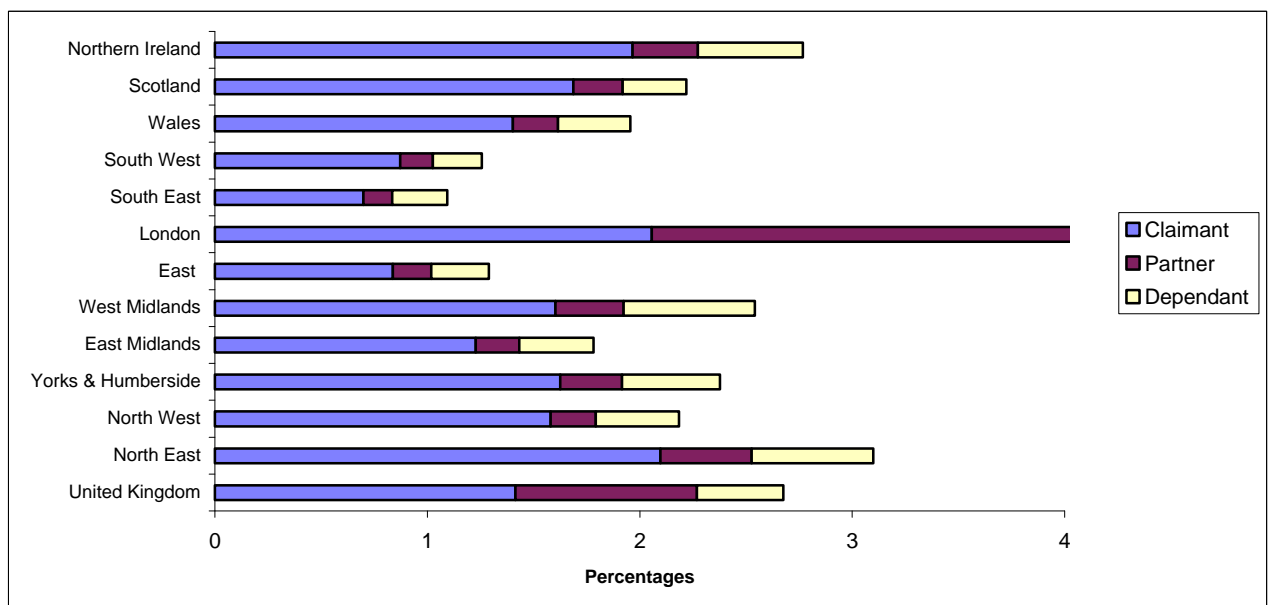
Table 5.2: Beneficiaries of income - based JSA by type and GOR: May 2002

Thousands

GOR	Type of beneficiary				Beneficiaries as % of regions population aged under state retirement age ⁽¹⁾ %
	All	Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
United Kingdom	1,009	691	417	199	2.1
North East	65	44	9	12	3.1
North West	124	89	12	22	2.2
Yorks & Humberside	99	67	12	19	2.4
East Midlands	61	42	7	12	1.8
West Midlands	111	70	14	27	2.5
East	57	37	8	12	1.3
London	190	128	321	41	3.1
South East	71	46	9	17	1.1
South West	48	34	6	9	1.2
Wales	47	33	5	8	2.0
Scotland	96	73	10	13	2.2
Northern Ireland	40	28	4	7	2.8

⁽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 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 - May 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	35,747	91.5	12.6	1.3	77.6	8.5
All males	27,751	93.2	11.4	1.5	80.4	6.8
Single	21,652	96.6	11.3	0.4	84.9	3.4
With partner	6,099	81.0	11.4	5.2	64.4	19.0
All females	7,996	85.6	16.9	0.5	68.1	14.4
Single	6,438	93.7	11.3	0.6	81.8	6.3
With partner	1,558	52.0	40.0	0.4	11.6	48.0

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

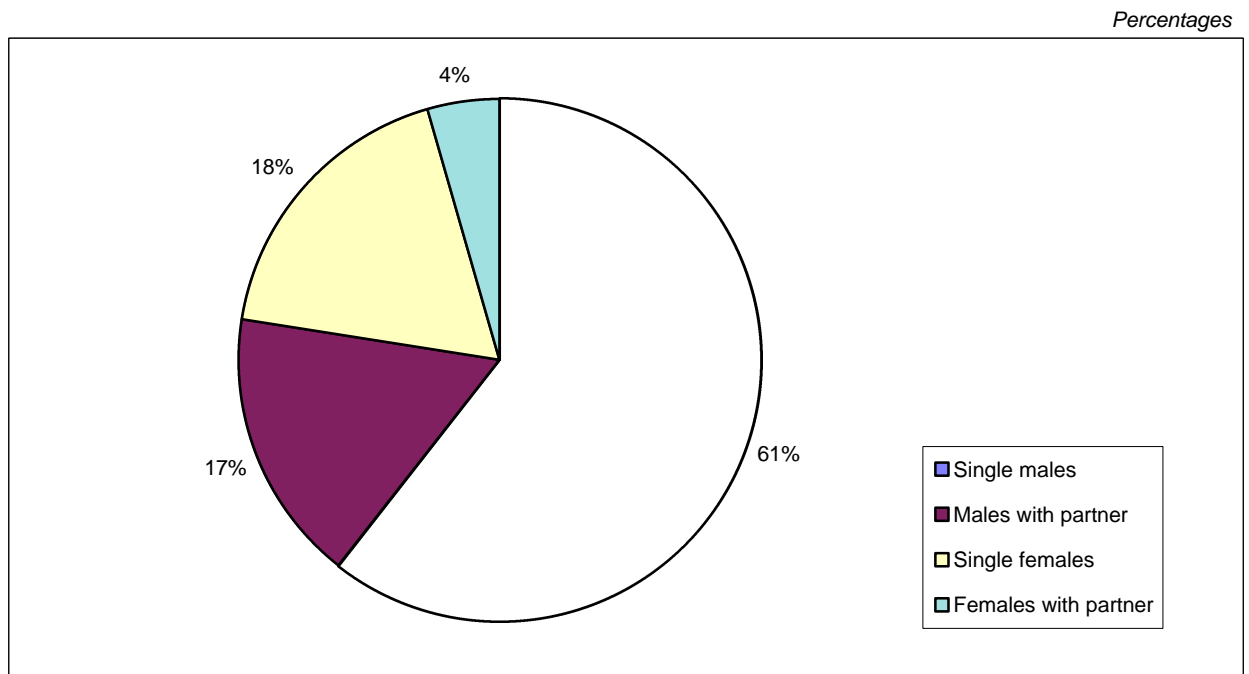


Table 6.2 Unemployed JSA claimants by age and benefit entitlement - May 2002

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	35,747	91.5	12.6	1.3	77.6	8.5
Under 20	3,640	95.2	0.7	0.3	94.2	4.8
20-24	6,573	96.2	16.2	0.5	79.5	3.8
25-29	4,911	93.3	18.4	1.2	73.7	6.7
30-34	4,030	95.0	15.2	1.4	78.3	5.0
35-39	3,925	92.7	15.4	1.6	75.7	7.3
40-44	3,250	92.3	11.0	2.9	78.3	7.7
45-49	3,014	90.5	12.4	1.0	77.0	9.5
50-54	3,187	84.8	8.5	1.2	75.2	15.2
55-59	2,988	76.4	7.7	1.5	67.3	23.6
60 and over	230	70.2	24.2	13.8	32.3	29.8

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

Claimants age	May-01		May-02		Men %	Women %
	Total ('000=100%)	Men %	Total ('000=100%)	Men %		
All ages	38,766	77.4	35,747	77.6	22.6	22.4
Under 20	3,761	63.4	3,640	63.9	36.6	36.1
20-24	6,102	73.2	6,573	74.8	26.8	25.2
25-29	5,395	78.2	4,911	81.7	21.8	18.3
30-34	4,887	84.1	4,030	84.5	15.9	15.5
35-39	4,508	84.7	3,925	84.2	15.3	15.8
40-44	3,891	81.0	3,250	81.4	19.0	18.6
45-49	3,436	78.2	3,014	76.8	21.8	23.2
50-54	3,603	75.9	3,187	75.9	24.1	24.1
55-59	2,869	73.5	2,988	73.1	26.5	26.9
60 and over	315	100.0	230	97.9	0.0	2.1

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

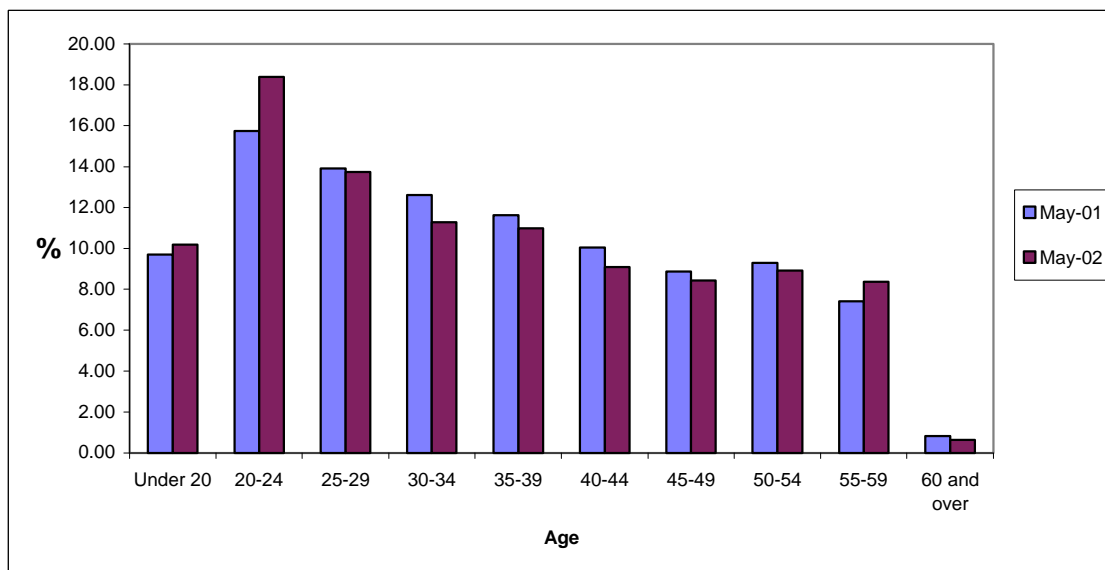


Table 7.1: Unemployed claimants with contribution-based benefit entitlement (1) by average weekly amount - 1998-2002

	All		Personal claim only (2)	
	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw
JSA(1)				
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
May-02	4,959	£50.50	4,959	£50.50

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.

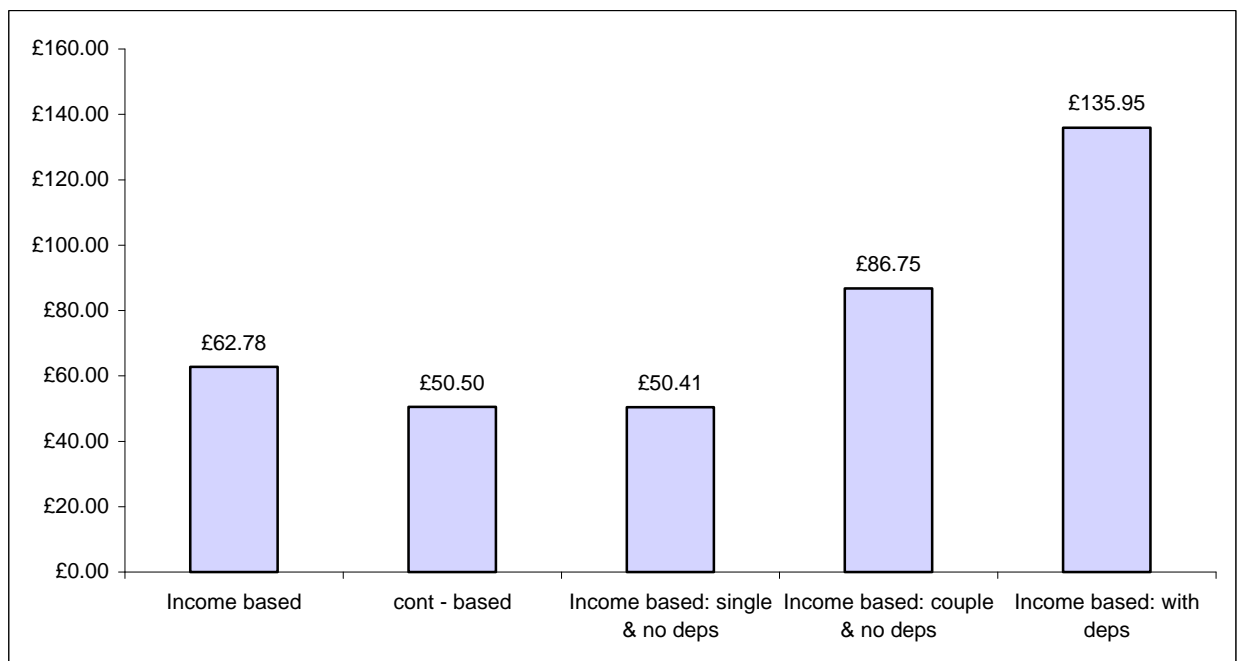


Table 7.2: Unemployed claimants with income-based benefit (1) by average weekly amount - 1998-2002

	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)								
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
May-02	28,206	£62.78	23,290	£50.41	1,454	£86.75	3,461	£135.95

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 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 November 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 November be 'sanctioned' and payment stopped for a limited period. In this instance you November 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



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