
NORTHERN IRELAND

**SUMMARY OF
SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS**

2003

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Summary of Social Security Statistics

2003

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Introduction

This is the third edition of 'Northern Ireland Summary of Social Security Statistics'. It is published annually by Statistics and Research Branch (SRB) on behalf of the Department for Social Development. The publication replaces the annual statistical publications of individual benefits. It is intended to provide a single source of information on claimants of all social security benefits. As well as providing information of the individual benefits it also contains information from the publication 'Northern Ireland Client Group Analysis - Persons of working age and their children and persons of pensionable age receiving key benefits' which concentrates on the three major social security client groups.

Social Security Benefits give financial support to individuals and families who have certain needs or who are in times of hardship.

The National Insurance Fund provides contributory benefits against loss of income for those who are retired, widowed, unemployed, sick or disabled. It also provides help for some people with the costs involved in having a baby.

Non-contributory benefits fall into two categories. There is means-tested support for people on low incomes in the form of Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based), Housing Benefit and help from the Social Fund. There are also non-contributory benefits, which are not means-tested. These include Child Benefit, Industrial Injuries benefits, War Pensions, and Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance for the long-term sick and disabled.

The main benefits/client groups are explained in the prologue to the section.

Where figures have been rounded, component parts may not sum to totals.

Detailed analyses are provided for the latest available period.

The SRB Website (www.dsdni.gov.uk/statistics-research/introduction.asp) gives access to a range of statistical publications, and more detailed statistics for the individual benefits.

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CLIENT GROUP ANALYSIS

Definitions and Conventions - Sections 1 and 2

Key benefits

Symbols and conventions

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)	Working age is 16 to 64 years for men
Incapacity Benefit (IB)	16 to 59 years for women
Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)	Population estimates are mid year from 1998 to 2001
Disability Living Allowance (DLA)	16-18 year olds in full-time education from 1998 to 2001
Income Support (IS)	“.” 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 2001
 “.” 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

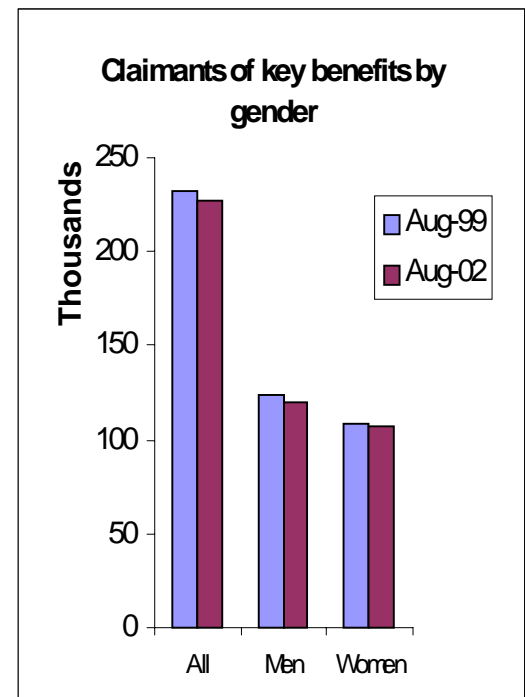
Section 1: Persons of Working Age on Key Benefits

1.1 Age and Gender

Table 1.1.1 Claimants of key benefits by gender: August 1999 to August 2002

	Aug-99	Aug-00	Aug-01	Aug-02
All	231,740	227,660	226,900	226,980
% of pop ¹	23	22	22	22
Men	123,540	120,320	118,520	119,840
% of pop ¹	24	23	23	23
Women	108,200	107,340	108,380	107,140
% of pop ¹	22	22	22	21

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland - see Methodology



- In August 2002 about 22% (226,980) of people of working age claimed a key benefit – down from 23% (231,740) in August 1999.
- Older people were more likely to be claiming benefits. In 2002, 35% of those aged 55 to 59 claimed a benefit compared to 18% of those aged 18 to 24.

Table 1.1.2 Claimants of key benefits by age and gender: August 2002

	All		Men		Women	
	Number	% of pop in age group	Number	% of pop in age group	Number	% of pop in age group
All	226,980	22	119,840	23	107,140	21
Under 18	2,100	4	960	4	1,140	4
18 to 24	28,760	18	14,080	18	14,680	19
25 to 34	43,780	18	19,920	17	23,860	19
35 to 44	52,040	21	24,660	20	27,380	22
45 to 54	51,540	26	26,220	26	25,320	25
55 to 59	31,320	35	16,560	38	14,760	32
60 to 64	17,440	49	17,440	49	.	.

1.2 Family Type

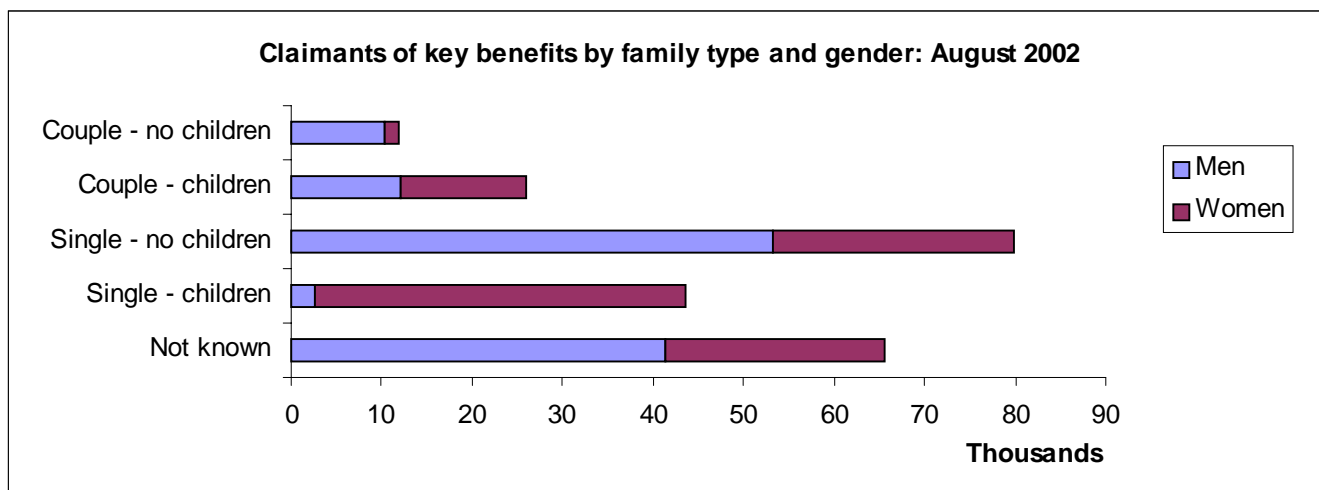
This section contains analyses of the type of family in which claimants live. Family type was assigned according to whether the claimant had a partner and/or children. It was not possible to assign a family type in every case (Not known).

Table 1.2.1 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ and gender: August 2002

	All	%	Men	%	Women	%
All	226,980	100	119,840	100	107,140	100
All couples	37,820	17	22,560	19	15,260	14
Couple - no children	11,800	5	10,400	9	1,400	1
Couple - children	26,020	11	12,160	10	13,860	13
All single	123,640	54	55,900	47	67,740	63
Single - no children	79,980	35	53,340	45	26,640	25
Single - children	43,660	19	2,560	2	41,100	38
Not known	65,520	29	41,380	35	24,140	23

¹ See Methodology for further details

- 123,640 claimants were single in August 2002.
- Over 30% (69,680) of claimants had children. The majority of claimants with children (43,660) were single.



**Table 1.2.2 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ and statistical group:
August 2002**

	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parent	Other
All	226,980	36,500	148,460	29,600	12,420
All couples	37,820	5,660	28,820	.	3,340
Couple - no children	11,800	1,620	8,200	.	1,980
Couple - children	26,020	4,040	20,620	.	1,360
All single	123,640	30,840	54,120	29,600	9,080
Single - no children	79,980	29,740	41,160	.	9,080
Single - children	43,660	1,100	12,960	29,600	.
Not known	65,520	.	65,520	.	.

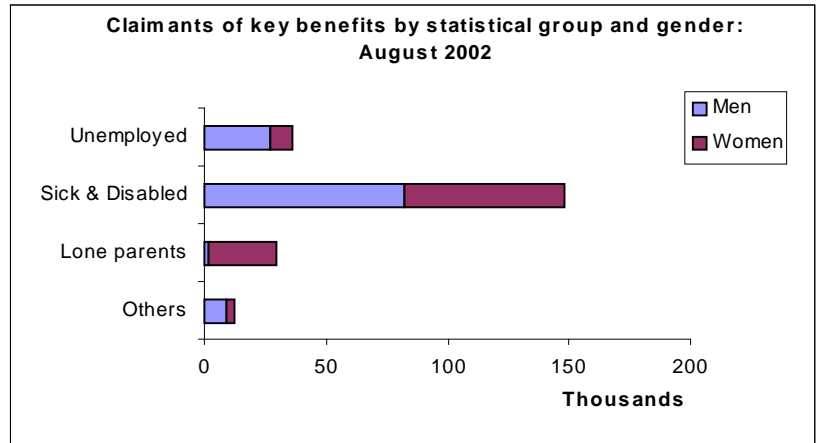
¹ See Methodology for further details

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: August 2002

	All	Men	Women
All	226,980	119,840	107,140
Unemployed	36,500	27,040	9,460
Sick & Disabled	148,460	82,680	65,780
Lone parents	29,600	1,420	28,180
Others	12,420	8,700	3,720



- The overall numbers fell by 4,760 between August 1999 and August 2002, mostly because of the unemployed group which fell by 14,740 (29%) over this period.
- Sick & disabled claimants were consistently the largest group between August 1999 and August 2002, 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 13,620 (up 10%) between August 1999 and August 2002, whilst numbers in the lone parents group fell by 4,040 (down 12%) over the same period.

Table 1.3.2 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group: August 1999 to August 2002

	Aug-99		Aug-00		Aug-01		Aug-02	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
All	231,740	23	227,660	22	226,900	22	226,980	22
Unemployed	51,240	5	42,820	4	39,620	4	36,500	4
Sick & Disabled	134,840	13	139,540	14	143,940	14	148,460	14
Lone parents	33,640	3	32,200	3	31,360	3	29,600	3
Others	12,020	1	13,100	1	11,980	1	12,420	1

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland - see Methodology

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: August 1999 to August 2002

	<u>On benefit in current year - status in previous year¹</u>				Left benefit since previous year ²
	All	Same statistical group	Different statistical group	Not on benefit	
Aug-99	231,740	.	.	.	.
Aug-00	227,660	167,920	16,360	43,380	47,460
Aug-01	226,900	171,860	14,820	40,220	40,980
Aug-02	226,980	171,460	14,320	41,200	41,120

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

Table 1.3.4 Claimants of key benefits in August 2002 - by status in August 1999

Benefit status in August 2002	All on benefit in August 2002	Benefit status in August 1999		
		Not on benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
All	226,980	70,900	133,640	22,440
Unemployed	36,500	21,440	11,540	3,520
Sick & Disabled	148,460	37,700	97,920	12,840
Lone Parents	29,600	8,340	19,360	1,900
Others	12,420	3,420	4,820	4,180

- Around 69% (156,080) of key benefit claimants in August 2002 were also on benefit in August 1999; 59% of the overall total were in the same statistical group.

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: August 2002

	All	Income replacement benefits ¹	Other benefits only ²	NI Credits ³
All	226,980	199,920	20,660	6,400
Unemployed	36,500	33,240	.	3,260
Sick & Disabled	148,460	124,660	20,660	3,140
Lone parents	29,600	29,600	.	.
Others	12,420	12,420	.	.

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 August 2002, 199,920 claimants received an income replacement benefit, down from 208,000 in August 1999.
- In August 2002, 60,120 claimants received only a contributory benefit.
- 136,840 claimants received a benefit that was means tested in August 2002. Of those 119,500 claimants received a benefit that was means tested whilst 17,340 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 statistical group and main basis of entitlement: August 2002

	Basis of benefit entitlement					
	All	Contributory ¹	Contributory and means tested ²	Means tested ³	Other ⁴	NI Credits ⁵
All	226,980	60,120	17,340	119,500	23,620	6,400
Unemployed	36,500	5,240	300	27,700	.	3,260
Sick & Disabled	148,460	54,880	17,040	49,780	23,620	3,140
Lone Parents	29,600	.	.	29,600	.	.
Others	12,420	.	.	12,420	.	.

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

1.5 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: August 2002

	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	226,980	22,160	15,580	22,400	28,240	138,600
Unemployed	36,500	14,180	6,020	6,580	4,620	5,100
Sick & Disabled	148,460	5,640	7,060	12,020	17,920	105,820
Lone parents	29,600	1,260	1,420	2,540	3,720	20,660
Others	12,420	1,080	1,080	1,260	1,980	7,020

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Around 61% (138,600) of the claimants in August 2002 had been receiving a key benefit for 2 years or more.
- Of those longer duration claimants 76% (105,820) were in the sick & disabled group. That group was therefore more likely to have been on benefit for longer periods than all the others – 71% had been on benefits for 2 years or more compared with only 14% of those in the unemployed group.

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: August 2002

	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	226,980	72,500	26,580	21,140	15,500	5,980	3,300
Unemployed	36,500	5,140	1,960	1,120	980	1,000	80
Sick & Disabled	148,460	36,400	10,060	9,420	9,260	4,460	3,200
Lone parents	29,600	29,600	14,060	10,220	4,860	440	20
Others	12,420	1,360	500	380	400	80	.

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

² Children whose ages are not known

- In August 2002, 72,500 claimants of key benefits had children and/or young dependants.
- 37% (26,580) 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: August 2002

	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	127,580	32	46,720	75,320	5,540	16,140	38	8,540	7,600	.
Unemployed	8,380	2	7,700	680	.	1,700	4	980	720	.
Sick & Disabled	62,200	16	36,120	20,540	5,540	10,500	24	7,200	3,300	.
Lone Parents	54,100	14	.	54,100	.	3,580	8	.	3,580	.
Others	2,900	1	2,900	0	.	360	1	360	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 August 2002, 127,580 children under the age of 16 were living in families in which a key benefit was claimed.
- The majority of these children 75,320 were living in single parent families.
- 16,140 young people aged 16 -18 (38% of all 16 - 18 year olds in full-time education) were living in families with a key benefit claimant.
- 20% of all young people aged 16 - 18 were living with key benefit claimants in August 2002.

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: August 2002

	Thousands					
	All		Men		Women	
	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹
Great Britain	4,936	14	2,578	14	2,358	14
England	4,038	13	2,098	14	1,940	13
North East	311	20	169	21	141	19
North West	742	18	396	19	346	17
Yorkshire & Humberside	453	15	244	16	209	14
East Midlands	324	13	168	13	156	13
West Midlands	472	15	249	15	222	15
East	319	10	158	9	161	10
London	684	15	336	14	349	15
South East	418	9	211	8	207	9
South West	315	11	165	11	149	11
Wales	338	20	179	20	158	19
Scotland	561	18	301	19	260	17
Northern Ireland	227	22	120	23	107	21
IB/SDA claimants living abroad ²	10	.	7	.	4	.

¹ Population of working age

² 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 9% 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% (Derry and Strabane).
- The district council with the greatest proportion of working age claimants in the sick & disabled group was Strabane (21%), followed by Cookstown and Derry (both 19%). 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% (Strabane) to 1% (Banbridge).

Table 1.8.2 Claimants of key benefits by gender and District Council: August 2002

	All		Men		Women	
		% of pop ¹		% of pop ¹		% of pop ¹
Northern Ireland	226,980	22	119,840	23	107,140	21
Ards	6,940	15	3,360	14	3,580	16
Belfast	49,220	29	27,040	33	22,180	26
Castlereagh	5,580	14	3,140	16	2,440	12
Down	7,340	19	4,000	20	3,340	18
Lisburn	11,540	17	5,420	16	6,120	19
North Down	5,980	13	3,300	14	2,680	12
Antrim	5,260	17	2,600	16	2,660	18
Ballymena	5,540	15	3,080	17	2,460	14
Ballymoney	3,040	19	1,680	20	1,360	17
Carrickfergus	3,760	16	1,760	15	2,000	17
Coleraine	6,460	19	3,360	19	3,100	18
Cookstown	4,960	25	2,540	25	2,420	25
Larne	3,340	18	1,700	17	1,640	18
Magherafelt	4,260	18	2,100	16	2,160	19
Moyle	2,300	24	1,360	27	940	21
Newtownabbey	8,940	18	4,500	18	4,440	18
Armagh	5,680	17	3,340	19	2,340	15
Banbridge	3,940	15	1,880	14	2,060	17
Craigavon	12,040	25	5,740	23	6,300	27
Dungannon	7,100	25	3,900	26	3,200	24
Newry & Mourne	12,780	24	7,040	26	5,740	23
Derry	20,420	32	10,540	32	9,880	31
Fermanagh	7,280	21	3,960	22	3,320	20
Limavady	4,540	22	2,320	21	2,220	23
Omagh	6,660	23	3,800	24	2,860	21
Strabane	7,420	32	4,160	34	3,260	30
Unknown	4,660	.	2,220	.	2,440	.

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland

**Table 1.8.3 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and District Council:
August 2002**

		Statistical group				
		All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone parents	Others
Northern Ireland		226,980	36,500	148,460	29,600	12,420
	% of pop ¹	22	4	14	3	1
Ards		6,940	880	5,240	640	180
	% of pop ¹	15	2	11	1	0
Belfast		49,220	8,840	29,000	7,880	3,500
	% of pop ¹	29	5	17	5	2
Castlereagh		5,580	1,100	3,680	440	360
	% of pop ¹	14	3	9	1	1
Down		7,340	1,000	5,040	1,000	300
	% of pop ¹	19	3	13	3	1
Lisburn		11,540	1,500	7,700	1,940	400
	% of pop ¹	17	2	11	3	1
North Down		5,980	980	4,100	680	220
	% of pop ¹	13	2	9	1	0
Antrim		5,260	540	3,880	580	260
	% of pop ¹	17	2	13	2	1
Ballymena		5,540	720	3,860	740	220
	% of pop ¹	15	2	11	2	1
Ballymoney		3,040	400	2,080	380	180
	% of pop ¹	19	2	13	2	1
Carrickfergus		3,760	660	2,640	400	60
	% of pop ¹	16	3	11	2	0
Coleraine		6,460	1,280	3,780	920	480
	% of pop ¹	19	4	11	3	1
Cookstown		4,960	420	3,840	460	240
	% of pop ¹	25	2	19	2	1
Larne		3,340	520	2,380	280	160
	% of pop ¹	18	3	13	1	1
Magherafelt		4,260	420	3,180	400	260
	% of pop ¹	18	2	13	2	1
Moyle		2,300	500	1,260	340	200
	% of pop ¹	24	5	13	4	2
Newtownabbey		8,940	1,520	6,040	1,140	240
	% of pop ¹	18	3	12	2	0
Armagh		5,680	1,020	4,000	480	180
	% of pop ¹	17	3	12	1	1
Banbridge		3,940	360	3,000	480	100
	% of pop ¹	15	1	12	2	0
Craigavon		12,040	1,660	8,380	1,260	740
	% of pop ¹	25	3	17	3	2
Dungannon		7,100	780	4,960	860	500
	% of pop ¹	25	3	17	3	2
Newry & Mourne		12,780	1,940	8,580	1,620	640
	% of pop ¹	24	4	16	3	1
Derry		20,420	3,720	12,080	3,300	1,320
	% of pop ¹	32	6	19	5	2
Fermanagh		7,280	1,700	4,480	680	420
	% of pop ¹	21	5	13	2	1
Limavady		4,540	720	2,780	640	400
	% of pop ¹	22	4	14	3	2
Omagh		6,660	1,080	4,620	680	280
	% of pop ¹	23	4	16	2	1
Strabane		7,420	1,660	4,740	620	400
	% of pop ¹	32	7	21	3	2
Unknown		4,660	580	3,140	760	180

¹ Population of working age of Northern Ireland

1.9 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.

Data on awards of WFTC and DPTC are supplied by and used with the agreement of the Inland Revenue.

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:

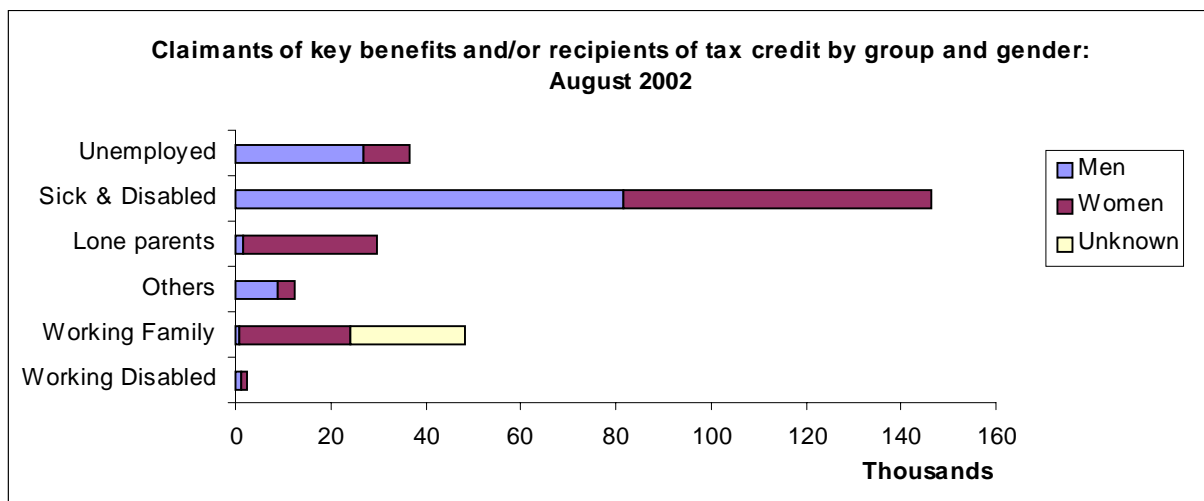
Unemployed	JSA
Sick & disabled ¹	IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
Lone parent	Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
Other	IS claimant not in other groups
Working Family	FC or WFTC
Working Disabled	DWA or DPTC

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 1.9.1 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group and gender: August 2002

	All	Men	Women	Unknown
All	275,437	120,898	130,339	24,200
Unemployed	36,500	27,040	9,460	.
Sick & Disabled ¹	146,440	81,660	64,780	.
Lone parents	29,600	1,420	28,180	.
Others	12,420	8,700	3,720	.
Working Family	48,200	900	23,100	24,200
Working Disabled	2,277	1,178	1,099	.

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 15,125 between August 1999 and August 2002. There was an increase of 19,680 (69%) in the working family group. The largest reduction was in the unemployed group which fell by 14,740 (down 29%).
- Sick and disabled claimants were consistently the largest group over the period August 1999 to August 2002, rising from 51% 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 and disabled group rose by 12,700 (9%), working families by 19,680 (69%) and working disabled by 1,125 between August 1999 and August 2002. The numbers in the lone parents group fell by 4,040 (12%).

**Table 1.9.2 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group:
August 1999 to August 2002**

	Aug-99		Aug-00		Aug-01		Aug-02	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
All	260,312	26	266,767	26	270,513	26	275,437	27
Unemployed	51,240	5	42,820	4	39,620	4	36,500	4
Sick & Disabled ²	133,740	13	137,880	14	142,020	14	146,440	14
Lone parents	33,640	3	32,200	3	31,360	3	29,600	3
Others	12,020	1	13,100	1	11,980	1	12,420	1
Working Family	28,520	3	39,140	4	43,520	4	48,200	5
Working Disabled	1,152	0	1,627	0	2,013	0	2,277	0

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland - see Methodology

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.

Section 2 : Families with Children on Key Benefits

2.1 Children

Table 2.1.1 Children of claimants of key benefits by statistical group: August 1999 to August 2002

	Number of children ¹							
	Aug-99	%	Aug-00	%	Aug-01	%	Aug-02	%
All statistical groups	158,720	100	151,480	100	146,880	100	143,720	100
Unemployed	20,760	13	13,560	9	11,080	8	10,080	7
Sick & Disabled	67,180	42	70,000	46	70,860	48	72,700	51
Lone parents	66,980	42	63,420	42	60,980	42	57,680	40
Others	3,800	2	4,500	3	3,960	3	3,260	2

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

- At August 2002, 143,720 children were living in families claiming a key benefit. The total number of children in families claiming a key benefit was down by 9% (15,000) from August 1999.
- The number of children in the unemployed group fell by 51% between August 1999 and August 2002, whilst the number in the lone parents group fell by 14%. The number in the sick & disabled group rose by 8%.

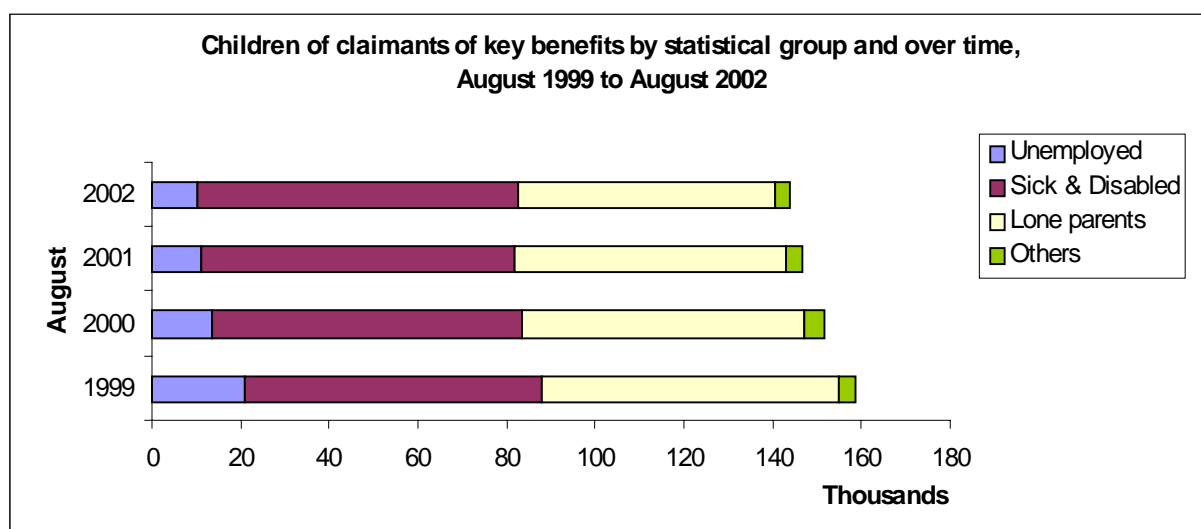


Table 2.1.2 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and family type: August 2002

	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		
All statistical groups	127,580	32	46,720	75,320	5,540	16,140	38	8,540	7,600	.	
Unemployed	8,380	2	7,700	680	.	1,700	4	980	720	.	
Sick & Disabled	62,200	16	36,120	20,540	5,540	10,500	24	7,200	3,300	.	
Lone parents	54,100	14	.	54,100	.	3,580	8	.	3,580	.	
Others	2,900	1	2,900	0	.	360	1	360	0	.	

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

- The proportion of under 16s living in households claiming a key benefit was 32% in August 2002 whilst the proportion of 16 - 18 year olds was 38% of all 16 - 18 year olds in full-time education.

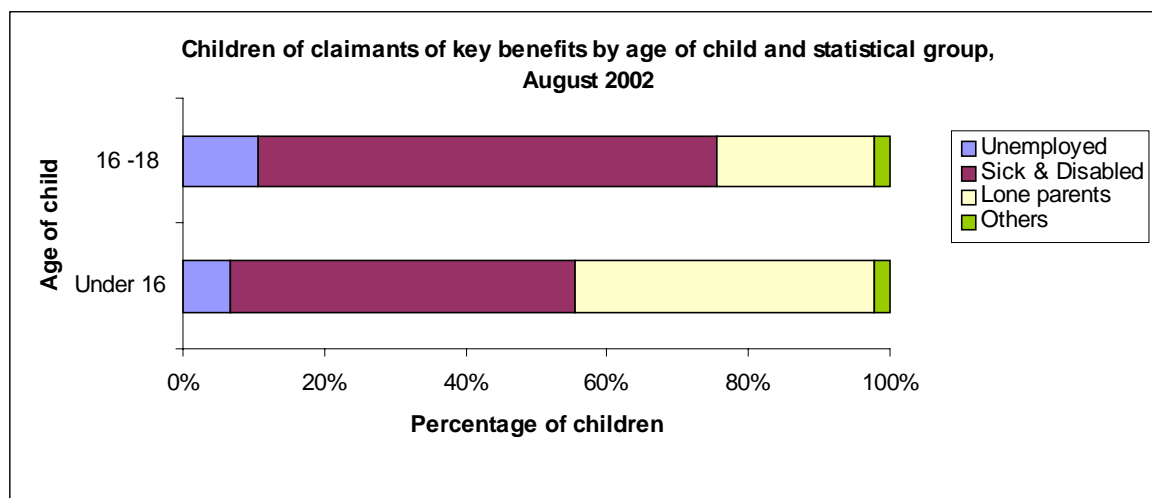


Table 2.1.3 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and age of child: August 2002

	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	143,720	100	32,740	23	46,020	32	42,660	30	16,140	11	6,160	4
Unemployed	10,080	100	2,640	26	2,940	29	2,700	27	1,700	17	100	1
Sick & Disabled	72,700	100	12,880	18	20,880	29	22,420	31	10,500	14	6,020	8
Lone parents	57,680	100	16,600	29	21,300	37	16,160	28	3,580	6	40	0
Others	3,260	100	620	19	900	28	1,380	42	360	11	.	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 66% aged under 11.

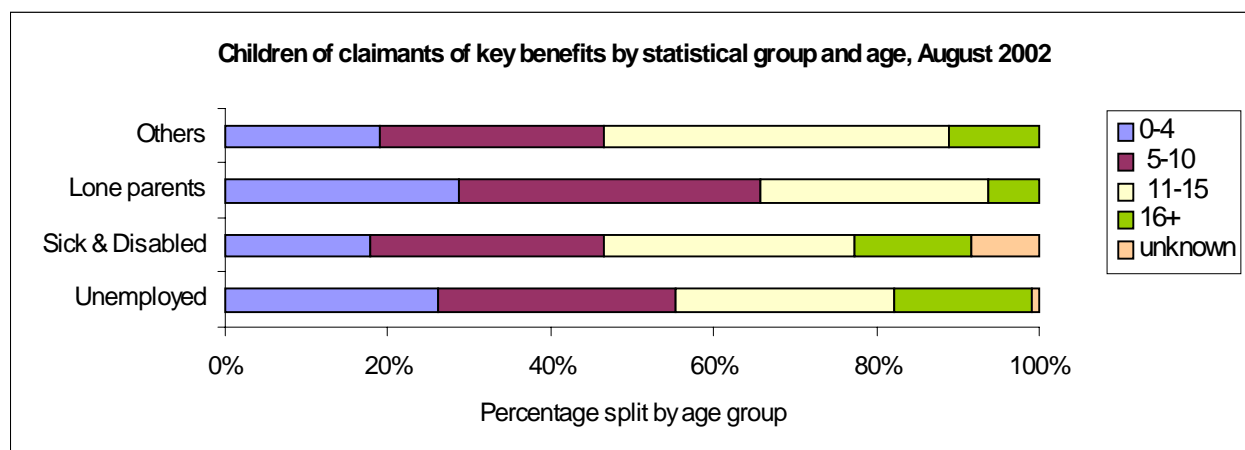


Table 2.1.4 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and duration of claim: August 2002

	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	143,720	100	7,620	5	7,520	5	12,480	9	18,500	13	97,600	68
Unemployed	10,080	100	3,140	31	1,880	19	1,620	16	1,340	13	2,100	21
Sick & Disabled	72,700	100	2,220	3	2,960	4	6,460	9	10,280	14	50,780	70
Lone parents	57,680	100	1,940	3	2,400	4	4,220	7	6,600	11	42,520	74
Others	3,260	100	320	10	280	9	180	6	280	9	2,200	67

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 68% 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 21%.
- Of those children in families classed as unemployed 66% had been on benefit for less than a year.

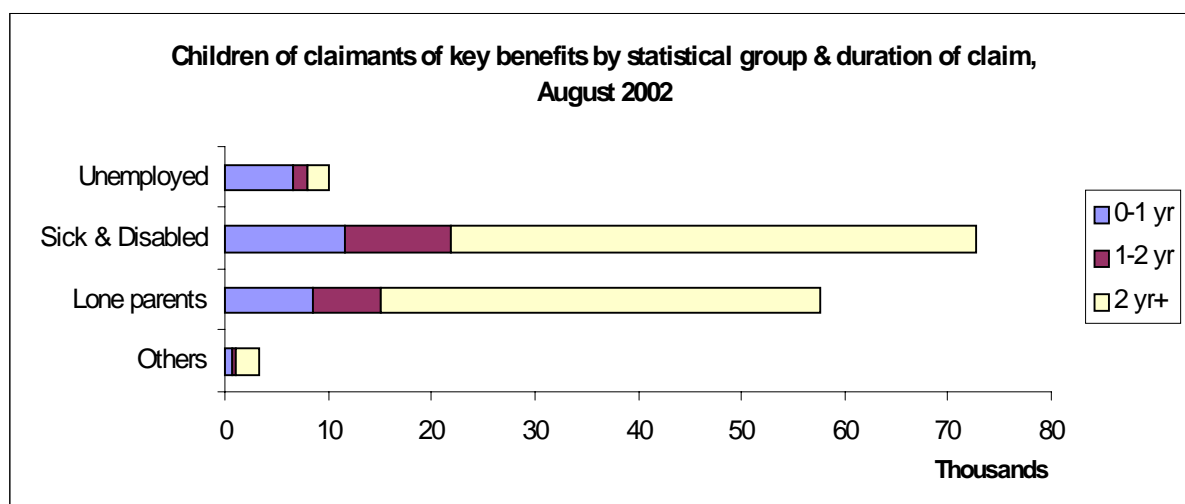


Table 2.1.5 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by district council: August 2002

	Number of children	% of population ²
Northern Ireland	143,720	30
Ards	3,760	20
Belfast	29,660	41
Castlereagh	2,240	13
Down	4,900	26
Lisburn	8,480	27
North Down	3,060	17
Antrim	3,340	24
Ballymena	2,900	19
Ballymoney	1,720	23
Carrickfergus	2,280	23
Coleraine	3,820	26
Cookstown	3,260	32
Larne	1,760	22
Magherafelt	3,540	29
Moyle	1,140	25
Newtownabbey	4,720	23
Armagh	3,560	22
Banbridge	2,560	22
Craigavon	7,720	33
Dungannon	4,620	31
Newry & Mourne	10,300	37
Derry	14,060	41
Fermanagh	4,320	26
Limavady	3,220	33
Omagh	4,160	28
Strabane	4,960	42
Unknown	3,660	.

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 42% in Strabane to 13% in Castlereagh.

Children on key benefits by District Council

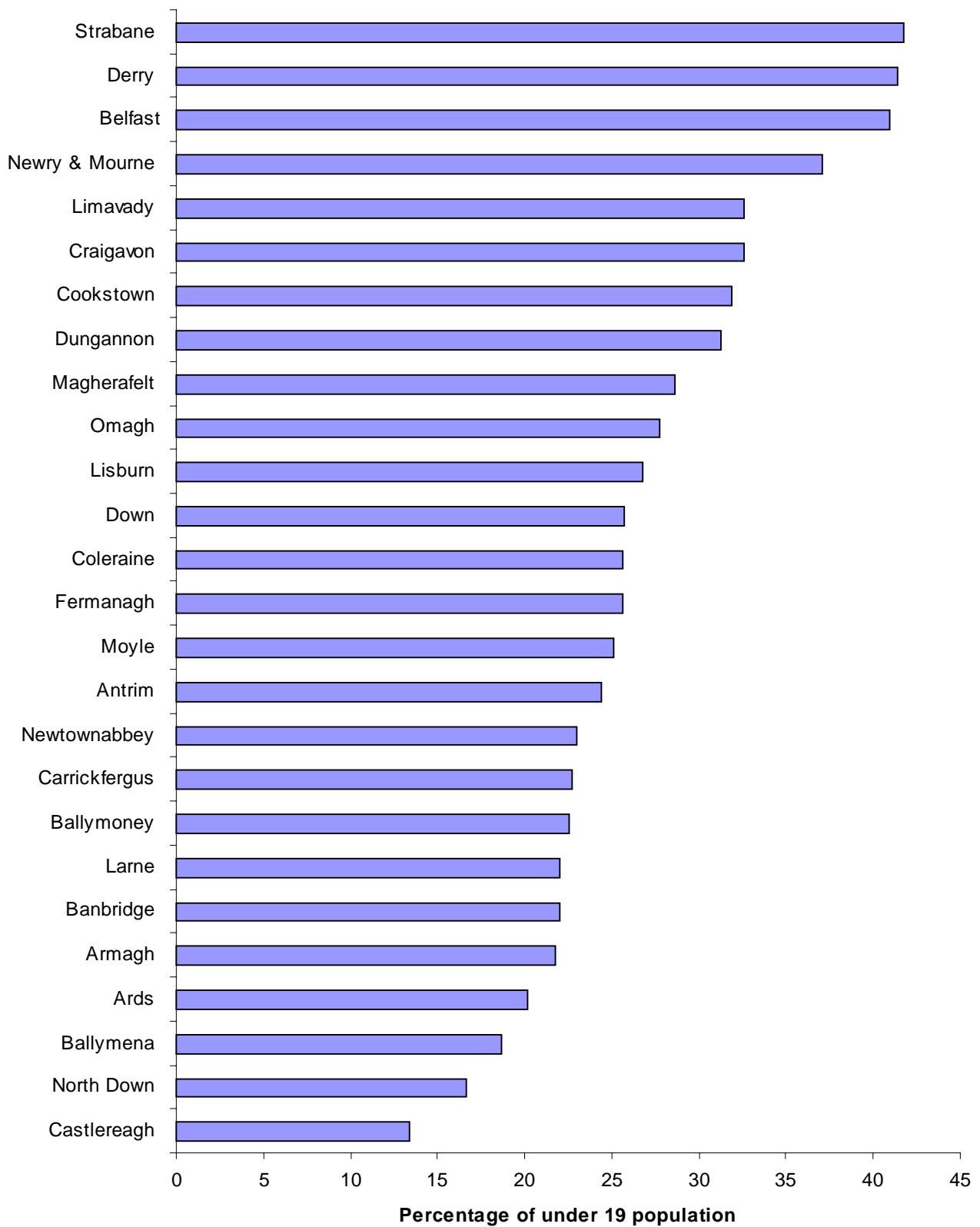


Table 2.1.6 Children¹ of claimants of combinations of key benefits: August 2002

	Number of children	% of population ²
All combinations	146,880	33
IS only	69,360	15
IB only	14,640	3
JSA only	10,720	2
IS, IB & DLA	11,100	2
DLA only	9,320	2
IB & DLA	9,820	2
IS & DLA	9,680	2
IS & IB	9,200	2
IS, DLA & SDA	1,300	0
DLA & SDA	1,000	0
IS & SDA	180	0
DLA & JSA	240	0
SDA only	200	0
Others ³	120	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

- 68% 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: August 2002

	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	72,500	100	4,280	6	3,920	5	6,620	9	9,640	13	48,040	66
Unemployed	5,140	100	1,660	32	840	16	860	17	720	14	1,060	21
Sick & Disabled	36,400	100	1,240	3	1,560	4	3,120	9	5,080	14	25,400	70
Lone parents	29,600	100	1,260	4	1,420	5	2,540	9	3,720	13	20,660	70
Others	1,360	100	120	9	100	7	100	7	120	9	920	68

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 70% whilst the figure for the unemployed was only 21%.
- 65% of families classed as unemployed had been on benefit for less than a year.

Table 2.2.2 Families¹ on key benefits by statistical group and age of youngest child: August 2002

	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	72,500	100	26,580	37	21,140	29	15,500	21	5,980	8	3,300	5
Unemployed	5,140	100	1,960	38	1,120	22	980	19	1,000	19	80	2
Sick & Disabled	36,400	100	10,060	28	9,420	26	9,260	25	4,460	12	3,200	9
Lone parents	29,600	100	14,060	48	10,220	35	4,860	16	440	1	20	0
Others	1,360	100	500	37	380	28	400	29	80	6	.	0

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

² Children whose ages are not known

- 37% 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).

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.

Data on awards of WFTC and DPTC are supplied by and used with the agreement of the Inland Revenue.

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 and family type: August 2002

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	% pop aged under 16	Family type			All	% pop aged 16-18 in full-time education	Family type		
			Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known
All statistical groups	218,832	55	102,847	110,545	5,440	25,392	59	14,042	11,350	.
Unemployed ³	8,380	2	7,700	680	.	1,700	4	980	720	.
Sick & disabled ³	61,700	16	36,380	19,880	5,440	10,520	24	7,280	3,240	.
Lone parents	54,100	14	.	54,100	.	3,580	8	.	3,580	.
Working family	89,640	23	54,500	35,140	.	8,900	21	5,220	3,680	.
Working disabled	2,112	1	1,367	745	.	332	1	202	130	.
Others	2,900	1	2,900	0	.	360	1	360	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 2.3.2 Families¹ on key benefits and/or tax credits by statistical group and age of youngest child: August 2002

	All ages	% Under 5	Age of youngest child									
			% Under 5	% 5 to 11	% 11 to 16	% 16 or over	% Not known ²	%				
All statistical groups	121,426	100	48,478	40	36,164	30	25,200	21	8,344	7	3,240	3
Unemployed ³	5,140	100	1,960	38	1,120	22	980	19	1,000	19	80	2
Sick & disabled ³	35,960	100	10,020	28	9,200	26	9,160	25	4,440	12	3,140	9
Lone parents	29,600	100	14,060	48	10,220	35	4,860	16	440	1	20	0
Working family	48,180	100	21,560	45	14,860	31	9,500	20	2,260	5	.	0
Working disabled	1,186	100	378	32	384	32	300	25	124	10	.	0
Others	1,360	100	500	37	380	28	400	29	80	6	.	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.

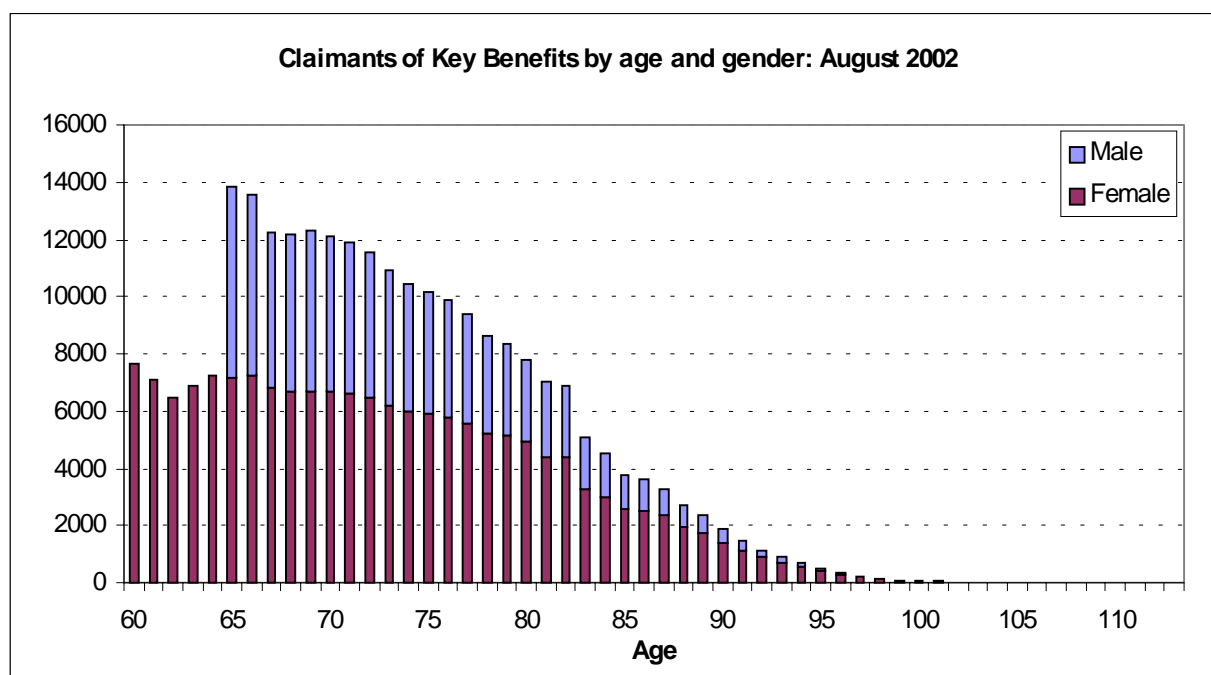
Section 3: Persons of Pensionable Age on Key Benefits

3.1 Age and gender

Table 3.1.1 Claimants over State Pension Age of key benefits by gender: August 1999 to August 2002

	Aug-99	Aug-00	Aug-01	Aug-02
Men	87,165	87,292	89,073	90,841
% of pop ¹	98	97	97	99
Women	163,325	163,403	164,994	166,486
% of pop ¹	97	97	97	98
All	250,490	250,695	254,067	257,327
% of pop ¹	97	97	97	98

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age - see Methodology



- In August 2002 about 98% (257,327) of people over state pension age claimed a key benefit - an increase of 3% (6,837) since August 1999.
- The proportion of women claiming at least one of the key state benefits is slightly lower than for men; 98% compared with 99% respectively.

Table 3.1.2 Claimants over State Pension Age of key benefits by age and gender: August 2002

	Male		Female		All	
	% of pop ¹²		% of pop ¹²		% of pop ¹²	
60-64	.	.	35,304	92	35,304	92
65-69	29,558	97	34,522	99	64,080	98
70-74	24,969	100	31,985	98	56,954	98
75-79	18,803	101	27,619	99	46,422	100
80-84	11,314	101	20,009	103	31,323	103
85-89	4,608	97	11,091	97	15,699	97
90+	1,589	98	5,956	105	7,545	104
All ages	90,841	99	166,486	98	257,327	98

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age

² The population estimates for the very elderly may be inaccurate

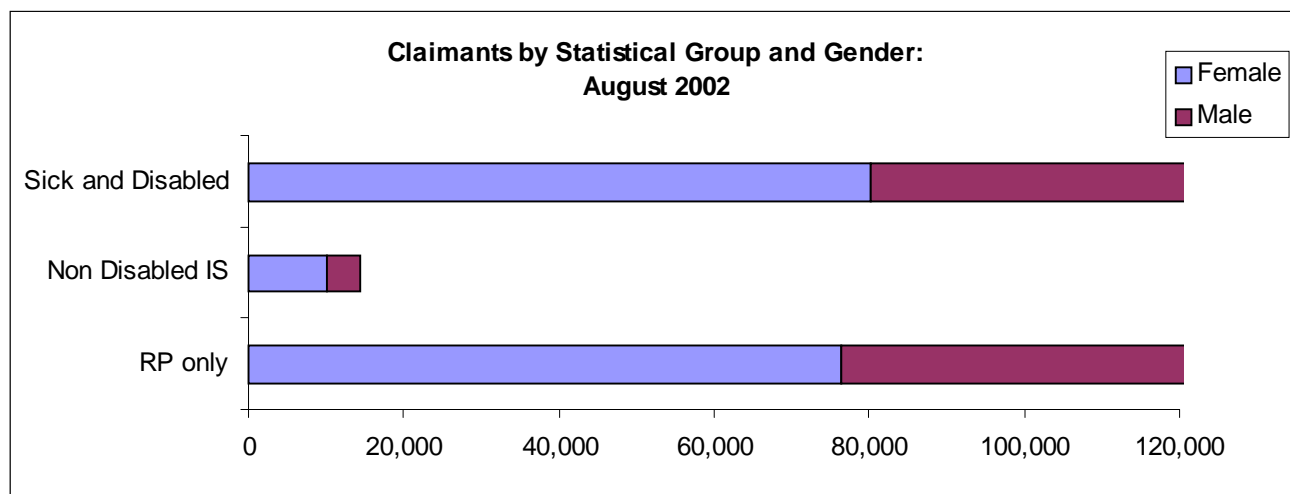
Table 3.1.3 Claimants over State Pension Age by Statistical group: August 1999 to August 2002

	Aug-99		Aug-00		Aug-01		Aug-02	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
Sick and/or Disabled	113,746	44	117,318	45	121,077	46	122,059	47
Non Disabled IS	13,483	5	12,990	5	13,698	5	14,492	6
RP only	123,261	48	120,387	46	119,292	45	120,776	46
All	250,490	97	250,695	97	254,067	97	257,327	98

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age - see Methodology

3.2 Statistical groups

The claimants of these benefits can be divided into statistical groups, based mainly on the type of benefit they received (see 'Definitions and Conventions').



- The overall numbers rose by 6,837 between August 1999 and August 2002.
- Sick and/or disabled claimants rose from 113,746 to 122,059 between August 1999 and August 2002, rising from 44% to 47% of the total pensioner population.
- Over the same period, the non-disabled IS statistical group fell by 1,009.
- The size of the RP only statistical group has also decreased, from 48% of the total pensioner population at August 1999 to 46% at August 2002.

Table 3.2.1 Cases over State Pension Age changing statistical group: August 1999 and August 2002

Statistical group in August 1999	Statistical group in August 2002			All
	Sick and/or Disabled	Non Disabled IS	RP only	
Sick and/or Disabled	0	647	761	1,408
Non Disabled IS	3,831	0	447	4,278
RP only	17,116	3,181	0	20,297
All	20,947	3,828	1,208	25,983

**Table 3.2.2 Claimants over State Pension Age by all benefit combinations and gender:
August 2002**

	Male	Female	All
DLA only	444	1,447	1,891
AA only	791	1,182	1,973
DLA, AA	6	8	14
SDA only	27	106	133
SDA, DLA	50	734	784
SDA, AA	14	59	73
SDA, DLA, AA	1	13	14
IB only	.	.	0
IB, DLA	.	.	0
IB, AA	.	.	0
IS only	775	1,209	1,984
IS, DLA	516	1,136	1,652
IS, AA	408	696	1,104
IS, DLA, AA	4	18	22
IS, SDA	85	213	298
IS, SDA, DLA	246	716	962
IS, SDA, AA	68	178	246
IS, SDA, AA, DLA	8	12	20
IS, IB	.	.	0
IS, IB, DLA	1	.	1
IS, IB, AA	.	.	0
RP only	48,497	78,321	126,818
RP, DLA	8,686	15,697	24,383
RP, AA	13,051	21,919	34,970
RP, AA, DLA	131	167	298
RP, IS	4,588	10,278	14,866
RP, IS, DLA	4,398	8,370	12,768
RP, IS, AA	7,941	23,801	31,742
RP, IS, AA, DLA	104	204	308
Other ¹	1	2	3
All	90,841	166,486	257,327

¹ Includes anomalies such as IB with RP

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 2002

	Thousands and percentages					
	Men		Women		All	
	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹
Great Britain	3,850	100	6,593	98	10,442	99
England	3,310	100	5,628	98	8,939	99
North East	178	100	306	99	484	100
North West	456	100	795	99	1,251	100
Yorkshire & Humberside	338	100	580	98	918	99
East Midlands	290	100	478	98	768	99
West Midlands	360	100	609	98	970	99
East	385	100	633	99	1,019	99
London	365	98	646	97	1,011	97
South East	549	100	927	97	1,476	98
South West	389	100	654	98	1,043	99
Wales	215	100	362	97	576	99
Scotland	325	99	603	98	927	98
Northern Ireland ²	91	99	166	98	257	98

¹ Population over state pension age

² Northern Ireland data is at August 2002

- The proportion of the population over state pension age claiming a key benefit ranges from 97% in London to 100% in North East and North West.
- The figure for Northern Ireland of 98% claiming a key benefit is below the Great Britain average of 99%, only London has a lower percentage of claimants than Northern Ireland.

Table 3.3.2 Claimants over State Pension Age of key benefits by Statistical group and Government Office Region: May 2002

Thousands and percentages

		Statistical Group			All
		Sick and/or Disabled	Non Disabled IS	RP only	
Great Britain	(000s)	2,482	707	7,253	10,442
	% of pop ¹	23	7	69	99
England	(000s)	2,009	614	6,316	8,939
	% of pop ¹	22	7	70	99
North East	(000s)	150	37	296	484
	% of pop ¹	30	8	61	100
North West	(000s)	377	83	791	1,251
	% of pop ¹	30	7	63	100
Yorkshire & Humberside	(000s)	233	69	616	918
	% of pop ¹	25	7	66	99
East Midlands	(000s)	179	49	540	768
	% of pop ¹	23	6	70	99
West Midlands	(000s)	247	73	650	970
	% of pop ¹	25	7	66	99
East	(000s)	189	59	770	1,019
	% of pop ¹	18	6	75	99
London	(000s)	204	101	706	1,011
	% of pop ¹	20	10	68	97
South East	(000s)	227	84	1,166	1,476
	% of pop ¹	15	6	77	98
South West	(000s)	203	60	780	1,043
	% of pop ¹	19	6	74	99
Wales	(000s)	206	31	340	576
	% of pop ¹	35	5	58	99
Scotland	(000s)	267	63	598	927
	% of pop ¹	28	7	63	98
Northern Ireland ²	(000s)	122	14	121	257
	% of pop ¹	47	6	46	98

¹ Population over state pension age

² Northern Ireland data is at August 2002

- Northern Ireland has by far the highest proportion claiming a key sickness and/or disability benefit at 47% compared to Wales (35%), 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 (58%) next. The highest proportion is the South East (77%).

Methodology - Sections 1, 2 and 3

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 Analysis and Research Services.

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 August 2002. 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 August 2002) 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 1.9 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 1.9 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 of 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.

Population Estimates

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency have revised the population estimates for 1998-2000 as a result of the 2001 Census.

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.

INDIVIDUAL BENEFIT STATISTICS

Individual benefit statistics

Section 4 - Income Support

Introduced 11 April 1988

Non-contributory, Means tested, Taxable

Income Support can be paid to a person who

- is resident in Northern Ireland
- is aged 16 or over
- is not working 16 hours or more a week
- has less money coming in than the law says they need to live on.

Income Support (IS) is a non-contributory benefit. From October 1996, the Jobseeker's Allowance replaced IS for unemployed people. In general IS is now only available to people who are not required to be available for work such as pensioners, lone parents and sick and disabled people. The conditions for entitlement are the Income Support regulations.

The applicable amounts and resources of a couple living in the same household are lumped together to work out how much Income Support they can get. Any dependant children living with them are also included in the assessment. If the children have any capital, it is taken into account separately. Unmarried couples who live together as husband and wife are treated as if they were married. Either partner can claim Income Support.

A person who works 16 hours or more a week, or whose partner works 24 hours or more a week (16 or more prior to October 1996), cannot normally get Income Support. Most 16 and 17 year olds cannot get benefit, except in certain circumstances.

People in full-time non-advanced education are not normally entitled. Any children age 16 or over but under 19 who are still at school can be included as dependants in their parent's Income Support assessment. Someone involved in a trade dispute cannot get Income Support, although it can be paid for their dependants. In certain cases the regulations do allow people to get Income Support who would not normally be entitled to it.

Once they get Income Support, the claimant and any dependants are automatically entitled to certain welfare benefits.

Rate of Benefit

The rate of Income Support paid to a claimant is the amount needed to bring their income up to their 'applicable amount'. This is the level the law says they need to live on.

Applicable Amounts

These are set down in the regulations. The applicable amount is made up of personal allowances, and premiums for certain groups with special needs.

Housing Costs

The applicable amount can also include an amount for certain housing costs such as

- an amount for mortgage interest (but not capital payments)
- ground rent
- other miscellaneous costs which are not covered by Housing Benefit such as certain service charges.

Deductions are made from the amount allowed for housing costs for any non-dependants in the household, whether or not they make a contribution.

Income Support does not cover rent. Someone getting Income Support automatically qualifies for maximum Housing Benefit. This means that the Council pays 100% of rent eligible for Housing Benefit less an amount for any non-dependants.

A person in a Council run home gets the IS equivalent to the basic rate of Retirement Pension. This includes an amount for personal needs.

Someone in hospital for more than 6 weeks gets the hospital personal allowance rate and an amount for any continuing housing costs.

Resources

The resources of a claimant are their total income and any capital. If they qualify for any disregards described below, these will be taken off.

If the claimant is working, a certain amount of the net weekly earnings is ignored. The rest is counted as a resource. The same applies to the partner's earnings.

Any money earned by children of school age is ignored. If the child has left school but is still dependant, some of their earnings may be included in the assessment.

Child Benefit and the main National Insurance benefits and pensions are counted in full as income. Part of any War or War Widow's Pension is ignored. Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance are usually totally ignored.

Some other types of income, e.g. certain payments received from charities, can be ignored in full or in part. The annuity paid to the holder of a Victoria Cross is ignored totally. Maintenance payments and most other types of income are counted in full.

If the claimant, or their partner, has more than £8,000 in capital assets, they cannot get Income Support. Capital assets mean savings, investments or property other than their home. However, some assets, e.g. property occupied by an aged relative, can be ignored. If the claimant or their partner has between £3,000 and £8,000 in assets, £1 a week is taken off their benefit for each £250, or part of £250 over £3,000. For claimants in residential care or nursing homes, the upper limit is £16,000 (rather than £8,000) and the lower limit is £10,000 (rather than £3,000).

Liability to maintain

A husband is liable to maintain (financially support) his wife and a wife is liable to maintain her husband. Both parents, whether married or not, are liable to maintain their children up to the age of 16, or 19 if the children are on an approved course of higher education.

If someone gives a written undertaking to be responsible for the maintenance and accommodation of an immigrant, they must look after that person. If the sponsored immigrant claims Income Support the Secretary of State can enforce these responsibilities by applying for a Court Order against the responsible relative or sponsor.

On 5 April 1993 the Child Support Agency took over the assessment, collection, review and enforcement of maintenance for children. Parents who look after a child for whom maintenance is an issue, and who get Income Support, Family Credit, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Disability Working Allowance, may have to apply for child support maintenance. People who are

not on benefit can also use the Agency. Under the Child Support Act of 1991, parents are responsible for natural and adopted children only.

Exceptional Expenses

Income Support is intended to meet regular weekly needs. The Social Fund can provide extra help with particular additional needs in certain circumstances.

Lone Parents and One Parent Families

'Lone Parents' in these tables represent Income Support claimants who are not in receipt of a pensioner or disability premium.

From April 1997 the lone parent premium was replaced by a higher value of family premium for lone parent families. Eligibility for the Family Premium (Lone Parent) is the same as for the lone parent premium currently.

Source

Analyses are taken from the Quarterly Statistical Analyses and are based on a 5% scan.

Summary

Between November 2001 and November 2002 the IS caseload has grown by approximately 1.2%, and now stands at 178,660 at November 2002.

The most noticeable change in the IS caseload recently is the increased number of claimants receiving a disability premium. This effect was also seen in GB. There were 54,160 claimants in the disabled statistical group in Northern Ireland at November 2002 (30.3% of the total caseload), compared to 1,086,000 claimants in GB (27.4% of the total caseload).

The number of lone parent claimants has fallen from 34,400 in November 1997 to 29,580 in November 2002, with the average weekly payment for this group rising from £78.02 to £111.25 in the same period. This group has the highest average weekly payment of IS.

The number of claimants in the 'other' statistical group decreased between November 2001 and November 2002 (16,200 to 16,120 respectively) and makes up 9.0% of the IS caseload. Those categorised as being aged 60 or over has increased by 1.5% between November 2001 and November 2002 and now stands at 78,800, making up 44.1% of the total IS caseload.

Generally, claimants with dependants receive a higher weekly payment of IS compared to those without dependants, irrespective of marital status. At November 2002 for example, a single claimant without dependants received on average £54.91 per week, compared to £111.35 received by a single person with dependants. Amongst couples, those without dependants received on average £71.26 per week, while those with dependants received on average £131.65 per week.

The largest number of male IS claimants lies in the 25-59 year old age bracket, followed by the 60 years or over age group (39,360 and 29,280 respectively at November 2002). The largest number of female claimants is in the 60 years or over age group, closely followed by the 25-59 year old age bracket (48,740 and 47,600 respectively at November 2002). The distribution of both male and female IS claimants by age has seen an increasing proportion in the 25-59 year old age bracket between November 1997 to November 2002.

The highest numbers of claimants were found in Belfast, Newry & Mourne and Derry district councils. When taken as a percentage of the population aged 16 and over, the highest proportion of claimants is in Derry district council (19.4% of the population), closely followed by Belfast (19.3% of the population) and Strabane (18.5% of the population).

Overall, 13.8% of the population aged 16 and over of Northern Ireland were claimants of IS, compared to 8.7% in GB. The proportion of claimants receiving benefit for under 3 months has increased slightly to 4.3% from 4.1% a year previous. Approximately 74.2% of all claimants have been in receipt of benefit for at least 2 years.

The majority of claimants over 25 have been on IS for 2 years or more. Older claimants (over 60), both male and female, are the most likely to have spent the longest time on Income Support. At November 2002, 81.2% of males in this age bracket had a claim lasting 2 years or longer, while 84.5% of females in this age group had a claim of this duration.

Those aged under 25 claiming IS at November 2002 also tended to be claiming benefit for longer durations, although when compared with other age groups, more young claimants were claiming for less than 3 months (15.2% of males under 25 and 9.0% of females at November 2002).

Table 4.1 Income Support claimants by statistical group: November 1997 to November 2002

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Nov 1997	166,980	75,660	34,400	41,100	15,820
Nov 1998	167,540	73,840	33,860	45,560	14,280
Nov 1999	169,400	73,980	32,940	45,520	16,960
Nov 2000	174,360	76,060	32,140	49,640	16,520
Nov 2001	176,600	77,660	30,680	52,060	16,200
Nov 2002	178,660	78,800	29,580	54,160	16,120

Table 4.2 Income Support claimants by family type: November 1997 to November 2002

	All Claimants	Single	Single	Couples	Couples
		without dependants	with dependants	without dependants	with dependants
Nov 1997	166,960	99,640	39,960	17,220	10,140
Nov 1998	167,400	99,880	40,180	17,180	10,160
Nov 1999	169,400	102,220	39,380	17,320	10,480
Nov 2000	174,360	105,160	39,680	18,760	10,760
Nov 2001	176,600	108,180	38,660	19,640	10,120
Nov 2002	178,660	110,260	37,420	20,680	10,300

Table 4.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type: November 1997 to November 2002

	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as % of population
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
Nov 1997	299,620	166,960	27,360	105,300	18.0%
Nov 1998	299,040	167,400	27,340	104,300	17.9%
Nov 1999	299,160	169,400	27,800	101,960	17.8%
Nov 2000	305,600	174,360	29,520	101,720	18.2%
Nov 2001	304,120	176,600	29,760	97,760	18.1%
Nov 2002	303,700	178,660	30,980	94,060	18.0%

Table 4.4 Income Support claimants at November 2002 by age and gender

	Total	Men	Women
All Ages	178,660	72,720	105,940
16-19	3,520	1,120	2,400
20-24	10,160	2,960	7,200
25-29	11,040	3,700	7,340
30-34	13,380	4,900	8,480
35-39	14,560	6,040	8,520
40-44	13,460	6,100	7,360
45-49	12,320	6,480	5,840
50-54	11,140	5,860	5,280
55-59	11,060	6,280	4,780
60-64	14,760	8,780	5,980
65-69	12,000	5,580	6,420
70-74	13,660	5,340	8,320
75-79	14,020	4,300	9,720
80 and over	23,580	5,280	18,300

Table 4.5 Income Support claimants at November 2002 by statistical group and District Council

District Council	All Claimants 100%	Statistical Group				Claimants as a percentage of the population ¹
		Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Other %	
All	178,660	44.1%	16.6%	30.3%	9.0%	13.8%
Ards	5,060	48.6%	13.0%	30.4%	7.9%	8.7%
Belfast	41,820	39.6%	18.9%	31.1%	10.3%	19.3%
Castlereagh	3,280	51.2%	14.6%	25.0%	9.1%	6.3%
Down	5,020	41.4%	19.1%	31.9%	7.6%	10.4%
Lisburn	8,700	42.1%	21.8%	29.9%	6.2%	10.6%
North Down	4,740	55.7%	12.7%	27.4%	4.2%	7.7%
Antrim	4,220	47.9%	13.3%	31.3%	7.6%	11.4%
Ballymena	4,300	54.0%	16.3%	22.8%	7.0%	9.4%
Ballymoney	2,320	53.4%	16.4%	25.0%	5.2%	11.2%
Carrickfergus	2,440	37.7%	18.9%	36.1%	7.4%	8.3%
Coleraine	5,240	46.6%	16.0%	28.2%	9.2%	11.9%
Cookstown	4,140	49.8%	10.1%	33.8%	6.3%	17.1%
Larne	2,360	46.6%	13.6%	27.1%	12.7%	9.8%
Magherafelt	3,920	59.7%	10.7%	22.4%	7.1%	13.3%
Moyle	2,020	50.5%	19.8%	16.8%	12.9%	16.6%
Newtownabbey	6,040	47.4%	18.5%	26.5%	7.6%	9.6%
Armagh	4,620	54.1%	12.6%	26.0%	7.4%	11.3%
Banbridge	2,600	52.3%	13.8%	21.5%	12.3%	8.2%
Craigavon	8,880	44.6%	14.0%	30.9%	10.6%	14.6%
Dungannon	6,440	44.1%	13.7%	32.9%	9.3%	18.1%
Newry & Mourne	11,440	43.0%	13.5%	33.7%	9.8%	17.8%
Derry	15,000	32.1%	21.9%	35.3%	10.7%	19.4%
Fermanagh	6,580	55.9%	10.6%	27.1%	6.4%	15.0%
Limavady	3,520	39.2%	15.3%	33.0%	12.5%	14.4%
Omagh	5,440	48.5%	13.6%	29.8%	8.1%	15.2%
Strabane	5,260	42.2%	12.2%	36.1%	9.5%	18.5%
Missing Postcode ²	3,260	32.5%	29.4%	28.8%	9.2%	

¹Population aged 16 and over

²The computer scan contains missing postcodes.

No district council can be assigned in this circumstance so these cases have been grouped together as 'Missing Postcode'

The percentages shown for district councils are accordingly understated

Table 4.6 Income Support claimants at November 2002 by Government Office Region and statistical group

Government Office Region	All Claimants (000s) ¹	Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Other %	Claimants as % of GOR population ²
North East	231	44.8	19.8	28.0	7.4	11.4
North West	578	42.8	19.8	30.7	6.7	10.8
Yorks & Humberside	364	47.1	19.9	26.1	6.9	9.2
East Midlands	254	47.7	20.0	26.0	6.3	7.6
West Midlands	386	48.5	20.4	24.8	6.3	9.3
East	279	48.1	22.0	24.4	5.6	6.5
London	572	37.2	28.6	26.9	7.3	10.0
South East	364	46.4	23.0	24.8	5.8	5.7
South West	275	48.9	18.6	26.5	6.0	6.9
Wales	235	43.1	19.4	31.2	6.3	10.1
Scotland	425	43.8	17.9	30.4	7.9	10.4
Great Britain	3,961	44.6	21.3	27.4	6.7	8.7
Northern Ireland	179	44.1	16.6	30.3	9.0	13.8

¹ Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

Table 4.7 Income Support claimants at November 2002 by duration of current claim and statistical group

Age/ Statistical group	All Claimants	Duration				
		% Under 3 Months	% 3 months to under 6 months	% 6 months to under 1 year	% 1 year to under 2 years	% 2 years or over
All Claimants	178,660	7,740	7,080	11,420	19,780	132,640
Aged 60 or over	78,800	21.7	25.1	25.6	34.5	49.5
Lone Parents	29,580	20.2	17.5	22.2	19.9	15.3
Disabled	54,160	18.1	19.8	24.7	38.3	30.9
Other	16,120	40.1	37.6	27.5	7.3	4.4

Table 4.8 Income Support claimants at November 2002 by duration of current claim, age and gender

Age/ Gender	All Claimants	Duration				
		% Under 3 months	% 3 months to under 6 months	% 6 months to under 1 year	% 1 year to under 2 years	% 2 years or over
Total	178,660	4.3	4.0	6.4	11.1	74.2
Male	72,720	5.6	4.6	7.6	12.1	70.2
Under 25	4,080	15.2	13.2	18.1	24.5	28.9
25-59	39,360	6.6	6.0	8.5	12.6	66.2
60 and Over	29,280	2.9	1.4	4.8	9.8	81.2
Female	105,940	3.5	3.5	5.6	10.3	77.0
Under 25	9,600	9.0	9.2	15.2	23.5	43.1
25-59	47,600	4.2	3.2	6.3	10.0	76.2
60 and Over	48,740	1.7	2.7	3.0	8.0	84.5

Table 4.9 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: November 1997 to November 2002

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
Nov 1997	£58.34	£47.14	£78.02	£65.59	£50.28
Nov 1998	£59.81	£46.47	£81.60	£67.47	£52.73
Nov 1999	£63.86	£50.08	£87.84	£72.37	£54.51
Nov 2000	£68.85	£52.62	£98.77	£78.52	£56.30
Nov 2001	£72.72	£55.99	£103.76	£83.43	£59.79
Nov 2002	£74.51	£56.20	£111.25	£87.29	£53.64

Table 4.10 Rates of Income Support

	£ per week							
	Single person				Lone parent			
	Under 18		18 to 24	25 or over	Under 18		18 or over	
	Usual rate	Higher rate			Usual rate	Higher rate		
11 April 1988	19.40	-	26.05	33.40	19.40	-	33.40	
10 April 1989	20.80	-	27.40	34.90	20.80	-	34.90	
09 April 1990	21.90	28.80	28.80	36.70	21.90	-	36.70	
08 April 1991	23.65	31.15	31.15	39.65	23.65	31.15	39.65	
07 October 1991	23.90	31.40	31.40	39.65	23.90	31.40	39.65	
06 April 1992	25.55	33.60	33.60	42.45	25.55	33.60	42.45	
12 April 1993	26.45	34.80	34.80	44.00	26.45	34.80	44.00	
11 April 1994	27.50	36.15	36.15	45.70	27.50	36.15	45.70	
10 April 1995	28.00	36.80	36.80	46.50	28.00	36.80	46.50	
08 April 1996	28.85	37.90	37.90	47.90	28.85	37.90	47.90	
07 April 1997	29.60	38.90	38.90	49.15	29.60	38.90	49.15	
06 April 1998	30.30	39.85	39.85	50.35	30.30	39.85	50.35	
12 April 1999	30.95	40.70	40.70	51.40	30.95	40.70	51.40	
10 April 2000	31.45	41.35	41.35	52.20	31.45	41.35	52.20	
09 April 2001	31.95	42.00	42.00	53.05	31.95	42.00	53.05	
08 April 2002	32.50	42.70	42.70	53.95	32.50	42.70	53.95	
07 April 2003	32.90	43.25	43.25	54.65	32.90	43.25	54.65	
<hr/>								
	Couple		Dependant children					
	Both under 18	One or both 18 or over	Under 11	11 to 15	16 to 17	18		
11 April 1988	38.80	51.45	10.75	16.10	19.40	26.05		
10 April 1989	41.60	54.80	11.75	17.35	20.80	27.40		
09 April 1990	43.80	57.60	12.35	18.25	21.90	28.80		
08 April 1991	47.30	62.25	13.35	19.75	23.65	31.15		
07 October 1991	47.30	62.25	13.60	20.00	23.90	31.40		
06 April 1992	50.60	66.60	14.55	21.40	25.55	33.60		
12 April 1993	52.40	69.00	15.05	22.15	26.45	34.80		
11 April 1994	54.55	71.70	15.65	23.00	27.50	36.15		
10 April 1995	55.55	73.00	15.95	23.40	28.00	36.80		
08 April 1996	57.20	75.20	16.45	24.10	28.85	37.90		
<hr/>								
	Both under 18	One or both 18 or over	Dependant children					
			Under 11 ^{1a}	11 to 16 ^{1b}	16 to 18 ^{1c}			
07 April 1997 ¹	58.70	77.15	16.90	24.75	29.60			
06 April 1998	60.10	79.00	17.30	25.35	30.30			
05 November 1998	60.10	79.00	19.80	25.35	30.30			
12 April 1999 ²	61.35	80.65	20.20	25.90	30.95			
04 October 1999	-	80.65	24.90	25.90	30.95			
<hr/>								
	Both under 18	One or both 18 or over	Up to and inc. 16 ^{3a}		16 to 18 ^{3b}			
			Usual rate	Higher rate				
10 April 2000 ³	-	81.95	26.60	31.75				
09 April 2001	63.35	83.25	31.45	32.25				
08 April 2002	64.45	84.65	33.50	34.30				
07 April 2003	65.30	85.75	38.50	38.50				

Notes

¹ From 7 April 1997 the age banding used for the benefit calculation of dependant children have changed.

^{1a}.Birth to September following 11th birthday.

^{1b}.From September following the 11th birthday to September following the 16th birthday

^{1c}.From September following the 16th birthday to the day before the 19th birthday.

Some children will remain eligible for a different rate of benefit i.e. have 'protected rights'. These are as follows:-

*Child aged 11 before 7 April 1997 : allowance £25.35

*Child aged 16 before 7 April 1997 : allowance £30.30

*Child aged 18 before 7 April 1997 : allowance £39.85

².From 12 April 1999 the personal allowance for married or unmarried couples where both members are not yet 18 or one of the couple is aged 18 or over depends on the couple's circumstances. They may be entitled to a couple allowance or a single person's allowance dependant upon certain criteria.

³ From 10 April 2000 there are only 2 age bands for dependants. From this date the age banding are as follows:

^{3a}Birth to September following 16th birthday.

^{3b}From September following 16th birthday to the day before 19th birthday.

Table 4.11 Rates of Premiums

	£ per week									
	Disabled		Disability		Enhanced Disability			Severe Disability		
			Child	Carer ¹	Single	Couple	Child	Single	Couple	Single	Couple (one)	Couple (both)
11 April 1988	6.15	-	13.05	18.60	-	-	-	24.75	24.75	49.50
10 April 1989	6.50	-	13.70	19.50	-	-	-	26.20	26.20	52.40
09 April 1990	15.40	10.00	15.40	22.10	-	-	-	28.20	28.20	56.40
08 April 1991	16.65	10.80	16.65	23.90	-	-	-	31.25	31.25	62.50
06 April 1992	17.80	11.55	17.80	25.55	-	-	-	32.55	32.55	65.10
12 April 1993	18.45	11.95	18.45	26.45	-	-	-	33.70	33.70	67.40
11 April 1994	19.45	12.40	19.45	27.80	-	-	-	34.30	34.40	68.60
10 April 1995	19.80	12.60	19.80	28.30	-	-	-	35.05	35.05	70.10
08 April 1996	20.40	13.00	20.40	29.15	-	-	-	36.40	36.40	72.80
07 April 1997	20.95	13.35	20.95	29.90	-	-	-	37.15	37.15	74.30
06 April 1998	21.45	13.65	21.45	30.60	-	-	-	38.50	38.50	77.00
12 April 1999	21.90	13.95	21.90	31.25	-	-	-	39.75	39.75	79.50
10 April 2000	22.25	14.15	22.25	31.75	-	-	-	40.20	40.20	80.40
09 April 2001	30.00	24.40	22.60	32.25	11.05	11.05	16.00	41.55	41.55	83.10
08 April 2002	35.50	24.80	23.00	32.80	11.25	11.25	16.25	42.25	42.25	84.50
07 April 2003	41.30	25.10	23.30	33.25	16.60	11.40	16.45	42.95	42.95	85.90

	Family		Lone		Pensioner		Enhanced Pensioner ⁵		Higher Pensioner	
	All	Couple	Lone Parent	Lone Parent ⁴	Single	Couple	Single	Couple	Single	Couple
11 April 1988	6.15	-	-	3.70	10.65	16.25	-	-	13.05	18.60
10 April 1989	6.50	-	-	3.90	11.20	17.05	-	-	13.70	19.50
09 October 1989	6.50	-	-	3.90	11.20	17.05	13.70	20.55	16.20	23.00
09 April 1990	7.35	-	-	4.10	11.80	17.95	14.40	21.60	17.05	24.25
08 April 1991 ²	7.95	-	-	4.45	13.75	20.90	15.55	23.35	18.45	26.20
06 April 1992	9.30	-	-	4.75	14.70	22.35	16.65	25.00	20.75	29.55
12 April 1993	9.65	-	-	4.90	17.30	26.25	19.30	29.00	23.55	33.70
11 April 1994	10.05	-	-	5.10	18.25	27.55	20.35	30.40	24.70	35.30
10 April 1995	10.25	-	-	5.20	18.60	28.05	20.70	30.95	25.15	35.95
08 April 1996	10.55	-	-	5.20	19.15	28.90	21.30	31.90	25.90	37.05
07 April 1997	-	10.80	15.75	-	19.65	29.65	21.85	32.75	26.55	38.00
06 April 1998	-	11.05	15.75 ⁴	-	20.10	30.35	22.35	33.55	27.20	38.90
12 April 1999	-	13.90	15.75	-	23.60	35.95	25.90	39.20	30.85	44.65
10 April 2000	-	14.25	15.90	-	26.25	40.00	28.65	43.40	33.85	49.10
April 9, 2001 ⁶	-	14.20	15.90	-	39.10	57.30	39.10	57.30	39.10	57.30
Bereavement⁷										
08 April 2002	21.55	14.75	15.90	-	44.20	65.15	44.20	65.15	44.20	65.15
07 April 2003	22.80	15.75	15.90	-	47.45	70.05	47.45	70.05	47.45	70.05

¹ Carer premium introduced in October 1990.

² Family premium increased to £8.70 from 7 October 1991.

³ Enhanced Pensioner premium introduced in October 1989.

⁴ From 7 April 1997 Lone parents receive one premium (Family premium - Lone parent rate) instead of two separate premiums ie. Family premium & Lone parent premium.

⁵ Enhanced Disability premium introduced in April 2001.

⁶ A limit on top premium paid to 'aged 60 or over' (MIG) April 2001.

⁷ Bereavement premium introduced in April 2002.

Section 5 - Jobseeker's Allowance

Introduced 7 October 1996

Contributory or means tested, Taxable

Jobseeker's Allowance replaced Unemployment Benefit and Income Support for unemployed people on 7 October 1996. It is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking, work of at least 40 hours a week. Certain groups of people, including carers and those with a physical or mental condition, are able to restrict their availability to less than 40 hours depending upon their personal circumstances.

A further basic condition for the receipt of benefit is that a person claiming Jobseeker's Allowance needs to enter into a Jobseeker's Agreement with the Employment Service. The agreement sets out:

- any agreed restrictions on the Jobseeker's availability for work;
- the steps the jobseeker intends to take to look for work.

In addition, to be entitled to Jobseeker's Allowance the person must:

- be resident in Northern Ireland;
- be capable of work;
- not be in relevant education;
- not be working 16 hours or more a week on average, or have a partner who is not working 24 hours or more a week on average.

There are contribution-based and income-based routes of entry to Jobseeker's Allowance which is paid at standard rates. Those who have paid sufficient National Insurance contributions receive contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance for up to six months. Those who do not qualify for, or whose needs are not met by contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance, may qualify for income-based help for themselves and their dependants. This help will continue for as long as it is needed, provided that the qualifying conditions continue to be met.

Entitlement to contribution-based JSA is based on a person meeting the contribution conditions. These depend on Class1 contributions paid as an employed earner in two specified tax years. National Insurance credits alone will not enable a person to qualify but they can help towards meeting the conditions. If they satisfy the test, they may receive a personal, age-related rate of benefit for up to 6 months irrespective of savings, capital or a partner's earnings.

JSA is a weekly benefit. The earnings rules are similar to those which currently apply in Income Support. For most people, a £5 weekly disregard applies to all earnings. This disregard for couples in JSA(IB) is £10 as a whole. Some people, such as lone parents, benefit from a higher £15 disregard in Income-based JSA. A certain amount of personal earnings will be ignored and the rest taken fully into account in the assessment of benefit. Deductions are made from the contribution-based benefit in respect of occupational or personal pensions where the amount of pension in payment exceeds £50 a week.

Income-based JSA is similar to Income Support and the majority of JSA recipients are expected to qualify through this route.

Source

Figures are based on 20% scans.

Summary

The overall number of unemployed claimants fell by over three thousand (3,366) between November 2001 and November 2002 to 33,488. The majority of this reduction in numbers was accounted for by recipients of income-based benefit - a fall of 2,889 in the year to November 2002.

There was a slightly higher proportion of claims of short duration (less than 3 months) in November 2002, 36.9% compared to 34.6% a year earlier. Claims of less than 3 months are a proxy for new claims.

There was also a decrease in the proportion of claims of more than a year between November 2002 (29.3%) and November 2001 (32.5%). Great Britain saw a similar trend, with claims of long duration (more than one year) falling to 18.5% of the overall caseload, from 20.6% in the previous year.

Between November 1999 and November 2002 the proportion of JSA claimants who had been out of work for one year or more decreased from 38% to 29% of all JSA claimants. Some of this decrease will be due to changing economic circumstances. But, it will also be impacted upon by the introduction of the New Deal for 18 to 24 year olds and the New Deal for 25+ both of which are designed to assist the longer-term unemployed into work or training.

When compared with the corresponding figures for Great Britain, Northern Ireland is shown to have a greater proportion of claims of long duration (more than one year), namely 29.3% of the overall caseload in November 2002, compared to the Great Britain figure of 18.5%.

JSA claimants as a proportion of people of working age in Northern Ireland in November 2002 was 3.2%. These proportions range from 1.7% in Magherafelt to 5.3% in Derry.

JSA claimants in the United Kingdom have decreased by 2.2% in the year to November 2002. There has been an increase in three Government Office Regions, with South East having the largest increase at 8.9%. The other regions have seen a decrease ranging from 1.8% in West Midlands to 11% in the North East.

Single claimants without dependants tend to receive the lowest amounts of benefit, on average £50.76 per week for contribution-based and £50.37 for those with income-based. Recipients of income-based JSA with partners and/or dependants receive higher amounts (£86.30 for couples without dependants and £143.21 for single/couples with dependants). However the former account for only 4.2% of all JSA claimants, whilst the latter account for 9.3%. The corresponding figures for Great Britain in November 2002, with regards to JSA with partners and dependants, are similar.

Table 5.1 Unemployed claimants by benefit entitlement - 1997 to 2002

	<u>Type of unemployment related benefit</u>					
	All Claimants	All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
Jobseeker's Allowance						
Feb-97	67,541	62,089	5,914	826	55,349	5,452
May-97	61,309	56,765	3,646	772	52,346	4,544
Aug-97	65,727	60,889	6,570	649	53,669	4,838
Nov-97	58,305	54,242	5,054	586	48,602	4,063
Feb-98	59,161	55,049	5,807	622	48,620	4,112
May-98	55,323	51,552	4,720	586	46,246	3,771
Aug-98	61,175	56,914	6,716	679	49,519	4,261
Nov-98	54,327	50,443	5,076	525	44,842	3,884
Feb-99	55,796	51,834	5,397	663	45,774	3,962
May-99	51,137	47,561	4,423	642	42,496	3,577
Aug-99	52,652	48,339	5,383	538	42,417	4,313
Nov-99	43,720	40,383	4,035	410	35,939	3,337
Feb-00	44,018	40,756	4,792	491	35,473	3,262
May-00	42,255	38,900	4,466	489	33,945	3,355
Aug-00	44,123	40,667	5,351	444	34,872	3,456
Nov-00	40,007	36,527	4,536	429	31,562	3,480
Feb-01	40,971	37,772	4,822	359	32,592	3,199
May-01	38,766	35,632	4,313	359	30,961	3,133
Aug-01	42,234	38,901	5,660	391	32,850	3,333
Nov-01	36,854	33,764	4,616	369	28,780	3,090
Feb-02	38,260	34,933	4,868	493	29,571	3,327
May-02	35,747	32,709	4,503	456	27,750	3,038
Aug-02	38,257	34,987	5,332	456	29,199	3,270
Nov-02	33,488	30,488	4,221	376	25,891	3,000

Table 5.2 Unemployed JSA claimants at November 2002 by age and benefit entitlement

Claimants age	All Claimants (^{'000=100%})	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only %	Contribution and income based ¹ %	Income based only %	No benefit in payment %
All ages	33,488	91.0	12.6	1.1	77.3	9.0
Under 20	3,471	97.3	0.9	0.0	96.4	2.7
20-24	6,205	95.3	16.1	0.3	78.9	4.7
25-29	4,612	94.1	18.8	1.1	74.3	5.9
30-34	3,683	93.5	17.0	2.4	74.1	6.5
35-39	3,508	93.0	12.7	2.2	78.1	7.0
40-44	2,878	91.5	11.2	2.2	78.2	8.5
45-49	2,772	89.2	11.2	1.3	76.7	10.8
50-54	3,024	81.6	8.2	0.9	72.5	18.4
55-59	3,106	76.7	9.8	0.5	66.4	23.3
60 and over ¹	229	84.2	30.4	2.2	51.6	15.8

¹These figures are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should be used only as a guide to the correct situation.

Table 5.3 Unemployed JSA claimants by gender, marital status and benefit entitlement - November 2002

Claimants	All Claimants (^{'000=100%})	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only %	Contribution and income based ¹ %	Income based only %	No benefit in payment %
All	33,488	91.0	12.6	1.1	77.3	9.0
All males	25,722	92.8	11.5	1.3	79.9	7.2
Single	20,118	96.1	11.4	0.3	84.4	3.9
With partner	5,604	80.6	12.0	4.8	63.8	19.4
All females	7,766	85.4	16.2	0.5	68.7	14.6
Single	6,207	93.3	10.9	0.3	82.1	6.7
With partner	1,559	53.7	37.1	1.3	15.3	46.3

¹ These figures are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should be used only as a guide to the correct situation.

Table 5.4 JSA claimants at November 2002 by District Council and as a percentage of working age population

District Council	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	Working age Population ¹	Claimants as % of Population
All	33,488	1,030,400	3.2%
Antrim	638	32,900	1.9%
Ards	1,093	45,500	2.4%
Armagh	934	33,100	2.8%
Ballymena	804	37,000	2.2%
Ballymoney	336	15,900	2.1%
Banbridge	467	25,700	1.8%
Belfast	7,866	165,800	4.7%
Carrickfergus	671	23,800	2.8%
Castlereagh	720	40,200	1.8%
Coleraine	1,191	34,300	3.5%
Cookstown	415	19,200	2.2%
Craigavon	1,242	48,900	2.5%
Derry	3,469	65,300	5.3%
Down	1,181	38,400	3.1%
Dungannon	596	29,300	2.0%
Fermanagh	1,529	34,300	4.5%
Larne	634	18,900	3.4%
Limavady	744	19,700	3.8%
Lisburn	1,513	68,500	2.2%
Magherafelt	402	23,300	1.7%
Moyle	365	9,300	3.9%
Newry & Mourne	1,882	52,400	3.6%
Newtownabbey	1,461	50,700	2.9%
North Down	1,071	45,700	2.3%
Omagh	1,076	29,100	3.7%
Strabane	1,188	23,200	5.1%

¹ Mid 2001 estimates. Population of working age. Namely 16-59 for Females, and ages 16-64 for Males.

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

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

**Table 5.5 JSA claimants by Government Office Region:
November 2001 and November 2002**

Thousands

GOR	November 2001	November 2002	Annual % change
United Kingdom	926	906	-2.2
North East	60	54	-11.0
North West	116	110	-4.6
Yorks & Humberside	90	84	-6.5
East Midlands	58	55	-6.1
West Midlands	92	90	-1.8
East	52	54	3.5
London	158	166	5.1
South East	65	71	8.9
South West	50	47	-5.4
Wales	47	45	-5.4
Scotland	101	97	-4.5
Northern Ireland	37	33	-10.8

Table 5.6 Unemployed claimants by duration of claim: November 1999 to November 2002

Duration	Nov-99	Nov-00	Nov-01	Nov-02
All claimants ('000= 100%)	43,720	40,007	36,854	33,488
Under 3 months	13,412	13,272	12,735	12,363
3 to under 6 months	6,891	7,267	6,081	5,629
6 to under 12 months	6,763	6,507	6,076	5,667
1 to under 2 years	6,079	6,192	6,147	5,051
2 years or over	10,575	6,769	5,816	4,777

Table 5.7 Unemployed claimants at November 2002 by benefit entitlement and duration of current claim

Duration	All Claimants	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only	Contribution and income based¹	Income based only	No benefit in payment
All ('000=100%)	33,488	30,488	4,221	376	25,891	3,000
% up to 2 weeks	7.7	6.2	13.7	8.3	4.9	22.4
% 2 to under 6 weeks	12.3	12.4	26.5	16.6	10.1	11.1
% 6 to under 13 weeks	17.0	17.1	30.1	36.1	14.7	15.7
% 13 to under 26 weeks	16.8	17.4	29.7	39.1	15.1	10.6
% 26 to under 39 weeks	9.6	9.6	0.0	0.0	11.3	10.4
% 39 weeks to under 1 year	7.3	7.3	0.0	0.0	8.6	6.9
% 1 to under 2 years	15.1	15.0	0.0	0.0	17.7	15.4
% 2 years or over	14.3	14.9	0.0	0.0	17.6	7.5

¹ These figures are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should be used only as a guide to the correct situation.

Table 5.8 Unemployed claimants with income-based benefit¹ by average weekly amount: November 1998 to November 2002

	All		Single without dependants		Couple without dependants		Single or couple with dependants	
	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw
JSA(1)								
Nov-98	45,367	£62.50	33,590	£47.15	3,500	£73.00	8,277	£120.33
Nov-99	36,348	£61.64	28,656	£48.04	2,075	£80.68	5,617	£123.98
Nov-00	31,990	£62.29	25,926	£48.88	1,682	£80.68	4,382	£134.56
Nov-01	29,149	£62.04	23,889	£49.54	1,550	£84.89	3,710	£132.99
Nov-02	26,267	£63.27	21,753	£50.37	1,411	£86.30	3,104	£143.21

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

Only the amount of income-based award above the level of contribution based award is included.

Table 5.10 Rates of Premiums

	£ per week									
	Dis-abled child	Carer	Disability		Severe Disability			Family		
			Single	Couple	Single	Couple (one)	Couple (both)	Couple	Lone Parent	
07 October 1996	20.40	13.00	20.40	29.15	36.40	36.40	72.80	10.55	.	.
07 April 1997	20.95	13.35	20.95	29.90	37.15	37.15	74.30	.	10.80	15.75
06 April 1998	21.45	13.65	21.45	30.60	38.50	38.50	77.00	.	11.05	15.75
09 November 1998	21.45	13.65	21.45	30.60	38.50	38.50	77.00	.	11.05	15.75
12 April 1999	21.90	13.95	21.90	31.25	39.75	39.75	79.50	.	13.90	15.75
10 April 2000	22.25	14.15	22.25	31.75	40.20	40.20	80.40	.	14.25	15.90
09 April 2001	30.00	24.40	22.60	32.25	41.55	41.55	83.10	.	14.50	15.90
08 April 2002	35.50	24.80	23.00	32.80	42.25	42.25	84.50	.	14.75	15.90
07 April 2003	41.30	25.10	23.30	33.25	42.95	42.95	85.90	.	15.75	15.90

	Lone parent	Pensioner		Enhanced Pensioner		Higher Pensioner	
		Single	Couple	Single	Couple	Single	Couple
		07 October 1996	5.20	19.15	28.90	21.30	31.90	25.90	37.05
07 April 1997	.	19.65	29.65	21.85	32.75	26.55	38.00
06 April 1998	.	20.10	30.35	22.35	33.55	27.20	38.90
09 November 1998	.	20.10	30.35	22.35	33.55	27.20	38.90
12 April 1999	.	23.60	35.95	25.90	39.20	30.85	44.65
10 April 2000	.	26.25	40.00	28.65	43.40	33.85	49.10
09 April 2001	.	39.10	57.30	39.10	57.30	39.10	57.30
08 April 2002	.	44.20	65.15	44.20	65.15	44.20	65.15
07 April 2003	.	47.45	70.05	47.45	70.05	47.45	70.05

Section 6 - Incapacity Benefit

Introduced 13 April 1995

Contributory, Not means tested, Taxable

Incapacity Benefit replaced Sickness Benefit and Invalidity Benefit from 13 April 1995. It is paid to people who are assessed as being incapable of work and who meet the same contribution conditions as for Sickness Benefit. The only change is that those who do not satisfy the contribution conditions do not have them treated as satisfied, if they cannot work because of an industrial accident or prescribed disease.

Assessing Incapacity

For the first 28 weeks of incapacity, people previously in work are assessed on the 'own occupation' test – the claimant's ability to do their own job.

Otherwise, incapacity is based on the 'all work' test, which assesses ability to carry out a range of work-related activities. The test applies after 28 weeks of incapacity or from the start of the claim for people who did not previously have a job. Certain people are exempt from this test.

From April 2000 the 'all work' test was replaced with the 'personal capability assessment' which is designed to look at the capabilities of the claimant.

Rates of Benefit

The rates of Incapacity Benefit are set out in Table 6.8. For people under state pension age there are two short-term rates: the lower rate is paid for the first 28 weeks of sickness and the higher rate for weeks 29 to 52. Employees receive Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) for the first 28 weeks of sickness, after which they normally move on to Incapacity Benefit. People unable to get SSP can claim Incapacity Benefit if they satisfy the contribution conditions.

The long-term rate of Incapacity Benefit applies to people under state pension age who have been sick for more than a year. People with a terminal illness or who are receiving the highest rate care component of Disability Living Allowance get the long-term rate from week 29.

For people over state pension age, the short-term rate of Incapacity Benefit, based on Retirement Pension entitlement, is paid for up to a year if incapacity began before pension age. The long-term rate is not paid for people over pension age.

The higher short-term rate and long term rate are treated as taxable income.

Increases are paid for a dependant who is caring for a child or where the spouse is aged 60 or over. Increases for children are paid with the short-term higher rate and with the long-term rate. An age addition is paid with the long-term rate. There are two rates depending on the age when incapacity began, where incapacity began before age 45.

Transitional Rules

There were transitional provisions for people who were on Sickness or Invalidity Benefit on 12 April 1995. They were automatically transferred to Incapacity Benefit, payable on the same basis as before. Former Invalidity Benefit recipients continue to get Additional Pension entitlement, but frozen at 1994 levels. Also their Incapacity Benefit is not subject to tax. If they were over state pension age on 12 April 1995 they may get Incapacity Benefit for up to 5 years beyond pension age.

Source

Figures are based on 100% scans.

Abbreviations

IVB – Invalidity Benefit

IBST(L) – Incapacity Benefit (Lower)

IBST(H) – Incapacity Benefit (Higher)

IBLT – Incapacity Benefit (Long Term)

Summary

At the end of November 2002 there were 107,926 IB claimants, up 4,259 (4.1%) on the previous year. Of these, 71,771 were in receipt of the benefit, a 1.2% increase on the November 2001 figure. The corresponding figure for Great Britain as a whole was up (0.1%) on the previous year.

Numbers claiming the different rates of the benefit were as follows (see table 6.2):

- Numbers on short term lower rate in the year rose to 4,585.
- Numbers on short term higher rate in the year fell to 4,671.
- Numbers on long term rate in the year rose to 63,376.

The proportions claiming the different rates of the benefit for Great Britain as a whole, mirrored that of Northern Ireland.

At November 2002, the main diagnosis groups for claimants were mental and behavioural disorders (34.6%) and diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (20.8%). A higher proportion of women (39.6%) were recorded in the group of mental and behavioural disorders compared to men (31.4%). However a higher proportion of men (10.9%) were in the group diseases of the circulatory system compared to women (4.4%).

The proportion of people of working age claiming IB at November 2002 was 10.5%, which is higher than the figure for Great Britain (6.8%). These proportions for the district councils in Northern Ireland range from 5.9% in North Down to 14.3% in Strabane.

The average weekly payment increased slightly from £80.43 to £80.75 over the year ending November 2002. The Northern Ireland average payment for all IB rates was £2.00 less than the average payment in Great Britain.

Table 6.1 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit by rate of benefit and split between ex-IVB and other claimants

		Number of IB claimants						Credits only
Quarter ending		Total	IBST(L)	IBST(H)	IBLT			
					Total IBLT	Ex-IVB (protected)	Other IBLT	
1996	Feb	95,525	5,505	4,624	68,526	66,272	2,254	16,870
	May	95,072	5,476	4,927	67,488	63,462	4,026	17,181
	Aug	94,218	5,462	5,026	66,711	60,713	5,998	17,019
	Nov	96,654	6,711	4,947	66,306	58,324	7,982	18,690
1997	Feb	97,683	7,063	4,846	66,280	56,388	9,892	19,494
	May	98,469	6,286	5,722	66,168	54,257	11,911	20,293
	Aug	98,956	6,228	6,527	65,309	51,613	13,696	20,892
	Nov	97,034	5,782	5,863	64,136	47,952	16,184	21,253
1998	Feb	99,141	5,946	5,338	65,753	47,499	18,254	22,104
	May	98,342	5,134	5,416	65,601	45,454	20,147	22,191
	Aug	98,779	5,050	5,333	64,872	43,510	21,362	23,524
	Nov	98,656	5,131	4,732	62,602	40,090	22,512	26,191
1999	Feb	98,637	5,133	4,328	63,534	39,753	23,781	25,642
	May	97,332	4,657	4,329	62,963	38,446	24,517	25,383
	Aug	97,587	4,855	4,512	62,154	36,858	25,296	26,066
	Nov	99,303	5,489	4,692	61,608	35,076	26,532	27,514
2000	Feb	98,296	5,477	4,555	60,670	33,422	27,248	27,594
	May	99,040	5,089	5,069	60,556	32,253	28,303	28,326
	Aug	99,368	4,893	5,164	60,654	31,402	29,252	28,657
	Nov	100,229	5,042	4,886	60,879	30,571	30,308	29,422
2001	Feb	101,211	4,904	4,682	61,418	29,858	31,560	30,207
	May	100,989	4,854	4,888	61,278	28,931	32,347	29,969
	Aug	103,253	4,987	5,201	61,743	28,094	33,649	31,322
	Nov	103,667	4,260	5,098	62,112	27,311	34,801	32,197
2002	Feb	102,821	4,049	4,531	61,914	26,520	35,394	32,327
	May	105,135	4,089	4,523	63,084	25,730	37,354	33,439
	Aug	106,308	4,298	4,736	63,105	25,050	38,055	34,169
	Nov	107,926	4,585	4,671	63,376	24,409	38,967	35,294

Table 6.2 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit at 30 November 2002 by age, gender, and rate of benefit

	All IB	IBST(L)	IBST(H)	IBLT			Credits Only
				Total IBLT	Ex-IVB (protected)	Other IBLT	
All Persons							
All Ages	107,926	4,585	4,671	63,376	24,409	38,967	35,294
Under 20	2,017	101	83	493	0	493	1340
20-24	5,064	402	310	1039	0	1039	3313
25-29	5,563	473	434	1690	32	1658	2966
30-34	8,492	590	504	3898	703	3195	3500
35-39	11,102	543	532	5736	1715	4021	4291
40-44	12,687	487	553	7096	2716	4380	4551
45-49	13,524	479	525	7973	3326	4647	4547
50-54	16,116	559	601	10369	4451	5918	4587
55-59	20,641	614	704	14639	6451	8188	4684
60-64	12,720	337	425	10443	5015	5428	1515
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Men							
All Ages	65,462	3,241	2,761	38,430	14,658	23,772	21,030
Under 20	1,044	57	50	284	0	284	653
20-24	2,915	257	192	547	0	547	1919
25-29	3,228	293	222	804	9	795	1909
30-34	4,592	383	240	1588	202	1386	2381
35-39	6,154	392	285	2619	575	2044	2858
40-44	7,023	351	342	3607	1148	2459	2723
45-49	7,481	340	280	4401	1738	2663	2460
50-54	8,594	395	328	5628	2293	3335	2243
55-59	11,713	436	397	8509	3678	4831	2371
60-64	12,718	337	425	10443	5015	5428	1513
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Women							
All Ages	42,464	1,344	1,910	24,946	9,751	15,195	14,264
Under 20	973	44	33	209	0	209	687
20-24	2,149	145	118	492	0	492	1394
25-29	2,335	180	212	886	23	863	1057
30-34	3,900	207	264	2310	501	1809	1119
35-39	4,948	151	247	3117	1140	1977	1433
40-44	5,664	136	211	3489	1568	1921	1828
45-49	6,043	139	245	3572	1588	1984	2087
50-54	7,522	164	273	4741	2158	2583	2344
55-59	8,928	178	307	6130	2773	3357	2313
60 and over	2	0	0	0	0	0	2

Includes SDA cases where incapacity has not yet been decided.

May include a small number of cases over pension age - incorrectly held or recorded on the computer system

Table 6.3 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit at 30 November 2002 by gender and Diagnosis Group¹ Heading

	All IB	% of all IB	Men	Women
All Cases	107,926	100.0%	65,462	42,464
Claimants without any diagnosis code on the system	100	0.1%	57	43
Certain infectious and Parasitic Diseases (A00 - B99)	897	0.8%	561	336
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	1,207	1.1%	631	576
Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs and certain diseases involving the immune mechanism (D50 - D89)	267	0.2%	127	140
Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases (E00 -E90)	1,432	1.3%	939	493
Mental and Behavioural Disorders (F00 - F99)	37,370	34.6%	20,546	16,824
Diseases of the Nervous System (G00 - G99)	4,401	4.1%	2,425	1,976
Diseases of the Eye and Adnexa (H00 -H59)	474	0.4%	352	122
Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Process (H60 - H95)	432	0.4%	274	158
Disease of the Circulatory System (I00 - I99)	9,018	8.4%	7,141	1,877
Diseases of the Respiratory System (J00 - J99)	3,113	2.9%	1,925	1,188
Diseases of the Digestive System (K00 - K93)	1,974	1.8%	1,261	713
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous System (L00 - L99)	1,147	1.1%	711	436
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal system and Connective Tissue (M00 - M99)	22,430	20.8%	13,529	8,901
Diseases of the Genitourinary System (N00 - N99)	887	0.8%	352	535
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (O00 - O99)	802	0.7%	9	793
Certain Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period (P00 - P96)	3	0.0%	0	3
Congenital Malformations, Deformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities (Q00 - Q99)	247	0.2%	144	103
Symptoms, Signs and Abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00 - R99)	12,764	11.8%	7,558	5,206
Injury, Poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (S00 - U22)	8,053	7.5%	6,286	1,767
Factors influencing Health Status and Contact with Health Services (Z00 - Z99)	908	0.8%	634	274

¹Diagnosis Group is taken from ICD10 published by the World Health Organisation.

Table 6.4 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit at 30 November 2002 by rate of benefit and District Council

	All IB	IBST(L)	IBST(H)	IBLT	Credits only	Working age Population ¹	All IB as % of population
All Cases	107,926	2,514	2,578	34,570	19,311	1,030,400	10.47%
Ards	3,588	169	182	2338	899	45,500	7.89%
Belfast	21,019	757	754	11030	8478	165,800	12.68%
Castlereagh	2,969	110	149	2041	669	40,200	7.39%
Down	3,589	162	151	2198	1078	38,400	9.35%
Lisburn	5,499	226	254	3292	1727	68,500	8.03%
North Down	2,696	106	141	1792	657	45,700	5.90%
Antrim	2,410	135	123	1435	717	32,900	7.33%
Ballymena	2,982	151	168	1789	874	37,000	8.06%
Ballymoney	1,705	91	81	1035	498	15,900	10.72%
Carrickfergus	1,799	79	86	1218	416	23,800	7.56%
Coleraine	2,849	116	133	1674	926	34,300	8.31%
Cookstown	2,710	143	111	1603	853	19,200	14.11%
Larne	1,681	101	94	1000	486	18,900	8.89%
Magherafelt	2,493	132	113	1556	692	23,300	10.70%
Moyle	984	36	38	569	341	9,300	10.58%
Newtownabbey	3,968	168	217	2553	1030	50,700	7.83%
Armagh	3,390	158	163	2113	956	33,100	10.24%
Banbridge	2,445	156	133	1568	588	25,700	9.51%
Craigavon	5,817	279	272	3793	1473	48,900	11.90%
Dungannon	3,401	157	133	2002	1109	29,300	11.61%
Newry & Mourne	6,405	259	272	3511	2363	52,400	12.22%
Derry	9,215	273	260	4970	3712	65,300	14.11%
Fermanagh	2,914	133	126	1652	1003	34,300	8.50%
Limavady	2,122	83	92	1247	700	19,700	10.77%
Omagh	3,585	158	148	2140	1139	29,100	12.32%
Strabane	3,327	128	132	1931	1136	23,200	14.34%
Missing postcode	2,364	119	145	1326	774	..	..

¹ = Mid 2000 estimates. Population of working age. Namely 16-59 for Females, 16-64 for Males.

.. = Not available

Note: Approximately 2% of records on the November 2002 dataset had missing or invalid postcodes, without which district council cannot be assigned.

**Table 6.5 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit by Government Office Region:
30 November 2002**

	Thousands					
	All IB	IBST(L)	IBST(H)	IBLT	Credits only	All IB as % of working age population
All Cases (GB)	2,384.2	91.3	89.3	1,334.9	868.7	6.8
North East	163.2	6.5	5.6	98.9	52.2	10.6
North West	392.4	14.7	13.4	223.8	140.5	9.6
Yorks & Humber	214.5	8.4	9.1	123.5	73.5	7.1
East Midlands	155.7	6.2	6.2	95.1	48.2	6.1
West Midlands	218.4	8.5	9.5	126.4	74.0	6.8
South West	154.0	7.4	6.1	84.6	55.8	5.2
Eastern	142.2	6.3	6.0	80.4	49.4	4.3
London	264.8	7.0	7.2	103.4	147.2	5.6
South East	186.8	7.5	8.1	100.0	71.1	3.8
England	1,891.9	72.3	71.2	1,036.3	712.0	6.3
Scotland	288.3	11.9	10.7	165.6	100.6	9.2
Wales	193.6	7.0	7.2	123.9	55.5	11.2
Northern Ireland	107.9	4.6	4.7	63.4	35.3	10.5
Overseas	9.9	0.1*	0.1*	9.1	0.6	0.0

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

*Figures under 500 are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should only be used as a guide to the current situation as GB data are taken from a 5% extract of the computer system.

Table 6.6 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit at 30 November 2002 by age, gender, and duration of benefit

	All IB	Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 to under 4 years	4 years and over
All Persons							
All Ages	107,926	6,172	5,957	9,183	13,346	20,025	53,243
Under 20	2,017	388	397	424	502	306	0
20-24	5,064	675	636	924	1313	901	615
25-29	5,563	572	597	792	1011	1251	1340
30-34	8,492	703	664	975	1224	1865	3061
35-39	11,102	758	685	1113	1497	2280	4769
40-44	12,687	752	693	1185	1600	2486	5971
45-49	13,524	692	664	1085	1627	2525	6931
50-54	16,116	664	650	1054	1675	2941	9132
55-59	20,641	701	675	1106	1966	3579	12614
60-64	12,720	267	296	525	931	1891	8810
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Men							
All Ages	65,462	3,941	3,658	5,567	7,896	12,310	32,090
Under 20	1,044	205	200	197	264	178	0
20-24	2,915	420	392	532	729	509	333
25-29	3,228	359	371	479	582	727	710
30-34	4,592	455	418	569	709	1027	1414
35-39	6,154	507	439	677	886	1390	2255
40-44	7,023	474	417	753	899	1455	3025
45-49	7,481	407	372	623	892	1435	3752
50-54	8,594	400	360	575	890	1586	4783
55-59	11,713	447	393	637	1115	2112	7009
60-64	12,718	267	296	525	930	1891	8809
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Women							
All Ages	42,464	2,231	2,299	3,616	5,450	7,715	21,153
Under 20	973	183	197	227	238	128	0
20-24	2,149	255	244	392	584	392	282
25-29	2,335	213	226	313	429	524	630
30-34	3,900	248	246	406	515	838	1647
35-39	4,948	251	246	436	611	890	2514
40-44	5,664	278	276	432	701	1,031	2946
45-49	6,043	285	292	462	735	1,090	3179
50-54	7,522	264	290	479	785	1,355	4349
55-59	8,928	254	282	469	851	1,467	5605
60 and over	2	0	0	0	1	0	1

Includes SDA cases where incapacity has not yet been decided.

May include a small number of cases over pension age - incorrectly held or recorded on the computer system

Table 6.7 Number of recipients of Incapacity Benefit at 30 November 2002 by rate of benefit, and weekly amounts in payment

	All Recipients	Total weekly amount paid £	Average weekly amount paid £
All Persons			
All IB Rates	71,771	5,795,204	80.75
IBST(L)	4,133	217,859	52.71
IBST(H)	4,509	282,979	62.76
IBLT (All)	63,129	5,294,366	83.87
IBLT (Ex-IVB)	24,399	2,268,920	92.99
Invalidity Allowance	15,720	166,094	10.57
Additional Pension	17,650	270,355	15.32
Graduated Retirement Benefit	0	0	0.00
IBLT (Other)	38,730	3,025,446	78.12
Incapacity Age Addition	17,718	200,718	11.33

Table 6.8 Rates of Incapacity Benefit

	£ per week							
	Short term (lower rate)				Short term (higher rate)			
	Under pension age		Over pension age		Increase for dependants			
	Standard	Adult	Standard	Adult	Standard	Adult	First child	Each other child
11 April 1996	46.15	28.55	58.65	35.15	54.55	28.55	9.90	11.15
10 April 1997	47.10	29.15	59.90	35.90	55.70	29.15	9.90	11.20
09 April 1998	48.80	30.20	62.05	37.20	57.70	30.20	9.90	11.30
12 April 1999	50.35	31.15	64.05	38.40	59.55	31.15	9.90	11.35
13 April 2000	50.90	31.50	64.75	38.80	60.20	31.50	9.85	11.35
09 April 2001	52.60	32.55	66.90	40.10	62.20	32.55	9.70	11.35
08 April 2002	53.50	33.10	68.05	40.80	63.25	33.10	9.65	11.35
07 April 2003	54.40	33.65	69.20	41.50	64.35	33.65	9.55	11.35
Long term (No transitional protection)								
	Increase for dependants				Incapacity age addition			
	Standard	Adult	First child	Each other child	Higher rate	Lower rate		
11 April 1996	61.15	36.60	9.90	11.15	12.90	6.45		
10 April 1997	62.45	37.35	9.90	11.20	13.15	6.60		
09 April 1998	64.70	38.70	9.90	11.30	13.60	6.80		
12 April 1999	66.75	39.95	9.90	11.35	14.05	7.05		
13 April 2000	67.50	40.40	9.85	11.35	14.20	7.10		
09 April 2001	69.75	53.05	9.70	11.35	14.65	7.35		
08 April 2002	70.95	42.45	9.65	11.35	14.90	7.45		
07 April 2003	72.15	43.15	9.55	11.35	15.15	7.60		

Section 7 - Severe Disablement Allowance

Introduced 29 November 1984

Non-contributory, Not means tested, Non-taxable

Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) replaced Non-Contributory Invalidity Pension and Housewives Non-Contributory Invalidity Pension from 29 November 1984.

People who are incapable of work and do not satisfy the contribution conditions for Incapacity Benefit (IB) may get SDA. Claimants must be aged between 16 and 65 when they make their claim. There is no upper age limit for receiving the allowance once it has been awarded.

Claimants must have been incapable of work for at least 28 weeks. Anyone who became incapable of work before his or her 20th birthday may qualify on this basis alone. People who became incapable of work after their 20th birthday must also prove they have been 80% disabled for at least 28 weeks.

Like IB claimants, SDA recipients can get extra money added to their allowance for any dependants. They can also get age additions. The amount of the age addition depends on the claimant's age when they became incapable of work. However, the age bands for SDA are different from those for IB.

In April 1992, the residence and presence conditions for SDA were relaxed to align with other benefits for disabled people.

In February 1996, SDA was added to the list of Social Security benefits not available to people whose right to reside or remain in the UK is subject to a limitation or condition.

In April 1997, regulations were introduced to treat satisfaction of the SDA 80% disability test as a passport through the All Work Test; and to tighten the criteria which passport people through the SDA 80% disability test.

From April 2001 there have been no new claims to SDA. Those who were claiming at this time have continued to do so under the old rules.

Recipients aged under 20, or those aged 20 or over but under 25 who were in education or training immediately before their 20th birthday, may be able to get Incapacity Benefit even if they have not paid enough National Insurance contributions.

Source

Figures are based on 100% scans.

Summary

Claimants and Recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance has decreased from 15,333 in November 2001 to 14,146 in November 2002.

The main diagnosis group for claimants of Severe Disablement Allowance was mental and behavioural disorders (40.5%). A higher proportion of men (46.1%) were in the group of mental and behavioural disorders compared to women (36.2%). However a higher proportion of women (13.3%) were in the group diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue compared to men (4.6%).

The proportion of people aged 16 and over in receipt of the allowance at 30 November 2002 was 1.1%. These proportions for the district councils in Northern Ireland range from 0.73% in Castlereagh and Newtownards to 1.65% in Antrim.

The average weekly payment of Severe Disablement Allowance was £54.33 in November 2002 - £0.67 less than the average in Great Britain.

Table 7.1 Severe Disablement Allowance claimants and recipients by start of spell

	Quarter ending	SDA claimants ¹			SDA recipients ¹		
		Total	Pre 13th ²	Post 13th ²	Total	Pre 13th ²	Post 13th ²
			April '95 cases	April '95 cases		April '95 cases	April '95 cases
1996	Feb	14,812	14,185	627	14,684	14,101	583
	May	14,901	14,049	852	14,784	13,981	803
	Aug	15,045	13,922	1,123	14,892	13,854	1,038
	Nov	15,239	13,770	1,469	15,077	13,702	1,375
1997	Feb	15,306	13,634	1,672	15,177	13,582	1,595
	May	15,400	13,506	1,894	15,278	13,457	1,821
	Aug	15,504	13,350	2,154	15,376	13,312	2,064
	Nov	15,559	13,216	2,343	15,449	13,191	2,258
1998	Feb	15,579	13,068	2,511	15,470	13,041	2,429
	May	15,589	12,939	2,650	15,502	12,915	2,587
	Aug	15,612	12,799	2,813	15,498	12,767	2,731
	Nov	15,689	12,599	3,090	15,520	12,573	2,947
1999	Feb	15,629	12,517	3,112	15,514	12,497	3,017
	May	15,593	12,430	3,163	15,509	12,415	3,094
	Aug	15,571	12,330	3,241	15,494	12,308	3,186
	Nov	15,507	12,180	3,327	15,407	12,158	3,249
2000	Feb	15,463	12,028	3,435	15,366	12,011	3,355
	May	15,470	11,904	3,566	15,352	11,886	3,466
	Aug	15,458	11,795	3,663	15,355	11,772	3,583
	Nov	15,489	11,690	3,799	15,385	11,668	3,717
2001	Feb	15,507	11,582	3,925	15,397	11,564	3,833
	May	15,494	11,467	4,027	15,384	11,452	3,932
	Aug	15,443	11,370	4,073	15,364	11,353	4,011
	Nov	15,333	11,266	4,067	15,274	11,253	4,021
2002	Feb	15,199	11,169	4,030	15,149	11,157	3,992
	May	14,412	11,070	3,342	14,371	11,057	3,314
	Aug	14,290	10,976	3,314	14,245	10,959	3,286
	Nov	14,146	10,854	3,292	14,115	10,842	3,273

¹ Claimants include all those on the benefit, while recipients only include claimants who are in receipt of payment

² Incapacity Benefit was introduced on 13th April 1995, replacing Sickness and Invalidity benefit

Table 7.2 Claimants and recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance at November 2002 by age, gender, and commencement of benefit

	Claimants	All SDA Recipients	SDA Pre 13 April 1995 Claimants	SDA Pre 13 April 1995 Recipients	SDA Post 13 April 1995 Claimants	SDA Post 13 April 1995 Recipients
All Persons						
All Ages	14,146	14,115	10,854	10,842	3,292	3,273
Under 20	479	697	130	130	573	567
20 - 24	1,122	1,215	870	867	349	348
25 - 29	1,499	1,421	1,171	1,170	252	251
30 - 34	1,602	1,577	1,252	1,251	328	326
35 - 39	1,540	1,551	1,206	1,205	350	346
40 - 44	1,431	1,470	1,136	1,136	334	334
45 - 49	1,626	1,508	1,220	1,217	295	291
50 - 54	1,572	1,692	1,288	1,287	406	405
55 - 59	993	1,154	872	870	284	284
60 - 64	1,709	1,830	1,709	1,709	121	121
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0
Men						
All Ages	6,196	6,181	4,826	4,821	1,370	1,360
Under 20	379	375	73	73	306	302
20 - 24	660	660	467	467	193	193
25 - 29	778	777	653	652	125	125
30 - 34	879	878	728	728	151	150
35 - 39	739	735	593	592	146	143
40 - 44	650	650	538	538	112	112
45 - 49	596	593	518	516	78	77
50 - 54	567	566	449	449	118	117
55 - 59	460	459	354	353	106	106
60 - 64	488	488	453	453	35	35
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0
Women						
All Ages	7,950	7,934	6,028	6,021	1,922	1,913
Under 20	324	322	57	57	267	265
20 - 24	559	555	403	400	156	155
25 - 29	645	644	518	518	127	126
30 - 34	701	699	524	523	177	176
35 - 39	817	816	613	613	204	203
40 - 44	820	820	598	598	222	222
45 - 49	919	915	702	701	217	214
50 - 54	1,127	1,126	839	838	288	288
55 - 59	696	695	518	517	178	178
60 and over	1,342	1,342	1,256	1,256	86	86

**Table 7.3 Claimants of Severe Disablement Allowance at 30 November 2002
by Diagnosis Group¹**

	All SDA	% of all SDA	Men	Women
All Cases	14,146	100.0%	6,196	7,950
Claimants without any diagnosis code on the system	11	0.1%	4	7
Certain infectious and Parasitic Diseases (A00 - B99)	51	0.4%	20	31
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	114	0.8%	34	80
Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs and certain diseases involving the immune mechanism (D50 - D89)	17	0.1%	8	9
Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases (E00 -E90)	144	1.0%	54	90
Mental and Behavioural Disorders (F00 - F99)	5,732	40.5%	2,858	2,874
Diseases of the Nervous System (G00 - G99)	1,471	10.4%	589	882
Diseases of the Eye and Adnexa (H00 -H59)	218	1.5%	92	126
Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Process (H60 - H95)	128	0.9%	46	82
Disease of the Circulatory System (I00 - I99)	728	5.1%	244	484
Diseases of the Respiratory System (J00 - J99)	365	2.6%	88	277
Diseases of the Digestive System (K00 - K93)	116	0.8%	37	79
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous System (L00 - L99)	57	0.4%	12	45
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal system and Connective Tissue (M	1,342	9.5%	285	1,057
Diseases of the Genitourinary System (N00 - N99)	82	0.6%	32	50
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (O00 - O99)	6	0.0%	2	4
Certain Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period (P00 - P96)	0	0.0%	0	0
Congenital Malformations, Deformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities (Q00 - Q99)	967	6.8%	516	451
Symptoms, Signs and Abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00 - R99)	1,737	12.3%	758	979
Injury, Poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (S00 - U22)	317	2.2%	200	117
Factors influencing Health Status and Contact with Health Services (Z00 - Z99)	543	3.8%	317	226

¹Diagnosis Group is taken from ICD10 published by the World Health Organisation.

Table 7.4 Claimants and recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance at 30 November 2002, by District Council

	Claimants	Recipients	Population aged 16 and over ¹	Recipients as % of Population
All Persons				
All Cases	14,146	14,115	1,289,600	1.09%
Ards	415	415	56,700	0.73%
Belfast	2,386	2,382	216,900	1.10%
Castlereagh	385	385	53,000	0.73%
Down	569	568	47,700	1.19%
Lisburn	694	692	84,300	0.82%
North Down	512	512	60,600	0.84%
Antrim	645	644	39,000	1.65%
Ballymena	397	397	46,400	0.86%
Ballymoney	246	246	19,800	1.24%
Carrickfergus	281	281	29,700	0.95%
Coleraine	376	376	43,700	0.86%
Cookstown	265	265	24,000	1.10%
Larne	198	198	24,300	0.81%
Magherafelt	328	328	28,400	1.15%
Moyle	169	169	11,900	1.42%
Newtownabbey	474	474	63,600	0.75%
Armagh	572	564	41,100	1.37%
Banbridge	297	297	31,300	0.95%
Craigavon	610	608	60,500	1.00%
Dungannon	454	452	35,700	1.27%
Newry & Mourne	827	826	63,600	1.30%
Derry	985	980	77,000	1.27%
Fermanagh	520	518	43,300	1.20%
Limavady	261	261	23,500	1.11%
Omagh	491	490	35,300	1.39%
Strabane	446	444	28,300	1.57%
Missing postcode	343	343	-	-

Note: Approximately 2% of records on the November 2002 dataset had missing or invalid postcodes, without which district council cannot be assigned.

¹ Mid 2001 estimates. Population aged 16 and over

- Data not available

**Table 7.5 Claimants and recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance
by Government Office Region: 30 November 2002**

	Thousands	
	Claimants	Recipients
All Persons		
All Cases (Great Britain)	325.9	325.2
North East	18.2	18.2
North West	43.7	43.6
Yorks & Humber	30.5	30.4
East Midlands	25.2	25.2
West Midlands	28.0	27.9
South West	28.3	28.3
Eastern	25.2	25.1
London	29.3	29.1
South East	37.5	37.5
England	265.8	265.3
Scotland	37.7	37.7
Wales	21.9	21.8
Northern Ireland	14.4	14.4
Overseas	0.4*	0.4*

*Figures under 500 are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should only be used as a guide to the current situation as GB data are taken from a 5% extract of the computer system.

**Table 7.6 Claimants of Severe Disablement Allowance at 30 November 2002
by age, gender, and duration of benefit**

	All IB	Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 to under 12 months	1 to under 2 years	2 to under 4 years	4 years and over
All Persons							
All Ages	14,146	14	25	26	155	774	13,152
Under 20	703	0	4	3	13	115	568
20-24	1,219	1	1	7	19	71	1,120
25-29	1,423	3	2	0	15	60	1,343
30-34	1,580	0	3	2	20	96	1,459
35-39	1,556	0	5	2	19	102	1,428
40-44	1,470	1	2	2	9	86	1,370
45-49	1,515	1	1	0	15	71	1,427
50-54	1,694	1	1	1	21	96	1,574
55-59	1,156	4	5	8	19	63	1,057
60-64	1,830	3	1	1	5	14	1,806
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Men							
All Ages	6,196	5	10	7	61	311	5,802
Under 20	379	0	1	0	7	60	311
20-24	660	0	1	3	13	40	603
25-29	778	3	2	0	6	30	737
30-34	879	0	1	1	6	42	829
35-39	739	0	4	1	4	41	689
40-44	650	0	1	2	4	26	617
45-49	596	0	0	0	7	18	571
50-54	567	1	0	0	8	24	534
55-59	460	0	0	0	4	26	430
60-64	488	1	0	0	2	4	481
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Women							
All Ages	7,950	9	15	19	94	463	7,350
Under 20	324	0	3	3	6	55	257
20-24	559	1	0	4	6	31	517
25-29	645	0	0	0	9	30	606
30-34	701	0	2	1	14	54	630
35-39	817	0	1	1	15	61	739
40-44	820	1	1	0	5	60	753
45-49	919	1	1	0	8	53	856
50-54	1,127	0	1	1	13	72	1,040
55-59	2,038	6	6	9	18	47	1,952
60 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 7.7 Number of Severe Disablement Allowance recipients at 30 November 2002 by total weekly amounts in payment

	Number of Recipients	Total weekly amount paid £	Average weekly amount paid £
All in receipt of SDA	14,115	766,832	54.33
Of which:			
In receipt of Age Related Addition	14,068	183,692	13.06

Table 7.8 Rates of Severe Disablement Allowance

£ per week

	Personal benefit	Age related addition ¹			Increase for dependants		
		Higher	Middle	Lower	Adult	First child	Each other child
26 November 1981	17.75	.	.	.	10.65	7.70	7.70
25 November 1982	19.70	.	.	.	11.80	7.95	7.95
24 November 1983	20.45	.	.	.	12.25	7.60	7.60
29 November 1984	21.50	.	.	.	12.85	7.65	7.65
28 November 1985	23.00	.	.	.	13.75	8.05	8.05
31 July 1986	23.25	.	.	.	13.90	8.05	8.05
09 April 1987	23.75	.	.	.	14.20	8.05	8.05
14 April 1988	24.75	.	.	.	14.80	8.40	8.40
13 April 1989	26.20	.	.	.	15.65	8.95	8.95
12 April 1990	28.20	.	.	.	16.85	9.65	9.65
03 December 1990	28.20	10.00	6.20	3.10	16.85	9.65	9.65
11 April 1991	31.25	11.10	6.90	3.45	18.70	9.70	10.70
09 April 1992	32.55	11.55	7.20	3.60	19.45	9.75	10.85
15 April 1993	33.70	11.95	7.50	3.75	20.15	9.80	10.95
14 April 1994	34.80	12.15	7.60	3.80	20.70	9.80	11.00
13 April 1995	35.55	12.40	7.80	3.90	21.15	9.85	11.05
11 April 1996	36.95	12.90	8.10	4.05	21.95	9.90	11.15
10 April 1997	37.75	13.15	8.30	4.15	22.40	9.90	11.20
09 April 1998	39.10	13.60	8.60	4.30	23.20	9.90	11.30
15 April 1999	40.35	14.05	8.90	4.45	23.95	9.90	11.35
13 April 2000	40.80	14.20	9.00	4.50	24.20	9.85	11.35
09 April 2001	42.15	14.65	9.30	4.65	25.00	9.70	11.35
08 April 2002	42.85	14.90	9.50	4.75	25.45	9.65	11.35
07 April 2003	43.60	15.15	9.70	4.85	25.90	9.55	11.35

¹ Age related additions were introduced from 3 December 1990 and depend on the claimant's age when incapacity for work began:

Higher rate	Under age 40
Middle rate	Age 40 - 49
Lower rate	Age 50 - 59

Non-contributory Invalidity Pension and Housewives Non-contributory Invalidity Pension were replaced by Severe Disablement Allowance from 29 November 1984.

Section 8 - Attendance Allowance

Introduced 6 December 1971

Non-contributory, Not means tested, Non-taxable

Attendance Allowance (AA) is a benefit for people who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need someone with them to help with personal care. They could need either frequent help coping with their bodily functions or constant care to stop them hurting themselves or others. This could be either during the day or at night.

A claimant who needs help both during the day and at night can get the higher rate of AA. A claimant who needs help either during the day or at night gets the lower rate. From October 1990, people who have a terminal illness, and are therefore not likely to live for more than 6 months, were also invited to claim. Since April 1992, people who were disabled before the age of 65 receive DLA instead of AA.

Source

Figures are based on 100% scans.

Summary

The number of people claiming Attendance Allowance (AA) stood at 65,100 in November 2002, a decrease of 1,186 (1.8%) on the November 2001 figure. Of those claiming 33% were male and 67% were female.

The proportion receiving the high rate of AA was 73%, which is higher than that for Great Britain (49% at November 2002).

The proportion receiving the low rate of AA was 27% , which is lower than that for Great Britain (51% at November 2002).

The main diagnosis group for allowances current at November 2002 was arthritis (28%). This was also the case in Great Britain with a proportion of 29% at November 2002.

Between district councils the proportion of AA claimants varied between 36% of those aged 65 and over in Omagh to 23% of those aged 65 and over in Ballymena, Castlereagh and Larne.

Allowances current in Northern Ireland at November 2002 stood at 29 .2 per 1000 population. This is considerably higher than the situation in Great Britain (22.3 per 1000 population).

Table 8.1 Allowances current by rate: November 1996 to November 2002

Year	All awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
30 November 1996	62,697	41,350	21,347
28 February 1997	62,607	41,542	21,065
31 May 1997	63,472	42,491	20,981
31 August 1997	64,282	43,350	20,932
30 November 1997	64,671	43,880	20,791
28 February 1998	64,517	44,010	20,507
31 May 1998	64,422	44,231	20,191
31 August 1998	64,367	44,208	20,159
30 November 1998	64,747	44,514	20,233
28 February 1999	64,664	44,473	20,191
31 May 1999	64,941	45,044	19,897
31 August 1999	64,770	45,083	19,687
30 November 1999	65,169	45,576	19,593
29 February 2000	64,850	45,594	19,256
31 May 2000	65,217	46,153	19,064
31 August 2000	65,221	46,447	18,774
30 November 2000	66,265	47,434	18,831
28 February 2001	65,864	47,235	18,629
31 May 2001	65,764	47,368	18,396
31 August 2001	65,730	47,447	18,283
30 November 2001	66,286	48,120	18,166
28 February 2002	65,954	47,943	18,011
31 May 2002	65,657	47,843	17,814
31 August 2002	65,422	47,640	17,782
30 November 2002	65,100	47,472	17,628

Table 8.2 Allowances current at 30 November 2002 by age and gender

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	65,100	21,201	43,899
65-69	3,131	1,382	1,749
70-74	10,271	3,807	6,464
75-79	19,671	6,866	12,805
80-84	17,490	5,498	11,992
85-89	9,924	2,634	7,290
90 and over	4,613	1,014	3,599

Table 8.3 Allowances current at 30 November 2002 by main disabling condition and rate¹

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
All conditions	65,100	47,472	17,628
Terminally ill	669	669	-
Arthritis	18,038	13,119	4,919
Back ailments	1,153	819	334
Muscles/joint/bone disease	861	620	241
Trauma to limbs	350	246	104
Blindness	1,079	525	554
Heart disease	6,246	4,488	1,758
Chest disease	2,255	1,672	583
Asthma	578	446	132
Stroke-related	2,320	1,804	516
Peripheral vascular disease	362	258	104
Frailty	5,682	4,058	1,624
Neurological disorder	700	497	203
Parkinsons disease	559	458	101
Diabetes	953	662	291
Other mental health causes	2,981	2,146	835
Malignant disease	824	658	166
Other	1,104	793	311
Conversion ²	18,386	13,534	4,852

¹ Where more than one disability is present only the main disabling condition is recorded

² Disabling conditions were not recorded for existing cases when they were transferred to the computer system

Table 8.4 Allowances current at 30 November 2002 by District Council and Population

District Council	Population Aged 65+ ¹	All AA Awards			All AA Awards as a % of Population Aged 65+		
		All Awards	Higher Rate	Lower Rate	All Awards	Higher Rate	Lower Rate
Antrim	5,150	1,224	853	371	23.8%	16.6%	7.2%
Ards	10,342	2,728	1,837	891	26.4%	17.8%	8.6%
Armagh	6,659	2,134	1,618	516	32.0%	24.3%	7.7%
Ballymena	8,505	1,976	1,395	581	23.2%	16.4%	6.8%
Ballymoney	3,647	1,019	728	291	27.9%	20.0%	8.0%
Banbridge	5,211	1,564	1,132	432	30.0%	21.7%	8.3%
Belfast	42,374	12,783	9,067	3,716	30.2%	21.4%	8.8%
Carrickfergus	5,013	1,199	789	410	23.9%	15.7%	8.2%
Castlereagh	10,976	2,517	1,735	782	22.9%	15.8%	7.1%
Coleraine	8,007	2,047	1,462	585	25.6%	18.3%	7.3%
Cookstown	3,765	1,404	1,143	261	37.3%	30.4%	6.9%
Craigavon	10,229	3,021	2,174	847	29.5%	21.3%	8.3%
Derry	10,336	2,917	2,146	771	28.2%	20.8%	7.5%
Down	8,153	2,295	1,699	596	28.1%	20.8%	7.3%
Dungannon	5,988	2,100	1,700	400	35.1%	28.4%	6.7%
Fermanagh	7,954	2,523	1,964	559	31.7%	24.7%	7.0%
Larne	4,566	1,061	719	342	23.2%	15.7%	7.5%
Limavady	3,183	1,063	841	222	33.4%	26.4%	7.0%
Lisburn	12,941	3,320	2,294	1,026	25.7%	17.7%	7.9%
Magherafelt	4,573	1,600	1,259	341	35.0%	27.5%	7.5%
Moyle	2,312	664	476	188	28.7%	20.6%	8.1%
Newry & Mourne	10,204	3,585	2,845	740	35.1%	27.9%	7.3%
Newtownabbey	11,349	2,740	1,816	924	24.1%	16.0%	8.1%
North Down	12,547	2,972	2,114	858	23.7%	16.8%	6.8%
Omagh	5,537	2,012	1,665	347	36.3%	30.1%	6.3%
Strabane	4,445	1,549	1,170	379	34.8%	26.3%	8.5%
Missing Postcode		1,083	831	252			
Northern Ireland	223,966	65,100	47,472	17,628	29.1%	21.2%	7.9%

¹ 2001 Mid Year Estimates, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Table 8.5 Attendance Allowance claimants by Government Office Region: November 2002

Country and Government Office Region	Allowances (000,s)	Allowances per 1000 population ¹
North East	64.5	25.0
North West	181.8	26.4
Yorkshire & Humberside	113.2	22.4
East Midlands	100.3	23.8
West Midlands	139.1	26.1
East	120.5	22.1
London	117.7	16.0
South East	138.0	17.0
South West	128.9	25.9
Wales	98.0	33.3
Scotland	132.2	25.9
Great Britain	1,334.3	23.0
Northern Ireland	65.1	29.1

¹ Population estimates for mid 2001. Sources are Office of National Statistics and General Registrar of Scotland

Table 8.6 Rates of Attendance Allowance

Date	£ per week	
	Higher rate	Lower rate
06 April 1992	43.35	28.95
10 April 1993	44.90	30.00
11 April 1994	45.70	30.55
10 April 1995	46.70	31.20
08 April 1996	48.50	32.40
07 April 1997	49.50	33.10
08 April 1998	51.30	34.30
12 April 1999	52.95	35.40
12 April 2000	53.55	35.80
09 April 2001	55.30	37.00
08 April 2002	56.25	37.65
07 April 2003	57.20	38.30

Section 9 - Disability Living Allowance

Introduced 1 April 1992

Non-contributory, Not means tested, Non-taxable

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) replaced and extended Attendance Allowance and Mobility Allowance in April 1992 for people who became disabled before the age of 65. People already in receipt of either Attendance Allowance or Mobility Allowance before April 1992 were invited to make a 'top up' claim for the other component.

DLA is payable to people who are disabled and who have personal care needs, mobility needs or both. DLA consists of two components:

The care component: for people who need help with personal care;

The mobility component: for people who need help with getting around (it is not available for children under five).

The care component is paid at one of three rates and the mobility component at one of two rates. These are shown in Table 6.

To qualify for DLA the need for help must have existed for three months (the qualifying period) and be expected to last for at least a further six months (the prospective test). People who are not expected to live longer than six months because of an illness do not have to satisfy either the qualifying period or the prospective test. Once awarded, DLA will continue to be paid as long as the conditions of entitlement are met.

Source

Figures are based on 100% scans.

Summary

The number of people claiming Disability Living Allowance (DLA) stood at 148,025 in November 2002, an increase of 5,041 (3.5%) on the November 2001 figure. Of those claiming 47.6% were male and 52.4% were female.

The proportion receiving the DLA mobility component only was 11.3% (compared to 11.0% a year earlier), which is lower than that for Great Britain (23.7% at November 2002).

The proportion receiving the DLA care component only was 13.5% (compared to 13.6% a year earlier), which is higher than that for Great Britain (13.3% at November 2002).

The proportion receiving the combined DLA mobility component and care component was higher at 75.2% compared to 75.4% a year earlier. This figure is higher than that for Great Britain, which has a proportion of 63.0% at November 2002.

The main disabling conditions in Northern Ireland were "other mental health causes" (19.8%) and "arthritis" (19.0%). For Great Britain the main disabling condition was "arthritis" (20.4% at November 2002).

The proportion of the population claiming DLA in Northern Ireland at November 2002 stood at 8.8%. Between district councils the proportion of the population claiming DLA varied between 12.6% in Strabane to 5.1% in North Down.

Allowances current in Northern Ireland at November 2002 stood at 88.0 per 1000 population. This is considerably higher than the situation in Great Britain (42.0 per 1000 population).

Table 9.1 Allowances current by rate: August 1999 to November 2002

	August 1999	November 1999	February 2000	May 2000	August 2000	November 2000	February 2001
All components	127,745	128,677	130,536	132,062	133,965	136,450	137,505
Higher rate care only	2,547	2,463	2,430	2,352	2,322	2,310	2,253
Middle rate care only	7,447	7,273	7,316	7,257	7,323	7,424	7,402
Low er rate care only	10,730	10,639	10,615	10,562	10,484	10,340	10,218
Higher rate mobility only	12,041	12,000	11,969	11,960	11,903	11,942	12,014
Low er rate mobility only	3,571	3,586	3,596	3,639	3,619	3,608	3,554
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	21,769	21,865	22,026	22,213	22,490	22,897	23,032
Higher rate care and low er rate mobility	9,296	9,542	9,852	10,040	10,330	10,715	10,885
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	24,944	25,224	25,687	26,096	26,718	27,543	27,947
Middle rate care and low er rate mobility	15,108	15,869	16,885	17,899	18,833	19,905	20,568
Low er rate care and higher rate mobility	15,723	15,699	15,764	15,831	15,908	15,925	15,904
Low er rate care and low er rate mobility	4,569	4,517	4,396	4,213	4,035	3,841	3,728

Table 9.1 continued

	May 2001	August 2001	November 2001	February 2002	May 2002	August 2002	November 2002
All components	139,812	141,451	142,984	144,460	145,741	146,979	148,025
Higher rate care only	2,136	2,094	2,046	2,031	2,017	2,027	2,022
Middle rate care only	7,411	7,362	7,312	7,355	7,391	7,588	7,724
Low er rate care only	10,218	10,226	10,093	10,119	10,122	10,166	10,165
Higher rate mobility only	12,209	12,110	12,113	12,159	12,442	12,530	12,587
Low er rate mobility only	3,478	3,613	3,641	3,699	4,116	4,156	4,177
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	23,444	23,756	24,184	24,422	24,499	24,674	24,879
Higher rate care and low er rate mobility	11,110	11,260	11,500	11,599	11,573	11,622	11,731
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	28,540	29,005	29,442	29,792	30,020	30,417	30,646
Middle rate care and low er rate mobility	21,558	22,361	23,055	23,658	23,858	24,121	24,368
Low er rate care and higher rate mobility	16,038	16,035	16,018	16,009	16,108	16,166	16,357
Low er rate care and low er rate mobility	3,670	3,629	3,580	3,617	3,595	3,512	3,369

Table 9.2 Allowances current at 30 November 2002 by age and gender

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	148,025	70,436	77,589
0-4	1,978	1,219	759
5-9	4,495	2,946	1,549
10-15	5,198	3,260	1,938
16-19	2,612	1,469	1,143
20-24	3,777	1,957	1,820
25-29	4,643	2,350	2,293
30-34	6,969	3,305	3,664
35-39	9,759	4,518	5,241
40-44	11,251	5,075	6,176
45-49	12,024	5,577	6,447
50-54	14,105	6,366	7,739
55-59	18,349	8,318	10,031
60-64	19,907	9,306	10,601
65-69	18,578	8,520	10,058
70-74	12,064	5,315	6,749
75-79	1,981	803	1,178
80 and over	335	132	203

Table 9.3 Allowances current at 30 November 2002 by main disabling condition¹ and component

	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
All conditions	148,025	19,911	16,764	111,350
Terminally ill	1,184	28	7	1,149
Arthritis	28,146	3,672	2,797	21,677
Back ailments	11,153	1,481	1,215	8,457
Muscles/joint/bone disease	13,873	3,309	1,537	9,027
Blindness	2,089	77	153	1,859
Deafness	1,741	133	124	1,484
Heart disease	11,589	689	2,438	8,462
Chest disease	4,185	218	839	3,128
Asthma	4,371	1,248	778	2,345
Stroke-related	3,150	255	210	2,685
Peripheral vascular disease	1,093	25	328	740
Epilepsy	4,469	442	102	3,925
Neurological disorder	2,788	354	140	2,294
Multiple sclerosis	1,566	38	84	1,444
Chronic fatigue	1,376	255	96	1,025
Diabetes	2,289	539	104	1,646
Learning difficulties	8,169	620	1,084	6,465
Other mental health causes	29,258	3,402	2,421	23,435
Alcohol abuse	2,313	535	67	1,711
Skin disease	1,021	693	36	292
Malignant disease	2,030	398	81	1,551
Conversion ²	5,357	264	1,784	3,309
Other	4,815	1,236	339	3,240

¹ Where more than one disability is present only the main disabling condition is recorded

² Disabling conditions were not recorded for existing cases when they were transferred to the computer system

Table 9.4 Allowances current at 30 November 2002 by District Council and Population

District Council	Total Population ¹	All DLA Awards			All DLA Awards as a % of Total Population ¹				
		All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
Antrim	48,761	3,488	449	565	2,474	7.2%	0.9%	1.2%	5.1%
Ards	73,435	4,690	592	640	3,458	6.4%	0.8%	0.9%	4.7%
Armagh	54,462	4,394	543	583	3,268	8.1%	1.0%	1.1%	6.0%
Ballymena	58,801	3,221	444	504	2,273	5.5%	0.8%	0.9%	3.9%
Ballymoney	27,007	1,958	282	237	1,439	7.2%	1.0%	0.9%	5.3%
Banbridge	41,549	3,167	354	408	2,405	7.6%	0.9%	1.0%	5.8%
Belfast	277,170	32,115	4,411	3,136	24,568	11.6%	1.6%	1.1%	8.9%
Carrickfergus	37,730	2,448	350	374	1,724	6.5%	0.9%	1.0%	4.6%
Castlereagh	66,533	4,329	556	595	3,178	6.5%	0.8%	0.9%	4.8%
Coleraine	56,408	3,162	504	416	2,242	5.6%	0.9%	0.7%	4.0%
Cookstown	32,712	3,481	476	313	2,692	10.6%	1.5%	1.0%	8.2%
Craigavon	80,931	7,883	1,021	842	6,020	9.7%	1.3%	1.0%	7.4%
Derry	105,335	11,704	1,664	1,200	8,840	11.1%	1.6%	1.1%	8.4%
Down	64,147	5,329	633	677	4,019	8.3%	1.0%	1.1%	6.3%
Dungannon	47,849	4,915	587	467	3,861	10.3%	1.2%	1.0%	8.1%
Fermanagh	57,687	3,915	581	435	2,899	6.8%	1.0%	0.8%	5.0%
Larne	30,811	1,878	298	276	1,304	6.1%	1.0%	0.9%	4.2%
Limavady	32,639	2,572	460	225	1,887	7.9%	1.4%	0.7%	5.8%
Lisburn	108,997	8,270	1,207	990	6,073	7.6%	1.1%	0.9%	5.6%
Magherafelt	39,891	2,731	464	294	1,973	6.8%	1.2%	0.7%	4.9%
Moyle	15,961	1,112	159	149	804	7.0%	1.0%	0.9%	5.0%
Newry & Mourne	87,399	8,612	1,066	846	6,700	9.9%	1.2%	1.0%	7.7%
Newtownabbey	80,144	5,560	733	903	3,924	6.9%	0.9%	1.1%	4.9%
North Down	76,578	3,907	441	621	2,845	5.1%	0.6%	0.8%	3.7%
Omagh	48,109	5,236	655	415	4,166	10.9%	1.4%	0.9%	8.7%
Strabane	38,273	4,816	572	348	3,896	12.6%	1.5%	0.9%	10.2%
Missing Postcode	.	3,132	409	305	2,418	.	.	.	.
Northern Ireland	1,689,319	148,025	19,911	16,764	111,350	8.8%	1.2%	1.0%	6.6%

¹ 2001 Mid Year Estimates, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

**Table 9.5 Disability Living Allowances current by Government Office Region:
November 2002**

Government Office Region	Allowances (000)s	Allowances per 1000 population ¹
North East	152.5	59.2
North West	390.8	56.7
Yorkshire & Humberside	239.1	47.3
East Midlands	174.3	41.4
West Midlands	235.6	44.2
East	170.8	31.3
London	234.5	31.8
South East	208.9	25.7
South West	162.3	32.6
Wales	199.4	67.7
Scotland	271.0	53.0
Great Britain	2,439.3	42.0
Northern Ireland	148.0	88.0

Table 9.6 Rates of Disability Living Allowance

	£ per week					
	Care component			Mobility component		
	Higher rate	Middle rate	Lower rate	Higher rate	Lower rate	
06 April 1992	43.35	28.95	11.55	30.30	11.55	
10 April 1993	44.90	30.00	11.95	31.40	11.95	
11 April 1994	45.70	30.55	12.15	31.95	12.15	
10 April 1995	46.70	31.20	12.40	32.65	12.40	
08 April 1996	48.50	32.40	12.90	33.90	12.90	
07 April 1997	49.50	33.10	13.15	34.60	13.15	
06 April 1998	51.30	34.30	13.60	35.85	13.60	
05 April 1999	52.95	35.40	14.05	37.00	14.05	
10 April 2000	53.55	35.80	14.20	37.40	14.20	
09 April 2001	55.30	37.00	14.65	38.65	14.65	
08 April 2002	56.25	37.65	14.9	39.30	14.90	
07 April 2003	57.20	38.30	15.15	39.95	15.15	

Section 10 - Retirement Pension

Introduced 1 January 1909

Contributory, Not means tested, Taxable

There are two categories of contributory retirement pension and two categories of non-contributory retirement pension.

Contributory Retirement Pension

The categories of contributory retirement pension are

Category A – dependent on a person's own contributions

Category B – dependent on contributions paid by a spouse.

The two main conditions for payment are that

- the person has reached State pension age (65 for men, 60 for women), and
- the contributions conditions are satisfied.

People who meet the contribution conditions, get a flat-rate basic pension at the standard rate. If the conditions are only partly met, the basic pension is reduced. The minimum basic pension paid is 25% of the standard rate. Since April 1978, a person's contribution record can be protected, if their opportunities to work are limited because of responsibilities at home, such as bringing up a family or looking after a sick or disabled person, (see the section on Home Responsibilities Protection). There are also special arrangements to help widows and widowers qualify for a retirement pension.

Extra money for dependant children can be paid with Category A or B pensions. Extra money can also be added to a Category A pension for a dependant spouse or someone who looks after the children.

A married woman can get a Category A pension on her own insurance, if she meets the conditions. Otherwise she can claim a category B pension on her husband's insurance, when he qualifies for his own pension and she has reached State pension age. She can also claim a Category B pension if her own pension would be less than the rate payable on her husband's insurance.

Home Responsibility Protection (HRP)

Since April 1978 people who cannot work because of caring commitments at home can claim Home Responsibilities Protection. When calculating entitlement to Retirement Pension, the number of years in the person's working life is reduced by the number of complete tax years for which they get HRP. The number of years left over cannot be reduced to less than 20. A woman who has paid reduced rate contributions for any part of a year cannot get HRP for that year.

Additional Pension

This is the earnings-related element of the state retirement pension. It is also known as the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (SERPS). The amount payable is based on the earnings between the lower and upper earnings limit for National Insurance contributions in tax years from April 1978 up to the final relevant year. The final relevant year is the last complete tax year before a person reaches State pension age. Earnings for the years before the final relevant year are revalued in line with the growth in average earnings.

Contracted Out Deduction

The Additional Pension is reduced when someone has been a member of a contracted out scheme or personal pension scheme used in place of SERPS. Contracted out salary related schemes provide a Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) worth about the same as the Additional Pension payable under the state scheme. The Additional Pension is reduced by the GMP. With contracted out money purchase schemes, and personal pensions, there is no guaranteed minimum but the Additional Pension is reduced in a similar way.

From 6th April 1997 the links with SERPS were broken and contracted-out-salary-related schemes no longer have to pay a GMP. To remain contracted out, salary-related schemes have to pass a new overall test of scheme quality.

Notional Additional Pension

This is the entitlement to Additional Pension before reduction for Contracted Out Deduction.

Net Additional Pension

This is the entitlement to Additional Pension after reduction for Contracted Out Deduction.

Increments

If a person does not take their retirement pension until after State pension age, or cancels their claim, they can earn increments. They get the increments with their pension they get on their own insurance, either when they do claim or five years after they reach State pension age. The amount of the increment is about 7.5% per year of deferred retirement on the basic rate, including Invalidity Allowance and Additional Pension. The minimum deferment is 42 days. A married woman can earn increments whether her pension is based on her own or her husband's insurance or both. Increments on her husband's insurance can only be earned if the couple are both over State pension age. A widow can have increments earned by her husband added to her own.

Graduated retirement benefit

This is paid to those people who paid into the graduated pension scheme, which ended on 5 April 1975. It is paid whether or not they are entitled to the basic retirement pension. The entitlement is based on each unit of graduated contributions paid (£7.50 for a man, £9 for a woman). Someone who delays claiming can earn increments in the same way as for other parts of the pension. A widow can get half of any graduated retirement benefit for which her husband had qualified.

Invalidity addition

This is paid to a person who was entitled to Invalidity Allowance, as an increase of invalidity pension, at any time during 8 weeks before they reach State pension age. The amount they get is the rate of invalidity allowance they were entitled to when they reached State pension age. The rate of invalidity pension is reduced by the notional rate of additional pension.

Non-Contributory Retirement Pension

The two categories of non-contributory retirement pension for people who do not meet the contributions are Category C and category D.

Category C pensions

These are people who were over State pension age on 5 July 1948, and are therefore excluded from the National Insurance scheme. The wife or widow of a man who was over 65 on July 1948 can also get a category C pension.

Category D pensions

These are awarded to people who reach the age of 80, satisfy certain residence conditions, and failed to qualify for a Category A or B pension, or would receive less than the non-contributory rate.

Age addition

All pensioners over 80 years old get an age addition of 25p a week. This is paid with their retirement pension.

Christmas Bonus

In the first week of December, retirement pensioners, widows and people receiving certain other benefits in the relevant week get a Christmas Bonus. It is currently £10.

Frozen and non-frozen rate countries

People living abroad can get Retirement Pension. However, people who live in countries which the UK has no reciprocal agreement cannot get uprating of pension. People living in 'non-frozen rate countries', which include members of the European Union, get their pensions uprated in the same way as people living in Great Britain.

Source

Statistics are based on a 100% scan.

Summary

The total number of persons in receipt of Retirement Pension at September 2002 is 247,165. The number of men in receipt of Retirement Pension is 87,879 and the number of women is 159,286.

There has been a net increase of 3,126 (1.3%) in the retirement pensioner caseload over the period September 2001 to September 2002. This growth is greater than that of Great Britain, which had a net increase of 0.7% in the same period. Within this total net increase in Northern Ireland, the number of men increased by 1,409 and the number of women increased by 1,717. The proportion of men within the RP caseload currently stands at 35.6%. The corresponding figure for Great Britain stands at 37.3%.

The average amount of actual entitlement at September 2002 was £78.71 per week (an annual increase of 4.5%). The corresponding figure for Great Britain was an average entitlement of £75.96 per week, which also had an annual increase of 4.7%.

Across all individual ages the number of men in receipt of a Retirement Pension is lower than the number of women. Due to the higher life expectancy for females this imbalance increases with age.

**Table 10.1 Retirement Pensioners by category of pensioners:
September 1996 to September 2002**

	All Types	A	B	ABL	BL	GRB Only	AP Only	C	D	Unallocated
Men¹²										
Sep-99	84,071	83,647	5	-	0	12	34	0	342	29
Mar-00	84,313	83,932	5	-	-	11	35	0	328	0
Sep-00	84,610	84,247	-	0	0	11	33	0	316	0
Mar-01	85,177	84,821	-	0	0	10	33	0	310	0
Sep-01	86,470	86,090	-	0	0	12	33	0	331	0
Mar-02	86,828	86,456	-	0	0	12	30	0	328	0
Sep-02	87,879	87,507	-	0	0	12	30	0	328	0
Women¹²										
Sep-99	155,325	81,221	32,652	21,002	18,292	552	155	5	1,330	116
Mar-00	155,112	82,281	31,681	21,399	17,787	532	146	5	1,281	0
Sep-00	155,643	83,424	31,084	21,807	17,390	518	154	5	1,261	0
Mar-01	156,024	84,680	30,317	22,108	17,023	494	157	5	1,240	0
Sep-01	157,569	86,758	29,717	22,486	16,748	478	150	5	1,227	0
Mar-02	157,597	87,880	28,873	22,693	16,333	463	146	5	1,204	0
Sep-02	159,286	90,191	28,171	23,059	16,056	463	138	5	1,203	0
Men and Women										
Sep-96	227,274	150,101	36,865	17,213	20,069	781	228	6	2,011	0
Mar-97	228,944	152,352	36,130	17,821	19,749	728	221	6	1,937	0
Sep-97	232,288	155,810	35,569	18,568	19,484	733	211	6	1,907	0
Mar-98	234,104	158,152	34,875	19,203	19,129	684	207	6	1,848	0
Sep-98 ²										
Mar-99	237,320	162,638	33,338	20,254	18,587	610	197	-	1,692	0
Sep-99	239,396	164,868	32,657	21,004	18,292	564	189	5	1,672	145
Mar-00	239,425	166,213	31,686	21,400	17,788	543	181	5	1,609	0
Sep-00	240,253	167,671	31,087	21,807	17,390	529	187	5	1,577	0
Mar-01	241,201	169,501	30,320	22,108	17,023	504	190	5	1,550	0
Sep-01	244,039	172,848	29,721	22,486	16,748	490	183	5	1,558	0
Mar-02	244,425	174,336	28,875	22,693	16,333	475	176	5	1,532	0
Sep-02	247,165	177,698	28,173	23,059	16,056	475	168	5	1,531	0

¹ Separate breakdowns for gender are unavailable due to data restrictions.

² Data for September 1998 is unavailable.

- Number less than 5 not disclosed due to DSD customer confidentiality policy.

Table 10.2 Retirement Pensioners by category of pension and average amount of actual entitlement: September 1996 to September 2002

	£ per week								
	All Types	A	B	ABL	BL	GRB Only	AP Only	C	D
Sep-96	60.64	66.44	63.27	38.91	36.58	0.75	1.95	31.66	36.19
Mar-97	60.94	66.78	63.39	38.92	36.56	0.73	1.90	31.66	36.20
Sep-97	62.58	68.62	64.89	39.78	37.27	0.74	2.02	32.30	36.98
Mar-98	62.86	68.93	65.03	39.81	37.23	0.71	1.97	32.30	37.03
Sep-98 ¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar-99	65.89	72.30	67.76	41.33	38.50	1.60	2.14	30.78	38.39
Sep-99	68.58	75.31	70.46	42.66	39.71	1.95	2.36	33.41	39.70
Mar-00	68.90	75.64	70.70	42.68	39.69	1.89	2.52	33.46	39.78
Sep-00	69.95	76.77	71.73	43.17	40.11	2.19	2.35	31.79	40.26
Mar-01	70.18	76.96	71.93	43.17	40.09	2.08	2.31	33.83	40.40
Sep-01	75.32	82.48	77.19	46.28	42.99	2.20	2.57	36.33	43.37
Mar-02	75.57	82.69	77.44	46.28	42.96	2.21	2.38	36.33	43.47
Sep-02	78.71	85.99	80.77	48.13	44.70	2.24	2.45	37.83	45.19

¹Data is unavailable at September 1998

Table 10.3 Retirement Pensioners at September 2002 by category of pension, age and gender

	All Types	A	B	ABL	BL	GRB Only	AP Only	C	D
Men and Women									
All Ages	247,165	177,698	28,173	23,059	16,056	475	168	5	1,531
Age 60-64	32,454	25,478	484	4,082	2,007	318	85	0	0
Age 65-69	61,088	47,604	1,786	7,554	4,042	66	36	0	0
Age 70-79	100,186	74,329	8,331	10,197	7,216	73	39	-	0
Age 80-89	46,022	27,222	13,779	1,221	2,627	15	8	-	1,146
Age 90-99	7,246	2,998	3,708	5	164	-	0	0	368
Age 100+	169	67	85	0	0	0	0	0	17
Men									
All Ages	87,879	87,507	-	0	0	12	30	0	328
Age 60-64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Age 65-69	28,100	28,085	0	0	0	6	9	0	0
Age 70-79	42,599	42,575	0	0	0	6	18	0	0
Age 80-89	15,613	15,334	-	0	0	0	-	0	275
Age 90-99	1,550	1,498	-	0	0	0	0	0	51
Age 100+	17	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Women									
All Ages	159,286	90,191	28,171	23,059	16,056	463	138	5	1,203
Age 60-64	32,454	25,478	484	4,082	2,007	318	85	0	0
Age 65-69	32,988	19,519	1,786	7,554	4,042	60	27	0	0
Age 70-79	57,587	31,754	8,331	10,197	7,216	67	21	-	0
Age 80-89	30,409	11,888	13,778	1,221	2,627	15	5	-	871
Age 90-99	5,696	1,500	3,707	5	164	-	0	0	317
Age 100+	152	52	85	0	0	0	0	0	15

Table 10.4 Retirement Pension claimants at September 2002 by District Council and gender

District Council	Male	Female	Total
Antrim	2,150	3,879	6,029
Ards	4,116	7,428	11,544
Armagh	2,608	4,765	7,373
Ballymena	3,382	6,091	9,473
Ballymoney	1,474	2,533	4,007
Banbridge	2,139	3,734	5,873
Belfast	15,061	29,564	44,625
Carrickfergus	1,992	3,639	5,631
Castlereagh	4,314	7,694	12,008
Coleraine	3,143	5,658	8,801
Cookstown	1,513	2,568	4,081
Craigavon	4,011	7,348	11,359
Derry	3,946	7,186	11,132
Down	3,235	5,775	9,010
Dungannon	2,298	3,983	6,281
Fermanagh	2,673	4,348	7,021
Larne	1,816	3,295	5,111
Limavady	1,281	2,139	3,420
Lisburn	5,085	9,544	14,629
Magherafelt	1,867	3,057	4,924
Moyle	930	1,549	2,479
Newry & Mourne	3,996	6,823	10,819
Newtownabbey	4,547	8,151	12,698
North Down	4,751	8,825	13,576
Omagh	2,101	3,597	5,698
Strabane	1,809	2,961	4,770
Missing Postcode	1,641	3,152	4,793
Total	87,879	159,286	247,165

Table 10.5 Retirement Pensioners at September 2002 by category of pension, Government Office Region, Channel Islands and Overseas

	Thousands								All types
	Contributory					Non-contributory			
	A	B	ABL	BL GRB only	AP only	C	D		
England	5,820.2	1,123.4	887.3	904.3	54.6	14.4	* 0.1	19.6	8,824.0
North East	312.5	66.5	47.3	46.4	3.2	*0.5	-	0.6	477.0
North West	857.5	140.8	125.8	99.0	6.5	1.4	-	2.2	1,233.2
Yorkshire and Humberside	585.8	124.3	89.9	99.5	6.0	1.0	-	1.1	907.6
East Midlands	489.6	98.9	79.2	86.2	5.4	1.2	-	1.1	761.6
West Midlands	633.2	121.9	97.2	98.1	6.1	1.2	-	1.6	959.4
East of England	651.8	128.6	108.2	117.9	5.6	1.4	-	2.0	1,015.5
London	660.4	119.3	82.2	85.4	7.3	4.0	-	4.6	963.3
South East	959.8	188.4	147.1	157.0	8.9	2.4	-	3.9	1,467.5
South West	669.5	134.7	110.5	114.9	5.7	1.3	-	2.4	1,039.0
Scotland	639.0	108.5	91.0	71.4	4.4	0.7	-	2.2	917.3
Wales	376.7	78.2	54.5	55.8	2.7	0.7	-	1.0	569.6
Channel Islands	8.5	2.0	0.9	2.1	* 0.1	-	-	-	13.7
Overseas	585.9	101.0	62.4	129.0	18.1	2.6	-	0.6	899.6
of which:									
frozen rate	298.7	60.1	32.0	85.2	10.5	1.7	-	* 0.3	488.4
Northern Ireland	177.7	28.2	23.1	16.1	*0.5	*0.2	-	1.5	247.2
All countries	7608.0	1441.3	1119.3	1178.7	80.4	18.7	*0.1	24.9	11471.5

All figures excluding Northern Ireland are based on a 5% sample

* Figures 500 and under marked (*) are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should be used only as a guide to the correct situation.

Table 10.6 Rates of Contributory Retirement Pension

	£ per week						
	Man or woman on own insurance		Married woman on Husband's insurance or adult		Increase for dependant children		Graduated Retirement Benefit per 100 units
	Under 80	80 and over	Under 80	80 and over	First Child	Each other child	
23 November 1981	29.60	29.85	17.75	18.00	7.70	7.70	3.86
22 November 1982	32.85	33.10	19.70	19.95	7.95	7.95	4.28
21 November 1983	34.05	34.30	20.45	20.70	7.60	7.60	4.44
26 November 1984	35.80	36.05	21.50	21.75	7.65	7.65	4.67
25 November 1985	38.30	38.55	23.00	23.25	8.05	8.05	5.00
28 July 1986	38.70	38.95	23.25	23.50	8.05	8.05	5.06
06 April 1987	39.50	39.75	23.75	24.00	8.05	8.05	5.17
01 April 1988	41.15	41.40	24.75	25.00	8.40	8.40	5.39
10 April 1989	43.60	43.85	26.20	26.45	8.95	8.95	5.71
09 April 1990	46.90	47.15	28.20	28.45	9.65	9.65	6.14
08 April 1991	52.00	52.25	31.25	31.50	9.70	10.70	6.81
06 April 1992	54.15	54.40	32.55	32.80	9.75	10.85	7.09
12 April 1993	56.10	56.35	33.70	33.95	9.80	10.95	7.35
11 April 1994	57.60	57.85	34.50	34.75	9.80	11.00	7.48
10 April 1995	58.85	59.10	35.25	35.50	9.85	11.05	7.64
08 April 1996	61.15	61.40	36.60	36.85	9.90	11.15	7.94
07 April 1997	62.45	62.70	37.35	37.60	9.90	11.20	8.11
06 April 1998	64.70	64.95	38.70	38.95	9.90	11.30	8.40
06 April 1999	66.75	67.00	39.95	40.20	9.90	11.35	8.67
10 April 2000	67.50	67.75	40.40	40.65	9.85	11.35	8.77
09 April 2001	72.50	72.75	43.40	43.65	9.70	11.35	9.06
08 April 2002	72.50	75.75	45.20	45.45	9.65	11.35	9.21
07 April 2003	77.45	77.70	46.35	46.60	9.55	11.35	9.37

Table 10.7 Rates of Non-Contributory Retirement Pension

	£ per week			
	Man or woman (excluding married woman)		Married woman	
	Under 80	80 and over	Under 80	80 and over
23 November 1981	17.75	18.00	10.65	10.90
22 November 1982	19.70	19.95	11.80	12.05
21 November 1983	20.45	20.70	12.25	12.50
26 November 1984	21.50	21.75	12.85	13.10
25 November 1985	23.00	23.25	13.75	14.00
28 July 1986	23.25	23.50	13.90	14.15
06 April 1987	23.75	24.00	14.20	14.45
01 April 1988	24.75	25.00	14.80	15.05
10 April 1989	26.20	26.45	15.65	15.90
09 April 1990	28.20	28.45	16.85	17.10
08 April 1991	31.25	31.50	18.70	18.95
06 April 1992	32.55	32.80	19.45	19.70
12 April 1993	33.70	33.95	20.15	20.40
11 April 1994	34.50	34.75	20.65	20.90
10 April 1995	35.25	35.50	21.10	21.35
08 April 1996	36.60	36.85	21.90	22.15
07 April 1997	37.35	37.60	22.35	22.60
06 April 1998	38.70	38.95	23.15	23.40
06 April 1999	39.95	40.20	23.90	24.15
10 April 2000	40.40	40.65	24.15	24.40
09 April 2001	43.40	43.65	24.95	25.20
08 April 2002	45.20	45.45	27.00	27.25
07 April 2003	46.35	46.60	27.70	27.95

Section 11 - Bereavement Related Benefit

Introduced 6 July 1948

Contributory, Not means tested, Taxable

Since 9 April 2001 the system of widows' benefits has been replaced by bereavement benefits. Bereavement benefits are available to both men and women. There are three different bereavement benefits:

- bereavement payment
- widowed parent's allowance (WPA)
- bereavement allowance

Bereavement payment

This is a tax-free lump-sum payment of £2,000. You must be under pension age when your spouse dies; or if you are older, your spouse was not getting a retirement pension based on their own NI contribution record.

Widowed Parent's Allowance (WPA)

Widowed men or women who have dependent children will normally be eligible for WPA. If their spouse met the NI contribution conditions, the full rate of £75.50 a week is payable. Increases for qualifying dependent children are £9.65 for one child and £11.35 a week for each other child. If their spouse's NI contributions record was incomplete, they will receive a proportionally reduced amount of WPA.

Bereavement Allowance

The bereavement allowance is payable for 52 weeks starting from the day your spouse died. You cannot get a bereavement allowance at the same time as WPA but you can claim bereavement allowance for the remainder of the 52 weeks if your WPA ends during that time. If you are aged between 45 and 54 on the day your spouse died, you may qualify for an age related allowance. Payments range from £22.65 a week if you were aged 45, up to £70.22 if you were aged 54. If you were aged 55 or over but below pension age on that day, the full-rate pension of £75.50 may be payable.

For women widowed between 11 April 1988 and 8 April 2001 the benefits are:

Widow's Payment (WPT)

This is a single tax-free payment of £1,000 paid to a widow who is under 60 when she is widowed. It can also be paid to a widow over 60 if her husband was not entitled to a Category A retirement pension when he died.

Widowed Mother's Allowance (WMA)

Widowed Mother's Allowance (WMA) can be paid to a widow:

As long as she is entitled to Child Benefit for at least one qualifying child, or she is pregnant by her late husband, or in certain cases of artificial insemination.

Child dependency increases are paid for each child.

Widow's Pension (WP)

A widow who is 45 or over when she stops being entitled to WMA, or when she is widowed, can get Widow's Pension. If she is 55 or over at that time she will get the standard rate of benefit. Younger widows have their pension reduced by 7% for each year they are under the age of 55, so that they get 93% rate at age 54, falling to 30% at age 45. This reduction is also applied to any Additional Pension they get.

Additional Pension

This part of Widowed Mother's Allowance and Widow's Pension is based on earnings. The amount payable is based on the husband's earnings between the lower and upper earnings limits for payment of National Insurance contributions in tax years from April 1978 up to the last complete tax year before his death or 65 if earlier. Earnings for the years before the last complete tax year are re-valued in line with the growth in average earnings. If he was in contracted-out employment or had a Personal Pension instead of SERPS, the widow's Additional Pension is reduced by the Contracted Out Deduction. For occupational pension schemes, this will be half the Guaranteed Minimum Pension to which her husband was entitled.

Notional Additional Pension

This is the entitlement to Additional Pension before reduction for Contracted Out Deduction. Net Additional Pension is the entitlement to Additional Pension after reduction for Contracted Out Deduction. A contracted-out deduction does not apply to any pension earned from and including 6 April 1997.

For women widowed before 11 April 1988, the benefits are:

Widow's Allowance

This was paid instead of Widow's Payment, in the same circumstances. It was an especially high rate of benefit paid to the widow for the first 26 weeks after her husband died. She received extra money for each dependant child.

Widowed Mother's Allowance

- paid as above. It was also paid at a personal rate only, if the widow had at least one child aged under 19 living with her, which she would have received an increase for had they been eligible for Child Benefit.

Widow's Pension

This was for widows who were at least 40 years old either when their husband died or when they stopped being entitled to WMA. Widows aged 50 or over received the standard rate.

Frozen and non-frozen rate countries

Widow's living abroad can get Widow's Benefit.

Widow's who live in countries with which the UK has no reciprocal agreement cannot get upratings of benefit. People living in 'non-frozen rate countries', which include the members of the European Union, get their benefit uprated in the same way as those living in Great Britain.

Source

Statistics are calculated from 100% scans.

Summary

The total number of persons in receipt of Bereavement Related Benefit at September 2002 is 7,355. This represents a net decrease of 146 (1.9%) in the bereavement related benefit caseload over the period September 2001 to September 2002.

Of the total number of persons in receipt of Bereavement Related Benefit 64.4% were in receipt of Widow's Pension, 20.0% were in receipt of Widowed Mother's Allowance, 8.2% were in receipt of Widowed Parent's Allowance and 7.4% were receiving Bereavement Allowance.

The average amount of actual entitlement at September 2002 was £76.61 per week. This represents an increase of £1.90 (2.5%) over the period September 2001 to September 2002.

Table 11.1 Bereavement Related Benefit by category - September 1996 to September 2002

	Widow's Pension		Widowed Mother's Allowance		Widowed Parent's Allowance	Bereavement Allowance		All types
	Not Age related	Age related	With increase for child	Without increase for child		Not Age related	Age related	
Sep-96	3,080	4,498	2,403	148				10,129
Mar-97	2,850	4,443	2,518	131				9,942
Sep-97	2,607	4,473	2,334	139				9,553
Mar-98	2,389	4,455	2,413	108				9,365
Sep-98 ¹	-	-	-	-				-
Mar-99	2,058	4,349	2,227	83				8,717
Sep-99	1,898	4,320	2,124	88				8,430
Mar-00	1,750	4,175	2,159	66				8,150
Sep-00	1,645	4,116	1,911	70				7,742
Mar-01	1,543	4,000	1,952	59				7,554
Sep 01 ²	1,434	3,889	1,677	53	279	105	64	7,501
Mar-02	1,258	3,686	1,647	39	460	273	180	7,543
Sep-02	1,150	3,586	1,427	40	606	317	229	7,355

¹Data is unavailable at September 1998

²Since 9 April 2001 the system of widows' benefits has been replaced by bereavements benefits.

Table 11.2 Bereavement Related Benefit by category and average amount of actual entitlement: September 1996 to September 2002

	Widow's Pension		Widowed Mother's Allowance		Widowed Parent's Allowance	Bereavement Allowance		All types
	Not Age related	Age related	With increase for child	Without increase for child		Not Age related	Age related	
Sep-96	64.69	45.17	68.52	37.13				56.52
Mar-97	64.98	45.33	69.20	35.36				56.88
Sep-97	67.18	46.48	72.02	41.19				58.29
Mar-98	68.25	46.57	72.36	35.66				58.62
Sep-98 ¹	-	-	-	-				-
Mar-99	73.08	51.46	75.80	35.02				62.63
Sep-99	77.07	53.73	93.95	41.23				68.99
Mar-00	77.34	53.69	94.79	39.52				69.54
Sep-00	79.58	54.56	97.35	42.76				70.33
Mar-01	80.13	54.40	97.72	40.34				70.74
Sep-01 ²	85.82	57.69	102.86	47.87	98.20	64.59	50.54	74.64
Mar-02	85.88	57.28	102.84	47.02	102.01	63.59	49.45	74.71
Sep-02	89.02	59.44	104.46	55.55	104.86	67.43	50.74	76.61

¹Data is unavailable at September 1998

²Since 9 April 2001 the system of widows' benefits has been replaced by bereavements benefits.

Table 11.3 Rates of Bereavement Related Benefit

			£ per week			£ per week		
	<u>Widow's Pension</u>	<u>Bereavement Allowance</u>	<u>Widowed Mother's Allowance</u>		<u>Widowed Person's Allowance</u>			
	Not Age Related		Personal	Increase for first child	Increase for other child	Personal	Increase for first child	Increase for other child
23-Nov-81	29.60		29.60	7.70	7.70			
22-Nov-82	32.85		32.85	7.95	7.95			
21-Nov-83	34.05		34.05	7.60	7.60			
26-Nov-84	35.80		35.80	7.65	7.65			
25-Nov-85	38.30		38.30	8.05	8.05			
28-Jul-86	38.70		38.70	8.05	8.05			
06-Apr-87	39.50		39.50	8.05	8.05			
01-Apr-88	41.15		41.15	8.40	8.40			
10-Apr-89	43.60		43.60	8.95	8.95			
09-Apr-90	46.90		46.90	9.65	9.65			
08-Apr-91	52.00		52.00	9.70	10.70			
06-Apr-92	54.15		54.15	9.75	10.85			
12-Apr-93	56.10		56.10	9.80	10.95			
11-Apr-94	57.60		57.60	9.80	11.00			
10-Apr-95	58.85		58.85	9.85	11.05			
08-Apr-96	61.15		61.15	9.90	11.15			
07-Apr-97	62.45		62.45	9.90	11.20			
06-Apr-98	64.70		64.70	9.90	11.30			
06-Apr-99	66.75		66.75	9.90	11.35			
10-Apr-00	67.50		67.50	9.85	11.35			
09-Apr-01 ¹	72.50	72.50	72.50	9.70	11.35	72.50	9.70	11.35
08-Apr-02	75.50	75.50	75.50	9.65	11.35	75.50	9.65	11.35
07-Apr-03	77.45	77.45	77.45	9.55	11.35	77.45	9.55	11.35

¹ Since April 2001 the system of widows' benefits has been replaced by bereavements benefits.

Section 12 - Child Benefit

Introduced 5 April 1977

Non-contributory, Not means tested, Non-taxable

Before April 1977 families with two or more children could get Family Allowance. From 5 April 1977, Child Benefit replaced Family Allowance and brought all children into the scheme. Child Benefit is normally paid for children up to the age of 16.

If a child is in full-time non-advanced education (i.e. up to A-level standard) at a recognised educational establishment, benefit may be paid for them until they are 19.

Child Benefit can also be paid for a short period for 16 or 17 year olds who have just left school and are registered for work or work based training for young people.

A higher rate of Child Benefit for the eldest or only child, known as Child Benefit (Lone Parent) was payable to most people bringing up children on their own until 6 July 1998. From that date it is only payable to existing recipients and people in specified circumstances making new claims.

This includes lone parents who were receiving the lone parent rate of family premium in Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance and move into work and lone parents ceasing to receive an 'overlapping' benefit.

Data on awards of Child Benefit are used with the agreement of the Inland Revenue.

Source

Statistics are based on a 5% sample.

Summary

At the end of August 2002 there were 231,800 families receiving Child Benefit and 452,540 children in respect of whom the payment was being made.

Between August 2001 and August 2002 the Child Benefit caseload decreased by 3,980 (1%).

76% of families were receiving Child Benefit for either 1 or 2 children only.

24% of children in respect of whom Child Benefit was received were under the age of 5 at August 2002. 14% of children were aged 16 and over.

Table 12.1 Number of children and families in receipt of Child Benefit

	Children	Families
May-00	457,840	231,520
Aug-00	460,240	232,920
Nov-00	446,980	228,760
Feb-01	451,280	230,480
May-01	454,980	232,160
Aug-01	456,520	232,520
Nov-01	443,440	228,100
Feb-02	446,920	229,540
May-02	450,280	230,840
Aug-02	452,540	231,800

Table 12.2 Child Benefit families by number of children

	1Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 or more children
May-00	90,340	82,880	39,280	19,020
Aug-00	91,040	83,360	39,640	18,880
Nov-00	91,260	81,840	37,940	17,720
Feb-01	91,460	82,560	38,600	17,860
May-01	91,800	83,560	38,700	18,100
Aug-01	91,280	84,300	38,720	18,220
Nov-01	90,880	83,040	37,120	17,060
Feb-02	90,960	83,980	37,400	17,200
May-02	91,260	84,260	37,860	17,460
Aug-02	91,000	85,340	37,980	17,480

Table 12.3 Child Benefit caseload by age of children

	Under 5	5 - 10	11 - 15	16 and over
May-00	115,220	125,680	161,940	55,000
Aug-00	114,580	125,640	161,520	58,500
Nov-00	114,400	124,840	161,880	45,860
Feb-01	114,320	124,100	161,820	51,040
May-01	113,240	123,740	161,620	56,380
Aug-01	112,420	122,660	161,740	59,700
Nov-01	113,640	124,440	159,500	45,860
Feb-02	112,400	122,040	160,560	51,920
May-02	111,120	121,360	160,440	57,360
Aug-02	110,660	120,980	159,400	61,500

Table 12.4 Rates of Child Benefit

	£ per week		
	Eldest qualifying child of a couple	Eldest qualifying child of a lone parent	Each other child
06 April 1992	9.65	15.50	7.80
12 April 1993	10.00	16.05	8.10
11 April 1994	10.20	16.35	8.25
10 April 1995	10.40	16.70	8.45
08 April 1996	10.80	17.10	8.80
07 April 1997	11.05	17.10	9.00
06 April 1998	11.45	17.10	9.30
06 April 1999	14.40	17.10	9.60
10 April 2000	15.00	17.55	10.00
09 April 2001	15.50	17.55	10.35
08 April 2002	15.75	17.55	10.55
07 April 2003	16.05	17.55	10.75

Section 13 - Child Support Agency

Introduced 5 April 1993

The Child Support Agency (CSA) was launched on 5 April 1993. It is an executive agency of the Department for Social Development, formerly the Department of Social Security, set up to implement the Child Support Act 1991 and operate the new child maintenance system in Northern Ireland (there is a separate but parallel agency for Great Britain).

Parents who live apart from their children should pay maintenance towards their keep. The CSA is responsible for tracing Non-resident Parents, working out how much maintenance they should pay, and can collect and enforce payments.

The CSA main clients are:

Parents with Care

These are parents who live with their children, but who do not live with the child's other parent. The parent with care may have a new partner, but may still claim maintenance for their children from the other parent.

Persons with Care

These are people who look after children who are not their own, and at least one of the children's parents is alive and living elsewhere.

Non-resident Parents

These are parents who live apart from their children, but continue to be financially responsible for them and need to know how much they should contribute to their children's maintenance.

Applicants to the agency give their details on a Maintenance Application Form. Non-resident Parents fill in a Maintenance Enquiry Form.

On receipt of full details from the Parent/Person with Care and Non-resident Parent a full maintenance assessment is carried out.

Where full details are not provided by the Non-resident Parent the Agency may make an interim maintenance assessment based on the available facts.

The amounts of interim maintenance assessments are generally higher than full maintenance assessments.

Source

Tables 1 to 6 are based on a 100% scan on the Child Support Computer System at 30 November 2002. Figures for these tables relate to assessed Northern Ireland cases.

Abbreviations

CSCS Child Support Computer System

FMA Full Maintenance Assessment

IMA Interim Maintenance Assessment

NRP Non-resident Parent

PWC Parent/Person with Care

Summary

Between November 2001 and November 2002 the CSA liveload has increased by 1,411 (4%) and now stands at 36,812.

Of all full assessment cases 95% of the Parent/Persons with Care are female, and consequently 95% of the Non-resident Parents are male.

Over 43% of NRPs and 43% of PWCs are between the ages of 30 and 39 years, with an average age of 37.4 years for NRPs and 35.3 years for PWCs.

For PWCs, 58% are in receipt of Income Support and 26% are in receipt of WFTC/DPTC. For the NRPs, 39% have an earned income, 24% are in receipt of Income Support and the remaining 37% have other sources of income, mostly other benefits.

The mean full maintenance assessment for all NRPs is £14.26 per week, with the median equal to zero. The mean full maintenance assessment for NRPs with regular income from employment, as an employee is £35.41 per week, with a median of £32.35, compared with £19.97 for the self-employed, with a median of £4.97. The mean maintenance assessment for NRPs with an interim maintenance assessment is £94.41 per week, with a median of £103.39.

Table 13.1 Total number of live and assessed cases on the Child Support Computer System: November 1998 - November 2002

Month	Total	Full	Interim
November 1998	26,829	25,405	1,424
November 1999	30,871	29,364	1,507
February 2000	31,745	30,178	1,567
May 2000	32,504	30,940	1,564
August 2000	33,215	31,630	1,585
November 2000	33,725	32,276	1,449
February 2001	34,186	32,793	1,393
May 2001	34,459	33,084	1,375
August 2001	34,954	33,590	1,364
November 2001	35,401	34,068	1,333
February 2002	35,819	34,526	1,293
May 2002	36,481	35,235	1,246
August 2002	36,177	34,965	1,212
November 2002	36,812	35,619	1,193

**Table 13.2 Gender of Non-resident Parent and Parent/Person with Care
Full assessments: November 2002**

	Non-resident parent		Parent/Person with care	
		%		%
Total	35,619	100%	35,619	100%
Male	33,801	95%	1,795	5%
Female	1,818	5%	33,824	95%

**Table 13.3 Age of Non-resident Parent by age of Parent/Person with Care
Full assessments: November 2002**

Parent/Person with Care	Non-resident Parent									
	Total	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55 & over
Total	35,619	183	2,016	4,232	7,126	8,341	6,778	3,968	1,908	1,067
Under 20	507	137	293	58	14	4	1	0	0	0
20-24	3,245	44	1396	1228	415	127	24	8	2	1
25-29	5,511	1	266	2300	2141	604	149	30	15	5
30-34	7,465	0	43	498	3480	2590	634	151	50	19
35-39	7,964	0	12	122	827	3920	2361	512	140	70
40-44	5,930	1	6	15	185	887	2897	1494	312	133
45-49	3,196	0	0	9	49	167	597	1460	721	193
50-54	1,256	0	0	2	8	25	89	258	567	307
55 & over	545	0	0	0	7	17	26	55	101	339

Average Age of :

Non-resident Parent **37.4 years**

Parent/Person with Care **35.3 years**

**Table 13.4 Benefit Status of Parent/Person with Care and Non-resident Parent
Full assessments: November 2002**

Parent/Person With Care	Non-resident Parent							
	Total	In Employment Employee	Self Emp	Income Support	JSA (IB)	JSA (Cont)	Incapac/ Disabled	Other
Total	35,619	12,687	1,306	8,411	4,514	1,168	1,923	5,610
Income Support	20,503	5,618	615	6,097	3,231	622	1,186	3,134
WFTC/DPTC	9,372	4,366	431	1,459	859	347	454	1,456
Others	5,744	2,703	260	855	424	199	283	1,020

Table 13.5 Maintenance assessment by Non-resident Parent's employment status/benefit type, All assessments: November 2002

Maintenance (£ per week)	Non-resident Parents								IMAs Total
	FMAs							Other	
	Total	In Employment Employee	Self Emp	Income Support	JSA (IB)	JSA Incapac/ (Cont) Disabled			
Total	35,619	12,687	1,306	8,411	4,514	1,168	1,923	5,610	1,193
£0	21,824	1,633	315	8,269	4,414	606	1,773	4,814	130
£0.01-£5.40	2,635	1,287	367	101	61	479	23	317	-
£5.41-£9.99	562	433	66	4	2	7	18	32	-
£10.00-£19.99	1,454	1,218	111	7	5	13	23	77	-
£20.00-£29.99	1,685	1,429	112	8	4	19	25	88	1
£30.00-£39.99	1,675	1,463	85	4	9	19	26	69	36
£40.00-£49.99	1,651	1,464	70	6	7	8	18	78	73
£50.00-£59.99	1,331	1,198	57	5	7	7	7	50	54
£60.00-£69.99	1,151	1,044	51	4	2	4	5	41	44
£70.00-£79.99	681	624	27	2	2	2	2	22	57
£80.00-£89.99	398	369	15	1	-	3	-	10	32
£90.00-£99.99	235	216	9	-	-	-	-	10	115
£100.00-£109.99	145	134	7	-	-	1	2	1	162
£110.00-£119.99	70	65	5	-	-	-	-	-	131
£120 & over	122	110	9	-	1	-	1	1	358
Average maintenance	£14.26	£35.41	£19.97	£0.21	£0.42	£4.40	£2.16	£3.50	£94.41

NRPs on Income Support in August 2001 pay either zero or £5.40 per week.

The small number of IS cases where the maintenance assessment is greater than £5.40 are normally suspended cases where the CSA is investigating the current status of the NRP.

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