

Department for Social Development

**Jobseeker's Allowance
Summary Statistics**

DSD

**Department for
Social Development**

November 1999



A Government Statistical Publication

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

http://www.dhssni.gov.uk/the_department/statistics/sssb/index.html

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

<http://www.dss.gov.uk/asd/contacts.html>



Introduction

This is the first in a series of annual publications which will present 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 November 1995 through to November 1999 with the exception of November 1996 which is unavailable. There is a more in-depth analysis for November 1999 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 2.



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 November 1999 JSA Summary Statistics.

Section 1 - Caseload and benefit entitlement

The overall number of unemployed claimants fell by over ten thousand (10,607) between November 1998 and November 1999 to 43,720. The majority of this reduction in numbers was accounted for by recipients of income-based benefit - a fall of 8,903 in the year to November 1999. The number of recipients of only contribution-based JSA decreased by over one thousand (1,041) between November 1998 and November 1999 to 4,035.

The proportion of the overall caseload in receipt of only contribution-based JSA remained constant at 9.3% and 9.2% respectively between November 1998 and November 1999. 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 12.6%.

Section 2 - Duration of claim

There was a higher proportion of claims of short duration (less than 3 months) in November 1999, 30.7% compared to 26.2% a year earlier. Claims of less than 3 months are a proxy for new claims.

There was also a smaller proportion of claims of more than a year in November 1999 (38.1%) than in November 1998 (47.3%). This was also the case in Great Britain, with claims of long duration (more than one year) falling to 26.8% of the overall caseload, from 29.8% in the previous year.

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 38.1% of the overall caseload in November 1999, compared to the GB figure of 26.8%.

Almost two thirds (61.3%) of female and a over a third (42.1%) of male unemployed claimants had a current claim duration of less than 6 months in November 1999, 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 remained constant at 89.7% and 89.8% respectively between November 1998 and November 1999. The main reasons for claimants not receiving contribution-based benefit in November 1999 are contribution deficiency (65.1% of all claimants) and entitlement exhausted (20.2% of all claimants).

This was also the case in Great Britain with figures of 63.1% and 16.3% respectively.

The number of JSA claimants who are not entitled to unemployment related benefit rose slightly to 7.6% in November 1999 from 7.1% in the previous year. The corresponding figures for Great Britain between November 1998 and November 1999 also rose from 9.6% to 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 86.3% in Ards to 95.8% in Belfast.

Unemployed claimants in Fermanagh were least likely to be in receipt of only JSA Contribution-based benefit in November 1999 (6.0% compared to 9.2% for Northern Ireland as a whole and 17.3% in Antrim).

The proportion of JSA claimants in receipt of only JSA Income-based benefit in November 1999 varied between 68.9% in Ards and 88.3% in Belfast.

JSA claimants as a proportion of people of working age in Northern Ireland in November 1999 was 4.3%. These proportions for the district councils in Northern Ireland range from 2.2% in Banbridge to 7.0% in Derry.

Foyle Social Security Office (Londonderry) had the largest share of the JSA caseload with 3,489 claimants (80% of the total caseload) at November 1999. Kilkeel Social Security Office had only 217 claimants (0.5% of the total caseload).

Kilkeel Social Security Office had the highest proportion of contribution based only claimants (29.4%) while Falls Road Social Security Office had the lowest (3.3%).



Section 5 – United Kingdom Regional analysis

JSA claimants in the United Kingdom have decreased by 10.6% in the year to November 1999. This has been the case in every Government Office Region, ranging from a decrease of 6.5% in the West Midlands to a decrease of 18.5% in Northern Ireland.

JSA Income-based Beneficiaries as a proportion of the population under state retirement age in the United Kingdom in November 1999 was 2.8%. This is lower than the corresponding figure for Northern Ireland (3.4%). These proportions for the Government Office Regions range from 1.6% in the South East to 4.2% in the North East.

Section 6 - Gender, age and marital status

Men are more likely to claim JSA (77.3% of claimants in November 1999). 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 November 1999 was 76.1% of claimants.

Female unemployed claimants are more likely than males to be in receipt of only JSA contribution-based benefit in November 1999 (13.4% compared with 8.0%) but less likely to receive JSA income-based (71.9% compared to 85.2%).

The age distribution of unemployed claimants has changed very little over the year to November 1999. A quarter 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 November 1999 were similar.

Section 7 - Amounts of benefit

Single claimants without dependants tend to receive the lowest amounts of benefit, on average £47.83 per week for contribution-based and £48.04 for those with income-based. Recipients of income-based JSA with partners and/or dependants receive higher amounts (£80.68 for couples without dependants and £123.98 for single/couples with dependants).

However the former account for only 5% of all JSA claimants, whilst the latter account for 13%. The corresponding figures for Great Britain in November 1999, with regards to JSA with partners and dependants, are slightly lower. The former accounting for 4% of all claimants, whilst the latter accounting for only 12%.



Table 1.1: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1995 to 1999

	Type of unemployment related benefit					
	All Claimants	All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
Unemployment Benefit/Income Support						
Nov-95	84,245	75,517	6,777	4,016	64,724	8,728
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

Note: No figures available for November 1996

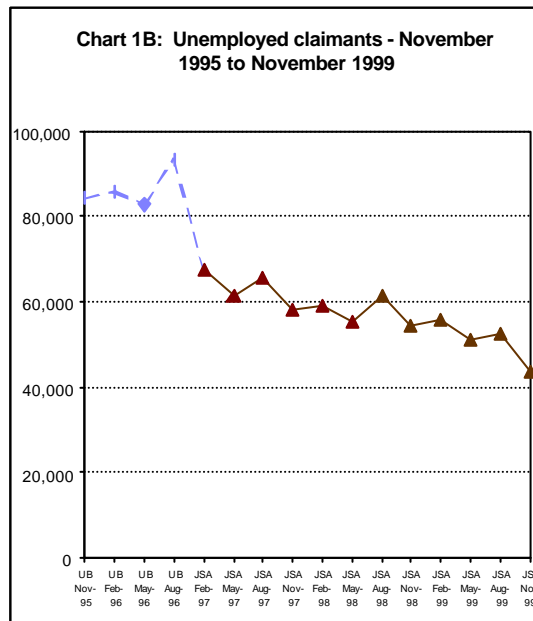
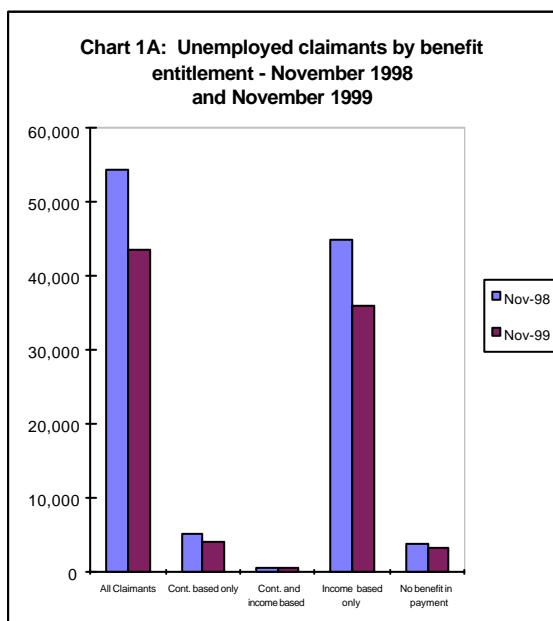


Table 1.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1995 to 1999

	<u>Type of unemployment related benefit</u>					
	All Claimants ('000=100%)	All with benefit %	Contribution based only %	Contribution and income based %	Income based only %	No benefit in payment %
Unemployment Benefit/Income Support						
Nov-95	84,245	89.6	8.0	4.8	76.8	10.4
Jobseeker's Allowance						
Feb-97 *	67,541	91.9	8.8	1.2	81.9	8.1
Nov-97	58,305	93.0	8.7	1.0	83.4	7.0
Nov-98	54,327	92.9	9.3	1.0	82.5	7.1
Nov-99	43,720	92.4	9.2	0.9	82.2	7.6

* Note: No figures available for November 1996

Chart 1C: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement - 1995 and 1999

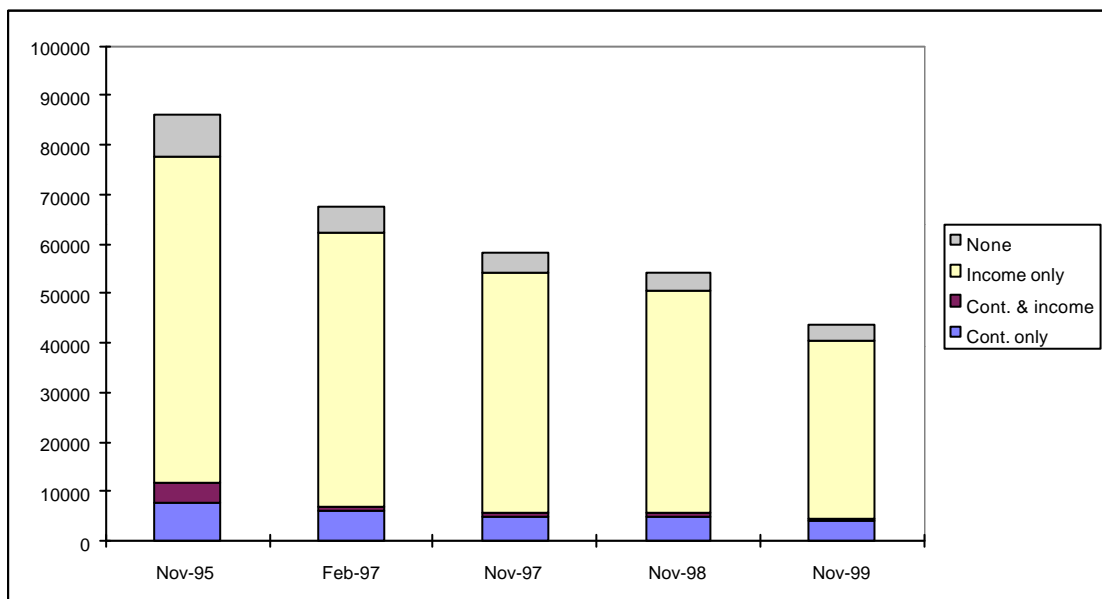


Table 2.1: Unemployed Claimants by duration of claim - November 1997 to November 1999

Duration	Nov-97	Nov-98	Nov-99
All claimants ('000= 100%)	58,305	54,327	43,720
Under 3 months	14,430	14,251	13,412
3 to under 6 months	8,168	7,582	6,891
6 to under 12 months	7,544	6,788	6,763
1 to under 2 years	8,321	8,374	6,079
2 years or over	19,842	17,332	10,575

Duration	Nov-97	Nov-98	Nov-99
All claimants ('000= 100%)	100%	100%	100%
Under 3 months	24.7	26.2	30.7
3 to under 6 months	14.0	14.0	15.8
6 to under 12 months	12.9	12.5	15.5
1 to under 2 years	14.3	15.4	13.9
2 years or over	34.0	31.9	24.2

Chart 2A: Unemployed Claimants by duration of current claim - November 1999

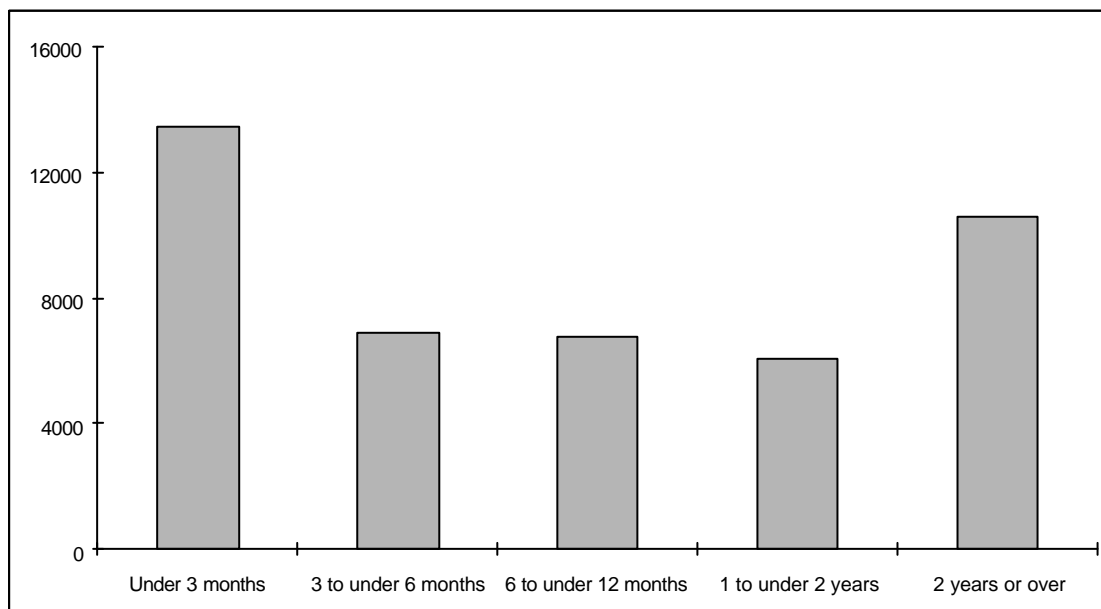


Table 2.2: Unemployed Claimants by benefit entitlement and duration of current claim - November 1999

	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%)	43,720	40,383	4,035	410	35,939	3,337
% up to 2 weeks	6.3	5.2	11.7	7.5	4.5	19.0
% 2 to under 6 weeks	10.2	10.0	26.4	21.0	8.1	11.8
% 6 to under 13 weeks	14.2	14.3	27.5	26.8	12.7	12.9
% 13 to under 26 weeks	15.8	15.9	34.4	44.7	13.5	13.5
% 26 to under 39 weeks	8.4	8.2	0.0	0.0	9.2	10.0
% 39 weeks to under 1 year	7.1	7.2	0.0	0.0	8.1	6.0
% 1 to under 2 years	13.9	13.8	0.0	0.0	15.5	15.7
% 2 years or over	24.2	25.3	0.0	0.0	28.4	11.1

Table 2.3 Unemployed Claimants by gender, age and duration of current claim - November 1999

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	43,720	46.4	15.5	13.9	24.2
Under 25	10,944	75.1	16.1	6.0	2.8
25 to 49	25,102	38.7	15.8	17.0	28.5
50 or over	7,674	30.9	13.5	15.1	40.6
Males	33,792	42.1	15.7	14.7	27.5
Under 25	7,362	73.8	16.7	6.2	3.3
25 to 49	20,596	34.7	16.1	17.9	31.3
50 or over	5,834	28.0	12.8	14.2	45.1
Females	9,928	61.3	14.7	11.2	12.8
Under 25	3,583	77.8	14.7	5.5	2.0
25 to 49	4,506	56.9	14.3	13.0	15.8
50 or over	1,840	39.9	15.8	18.0	26.3



Table 3.1 Unemployed claimants : receipt / non-receipt of contribution-based benefit by gender - November 1998 and November 1999

	Nov-98		Nov-99		% All males	% All females
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants		
All claimants	54,327	100.0	43,720	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of contribution-based benefit(1)	5,601	10.3	4,445	10.2	9.1	13.8
Claimants not in receipt of contribution-based benefit	48,726	89.7	39,275	89.8	90.9	86.2

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 - November 1998 and November 1999

Reason for non-entitlement	Nov 98		Nov 99		% All males	% All females
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants		
All without JSA(C)	48,726	89.7	39,275	89.8	90.9	86.2
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	307	0.6	306	0.7	0.6	1.0
Entitlement exhausted	11,565	21.3	8,842	20.2	22.5	12.5
Entitlement not yet determined	863	1.6	763	1.7	1.7	2.0
Contribution deficiency	35,021	64.5	28,443	65.1	64.2	67.9
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	357	0.7	450	1.0	0.8	1.7
Other	613	1.1	471	1.1	1.1	1.0

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 - November 1998 and November 1999

	Nov 98		Nov 99			
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants	% All males	% All females
All claimants	54,327	100.0	43,720	100.0	100.0	100.0
Claimants in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	50,443	92.9	40,383	92.4	94.3	85.6
Claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit	3,884	7.1	3,337	7.6	5.7	14.4



Table 3.4: Unemployed claimants not in receipt of unemployment-related benefit by gender and benefit reason - November 1998 and November 1999

Reason for non-entitlement	Nov 98		Nov 99		% All males	% All females
	Total	% All claimants	Total	% All claimants		
All without JSA	3,884	7.1	3,337	7.6	5.7	14.4
(% by claimants):						
Waiting days	307	0.6	306	0.7	0.6	1.0
Entitlement exhausted	1,332	2.5	1,105	2.5	1.8	4.9
Entitlement not yet determined	386	0.7	207	0.5	0.3	0.9
Contribution deficiency	1,280	2.4	1,037	2.4	1.6	4.9
Benefit disallowed or sanctioned(1)	291	0.5	404	0.9	0.7	1.7
Other	287	0.5	279	0.6	0.5	1.0

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 - November 1999

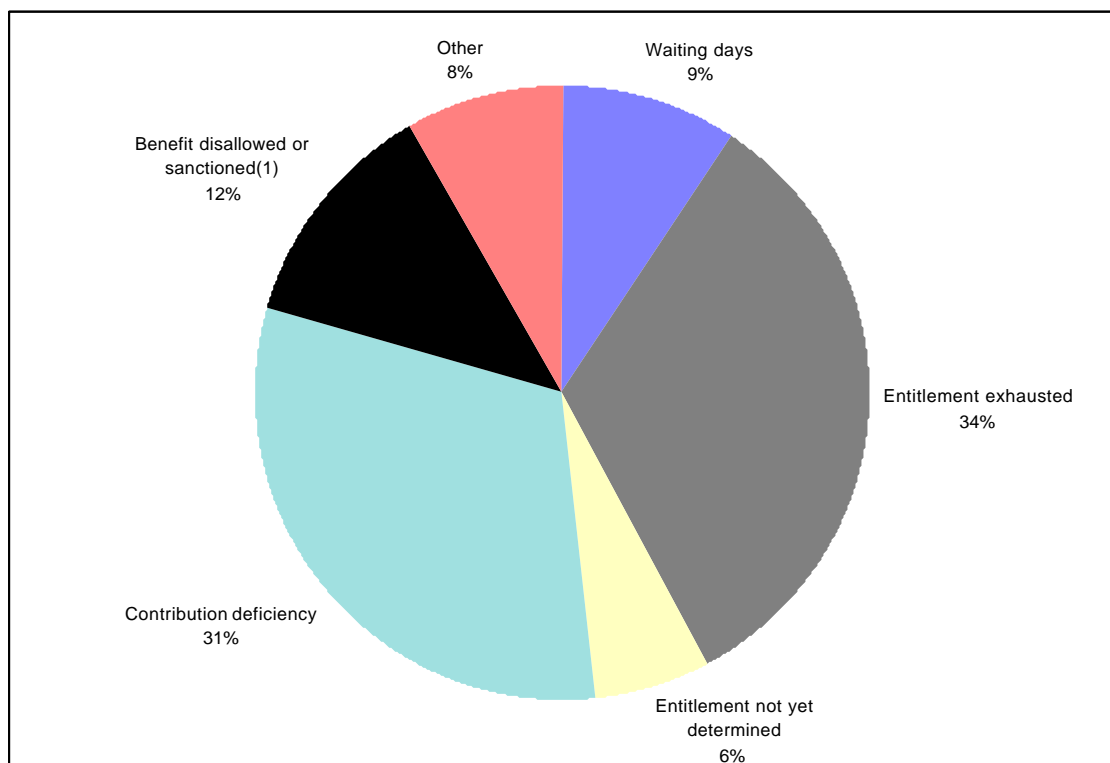


Table 4.1: JSA claimants at November 1999: by District Council and benefit position

District Council	Type of unemployment related benefit					
	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
All	43,720	40,383	4,035	410	35,939	3,337
Ards	1,432	1,236	239	10	987	196
Belfast	10,538	10,096	721	67	9,308	442
Castlereagh	935	843	115	0	728	92
Down	1,553	1,374	95	10	1,268	179
Lisburn	1,967	1,798	174	26	1,599	169
North Down	1,483	1,317	169	27	1,121	166
Newtownabbey	1,347	1,232	154	24	1,055	115
Antrim	855	777	148	14	615	78
Ballymena	1,179	1,059	179	11	869	120
Ballymoney	627	569	53	10	506	58
Carrickfergus	793	713	65	5	642	80
Coleraine	1,717	1,565	207	15	1,343	152
Cookstown	650	584	77	11	496	66
Larne	575	523	51	5	467	52
Magherafelt	813	751	127	10	613	62
Moyle	566	529	48	10	471	37
Armagh	1,198	1,089	127	20	943	109
Banbridge	548	521	74	5	442	27
Craigavon	1,509	1,354	167	0	1,187	155
Dungannon	866	820	123	10	687	46
Newry & Mourne	2,658	2,504	221	44	2,238	154
Fermanagh	1,846	1,669	111	10	1,548	177
Limavady	887	782	64	17	701	105
Derry	4,478	4,192	304	17	3,872	286
Omagh	1,345	1,220	100	25	1,095	125
Strabane	1,355	1,265	121	5	1,139	90



Table 4.2: JSA claimants at November 1999: 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	43,720	92.4%	9.2%	0.9%	82.2%	7.6%
Ards	1,432	86.3%	16.7%	0.7%	68.9%	13.7%
Belfast	10,538	95.8%	6.8%	0.6%	88.3%	4.2%
Castlereagh	935	90.2%	12.3%	0.0%	77.9%	9.8%
Down	1,553	88.5%	6.1%	0.7%	81.7%	11.5%
Lisburn	1,967	91.4%	8.8%	1.3%	81.3%	8.6%
North Down	1,483	88.8%	11.4%	1.8%	75.6%	11.2%
Newtownabbey	1,347	91.5%	11.4%	1.8%	78.3%	8.5%
Antrim	855	90.9%	17.3%	1.7%	71.9%	9.1%
Ballymena	1,179	89.8%	15.2%	0.9%	73.7%	10.2%
Ballymoney	627	90.8%	8.4%	1.6%	80.7%	9.2%
Carrickfergus	793	89.9%	8.2%	0.6%	81.0%	10.1%
Coleraine	1,717	91.1%	12.1%	0.9%	78.2%	8.9%
Cookstown	650	89.8%	11.9%	1.7%	76.3%	10.2%
Larne	575	91.0%	9.0%	0.9%	81.1%	9.0%
Magherafelt	813	92.4%	15.7%	1.3%	75.4%	7.6%
Moyle	566	93.5%	8.5%	1.8%	83.2%	6.5%
Armagh	1,198	90.9%	10.6%	1.7%	78.7%	9.1%
Banbridge	548	95.0%	13.5%	0.9%	80.6%	5.0%
Craigavon	1,509	89.7%	11.1%	0.0%	78.7%	10.3%
Dungannon	866	94.7%	14.1%	1.2%	79.3%	5.3%
Newry & Mourne	2,658	94.2%	8.3%	1.7%	84.2%	5.8%
Fermanagh	1,846	90.4%	6.0%	0.5%	83.9%	9.6%
Limavady	887	88.1%	7.2%	1.9%	79.1%	11.9%
Derry	4,478	93.6%	6.8%	0.4%	86.5%	6.4%
Omagh	1,345	90.7%	7.4%	1.9%	81.4%	9.3%
Strabane	1,355	93.4%	9.0%	0.4%	84.0%	6.6%



Table 4.3: JSA claimants at November 1999: 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	43,720	1,018,139	4.3%
Ards	1,432	44,054	3.3%
Belfast	10,538	168,188	6.3%
Castlereagh	935	40,160	2.3%
Down	1,553	37,300	4.2%
Lisburn	1,967	68,461	2.9%
North Down	1,483	45,556	3.3%
Newtownabbey	1,347	50,158	2.7%
Antrim	855	32,279	2.6%
Ballymena	1,179	36,287	3.2%
Ballymoney	627	15,326	4.1%
Carrickfergus	793	23,186	3.4%
Coleraine	1,717	34,133	5.0%
Cookstown	650	19,200	3.4%
Larne	575	18,574	3.1%
Magherafelt	813	22,715	3.6%
Moyle	566	9,104	6.2%
Armagh	1,198	33,105	3.6%
Banbridge	548	24,602	2.2%
Craigavon	1,509	47,697	3.2%
Dungannon	866	28,596	3.0%
Newry & Mourne	2,658	51,035	5.2%
Fermanagh	1,846	33,462	5.5%
Limavady	887	20,088	4.4%
Derry	4,478	63,797	7.0%
Omagh	1,345	28,584	4.7%
Strabane	1,355	22,492	6.0%

* =Mid 1998 estimates. Population of working age. Namely 16-59 for Females, and ages 16-64 for Males.



Table 4.4: JSA claimants at November 1999: by Social Security Office and benefit position

Social Security Office	Type of unemployment related benefit					
	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
All	43,720	40,383	4,035	410	35,939	3,337
Antrim	1,006	912	163	19	730	94
Armagh	1,135	1,036	131	20	886	99
Ballymena	1,311	1,197	195	16	987	114
Ballymoney	1,056	957	104	15	837	100
Ballynahinch	255	217	10	0	206	39
Banbridge	534	515	69	11	435	19
Bangor	1,423	1,236	184	22	1,031	187
Carrickfergus	798	713	65	5	643	85
Coleraine	1,765	1,613	193	15	1,405	152
Cookstown	512	456	61	11	385	55
Downpatrick	896	797	76	10	710	100
Dungannon	733	691	92	10	589	42
Enniskillen	1,962	1,785	132	15	1,638	177
Larne	543	487	51	5	430	56
Limavady	745	651	58	17	577	94
Lisburn	1,016	917	113	26	778	99
Londonderry / Foyle	3,489	3,269	224	6	3,040	219
Lurgan	973	843	108	0	735	131
Magherafelt	898	831	129	10	692	67
Newcastle	475	410	25	0	386	64
Newry	2,417	2,269	157	38	2,073	148
Newtownards	1,247	1,119	185	10	925	127
Omagh	1,341	1,211	95	20	1,096	130
Portadown	685	634	77	0	557	51
Strabane	1,342	1,253	121	5	1,126	90
Kilkeel	217	212	64	0	148	5
Shaftsbury Square	1,703	1,650	151	5	1,494	53
Corporation Street	2,401	2,290	134	10	2,146	111
Shankill Road	1,461	1,389	68	5	1,316	72
Knockbreda	1,144	1,027	157	10	860	117
Falls Road	2,013	1,967	67	16	1,884	46
Holywood Road	1,846	1,707	220	11	1,476	139
Newtownabbey	1,117	1,045	135	19	891	72
Andersonstown	2,113	2,006	138	15	1,853	107
Lisnagelvin	1,148	1,071	86	11	974	78



Table 4.5: JSA claimants at November 1999: 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	43,720	92.4%	9.2%	0.9%	82.2%	7.6%
Antrim	1,006	90.7%	16.2%	1.9%	72.6%	9.3%
Armagh	1,135	91.3%	11.5%	1.8%	78.0%	8.7%
Ballymena	1,311	91.3%	14.9%	1.2%	75.3%	8.7%
Ballymoney	1,056	90.6%	9.8%	1.4%	79.3%	9.4%
Ballynahinch	255	84.9%	4.1%	0.0%	80.8%	15.1%
Banbridge	534	96.4%	12.9%	2.0%	81.6%	3.6%
Bangor	1,423	86.9%	12.9%	1.5%	72.4%	13.1%
Carrickfergus	798	89.3%	8.2%	0.6%	80.5%	10.7%
Coleraine	1,765	91.4%	10.9%	0.9%	79.6%	8.6%
Cookstown	512	89.2%	11.8%	2.1%	75.3%	10.8%
Downpatrick	896	88.9%	8.5%	1.2%	79.2%	11.1%
Dungannon	733	94.3%	12.5%	1.4%	80.4%	5.7%
Enniskillen	1,962	91.0%	6.7%	0.8%	83.5%	9.0%
Larne	543	89.6%	9.5%	1.0%	79.2%	10.4%
Limavady	745	87.4%	7.8%	2.3%	77.3%	12.6%
Lisburn	1,016	90.2%	11.1%	2.5%	76.6%	9.8%
Londonderry / Foyle	3,489	93.7%	6.4%	0.2%	87.1%	6.3%
Lurgan	973	86.6%	11.1%	0.0%	75.5%	13.4%
Magherafelt	898	92.6%	14.3%	1.2%	77.1%	7.4%
Newcastle	475	86.5%	5.2%	0.0%	81.2%	13.5%
Newry	2,417	93.9%	6.5%	1.6%	85.8%	6.1%
Newtownards	1,247	89.8%	14.8%	0.8%	74.2%	10.2%
Omagh	1,341	90.3%	7.1%	1.5%	81.7%	9.7%
Portadown	685	92.6%	11.2%	0.0%	81.3%	7.4%
Strabane	1,342	93.3%	9.0%	0.4%	83.9%	6.7%
Kilkeel	217	97.6%	29.4%	0.0%	68.3%	2.4%
Shaftsbury Square	1,703	96.9%	8.8%	0.3%	87.8%	3.1%
Corporation Street	2,401	95.4%	5.6%	0.4%	89.4%	4.6%
Shankill Road	1,461	95.1%	4.6%	0.4%	90.1%	4.9%
Knockbreda	1,144	89.8%	13.7%	0.9%	75.2%	10.2%
Falls Road	2,013	97.7%	3.3%	0.8%	93.6%	2.3%
Hollywood Road	1,846	92.5%	11.9%	0.6%	80.0%	7.5%
Newtownabbey	1,117	93.5%	12.1%	1.7%	79.7%	6.5%
Andersonstown	2,113	94.9%	6.5%	0.7%	87.7%	5.1%
Lisnagelvin	1,148	93.2%	7.5%	1.0%	84.8%	6.8%



**Table 5.1: JSA claimants by Government Office Region:
November 1998 and November 1999**

Thousands

GOR	November 1998	November 1999	Annual % change
Uniked Kingdom	1,284	1,148	-10.6%
North East	81	74	-9.1%
North West	155	142	-8.6%
Yorks & Humberside	127	113	-10.9%
East Midlands	76	69	-9.0%
West Midlands	118	110	-6.5%
East	79	70	-12.3%
London	214	191	-10.9%
South East	100	87	-12.7%
South West	80	69	-14.2%
Wales	67	59	-12.4%
Scotland	133	120	-9.6%
Northern Ireland	54	44	-18.5%



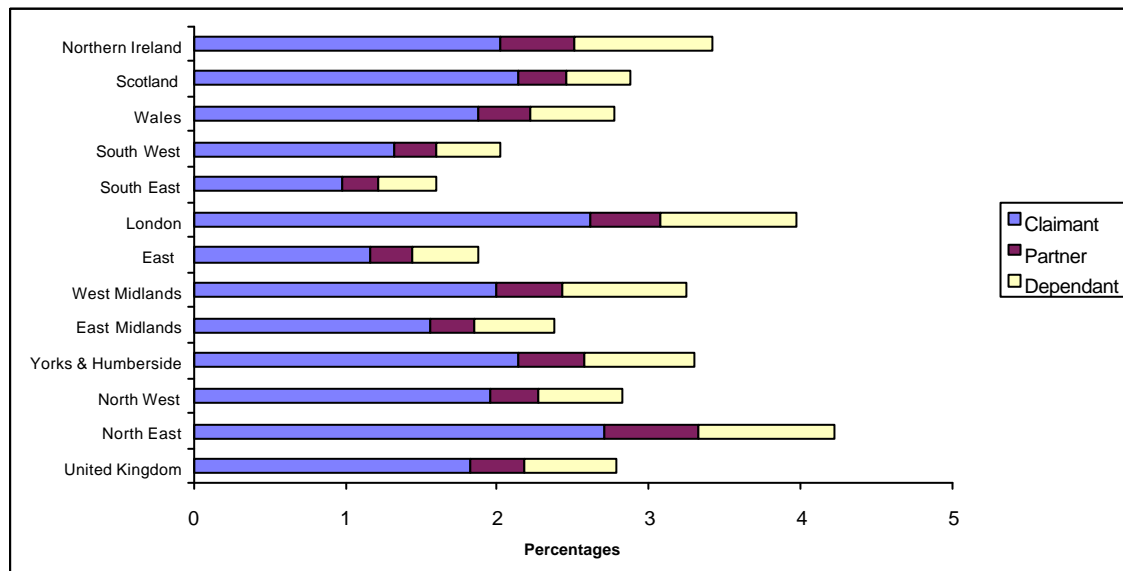
**Table 5.2: Beneficiaries of income - based JSA by type and GOR:
November 1999**

Thousands

GOR	Type of beneficiary				Beneficiaries as % of regions population aged under state retirement age ⁽¹⁾
	All	Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
Uniked Kingdom	1,347	884	172	293	2.8
North East	89	57	13	19	4.2
North West	159	110	18	31	2.8
Yorks & Humberside	136	88	18	30	3.3
East Midlands	81	53	10	18	2.4
West Midlands	142	87	19	36	3.3
East	81	51	12	19	1.8
London	243	160	28	55	4.0
South East	103	64	15	25	1.6
South West	78	51	11	16	2.0
Wales	65	44	8	13	2.8
Scotland	121	90	13	18	2.9
Northern Ireland	49	29	7	13	3.4

⁽¹⁾ 65 for men and 60 for women. Based on mid-year 1998 population estimates.

Chart 5A: Beneficiaries of income - based JSA by type as a percentage of the population aged under state retirement age ⁽¹⁾ : November 1999



⁽¹⁾ 65 for men and 60 for women. Based on mid-year 1998 population estimates.

Table 6.1 Unemployed JSA claimants by gender, marital status and benefit entitlement - November 1999

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	43,720	92.4	9.2	0.9	82.2	7.6
All males	33,792	94.3	8.0	1.1	85.2	5.7
Single	24,808	97.4	8.6	0.2	88.6	2.6
With partner	8,984	86.0	6.4	3.6	75.9	14.0
All females	9,928	85.6	13.4	0.4	71.9	14.4
Single	8,048	94.4	7.7	0.3	86.4	5.6
With partner	1,880	48.1	37.9	0.5	9.7	51.9

Chart 6A: Unemployed JSA claimants by gender and marital status - November 1999

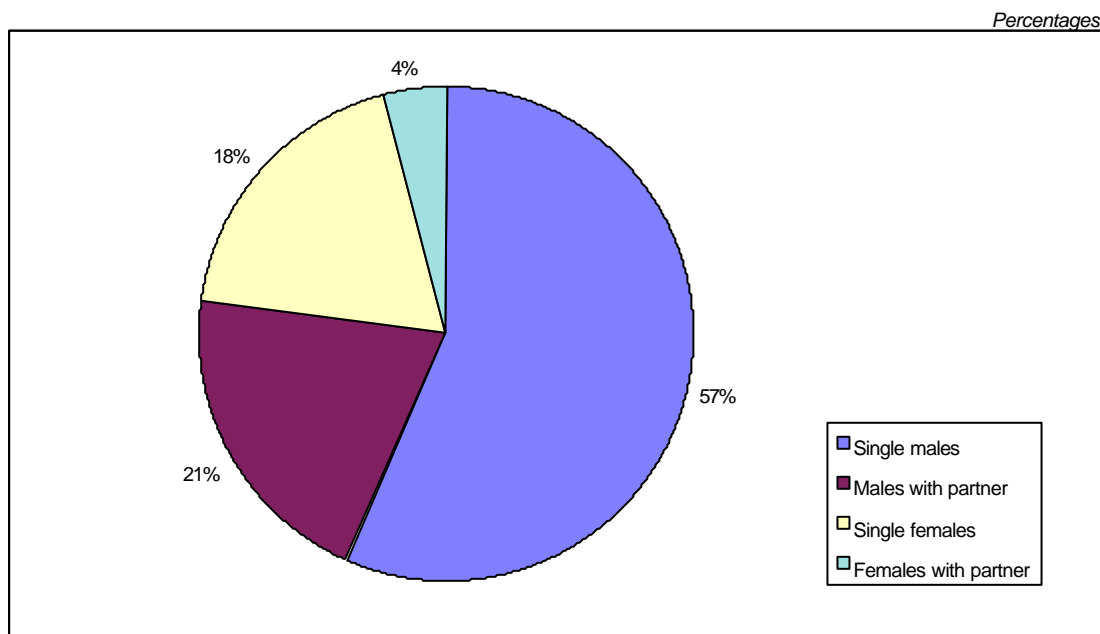


Table 6.2 Unemployed JSA claimants by age and benefit entitlement - November 1999

Claimants age	All Claimants (<i>'000=100%</i>)	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only %	Contribution and income based %	Income based only %	No benefit in payment %
All ages	43,720	92.4	9.2	0.9	82.2	7.6
Under 20	4,020	97.4	0.5	0.0	96.9	2.6
20-24	6,925	96.0	12.7	0.5	82.9	4.0
25-29	6,018	96.3	14.7	1.1	80.5	3.7
30-34	5,761	94.6	9.1	1.0	84.5	5.4
35-39	4,954	94.7	9.6	1.2	84.0	5.3
40-44	4,583	92.4	7.0	1.3	84.1	7.6
45-49	3,786	89.7	6.3	1.6	81.8	10.3
50-54	4,155	86.1	8.6	0.7	76.8	13.9
55-59	3,217	75.4	7.5	0.8	67.1	24.6
60 and over	302	81.8	32.3	5.3	44.3	18.2



**Table 6.3: Unemployed claimants by gender and age:
November 1998 and November 1999**

Claimants age	Nov-98			Nov-99		
	Total (<i>'000=100%</i>)	Men %	Women %	Total (<i>'000=100%</i>)	Men %	Women %
All ages	54,327	78.7	21.3	43,720	77.3	22.7
Under 20	3,294	67.7	32.3	4,020	62.1	37.9
20-24	8,223	71.6	28.4	6,925	70.2	29.8
25-29	8,549	83.0	17.0	6,018	80.0	20.0
30-34	7,166	83.2	16.8	5,761	83.7	16.3
35-39	6,847	78.6	21.4	4,954	85.5	14.5
40-44	5,589	82.3	17.7	4,583	81.4	18.6
45-49	4,942	80.0	20.0	3,786	79.1	20.9
50-54	5,128	78.2	21.8	4,155	75.8	24.2
55-59	3,921	78.6	21.4	3,217	74.1	25.9
60 and over	668	82.2	17.8	302	100.0	0.0

**Chart 6B: Unemployed claimants by gender and age:
November 1998 and November 1999**

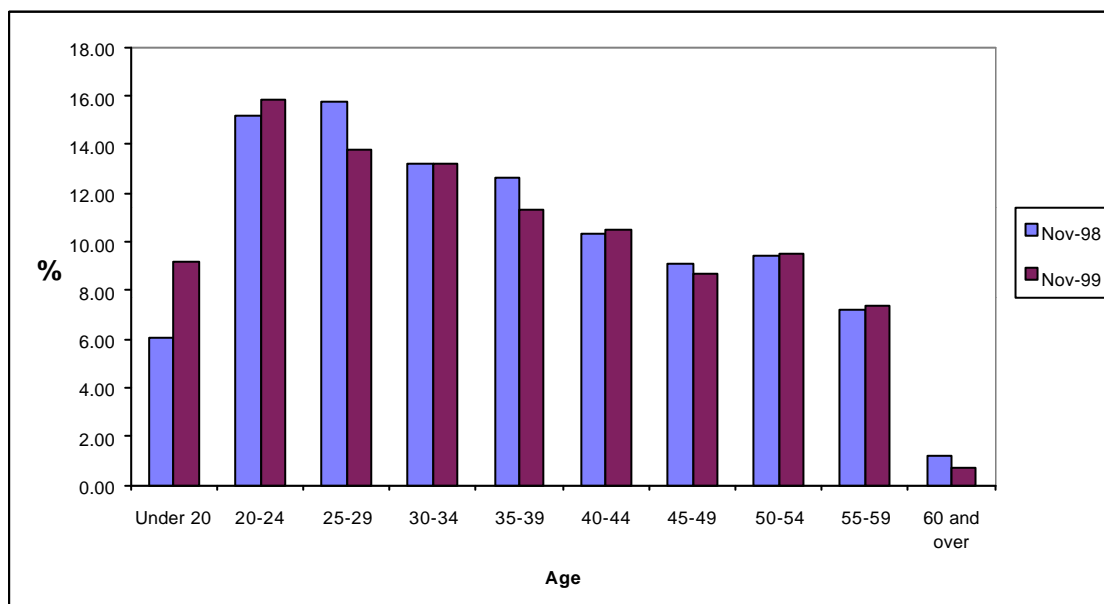


Table 7.1: Unemployed claimants with contribution-based benefit entitlement (1) by average weekly amount - 1995-1999

	All		Personal claim only		Including adult dependant (2)	
	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw
Unemployment Benefit						
Nov-95	18,427	£40.97	17,035	£39.12	1,392	£63.62
JSA(1)						
Feb-97 *	6,740	£44.77	6,673	£44.67	68	£54.78
Nov-97	5,640	£46.10	5,640	£46.10	.	.
Nov-98	5,601	£47.28	5,601	£47.28	.	.
Nov-99	4,445	£47.83	4,445	£47.83	.	.

* Note: No figures available for November 1996

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.

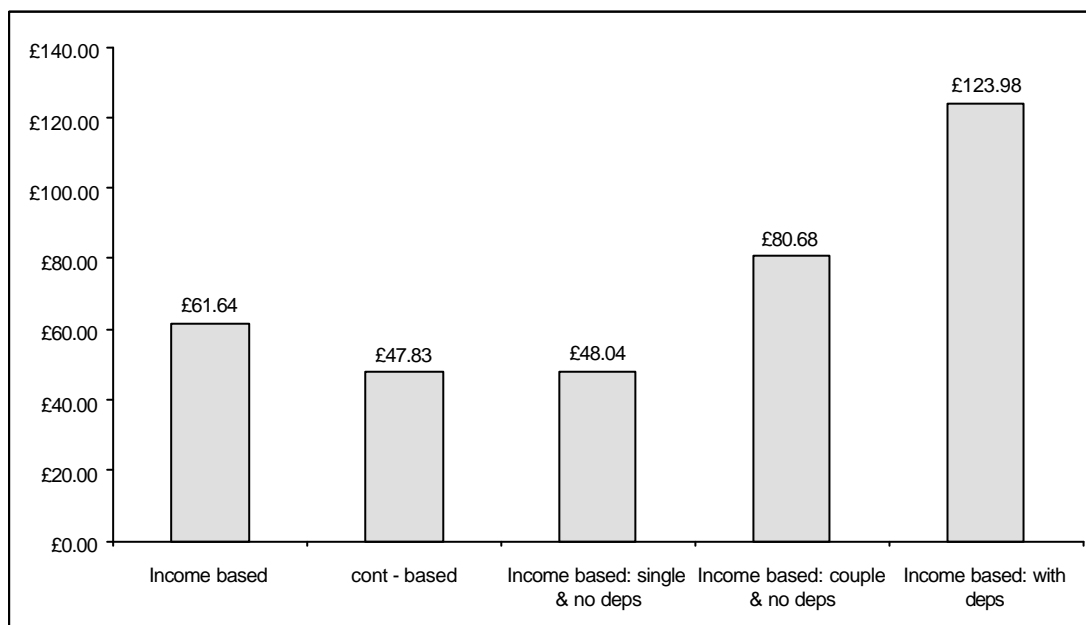


Table 7.2: Unemployed claimants with income-based benefit (1) by average weekly amount - 1995-1999

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)								
Nov-97	49,188	£61.23	36,566	£45.63	2,995	£76.86	9,627	£115.61
Nov-98	45,367	£62.50	33,590	£47.15	3,500	£73.00	8,277	£120.33
Nov-99	36,348	£61.64	28,656	£48.04	2,075	£80.68	5,617	£123.98

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 - November 1999



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. 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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