
NORTHERN IRELAND CLIENT GROUP ANALYSIS

**Persons of
working age and their children
and persons of pensionable age
receiving key benefits**

NOVEMBER 2001



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Northern Ireland
**Statistics &
Research**
Agency

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Introduction

The Statistics and Research Branch of the Department for Social Development (DSD) have developed a set of analyses from its existing scans of Social Security Benefit administrative data for the persons of Working Age and their Children and the persons over State Pension Age in Northern Ireland.

By matching data from the individual benefit scans an estimate can be made of the number of people who were claiming at least one of the key benefits that are available to the working age population and those over state pension age. People are assigned a statistical group depending on which key benefits they are claiming (see Definitions and Conventions).

Section 1 analyses persons of working age in receipt of the key benefits which are available to persons of working age with the main exception of Housing Benefit. Section 2 analyses the children of persons of working age on key benefits. The Inland Revenue Tax Credits are also included in these analyses in sections 1.10 and 2.3. They are designed to give a good indication of the size of the population on these benefits and/or tax credits and how this changes over time. However, they are affected by changes to the conditions of entitlement and to the existence of the benefits/tax credits themselves. This includes such things as: the replacement of Family Credit and Disability Working Allowance with Working Families' Tax Credit and Disabled Person's Tax Credit respectively. No attempt has been made to adjust the series for such factors.

Section 3 analyses persons of pensionable age on key benefits that are available to persons over state pension age with the main exception of Widow's Benefit and Housing Benefit.

Information on the key characteristics of these claimants is also available for age, gender, duration, family type and regional analysis. It is also possible to look at changes in the composition of the statistical groups in the benefits system over time. Analysis of the movement on, off and between the benefits is also included (see Methodology).

The Appendices give additional information on Child Benefit, Child Support Agency and Maternity Allowance data which are not included in the analysis of children in section 2.

The definitive details of caseloads and characteristics of claimants of each individual benefit can be found in the separate publications and press releases that Statistics and Research Branch issue.

Contents

Definitions and Conventions.....	7
Section 1: Persons of Working Age on Key Benefits.....	9
1.1 Age and Gender.....	9
1.2 Family Type.....	11
1.3 Statistical group and transitions.....	13
1.4 Benefit Entitlement.....	17
1.5 Duration on benefit.....	20
1.6 Claimants with children and young dependants aged under 19.....	22
1.7 Children and young dependants aged under 19.....	23
1.8 Regional Analysis.....	24
1.9 Quarterly Tables.....	27
1.10 Benefits and Tax Credits.....	44
Section 2 : Families with children on key benefits.....	50
2.1 Children.....	50
2.2 Families.....	58
2.3 Benefits and Tax Credits.....	61
Section 3: Persons of Pensionable Age on Key Benefits.....	67
3.1 Age and gender.....	67
3.2 Statistical groups.....	69
3.3 Regional Analysis.....	74
Appendices.....	77
Appendix 1 - Child Benefit.....	77
Appendix 2 - Child Support Agency.....	79
Appendix 3 - Maternity Allowance.....	81
Methodology.....	83
Sampling Errors.....	86

Definitions and Conventions - Sections 1 and 2

Key benefits

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)

Incapacity Benefit (IB)

Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

Income Support (IS)

Symbols and conventions

Working age is 16 to 64 years for men

16 to 59 years for women

Population estimates are mid year from 1998 to 2000

16-18 year olds in full-time education from 1998 to 2000

“.” not applicable

Inland Revenue Tax Credits

Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC) [Family Credit (FC) prior to October 1999]

Disabled Person's Tax Credit (DPTC) [Disability Working Allowance (DWA) prior to October 1999]

Statistical group

Unemployed

Claimant in receipt of JSA (including credits)

Sick and Disabled

Claimant in receipt of one or more of IB (including credits), SDA, DLA, IS with a disability premium

Lone Parent

Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium

Others

IS claimants not in other groups

Family type

This is based mainly on whether the claimant has a partner and dependants for which additional amounts of benefit are payable. These are payable with all benefits except:

JSA (Contribution based only or Credits)

details available for partners, children's details may be incomplete

IB/SDA

details available only for claimants who qualify for a child and/or partner allowance (not payable in all cases)

DLA

no details available

Benefit type

Income replacement

IS, JSA (excluding credits), IB (excluding credits) and SDA

Other

DLA

NI Credits

Through claiming JSA or IB

Benefit entitlement

Contributory benefits

IB, Contribution based JSA

Means tested benefits

IS and Income based JSA

Other benefits

SDA, DLA

NI Credits

Through claiming JSA or IB

Definitions and Conventions - Section 3

Key benefits

Attendance Allowance (AA)
 Incapacity Benefit (IB)
 Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)
 Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
 Income Support (IS)
 Retirement Pension (RP)

Symbols and conventions

State Pension Age is 65 years and over for men
 60 years and over for women
 Population estimates are mid year from 1997 to 2000
 “.” not applicable

Statistical group

Sick and/or disabled	Claimant receiving one or more of AA, DLA, IB, SDA or on IS and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - single and aged 60-79 in receipt of a Higher Pensioner Premium (HPP) due to disability; - in a residential care or nursing home; - sick days being recorded; - hospitalised cases or an RP claimant and - in hospital - receiving Invalidity Allowance (IVA)
Non Disabled IS	IS claimants not included in the sick and/or disabled category
RP only	RP claimant not in other statistical groups above.

Note that the statistical groups refer only to SSA benefits. The majority of claimants within the RP only statistical group will also be receiving income from other sources e.g. occupational pensions and investments.

Benefit Combinations

Statistical group	Description
Sick and/or Disabled	1 AA or DLA
	2 IB or SDA
	3 One of AA or DLA and one of IB or SDA
	4 IS only (disability related higher pensioner premium) or IS with one or more of AA, DLA, IB and SDA
	5 RP only (receiving IVA or in hospital)
	6 RP and one of AA or DLA
	7 RP and IS
	8 RP and IS and one of AA or DLA
Non Disabled IS	9 IS claimants not in sick and disabled statistical group
RP Only	10 Receiving RP only and not in other statistical group

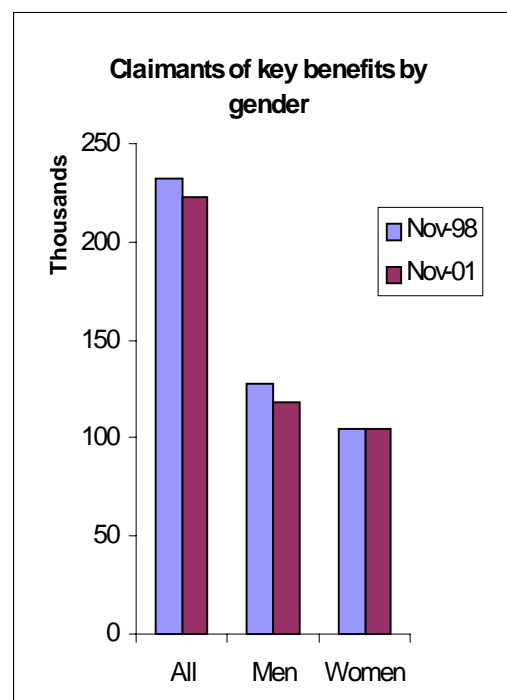
Section 1: Persons of Working Age on Key Benefits

1.1 Age and Gender

Table 1.1.1 Claimants of key benefits by gender: November 1998 to November 2001

	Nov-98	Nov-99	Nov-00	Nov-01
All	232,160	224,120	223,380	222,740
% of pop ¹	23	22	22	22
Men	127,600	119,920	118,260	117,680
% of pop ¹	24	23	22	22
Women	104,560	104,200	105,120	105,060
% of pop ¹	21	21	21	21

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland



- In November 2001 about 22% (222,740) of people of working age claimed a key benefit – down from 23% (232,160) in November 1998.
- About 118 thousand men of working age claimed a benefit, compared with 105 thousand women. Some of that difference was due to differences in retirement age and because men normally claim a means tested benefit on behalf of a couple.
- The overall number of claimants fell by over 9 thousand between November 1998 and November 2001. That can be accounted for by the drop in the number of male claimants – down from 128 thousand in 1998 to 118 thousand in 2001. The gap between men and women has therefore narrowed.
- Older people were more likely to be claiming benefits. In 2001, 36% of those aged 55 to 59 claimed a benefit compared to 16% of those aged 18 to 24.
- Most age groups have fallen in size since November 1998. The largest reductions were in the younger age groups (18 to 24 fell by 1,500 and 25 to 34 fell by 9,100). Of the 3 age groups that increased in size the greatest increase was in the 55 to 59 group (up by 1,440).

Table 1.1.2 Claimants of key benefits by age and gender: November 2001

	All		Men		Women	
		% of pop in age group		% of pop in age group		% of pop in age group
All	222,740	22	117,680	22	105,060	21
Under 18	1,820	3	940	3	880	3
18 to 24	25,980	16	12,700	15	13,280	17
25 to 34	44,240	17	19,420	15	24,820	20
35 to 44	51,760	21	24,720	21	27,040	22
45 to 54	50,800	26	26,520	27	24,280	24
55 to 59	30,740	36	15,980	38	14,760	33
60 to 64	17,400	49	17,400	49	.	.

Table 1.1.3 Claimants of key benefits by age: November 1998 to November 2001

	Nov-98		Nov-99		Nov-00		Nov-01	
		% of pop in age group		% of pop in age group		% of pop in age group		% of pop in age group
All	232,160	23	224,120	22	223,380	22	222,740	22
Under 18	1,580	3	1,680	3	1,740	3	1,820	3
18 to 24	27,480	17	26,960	17	25,980	16	25,980	16
25 to 34	53,340	20	47,900	18	46,260	18	44,240	17
35 to 44	52,400	23	50,360	21	51,040	21	51,760	21
45 to 54	50,840	26	50,120	26	50,620	26	50,800	26
55 to 59	29,300	36	29,580	35	30,100	35	30,740	36
60 to 64	17,220	51	17,520	50	17,640	50	17,400	49

Table 1.1.4 Claimants of key benefits by age and gender: November 1998 and November 2001

	Men				Women			
	Nov-98	% of pop in age group	Nov-01	% of pop in age group	Nov-98	% of pop in age group	Nov-01	% of pop in age group
All	127,600	24	117,680	22	104,560	21	105,060	21
Under 18	640	2	940	3	940	4	880	3
18 to 24	13,700	16	12,700	15	13,780	17	13,280	17
25 to 34	24,980	19	19,420	15	28,360	22	24,820	20
35 to 44	26,780	24	24,720	21	25,620	22	27,040	22
45 to 54	27,780	29	26,520	27	23,060	24	24,280	24
55 to 59	16,500	42	15,980	38	12,800	31	14,760	33
60 to 64	17,220	51	17,400	49	.	.	.	.

1.2 Family Type

This section contains analyses of the type of family in which claimants live. Family type was assigned according to whether the claimant had a partner and/or children. It was not possible to assign a family type in every case (Not known).

Table 1.2.1 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ and gender: November 2001

	All	%	Men	%	Women	%
All	222,740	100	117,680	100	105,060	100
All couples	37,860	17	22,860	19	15,000	14
Couple - no children	11,900	5	10,580	9	1,320	1
Couple - children	25,960	12	12,280	10	13,680	13
All single	121,120	54	55,100	47	66,020	63
Single - no children	78,060	35	52,480	45	25,580	24
Single - children	43,060	19	2,620	2	40,440	38
Not known	63,760	29	39,720	34	24,040	23

¹ See Methodology for further details

- 121,120 claimants were single in November 2001.
- Over 30% (69,020) of claimants had children. The majority of claimants with children (43,060) were single.
- The number of couples with children has fallen by 7,180 between November 1998 and November 2001.
- The number of single claimants without children has risen by 1,460 over the same period.

Claimants of key benefits by family type and gender: November 2001

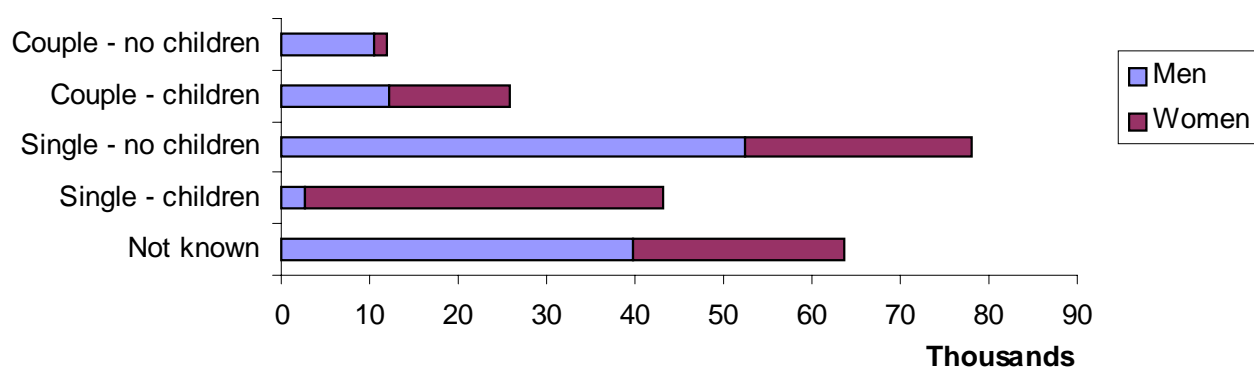


Table 1.2.2 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹: November 1998 to November 2001

	Nov-98		Nov-99		Nov-00		Nov-01	
	All	%	All	%	All	%	All	%
All	232,160	100	224,120	100	223,380	100	222,740	100
All couples	50,820	22	38,800	17	39,140	18	37,860	17
Couple - no children	17,680	8	11,000	5	11,300	5	11,900	5
Couple - children	33,140	14	27,800	12	27,840	12	25,960	12
All single	118,540	51	121,200	54	121,100	54	121,120	54
Single - no children	76,600	33	78,640	35	77,720	35	78,060	35
Single - children	41,940	18	42,560	19	43,380	19	43,060	19
Not known	62,800	27	64,120	29	63,140	28	63,760	29

¹ See Methodology for further details

Table 1.2.3 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ and statistical group: November 2001

	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parent	Other
All	222,740	36,140	144,200	29,840	12,560
All couples	37,860	6,420	27,820	.	3,620
Couple - no children	11,900	2,020	7,880	.	2,000
Couple - children	25,960	4,400	19,940	.	1,620
All single	121,120	29,720	52,620	29,840	8,940
Single - no children	78,060	28,960	40,160	.	8,940
Single - children	43,060	760	12,460	29,840	.
Not known	63,760	.	63,760	.	.

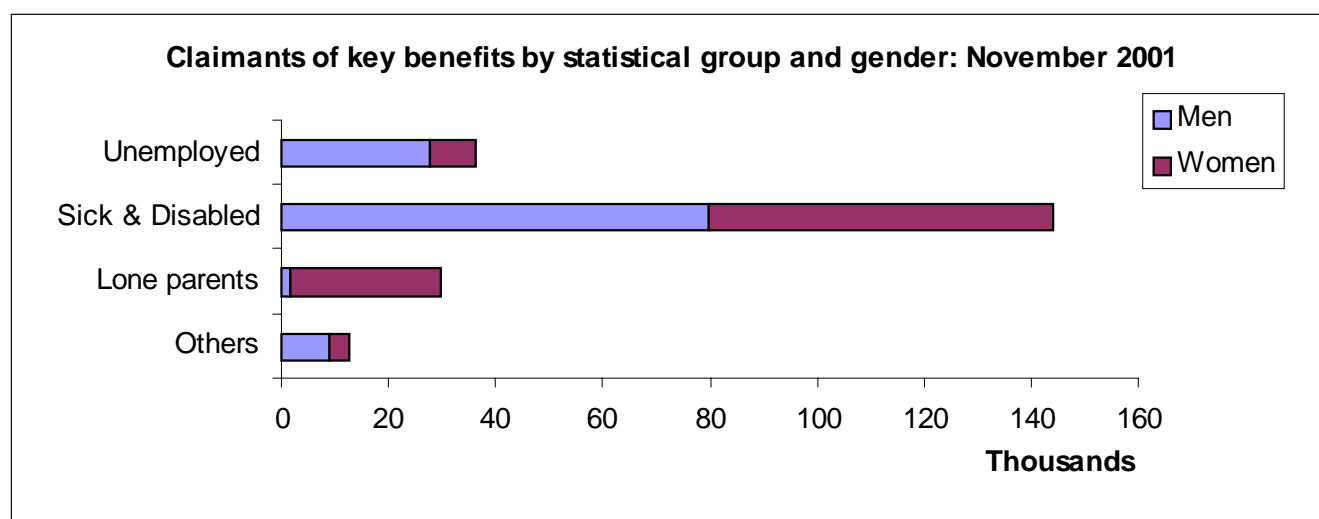
¹ See Methodology for further details

1.3 Statistical group and transitions

The claimants of key benefits were divided into statistical groups, based mainly on the type of benefit they received (see 'Definitions and Conventions'). This gave an indication of the main reason why they were in the benefit system.

Table 1.3.1 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and gender: November 2001

	All	Men	Women
All	222,740	117,680	105,060
Unemployed	36,140	27,540	8,600
Sick & Disabled	144,200	79,700	64,500
Lone parents	29,840	1,540	28,300
Others	12,560	8,900	3,660



- The overall numbers fell by 9,420 between November 1998 and November 2001, mostly because of the unemployed group which fell by 16,820 (32%) over this period.
- In November 2001, 4% (36,140) of people of working age were classed as unemployed - down from 5% (52,960) in November 1998.
- Sick & disabled claimants were consistently the largest group between November 1998 and November 2001, rising from 58% of the total to 65% of the total; unemployed claimants were the second largest group.
- The size of the sick & disabled group rose by 9,260 (up 7%) between November 1998 and November 2001, whilst numbers in the lone parents group fell by 3,220 (down 10%) over the same period.

Table 1.3.2 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group: November 1998 to November 2001

	Nov-98		Nov-99		Nov-00		Nov-01	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
All	232,160	23	224,120	22	223,380	22	222,740	22
Unemployed	52,960	5	42,820	4	38,920	4	36,140	4
Sick & Disabled	134,940	13	136,860	13	140,720	14	144,200	14
Lone parents	33,060	3	32,240	3	31,300	3	29,840	3
Others	11,200	1	12,200	1	12,440	1	12,560	1

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland

These statistical group analyses showed the stock of claimants on key benefits at a fixed point in time at the end of each quarter. An indication of how people moved in and out of the benefit system was obtained by comparing records for the individual claimants who appeared in these “snapshots” over time. The analyses also looked at how people moved between benefits and/or statistical group. This methodology did not cover all flows into and out of the benefit system. For example, it missed claims that started and ended between “snapshot” dates and did not capture changes in benefit for couples where the partner became the claimant. (See ‘Methodology’ for further details).

Table 1.3.3 Claimants of key benefits by status in previous year: November 1998 to November 2001

	On benefit in current year - status in previous year ¹				Left benefit since previous year ²
	All	Same statistical group	Different statistical group	Not on benefit	
Nov-98	232,160	.	.	.	.
Nov-99	224,120	169,780	16,800	37,540	45,580
Nov-00	223,380	166,900	16,140	40,340	41,080
Nov-01	222,740	170,240	13,780	38,720	39,360

¹ Some claimants may have left benefit and then returned to it between years

² Includes a small number of claimants who will have remained on benefit but reached state pension age

- The overall number of claimants of key benefits fell between November 1998 and November 2001. There was an decrease of 640 claimants between November 2000 and November 2001. That was due to the number of people who had left benefit exceeding the number of people who had joined. For example, 39,360 claimants on benefit in November 2000 were no longer on benefit in November 2001 whilst 38,720 of claimants in November 2001 were not on benefit in November 2000.
- The numbers in each statistical group were also affected by movements between them. For example, 13,780 claimants who were on benefit in both November 2000 and November 2001 changed statistical group over this period.

- The numbers in the individual statistical groups were affected by movements both on and off benefit and also between the groups. For example, the overall number of unemployed claimants fell by 2,780 between November 2000 and November 2001. The number of claimants who moved out of that group (5,620) exceeded those who moved in from another group (3,740) – a reduction of 1,880. Also, the number of new claimants who joined the group (16,000) was exceeded by those who left benefit from that group (16,900) – a decrease of 900. When combined those figures gave a total reduction of 2,780.

Table 1.3.4 Claimants of key benefits - changes between November 2000 and November 2001

Statistical group	All on benefit in Nov-00	Movement between Nov-00 and Nov-01			Overall change ²	All on benefit in Nov-01
		Outflow Not on benefit in Nov-01	Inflow Not on benefit in Nov-00	Net movement between Statistical groups ¹		
All	223,380	39,360	38,720	0	-640	222,740
Unemployed	38,920	16,900	16,000	-1,880	-2,780	36,140
Sick & Disabled	140,720	15,280	16,460	2,300	3,480	144,200
Lone parents	31,300	5,240	4,220	-440	-1,460	29,840
Others	12,440	1,940	2,040	20	120	12,560

¹ Numbers coming into statistical group less numbers moving out - see bottom half of table 1.3.5 for breakdown

² Overall change between November 2000 and November 2001 ie column 3 minus column 2 plus column 4

Table 1.3.5 Claimants of key benefits in both November 2000 and November 2001 - comparisons of statistical group

Comparison of statistical groups in 2000 and 2001 ¹	Statistical group in November 2001				
	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone parent	Other
All	184,020	20,140	127,740	25,620	10,520
Statistical group in November 2000					
Unemployed	22,020	16,400	3,960	360	1,300
Sick & Disabled	125,440	2,520	121,280	720	920
Lone parents	26,060	360	1,160	24,400	140
Others	10,500	860	1,340	140	8,160
2000 and 2001					
Total with no change	170,240	16,400	121,280	24,400	8,160
Leaving original statistical group	-13,780	-5,620	-4,160	-1,660	-2,340
Joining new statistical group	13,780	3,740	6,460	1,220	2,360
Net movement between statistical groups	0	-1,880	2,300	-440	20

¹ For example there were 22,020 claimants in the Unemployed group in November 2000 who were also on benefit in November 2001: of these, 16,400 were still in this group, 3,960 were now in the Sick & Disabled group, 360 in the Lone parent group, etc.

These analyses also looked at changes over longer time periods, as well as comparisons over the latest year. Tables 1.3.6 and 1.3.7 compared the status of the stock of claimants in November 1998 with that in November 2001.

Table 1.3.6 Claimants of key benefits in November 2001 - by status in November 1998

Benefit status in November 2001	All on benefit in November 2001	Benefit status in November 1998		
		Not on benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
All	222,740	65,280	132,480	24,980
Unemployed	36,140	19,520	12,120	4,500
Sick & Disabled	144,200	34,160	96,800	13,240
Lone Parents	29,840	8,300	19,160	2,380
Others	12,560	3,300	4,400	4,860

- Around 71% (157,460) of key benefit claimants in November 2001 were also on benefit in November 1998; 59% of the overall total were in the same statistical group.
- Claimants in the sick & disabled group in November 2001 were the most likely to have also been on benefit in November 1998 (76% of them - 110,040), followed by claimants in the others group (74% – 9,260) and the lone parents group (72% – 21,540) – those in the unemployed group (46% – 16,620) were least likely. Claimants in the sick & disabled group were also the most likely to have stayed in the same statistical group (67% – 96,800).

Table 1.3.7 Claimants of key benefits in November 1998 - by status in November 2001

Benefit status in November 1998	All on benefit in November 1998	Benefit status in November 2001			
		Reached state pension age ¹	Not on benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
All	232,160	17,740	56,960	132,480	24,980
Unemployed	52,960	460	27,680	12,120	12,700
Sick & Disabled	134,940	14,780	17,580	96,800	5,780
Lone Parents	33,060	40	9,900	19,160	3,960
Others	11,200	2,460	1,800	4,400	2,540

¹ Some of these claimants may also have left benefit

1.4 Benefit Entitlement

These analyses can give an indication of the level of support that claimants receive from the benefit system. Some benefits are designed to be a claimant's main source of income. There are also benefits for special needs, such as disability, which are not linked to financial circumstances. It is also possible to see whether claimants qualified for benefit through National Insurance contributions, a means test or by another route. Many of those in the sick and disabled group received more than one benefit.

Table 1.4.1 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and type of benefit: November 2001

	All	Income replacement benefits ¹	Other benefits only ²	NI Credits ³
All	222,740	197,760	19,320	5,660
Unemployed	36,140	33,300	.	2,840
Sick & Disabled	144,200	122,060	19,320	2,820
Lone parents	29,840	29,840	.	.
Others	12,560	12,560	.	.

¹ Income replacement benefits are JSA (excluding credits), IS, IB (excluding credits), SDA

² Other is DLA

³ NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

- In November 2001, 197,760 claimants received an income replacement benefit, down from 208,340 in November 1998.
- In November 2001, 58,080 claimants received only a contributory benefit.
- 136,160 claimants received a benefit that was means tested in November 2001. Of those 119,060 claimants received a benefit that was means tested whilst 17,100 claimants in receipt of a means tested benefit also received or satisfied the qualifying conditions for a contributory benefit.

Table 1.4.2 Claimants of key benefits by type of benefit: November 1998 to November 2001

	All	Benefit type		
		Income replacement benefits ¹	Other benefits only ²	NI Credits ³
Nov-98	232,160	208,340	16,240	7,580
Nov-99	224,120	200,860	16,980	6,280
Nov-00	223,380	199,680	17,940	5,760
Nov-01	222,740	197,760	19,320	5,660

¹ Income replacement benefits are JSA (excluding credits), IS, IB (excluding credits), SDA

² Other is DLA

³ NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

Table 1.4.3 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and main basis of entitlement: November 2001

	Basis of benefit entitlement					
	All	Contributory ¹	Contributory and means tested ²	Means tested ³	Other ⁴	NI Credits ⁵
All	222,740	58,080	17,100	119,060	22,840	5,660
Unemployed	36,140	4,500	440	28,360	.	2,840
Sick & Disabled	144,200	53,580	16,660	48,300	22,840	2,820
Lone Parents	29,840	.	.	29,840	.	.
Others	12,560	.	.	12,560	.	.

¹ Contributory benefits are contribution-based JSA, IB and not with IS

² Contributory and means tested includes JSA claimants who receive income based benefit but who also satisfy the conditions for receiving contribution-based JSA, IB with IS

³ Means tested benefits are income based JSA, IS

⁴ Other benefits are SDA, DLA

⁵ NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

Table 1.4.4 Claimants of key benefits by main basis of entitlement: November 1998 to November 2001

	Basis of benefit entitlement					
	All	Contributory ¹	Contributory and means tested ²	Means tested ³	Other ⁴	NI Credits ⁵
Nov-98	232,160	59,520	15,040	130,100	19,920	7,580
Nov-99	224,120	58,480	15,340	123,460	20,560	6,280
Nov-00	223,380	58,640	15,800	121,520	21,660	5,760
Nov-01	222,740	58,080	17,100	119,060	22,840	5,660

¹ Contributory benefits are contribution-based JSA, IB and not with IS

² Contributory and means tested includes JSA claimants who receive income based benefit but who also satisfy the conditions for receiving contribution-based JSA, IB with IS

³ Means tested benefits are income based JSA, IS

⁴ Other benefits are SDA, DLA

⁵ NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

Table 1.4.5 Claimants of sickness and/or disability benefits by combinations of benefits: November 2001

	All	Type of benefit				
		IB Payment	IB Credits	SDA	Income Support	DLA
All sick and disabled	144,200	70,240	30,580	13,220	64,960	90,420
Single benefit only	52,920	27,660	2,820	480	4,140	17,820
Two or more benefits of which¹	91,280	42,580	27,760	12,740	60,820	72,600
Incapacity Benefit payment	42,580	42,580	.	.	16,660	37,840
Incapacity Benefit credits	27,760	.	27,760	.	26,260	14,660
Severe Disablement Allowance	12,740	.	.	12,740	9,700	11,900
Income Support	60,820	16,660	26,260	9,700	60,820	42,140
Disability Living Allowance	72,600	37,840	14,660	11,900	42,140	72,600

¹ Claimants with three or more benefits in payment are counted in each combination - therefore numbers by each combination of benefit exceed the overall total

- Around 63% (91,280) of sick & disabled claimants received more than one key benefit in November 2001. The main combinations included IB payments and DLA (37,840) and IS and DLA (42,140).

Table 1.4.6 Claimants of sickness and/or disability benefits by type of benefit: November 1998 to November 2001

	Nov-98		Nov-99		Nov-00		Nov-01	
	All	%	All	%	All	%	All	%
All sick and disabled	134,940	100	136,860	100	140,720	100	144,200	100
Incapacity Only ¹	55,780	41	55,040	40	53,940	38	53,780	37
Incapacity and Disability	64,080	47	66,180	48	70,160	50	72,600	50
Disability Only ²	15,080	11	15,640	11	16,620	12	17,820	12

¹ Incapacity benefits include IB payments, IB credits, IS on grounds of sickness and SDA

² Disability benefit is DLA. Some of these claimants may also be working.

1.5 Duration on benefit

These analyses show the length of time for which claimants have been receiving their current benefit. In many instances this will be the same as the length of time for which they have been in the benefits system, but a significant minority may have been receiving a different benefit immediately prior to their current claim. For those who received multiple benefits, duration was based on the one they had received for the longest time.

Table 1.5.1 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and duration of claim: November 2001

	All	Duration of oldest claim ¹				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 year to under 2 years	2 years or over
All	222,740	20,960	14,020	21,700	29,040	137,020
Unemployed	36,140	12,620	5,720	6,140	5,540	6,120
Sick & Disabled	144,200	5,840	5,960	11,600	17,460	103,340
Lone parents	29,840	1,420	1,200	2,440	3,940	20,840
Others	12,560	1,080	1,140	1,520	2,100	6,720

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Around 62% (137,020) of the claimants in November 2001 had been receiving a key benefit for 2 years or more.
- Of those longer duration claimants 75% (103,340) were in the sick & disabled group. That group was therefore more likely to have been on benefit for longer periods than all the others – 72% had been on benefits for 2 years or more compared with only 17% of those in the unemployed group.

Table 1.5.2 Claimants of key benefits by gender and duration of claim: November 2001

	All	Duration of oldest claim ¹				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 year to under 2 years	2 years or over
All	222,740	20,960	14,020	21,700	29,040	137,020
%	100	9	6	10	13	62
Men	117,680	13,500	8,080	11,880	15,820	68,400
%	100	11	7	10	13	58
Women	105,060	7,460	5,940	9,820	13,220	68,620
%	100	7	6	9	13	65

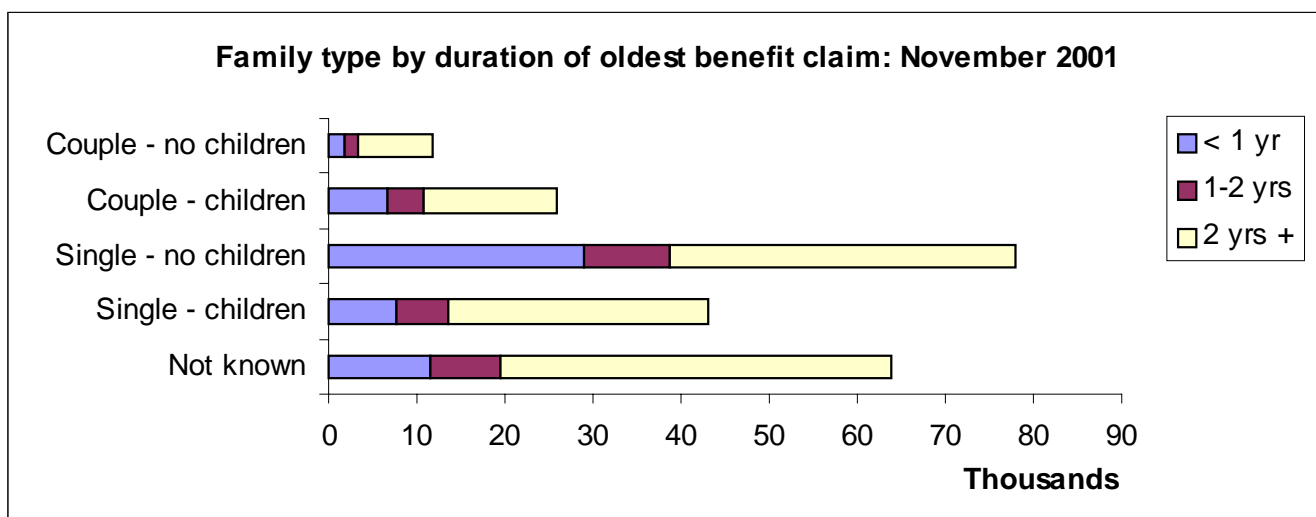
¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

**Table 1.5.3 Claimants of key benefits by family type and duration of claim:
November 2001**

	All	Duration of oldest claim ¹				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 year to under 2 years	2 years or over
All	222,740	20,960	14,020	21,700	29,040	137,020
All Couples	37,860	2,620	2,000	3,800	5,500	23,940
Couple - no children	11,900	620	360	900	1,360	8,660
Couple - children	25,960	2,000	1,640	2,900	4,140	15,280
All single	121,120	15,320	9,120	12,260	15,640	68,780
Single - no children	78,060	13,200	7,140	8,560	9,860	39,300
Single - children	43,060	2,120	1,980	3,700	5,780	29,480
Not known	63,760	3,020	2,900	5,640	7,900	44,300

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Around 68% of single people with children/young adult dependants had been on benefit for 2 years or more compared with 59% of couples with children.



1.6 Claimants with children and young dependants aged under 19

These analyses show the number of claimants who have children under 16 and/or young dependants aged 16 to 18.

Table 1.6.1 Claimants of key benefits with children and/or young adult dependants¹ by statistical group: November 2001

	All	All with children	Age of youngest child/dependant				Not known ²
			Under 5	5 to under 11	11 to under 16	16 or over	
All	222,740	71,840	27,600	20,440	15,740	4,940	3,120
Unemployed	36,140	5,160	2,020	1,060	1,120	920	40
Sick & Disabled	144,200	35,220	10,340	9,040	9,180	3,580	3,080
Lone parents	29,840	29,840	14,580	9,920	5,040	300	.
Others	12,560	1,620	660	420	400	140	.

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Children whose ages are not known

- In November 2001, 71,840 claimants of key benefits had children and/or young dependants.
- 38% (27,600) of claimants with children had a youngest child aged under 5. The majority of the under 5s were children of lone parents.

1.7 Children and young dependants aged under 19

These analyses show the number of children under 16 and young dependants aged 16 to 18 living with claimants of key benefits.

Table 1.7.1 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by age of child, statistical group and family type: November 2001

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	Family type				All	% of all aged 16 to 18 yrs in full-time education	Family type		
		% of all aged under 16 yrs	Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known
All	128,420	31	47,420	75,860	5,140	13,360	31	7,300	6,060	.
Unemployed	8,300	2	7,800	500	.	1,640	4	1,120	520	.
Sick & Disabled	61,300	15	36,000	20,160	5,140	8,380	20	5,780	2,600	.
Lone Parents	55,200	14	.	55,200	.	2,940	7	.	2,940	.
Others	3,620	1	3,620	0	.	400	1	400	0	.

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 - 18

² Includes a small percentage of children whose age is not known

- In November 2001, 128,420 children under the age of 16 were living in families in which a key benefit was claimed.
- The majority of these children 75,860 were living in single parent families.
- 13,360 young people aged 16 -18 (31% of all 16 - 18 year olds in full-time education) were living in families with a key benefit claimant.
- 17% of all young people aged 16 - 18 were living with key benefit claimants in November 2001.

1.8 Regional Analysis

These analyses show the number of working age claimants of key benefits in each Government Office Region and in each District Council within Northern Ireland.

Table 1.8.1 Claimants of key benefits by gender and Government Office Region: November 2001

	Thousands					
	All		Men		Women	
	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹
Great Britain	4,898	14	2,577	14	2,321	14
England	4,009	13	2,098	13	1,911	13
North East	314	20	176	21	139	18
North West ²	739	18	396	18	343	17
Yorkshire & Humberside	455	15	247	15	208	14
East Midlands	324	13	170	13	154	13
West Midlands	464	14	247	14	218	14
East	315	9	156	9	158	10
London	675	14	333	13	342	15
South East	410	8	207	8	203	9
South West	314	11	166	11	148	11
Wales	336	19	181	20	156	19
Scotland	553	17	298	18	255	17
Northern Ireland	223	22	118	22	105	21
IB/SDA claimants living abroad ³	9	.	6	.	3	.

¹ Population of working age

² The old Merseyside GOR was merged with North West GOR on 3rd November 1998

³ Great Britain claimants only, a figure for Northern Ireland claimants was not available

- The proportion of the working age population claiming a benefit ranges from 8% in South East England to 22% in Northern Ireland.
- The proportion of the working age population claiming a benefit ranges from 13% (North Down) to 32% (Strabane).
- The district council with the greatest proportion of working age claimants in the sick & disabled group was Cookstown (21%), followed by Strabane (20%) and Derry (18%). The district councils with the lowest proportion were Castlereagh and North Down (both 9%).
- The proportion of the working age population in the unemployed group ranged from 7% (Moyle) to 1% (Antrim and Cookstown).

Table 1.8.2 Claimants of key benefits by gender and District Council: November 2001

	All		Men		Women	
		% of pop ¹		% of pop ¹		% of pop ¹
Northern Ireland	222,740	22	117,680	22	105,060	21
Ards	7,240	16	3,500	15	3,740	17
Belfast	48,340	29	26,440	32	21,900	27
Castlereagh	5,620	14	3,120	15	2,500	13
Down	7,420	19	4,200	21	3,220	18
Lisburn	11,880	17	5,760	16	6,120	18
North Down	6,000	13	3,300	14	2,700	12
Antrim	4,940	15	2,360	13	2,580	17
Ballymena	5,220	14	2,900	15	2,320	13
Ballymoney	3,140	20	1,620	20	1,520	20
Carrickfergus	3,620	15	1,820	15	1,800	16
Coleraine	6,480	19	3,500	20	2,980	18
Cookstown	4,980	26	2,500	25	2,480	27
Larne	3,240	17	1,640	17	1,600	18
Magherafelt	4,060	17	2,040	17	2,020	18
Moyle	2,340	25	1,440	30	900	20
Newtownabbey	8,420	17	4,220	16	4,200	17
Armagh	5,740	17	3,360	19	2,380	15
Banbridge	3,800	15	1,880	14	1,920	16
Craigavon	11,460	23	5,420	21	6,040	26
Dungannon	7,000	24	3,740	24	3,260	23
Newry & Mourne	12,680	24	6,960	25	5,720	23
Derry	20,000	31	10,340	31	9,660	30
Fermanagh	7,080	21	3,840	21	3,240	20
Limavady	4,240	22	2,240	21	2,000	22
Omagh	6,540	22	3,780	25	2,760	20
Strabane	7,360	32	4,080	33	3,280	30
Unknown	3,900	.	1,680	.	2,220	.

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland

**Table 1.8.3 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and District Council:
November 2001**

		Statistical group				
		All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone parents	Others
Northern Ireland		222,740	36,140	144,200	29,840	12,560
	% of pop ¹	22	4	14	3	1
Ards		7,240	1,100	5,160	680	300
	% of pop ¹	16	2	11	1	1
Belfast		48,340	8,640	28,280	8,140	3,280
	% of pop ¹	29	5	17	5	2
Castlereagh		5,620	940	3,700	640	340
	% of pop ¹	14	2	9	2	1
Down		7,420	1,100	5,000	1,000	320
	% of pop ¹	19	3	13	3	1
Lisburn		11,880	1,740	7,560	2,080	500
	% of pop ¹	17	3	11	3	1
North Down		6,000	860	4,060	740	340
	% of pop ¹	13	2	9	2	1
Antrim		4,940	480	3,660	580	220
	% of pop ¹	15	1	11	2	1
Ballymena		5,220	620	3,740	700	160
	% of pop ¹	14	2	10	2	0
Ballymoney		3,140	700	1,820	400	220
	% of pop ¹	20	4	11	3	1
Carrickfergus		3,620	640	2,520	360	100
	% of pop ¹	15	3	11	2	0
Coleraine		6,480	1,380	3,860	760	480
	% of pop ¹	19	4	11	2	1
Cookstown		4,980	200	4,120	380	280
	% of pop ¹	26	1	21	2	1
Larne		3,240	580	2,180	340	140
	% of pop ¹	17	3	12	2	1
Magherafelt		4,060	380	2,960	480	240
	% of pop ¹	17	2	13	2	1
Moyle		2,340	660	1,200	320	160
	% of pop ¹	25	7	13	3	2
Newtownabbey		8,420	1,340	5,780	960	340
	% of pop ¹	17	3	11	2	1
Armagh		5,740	900	4,120	500	220
	% of pop ¹	17	3	12	2	1
Banbridge		3,800	420	2,800	440	140
	% of pop ¹	15	2	11	2	1
Craigavon		11,460	1,620	7,900	1,320	620
	% of pop ¹	23	3	16	3	1
Dungannon		7,000	640	4,960	900	500
	% of pop ¹	24	2	17	3	2
Newry & Mourne		12,680	2,140	8,400	1,500	640
	% of pop ¹	24	4	16	3	1
Derry		20,000	3,640	11,860	3,220	1,280
	% of pop ¹	31	6	18	5	2
Fermanagh		7,080	1,620	4,360	680	420
	% of pop ¹	21	5	13	2	1
Limavady		4,240	760	2,600	560	320
	% of pop ¹	22	4	13	3	2
Omagh		6,540	1,200	4,380	640	320
	% of pop ¹	22	4	15	2	1
Strabane		7,360	1,460	4,700	840	360
	% of pop ¹	32	6	20	4	2
Unknown		3,900	380	2,520	680	320

¹ Population of working age of Northern Ireland

1.9 Quarterly Tables

1.9.1 Age and Gender

Table 1.9.1A Claimants of key benefits by gender

		All	% Pop ¹	Men	% Pop ¹	Women	% Pop ¹
1998	Feb	235,780	23	131,220	25	104,560	21
	May	232,760	23	128,960	24	103,800	21
	Aug	240,080	24	130,500	25	109,580	22
	Nov	232,160	23	127,600	24	104,560	21
1999	Feb	233,060	23	128,120	24	104,940	21
	May	228,620	22	124,680	24	103,940	21
	Aug	231,740	23	123,540	23	108,200	22
	Nov	224,120	22	119,920	23	104,200	21
2000	Feb	223,500	22	119,880	22	103,620	21
	May	222,540	22	117,900	22	104,640	21
	Aug	227,660	22	120,320	23	107,340	22
	Nov	223,380	22	118,260	22	105,120	21
2001	Feb	226,720	22	120,860	23	105,860	21
	May	223,680	22	118,640	22	105,040	21
	Aug	226,900	22	118,520	22	108,380	22
	Nov	222,740	22	117,680	22	105,060	21

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland

Table 1.9.1B Claimants of key benefits by gender - Annual changes November 1998 to November 2001

	All	%	Men	%	Women	%
November 99 / November 98	-8,040	-3	-7,680	-6	-360	0
November 00 / November 99	-740	0	-1,660	-1	920	1
November 01 / November 00	-640	0	-580	0	-60	0

Table 1.9.1C All claimants of key benefits by age

		All	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
1998	Feb	235,780	1,960	30,600	54,980	50,080	51,180	29,160	17,820
	May	232,760	1,560	29,540	53,640	49,700	50,740	29,640	17,940
	Aug	240,080	1,860	33,980	54,200	51,840	51,140	29,460	17,600
	Nov	232,160	1,580	27,480	53,340	52,400	50,840	29,300	17,220
1999	Feb	233,060	1,680	31,000	55,300	48,300	49,560	29,940	17,280
	May	228,620	1,600	27,080	51,240	51,060	50,160	30,020	17,460
	Aug	231,740	1,620	29,100	51,220	52,000	50,500	29,820	17,480
	Nov	224,120	1,680	26,960	47,900	50,360	50,120	29,580	17,520
2000	Feb	223,500	1,540	27,120	47,480	50,340	49,600	29,960	17,460
	May	222,540	1,760	26,420	47,000	49,980	50,100	29,800	17,480
	Aug	227,660	1,780	29,160	48,140	50,920	50,480	29,760	17,420
	Nov	223,380	1,740	25,980	46,260	51,040	50,620	30,100	17,640
2001	Feb	226,720	1,680	27,700	46,600	51,680	50,800	30,660	17,600
	May	223,680	1,760	26,260	46,040	51,200	50,520	30,540	17,360
	Aug	226,900	1,700	28,560	45,860	51,780	51,200	30,560	17,240
	Nov	222,740	1,820	25,980	44,240	51,760	50,800	30,740	17,400

Table 1.9.1D All claimants of key benefits by age

		All	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
Percentages									
1998	Feb	100	1	13	23	21	22	12	8
	May	100	1	13	23	21	22	13	8
	Aug	100	1	14	23	22	21	12	7
	Nov	100	1	12	23	23	22	13	7
1999	Feb	100	1	13	24	21	21	13	7
	May	100	1	12	22	22	22	13	8
	Aug	100	1	13	22	22	22	13	8
	Nov	100	1	12	21	22	22	13	8
2000	Feb	100	1	12	21	23	22	13	8
	May	100	1	12	21	22	23	13	8
	Aug	100	1	13	21	22	22	13	8
	Nov	100	1	12	21	23	23	13	8
2001	Feb	100	1	12	21	23	22	14	8
	May	100	1	12	21	23	23	14	8
	Aug	100	1	13	20	23	23	13	8
	Nov	100	1	12	20	23	23	14	8

Table 1.9.1E Male claimants of key benefits by age

		All	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
1998	Feb	131,220	720	16,160	26,180	26,240	28,280	15,820	17,820
	May	128,960	580	15,320	25,120	26,020	28,000	15,980	17,940
	Aug	130,500	860	17,000	24,900	26,380	27,960	15,800	17,600
	Nov	127,600	640	13,700	24,980	26,780	27,780	16,500	17,220
1999	Feb	128,120	740	16,480	26,580	23,400	26,720	16,920	17,280
	May	124,680	720	13,240	23,360	26,440	27,060	16,400	17,460
	Aug	123,540	720	13,600	22,560	25,980	27,100	16,100	17,480
	Nov	119,920	560	13,060	20,880	25,260	26,860	15,780	17,520
2000	Feb	119,880	520	13,200	20,980	25,240	26,460	16,020	17,460
	May	117,900	780	12,600	20,200	24,600	26,440	15,800	17,480
	Aug	120,320	860	13,880	21,060	25,080	26,540	15,480	17,420
	Nov	118,260	760	11,940	20,460	25,080	26,760	15,620	17,640
2001	Feb	120,860	780	13,040	21,020	25,160	27,080	16,180	17,600
	May	118,640	860	12,600	20,400	24,780	26,820	15,820	17,360
	Aug	118,520	860	13,240	20,000	24,620	26,800	15,760	17,240
	Nov	117,680	940	12,700	19,420	24,720	26,520	15,980	17,400

Table 1.9.1F Female claimants of key benefits by age

		All	Under 18	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
1998	Feb	104,560	1,240	14,440	28,800	23,840	22,900	13,340	.
	May	103,800	980	14,220	28,520	23,680	22,740	13,660	.
	Aug	109,580	1,000	16,980	29,300	25,460	23,180	13,660	.
	Nov	104,560	940	13,780	28,360	25,620	23,060	12,800	.
1999	Feb	104,940	940	14,520	28,720	24,900	22,840	13,020	.
	May	103,940	880	13,840	27,880	24,620	23,100	13,620	.
	Aug	108,200	900	15,500	28,660	26,020	23,400	13,720	.
	Nov	104,200	1,120	13,900	27,020	25,100	23,260	13,800	.
2000	Feb	103,620	1,020	13,920	26,500	25,100	23,140	13,940	.
	May	104,640	980	13,820	26,800	25,380	23,660	14,000	.
	Aug	107,340	920	15,280	27,080	25,840	23,940	14,280	.
	Nov	105,120	980	14,040	25,800	25,960	23,860	14,480	.
2001	Feb	105,860	900	14,660	25,580	26,520	23,720	14,480	.
	May	105,040	900	13,660	25,640	26,420	23,700	14,720	.
	Aug	108,380	840	15,320	25,860	27,160	24,400	14,800	.
	Nov	105,060	880	13,280	24,820	27,040	24,280	14,760	.

1.9.2 Family Type

Table 1.9.2A All claimants of key benefits by family type¹

		All	Couples		Single			Not known	
			All	No children	With children	All	No children		With children
1998	Feb	235,780	45,060	11,100	33,960	127,860	84,600	43,260	62,860
	May	232,760	44,720	10,720	34,000	124,520	82,540	41,980	63,520
	Aug	240,080	42,740	9,420	33,320	134,360	89,420	44,940	62,980
	Nov	232,160	50,820	17,680	33,140	118,540	76,600	41,940	62,800
1999	Feb	233,060	37,220	17,740	19,480	132,640	77,920	54,720	63,200
	May	228,620	40,440	10,840	29,600	124,080	81,040	43,040	64,100
	Aug	231,740	40,960	10,880	30,080	127,280	83,280	44,000	63,500
	Nov	224,120	38,800	11,000	27,800	121,200	78,640	42,560	64,120
2000	Feb	223,500	27,260	11,060	16,200	133,560	78,900	54,660	62,680
	May	222,540	38,840	11,040	27,800	120,020	77,320	42,700	63,680
	Aug	227,660	39,440	10,680	28,760	124,820	81,120	43,700	63,400
	Nov	223,380	39,140	11,300	27,840	121,100	77,720	43,380	63,140
2001	Feb	226,720	27,080	11,400	15,680	136,620	79,960	56,660	63,020
	May	223,680	37,540	11,360	26,180	121,920	77,860	44,060	64,220
	Aug	226,900	37,760	11,240	26,520	125,100	80,400	44,700	64,040
	Nov	222,740	37,860	11,900	25,960	121,120	78,060	43,060	63,760

¹ Between February and May the method used to assign family type was updated - see methodology for further details

Table 1.9.2B Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ - Annual changes November 1998 to November 2001

	All	Couples		Single			Not known	
		All	No children	With children	All	No children		With children
November 99 / November 98	-8,040	-12,020	-6,680	-5,340	2,660	2,040	620	1,320
November 00 / November 99	-740	340	300	40	-100	-920	820	-980
November 01 / November 00	-640	-1,280	600	-1,880	20	340	-320	620

¹ See methodology for further details

Table 1.9.2C Male claimants of key benefits by family type¹

		All	Couples			Single			Not known
			All	No children	With children	All	No children	With children	
1998	Feb	131,220	28,820	10,260	18,560	60,940	58,640	2,300	41,460
	May	128,960	28,280	9,860	18,420	59,600	57,260	2,340	41,080
	Aug	130,500	24,800	8,520	16,280	65,340	61,160	4,180	40,360
	Nov	127,600	32,680	15,180	17,500	54,600	52,300	2,300	40,320
1999	Feb	128,120	32,680	15,200	17,480	55,680	53,240	2,440	39,760
	May	124,680	26,560	9,760	16,800	57,820	55,420	2,400	40,300
	Aug	123,540	25,880	9,720	16,160	57,620	55,280	2,340	40,040
	Nov	119,920	24,560	9,800	14,760	54,980	52,740	2,240	40,380
2000	Feb	119,880	24,160	9,840	14,320	55,520	53,040	2,480	40,200
	May	117,900	23,840	9,800	14,040	54,020	51,700	2,320	40,040
	Aug	120,320	24,040	9,420	14,620	56,620	54,260	2,360	39,660
	Nov	118,260	23,880	10,040	13,840	54,660	52,300	2,360	39,720
2001	Feb	120,860	23,640	10,040	13,600	56,940	54,160	2,780	40,280
	May	118,640	23,340	10,080	13,260	55,440	52,760	2,680	39,860
	Aug	118,520	23,040	10,040	13,000	55,900	53,200	2,700	39,580
	Nov	117,680	22,860	10,580	12,280	55,100	52,480	2,620	39,720

¹ Between February and May the method used to assign family type was updated - see methodology for further details

Table 1.9.2D Female claimants of key benefits by family type¹

		All	Couples			Single			Not known
			All	No children	With children	All	No children	With children	
1998	Feb	104,560	16,240	840	15,400	66,920	25,960	40,960	21,400
	May	103,800	16,440	860	15,580	64,920	25,280	39,640	22,440
	Aug	109,580	17,940	900	17,040	69,020	28,260	40,760	22,620
	Nov	104,560	18,140	2,500	15,640	63,940	24,300	39,640	22,480
1999	Feb	104,940	4,540	2,540	2,000	76,960	24,680	52,280	23,440
	May	103,940	13,880	1,080	12,800	66,260	25,620	40,640	23,800
	Aug	108,200	15,080	1,160	13,920	69,660	28,000	41,660	23,460
	Nov	104,200	14,240	1,200	13,040	66,220	25,900	40,320	23,740
2000	Feb	103,620	3,100	1,220	1,880	78,040	25,860	52,180	22,480
	May	104,640	15,000	1,240	13,760	66,000	25,620	40,380	23,640
	Aug	107,340	15,400	1,260	14,140	68,200	26,860	41,340	23,740
	Nov	105,120	15,260	1,260	14,000	66,440	25,420	41,020	23,420
2001	Feb	105,860	3,440	1,360	2,080	79,680	25,800	53,880	22,740
	May	105,040	14,200	1,280	12,920	66,480	25,100	41,380	24,360
	Aug	108,380	14,720	1,200	13,520	69,200	27,200	42,000	24,460
	Nov	105,060	15,000	1,320	13,680	66,020	25,580	40,440	24,040

¹ Between February and May the method used to assign family type was updated - see methodology for further details

1.9.3 Statistical group

Table 1.9.3A All claimants of key benefits by statistical group

		All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parents	Others
1998	Feb	235,780	57,000	132,960	33,660	12,160
	May	232,760	54,220	133,080	33,060	12,400
	Aug	240,080	59,820	132,300	34,180	13,780
	Nov	232,160	52,960	134,940	33,060	11,200
1999	Feb	233,060	54,060	134,160	33,020	11,820
	May	228,620	49,640	133,760	32,940	12,280
	Aug	231,740	51,240	134,840	33,640	12,020
	Nov	224,120	42,820	136,860	32,240	12,200
2000	Feb	223,500	41,740	137,320	31,760	12,680
	May	222,540	39,680	137,880	32,000	12,980
	Aug	227,660	42,820	139,540	32,200	13,100
	Nov	223,380	38,920	140,720	31,300	12,440
2001	Feb	226,720	40,920	141,880	31,720	12,200
	May	223,680	37,720	142,500	31,560	11,900
	Aug	226,900	39,620	143,940	31,360	11,980
	Nov	222,740	36,140	144,200	29,840	12,560

Table 1.9.3B Claimants of key benefits by statistical group - Annual changes November 1998 to November 2001

	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parents	Others
November 99 / November 98	-8,040	-10,140	1,920	-820	1,000
November 00 / November 99	-740	-3,900	3,860	-940	240
November 01 / November 00	-640	-2,780	3,480	-1,460	120

Table 1.9.3C Male claimants of key benefits by statistical group

		All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parents	Others
1998	Feb	131,220	45,800	75,040	1,480	8,900
	May	128,960	43,460	74,880	1,560	9,060
	Aug	130,500	44,840	73,600	1,620	10,440
	Nov	127,600	42,040	75,700	1,540	8,320
1999	Feb	128,120	43,120	74,820	1,520	8,660
	May	124,680	39,420	74,700	1,520	9,040
	Aug	123,540	38,220	74,880	1,480	8,960
	Nov	119,920	33,400	76,120	1,400	9,000
2000	Feb	119,880	32,840	76,580	1,300	9,160
	May	117,900	30,780	76,700	1,380	9,040
	Aug	120,320	31,800	77,740	1,500	9,280
	Nov	118,260	29,800	78,300	1,440	8,720
2001	Feb	120,860	31,320	79,400	1,380	8,760
	May	118,640	29,540	79,020	1,540	8,540
	Aug	118,520	28,900	79,540	1,520	8,560
	Nov	117,680	27,540	79,700	1,540	8,900

Table 1.9.3D Female claimants of key benefits by statistical group

		All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parents	Others
1998	Feb	104,560	11,200	57,920	32,180	3,260
	May	103,800	10,760	58,200	31,500	3,340
	Aug	109,580	14,980	58,700	32,560	3,340
	Nov	104,560	10,920	59,240	31,520	2,880
1999	Feb	104,940	10,940	59,340	31,500	3,160
	May	103,940	10,220	59,060	31,420	3,240
	Aug	108,200	13,020	59,960	32,160	3,060
	Nov	104,200	9,420	60,740	30,840	3,200
2000	Feb	103,620	8,900	60,740	30,460	3,520
	May	104,640	8,900	61,180	30,620	3,940
	Aug	107,340	11,020	61,800	30,700	3,820
	Nov	105,120	9,120	62,420	29,860	3,720
2001	Feb	105,860	9,600	62,480	30,340	3,440
	May	105,040	8,180	63,480	30,020	3,360
	Aug	108,380	10,720	64,400	29,840	3,420
	Nov	105,060	8,600	64,500	28,300	3,660

1.9.4 Benefit entitlement

Table 1.9.4A Claimants of key benefits by type of benefit

		All	Income replacement benefits ¹	Other benefits ²	NI Credits only ³
1998	Feb	235,780	214,080	15,280	6,420
	May	232,760	211,080	15,700	5,980
	Aug	240,080	217,880	15,420	6,780
	Nov	232,160	208,340	16,240	7,580
1999	Feb	233,060	209,760	15,940	7,360
	May	228,620	205,700	16,520	6,400
	Aug	231,740	208,000	17,120	6,620
	Nov	224,120	200,860	16,980	6,280
2000	Feb	223,500	200,960	17,320	5,220
	May	222,540	198,960	17,980	5,600
	Aug	227,660	203,960	18,000	5,700
	Nov	223,380	199,680	17,940	5,760
2001	Feb	226,720	202,400	18,180	6,140
	May	223,680	198,840	18,800	6,040
	Aug	226,900	202,060	19,040	5,800
	Nov	222,740	197,760	19,320	5,660

¹ Income replacement benefits are JSA (excluding credits), IS, IB (excluding credits), SDA

² Other is DLA

³ NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

Table 1.9.4B Claimants of key benefits by main basis of entitlement

		Basis of benefit entitlement					
		All	Contributory ¹	Contributory and means tested ²	Means tested ³	Other ⁴	NI Credits only ⁵
1998	Feb	235,780	63,300	14,820	132,220	19,020	6,420
	May	232,760	62,160	14,520	130,840	19,260	5,980
	Aug	240,080	63,520	15,240	135,580	18,960	6,780
	Nov	232,160	59,520	15,040	130,100	19,920	7,580
1999	Feb	233,060	60,260	14,920	130,840	19,680	7,360
	May	228,620	59,540	14,540	127,960	20,180	6,400
	Aug	231,740	59,780	14,920	129,720	20,700	6,620
	Nov	224,120	58,480	15,340	123,460	20,560	6,280
2000	Feb	223,500	59,180	15,220	123,000	20,880	5,220
	May	222,540	59,120	15,060	121,240	21,520	5,600
	Aug	227,660	59,480	15,700	125,160	21,620	5,700
	Nov	223,380	58,640	15,800	121,520	21,660	5,760
2001	Feb	226,720	59,560	15,980	123,320	21,720	6,140
	May	223,680	58,220	16,600	120,560	22,260	6,040
	Aug	226,900	59,220	16,880	122,440	22,560	5,800
	Nov	222,740	58,080	17,100	119,060	22,840	5,660

¹ Contributory benefits are contribution-based JSA, IB and not with IS

² Contributory and means tested includes JSA claimants who receive income based benefit but who also satisfy the conditions for receiving contribution-based JSA, IB with IS

³ Means tested benefits are income based JSA, IS

⁴ Other benefits are SDA, DLA

⁵ NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

1.9.5 Duration on benefit

**Table 1.9.5A Claimants of key benefits by duration of claim of oldest benefit¹:
February 1998 to November 2001**

		All	Under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
1998	Feb	235,780	23,000	18,980	23,420	31,340	139,040
	%	100	10	8	10	13	59
	May	232,760	19,160	16,160	25,420	32,780	139,240
	%	100	8	7	11	14	60
	Aug	240,080	27,940	14,900	24,400	33,600	139,240
	%	100	12	6	10	14	58
1999	Nov	232,160	23,480	15,560	20,840	32,700	139,580
	%	100	10	7	9	14	60
	Feb	233,060	23,440	16,720	21,240	31,620	140,040
	%	100	10	7	9	14	60
	May	228,620	21,220	16,700	21,840	29,420	139,440
	%	100	9	7	10	13	61
2000	Aug	231,740	25,200	16,300	23,080	28,520	138,640
	%	100	11	7	10	12	60
	Nov	224,120	23,040	14,940	22,320	26,300	137,520
	%	100	10	7	10	12	61
	Feb	223,500	20,320	17,840	22,180	26,900	136,260
	%	100	9	8	10	12	61
2001	May	222,540	20,860	15,480	23,880	27,700	134,620
	%	100	9	7	11	12	60
	Aug	227,660	25,680	15,820	23,560	28,220	134,380
	%	100	11	7	10	12	59
	Nov	223,380	22,200	15,740	21,180	30,200	134,060
	%	100	10	7	9	14	60
2001	Feb	226,720	21,180	17,520	22,960	29,560	135,500
	%	100	9	8	10	13	60
	May	223,680	19,400	15,920	22,700	29,660	136,000
	%	100	9	7	10	13	61
	Aug	226,900	22,100	15,520	22,620	30,380	136,280
	%	100	10	7	10	13	60
Nov	222,740	20,960	14,020	21,700	29,040	137,020	
%	100	9	6	10	13	62	

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

**Table 1.9.5B Male claimants of key benefits by duration of claim of oldest benefit¹:
February 1998 to November 2001**

		All	Under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
1998	Feb	131,220	14,720	11,880	13,880	17,420	73,320
	%	100	11	9	11	13	56
	May	128,960	12,160	10,060	15,380	18,480	72,880
	%	100	9	8	12	14	57
	Aug	130,500	15,200	8,820	14,720	19,380	72,380
	%	100	12	7	11	15	55
1999	Nov	127,600	14,820	8,900	11,880	18,860	73,140
	%	100	12	7	9	15	57
	Feb	128,120	15,500	9,960	11,640	17,780	73,240
	%	100	12	8	9	14	57
	May	124,680	13,360	10,640	12,060	16,180	72,440
	%	100	11	9	10	13	58
2000	Aug	123,540	14,120	9,480	13,640	15,160	71,140
	%	100	11	8	11	12	58
	Nov	119,920	14,480	8,900	13,020	13,880	69,640
	%	100	12	7	11	12	58
	Feb	119,880	13,280	10,920	13,020	14,200	68,460
	%	100	11	9	11	12	57
2001	May	117,900	13,060	9,140	13,860	14,800	67,040
	%	100	11	8	12	13	57
	Aug	120,320	15,640	9,400	13,460	15,180	66,640
	%	100	13	8	11	13	55
	Nov	118,260	13,600	9,600	12,120	16,660	66,280
	%	100	12	8	10	14	56
2001	Feb	120,860	13,320	10,680	13,320	16,200	67,340
	%	100	11	9	11	13	56
	May	118,640	12,100	9,520	13,220	16,080	67,720
	%	100	10	8	11	14	57
	Aug	118,520	12,780	8,780	12,560	16,560	67,840
	%	100	11	7	11	14	57
2001	Nov	117,680	13,500	8,080	11,880	15,820	68,400
	%	100	11	7	10	13	58

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

**Table 1.9.5C Female claimants of key benefits by duration of oldest benefit¹:
February 1998 to November 2001**

		All	Under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 years or over
1998	Feb	104,560	8,280	7,100	9,540	13,920	65,720
	%	100	8	7	9	13	63
	May	103,800	7,000	6,100	10,040	14,300	66,360
	%	100	7	6	10	14	64
	Aug	109,580	12,740	6,080	9,680	14,220	66,860
	%	100	12	6	9	13	61
1999	Nov	104,560	8,660	6,660	8,960	13,840	66,440
	%	100	8	6	9	13	64
	Feb	104,940	7,940	6,760	9,600	13,840	66,800
	%	100	8	6	9	13	64
	May	103,940	7,860	6,060	9,780	13,240	67,000
	%	100	8	6	9	13	64
2000	Aug	108,200	11,080	6,820	9,440	13,360	67,500
	%	100	10	6	9	12	62
	Nov	104,200	8,560	6,040	9,300	12,420	67,880
	%	100	8	6	9	12	65
	Feb	103,620	7,040	6,920	9,160	12,700	67,800
	%	100	7	7	9	12	65
2001	May	104,640	7,800	6,340	10,020	12,900	67,580
	%	100	7	6	10	12	65
	Aug	107,340	10,040	6,420	10,100	13,040	67,740
	%	100	9	6	9	12	63
	Nov	105,120	8,600	6,140	9,060	13,540	67,780
	%	100	8	6	9	13	64
2001	Feb	105,860	7,860	6,840	9,640	13,360	68,160
	%	100	7	6	9	13	64
	May	105,040	7,300	6,400	9,480	13,580	68,280
	%	100	7	6	9	13	65
	Aug	108,380	9,320	6,740	10,060	13,820	68,440
	%	100	9	6	9	13	63
Nov	105,060	7,460	5,940	9,820	13,220	68,620	
%	100	7	6	9	13	65	

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

1.9.6 Claimants with children and dependants aged under 19

Table 1.9.6 Claimants of key benefits with children and/or young adult dependants¹ by age of youngest child/dependant

		Age of youngest child/dependant					
		All with children	Under 5	5 to under 11	11 to under 16	16 or over	Not known ²
1998	Feb	80,360	32,820	23,160	15,680	4,400	4,300
	May	80,160	31,760	23,580	15,320	5,020	4,480
	Aug	82,320	27,840	21,680	14,240	4,740	13,820
	Nov	78,860	27,160	20,960	14,540	4,440	11,760
1999	Feb	76,940	27,800	20,780	14,040	2,740	11,580
	May	76,220	27,660	19,760	13,880	2,980	11,940
	Aug	77,440	30,440	22,920	16,360	4,080	3,640
	Nov	73,700	29,140	21,600	15,580	3,760	3,620
2000	Feb	73,180	28,360	21,320	15,760	4,220	3,520
	May	73,800	28,260	21,600	15,840	4,600	3,500
	Aug	75,700	28,920	21,800	16,500	5,060	3,420
	Nov	74,360	28,580	21,360	16,080	4,880	3,460
2001	Feb	74,620	28,180	21,700	15,720	5,580	3,440
	May	73,340	28,080	21,180	15,660	4,920	3,500
	Aug	74,260	28,400	20,920	15,940	5,640	3,360
	Nov	71,840	27,600	20,440	15,740	4,940	3,120

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Children whose ages are not known

1.9.7 Children and dependants aged under 19

Table 1.9.7A Children¹² of claimants of key benefits by age of child and family type

		Children aged under 16 years ³					Young dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
		All	Family type			Not known	All	Family type			Not known
			% of all aged under 16 yrs	Couple	Single			% of all aged 16 to 18 yrs	Couple	Single	
1998	Feb	152,540	37	66,500	79,580	6,460	16,000	21	9,260	6,740	.
	May	151,120	37	65,820	77,300	8,000	16,800	22	10,080	6,720	.
	Aug	156,540	38	66,140	82,800	7,600	15,420	20	7,760	7,660	.
	Nov	149,100	36	64,080	78,120	6,900	13,520	17	8,020	5,500	.
1999	Feb	148,100	36	40,820	101,880	5,400	9,820	13	3,840	5,980	.
	May	145,880	35	60,340	78,900	6,640	10,600	14	4,540	6,060	.
	Aug	144,480	35	58,840	79,420	6,220	14,240	19	7,520	6,720	.
	Nov	137,600	33	54,280	77,260	6,060	12,280	16	6,520	5,760	.
2000	Feb	134,620	33	31,560	98,600	4,460	12,840	17	4,860	7,980	.
	May	134,800	33	51,940	76,800	6,060	13,820	18	7,580	6,240	.
	Aug	136,060	33	52,700	77,360	6,000	15,420	20	8,580	6,840	.
	Nov	133,640	33	51,000	77,100	5,540	14,140	18	8,120	6,020	.
2001	Feb	132,880	33	30,180	98,520	4,180	14,900	19	4,680	10,220	.
	May	131,620	32	48,580	77,360	5,680	13,660	18	7,240	6,420	.
	Aug	131,540	32	48,760	77,180	5,600	15,340	20	8,000	7,340	.
	Nov	128,420	31	47,420	75,860	5,140	13,360	17	7,300	6,060	.

¹ Between February and May the method used to assign family type was updated - see methodology for further details

² Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 - 18

³ Includes a small percentage of children whose age is not known

Table 1.9.7B Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by age of children/dependants

		Number of children/dependants					
		All children	Under 5	5 to under 11	11 to under 16	16 or over	Not known ²
1998	Feb	168,540	41,640	56,400	46,020	16,000	8,480
	May	167,920	40,200	56,200	46,220	16,800	8,500
	Aug	171,960	34,940	49,900	40,880	15,420	30,820
	Nov	162,620	33,900	48,100	40,660	13,520	26,440
1999	Feb	157,920	35,080	47,100	39,800	9,820	26,120
	May	156,480	34,800	45,780	39,160	10,600	26,140
	Aug	158,720	38,940	52,560	46,420	14,240	6,560
	Nov	149,880	37,060	50,200	43,740	12,280	6,600
2000	Feb	147,460	35,700	49,060	43,520	12,840	6,340
	May	148,620	35,840	49,220	43,400	13,820	6,340
	Aug	151,480	36,560	49,500	43,780	15,420	6,220
	Nov	147,780	35,940	48,500	43,280	14,140	5,920
2001	Feb	147,780	35,000	48,640	42,880	14,900	6,360
	May	145,280	35,080	47,740	42,560	13,660	6,240
	Aug	146,880	35,660	46,840	43,060	15,340	5,980
	Nov	141,780	34,560	45,800	42,520	13,360	5,540

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 - 18

² Children whose age is not known

1.9.8 Regional Analysis

Table 1.9.8A Claimants of key benefits by District Council

		Northern Ireland	Ards	Belfast	Castlereagh	Down	Lisburn	North Down	Antrim	Ballymena	Ballymoney	Carrickfergus	Coleraine	Cookstown	Larne	Magherafelt	Moyle	Newtownabbey	Armagh	Banbridge	Craigavon	Dungannon	Newry & Mourne	Derry	Fermanagh	Limavady	Omagh	Strabane	Unknown
1998	Feb	235,780	7,340	52,960	5,960	8,160	12,340	6,440	5,320	6,080	2,780	3,680	6,380	5,360	3,280	4,360	2,180	9,320	6,340	3,780	11,820	7,120	13,840	20,920	6,800	4,540	7,140	6,940	4,600
	May	232,760	7,220	52,580	5,780	8,080	12,360	6,300	5,180	5,860	2,980	3,580	6,080	5,580	3,420	4,300	2,120	9,000	6,320	3,720	11,400	7,240	13,360	20,640	6,460	4,580	6,900	7,060	4,660
	Aug	240,080	7,540	53,540	5,840	8,300	13,180	6,740	5,420	5,880	3,060	3,760	6,340	5,540	3,420	4,680	2,280	9,260	6,560	4,180	11,620	7,560	13,780	20,880	7,100	4,500	7,380	7,160	4,580
	Nov	232,160	7,440	51,400	5,920	8,040	12,520	6,260	5,360	5,740	3,080	3,520	6,320	5,160	3,440	4,260	2,360	9,040	5,860	4,000	11,060	7,420	13,680	20,420	6,720	4,340	7,220	7,220	4,360
1999	Feb ¹	233,060	7,080	51,120	5,760	7,840	12,300	5,960	5,400	5,620	3,260	3,800	6,520	5,160	3,240	4,140	2,200	8,700	6,060	3,820	11,060	7,360	13,200	19,820	7,000	4,080	7,060	7,200	8,300
	May	228,620	7,240	51,580	5,940	7,840	12,000	5,980	5,480	5,600	3,280	3,660	6,380	5,040	3,360	4,180	2,120	8,860	5,840	3,780	11,120	7,020	13,160	20,060	6,920	4,160	6,760	7,080	4,180
	Aug	231,740	7,520	52,020	6,060	8,020	12,600	6,260	5,220	5,680	3,060	3,680	6,420	5,260	3,300	4,160	2,080	8,640	5,960	3,860	11,380	7,060	13,440	20,500	6,940	4,380	6,820	7,220	4,200
	Nov	224,120	7,320	50,720	5,760	7,760	11,780	6,180	5,140	5,220	2,960	3,540	6,620	5,160	3,300	4,180	2,100	8,260	5,460	3,660	10,920	6,900	12,680	19,800	6,680	4,180	6,740	7,120	3,980
2000	Feb	223,500	7,620	50,020	5,920	7,600	12,120	6,020	5,040	5,500	3,040	3,500	6,740	4,980	3,380	4,120	2,220	8,180	5,500	3,720	11,080	6,900	12,620	19,760	6,620	4,000	6,480	6,860	3,960
	May	222,540	7,620	49,820	5,840	7,460	12,080	5,900	5,120	5,440	2,960	3,480	6,340	5,080	3,320	4,040	2,140	8,040	5,540	3,700	11,140	6,760	12,180	20,060	6,600	4,000	6,480	7,280	4,120
	Aug	227,660	7,400	50,380	6,120	7,680	12,020	6,220	5,180	5,460	2,880	3,560	6,600	5,160	3,280	4,260	2,140	8,500	6,100	3,920	11,580	7,020	12,620	20,360	7,080	4,040	6,680	7,280	4,140
	Nov	223,380	7,040	49,380	5,940	7,400	12,000	6,160	5,000	5,420	3,040	3,560	6,560	4,980	3,180	4,540	2,160	8,120	5,620	3,920	11,480	6,920	12,500	20,220	7,060	4,160	6,240	7,340	3,440
2001	Feb	226,720	7,240	50,100	5,800	7,500	12,100	6,320	4,980	5,400	3,180	3,480	6,680	4,980	3,160	4,420	2,240	8,240	5,760	3,520	11,860	6,900	13,200	20,520	7,340	4,360	6,420	7,460	3,560
	May	223,680	7,320	49,240	5,700	7,360	12,280	5,960	5,080	5,500	3,080	3,280	6,640	4,940	3,000	4,400	2,220	8,380	5,600	3,760	11,480	6,980	12,780	20,280	7,020	4,260	6,200	7,440	3,500
	Aug	226,900	7,260	48,940	5,620	7,480	12,100	6,060	4,960	5,500	3,220	3,360	6,840	5,000	3,260	4,460	2,460	8,660	5,980	3,800	11,720	7,000	13,280	20,680	7,200	4,260	6,640	7,560	3,600
	Nov	222,740	7,240	48,340	5,620	7,420	11,880	6,000	4,940	5,220	3,140	3,620	6,480	4,980	3,240	4,060	2,340	8,420	5,740	3,800	11,460	7,000	12,680	20,000	7,080	4,240	6,540	7,360	3,900

¹ Figures for February 1999 have been revised

Table 1.9.8B Claimants of key benefits by District Council

		Percentages ¹																											
		Northern Ireland	Ards	Belfast	Castlereagh	Down	Lisburn	North Down	Antrim	Ballymena	Ballymoney	Carrickfergus	Coleraine	Cookstown	Larne	Magherafelt	Moyle	Newtownabbey	Armagh	Banbridge	Craigavon	Dungannon Newry & Mourne	Derry	Fermanagh	Limavady	Omagh	Strabane	Unknown	
1998	Feb	23	17	31	15	22	18	14	16	17	18	16	19	28	18	19	24	19	19	15	25	25	27	33	20	23	25	31	.
	May	23	16	30	15	22	18	14	16	16	19	15	18	29	18	19	23	18	19	15	24	25	26	33	20	23	25	31	.
	Aug	24	17	32	15	22	19	15	17	16	20	16	19	29	18	21	25	18	20	17	24	26	27	33	21	22	26	32	.
	Nov	23	17	31	15	22	18	14	17	16	20	15	19	27	19	19	26	18	18	16	23	26	27	32	20	22	25	32	.
1999	Feb ²	23	16	31	14	20	18	13	17	15	21	16	19	27	17	18	24	17	19	15	23	25	25	31	21	21	24	31	.
	May	22	16	31	15	20	18	13	17	15	21	16	19	26	18	18	23	18	18	15	23	24	25	31	20	21	23	31	.
	Aug	23	17	31	15	21	19	14	16	16	20	16	19	28	18	18	23	17	18	15	24	24	26	32	20	22	24	32	.
	Nov	22	16	31	14	20	17	14	16	14	19	15	19	27	18	18	23	16	17	15	23	24	24	31	20	21	23	31	.
2000	Feb	22	17	30	15	20	18	13	15	15	19	15	20	26	18	18	24	16	17	14	23	24	24	30	19	20	22	30	.
	May	22	17	30	15	19	18	13	16	15	19	15	18	26	18	17	23	16	17	14	23	23	23	31	19	20	22	31	.
	Aug	22	16	30	15	20	18	14	16	15	18	15	19	27	17	18	23	17	18	15	24	24	24	31	21	20	23	31	.
	Nov	22	15	30	15	19	18	13	15	15	19	15	19	26	17	20	23	16	17	15	23	24	24	31	21	21	21	32	.
2001	Feb	22	16	30	14	20	18	14	15	15	20	15	19	26	17	19	24	16	17	14	24	24	25	31	21	22	22	32	.
	May	22	16	30	14	19	18	13	15	15	19	14	19	26	16	19	24	17	17	15	23	24	24	31	20	22	21	32	.
	Aug	22	16	30	14	19	18	13	15	15	20	14	20	26	17	19	27	17	18	15	24	24	25	32	21	22	23	33	.
	Nov	22	16	29	14	19	17	13	15	14	20	15	19	26	17	17	25	17	17	15	23	24	24	31	21	22	22	32	.

¹ Percentage of population of working age

² Figures for February 1999 have been revised

1.10 Benefits and Tax Credits

Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC) is a tax credit available to working families with children. Disabled Person's Tax Credit (DPTC) is a tax credit available to working people who have an illness or disability, which puts them at a disadvantage in getting a job. On 5 October 1999 Working Families' Tax Credit and Disabled Person's Tax Credit replaced Family Credit (FC) and Disability Working Allowance (DWA) respectively. The Inland Revenue administers both tax credits. A small number of people are in receipt of both key benefits and tax credits.

Claimants of key benefits and recipients of tax credits can be divided into groups based mainly on the type of benefit and/or tax credit they receive. This gives an indication of the main reason why they are claiming a benefit and/or receiving a tax credit.

This grouping is defined as:

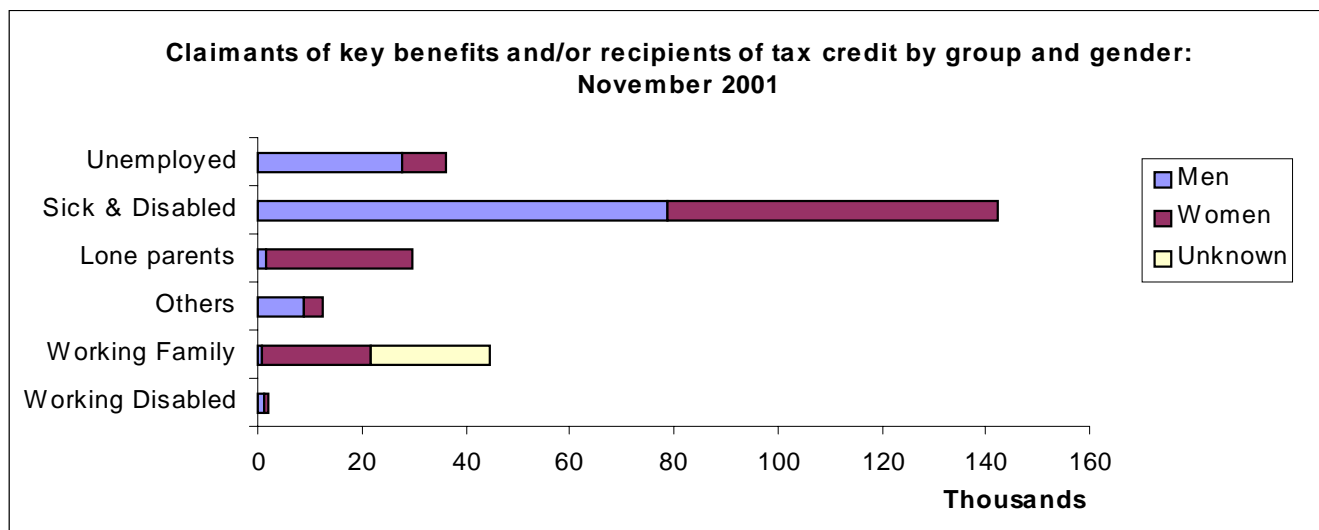
Unemployed	JSA
Sick & disabled ¹	IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
Lone parent	Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
Other	IS claimant not in other groups
Working Family	FC or WFTC
Working Disabled	DWA or DPTC

¹Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the "Sick & Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only cases who may be working.

Table 1.10.1 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group and gender: November 2001

	All	Men	Women	Unknown
All	267,646	118,566	126,220	22,860
Unemployed	36,140	27,540	8,600	.
Sick & Disabled ¹	142,260	78,660	63,600	.
Lone parents	29,840	1,540	28,300	.
Others	12,560	8,900	3,660	.
Working Family	44,740	800	21,080	22,860
Working Disabled	2,106	1,126	980	.

¹ Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the "Sick & Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.



- The overall number of claimants of key benefits and/or tax credits rose by 7,558 between November 1998 and November 2001. The largest reduction was in the unemployed group which fell by 16,820 (down 32%). However, this fall was offset by an increase of 16,940 (up 61%) in the working family group.
- Sick and disabled claimants were consistently the largest group over the period November 1998 to November 2001, rising from 52% of the total to 53% of the total; unemployed claimants were the second largest group but have been overtaken by the working family group.
- The size of the sick & disabled group rose by 8,300 (6%), working families by 16,940 (61%) and working disabled by 998 (90%) between November 1998 and November 2001. The numbers in the lone parents group fell by 3,220 (10%).

**Table 1.10.2 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group:
November 1998 to November 2001**

	Nov-98		Nov-99		Nov-00		Nov-01	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
All	260,088	26	257,618	25	263,908	26	267,646	26
Unemployed	52,960	5	42,820	4	38,920	4	36,140	4
Sick & Disabled ²	133,960	13	135,680	13	138,960	13	142,260	14
Lone parents	33,060	3	32,240	3	31,300	3	29,840	3
Others	11,200	1	12,200	1	12,440	1	12,560	1
Working Family	27,800	3	33,420	3	40,520	4	44,740	4
Working Disabled	1,108	0	1,258	0	1,768	0	2,106	0

¹Population of working age in Northern Ireland

²Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

These statistical analyses showed the stock of people claiming key benefits and/or receiving tax credits at a fixed point in time at the end of each quarter. An indication of how people moved in and out of the benefit system was obtained by comparing records for the individual claimants who appeared in these “snapshots” over time. The analyses also looked at how people moved between benefits, tax credits and/or statistical group. This methodology did not cover all flows into and out of the benefit system. For example, it missed claims that started and ended between “snapshot” dates and did not capture changes in benefit for couples where the partner became the claimant. (See ‘Methodology’ for further details).

- The overall number of people claiming key benefits and/or tax credits has increased since November 2000. This is because the number of people who had started to claim benefit and/or receive a tax credit exceeded the numbers who had stopped. For example, 42,790 of those claiming benefits and/or receiving tax credits in November 2000 were no longer there in November 2001. However, 46,528 people claiming benefits and/or tax credits in November 2001 were not there in November 2000.
- The numbers in each group are also affected by movements between the groups. For example, 21,155 people who were on benefit and/or tax credits in November 2000 and November 2001 changed group over this period.
- The numbers in the individual statistical groups were affected by movements both on and off benefits and tax credits and also between the groups. For example, the overall number of unemployed claimants fell by 2,780 between November 2000 and November 2001. The number of claimants who moved out of that group (6,321) exceeded those who moved in from another group (4,222) - a reduction of 2,099. The number of claimants who left benefit from that group (16,161) exceeded new claimants who joined the group (15,480) - a decrease of 681. When combined those figures gave a total reduction of 2,780.

Table 1.10.3 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by status in previous year: November 1998 to November 2001

	On benefit/tax credit in current year - status in previous year ¹				Left benefit and/or tax credit since previous year ²
	All	Same group	Different group	Not on benefit or tax credit	
Nov-98	260,088	.	.	.	.
Nov-99	257,618	188,407	24,461	44,750	47,220
Nov-00	263,908	190,811	23,380	49,717	43,427
Nov-01	267,646	199,963	21,155	46,528	42,790

¹ Some people may have left benefit/tax credit and then returned to it between years

² Includes a small number of people who will have remained on benefit but reached state pension age

Table 1.10.4 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits - changes between November 2000 and November 2001

	All on benefit and/or tax credit in Nov-00	Movement between Nov-00 and Nov-01			Overall change ²	All on benefit and/or tax credit in Nov-01
		Outflow Not on benefit and/or tax credit in Nov-01	Inflow Not on benefit and/or tax credit in Nov-00	Net movement between groups ¹		
All	263,908	42,790	46,528	0	3,738	267,646
Unemployed	38,920	16,161	15,480	-2,099	-2,780	36,140
Sick & Disabled ³	138,960	14,706	15,480	2,526	3,300	142,260
Lone parents	31,300	2,480	3,020	-2,000	-1,460	29,840
Others	12,440	1,860	1,780	200	120	12,560
Working Family	40,520	7,178	10,040	1,358	4,220	44,740
Working Disabled	1,768	405	728	15	338	2,106

¹ Numbers coming into group less numbers moving out - see bottom half of table 1.10.5 for breakdown

² Overall change between November 2000 and November 2001 ie column 3 minus column 2 plus column 4

³ Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

Table 1.10.5 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits in both November 2000 and November 2001 - comparisons of grouping

Comparison of groups in 2000 and 2001 ¹	Statistical group in November 2001						
	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled ²	Lone parent	Other	Working Family	Working Disabled
All	221,118	20,660	126,780	26,820	10,780	34,700	1,378
Group in November 2000							
Unemployed	22,759	16,438	3,940	360	1,300	720	1
Sick & Disabled ²	124,254	2,480	119,484	720	920	620	30
Lone parents	28,820	360	1,160	24,400	140	2,760	0
Others	10,580	860	1,340	140	8,160	80	0
Working Family	33,342	520	840	1,200	260	30,518	4
Working Disabled	1,363	2	16	0	0	2	1,343
2000 and 2001							
Total with no change	200,343	16,438	119,484	24,400	8,160	30,518	1,343
Leaving original group	-20,775	-6,321	-4,770	-4,420	-2,420	-2,824	-20
Joining new group	20,775	4,222	7,296	2,420	2,620	4,182	35
Net movement between groups	0	-2,099	2,526	-2,000	200	1,358	15

¹ For example, there were 22,759 claimants in the unemployed group in November 2000 who were also on benefit/tax credits in November 2001. Of these 16,438 were still in this group, 3,940 were now in the sick & disabled group, 360 in the lone parents group, etc.

² Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

These analyses also looked at changes over longer time periods, as well as comparisons over the latest year. Tables 1.10.6 and 1.10.7 compared the status of the stock of claimants in November 1998 with that in November 2001.

Table 1.10.6 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits in November 2001 - by status in November 1998

Group in November 2001	All on benefit and/or tax credit in November 2001	Benefit status in November 1998		
		Not on benefit	Same group	Different group ²
All	267,646	83,605	145,924	38,117
Unemployed	36,140	19,060	12,120	4,960
Sick & Disabled ¹	142,260	32,567	95,160	14,533
Lone Parents	29,840	6,599	19,160	4,081
Others	12,560	3,119	4,400	5,041
Working Family	44,740	22,018	14,480	8,242
Working Disabled	2,106	242	604	1,260

¹ Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

² Since samples were used for all benefits except DWA/DPTC figures in this table differ from those given in table 1.10.7

- Over two thirds (184,041) of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits in November 2001 were also on benefit in November 1998 and just over half of the overall total were in the same group.
- People in the working disabled group in November 2001 were the most likely to have been on benefit in November 1998 (89% of them – 1,864), followed by those in the lone parents group (78% - 23,241), the sick & disabled group (77% - 109,693) and those in the others group (75% - 9,441). Those in the unemployed group were the least likely (47% - 17,080). Sick & disabled claimants were the most likely to have stayed in the same group (67% - 95,160).

Table 1.10.7 Claimants of key benefits in November 1998 - by status in November 2001

Group in November 1998	All on benefit and/or tax credit in November 1998	Benefit and/or tax credit status in November 2001			
		Reached state pension age ¹	Not on benefit or tax credit	Same group	Different group ³
All	260,088	17,734	59,187	145,924	37,243
Unemployed	52,960	460	25,194	12,120	15,186
Sick & Disabled ²	133,960	14,760	17,468	95,160	6,572
Lone Parents	33,060	40	5,179	19,160	8,681
Others	11,200	2,460	1,660	4,400	2,680
Working Family	27,800	.	9,536	14,480	3,784
Working Disabled	1,108	14	150	604	340

¹ Some of these people may also have left benefit/tax credits.

² Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only claimants who may be working.

³ Since samples were used for all benefits except DWA/DPTC figures in this table differ from those given in table 1.10.6

Section 2 : Families with children on key benefits

2.1 Children

Table 2.1.1 Children of claimants of key benefits by statistical group: November 1998 to November 2001

	Number of children ¹							
	Nov-98	%	Nov-99	%	Nov-00	%	Nov-01	%
All statistical groups	162,620	100	149,880	100	147,780	100	141,780	100
Unemployed	22,740	14	15,640	10	12,040	8	9,940	7
Sick & Disabled	70,360	43	66,060	44	70,580	48	69,680	49
Lone parents	66,240	41	64,180	43	61,380	42	58,140	41
Others	3,280	2	4,000	3	3,780	3	4,020	3

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

- At November 2001, 141,780 children were living in families claiming a key benefit. The total number of children in families claiming a key benefit was down by 13% (20,840) from November 1998.
- The number of children in the unemployed group fell by 56% between November 1998 and November 2001, whilst the number in the lone parents and sick & disabled groups fell by 12% and 1% respectively.

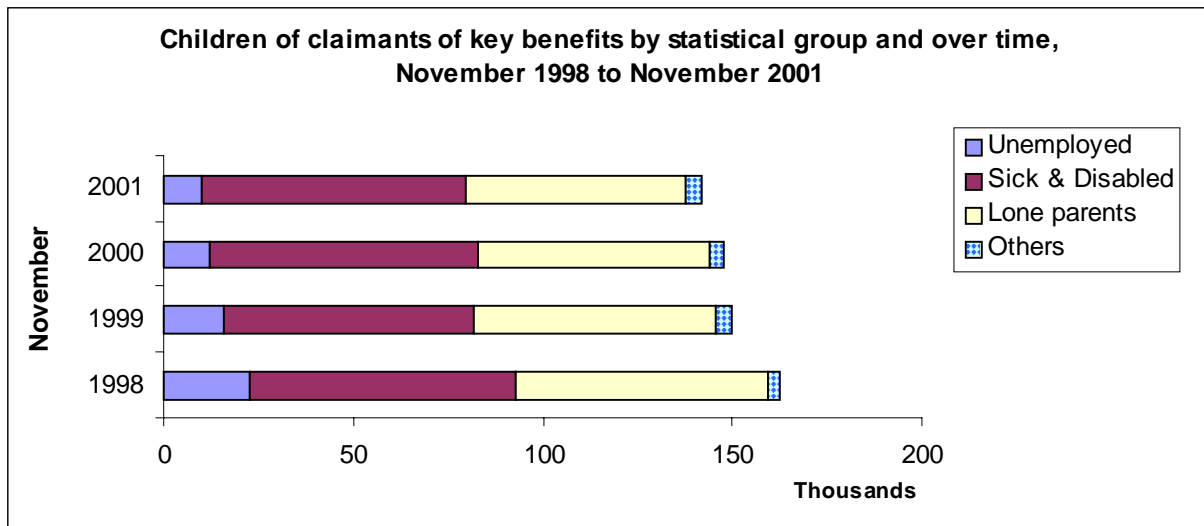


Table 2.1.2 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and family type: November 2001

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 years					
	All	Family type				All	% pop aged 16 - 18 in full-time education	Family type			Not known
		% pop aged under 16	Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known	
All statistical groups	128,420	31	47,420	75,860	5,140	13,360	31	7,300	6,060	.	
Unemployed	8,300	2	7,800	500	.	1,640	4	1,120	520	.	
Sick & Disabled	61,300	15	36,000	20,160	5,140	8,380	20	5,780	2,600	.	
Lone parents	55,200	14	.	55,200	.	2,940	7	.	2,940	.	
Others	3,620	1	3,620	0	.	400	1	400	0	.	

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Includes a small percentage of children whose age is not known.

- The proportion of under 16s living in households claiming a key benefit was 31% in November 2001 whilst the proportion of 16 - 18 year olds was 31% of all 16 - 18 year olds in full-time education.

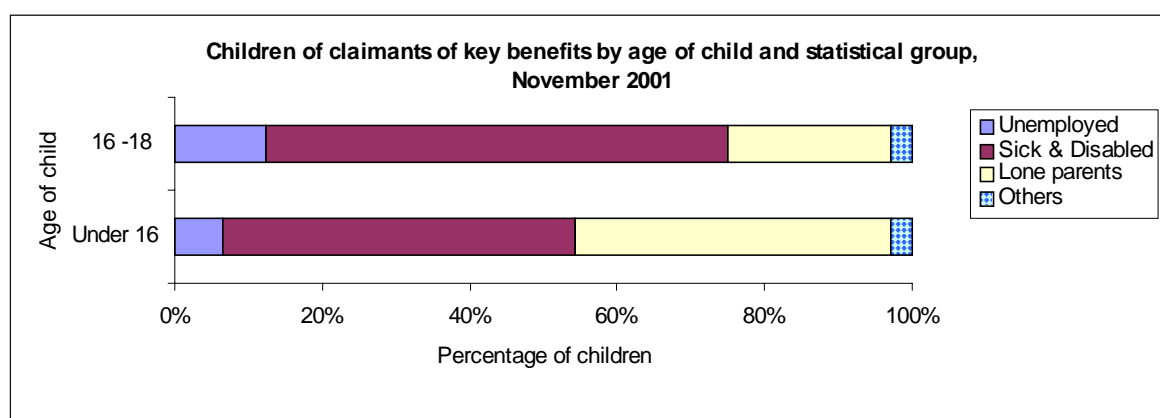


Table 2.1.3 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by family type: November 1998 to November 2001

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	% pop aged under 16	Family type		Not known	All	% pop aged 16 - 18 in full-time education	Family type		Not known
			Couple	Single				Couple	Single	
Nov-98	149,100	36	64,080	78,120	6,900	13,520	33	8,020	5,500	.
Nov-99	137,600	33	54,280	77,260	6,060	12,280	29	6,520	5,760	.
Nov-00	133,640	33	51,000	77,100	5,540	14,140	33	8,120	6,020	.
Nov-01	128,420	31	47,420	75,860	5,140	13,360	31	7,300	6,060	.

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Includes a small percentage of children whose ages are not known

- The number of children under 16 living in families where the benefit claimant was single fell between November 1998 and November 2001. The number of children under 16 living in households where the claimant had a partner also fell over this period.
- The proportion of children under 16 living in a household where the claimant was single rose from 52% in November 1998 to 59% in November 2001.
- The proportion of children under 16 living in a household where the claimant was single was 59% in November 2001 whilst the figure for 16 - 18 year olds was 45%.

Table 2.1.4 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and age of child: November 2001

	Number of children/dependants											
	All ages	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known ²	%
All statistical groups	141,780	100	34,560	24	45,800	32	42,520	30	13,360	9	5,540	4
Unemployed	9,940	100	2,600	26	2,940	30	2,700	27	1,640	16	60	0
Sick & Disabled	69,680	100	13,440	19	20,060	29	22,320	32	8,380	12	5,480	8
Lone parents	58,140	100	17,560	30	21,480	37	16,160	28	2,940	5	.	0
Others	4,020	100	960	24	1,320	33	1,340	33	400	10	.	0

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Children whose ages are not known

- Amongst the sick & disabled group proportionally fewer children were under the age of five, reflecting the older age profile of those claiming a sickness and/or disability benefit (although the ages of many children in this group were unknown).
- The children of lone parents had the youngest profile with 67% aged under 11.

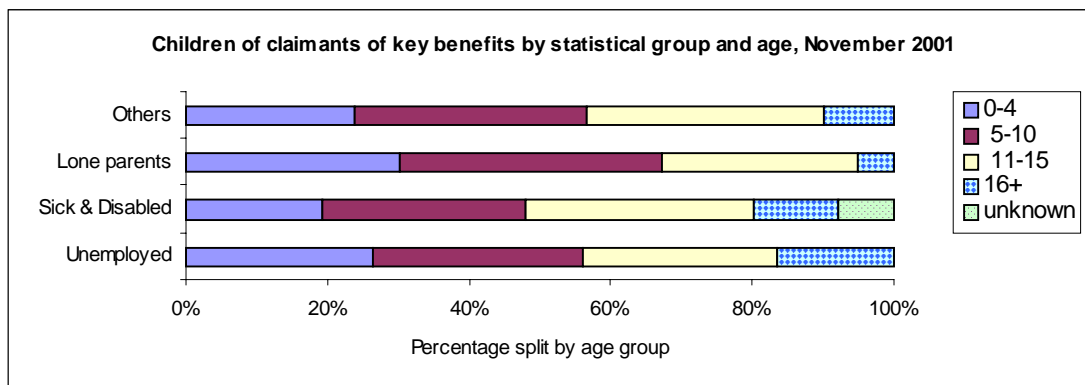


Table 2.1.5 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and duration of claim: November 2001

	Duration of oldest claim ²											
	All durations	%	Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years and over	%
All statistical groups	141,780	100	7,800	6	6,760	5	12,400	9	19,200	14	95,620	67
Unemployed	9,940	100	2,500	25	1,340	13	1,720	17	1,920	19	2,460	25
Sick & Disabled	69,680	100	2,440	4	2,940	4	6,100	9	9,800	14	48,400	69
Lone parents	58,140	100	2,460	4	1,920	3	4,160	7	6,660	11	42,940	74
Others	4,020	100	400	10	560	14	420	10	820	20	1,820	45

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Of those children in families claiming a key benefit 67% had been on benefits for at least 2 years. For the lone parents group the figure was 74% whilst the figure for the unemployed group was 25%.
- Of those children in families classed as unemployed 56% had been on benefit for less than a year.

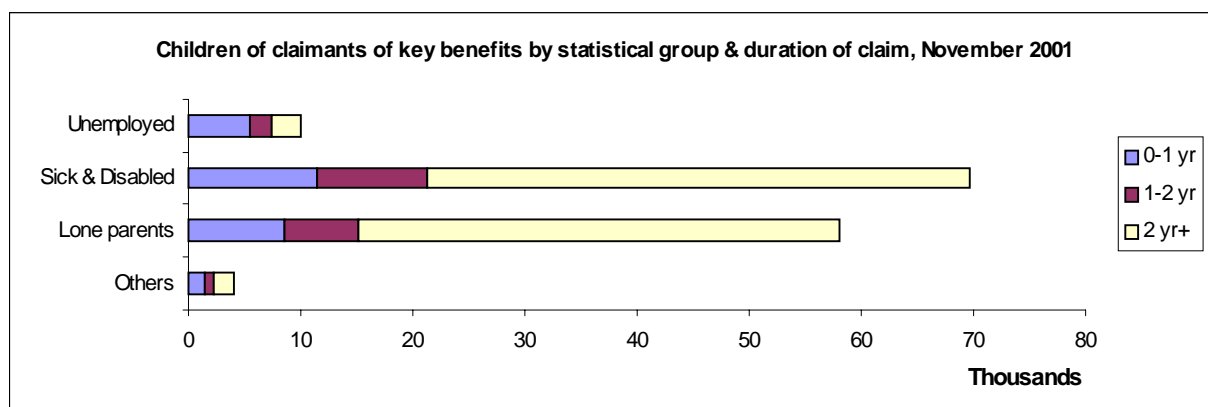


Table 2.1.6 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by duration of claim: November 1998 to November 2001

	All durations	Duration of oldest claim ²				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years and over
Nov-98	162,620	9,720	8,400	12,940	22,940	108,620
%	100	6	5	8	14	67
Nov-99	149,880	8,620	6,920	14,160	18,260	101,920
%	100	6	5	9	12	68
Nov-00	147,780	8,000	8,840	12,360	20,320	98,260
%	100	5	6	8	14	66
Nov-01	141,780	7,800	6,760	12,400	19,200	95,620
%	100	6	5	9	14	67

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Between November 1998 and November 2001 there was little change in the pattern of duration on key benefits.

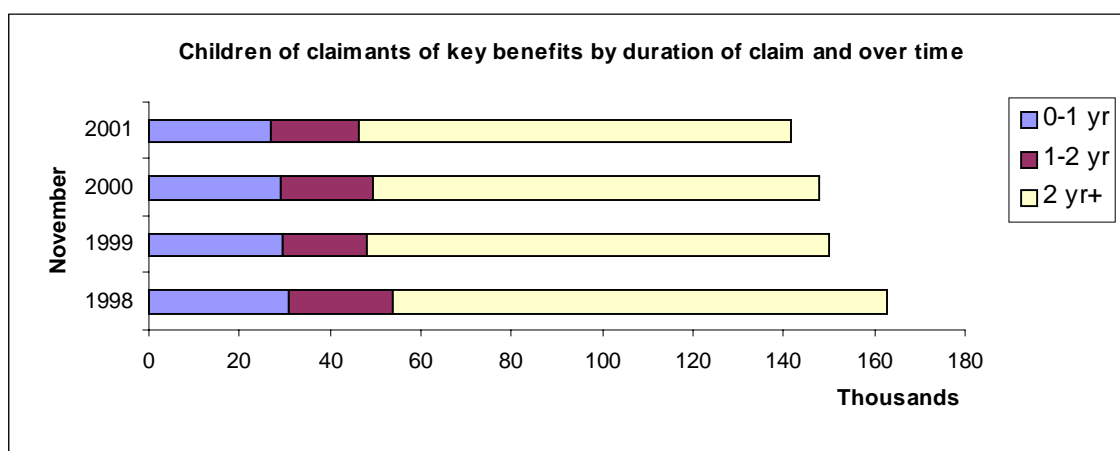


Table 2.1.7 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by district council: November 2001

	Number of children	% of population ²
Northern Ireland	141,780	29
Ards	3,900	21
Belfast	29,440	38
Castlereagh	2,580	16
Down	4,720	25
Lisburn	8,880	28
North Down	3,000	16
Antrim	2,920	21
Ballymena	2,940	19
Ballymoney	1,660	22
Carrickfergus	1,880	18
Coleraine	3,320	23
Cookstown	3,380	36
Larne	1,800	22
Magherafelt	3,400	26
Moyle	1,080	26
Newtownabbey	4,340	20
Armagh	3,400	21
Banbridge	2,440	22
Craigavon	7,620	32
Dungannon	4,580	30
Newry & Mourne	10,180	36
Derry	14,420	40
Fermanagh	4,640	27
Limavady	2,960	30
Omagh	3,860	26
Strabane	5,280	46
Unknown	3,160	.

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Population aged under 16 plus population aged 16 - 18 in Northern Ireland

- The percentage of children (aged under 16 or aged 16 - 18) living in families claiming a key benefit varied from 46% in Strabane to 16% in Castlereagh and North Down.

Children on key benefits by District Council

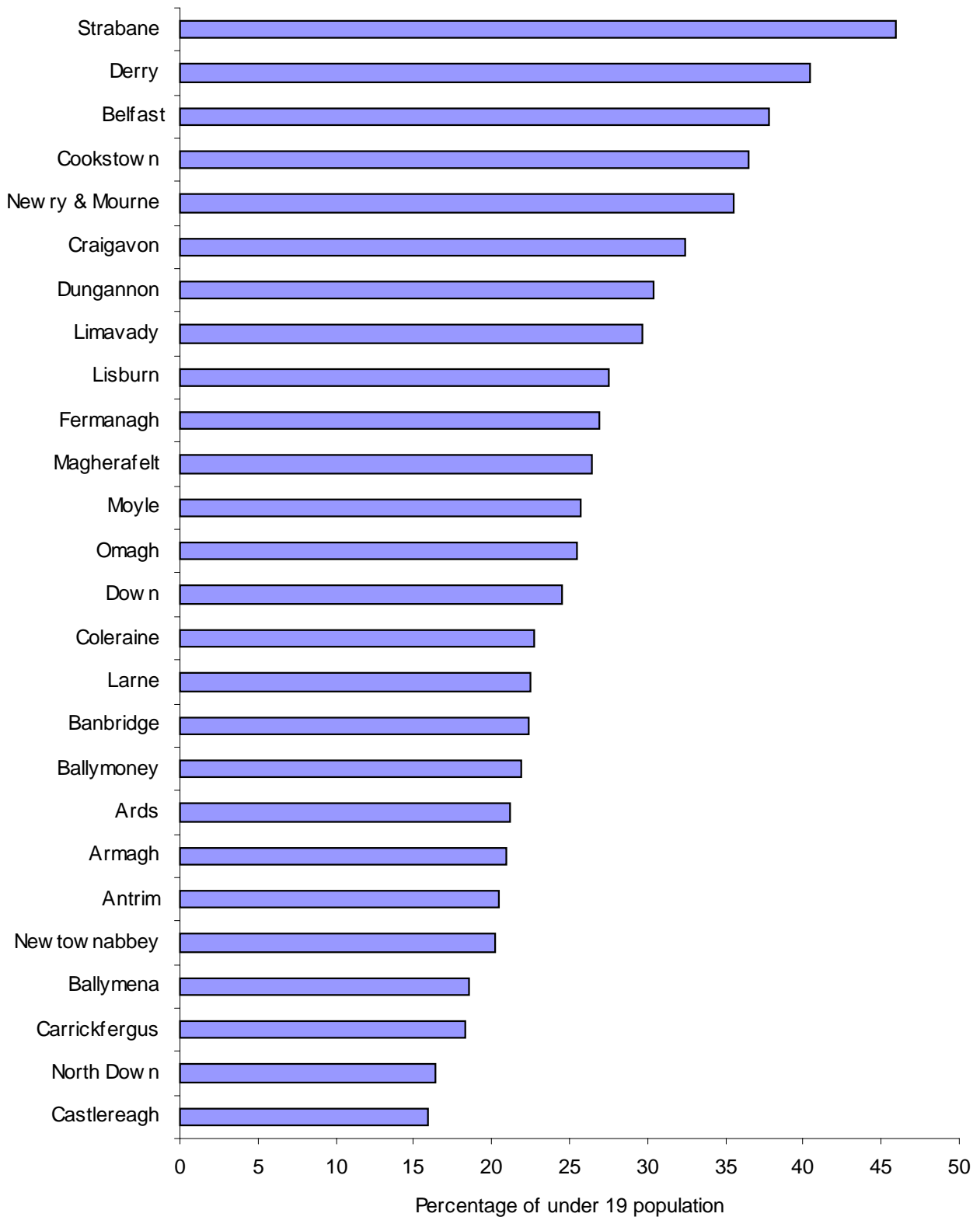


Table 2.1.8 Children¹ of claimants of combinations of key benefits: November 2001

	Number of children	% of population ²
All combinations	141,780	31
IS only	66,460	15
IB only	14,100	3
JSA only	9,760	2
IS, IB & DLA	10,560	2
DLA only	9,460	2
IB & DLA	9,760	2
IS & DLA	10,100	2
IS & IB	8,740	2
IS, DLA & SDA	1,140	0
DLA & SDA	940	0
IS & SDA	240	0
DLA & JSA	160	0
SDA only	340	0
Others ³	20	0

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Population aged under 16 plus population aged 16-18 in full-time education

³ Includes anomalies such as JSA with IB due to the slight differences in dates of benefit data extracts

- 69% of 'key benefit' children were living in families where Income Support was claimed.

2.2 Families

Table 2.2.1 Families¹ on key benefits by statistical group and duration of claim: November 2001

	Duration of oldest claim ²											
	All durations		Under 3 months		3 to under 6 months		6 months to under 1 year		1 to under 2 years		2 years and over	
		%		%		%		%		%		%
All statistical groups	71,840	100	4,120	6	3,660	5	6,740	9	10,140	14	47,180	66
Unemployed	5,160	100	1,340	26	720	14	900	17	960	19	1,240	24
Sick & Disabled	35,220	100	1,200	3	1,560	4	3,220	9	4,900	14	24,340	69
Lone parents	29,840	100	1,420	5	1,200	4	2,440	8	3,940	13	20,840	70
Others	1,620	100	160	10	180	11	180	11	340	21	760	47

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- 66% of families on key benefits had been on benefit for at least 2 years. For the sick & disabled group the figure was 69% whilst the figure for the unemployed was only 24%.
- 57% of families classed as unemployed had been on benefit for less than a year.

Table 2.2.2 Families¹ on key benefits by duration of claim: November 1998 to November 2001

	Duration of oldest claim ²					
	All durations	Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 to under 2 years	2 years and over
November-98	78,860	4,860	4,460	6,700	11,700	51,140
%	100	6	6	8	15	65
November-99	73,700	4,700	3,740	7,060	9,560	48,640
%	100	6	5	10	13	66
November-00	74,360	4,220	4,520	6,940	10,680	48,000
%	100	6	6	9	14	65
November-01	71,840	4,120	3,660	6,740	10,140	47,180
%	100	6	5	9	14	66

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Between November 1998 and November 2001 there was little change in the pattern of duration on benefit.

Table 2.2.3 Families¹ on key benefits by statistical group and age of youngest child: November 2001

	Age of youngest child											
	All ages	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known ²	%
All statistical groups	71,840	100	27,600	38	20,440	28	15,740	22	4,940	7	3,120	4
Unemployed	5,160	100	2,020	39	1,060	21	1,120	22	920	18	40	0
Sick & Disabled	35,220	100	10,340	29	9,040	26	9,180	26	3,580	10	3,080	9
Lone parents	29,840	100	14,580	49	9,920	33	5,040	17	300	1	.	0
Others	1,620	100	660	41	420	26	400	25	140	9	.	0

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18

² Children whose ages are not known

- 38% of the youngest children were under the age of five.
- For the sick & disabled the age profile of the youngest children was older (although the ages of many children in this group were unknown).

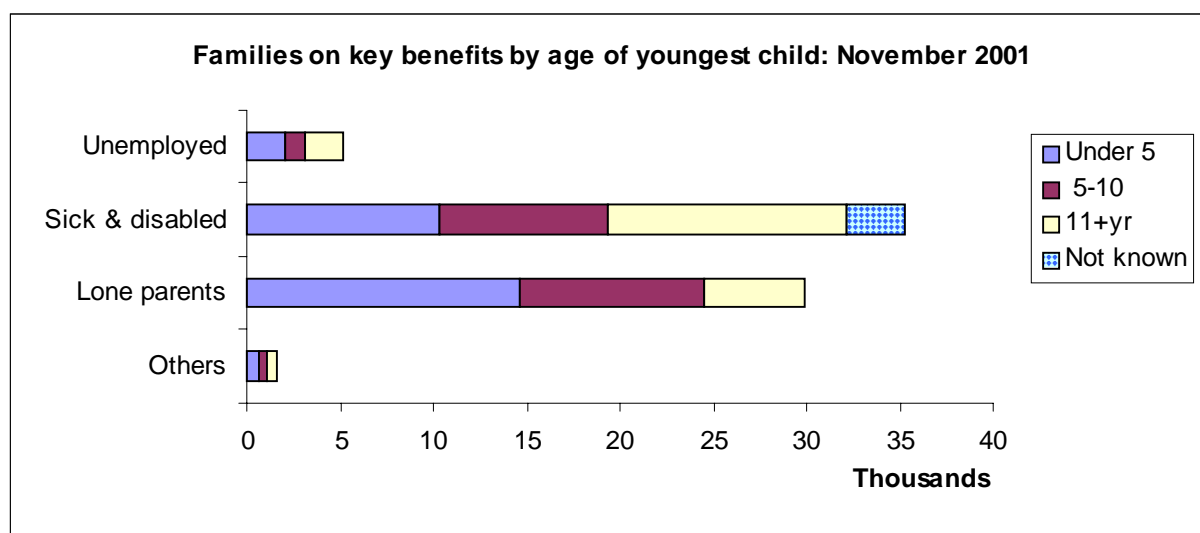


Table 2.2.4 Families¹ on key benefits by age of youngest child: November 1998 to November 2001

	All ages	Age of youngest child				
		Under 5	5 to under 11	11 to under 16	16 or over	Not known ²
Nov-98	78,860	27,160	20,960	14,540	4,440	11,760
%	100	34	27	18	6	15
Nov-99	73,700	29,140	21,600	15,580	3,760	3,620
%	100	40	29	21	5	5
Nov-00	74,360	28,580	21,360	16,080	4,880	3,460
%	100	38	29	22	7	5
Nov-01	71,840	27,600	20,440	15,740	4,940	3,120
%	100	38	28	22	7	4

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18

² Children whose ages are not known

- Between November 1998 and November 2001 there was little change in the age profile of the youngest child in families on key benefits.

Table 2.2.5 Families¹ on key benefits by statistical group and number of children: November 2001

	All families	Number of children			
		One	Two	Three	Four or more
All statistical groups	71,840	30,740	22,900	10,780	7,420
Unemployed	5,160	2,120	1,860	760	420
Sick & Disabled	35,220	14,940	11,280	5,360	3,640
Lone parents	29,840	13,280	9,220	4,340	3,000
Others	1,620	400	540	320	360

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18

- In November 2001, 7.5% of families (see appendix 1) claiming child benefit had 4 or more children while the figure was 10.3% of families on key benefits.
- Over 42% (30,740) claimants of key benefits had only 1 child.

2.3 Benefits and Tax Credits

Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC) is a tax credit available to working families with children. Disabled Person's Tax Credit (DPTC) is a tax credit available to working people who have an illness or disability, which puts them at a disadvantage in getting a job. On 5 October 1999 Working Families' Tax Credit and Disabled Person's Tax Credit replaced Family Credit (FC) and Disability Working Allowance (DWA) respectively. The Inland Revenue administers both tax credits. A small number of people are in receipt of both key benefits and tax credits.

Claimants of key benefits and recipients of tax credits can be divided into groups based mainly on the type of benefit and/or tax credit they receive. This gives an indication of the main reason why they are claiming a benefit and/or receiving a tax credit.

This grouping is defined as:

Unemployed ¹	JSA
Sick & disabled ¹	IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
Lone parent	Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
Other	IS claimant not in other groups
Working Family	FC or WFTC
Working Disabled	DWA or DPTC

¹Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the "Unemployed" group and "Sick & Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". The sick & disabled group includes DLA only cases who may be working.

Dependent children do not affect the amounts of award of 'Contribution-based' or 'Credits only' JSA/IB and as such information relating to these children can be incomplete. However when combined with information from means-tested benefits as in sections 2.1 and 2.2 a much better indication of dependants is obtained. In section 2.3 information from tax credits is also used therefore the figures relating to 'Unemployed' and 'Sick & Disabled' may differ slightly to those shown in the benefits only tables.

Table 2.3.1 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group: November 1998 to November 2001

	Number of children							
	Nov-98	%	Nov-99	%	Nov-00	%	Nov-01	%
All statistical groups	223,801	100	222,688	100	233,302	100	236,691	100
Unemployed ²	22,820	10	15,660	7	12,040	5	10,020	4
Sick & disabled ²	70,280	31	65,980	30	69,940	30	69,120	29
Lone parents	66,240	30	64,180	29	61,380	26	58,140	25
Working family	59,960	27	71,500	32	84,180	36	93,120	39
Working disabled	1,221	1	1,368	1	1,982	1	2,271	1
Others	3,280	1	4,000	2	3,780	2	4,020	2

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Unemployed and the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication.

Table 2.3.2 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group and family type: November 2001

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	Family type				All	% pop aged 16-18 in full-time education	Family type		
		% pop aged under 16	Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known
All statistical groups	214,856	53	101,405	108,331	5,120	21,835	51	12,689	9,146	.
Unemployed ³	8,380	2	7,860	520	.	1,640	4	1,120	520	.
Sick & disabled ³	60,660	15	36,200	19,340	5,120	8,460	20	5,940	2,520	.
Lone parents	55,200	14	.	55,200	.	2,940	7	.	2,940	.
Working family	85,000	21	52,400	32,600	.	8,120	19	5,060	3,060	.
Working disabled	1,996	0	1,325	671	.	275	1	169	106	.
Others	3,620	1	3,620	0	.	400	1	400	0	.

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Includes a small percentage of children whose age is not known

³ Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Unemployed and the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication.

Table 2.3.3 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group and age of children: November 2001

	Age of children											
	All ages	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known	%
All statistical groups	236,691	100	60,609	26	78,565	33	70,202	30	21,835	9	5,480	2
Unemployed ²	10,020	100	2,620	26	2,980	30	2,720	27	1,640	16	60	1
Sick & disabled ²	69,120	100	13,340	19	19,820	29	22,080	32	8,460	12	5,420	8
Lone parents	58,140	100	17,560	30	21,480	37	16,160	28	2,940	5	.	0
Working family	93,120	100	25,680	28	32,200	35	27,120	29	8,120	9	.	0
Working disabled	2,271	100	449	20	765	34	782	34	275	12	.	0
Others	4,020	100	960	24	1,320	33	1,340	33	400	10	.	0

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Unemployed and the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication.

Table 2.3.4 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group and duration of claim: November 2001

	Duration of oldest claim ²											
	All durations	%	Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years or over	%
All statistical groups	236,691	100	62,010	26	47,939	20	12,365	5	18,916	8	95,461	40
Unemployed ³	10,020	100	2,300	23	1,620	16	1,720	17	1,920	19	2,460	25
Sick & disabled ³	69,120	100	2,520	4	3,100	4	5,820	8	9,500	14	48,180	70
Lone parents	58,140	100	2,280	4	2,100	4	4,160	7	6,660	11	42,940	74
Working family	93,120	100	53,460	57	39,580	43	60	0	0	0	20	0
Working disabled	2,271	100	1,050	46	979	43	185	8	16	1	41	2
Others	4,020	100	400	10	560	14	420	10	820	20	1,820	45

¹ Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

³ Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Unemployed and the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication.

Table 2.3.5 Families¹ on key benefits and/or tax credits by statistical group and duration of claim: November 2001

	Duration of oldest claim ²											
	All durations	%	Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years or over	%
All statistical groups	117,297	100	30,414	26	23,144	20	6,726	6	10,008	9	47,005	40
Unemployed ³	5,200	100	1,260	24	840	16	900	17	960	18	1,240	24
Sick & disabled ³	34,800	100	1,180	3	1,660	5	3,080	9	4,760	14	24,120	69
Lone parents	29,840	100	1,300	4	1,320	4	2,440	8	3,940	13	20,840	70
Working family	44,740	100	26,020	58	18,660	42	40	0	.	0	20	0
Working disabled	1,097	100	494	45	484	44	86	8	8	1	25	2
Others	1,620	100	160	10	180	11	180	11	340	21	760	47

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

³ Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Unemployed and the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication.

Table 2.3.6 Families¹ on key benefits and/or tax credits by statistical group and age of youngest child: November 2001

	Age of youngest child											
	All ages	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known ²	%
All statistical groups	117,297	100	47,821	41	34,370	29	24,947	21	7,099	6	3,060	3
Unemployed ³	5,200	100	2,040	39	1,080	21	1,120	22	920	18	40	1
Sick & disabled ³	34,800	100	10,220	29	8,820	25	9,180	26	3,560	10	3,020	9
Lone parents	29,840	100	14,580	49	9,920	33	5,040	17	300	1	.	0
Working family	44,740	100	19,960	45	13,780	31	8,920	20	2,080	5	.	0
Working disabled	1,097	100	361	33	350	32	287	26	99	9	.	0
Others	1,620	100	660	41	420	26	400	25	140	9	.	0

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

² Children whose ages are not known

³ Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Unemployed and the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication.

Table 2.3.7 Families¹ on key benefits and/or tax credits by statistical group and number of children: November 2001

	All families	Number of children			
		One	Two	Three	Four or more
All statistical groups	117,297	48,099	37,402	19,270	12,526
Unemployed ²	5,200	2,140	1,860	780	420
Sick & Disabled ²	34,800	14,700	11,100	5,340	3,660
Lone Parents	29,840	13,280	9,220	4,340	3,000
Working family	44,740	17,160	14,320	8,300	4,960
Working disabled	1,097	419	362	190	126
Others	1,620	400	540	320	360

¹ Claimants with children aged under 16 or young adults aged 16 to 18

² Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the Unemployed and the Sick & Disabled group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication.

Section 3: Persons of Pensionable Age on Key Benefits

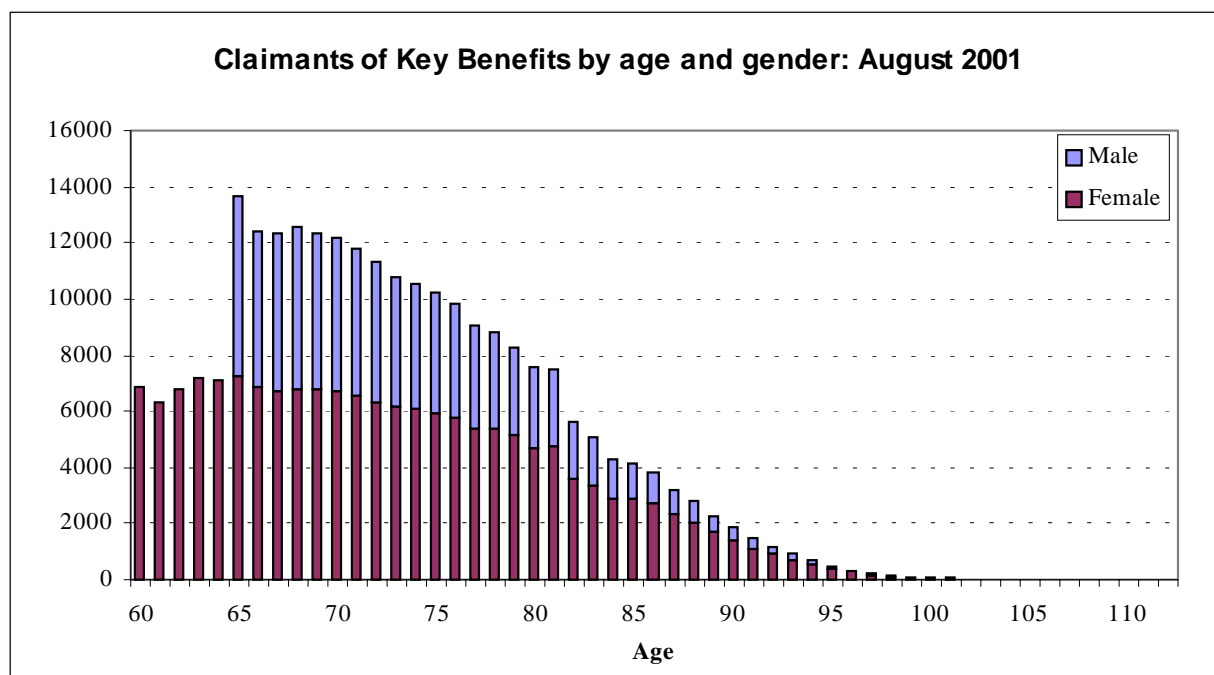
3.1 Age and gender

Table 3.1.1 Claimants over State Pension Age of key benefits by gender: August 1998 - August 2001

	Aug-98 ²	Aug-99	Aug-00	Aug-01
Men	85,615	87,165	87,292	89,073
% of pop ¹	98	99	98	100
Women	159,847	163,325	163,403	164,994
% of pop ¹	95	97	97	97
All	245,462	250,490	250,695	254,067
% of pop ¹	96	98	97	98

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age.

² Data on RP claimants at August 1998 was extracted from scans taken at March 1998 and March 1999



- In August 2001 about 98% (254,067) of people over state pension age claimed a key benefit - an increase of 4% (8,605) since August 1998.
- The proportion of women claiming at least one of the key state benefits is slightly lower than for men; 97% compared with 100% respectively.

Table 3.1.2 Claimants over State Pension Age of key benefits by age and gender: August 2001

	Male		Female		All	
		% of pop ¹²		% of pop ¹²		% of pop ¹²
60-64	-	-	34,234	90	34,234	90
65-69	28,898	98	34,364	99	63,262	98
70-74	24,696	100	31,879	97	56,575	98
75-79	18,513	100	27,691	99	46,204	99
80-84	10,730	106	19,239	104	29,969	105
85-89	4,689	101	11,660	100	16,349	100
90+	1,547	90	5,927	99	7,474	97
All ages	89,073	100	164,994	97	254,067	98

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age

² The population estimates for the very elderly may be inaccurate

Table 3.1.3 Claimants over State Pension Age by Statistical group: August 1998 - August 2001

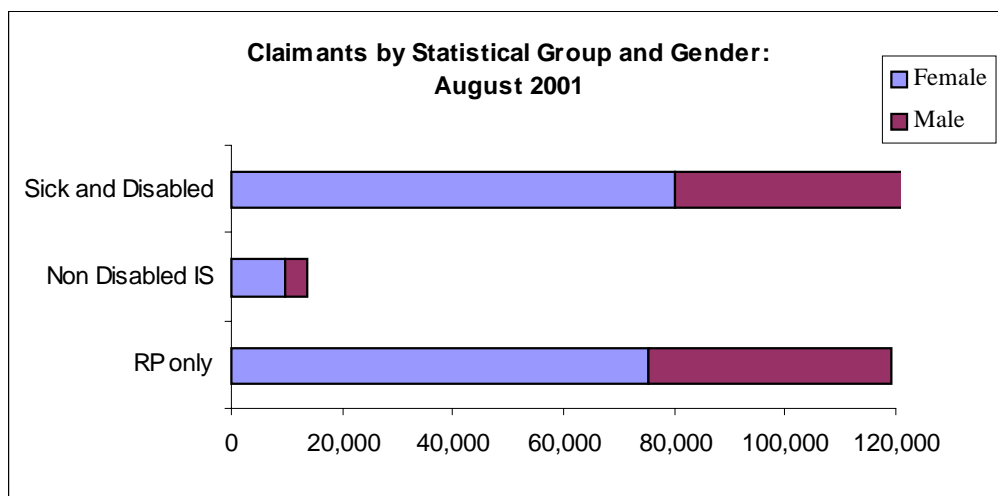
	Aug-98 ¹		Aug-99		Aug-00		Aug-01	
	All	% of pop ²	All	% of pop ²	All	% of pop ²	All	% of pop ²
Sick and/or Disabled	111,134	44	113,746	44	117,318	45	121,077	47
Non Disabled IS	14,735	6	13,483	5	12,990	5	13,698	5
RP only	119,593	47	123,261	48	120,387	47	119,292	46
All	245,462	96	250,490	98	250,695	97	254,067	98

¹ Data on RP claimants at August 1998 was extracted from scans taken at March 1998 and March 1999

² Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age

3.2 Statistical groups

The claimants of these benefits can be divided into statistical groups, based mainly on their statistical group (see 'Definitions and Conventions').



- The overall numbers rose by 8,605 between August 1998 and August 2001.
- Sick and/or disabled claimants rose from 111,134 to 121,077 between August 1998 and August 2001, rising from 44% to 47% of the total pensioner population.
- Over the same period, the non-disabled IS statistical group fell by 1,037.
- The size of the RP only statistical group has also decreased, from 47% of the total pensioner population at August 1998 to 46% at August 2001.

The statistical group analyses show the stock of claimants on key benefits at a fixed point in time. By comparing records for the individual claimants who appear in these 'snapshots' over time, the analyses can give an indication of how many people move in and out of the benefit system. They can also look at how people move between benefits and/or statistical groups.

Table 3.2.1 Cases over State Pension Age moving onto a key benefit between August 2000 and August 2001 by gender and statistical group

	Male	Female	All
Sick and/or Disabled	2,597	2,471	5,068
Non Disabled IS	531	493	1,024
RP only	3,833	5,545	9,378
All	6,961	8,509	15,470

Table 3.2.2 Cases over State Pension Age receiving key benefits at August 2000 but no longer receiving a key benefit in August 2001: by gender and statistical group

	Male	Female	All
Sick and/or Disabled	3,748	5,573	9,321
Non Disabled IS	158	208	366
RP only	1,274	1,137	2,411
All	5,180	6,918	12,098

Table 3.2.3 Cases over State Pension Age changing statistical group: August 2000 and August 2001

Statistical group in August 2000	Statistical group in August 2001			All
	Sick and/or Disabled	Non Disabled IS	RP only	
Sick and/or Disabled	0	223	189	412
Non Disabled IS	1,700	0	325	2,025
RP only	6,724	1,852	0	8,576
All	8,424	2,075	514	11,013

- 61% of claimants moving onto a key benefit(s) between August 2000 and August 2001 received the state Retirement Pension as their only benefit.
- The number in the sick and/or disabled statistical group rose by 3,759 between August 2000 and August 2001. However more people stopped claiming a key benefit in this statistical group (9,321) than moved onto benefit directly into the sick and/or disabled statistical group (5,068). This rise is due to a net 8,012 moving from the other statistical groups (most importantly RP only) into the sick and/or disabled group.

Table 3.2.4 Cases over State Pension Age moving onto a key benefit between August 1998¹ and August 2001: by gender and statistical group

	Male	Female	All
Sick and/or Disabled	7,663	8,217	15,880
Non Disabled IS	1,272	1,459	2,731
RP only	9,314	16,388	25,702
All	18,249	26,064	44,313

¹ Data on RP claimants at August 1998 was extracted from scans taken at March 1998 and March 1999

Table 3.2.5 Cases over State Pension Age receiving a key benefit at August 1998¹ but no longer receiving key benefits in August 2001: by gender and statistical group

	Male	Female	All
Sick and/or Disabled	10,622	16,747	27,369
Non Disabled IS	667	1,051	1,718
RP only	3,502	3,119	6,621
All	14,791	20,917	35,708

¹ Data on RP claimants at August 1998 was extracted from scans taken at March 1998 and March 1999

Table 3.2.6 Cases over State Pension Age changing statistical group: August 1998¹ and August 2001

Statistical group in August 1998	Statistical group in August 2001			All
	Sick and/or Disabled	Non Disabled IS	RP only	
Sick and/or Disabled	0	301	827	1,128
Non Disabled IS	4,748	0	624	5,372
Rp only	17,812	3,021	0	20,833
All	22,560	3,322	1,451	27,333

¹ Data on RP claimants at August 1998 was extracted from scans taken at March 1998 and March 1999

- The overall number of claimants on key benefits has risen during the period August 1998 to August 2001 by 8,605, with the number moving onto key benefits (44,313) exceeding those no longer claiming a key benefit (35,708).
- Approximately 74% of people on a key benefit in August 1998 have remained within the same statistical group in August 2001, 15% were no longer on a key benefit and 11% had moved statistical group.

Table 3.2.7 Sick and/or Disabled claimants over State Pension Age by benefit combination: August 1998 to August 2001

	Aug-98 ¹		Aug-99		Aug-00		Aug-01	
		%		%		%		%
AA or DLA	7,576	7	2,571	2	3,251	3	3,288	3
IB or SDA	1,481	1	682	1	189	0	152	0
AA or DLA and IB or SDA	2,237	2	1,374	1	852	1	859	1
IS only/IS with AA or DLA or IB or SDA	11,652	10	5,370	5	5,148	4	4,796	4
RP only (IVA or in hospital)	4,990	4	5,638	5	6,001	5	5,981	5
RP and one of AA or DLA	44,546	40	53,366	47	55,748	48	58,246	48
RP and IS	2,735	2	2,964	3	2,712	2	2,595	2
RP and IS and AA or DLA	35,799	32	41,708	37	43,417	37	45,159	37
All	111,016	100	113,673	100	117,318	100	121,076	100

¹ Data on RP claimants at August 1998 was extracted from scans taken at March 1998 and March 1999

Table 3.2.8 Sick and/or Disabled over State Pension Age statistical group cases by benefit combination and gender: August 2001

	Male	%	Female	%	All	%
AA or DLA	954	2	2,334	3	3,288	3
IB or SDA	33	0	119	0	152	0
AA or DLA and IB or SDA	62	0	797	1	859	1
IS only/IS with AA or DLA or IB or SDA	1,298	3	3,498	4	4,796	4
RP only (IVA or in hospital)	4,071	10	1,910	2	5,981	5
RP and one of AA or DLA	21,321	52	36,925	46	58,246	48
RP and IS	924	2	1,671	2	2,595	2
RP and IS and AA or DLA	12,312	30	32,847	41	45,159	37
All	40,975	100	80,101	100	121,076	100

- The sick and/or disabled statistical group as a whole increased by 10,060 (+9%) between August 1998 and August 2001.
- RP plus AA or DLA in August 2001 accounted for 48% of the total claimants within the sick and/or disabled statistical group. This compares with only 40% in August 1998.
- The numbers claiming RP, plus IS and AA or DLA rose more slowly. The relative size of the RP, plus IS and AA or DLA group has increased from 32% within the sick and/or disabled statistical group at August 1998 to 37% at August 2001.

**Table 3.2.9 Claimants over State Pension Age by all benefit combinations and gender:
August 2001**

	Male	Female	All
DLA only	314	1,278	1,592
AA only	632	1,047	1,679
DLA, AA	8	9	17
SDA only	33	119	152
SDA, DLA	46	721	767
SDA, AA	15	62	77
SDA, DLA, AA	1	14	15
IB only	.	.	0
IB, DLA	.	.	0
IB, AA	.	.	0
IS only	765	1,339	2,104
IS, DLA	376	980	1,356
IS, AA	401	1,135	1,536
IS, DLA, AA	3	16	19
IS, SDA	89	212	301
IS, SDA, DLA	234	670	904
IS, SDA, AA	76	194	270
IS, SDA, AA, DLA	8	17	25
IS, IB	.	.	0
IS, IB, DLA	.	.	0
IS, IB, AA	.	.	0
RP only	48,036	77,233	125,269
RP, DLA	8,047	14,706	22,753
RP, AA	13,122	22,030	35,152
RP, AA, DLA	153	192	345
RP, IS	4,402	10,171	14,573
RP, IS, DLA	3,901	7,753	11,654
RP, IS, AA	8,299	24,854	33,153
RP, IS, AA, DLA	112	240	352
All	89,073	164,992	254,065

3.3 Regional Analysis

These analyses show the numbers of claimants of key benefits in each Government Office Region.

Table 3.3.1 Claimants over State Pension Age of key benefits by gender and Government Office Region: May 2001

	Thousands and percentages					
	Men		Women		All	
	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹
Great Britain	3,780	100	6,513	97	10,293	98
England	3,254	100	5,561	96	8,816	98
North East	175	101	303	97	478	99
North West ²	448	102	786	97	1,234	99
Yorkshire & Humberside	333	101	575	96	907	98
East Midlands	284	99	471	96	755	98
West Midlands	354	100	602	97	957	98
East	377	101	621	97	998	99
London	361	96	640	94	1,001	94
South East	538	100	920	96	1,458	98
South West	383	100	644	97	1,027	99
Wales	208	98	357	95	565	96
Scotland	318	100	595	98	913	99
Northern Ireland ³	89	100	165	97	254	98

1 Population over state pension age

2 The old Merseyside GOR was merged with North West GOR on 3rd August 1998

3 Northern Ireland data is at August 2001

- The proportion of the population over state pension age claiming a key benefit ranges from 94% in London to 99% in several other government office regions.
- The figure for Northern Ireland of 98% claiming a key benefit is the same as the Great Britain average, only London and Wales have a lower percentage of claimants than Northern Ireland and Great Britain.

Table 3.3.2 Claimants over State Pension Age of key benefits by Statistical group and Government Office Region: May 2001

Thousands and percentages

		Statistical Group			
		Sick and/or Disabled	on Disabled IS	RP only	All
Great Britain	(000s)	2,400	681	7,212	10,293
	% of pop ¹	23	6	68	98
England	(000s)	1,944	591	6,281	8,816
	% of pop ¹	22	7	70	98
North East	(000s)	145	35	298	478
	% of pop ¹	30	7	61	98
North West ²	(000s)	266	80	787	1,234
	% of pop ¹	29	6	63	99
Yorkshire & Humberside	(000s)	229	64	614	907
	% of pop ¹	25	7	66	98
East Midlands	(000s)	174	46	536	755
	% of pop ¹	22	6	69	97
West Midlands	(000s)	239	69	649	957
	% of pop ¹	25	7	67	98
East	(000s)	180	58	760	998
	% of pop ¹	18	6	75	99
London	(000s)	196	100	706	1,001
	% of pop ¹	18	9	67	95
South East	(000s)	218	82	1,158	1,458
	% of pop ¹	15	5	77	97
South West	(000s)	197	56	774	1,027
	% of pop ¹	19	5	74	98
Wales	(000s)	199	29	337	565
	% of pop ¹	34	5	57	96
Scotland	(000s)	257	61	595	913
	% of pop ¹	28	7	64	99
Northern Ireland	(000s)	121	14	119	254
	% of pop ¹	47	5	46	98

1 Population over state pension age

2 The old Merseyside GOR was merged with North West GOR on 3rd August 1998

3 Northern Ireland data is at August 2001

- Northern Ireland has by far the highest proportion claiming a key sickness and/or disability benefit at 47% compared to Wales (34%), which is next, with the South East lowest at 15%.
- For the RP only category Northern Ireland (46%) is considerably lower than any other office region, with Wales (57%) next. The highest proportion is the South East (77%).

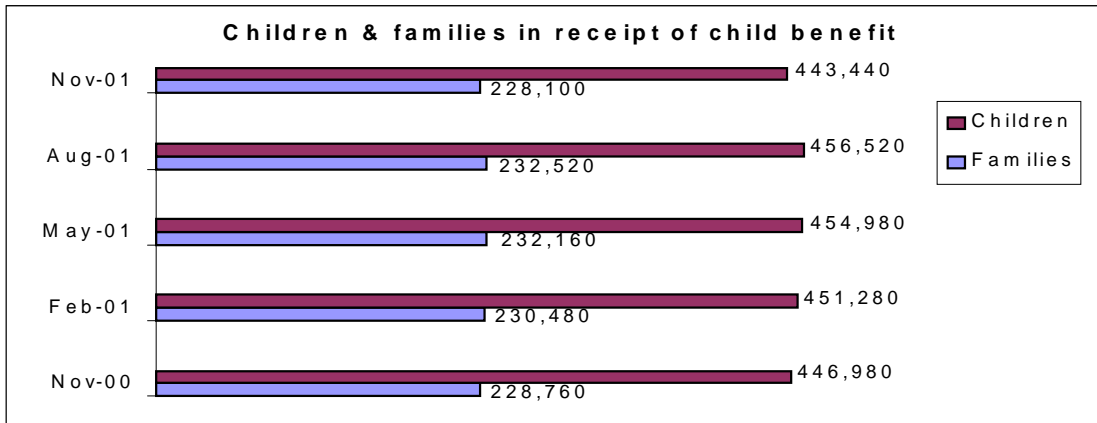
Appendices

Appendix 1 - Child Benefit

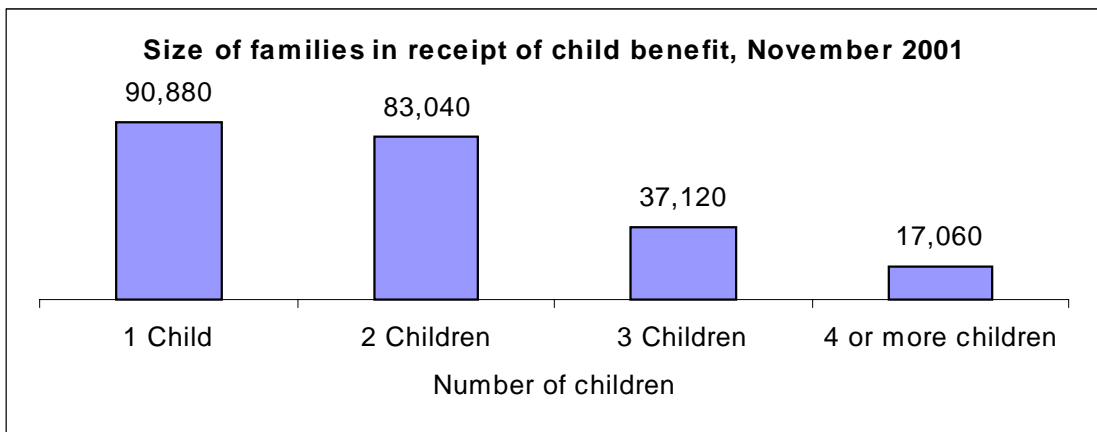
At the end of November 2001 there were 228,100 families receiving child benefit and 443,440 children in respect of whom the payment was being made.

76% of families were receiving child benefit for either 1 or 2 children only.

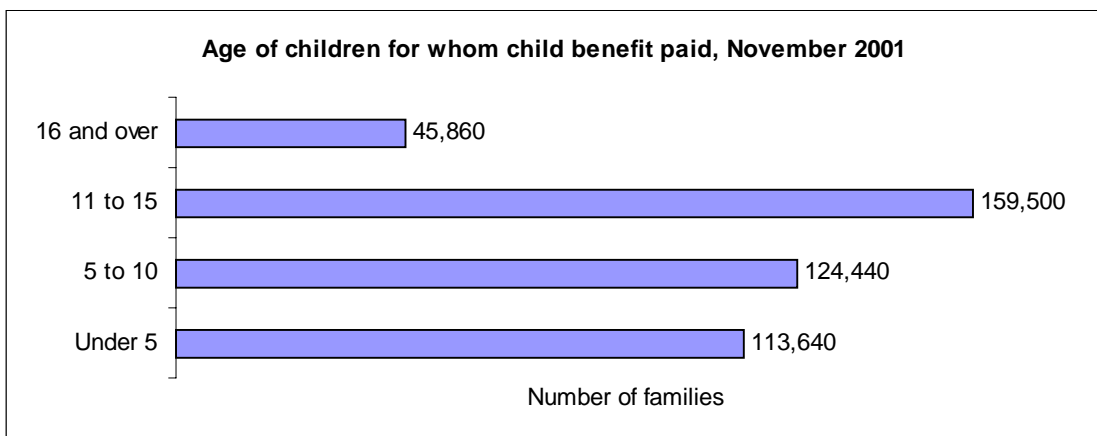
Child Benefit caseload: families and children



Child Benefit families by number of children, November 2001



Child Benefit caseload by age of children, November 2001

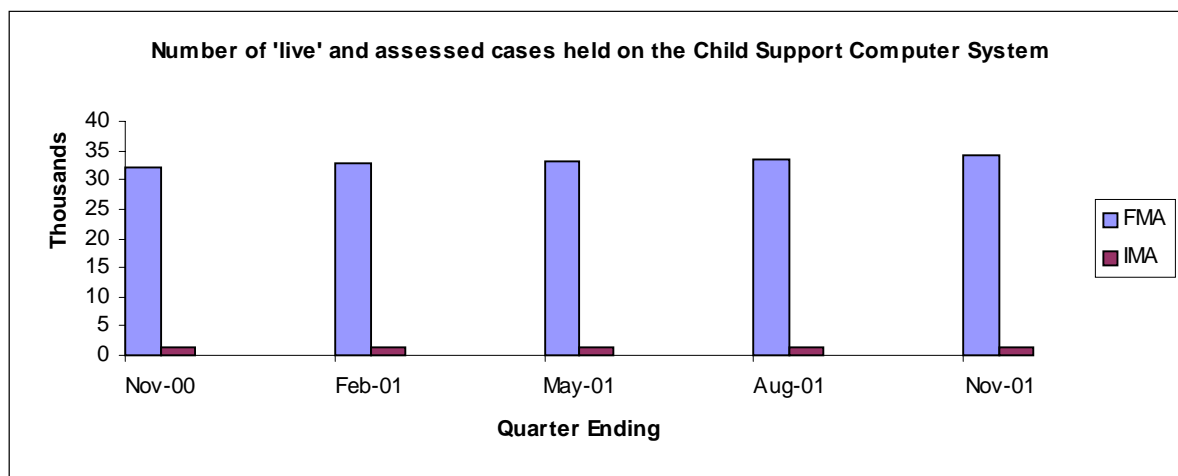


Child Benefit rates (£ per week)

	Eldest qualifying child of a couple	Eldest qualifying child of a lone parent	Each other child
Apr-92	9.65	15.50	7.80
Apr-93	10.00	16.05	8.10
Apr-94	10.20	16.35	8.25
Apr-95	10.40	16.70	8.45
Apr-96	10.80	17.10	8.80
Apr-97	11.05	17.10	9.00
Apr-98	11.45	17.10	9.30
Apr-99	14.40	17.10	9.60
Apr-00	15.00	17.55	10.00
Apr-01	15.50	17.55	10.35
Apr-02	15.75	17.55	10.55

Appendix 2 - Child Support Agency

At the end of November 2001 there were 34,068 'live' and fully assessed cases held on the Child Support Computer System (CSCS).



The average FMA (Full Maintenance Assessment) for all non-resident parents (NRPs) rose from £13.72 in November 2000 to £14.08 in November 2001. For NRPs recorded on CSCS as an employee the average maintenance in November 2001 was £34.77 per week, an increase of £0.66 per week from November 2000. For self-employed NRPs, the average maintenance assessment increased from £19.92 per week in November 2000 to £20.30 in November 2001.

Table 1 Number of NRPs with maintenance assessment and average value of assessment, November 2000 - November 2001

Month	FMA	Average, £pw
Nov-00	32,276	£13.72
Feb-01	32,793	£13.75
May-01	33,084	£13.86
Aug-01	33,590	£13.96
Nov-01	34,068	£14.08

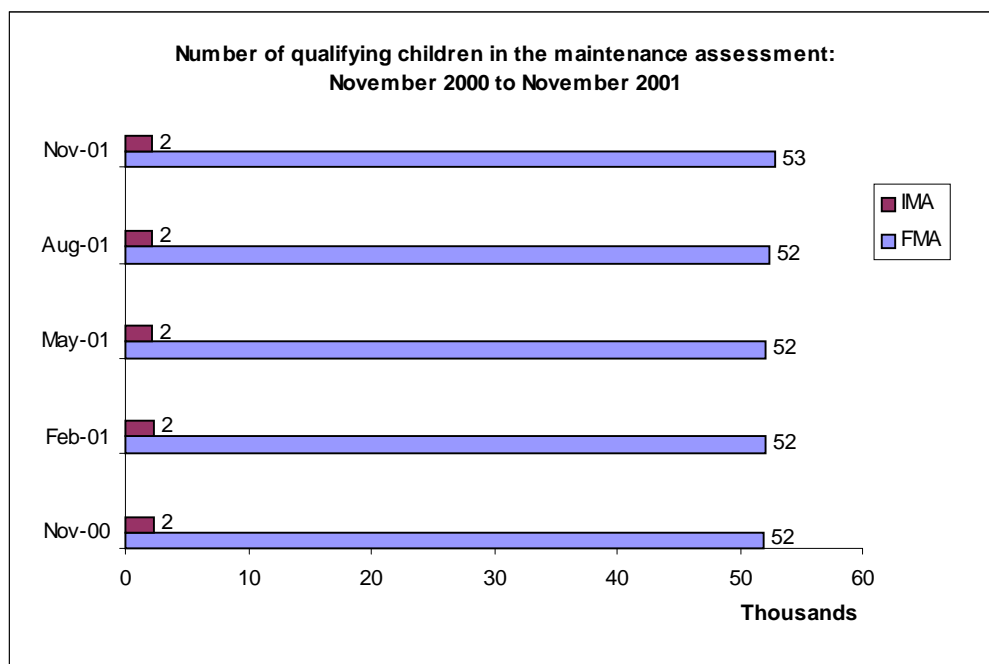
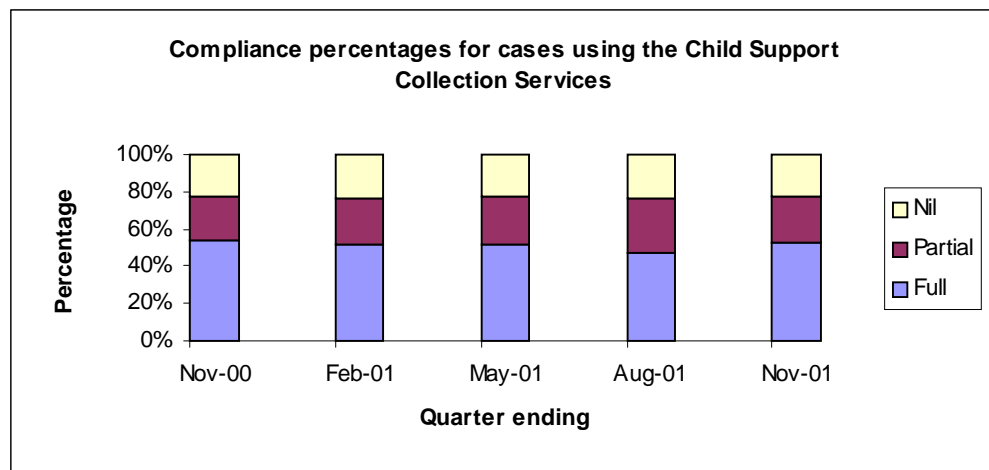
Table 2 Benefit status of PWC, November 2000 - November 2001: full assessments

Month	PWC benefit status							
	Total	%	IS	%	WFTC/ DPTC	%	Other	%
Nov-00	32,276	100	20,303	63	8,181	25	3,792	12
Feb-01	32,793	100	20,448	62	8,455	26	3,890	12
May-01	33,084	100	20,602	62	8,564	26	3,918	12
Aug-01	33,590	100	20,850	62	8,747	26	3,993	12
Nov-01	34,068	100	20,977	62	9,003	26	4,088	12

In the following table the 'Not Applicable' category covers 2 groups of NRPs. Firstly, 'direct pay' NRPs where payment is not via the CSA Collection Service. Secondly, 'nothing due' NRPs where no payment has been made in the Regular Payment Accounts (RPAs) during the last quarter and nothing is outstanding.

Table 3 Compliance levels for 'live' and fully assessed cases, November 2000 - November 2001: caseload

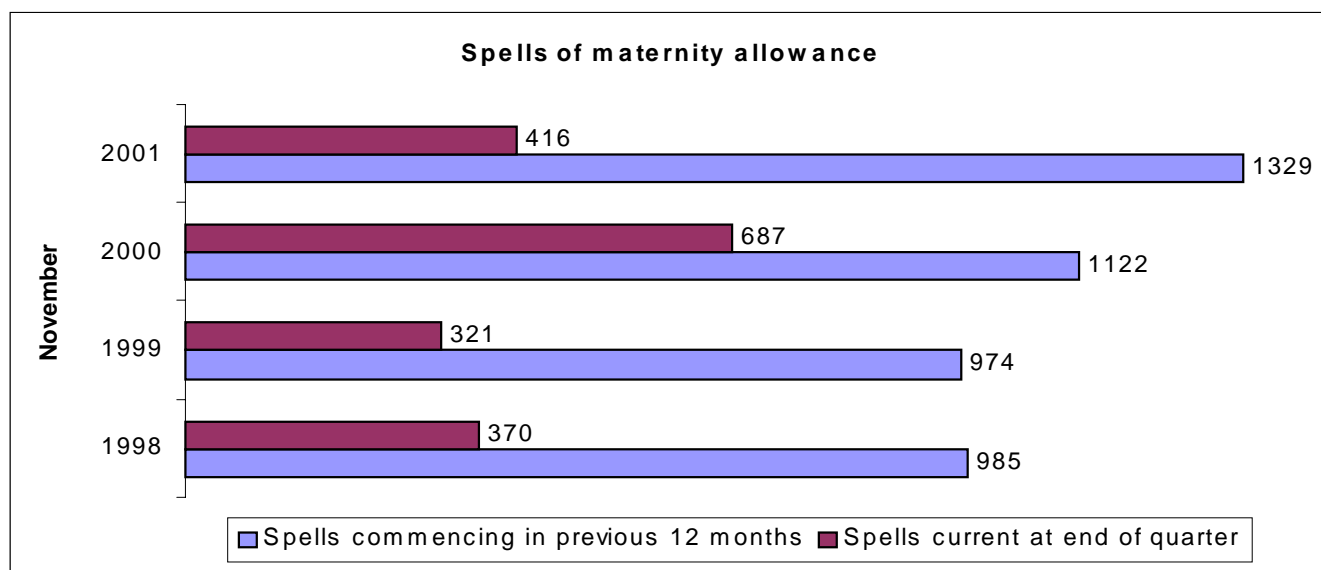
Month	Total	Not Applicable	Full	Partial	Nil
Nov-00	32,276	23,727	4,592	2,057	1,900
Feb-01	32,793	24,192	4,495	2,074	2,032
May-01	33,084	24,421	4,521	2,173	1,969
Aug-01	33,590	24,862	4,129	2,521	2,078
Nov-01	34,068	25,272	4,675	2,095	2,026



- The number of qualifying children in the fully assessed caseload has increased by 2% since November 2000.

Appendix 3 - Maternity Allowance

At the end of November 2001 there were 416 spells of maternity allowance in payment a decrease of 12% on 3 years earlier.



Maternity Allowance rates (£ per week)

	Higher rate ¹	Lower rate	Increase for dependants
Apr-92	.	42.25	25.50
Apr-93	.	43.75	26.40
Apr-94	.	44.55	26.90
Oct-94	52.50	44.55	26.90
Apr-95	52.50	45.55	27.50
Apr-96	54.55	47.35	28.55
Apr-97	55.70	48.35	29.15
Apr-98	57.70	50.10	30.20
Apr-99	59.55	51.70	31.15
Apr-00	60.20	52.25	31.50
Apr-01	62.20 ²		32.55
Apr-02	75.00		33.10

¹ The woman must be an employee in the 15th week before the baby is expected (the 'qualifying week').

² In April 2001 the higher and lower rates of maternity allowance were abolished and replaced by a standard rate.

Methodology

The following notes are for the interpretation of Persons of Working Age and their Children. A full description of the methodology used to produce these analyses and the possible uses that can be made of the data is available from the contact point listed.

These analyses are based on data collected through the administration of the individual benefits and tax credits. They are designed to give a good indication of the size of the population on these benefits and/or tax credits and how this changes over time. However, they are affected by changes to the conditions of entitlement and to the existence of the benefits/tax credits themselves. This includes such things as: the replacement of Family Credit and Disability Working Allowance with Working Families' Tax Credit and Disabled Person's Tax Credit respectively. No attempt has been made to adjust the series for such factors.

Summary of methodology

The analysis of Persons of Working Age and their Children have been constructed by matching 5% samples for the individual benefits/ tax credits that they cover, with the exception of Disabled Person's Tax Credit. Due to the low number of individuals receiving Disabled Person's Tax Credit each person was included in these analyses rather than using a sample. People in these individual samples are selected using the last two digits of the National Insurance number (NINO). This sampling scheme ensures that the same set of people will be selected for each individual benefit/ tax credit and time period that they have a live claim.

(Note: The analysis of Persons of Pensionable Age has been constructed by matching 100% scans for the individual benefits that they cover).

To produce the client group analyses, a common "snapshot" date is chosen and the NINOs for each person claiming a benefit or receiving a tax credit on this date are selected. The NINOs are then matched to produce an overall data set for those who are claiming at least one benefit or receiving a tax credit on the snapshot date. The individual data items used for the various analyses (e.g. age, sex, number of children) are then taken from the source data sets and additional variables are then derived (e.g. statistical group, family type).

This methodology gives a "best estimate" of the overall number of claimants of benefits and recipients of tax credits. However, there are some minor limitations (for example, the sample of JSA claimants is taken about two weeks before the snapshot date). The best estimates of the numbers claiming each benefit or receiving each tax credit are still given by the individual samples from which the data are drawn. Benefit statistics are published by Statistics and Research Branch, Department for Social Development and tax credit statistics are published by Inland Revenue Analytical Services Division.

Family type and "People on benefits"

The Family Type analyses in section 1.2 are based mainly on claimants who receive additional amounts of benefit for their partner and/or children and young adult dependants. These amounts are payable for all partners and dependants of claimants of means tested benefits, which are received by the majority of claimants covered by these analyses. The main gap comes from claimants of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance where additional benefit is payable only to those who have a partner who is not working and is looking after children. For Disability Living Allowance, partner and/or children information is not required since claimants make a claim in their own right from birth to pensionable age. For Jobseeker's Allowance, Contributory and Credits, no additional payment is made for partners or children.

However, Statistics and Research Branch have been able to match partner's and dependant's details in this publication from other data sources i.e. Child Benefit and Child Support Agency. This has reduced the percentage of 'Not Known' cases from 36% to 29% at November 2001. The 'Not Known' group is made up of the remaining Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance and Disability Living Allowance cases. It includes a small number (1% at November 2001) who receive allowances for dependants but not partners.

In sections 1.6, 1.7 and in the Children's section, the analysis is based on Children of Working Age Claimants where we have been able to match details from either the Key Benefits themselves or from Child Benefit and Child Support Agency scans. There are a small number of children where their age is not known. It is assumed for the purposes of the relevant sections that they are '15 or less'.

Statistical groups

Claimants have been allocated to statistical groups to give an indication of the main reason why they are claiming benefit (see Definitions and Conventions). This is only one of the possible ways in which claimants could be classified and alternative classifications are possible.

In sections 1.10 and 2.3, claimants of key benefits and recipients of tax credits have been divided into groups based mainly on the type of benefit and/or tax credit they receive. This gives an indication of the main reason why they are claiming a benefit and/or receiving a tax credit. As WFTC and DPTC awards can remain in payment after employment has ended (they are paid for six months irrespective of circumstances), those people who also receive a key benefit (other than DLA) are allocated to the appropriate group based on the benefit received. For example, a person receiving WFTC who also receives IS as a lone parent has been allocated to the "Lone Parent" group. This explains why the numbers in some groups shown in this bulletin can differ from those shown in the separate DSD and IR benefit and tax credit publications.

Transitions analyses

The transitions analyses shown in section 1.3 of this bulletin are produced by matching the "snapshot" data for the stock of claimants with a live claim at the end of each quarter. By matching claimants who appear in different quarters, we can get an indication of how many move on, off and between the benefits that are included. These analyses do not cover all claimants who come on and go off these benefits over the period covered by the analyses. For example, they do not cover those claims of very short duration, which start and end between the "snapshot" dates.

Also, as they are based on matching NINOs of claimants of these benefits, they do not cover all possible movements into and out of the benefit system. For example, if a claimant leaves Income Support because his partner claims Jobseeker's Allowance, the analyses will not capture this change. The transitions analysis shown in section 1.10 of this bulletin additionally shows movements between benefits and tax credits. They are subject to similar constraints as the analysis in section 1.3 described above.

The importance of these "missing flows" will depend mainly upon the use that is made of the data. If, for example, we want to analyse the number of different benefits that a claimant receives over a three-year period, these analyses should be able to produce a good measure of it. However, if we were attempting to produce a similar analysis based on benefit units, we could miss a significant number flows - for example, where the partners in a couple alternate as to who makes the claim for a benefit when the family circumstances change.

IS claimants on Government Training schemes

Prior to the introduction of JSA, people on Government Training schemes could claim Income Support. When JSA was introduced in October 1996, these claimants now had to claim Income-based JSA. They are not included in the client group analysis in this bulletin as validated source data are not currently available.

Clerical Cases

Some of the claims to each of the key benefits featured in this bulletin are not administered using the relevant DSS computer system. These claims are administered clerically and make up a very small proportion of people of working age who claim a key benefit.

Sampling Errors

The analyses in this report are subject to 'sampling error', i.e. there is a chance that the number of cases in the sample may produce population estimates that are slightly lower or slightly higher than the true population value. An indication of the effect of these sampling errors can be gained from the tables of 'confidence intervals' below. The size of this range is usually indicated by a "95% confidence interval" i.e. there is only a 1 in 20 chance that the true value lies outside of this range. Usually this interval is approximately symmetric so, for example, an estimate of 10,000 is really showing that the true value lies in the range of 9,146 to 10,854.

The above method applies only to estimates of numbers of claimants and not to other characteristics.

Estimated Value	95% Confidence Interval	Confidence interval as a % of the Estimate
700	+/-226	+/-32%
800	+/-242	+/-30%
900	+/-256	+/-28%
1,000	+/-270	+/-27%
2,000	+/-382	+/-19%
3,000	+/-468	+/-16%
4,000	+/-540	+/-14%
5,000	+/-604	+/-12%
6,000	+/-662	+/-11%
7,000	+/-715	+/-10%
8,000	+/-764	+/-10%
9,000	+/-811	+/-9%
10,000	+/-854	+/-9%
20,000	+/-1,208	+/-6%
30,000	+/-1,480	+/-5%
40,000	+/-1,709	+/-4%
50,000	+/-1,910	+/-4%
100,000	+/-2,702	+/-3%
200,000	+/-3,821	+/-2%
300,000	+/-4,679	+/-2%

Warning: Figures 600 or less should be used with caution.

