
NORTHERN IRELAND

SUMMARY OF
SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

2001



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Summary of social security statistics

2001

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Introduction

This is the first edition of 'Northern Ireland Summary of social security statistics'. It is to be published annually by Statistics and Research Branch on behalf of the Department for Social Development. The publication is designed to replace 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 a new 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/srb) gives access to a range of statistical publications, and more detailed statistics for the individual benefits.

Contents

Client Group Analysis.....	7
Definitions and Conventions - Sections 1, 2 and 3.....	7
Section 1: Persons of Working Age on Key Benefits.....	9
Section 2 : Families with children on key benefits.....	25
Section 3: Persons of Pensionable Age on Key Benefits.....	35
Methodology - Sections 1, 2 and 3.....	41
Sampling Errors.....	44
Individual Benefit Statistics.....	45
Section 4: Income Support.....	45
Section 5: Jobseeker’s Allowance.....	59
Section 6: Incapacity Benefit.....	71
Section 7: Severe Disablement Allowance.....	81
Section 8: Attendance Allowance.....	93
Section 9: Disability Living Allowance.....	101
Section 10: Retirement Pension.....	109
Section 11: Widow’s Benefit.....	121
Section 12: Child Benefit.....	127
Section 13: Child Support Agency.....	131

CLIENT GROUP ANALYSIS

Definitions and Conventions - Sections 1 and 2

Key benefits

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
 Incapacity Benefit (IB)
 Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)
 Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
 Income Support (IS)

Symbols and conventions

Working age is 16 to 64 years for men
 16 to 59 years for women
 Population estimates are mid year from 1998 to 2000
 16 - 18 year olds in full-time education is at 2000
 "." not applicable

Inland Revenue Tax Credits

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

Statistical group

Claimants are assigned to a statistical group according to the following hierarchy:

If in receipt of	JSA (including credits)	then assigned to Unemployed
otherwise if in receipt of	IB (including credits)	then assigned to Sick and Disabled
otherwise if in receipt of	SDA	then assigned to Sick and Disabled
otherwise if in receipt of	IS, with a disability premium	then assigned to Sick and Disabled
otherwise if in receipt of	IS and DLA	then assigned to Sick and Disabled
otherwise if in receipt of	IS (single people with children and not receiving a disability related premium)	then assigned to Lone Parent
otherwise if in receipt of	IS (claimant not in other groups)	then assigned to Others
otherwise if in receipt of	DLA only	then assigned to Sick and Disabled

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)	details available for partners
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, IB and SDA
Other	DLA
NI Credits	Through claiming JSA or IB

Benefit entitlement

Contributory benefits	IB, Contribution-based JSA
Means tested benefits	IS and Income based JSA
Other benefits	SDA, DLA
NI Credits	Through claiming JSA or IB

Definitions and Conventions - Section 3

Key benefits

Attendance Allowance (AA)

Incapacity Benefit (IB)

Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

Income Support (IS)

Retirement Pension (RP)

Symbols and conventions

State Pension Age is 65 years and over for men

60 years and over for women

Population estimates are mid year from 1997 to 2000

“.” not applicable

Statistical group

Sick and/or disabled

Claimant receiving one or more of AA, DLA, IB, SDA or on IS and

- 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

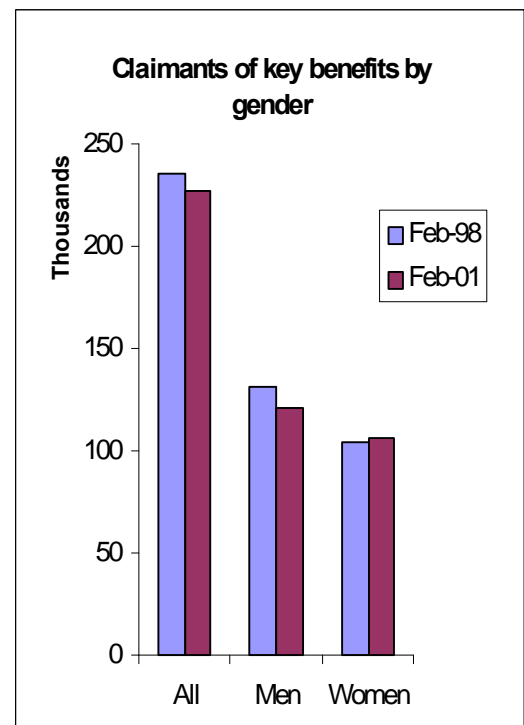
Section 1: Persons of Working Age on Key Benefits

1.1 Age and Gender

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

	Feb-98	Feb-99	Feb-00	Feb-01
All	235,780	233,060	223,500	226,720
% of pop ¹	23	23	22	22
Men	131,220	128,120	119,880	120,860
% of pop ¹	25	24	22	23
Women	104,560	104,940	103,620	105,860
% of pop ¹	21	21	21	21

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland



- In February 2001 about 22% (226,720) of people of working age claimed a key benefit – down from 23% (235,780) in February 1998.
- Older people were more likely to be claiming benefits. In 2001, 35% of those aged 55 to 59 claimed a benefit compared to 17% of those aged 18 to 24.

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

	All		Men		Women	
	Number	% of pop in age group	Number	% of pop in age group	Number	% of pop in age group
All	226,720	22	120,860	23	105,860	21
Under 18	1,680	3	780	3	900	4
18 to 24	27,700	17	13,040	16	14,660	19
25 to 34	46,600	18	21,020	16	25,580	20
35 to 44	51,680	21	25,160	21	26,520	21
45 to 54	50,800	26	27,080	28	23,720	24
55 to 59	30,660	35	16,180	38	14,480	33
60 to 64	17,600	50	17,600	50	.	.

1.2 Family Type

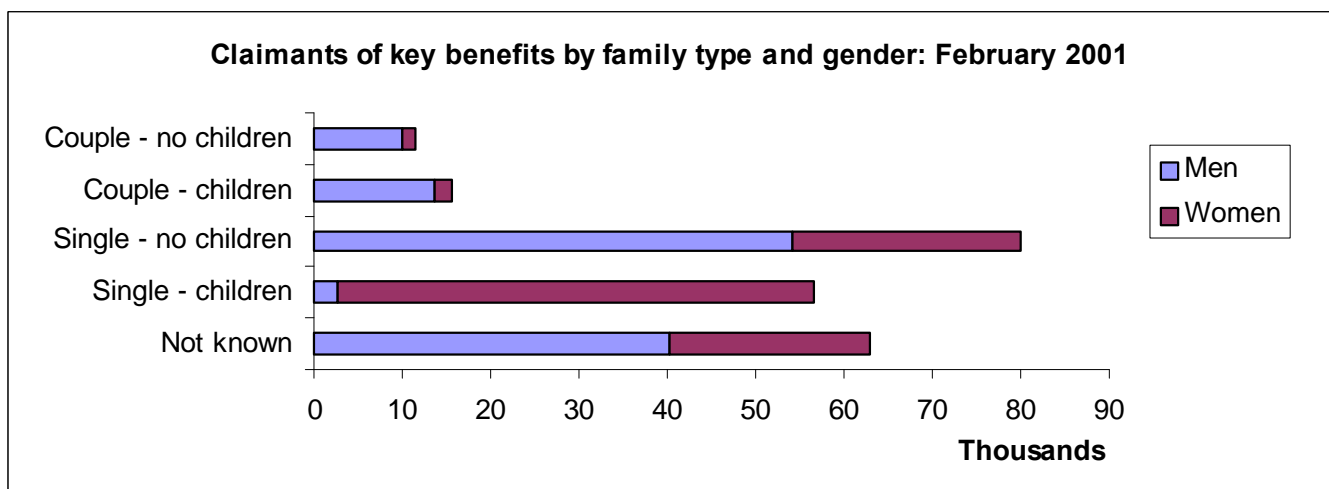
This section contains analyses of the type of family in which claimants live. Family type was assigned according to whether the claimant had a partner and/or children. It was not possible to assign a family type in every case (Not known).

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

	All	%	Men	%	Women	%
All	226,720	100	120,860	100	105,860	100
All couples	27,080	12	23,640	20	3,440	3
Couple - no children	11,400	5	10,040	8	1,360	1
Couple - children	15,680	7	13,600	11	2,080	2
All single	136,620	60	56,940	47	79,680	75
Single - no children	79,960	35	54,160	45	25,800	24
Single - children	56,660	25	2,780	2	53,880	51
Not known	63,020	28	40,280	33	22,740	21

¹ See Methodology for further details

- 136,620 claimants were single in February 2001.
- Over 30% (72,340) of claimants had children. The majority (56,660) were single - up 13,400 since February 1998.



**Table 1.2.2 Claimants of key benefits by family type¹ and statistical group:
February 2001**

	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parent	Other
All	226,720	40,920	141,880	31,720	12,200
All couples	27,080	6,340	17,180	.	3,560
Couple - no children	11,400	1,880	7,560	.	1,960
Couple - children	15,680	4,460	9,620	.	1,600
All single	136,620	34,580	61,680	31,720	8,640
Single - no children	79,960	33,020	38,380	.	8,560
Single - children	56,660	1,560	23,300	31,720	80
Not known	63,020	.	63,020	.	.

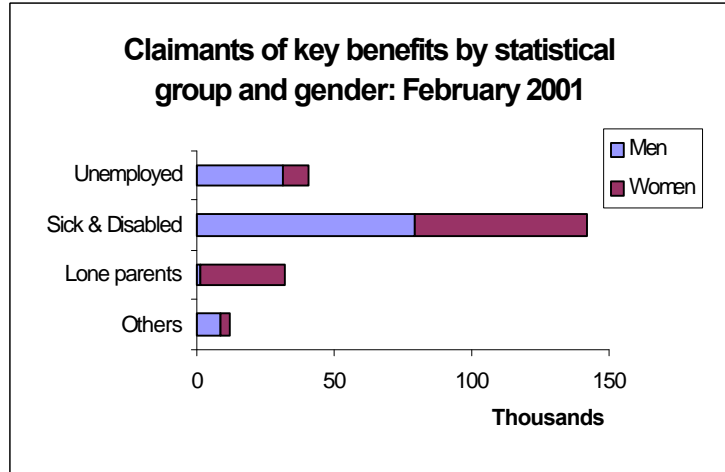
¹ See Methodology for further details

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: February 2001

	All	Men	Women
All	226,720	120,860	105,860
Unemployed	40,920	31,320	9,600
Sick & Disabled	141,880	79,400	62,480
Lone parents	31,720	1,380	30,340
Others	12,200	8,760	3,440



- The overall numbers fell by 9,060 between February 1998 and February 2001, mostly because of the unemployed group which fell by 16,080 (28%) over this period.
- Sick & disabled claimants were consistently the largest group between February 1998 and February 2001, rising from 56% of the total to 63% of the total; unemployed claimants were the second largest group.
- The size of the sick & disabled group rose by 8,920 (up 7%) between February 1998 and February 2001, whilst numbers in the lone parents group fell by 1,940 (down 6%) over the same period.

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

	Feb-98		Feb-99		Feb-00		Feb-01	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
All	235,780	23	233,060	23	223,500	22	226,720	22
Unemployed	57,000	6	54,060	5	41,740	4	40,920	4
Sick & Disabled	132,960	13	134,160	13	137,320	13	141,880	14
Lone parents	33,660	3	33,020	3	31,760	3	31,720	3
Others	12,160	1	11,820	1	12,680	1	12,200	1

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland

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

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

	On benefit in current year - status in previous year ¹				Left benefit since previous year ²
	All	Same statistical group	Different statistical group	Not on benefit	
Feb-98	235,780	.	.	.	.
Feb-99	233,060	175,720	15,020	42,320	45,040
Feb-00	223,500	167,980	17,060	38,460	48,020
Feb-01	226,720	168,340	16,060	42,320	39,100

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 February 2001 - by status in February 1998

Benefit status in February 2001	All on benefit in February 2001	Benefit status in February 1998		
		Not on benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
All	226,720	68,480	132,660	25,580
Unemployed	40,920	21,920	14,560	4,440
Sick & Disabled	141,880	34,640	93,840	13,400
Lone Parents	31,720	9,120	19,840	2,760
Others	12,200	2,800	4,420	4,980

- Around 70% (158,240) of key benefit claimants in February 2001 were also on benefit in February 1998; 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: February 2001

	All	Income replacement benefits ¹	Other benefits only ²	NI Credits ³
All	226,720	202,400	18,180	6,140
Unemployed	40,920	37,540	.	3,380
Sick & Disabled	141,880	120,940	18,180	2,760
Lone parents	31,720	31,720	.	.
Others	12,200	12,200	.	.

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 February 2001, 202,400 claimants received an income replacement benefit, down from 214,080 in February 1998.
- In February 2001, 59,560 claimants received only a contributory benefit.
- 139,300 claimants received a benefit that was income based in February 2001. Of those 123,320 claimants received a benefit that was means tested whilst 15,980 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: February 2001

	Basis of benefit entitlement					
	All	Contributory ¹	Contributory and means tested ²	Means tested ³	Other ⁴	NI Credits ⁵
All	226,720	59,560	15,980	123,320	21,720	6,140
Unemployed	40,920	4,880	320	32,340	.	3,380
Sick & Disabled	141,880	54,680	15,660	47,060	21,720	2,760
Lone Parents	31,720	.	.	31,720	.	.
Others	12,200	.	.	12,200	.	.

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: February 2001

	All	Duration of oldest claim ¹				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 year to under 2 years	2 years or over
All	226,720	21,180	17,520	22,960	29,560	135,500
Unemployed	40,920	13,000	7,280	7,640	5,660	7,340
Sick & Disabled	141,880	5,960	7,180	10,880	17,200	100,660
Lone parents	31,720	1,220	1,780	2,900	4,540	21,280
Others	12,200	1,000	1,280	1,540	2,160	6,220

¹ Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Around 60% (135,500) of the claimants in February 2001 had been receiving a key benefit for 2 years or more.
- Of those longer duration claimants 74% (100,660) 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 18% 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: February 2001

	All	All with children	Age of youngest child/dependant				Not known ²
			Under 5	5 to under 11	11 to under 16	16 or over	
All	226,720	74,620	28,180	21,700	15,720	5,580	3,440
Unemployed	40,920	6,020	2,380	1,480	1,160	980	20
Sick & Disabled	141,880	35,200	9,400	9,260	9,040	4,080	3,420
Lone parents	31,720	31,720	15,840	10,540	5,000	340	.
Others	12,200	1,680	560	420	520	180	.

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

² Children whose ages are not known

- In February 2001, 74,620 claimants of key benefits had children and/or young dependants.
- 38% (28,180) 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: February 2001

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	Family type				All	% of all aged 16 to 18 yrs in full-time education	Family type		
		% of all aged under 16 yrs	Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known
All	132,880	33	30,180	98,520	4,180	14,900	35	4,680	10,220	.
Unemployed	10,220	3	8,260	1,960	.	1,780	4	1,140	640	.
Sick & Disabled	60,680	15	18,740	37,760	4,180	9,580	23	3,000	6,580	.
Lone Parents	58,720	14	.	58,720	.	2,960	7	.	2,960	.
Others	3,260	1	3,180	80	.	580	1	540	40	.

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

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

- In February 2001, 132,880 children under the age of 16 were living in families in which a key benefit was claimed.
- The majority of these children 98,520 were living in single parent families.
- 14,900 young people aged 16 -18 (35% 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 February 2001.

1.8 Regional Analysis

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

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

	Thousands					
	All		Men		Women	
	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹
Great Britain	5,069	14	2,713	14	2,355	14
England	4,145	14	2,210	14	1,935	13
North East	323	20	182	22	140	19
North West ²	768	18	419	19	349	18
Yorkshire & Humberside	477	15	265	16	211	15
East Midlands	337	13	183	13	155	13
West Midlands	480	15	259	15	221	14
East	323	10	164	9	159	10
London	688	15	346	14	342	15
South East	424	9	218	8	206	9
South West	326	11	174	11	153	11
Wales	351	20	191	21	160	19
Scotland	572	18	312	19	260	17
Northern Ireland	227	22	121	23	106	21
IB/SDA claimants living abroad ³	9	.	6	.	3	.

¹ Population of working age

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

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

- The proportion of the working age population claiming a benefit ranges from 9% in South East England to 22% in Northern Ireland.
- The proportion of the working age population claiming a benefit ranges from 14% (Banbridge, Castlereagh, North Down) to 32% (Strabane).
- The district council with the greatest proportion of working age claimants in the sick & disabled group was Cookstown (21%), followed by Strabane (20%) and Derry (18%). The district council with the lowest proportions were Castlereagh (9%) and North Down (9%).
- The proportion of the working age population in the unemployed group ranged from 6% (Belfast, Derry, Strabane) to 2% (Antrim, Ballymena, Banbridge, Carrickfergus, Castlereagh, Cookstown).

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

	All		Men		Women	
		% of pop ¹		% of pop ¹		% of pop ¹
Northern Ireland	226,720	22	120,860	23	105,860	21
Ards	7,240	16	3,520	15	3,720	17
Belfast	50,100	30	27,320	33	22,780	28
Castlereagh	5,800	14	3,260	16	2,540	13
Down	7,500	20	4,200	21	3,300	18
Lisburn	12,100	18	6,020	17	6,080	18
North Down	6,320	14	3,420	14	2,900	13
Antrim	4,980	15	2,340	13	2,640	17
Ballymena	5,400	15	3,000	15	2,400	14
Ballymoney	3,180	20	1,760	22	1,420	18
Carrickfergus	3,480	15	1,800	15	1,680	14
Coleraine	6,680	19	3,460	20	3,220	19
Cookstown	4,980	26	2,600	26	2,380	26
Larne	3,160	17	1,600	16	1,560	17
Magherafelt	4,420	19	2,320	19	2,100	19
Moyle	2,240	24	1,320	27	920	21
Newtownabbey	8,240	16	4,460	17	3,780	15
Armagh	5,760	17	3,320	19	2,440	16
Banbridge	3,520	14	1,840	14	1,680	14
Craigavon	11,860	24	5,620	22	6,240	27
Dungannon	6,900	24	3,920	26	2,980	21
Newry & Mourne	13,200	25	7,380	27	5,820	23
Derry	20,520	31	10,500	31	10,020	31
Fermanagh	7,340	21	4,240	23	3,100	19
Limavady	4,360	22	2,300	22	2,060	22
Omagh	6,420	22	3,680	24	2,740	20
Strabane	7,460	32	4,160	34	3,300	30
Unknown	3,560	.	1,500	.	2,060	.

¹ Population of working age in Northern Ireland

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

		Statistical group				
		All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone parents	Others
Northern Ireland		226,720	40,920	141,880	31,720	12,200
	% of pop ¹	22	4	14	3	1
Ards		7,240	1,460	4,920	660	200
	% of pop ¹	16	3	11	1	0
Belfast		50,100	9,560	28,560	8,680	3,300
	% of pop ¹	30	6	17	5	2
Castlereagh		5,800	1,000	3,680	760	360
	% of pop ¹	14	2	9	2	1
Down		7,500	1,360	4,840	900	400
	% of pop ¹	20	4	13	2	1
Lisburn		12,100	1,920	7,280	2,440	460
	% of pop ¹	18	3	11	4	1
North Down		6,320	1,320	3,900	760	340
	% of pop ¹	14	3	9	2	1
Antrim		4,980	720	3,400	640	220
	% of pop ¹	15	2	10	2	1
Ballymena		5,400	760	3,780	700	160
	% of pop ¹	15	2	10	2	0
Ballymoney		3,180	760	1,820	380	220
	% of pop ¹	20	5	11	2	1
Carrickfergus		3,480	480	2,400	480	120
	% of pop ¹	15	2	10	2	1
Coleraine		6,680	1,580	3,720	940	440
	% of pop ¹	19	5	11	3	1
Cookstown		4,980	400	4,000	380	200
	% of pop ¹	26	2	21	2	1
Larne		3,160	540	2,100	340	180
	% of pop ¹	17	3	11	2	1
Magherafelt		4,420	680	3,080	480	180
	% of pop ¹	19	3	13	2	1
Moyle		2,240	500	1,180	380	180
	% of pop ¹	24	5	13	4	2
Newtownabbey		8,240	1,360	5,520	980	380
	% of pop ¹	16	3	11	2	1
Armagh		5,760	1,120	3,880	600	160
	% of pop ¹	17	3	12	2	0
Banbridge		3,520	520	2,640	300	60
	% of pop ¹	14	2	10	1	0
Craigavon		11,860	1,900	8,020	1,340	600
	% of pop ¹	24	4	16	3	1
Dungannon		6,900	1,000	4,500	880	520
	% of pop ¹	24	3	15	3	2
Newry & Mourne		13,200	2,160	8,540	1,700	800
	% of pop ¹	25	4	16	3	2
Derry		20,520	3,960	11,860	3,520	1,180
	% of pop ¹	31	6	18	5	2
Fermanagh		7,340	1,820	4,340	760	420
	% of pop ¹	21	5	13	2	1
Limavady		4,360	1,020	2,420	600	320
	% of pop ¹	22	5	12	3	2
Omagh		6,420	1,240	4,140	800	240
	% of pop ¹	22	4	14	3	1
Strabane		7,460	1,480	4,700	860	420
	% of pop ¹	32	6	20	4	2
Unknown		3,560	300	2,660	460	140

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.

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:

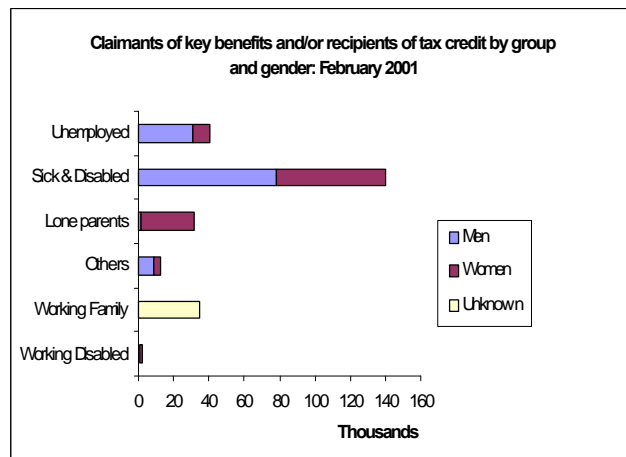
Unemployed	JSA
Sick & disabled ¹	IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
Lone parent	Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
Other	IS claimant not in other groups
Working Family	FC or WFTC
Working Disabled	DWA or DPTC

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: February 2001

	All	Men	Women	Unknown
All	261,277	120,892	105,885	34,500
Unemployed	40,920	31,320	9,600	.
Sick & Disabled ¹	140,040	78,440	61,600	.
Lone parents	31,720	1,380	30,340	.
Others	12,200	8,760	3,440	.
Working Family	34,540	.	40	34,500
Working Disabled	1,857	992	865	.

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 fell by 2,434 between February 1998 and February 2001. The largest reduction was in the unemployed group which fell by 16,080 (down 28%). However, this fall was offset by an increase of 6,780 (up 24%) in the working family group.

- Sick and disabled claimants were consistently the largest group over the period February 1998 to February 2001, rising from 50% of the total to 54% of the total; unemployed claimants were the second largest group.
- The size of the sick & disabled group rose by 7,860 (6%), working families by 6,780 (24%) and working disabled by 906 (95%) between February 1998 and February 2001. There was also a slight increase in the others group. The numbers in the lone parents group fell by 1,940 (6%).

Table 1.9.2 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group: February 1998 to February 2001

	Feb-98		Feb-99		Feb-00		Feb-01	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
All	263,711	26	261,449	26	259,999	25	261,277	25
Unemployed	57,000	6	54,060	5	41,740	4	40,920	4
Sick & Disabled ²	132,180	13	133,200	13	135,900	13	140,040	14
Lone parents	33,660	3	33,020	3	31,760	3	31,720	3
Others	12,160	1	11,820	1	12,680	1	12,200	1
Working Family	27,760	3	28,200	3	36,520	4	34,540	3
Working Disabled	951	0	1,149	0	1,399	0	1,857	0

¹Population of working age in Northern Ireland

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

Section 2 : Families with children on key benefits

2.1 Children

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

	Number of children ¹							
	Feb-98	%	Feb-99	%	Feb-00	%	Feb-01	%
All statistical groups	168,540	100	157,920	100	147,460	100	147,780	100
Unemployed	25,180	15	23,040	15	13,180	9	12,000	8
Sick & Disabled	72,260	43	65,260	41	67,420	46	70,260	48
Lone parents	67,660	40	65,860	42	63,260	43	61,680	42
Others	3,440	2	3,760	2	3,600	2	3,840	3

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

- At February 2001, 147,780 children were living in families claiming a key benefit. The total number of children in families claiming a key benefit was down by 12% (20,760) from February 1998.
- The number of children in the unemployed group fell by 52% between February 1998 and February 2001, whilst the number in the lone parents and sick & disabled groups fell by 9% and 3% respectively.

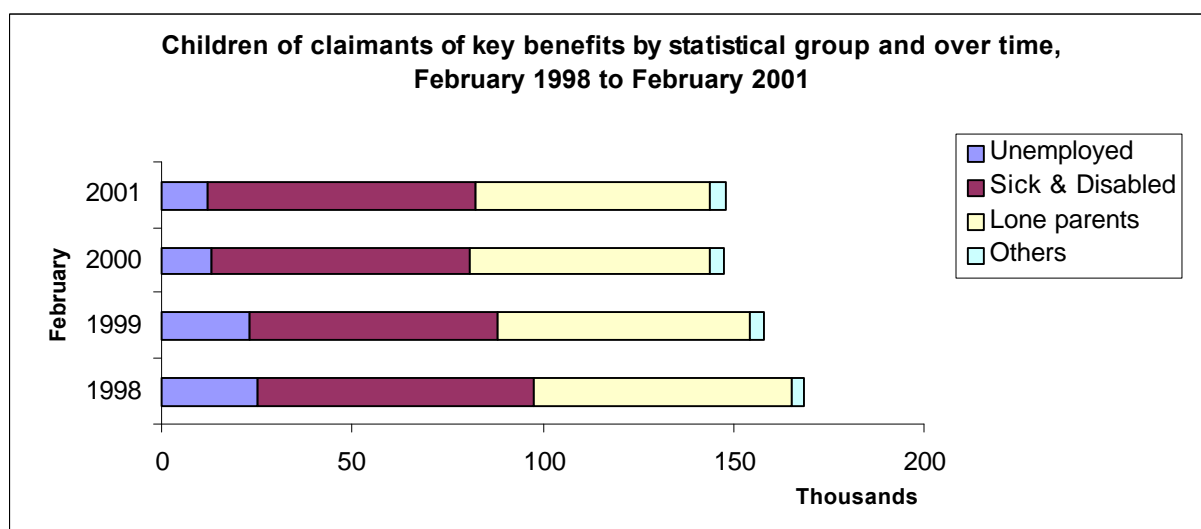


Table 2.1.2 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and family type: February 2001

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 years				
	All	Family type				All	% pop aged 16 - 18 in full-time education	Family type		
		% pop aged under 16	Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known
All statistical groups	132,880	33	30,180	98,520	4,180	14,900	35	4,680	10,220	.
Unemployed	10,220	3	8,260	1,960	.	1,780	4	1,140	640	.
Sick & Disabled	60,680	15	18,740	37,760	4,180	9,580	23	3,000	6,580	.
Lone parents	58,720	14	.	58,720	.	2,960	7	.	2,960	.
Others	3,260	1	3,180	80	.	580	1	540	40	.

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

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

- The proportion of under 16s living in households claiming a key benefit was 33% in February 2001 whilst the proportion of 16 - 18 year olds was 35% of all 16 - 18 year olds in full-time education.

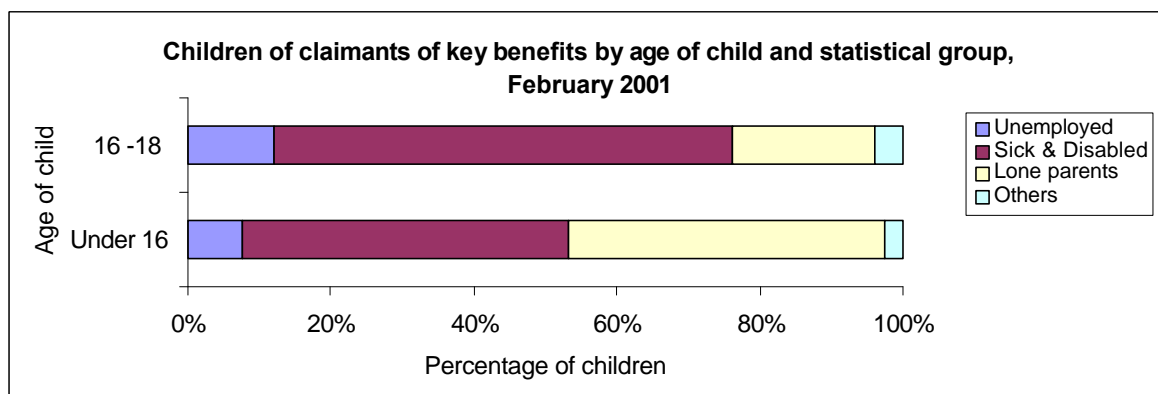


Table 2.1.3 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and age of child: February 2001

	Number of children/dependants											
	All ages	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known ²	%
All statistical groups	147,780	100	35,000	24	48,640	33	42,880	29	14,900	10	6,360	4
Unemployed	12,000	100	3,060	26	3,820	32	3,260	27	1,780	15	80	1
Sick & Disabled	70,260	100	12,160	17	20,200	29	22,200	32	9,580	14	6,120	9
Lone parents	61,680	100	19,060	31	23,340	38	16,160	26	2,960	5	160	0
Others	3,840	100	720	19	1,280	33	1,260	33	580	15	.	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 69% aged under 11.

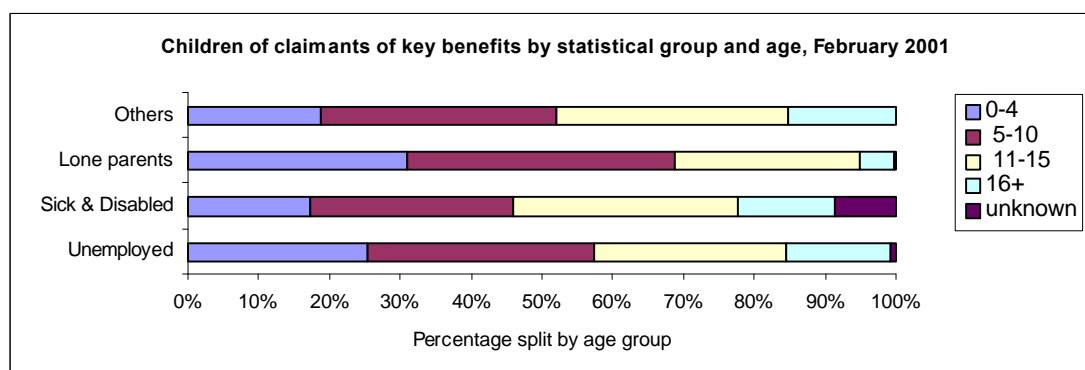


Table 2.1.4 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by statistical group and duration of claim: February 2001

	Duration of oldest claim ²											
	All durations	%	Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years and over	%
All statistical groups	147,780	100	7,120	5	8,100	5	13,700	9	19,580	13	99,280	67
Unemployed	12,000	100	2,260	19	1,520	13	2,460	21	2,100	18	3,660	31
Sick & Disabled	70,260	100	2,540	4	3,340	5	5,900	8	8,960	13	49,520	70
Lone parents	61,680	100	2,080	3	3,160	5	4,760	8	7,560	12	44,120	72
Others	3,840	100	240	6	80	2	580	15	960	25	1,980	52

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

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Of those children in families claiming a key benefit 67% had been on benefits for at least 2 years. For the lone parents group the figure was 72% whilst the figure for the unemployed group was 31%.
- Of those children in families classed as unemployed 52% had been on benefit for less than a year.

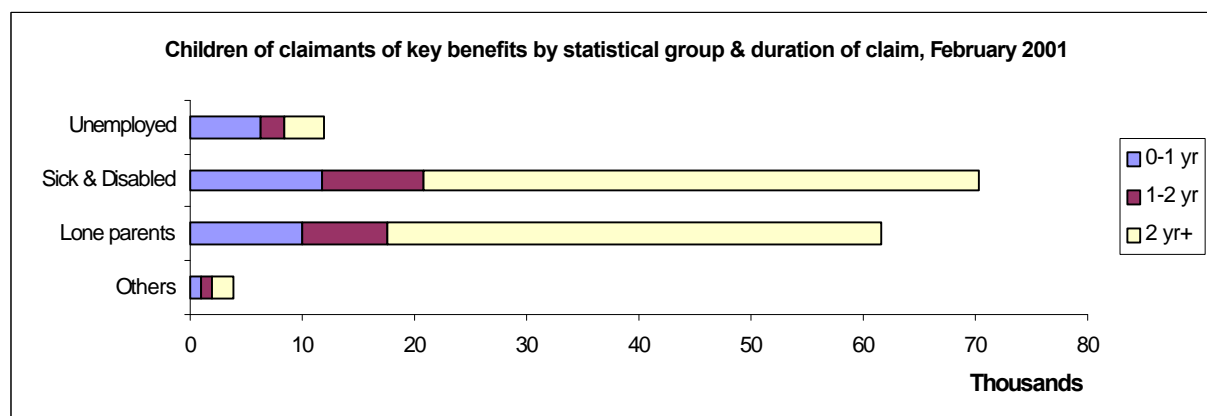


Table 2.1.5 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits by district council: February 2001

	Number of children	% of population ²
Northern Ireland	147,780	31
Ards	3,480	19
Belfast	32,240	41
Castlereagh	2,600	16
Down	4,500	23
Lisburn	9,300	29
North Down	3,300	18
Antrim	3,140	22
Ballymena	2,960	19
Ballymoney	1,580	21
Carrickfergus	2,080	20
Coleraine	3,480	24
Cookstown	3,580	39
Larne	1,740	22
Magherafelt	3,640	28
Moyle	1,240	29
Newtownabbey	4,540	21
Armagh	3,640	22
Banbridge	2,340	21
Craigavon	8,140	35
Dungannon	4,720	31
Newry & Mourne	11,020	39
Derry	15,280	43
Fermanagh	4,940	29
Limavady	2,640	26
Omagh	3,980	26
Strabane	5,220	45
Unknown	2,460	

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 and in full-time education) living in families claiming a key benefit varied from 45% in Strabane to 16% in Castlereagh.

Children on key benefits by District Council

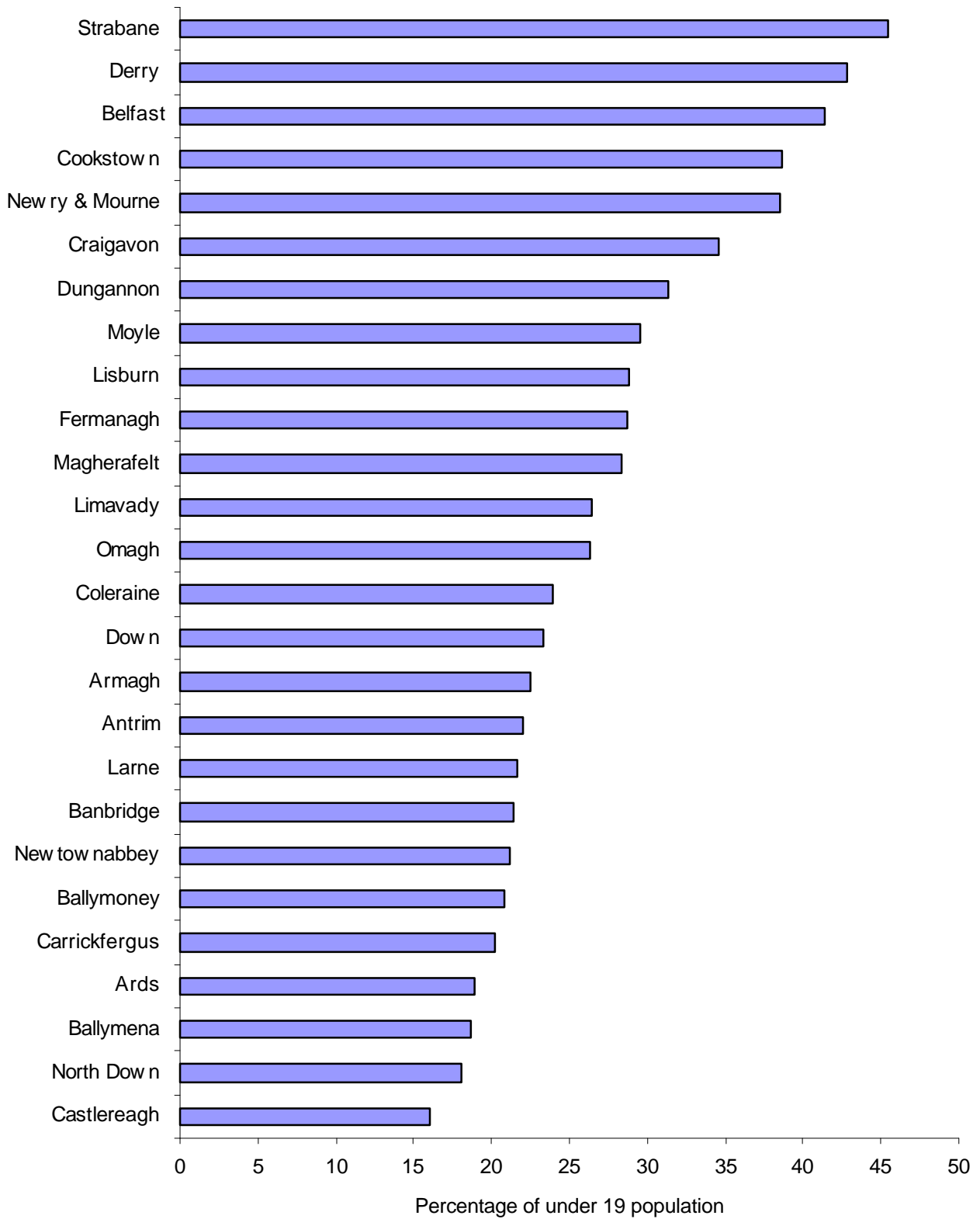


Table 2.1.6 Children¹ of claimants of combinations of key benefits: February 2001

	Number of children	% of population ²
All combinations	147,780	33
IS only	70,000	16
IB only	14,240	3
JSA only	11,580	3
IS, IB & DLA	10,940	2
DLA only	10,080	2
IB & DLA	9,660	2
IS & DLA	9,560	2
IS & IB	8,500	2
IS, DLA & SDA	1,320	0
DLA & SDA	1,020	0
IS & SDA	280	0
DLA & JSA	260	0
SDA only	180	0
Others ³	160	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: February 2001

	Duration of oldest claim ²											
	All durations	%	Under 3 months	%	3 to under 6 months	%	6 months to under 1 year	%	1 to under 2 years	%	2 years and over	%
All statistical groups	74,620	100	3,880	5	4,300	6	7,480	10	10,580	14	48,380	65
Unemployed	6,020	100	1,260	21	820	14	1,180	20	1,080	18	1,680	28
Sick & Disabled	35,200	100	1,300	4	1,640	5	3,180	9	4,500	13	24,580	70
Lone parents	31,720	100	1,220	4	1,780	6	2,900	9	4,540	14	21,280	67
Others	1,680	100	100	6	60	4	220	13	460	27	840	50

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

² Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- 65% 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 28%.
- 54% 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: February 2001

	Age of youngest child											
	All ages	%	Under 5	%	5 to under 11	%	11 to under 16	%	16 or over	%	Not known ²	%
All statistical groups	74,620	100	28,180	38	21,700	29	15,720	21	5,580	7	3,440	5
Unemployed	6,020	100	2,380	40	1,480	25	1,160	19	980	16	20	0
Sick & Disabled	35,200	100	9,400	27	9,260	26	9,040	26	4,080	12	3,420	10
Lone parents	31,720	100	15,840	50	10,540	33	5,000	16	340	1	.	0
Others	1,680	100	560	33	420	25	520	31	180	11	.	0

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

² Children whose ages are not known

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

2.3 Benefits and Tax Credits

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

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

This grouping is defined as:

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

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

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

Table 2.3.1 Children¹ of claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by statistical group and family type: February 2001

	Children aged under 16 years ²					Young adult dependants aged 16 to 18 years					
	All	Family type				All	% pop aged 16-18 in full-time education	Family type			Not known
		% pop aged under 16	Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known	
All statistical groups	200,235	49	73,603	122,452	4,180	21,110	50	8,446	12,664	.	
Unemployed ³	10,220	3	8,260	1,960	.	1,780	4	1,140	640	.	
Sick & disabled ³	60,160	15	19,000	36,980	4,180	9,540	22	3,060	6,480	.	
Lone parents	58,720	14	.	58,720	.	2,960	7	.	2,960	.	
Working family	66,040	16	41,940	24,100	.	6,020	14	3,560	2,460	.	
Working disabled	1,835	0	1,223	612	.	230	1	146	84	.	
Others	3,260	1	3,180	80	.	580	1	540	40	.	

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: February 2001

	All ages	Age of youngest child										
		% Under 5	% 5 to under 11	% 11 to under 16	% 16 or over	% Not known ²	%					
All statistical groups	109,768	100	43,016	39	33,347	30	22,728	21	7,297	7	3,380	3
Unemployed ³	6,020	100	2,380	40	1,480	25	1,160	19	980	16	20	0
Sick & disabled ³	34,820	100	9,340	27	9,080	26	8,940	26	4,100	12	3,360	10
Lone parents	31,720	100	15,840	50	10,540	33	5,000	16	340	1	.	0
Working family	34,540	100	14,560	42	11,500	33	6,860	20	1,620	5	.	0
Working disabled	988	100	336	34	327	33	248	25	77	8	.	0
Others	1,680	100	560	33	420	25	520	31	180	11	.	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.

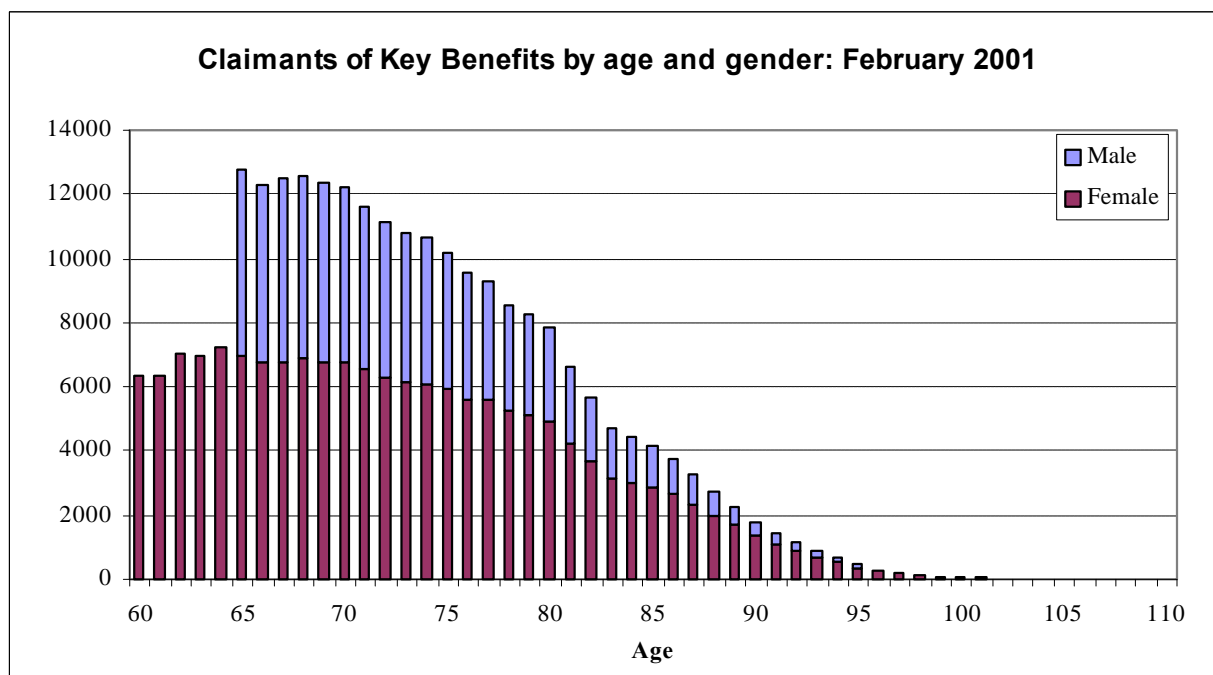
Section 3: Persons of Pensionable Age on Key Benefits

3.1 Age and gender

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

	Feb-98	Feb-99	Feb-00	Feb-01
Men	86,216	86,703	86,784	87,839
% of pop ¹	99	98	98	98
Women	161,875	162,831	162,691	163,646
% of pop ¹	97	97	96	96
All	248,091	249,534	249,475	251,485
% of pop ¹	97	97	97	97

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age.



- In February 2001 about 97% (251,485) of people over state pension age claimed a key benefit - an unchanged proportion since February 1999.
- The proportion of women claiming at least one of the key state benefits is slightly lower than for men; 96% compared with 98% respectively.

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

	Male		Female		All	
		% of pop ¹²		% of pop ¹²		% of pop ¹²
60-64	-	-	33,909	89	33,909	89
65-69	28,433	96	34,106	98	62,539	97
70-74	24,572	99	31,841	97	56,413	98
75-79	18,293	98	27,543	98	45,836	98
80-84	10,422	103	18,907	102	29,329	103
85-89	4,628	99	11,604	100	16,232	100
90+	1,491	87	5,736	95	7,227	93
All ages	87,839	98	163,646	96	251,485	97

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age.

² The population estimates for the very elderly may be inaccurate

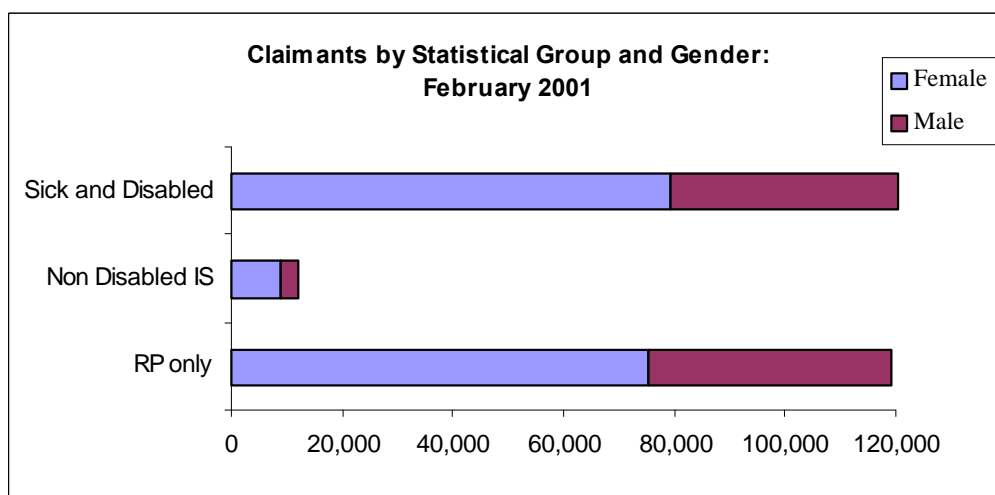
Table 3.1.3 Claimants over State Pension Age by Statistical group: February 1998 - February 2001

	Feb-98		Feb-99		Feb-00		Feb-01	
	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹	All	% of pop ¹
Sick and/or Disabled	109,620	43	111,817	44	114,872	45	120,372	46
Non Disabled IS	14,833	6	13,883	5	12,756	5	11,962	5
RP only	123,638	49	123,834	48	121,847	47	119,151	46
All	248,091	97	249,534	97	249,475	97	251,485	97

¹ Population of Northern Ireland residents above state pension age.

3.2 Statistical groups

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



- The overall numbers rose by 3,394 between February 1998 and February 2001.
- Sick and/or disabled claimants rose from 109,620 to 120,372 between February 1998 and February 2001, rising from 43% to 46% of the total pensioner population.
- Over the same period, the non-disabled IS statistical group fell by 2,871.
- The relative size of the RP only statistical group has also decreased, from 49% of the total pensioner population at February 1998 to 46% at February 2001.

Table 3.2.1 Cases over State Pension Age changing statistical group: February 1998 and February 2001

Statistical group in February 1998	Statistical group in February 2001			All
	Sick and/or Disabled	Non Disabled IS	RP only	
Sick and/or Disabled	0	207	1,162	1,369
Non Disabled IS	5,235	0	527	5,762
Rp only	17,806	2,115	0	19,921
All	23,041	2,322	1,689	27,052

**Table 3.2.2 Claimants over State Pension Age by all benefit combinations and gender:
February 2001**

	Male	Female	All
DLA only	310	1,257	1,567
AA only	487	775	1,262
DLA, AA	3	4	7
SDA only	34	128	162
SDA, DLA	40	707	747
SDA, AA	9	61	70
SDA, DLA, AA	1	17	18
IB only	9	8	17
IB, DLA	.	15	15
IB, AA	1	.	1
IS only	794	1,426	2,220
IS, DLA	345	868	1,213
IS, AA	578	1,540	2,118
IS, DLA, AA	4	21	25
IS, SDA	100	233	333
IS, SDA, DLA	220	638	858
IS, SDA, AA	88	194	282
IS , SDA, AA, DLA	8	16	24
IS, IB	18	31	49
IS, IB, DLA	45	116	161
IS, IB, AA	2	.	2
RP only	47,806	77,309	125,115
RP, DLA	7,536	14,062	21,598
RP, AA	13,026	21,859	34,885
RP, AA, DLA	168	203	371
RP, IS	4,168	9,795	13,963
RP, IS, DLA	3,636	7,249	10,885
RP, IS, AA	8,285	24,862	33,147
RP, IS, AA, DLA	118	252	370
All	87,839	163,646	251,485

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: November 2000

	Thousands and percentages					
	Men		Women		All	
	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹	(000s)	% of pop ¹
Great Britain	3,759	100	6,514	97	10,273	98
England	3,237	100	5,564	97	8,801	98
North East	175	102	304	97	479	99
North West ²	444	101	787	97	1,231	99
Yorkshire & Humberside	331	101	576	97	907	98
East Midlands	283	100	470	97	753	98
West Midlands	352	100	601	97	952	98
East	376	102	621	98	996	99
London	361	96	642	94	1,003	94
South East	535	100	919	96	1,454	98
South West	381	101	644	98	1,025	99
Wales	207	98	356	95	563	96
Scotland	316	100	594	98	910	99
Northern Ireland³	88	98	164	96	251	97

¹ Population over state pension age

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

³ Northern Ireland data is at February 2001

- The proportion of the population over state pension age claiming a key benefit ranges from 94% in London to 99% in several other government office regions.
- The figure for Northern Ireland of 97% claiming a key benefit is below the Great Britain average of 98% and only London and Wales have 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: November 2000

Thousands and percentages

		Statistical Group			
		Sick and/or			
		Disabled	Non Disabled IS	RP only	All
Great Britain	(000s)	2,415	614	7,245	10,273
	% of pop ¹	23	6	69	98
England	(000s)	1,958	535	6,308	8,801
	% of pop ¹	22	6	70	98
North East	(000s)	146	31	302	479
	% of pop ¹	30	6	62	99
North West ²	(000s)	368	71	792	1,231
	% of pop ¹	29	6	63	99
Yorkshire & Humberside	(000s)	230	58	618	907
	% of pop ¹	25	6	67	98
East Midlands	(000s)	174	40	539	753
	% of pop ¹	23	5	70	98
West Midlands	(000s)	240	63	650	952
	% of pop ¹	25	6	67	98
East	(000s)	182	54	761	996
	% of pop ¹	18	5	76	99
London	(000s)	200	92	711	1,003
	% of pop ¹	19	9	67	94
South East	(000s)	220	75	1,160	1,454
	% of pop ¹	15	5	78	98
South West	(000s)	199	51	776	1,025
	% of pop ¹	19	5	75	99
Wales	(000s)	198	26	339	563
	% of pop ¹	34	4	58	96
Scotland	(000s)	259	53	598	910
	% of pop ¹	28	6	65	99
Northern Ireland ³	(000s)	120	12	119	251
	% of pop ¹	46	5	46	97

¹ Population over state pension age

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

³ Northern Ireland data is at February 2001

- Northern Ireland has by far the highest proportion claiming a key sickness and/or disability benefit at 46% compared to Wales (34%), which is next, with the South East lowest at 15%.
- For the RP only category Northern Ireland (46%) is considerably lower than any other office region, with Wales (58%) next. The highest proportion is the South East (78%).

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 Analytical Services Division.

Family type and "People on benefits"

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

However, Statistics and Research Branch have been able to match partner's and dependant's details in this publication from other data sources i.e. Child Benefit and Child Support Agency. This has reduced the percentage of 'Not Known' cases from 35% to 28% at February 2001. The 'Not Known' group is made up of the remaining Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance and Disability Living Allowance cases. It includes a small number (1% at February 2001) who receive allowances for dependants but not partners.

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

Statistical groups

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

In sections 1.9 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 flows - for example, where the partners in a couple alternate as to who makes the claim for a benefit when the family circumstances change.

IS claimants on Government Training schemes

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

Clerical Cases

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

Sampling Errors

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

Warning: Figures in italics should be used with caution.

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
100	+/-86	+/-86%
200	+/-121	+/-61%
300	+/-148	+/-49%
400	+/-171	+/-43%
500	+/-191	+/-38%
600	+/-209	+/-35%
700	+/-226	+/-32%
800	+/-242	+/-30%
900	+/-256	+/-28%
1000	+/-270	+/-27%
2000	+/-382	+/-19%
3000	+/-468	+/-16%
4000	+/-540	+/-14%
5000	+/-604	+/-12%
6000	+/-662	+/-11%
7000	+/-715	+/-10%
8000	+/-764	+/-10%
9000	+/-811	+/-9%
10000	+/-854	+/-9%
20000	+/-1,208	+/-6%
30000	+/-1,480	+/-5%
40000	+/-1,709	+/-4%
50000	+/-1,910	+/-4%
100000	+/-2,702	+/-3%
200000	+/-3,821	+/-2%
300000	+/-4,679	+/-2%

**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 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 the 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 May 1999 and May 2000 the IS caseload has grown by approximately 2.2%, and now stands at 170,600 at May 2000.

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 47,120 claimants in the disabled statistical group in Northern Ireland at May 2000 (27.6% of the total caseload), compared to 966,000 claimants in GB (25.2% of the total caseload).

Falling numbers in the lone parent and pensioner (those aged 60 or over) statistical groups has offset the rise in the numbers receiving the disability premium.

The number of lone parent claimants has fallen from 35,480 in May 1996 to 32,600 in May 2000, with the average weekly payment for this group rising from £76.84 to £91.20 in the same period. This group has the highest average weekly payment of IS.

The number of claimants in the 'other' statistical group increased between May 1999 and May 2000 (15,440 to 16,980 respectively) and makes up 10% of the IS caseload.

Those categorised as being aged 60 or over has declined slowly as a proportion of the total IS caseload and currently stands at 43.3%.

Generally, claimants with dependants receive a higher weekly payment of IS compared to those without dependants, irrespective of marital status. At May 2000 for example, a single claimant without dependants received on average £52.26 per week, compared to £95.46 received by a single person with dependants. Amongst couples, those without dependants received on average £60.54 per week, while those with dependants received on average £108.77 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 (35,400 and 25,820 respectively at May 2000). The largest number of female claimants is also in the 25-59 year old age bracket, closely followed by the 60 years or over age group (47,700 and 47,480 respectively at May 2000). 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 May 1996 to May 2000.

The highest numbers of claimants were found in Belfast, Derry and Newry & Mourne district councils. When taken as a percentage of the population aged 16 and over, the highest proportion of claimants is in Strabane district council (19.6% of the population), closely followed by Belfast (19.4% of the population) and Derry (18.7% of the population).

Overall, 12.9% of the population aged 16 and over of Northern Ireland were claimants of IS, compared to 8.3% in GB.

Although the overall numbers claiming IS has increased between 1999 and 2000, the proportion of claimants receiving benefit for under 3 months has decreased slightly to 4.4% from 4.8% a year previous. This decrease suggests a slight downturn in the number of new applicants over the last year. Approximately 72% of all claimants have been in receipt of benefit for at least 2 years since 1997.

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 May 2000 82.8% of males in this age bracket had a claim lasting 2 years or longer, while 83.4% of females in this age group had a claim of this duration.

Those aged under 25 claiming IS at May 2000 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 (15.3% males under 25 and 10.8% of females at May 2000).

Table 4.1 Income Support claimants by statistical group: May 1995 to May 2000

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
May 1995	151,940	71,000	35,340	32,900	12,700
May 1996	158,560	73,360	35,480	37,400	12,320
May 1997	165,080	74,940	34,960	37,960	17,220
May 1998	166,700	74,540	33,800	43,120	15,240
May 1999	166,860	73,200	33,540	44,680	15,440
May 2000	170,600	73,900	32,600	47,120	16,980

Table 4.2 Income Support claimants by family type: May 1996 to May 2000

	All Claimants	Single	Single	Couples	Couples
		without dependants	with dependants	without dependants	with dependants
1996 May	158,560	91,480	40,180	16,740	10,160
1997 May	165,080	97,680	40,440	16,640	10,320
1998 May	166,700	99,680	39,980	16,520	10,520
1999 May	166,860	99,420	40,460	16,800	10,180
2000 May	170,600	102,860	39,500	17,400	10,840

Table 4.3 Beneficiaries of Income Support by type: May 1996 to May 2000

	All Beneficiaries	Type of beneficiary			Beneficiaries as % of population
		Claimant	Partner	Dependant	
1996 May	290,620	158,560	26,900	105,160	17.4%
1997 May	299,120	165,080	26,960	107,080	17.8%
1998 May	299,280	166,700	27,040	105,540	17.7%
1999 May	297,520	166,860	26,980	103,680	17.6%
2000 May	300,680	170,600	28,240	101,840	17.8%

Table 4.4 Income Support claimants at May 2000 by age and gender

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	170,600	65,400	105,200
16-19	3,620	960	2,660
20-24	10,580	3,220	7,360
25-29	12,120	3,640	8,480
30-34	13,740	4,100	9,640
35-39	13,800	5,540	8,260
40-44	12,780	5,720	7,060
45-49	10,120	5,080	5,040
50-54	10,760	5,740	5,020
55-59	9,780	5,580	4,200
60-64	12,620	7,400	5,220
65-69	11,580	5,220	6,360
70-74	12,680	4,500	8,180
75-79	12,980	3,760	9,220
80 and over	23,440	4,940	18,500

Table 4.5 Income Support claimants at May 2000 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	170,600	73,900	32,600	47,120	16,980	13.2%
Ards	4,720	47.9%	17.8%	25.8%	8.5%	8.3%
Belfast	42,020	38.9%	22.4%	28.9%	9.8%	19.4%
Castlereagh	3,540	45.8%	22.6%	23.7%	7.9%	6.7%
Down	5,100	40.8%	18.4%	27.1%	13.7%	10.7%
Lisburn	8,700	37.0%	27.8%	26.7%	8.5%	10.3%
North Down	4,500	54.7%	14.7%	21.3%	9.3%	7.4%
Antrim	4,060	46.8%	18.7%	27.1%	7.4%	10.4%
Ballymena	4,220	48.8%	20.9%	21.8%	8.5%	9.1%
Ballymoney	2,040	53.9%	16.7%	19.6%	9.8%	10.3%
Carrickfergus	2,180	38.5%	23.9%	30.3%	7.3%	7.4%
Coleraine	4,780	47.3%	15.9%	24.3%	12.6%	10.9%
Cookstown	4,280	47.2%	10.7%	34.6%	7.5%	17.9%
Larne	2,200	45.5%	15.5%	30.0%	9.1%	9.1%
Magherafelt	3,760	63.3%	11.7%	17.0%	8.0%	13.3%
Moyle	1,680	53.6%	17.9%	17.9%	10.7%	14.1%
Newtownabbey	5,380	46.8%	17.5%	24.9%	10.8%	8.5%
Armagh	4,480	52.7%	12.1%	28.6%	6.7%	10.9%
Banbridge	2,280	52.6%	15.8%	24.6%	7.0%	7.3%
Craigavon	8,040	47.0%	16.7%	27.4%	9.0%	13.3%
Dungannon	5,800	41.4%	15.9%	32.8%	10.0%	16.2%
Newry&Mourne	10,760	42.8%	16.4%	30.1%	10.8%	16.9%
Derry	14,380	31.2%	24.2%	32.1%	12.5%	18.7%
Fermanagh	6,140	54.7%	13.0%	21.8%	10.4%	14.2%
Limavady	2,940	38.1%	20.4%	27.2%	14.3%	12.5%
Omagh	5,140	47.1%	14.4%	28.8%	9.7%	14.5%
Strabane	5,540	41.5%	16.2%	30.3%	11.9%	19.6%
Missing Postcode*	1,940	47.4%	18.6%	24.7%	9.3%	

¹ Population aged 16 and over

* The computer scan contains missing postcodes.

No district council can be assigned in this circumstance so these cases have been grouped as 'Missing Postcode'
The percentages shown for district councils are accordingly understated

Table 4.6 Income Support claimants at May 2000 by Government Office Region and statistical group

Government Office Region	All Claimants (000s) ¹	Aged 60 or over %	Lone Parents %	Disabled %	Claimants as % of GOR population ²	
					Other %	
North East	219	42.5	22.7	26.3	8.5	10.6
North West	559	40.6	22.8	28.7	7.9	10.3
Yorks & Humberside	348	44.9	23.2	23.8	8.1	8.7
East Midlands	241	45.2	22.9	24.4	7.5	7.2
West Midlands	364	46.3	22.7	23.4	7.6	8.6
East	266	46.1	24.5	22.4	7	6.2
London	573	35.1	29.6	23.7	11.6	10
South East	351	44.7	25.2	22	8.1	5.5
South West	264	46.6	22.1	23	8.3	6.7
Wales	229	40.7	22.2	29.4	7.7	9.8
Scotland	398	41.3	20.9	29.1	8.7	9.7
Great Britain	3,811	42.4	23.9	25.2	8.5	8.3
Northern Ireland	171	43.9	20.1	26.8	9.3	12.9

¹ Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand

² Aged 16 and over

Table 4.7 Income Support claimants at May 2000 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	170,600	7,520	7,740	12,860	19,100	123,380
Aged 60 or over	73,900	21.0	24.8	22.9	31.8	49.7
Lone Parents	32,600	18.4	21.2	22.9	23.8	17.9
Disabled	47,120	17.3	18.3	23.2	37.0	27.8
Other	16,980	43.4	35.7	31.1	7.4	4.5

Table 4.8 Income Support claimants at May 2000 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	170,600	4.4	4.5	7.5	11.2	72.3
Male	65,400	5.8	5.2	8.6	12.2	68.2
Under 25	4,180	15.3	13.9	15.3	20.6	34.9
25-59	35,400	7.3	6.4	11.3	13.4	61.5
Over 60	25,820	2.3	2.1	3.7	9.1	82.8
Female	105,200	3.5	4.1	6.9	10.6	74.9
Under 25	10,020	10.8	10.0	19.0	20.6	39.7
25-59	47,700	3.4	4.3	7.2	11.4	73.7
Over 60	47,480	2.1	2.7	4.1	7.7	83.4

Table 4.9 Average weekly payments made to Income Support claimants by statistical group: May 1996 to May 2000

	All Claimants	Statistical group			
		Aged 60 or over	Lone Parents	Disabled	Other
1996 May	£58.11	£46.24	£76.84	£65.17	£53.42
1997 May	£58.62	£47.35	£78.67	£64.46	£54.09
1998 May	£59.23	£47.37	£78.61	£66.90	£52.53
1999 May	£62.38	£50.36	£82.00	£69.63	£55.76
2000 May	£66.70	£53.31	£91.20	£74.80	£55.42

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
	Couple		Dependant children				
	Both under 18		Under 11	11 to 15	16 to 17	18	
	18	18 or over					
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	
				Dependant children ¹			
				Under 11	11 to 16	16 to 18	
07 April 1997	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	
					Up to and		
					inc. 16	16 to 18	
10 April 2000 ³	.	81.95			26.60	31.75	
09 April 2001	63.35	83.25			31.45	32.25	

Table 4.11 Rates of Premiums

	£ per week									
	Disability				Severe Disability			Family ^{2 4 5}		
	Disabled		Single	Couple	Single	Couple (one)	Couple (both)	All	Couple	Lone Parent
	child	Carer ¹								
11 April 1988	6.15	.	13.05	18.60	24.75	24.75	49.50	6.15	.	.
10 April 1989	6.50	.	13.70	19.50	26.20	26.20	52.40	6.50	.	.
09 April 1990	15.40	10.00	15.40	22.10	28.20	28.20	56.40	7.35	.	.
08 April 1991	16.65	10.80	16.65	23.90	31.25	31.25	62.50	7.95	.	.
06 April 1992	17.80	11.55	17.80	25.55	32.55	32.55	65.10	9.30	.	.
12 April 1993	18.45	11.95	18.45	26.45	33.70	33.70	67.40	9.65	.	.
11 April 1994	19.45	12.40	19.45	27.80	34.30	34.30	68.60	10.05	.	.
10 April 1995	19.80	12.60	19.80	28.30	35.05	35.05	70.10	10.25	.	.
08 April 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
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
	Lone parent ^{4, 5}	Pensioner		Enhanced Pensioner ³		Higher Pensioner				
		Single	Couple	Single	Couple	Single	Couple	Single	Couple	
11 April 1988	3.70	10.65	16.25	.	.	.	.	13.05	18.60	
10 April 1989	3.90	11.20	17.05	.	.	.	.	13.70	19.50	
09 October 1989	3.90	11.20	17.05	13.70	20.55	16.20	23.00	16.20	23.00	
09 April 1990	4.10	11.80	17.95	14.40	21.60	17.05	24.25	17.05	24.25	
08 April 1991	4.45	13.75	20.90	15.55	23.35	18.45	26.20	18.45	26.20	
06 April 1992	4.75	14.70	22.35	16.65	25.00	20.75	29.55	20.75	29.55	
12 April 1993	4.90	17.30	26.25	19.30	29.00	23.55	33.70	23.55	33.70	
11 April 1994	5.10	18.25	27.55	20.35	30.40	24.70	35.30	24.70	35.30	
10 April 1995	5.20	18.60	28.05	20.70	30.95	25.15	35.95	25.15	35.95	
08 April 1996	5.20	19.15	28.90	21.30	31.90	25.90	37.05	25.90	37.05	
07 April 1997	.	19.65	29.65	21.85	32.75	26.55	38.00	26.55	38.00	
06 April 1998	.	20.10	30.35	22.35	33.55	27.20	38.90	27.20	38.90	
12 April 1999	.	23.60	35.95	25.90	39.20	30.85	44.65	30.85	44.65	
10 April 2000	.	26.25	40.00	28.65	43.40	33.85	49.10	33.85	49.10	
09 April 2001	.	39.10	57.30	39.10	57.30	39.10	57.30	39.10	57.30	

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. 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 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.

Summary

The overall number of unemployed claimants fell by over three thousand (3,047) between February 2000 and February 2001 to 40,971. The majority of this reduction in numbers was accounted for by recipients of income-based benefit - a fall of 2,881 in the year to February 2001.

There was a slightly higher proportion of claims of short duration (less than 3 months) in February 2001, 30.7% compared to 30.2% a year earlier. Claims of less than 3 months are a proxy for new claims.

There was also a smaller proportion of claims of more than a year in February 2001 (31.9%) than in February 2000 (35.1%). This was also the case in Great Britain, with claims of long duration (more than one year) falling to 21.2% of the overall caseload, from 25.0% in the previous year.

Between February 1998 and February 2001 the proportion of JSA claimants who had been out of work for one year or more decreased from 46.3% to 31.9% 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.

JSA claimants as a proportion of people of working age in Northern Ireland in February 2001 was 4.0%. These proportions range from 2.2% in Banbridge to 6.8% in Derry.

JSA claimants in the United Kingdom have decreased by 12.4% in the year to February 2001. There has been a decrease in every Government Office Region, ranging from 6.2% in Wales to 19.0% in the South East.

Single claimants without dependants tend to receive the lowest amounts of benefit, on average £48.86 per week for contribution-based and £48.79 for those with income-based. Recipients of income-based JSA with partners and/or dependants receive higher amounts (£81.77 for couples without dependants and £131.57 for single/couples with dependants).

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

Table 5.1 Unemployed claimants by benefit entitlement

	<u>Type of unemployment related benefit</u>					
	All Claimants	All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	No benefit in payment
Unemployment Benefit/Income Support						
Feb-96	85,744	76,997	7,704	4,241	65,052	8,747
May-96	82,713	74,210	9,820	1,431	62,959	8,503
Aug-96	93,263	83,826	12,726	1,468	69,632	9,437
Jobseeker's Allowance						
Feb-97	67,541	62,089	5,914	826	55,349	5,452
May-97	61,309	56,765	3,646	772	52,346	4,544
Aug-97	65,727	60,889	6,570	649	53,669	4,838
Nov-97	58,305	54,242	5,054	586	48,602	4,063
Feb-98	59,161	55,049	5,807	622	48,620	4,112
May-98	55,323	51,552	4,720	586	46,246	3,771
Aug-98	61,175	56,914	6,716	679	49,519	4,261
Nov-98	54,327	50,443	5,076	525	44,842	3,884
Feb-99	55,796	51,834	5,397	663	45,774	3,962
May-99	51,137	47,561	4,423	642	42,496	3,577
Aug-99	52,652	48,339	5,383	538	42,417	4,313
Nov-99	43,720	40,383	4,035	410	35,939	3,337
Feb-00	44,018	40,756	4,792	491	35,473	3,262
May-00	42,255	38,900	4,466	489	33,945	3,355
Aug-00	44,123	40,667	5,351	444	34,872	3,456
Nov-00	40,007	36,527	4,536	429	31,562	3,480
Feb-01	40,971	37,772	4,822	359	32,592	3,199

Note: No figures available for November 1996

Table 5.2 Unemployed JSA claimants at February 2001 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		No benefit in payment %
				based	Income based only %	
All ages	40,971	92.2	11.8	0.9	79.5	7.8
Under 20	4,140	97.2	1.0	0.0	96.2	2.8
20-24	6,627	96.4	13.9	0.8	81.8	3.6
25-29	5,908	95.4	16.0	0.8	78.6	4.6
30-34	5,166	94.9	15.5	1.1	78.4	5.1
35-39	4,739	93.3	12.8	1.3	79.2	6.7
40-44	3,880	92.4	9.9	1.0	81.5	7.6
45-49	3,640	91.1	11.4	1.4	78.3	8.9
50-54	3,575	83.7	9.4	1.1	73.2	16.3
55-59	2,956	75.9	9.6	0.0	66.3	24.1
60 and over	340	76.6	27.2	4.8	44.7	23.4

Table 5.3 Unemployed JSA claimants by gender, marital status and benefit entitlement - February 2001

Claimants	All Claimants (^{'000=100%})	All with benefit	Type of unemployment related benefit			
			Contribution based only %	Contribution and income		No benefit in payment %
				based	Income based only %	
All	40,971	92.2	11.8	0.9	79.5	7.8
All males	31,583	94.1	10.7	1.0	82.3	5.9
Single	23,966	97.1	10.3	0.2	86.6	2.9
With partner	7,617	84.8	12.1	3.8	68.9	15.2
All females	9,388	85.8	15.3	0.3	70.2	14.2
Single	7,479	94.9	9.7	0.2	85.0	5.1
With partner	1,909	50.0	37.2	0.7	12.1	50.0

Table 5.4 JSA claimants at February 2001 by District Council and as a percentage of working age population

District Council	All Claimants (' 000 = 100%)	Working age Population *	Claimants as % of Population
All	40,971	1,030,400	4.0%
Antrim	749	32,900	2.3%
Ards	1,414	45,500	3.1%
Armagh	1,165	33,100	3.5%
Ballymena	1,012	37,000	2.7%
Ballymoney	570	15,900	3.6%
Banbridge	577	25,700	2.2%
Belfast	9,630	165,800	5.8%
Carrickfergus	662	23,800	2.8%
Castlereagh	920	40,200	2.3%
Coleraine	1,544	34,300	4.5%
Cookstown	473	19,200	2.5%
Craigavon	1,553	48,900	3.2%
Derry	4,456	65,300	6.8%
Down	1,372	38,400	3.6%
Dungannon	845	29,300	2.9%
Fermanagh	1,802	34,300	5.3%
Larne	623	18,900	3.3%
Limavady	910	19,700	4.6%
Lisburn	1,920	68,500	2.8%
Magherafelt	659	23,300	2.8%
Moyle	497	9,300	5.3%
Newry & Mourne	2,221	52,400	4.2%
Newtownabbey	1,370	50,700	2.7%
North Down	1,381	45,700	3.0%
Omagh	1,331	29,100	4.6%
Strabane	1,315	23,200	5.7%

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

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

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

**Table 5.5 JSA claimants by Government Office Region:
February 2000 and February 2001**

<i>Thousands</i>			
GOR	February 2000	February 2001	Annual % change
North East	81	71	-12.6
North West	155	137	-12.1
Yorkshire & Humberside	122	108	-12.0
East Midlands	78	72	-7.9
West Midlands	116	108	-6.6
East	75	63	-16.9
London	191	160	-16.1
South East	93	75	-19.0
South West	74	61	-18.4
Wales	63	59	-6.2
Scotland	134	119	-10.9
Great Britain	1,182	1,033	-12.6
Northern Ireland	44	41	-6.8

Duration	Feb-98	Feb-99	Feb-00	Feb-01
All claimants ('000= 100%)	59,161	55,796	44,018	40,971
Under 3 months	14,577	13,979	13,307	12,574
3 to under 6 months	8,615	9,155	7,964	7,907
6 to under 12 months	8,566	7,500	7,303	7,408
1 to under 2 years	8,177	8,181	6,503	6,200
2 years or over	19,225	16,981	8,941	6,881

Table 5.7 Unemployed claimants at February 2001 by benefit entitlement and duration of current claim

	Type of unemployment related benefit					No benefit in payment
	All Claimants	All with benefit	Contribution based only	Contribution and income based	Income based only	
Duration						
All ('000=100%)	40,971	37,772	4,822	359	32,592	3,199
% up to 2 weeks	5.8	4.6	10.3	9.7	3.7	20.4
% 2 to under 6 weeks	12.3	12.1	27.6	19.6	9.7	14.7
% 6 to under 13 weeks	12.6	12.7	23.4	25.0	11.0	10.6
% 13 to under 26 weeks	19.3	19.5	38.6	45.7	16.3	17.4
% 26 to under 39 weeks	11.3	11.3	0.0	0.0	13.1	11.6
% 39 weeks to under 1 year	6.7	6.7	0.0	0.0	7.7	7.4
% 1 to under 2 years	15.1	15.5	0.0	0.0	17.9	11.4
% 2 years or over	16.8	17.7	0.0	0.0	20.5	6.6

**Table 5.8 Unemployed claimants with income-based benefit (1)
by average weekly amount: February 1997 to February 2001**

	All		Single without dependants		Couple without dependants		Single or couple with dependants	
	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw	Number	Average amount £pw
JSA(1)								
Feb-97	56,175	£22.07	41,191	£17.29	10,879	£7.27	4,104	£109.35
Feb-98	49,242	£60.71	36,215	£45.81	3,506	£70.32	9,521	£113.85
Feb-99	46,437	£62.26	34,570	£47.33	3,388	£73.66	8,479	£118.60
Feb-00	35,964	£60.31	28,712	£47.89	2,017	£78.82	5,236	£121.26
Feb-01	32,951	£61.90	26,695	£48.79	1,722	£81.77	4,534	£131.57

1. Includes claimants in receipt of income-based JSA who would be entitled to the contributory element.
Only the amount of income-based award above the level of contributon based award is included.

Table 5.9 Rates of Jobseeker's Allowance

£ per week

	Single person / Lone Parents				Couple	
	Under 18		18 to 24	Lone parent 18 or over / Single person 25 or over	Both under One or both 18 18 or over	
	Usual rate	Higher rate			18	or over
07 October 1996	28.85	37.90	37.90	47.90	57.20	75.20
07 April 1997	29.60	38.90	38.90	49.15	58.70	77.15
06 April 1998	30.30	39.85	39.85	50.35	60.10	79.00
09 November 1998	30.30	39.85	39.85	50.35	60.10	79.00
12 April 1999	30.95	40.70	40.70	51.40	.	80.65
10 April 2000	31.45	41.35	41.35	52.20	.	81.95
09 April 2001	31.95	42.00	42.00	53.05	63.35	83.25

	Dependant children				Dependant children		
	Under 11	11 to 15	16 to 17	18	Under 11	11 to 16	16 to 18
07 October 1996	16.45	24.10	28.85	37.90	.	.	.
07 April 1997	.	.	.	.	16.90	24.75	29.60
06 April 1998	.	.	.	.	17.30	25.35	30.30
09 November 1998	.	.	.	.	19.80	25.35	30.30
12 April 1999	.	.	.	.	20.20	25.90	30.95
04 October 1999	.	.	.	.	24.90	25.90	30.95
						Under 16	16 to 18
10 April 2000	.	.	.	.	.	26.60	31.75
09 April 2001						31.45	32.25

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
	Lone parent ^{1, 2}	Pensioner		Enhanced Pensioner		Higher Pensioner				
		Single	Couple	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			

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 7. 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 February 2001 there were 101,211 IB claimants, up 2,195 (3%) on the previous year. Of these, 70,503 were in receipt of the benefit, a 1% increase on the previous twelve months. The corresponding figure for Great Britain as a whole was also up (1%) on the previous year.

Numbers claiming the different rates of the benefit were as follows (see table 1):

- Numbers on short term lower rate in the year fell to 4,904.
- Numbers on short term higher rate in the year rose to 4,682.
- Numbers on long term rate in the year rose to 61,418.

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

At February 2001, the main diagnosis groups for claimants were mental and behavioural disorders (30.3%) and diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (21.7%). A higher proportion of women (35.5%) were recorded in the group of mental and behavioural disorders compared to men (27.1%). However a higher proportion of men (12.3%) were in the group of diseases of the circulatory system compared to women (4.7%).

The proportion of people of working age claiming IB at February 2001 was 9.8%, which is higher than the figure for Great Britain (6.5%). These proportions for the district councils in Northern Ireland range from 5.6% in North Down to 13.9% in Cookstown.

The average weekly payment fell slightly from £78.98 to £78.84 over the year ending February 2001. The Northern Ireland average payment for all IB rates was £2.56 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						
					IBLT			Credits only
Quarter ending	Total	IBST(L)	IBST(H)	Total IBLT (protected)	Ex-IVB	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

**Table 6.2 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit at 28 February 2001
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	101,211	4,904	4,682	61,418	29,858	31,560	30,207
Under 20	1,276	10	3	1	0	1	1,262
20-24	3,859	320	201	320	0	320	3,018
25-29	5,505	550	449	1,829	195	1,634	2,677
30-34	8,310	647	518	4,033	1,198	2,835	3,112
35-39	10,240	577	534	5,596	2,338	3,258	3,533
40-44	11,259	511	552	6,609	3,094	3,515	3,587
45-49	12,432	500	577	7,661	3,920	3,741	3,694
50-54	16,109	666	655	10,578	5,395	5,183	4,210
55-59	19,468	697	778	14,212	7,574	6,638	3,781
60-64	12,658	426	414	10,560	6,128	4,432	1,258
65 and over	95	0	1	19	16	3	75
Men							
All Ages	61,661	3,373	2,875	37,528	18,232	19,296	17,885
Under 20	597	4	1	1	0	1	591
20-24	2,167	187	96	158	0	158	1,726
25-29	2,998	293	219	734	56	678	1,752
30-34	4,332	373	277	1,534	360	1,174	2,148
35-39	5,545	371	299	2,531	835	1,696	2,344
40-44	6,210	356	326	3,445	1,464	1,981	2,083
45-49	6,910	352	340	4,251	2,050	2,201	1,967
50-54	8,883	471	400	5,900	2,925	2,975	2,112
55-59	11,436	540	502	8,403	4,402	4,001	1,991
60-64	12,507	426	414	10,552	6,124	4,428	1,115
65 and over	76	0	1	19	16	3	56
Women							
All Ages	39,550	1,531	1,807	23,890	11,626	12,264	12,322
Under 20	679	6	2	0	0	0	671
20-24	1,692	133	105	162	0	162	1,292
25-29	2,507	257	230	1,095	139	956	925
30-34	3,978	274	241	2,499	838	1,661	964
35-39	4,695	206	235	3,065	1,503	1,562	1,189
40-44	5,049	155	226	3,164	1,630	1,534	1,504
45-49	5,522	148	237	3,410	1,870	1,540	1,727
50-54	7,226	195	255	4,678	2,470	2,208	2,098
55-59	8,032	157	276	5,809	3,172	2,637	1,790
60 and over	170	0	0	8	4	4	162

* includes SDA cases where incapacity has not yet been decided.

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

**Table 6.3 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit at 28 February 2001
by gender and Diagnosis Group Heading**

	All IB	% of all IB	Men	Women
All Cases	101,211	100.0	61,661	39,550
Claimants w without any diagnosis code on the system	220	0.2	119	101
Certain infectious and Parasitic Diseases (A00 - B99)	901	0.9	551	350
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	1,027	1.0	539	488
Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs and certain diseases involving the immune mechanism (D50 - D89)	259	0.3	124	135
Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases (E00 -E90)	1,350	1.3	880	470
Mental and Behavioural Disorders (F00 - F99)	30,708	30.3	16,652	14,056
Diseases of the Nervous System (G00 - G99)	3,867	3.8	2,167	1,700
Diseases of the Eye and Adnexa (H00 -H59)	450	0.4	345	105
Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Process (H60 - H95)	376	0.4	249	127
Disease of the Circulatory System (I00 - I99)	9,425	9.3	7,573	1,852
Diseases of the Respiratory System (J00 - J99)	3,200	3.2	1,979	1,221
Diseases of the Digestive System (K00 - K93)	1,751	1.7	1,165	586
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous System (L00 - L99)	1,116	1.1	692	424
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal system and Connective Tissue (M00 - M99)	21,946	21.7	13,149	8,797
Diseases of the Genitourinary System (N00 - N99)	813	0.8	317	496
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (O00 - O99)	851	0.8	3	848
Certain Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period (P00 - P96)	2	0.0	0	2
Congenital Malformations, Deformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities (Q00 - Q99)	93	0.1	53	40
Symptoms, Signs and Abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00 - R99)	14,741	14.6	8,910	5,831
Injury, Poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (S00 - U22)	7,186	7.1	5,539	1,647
Factors influencing Health Status and Contact w ith Health Services (Z00 - Z99)	929	0.9	655	274

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

**Table 6.4 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit at 28 February 2001
by rate of benefit and District Council**

	All IB	IBST(L)	IBST(H)	IBLT	Credits only	Working age Population*	All IB as % of population
Claimants							
All Persons							
All Cases	101,211	4,155	4,001	53,809	26,172	1,030,400	9.8
Ards	3,377	151	212	2,248	766	45,500	7.4
Belfast	19,804	729	791	10,949	7,335	165,800	11.9
Castlereagh	2,806	142	159	1,988	517	40,200	7.0
Down	3,331	173	135	2,121	902	38,400	8.7
Lisburn	5,099	218	251	3,139	1,491	68,500	7.4
North Down	2,576	117	147	1,739	573	45,700	5.6
Antrim	2,240	121	102	1,367	650	32,900	6.8
Ballymena	2,806	152	139	1,739	776	37,000	7.6
Ballymoney	1,508	69	85	961	393	15,900	9.5
Carrickfergus	1,666	99	74	1,149	344	23,800	7.0
Coleraine	2,651	139	130	1,585	797	34,300	7.7
Cookstown	2,661	140	96	1,639	786	19,200	13.9
Larne	1,529	88	53	983	405	18,900	8.1
Magherafelt	2,407	125	112	1,593	577	23,300	10.3
Moyle	923	44	37	549	293	9,300	9.9
Newtownabbey	3,802	202	199	2,483	918	50,700	7.5
Armagh	3,117	184	158	2,025	750	33,100	9.4
Banbridge	2,293	140	126	1,542	485	25,700	8.9
Craigavon	5,634	314	241	3,807	1,272	48,900	11.5
Dungannon	3,249	177	178	1,934	960	29,300	11.1
Newry & Mourne	6,128	313	271	3,460	2,084	52,400	11.7
Derry	8,530	318	305	4,809	3,098	65,300	13.1
Fermanagh	2,748	167	141	1,576	864	34,300	8.0
Limavady	1,947	92	95	1,167	593	19,700	9.9
Omagh	3,367	191	142	2,039	995	29,100	11.6
Strabane	3,141	145	144	1,849	1,003	23,200	13.5
Missing postcode	1,871	154	159	978	580	..	..

* = 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 February 2001 dataset had missing or invalid postcodes, without which district council cannot be assigned.

**Table 6.5 Claimants to Incapacity Benefit by Government Office Region:
28 February 2001**

Thousands

	All IB	IBST(L)	IBST(H)	IBLT	Credits only	All IB as % of working age population
North East	160.9	7.0	6.4	99.4	48.0	10.2
North West	393.4	16.3	15.3	227.6	134.2	9.4
Yorkshire & Humberside	207.1	9.9	8.7	123.0	65.4	6.7
East Midlands	148.4	6.3	6.3	93.2	42.6	5.8
West Midlands	208.5	9.5	8.5	123.0	67.5	6.4
South West	146.3	7.4	6.5	81.7	50.7	5.0
East Midlands	135.3	5.7	6.5	77.1	46.1	4.1
London	257.0	7.6	8.1	104.5	136.8	5.4
South East	178.1	7.7	6.9	97.5	66.0	3.6
Scotland	288.2	11.7	11.5	170.3	94.8	9.0
Wales	192.6	7.6	7.2	125.2	52.6	11.0
Great Britain	2,324.4	96.7	92.0	1,330.5	805.2	6.5
Northern Ireland	101.2	4.9	4.7	61.4	29.9	9.8
Overseas	8.6	0.1*	0.1*	8.0	0.4*	..

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 28 February 2001
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	101,211	5,755	6,638	8,651	13,053	18,010	49,104
Under 20	1,276	322	388	298	196	72	0
20-24	3,859	556	658	738	772	811	324
25-29	5,505	616	676	793	971	1,221	1,228
30-34	8,310	672	765	961	1,305	1,728	2,879
35-39	10,240	697	774	967	1,523	1,935	4,344
40-44	11,259	625	747	1,008	1,621	2,069	5,189
45-49	12,432	632	679	1,017	1,620	2,155	6,329
50-54	16,109	682	795	1,142	2,055	2,778	8,657
55-59	19,468	639	808	1,214	2,036	3,238	11,533
60-64	12,658	314	348	512	953	1,999	8,532
65 and over	95	0	0	1	1	4	89
Men							
All Ages	61,661	3,593	4,101	5,294	8,077	10,922	29,674
Under 20	597	163	192	126	85	31	0
20-24	2,167	347	390	413	420	436	161
25-29	2,998	349	400	455	561	625	608
30-34	4,332	385	479	588	746	893	1,241
35-39	5,545	423	483	586	955	1,105	1,993
40-44	6,210	386	406	609	978	1,167	2,664
45-49	6,910	366	383	597	944	1,220	3,400
50-54	8,883	416	477	647	1,175	1,550	4,618
55-59	11,436	445	543	761	1,262	1,912	6,513
60-64	12,507	313	348	511	950	1,979	8,406
65 and over	76	0	0	1	1	4	70
Women							
All Ages	39,550	2,162	2,537	3,357	4,976	7,088	19,430
Under 20	679	159	196	172	111	41	0
20-24	1,692	209	268	325	352	375	163
25-29	2,507	267	276	338	410	596	620
30-34	3,978	287	286	373	559	835	1,638
35-39	4,695	274	291	381	568	830	2,351
40-44	5,049	239	341	399	643	902	2,525
45-49	5,522	266	296	420	676	935	2,929
50-54	7,226	266	318	495	880	1,228	4,039
55-59	8,032	194	265	453	774	1,326	5,020
60 and over	170	1	0	1	3	20	145

* includes SDA cases where incapacity has not yet been decided.

Includes 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 28 February 2001 by rate of benefit, and weekly amounts in payment

	All Recipients	Total weekly amount paid £	Average weekly amount paid £
All Persons			
All IB Rates	70,503	5,558,787	78.84
IBST(L)	4,577	233,713	51.06
IBST(H)	4,601	282,572	61.42
IBLT (All)	61,325	5,042,502	82.23
IBLT (Ex-IVB)	29,837	2,682,701	89.91
Invalidity Allowance	18,358	180,115	9.81
Additional Pension	21,762	345,688	74.94
Graduated Retirement Benefit	0	0	0.00
IBLT (Other)	31,488	2,359,802	
Incapacity Age Addition	13,274	141,530	10.66

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 dependant	Adult	Standard dependant	Adult	Standard	Adult dependant	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
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		

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 it is not possible to make a new claim for SDA. Those already claiming at this time will usually continue under the present 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 remained constant over the period 29th February 2000 – 28th February 2001. This was also the case for Great Britain. At February 2001, there were 15,507 claimants and 15,397 recipients.

The main diagnosis group for claimants of Severe Disablement Allowance was mental and behavioural disorders (39.1%). A higher proportion of men (44.3%) were in the group of mental and behavioural disorders compared to women (34.9%). However a higher proportion of women (13.0%) were in the group of diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue compared to men (4.7%).

The proportion of people aged 16 and over in receipt of the allowance at 28 February 2001 was 1.2%. These proportions for the district councils in Northern Ireland range from 0.8% in Castlereagh to 1.8% in Antrim.

The average weekly payment of Severe Disablement Allowance was £51.67 in February 2001 - £0.50 less than the average in Great Britain.

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

		SDA claimants ⁽¹⁾			SDA recipients ⁽¹⁾		
Quarter ending		Total	Pre 13th ⁽²⁾ April '95 cases	Post 13th ⁽²⁾ April '95 cases	Total	Pre 13th ⁽²⁾ April '95 cases	Post 13th ⁽²⁾ 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

(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 February 2001 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	15,507	15,397	11,582	11,564	3,925	3,833
Under 20	1,104	975	379	377	628	598
20 - 24	1,320	1,735	1,030	1,025	725	710
25 - 29	1,485	1,532	1,248	1,247	290	285
30 - 34	1,619	1,512	1,284	1,281	237	231
35 - 39	1,571	1,553	1,225	1,225	335	328
40 - 44	1,482	1,493	1,161	1,158	346	335
45 - 49	1,633	1,634	1,323	1,322	321	312
50 - 54	1,715	1,603	1,302	1,300	310	303
55 - 59	1,206	1,374	964	963	413	411
60 - 64	1,744	1,908	1,666	1,666	242	242
65 and over	78	78	0	0	78	78
Men						
All Ages	6,851	6,798	5,094	5,088	1,757	1,710
Under 20	575	553	203	203	372	350
20 - 24	962	952	566	565	396	387
25 - 29	868	866	712	711	156	155
30 - 34	832	831	716	716	116	115
35 - 39	742	740	586	586	156	154
40 - 44	664	656	535	532	129	124
45 - 49	612	607	512	512	100	95
50 - 54	521	519	430	430	91	89
55 - 59	482	481	363	362	119	119
60 - 64	564	564	471	471	93	93
65 and over	29	29	0	0	29	29
Women						
All Ages	8,656	8,599	6,488	6,476	2,168	2,123
Under 20	432	422	176	174	256	248
20 - 24	793	783	464	460	329	323
25 - 29	670	666	536	536	134	130
30 - 34	689	681	568	565	121	116
35 - 39	818	813	639	639	179	174
40 - 44	843	837	626	626	217	211
45 - 49	1,032	1,027	811	810	221	217
50 - 54	1,091	1,084	872	870	219	214
55 - 59	895	893	601	601	294	292
60 and over	1,393	1,393	1,195	1,195	198	198

**Table 7.3 Claimants of Severe Disablement Allowance at 28 February 2001
by Diagnosis Group ***

	All SDA	% of all SDA	Men	Women
All Cases	15,507	100.0	6,851	8,656
Claimants without any diagnosis code on the system	13	0.1	7	6
Certain infectious and Parasitic Diseases (A00 - B99)	63	0.4	23	40
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	129	0.8	40	89
Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs and certain diseases involving the immune mechanism (D50 - D89)	15	0.1	6	9
Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases (E00 - E90)	150	1.0	55	95
Mental and Behavioural Disorders (F00 - F99)	6,056	39.1	3,032	3,024
Diseases of the Nervous System (G00 - G99)	1,529	9.9	621	908
Diseases of the Eye and Adnexa (H00 - H59)	225	1.5	91	134
Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Process (H60 - H95)	161	1.0	60	101
Disease of the Circulatory System (I00 - I99)	776	5.0	268	508
Diseases of the Respiratory System (J00 - J99)	384	2.5	100	284
Diseases of the Digestive System (K00 - K93)	114	0.7	37	77
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous System (L00 - L99)	51	0.3	13	38
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal system and Connective Tissue (M00 - M99)	1,443	9.3	319	1,124
Diseases of the Genitourinary System (N00 - N99)	87	0.6	31	56
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (O00 - O99)	6	0.0	1	5
Certain Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period (P00 - P96)	0	0.0	0	0
Congenital Malformations, Deformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities (Q00 - Q99)	1,074	6.9	587	487
Symptoms, Signs and Abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00 - R99)	2,259	14.6	976	1,283
Injury, Poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (S00 - U22)	338	2.2	211	127
Factors influencing Health Status and Contact with Health Services (Z00 - Z99)	634	4.1	373	261

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

Table 7.4 Claimants and recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance at 28 February 2001, by District Council

	Claimants	Recipients	Population aged 16 and over *	Recipients as % of Population
All Persons				
All Cases	15,507	15,397	1,289,600	1.2
Ards	467	466	56,700	0.8
Belfast	2,615	2,600	216,900	1.2
Castlereagh	425	425	53,000	0.8
Down	620	615	47,700	1.3
Lisburn	788	780	84,300	0.9
North Down	554	552	60,600	0.9
Antrim	708	703	39,000	1.8
Ballymena	436	434	46,400	0.9
Ballymoney	256	254	19,800	1.3
Carrickfergus	288	288	29,700	1.0
Coleraine	412	408	43,700	0.9
Cookstown	289	288	24,000	1.2
Larne	227	225	24,300	0.9
Magherafelt	365	360	28,400	1.3
Moyle	180	179	11,900	1.5
Newtownabbey	530	527	63,600	0.8
Armagh	607	595	41,100	1.4
Banbridge	321	320	31,300	1.0
Craigavon	652	649	60,500	1.1
Dungannon	476	473	35,700	1.3
Newry & Mourne	927	920	63,600	1.4
Derry	1,064	1,057	77,000	1.4
Fermanagh	556	551	43,300	1.3
Limavady	284	283	23,500	1.2
Omagh	544	539	35,300	1.5
Strabane	480	473	28,300	1.7
Missing postcode	436	433	..	..

Note: Approximately 2% of records on the February 2001 dataset had missing or invalid postcodes, without which district council cannot be assigned.

* = Mid 2000 estimates. Population aged 16 and over

.. = Not available

**Table 7.5 Claimants and recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance
by Government Office Region: 28 February 2001**

Thousands

	Claimants	Recipients
North East	20.3	20.3
North West	48.9	48.8
Yorkshire & Humberside	35.2	35.1
East Midlands	28.6	28.6
West Midlands	32.0	31.9
South West	31.6	31.5
East Midlands	28.1	28.0
London	32.4	32.3
South East	42.4	42.3
Scotland	42.9	42.9
Wales	24.8	24.7
Great Britain	367.7	367.0
Northern Ireland	15.5	15.4
Overseas	0.5	0.5

**Table 7.6 Claimants of Severe Disablement Allowance at 28 February 2001
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	15,507	46	100	297	598	1,338	13,128
Under 20	628	21	40	119	198	249	1
20-24	1,104	1	14	27	79	249	734
25-29	1,320	3	4	14	33	99	1167
30-34	1,485	2	4	15	21	79	1364
35-39	1,619	3	9	21	59	108	1419
40-44	1,571	3	5	28	53	103	1379
45-49	1,482	5	8	16	49	105	1299
50-54	1,633	5	5	21	33	106	1463
55-59	1,715	0	7	26	41	140	1501
60-64	1,206	2	3	9	24	77	1091
65 and over	1,744	1	1	1	8	23	1710
Men							
All Ages	6,851	20	51	139	275	591	5,775
Under 20	372	11	22	75	112	152	0
20-24	599	1	10	18	41	126	403
25-29	722	2	2	5	15	53	645
30-34	828	1	2	6	8	40	771
35-39	872	0	5	7	29	46	785
40-44	715	0	2	9	23	34	647
45-49	635	2	4	5	13	33	578
50-54	603	2	1	5	8	32	555
55-59	549	0	2	4	16	37	490
60-64	456	0	0	5	8	29	414
65 and over	500	1	1	0	2	9	487
Women							
All Ages	8,656	26	49	158	323	747	7,353
Under 20	256	10	18	44	86	97	1
20-24	505	0	4	9	38	123	331
25-29	598	1	2	9	18	46	522
30-34	657	1	2	9	13	39	593
35-39	747	3	4	14	30	62	634
40-44	856	3	3	19	30	69	732
45-49	847	3	4	11	36	72	721
50-54	1,030	3	4	16	25	74	908
55-59	1,166	0	5	22	25	103	1011
60 and over	1,994	2	3	5	22	62	1900

Table 7.7 Number of Severe Disablement Allowance recipients at 28 February 2001 by total weekly amounts in payment

	Number of Recipients	Total weekly amount paid £	Average weekly amount paid £
All in receipt of SDA	15,397	795,636	51.67
Of which:			
In receipt of Age Related Addition	15,326	189,871	12.39

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

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

² 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.

The statistics for all tables are from 100% scans.

Summary

The number of people claiming Attendance Allowance (AA) stood at 65,764 in May 2001, an increase of 574 (0.8%) on the May 2000 figure. Of those claiming 32.2% were male and 67.8% were female.

The proportion receiving the high rate of AA was 72% (compared to 71% a year earlier), which is higher than that for Great Britain (46.6%).

The proportion receiving the low rate of AA was 28% (compared to 29% a year earlier), which is lower than that for Great Britain (53.4%).

The main diagnosis group for allowances current at May 2001 was arthritis (24.4%). This was also the case in Great Britain with a proportion of 29.3%.

Between district councils the proportion of AA claimants varied between 40.5% of those aged 65 and over in Dungannon to 22.6% of those aged 65 and over in North Down.

Allowances current in Northern Ireland at February 2001 stood at 38.9 per 1000 population. This is considerably higher than the situation in Great Britain (22.1 per 1000 population), with the only comparable Government Office Region being Wales (32.2 per 1000 population).

Table 8.1 Allowances current by rate: August 1996 to May 2001

Year	All awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
31 August 1996	61,389	40,120	21,269
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

Table 8.2 Allowances current at 31 May 2001 by age and gender

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	65,764	21,161	44,603
65-69	3,119	1,257	1,862
70-74	12,013	4,427	7,586
75-79	19,942	6,824	13,118
80-84	16,360	5,103	11,257
85-89	10,015	2,635	7,380
90 and over	4,315	915	3,400

Table 8.3 Allowances current at 31 May 2001 by main disabling condition and rate (1)

	All Awards	Higher rate	Lower rate
All conditions	65,764	47,368	18,396
Terminally ill	628	628	0
Arthritis	16,035	11,511	4,524
Back ailments	1,061	745	316
Muscles/joint/bone disease	769	539	230
Blindness	1,048	493	555
Heart disease	5,683	4,038	1,645
Chest disease	2,167	1,594	573
Asthma	567	437	130
Stroke-related	2,131	1,664	467
Peripheral vascular disease	352	252	100
Frailty	4,975	3,558	1,417
Neurological disorder	754	521	233
Parkinsons disease	520	411	109
Diabetes	815	569	246
Other mental health causes	2,709	1,952	757
Malignant disease	733	578	155
Other	1,385	962	423
Conversion*	23,432	16,916	6,516

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

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

Table 8.4 Allowances current at 31 May 2001 by District Council and Population

District Council	Population Aged 65+ ¹	All AA Awards			All AA Awards as a % of Population Aged 65+ ¹		
		All Awards	Higher Rate	Lower Rate	All Awards	Higher Rate	Lower Rate
Antrim	5,000	1,201	847	354	24.0%	16.9%	7.1%
Ards	9,400	2,734	1,839	895	29.1%	19.6%	9.5%
Armagh	6,900	2,132	1,604	528	30.9%	23.2%	7.7%
Ballymena	7,900	1,885	1,305	580	23.9%	16.5%	7.3%
Ballymoney	3,400	981	691	290	28.9%	20.3%	8.5%
Banbridge	4,800	1,585	1,124	461	33.0%	23.4%	9.6%
Belfast	44,600	13,355	9,312	4,043	29.9%	20.9%	9.1%
Carrickfergus	4,900	1,143	740	403	23.3%	15.1%	8.2%
Castlereagh	11,000	2,504	1,698	806	22.8%	15.4%	7.3%
Coleraine	7,800	1,969	1,375	594	25.2%	17.6%	7.6%
Cookstown	4,100	1,390	1,119	271	33.9%	27.3%	6.6%
Craigavon	9,500	3,060	2,146	914	32.2%	22.6%	9.6%
Derry	9,600	3,034	2,207	827	31.6%	23.0%	8.6%
Down	7,800	2,264	1,656	608	29.0%	21.2%	7.8%
Dungannon	5,400	2,186	1,781	405	40.5%	33.0%	7.5%
Fermanagh	7,700	2,517	1,929	588	32.7%	25.1%	7.6%
Larne	4,500	1,046	683	363	23.2%	15.2%	8.1%
Limavady	3,100	1,083	855	228	34.9%	27.6%	7.4%
Lisburn	13,200	3,314	2,254	1,060	25.1%	17.1%	8.0%
Magherafelt	4,200	1,651	1,288	363	39.3%	30.7%	8.6%
Moyle	2,400	648	464	184	27.0%	19.3%	7.7%
Newry & Mourne	9,500	3,657	2,899	758	38.5%	30.5%	8.0%
Newtownabbey	10,700	2,658	1,700	958	24.8%	15.9%	9.0%
North Down	13,000	2,936	2,063	873	22.6%	15.9%	6.7%
Omagh	5,300	2,071	1,690	381	39.1%	31.9%	7.2%
Strabane	4,300	1,600	1,207	393	37.2%	28.1%	9.1%
Missing Postcode		1,160	892	268			
Northern Ireland	220,000	65,764	47,368	18,396	29.9%	21.5%	8.4%

1. 1999 Mid Year Estimates, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

**Table 8.5 Attendance Allowance claimants by Government Office Region:
28 February 2001**

Country and Government Office Region	Allowances (000,s)	Allowances per 1000 population
North East	62.8	24.3
North West ¹	178.7	25.9
Yorkshire & Humberside	112.1	22.2
East Midlands	97.3	23.1
West Midlands	134.5	25.2
East	112.1	20.5
London	112.5	15.3
South East	130.6	16.1
South West	123.9	24.9
Wales	95.8	32.5
Scotland	129.7	25.4
Great Britain	1,290.0	22.2
Northern Ireland	65.8	38.9

¹ The old Merseyside GOR was merged with North West GOR on 3rd August 1998

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

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.

The statistics for all tables are calculated from 100% scans.

Summary

The number of people claiming Disability Living Allowance (DLA) stood at 139,812 in May 2001, an increase of 7,750 (5.9%) on the May 2000 figure. Of those claiming 47.6% were male and 52.4% were female.

The proportion receiving the DLA mobility component only was 11.2% (compared to 11.8% a year earlier), which is lower than that for Great Britain (25.6%).

The proportion receiving the DLA care component only was 14.1% (compared to 15.3% a year earlier), which is higher than that for Great Britain (13.2%).

The proportion receiving the combined DLA mobility component and care component was higher at 74.6% compared to 72.9% a year earlier. This figure is higher than that for Great Britain, which has a proportion of 61.1%.

The main disabling conditions in Northern Ireland were "arthritis" (19.4%) and "other mental health causes" (17.9%).

The proportion of the population claiming DLA in Northern Ireland at May 2001 stood at 8.3%. Between district councils the proportion of the population claiming DLA varied between 12.2% in Strabane to 4.8% in North Dmwn.

Allowances current in Northern Ireland at February 2001 stood at 81.0 per 1000 population. This is considerably higher than the situation in Great Britain (38.2 per 1000 population), with the nearest Government Office Region being Wales (61.6 per 1000 population).

Table 9.1 Allowances current by rate: February 1996 to May 2001

	February 1996	August 1996	February 1997	August 1997	February 1998	August 1998	February 1999	May 1999
All components	98,107	104,447	110,390	114,386	118,973	121,481	125,082	126,190
Higher rate care only	2,636	2,633	2,968	3,160	3,239	3,019	2,849	2,681
Middle rate care only	6,648	6,992	7,701	8,450	8,843	8,452	7,936	7,618
Low er rate care only	8,570	8,882	9,359	10,035	10,619	10,637	10,800	10,701
Higher rate mobility only	11,912	12,167	12,495	12,509	12,646	12,453	12,262	12,139
Low er rate mobility only	1,992	2,335	2,560	2,750	3,069	3,292	3,451	3,521
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	17,414	18,533	19,457	20,028	20,459	20,777	21,388	21,611
Higher rate care and low er rate mobility	5,977	6,916	6,985	6,885	7,072	7,568	8,547	8,903
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	19,773	21,091	22,315	22,971	23,578	23,735	24,336	24,549
Middle rate care and low er rate mobility	9,785	10,373	10,308	10,269	10,745	11,726	13,179	14,163
Low er rate care and higher rate mobility	11,033	11,989	13,424	14,242	15,067	15,481	15,620	15,669
Low er rate care and low er rate mobility	2,367	2,536	2,818	3,087	3,636	4,341	4,714	4,635

Table 1 continued

	August 1999	November 1999	February 2000	May 2000	August 2000	November 2000	February 2001	May 2001
All components	127,745	128,677	130,536	132,062	133,965	136,450	137,505	139,812
Higher rate care only	2,547	2,463	2,430	2,352	2,322	2,310	2,253	2,136
Middle rate care only	7,447	7,273	7,316	7,257	7,323	7,424	7,402	7,411
Low er rate care only	10,730	10,639	10,615	10,562	10,484	10,340	10,218	10,218
Higher rate mobility only	12,041	12,000	11,969	11,960	11,903	11,942	12,014	12,209
Low er rate mobility only	3,571	3,586	3,596	3,639	3,619	3,608	3,554	3,478
Higher rate care and higher rate mobility	21,769	21,865	22,026	22,213	22,490	22,897	23,032	23,444
Higher rate care and low er rate mobility	9,296	9,542	9,852	10,040	10,330	10,715	10,885	11,110
Middle rate care and higher rate mobility	24,944	25,224	25,687	26,096	26,718	27,543	27,947	28,540
Middle rate care and low er rate mobility	15,108	15,869	16,885	17,899	18,833	19,905	20,568	21,558
Low er rate care and higher rate mobility	15,723	15,699	15,764	15,831	15,908	15,925	15,904	16,038
Low er rate care and low er rate mobility	4,569	4,517	4,396	4,213	4,035	3,841	3,728	3,670

Table 9.2 Allowances current at 31 May 2001 by age and gender

	Total	Men	Women
All ages	139,812	66,563	73,249
0-4	2,167	1,337	830
5-9	4,651	2,997	1,654
10-15	4,894	3,020	1,874
16-19	2,460	1,399	1,061
20-24	3,539	1,808	1,731
25-29	4,673	2,336	2,337
30-34	6,996	3,290	3,706
35-39	9,330	4,267	5,063
40-44	10,507	4,752	5,755
45-49	11,049	5,187	5,862
50-54	14,384	6,501	7,883
55-59	17,437	7,973	9,464
60-64	19,214	8,916	10,298
65-69	17,757	8,103	9,654
70-74	9,411	4,150	5,261
75-79	1,104	441	663
80 and over	239	86	153

Table 9.3 Allowances current at 31 May 2001 by main disabling condition and component

	All Awards	Care component only	Mobility component only	Care and mobility component
All conditions	139,812	19,765	15,687	104,360
Terminally ill	1,014	32	5	977
Arthritis	27,091	3,648	2,654	20,789
Back ailments	10,654	1,498	1,120	8,036
Muscles/joint/bone disease	13,178	3,169	1,443	8,566
Blindness	2,023	77	150	1,796
Deafness	1,669	121	127	1,421
Heart disease	11,318	686	2,399	8,233
Chest disease	4,162	215	856	3,091
Asthma	4,773	1,649	766	2,358
Stroke-related	3,021	275	185	2,561
Peripheral vascular disease	1,128	36	345	747
Epilepsy	4,311	526	83	3,702
Neurological disorder	2,641	394	137	2,110
Multiple sclerosis	1,437	38	76	1,323
Chronic fatigue	1,210	226	90	894
Diabetes	2,092	526	93	1,473
Learning difficulties	7,780	652	651	6,477
Other mental health causes	25,081	2,977	2,121	19,983
Alcohol abuse	1,733	432	38	1,263
Skin disease	1,023	723	33	267
Malignant disease	1,966	363	76	1,527
Conversion*	6,007	311	1,938	3,758
Other	4,500	1,191	301	3,008

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

Table 9.4 Allowances current at 31 May 2001 by District Council and Population

District Council	Total Population ¹	All DLA Awards				All DLA Awards as a % of Total Population ¹			
		All component Awards	Care only	Mobility only	Care and mobility component	All component Awards	Care only	Mobility only	Care and mobility component
Antrim	50,728	3,293	445	530	2,318	6.5%	0.9%	1.0%	4.6%
Ards	71,402	4,320	611	619	3,090	6.1%	0.9%	0.9%	4.3%
Armagh	53,972	4,134	565	511	3,058	7.7%	1.0%	0.9%	5.7%
Ballymena	59,246	2,948	411	456	2,081	5.0%	0.7%	0.8%	3.5%
Ballymoney	25,867	1,784	253	223	1,308	6.9%	1.0%	0.9%	5.1%
Banbridge	39,860	2,845	353	409	2,083	7.1%	0.9%	1.0%	5.2%
Belfast	284,360	31,043	4,533	3,060	23,450	10.9%	1.6%	1.1%	8.2%
Carrickfergus	37,882	2,233	352	305	1,576	5.9%	0.9%	0.8%	4.2%
Castlereagh	66,763	4,096	563	580	2,953	6.1%	0.8%	0.9%	4.4%
Coleraine	55,682	2,879	501	360	2,018	5.2%	0.9%	0.6%	3.6%
Cookstown	31,694	3,291	455	300	2,536	10.4%	1.4%	0.9%	8.0%
Craigavon	79,716	7,641	1,043	787	5,811	9.6%	1.3%	1.0%	7.3%
Derry	106,638	11,198	1,629	1,100	8,469	10.5%	1.5%	1.0%	7.9%
Down	63,831	4,887	602	609	3,676	7.7%	0.9%	1.0%	5.8%
Dungannon	48,235	4,707	583	423	3,701	9.8%	1.2%	0.9%	7.7%
Fermanagh	57,472	3,500	563	370	2,567	6.1%	1.0%	0.6%	4.5%
Larne	30,921	1,778	275	262	1,241	5.8%	0.9%	0.8%	4.0%
Limavady	31,862	2,360	411	189	1,760	7.4%	1.3%	0.6%	5.5%
Lisburn	111,245	7,839	1,220	976	5,643	7.0%	1.1%	0.9%	5.1%
Magherafelt	38,976	2,469	407	237	1,825	6.3%	1.0%	0.6%	4.7%
Moyle	15,392	1,038	152	138	748	6.7%	1.0%	0.9%	4.9%
Newry & Mourne	87,651	8,010	1,058	762	6,190	9.1%	1.2%	0.9%	7.1%
Newtownabbey	81,279	5,310	731	842	3,737	6.5%	0.9%	1.0%	4.6%
North Down	75,696	3,610	411	548	2,651	4.8%	0.5%	0.7%	3.5%
Omagh	47,825	4,854	631	375	3,848	10.1%	1.3%	0.8%	8.0%
Strabane	37,629	4,591	595	335	3,661	12.2%	1.6%	0.9%	9.7%
Missing Postcode		3,154	412	381	2,361				
Northern Ireland	1,691,824	139,812	19,765	15,687	104,360	8.3%	1.2%	0.9%	6.2%

1. 1999 Mid Year Estimates, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

**Table 9.5 Disability Living Allowances current
by Government Office Region: 31 May 2001**

Government Office Region	Allowances (000)s	Allowances per 1000 population
North East	145.4	56.4
North West	360.8	52.3
Yorkshire & Humberside	220.8	43.7
East Midlands	159.2	37.8
West Midlands	217.2	40.7
East	153.4	28.1
London	211.8	28.7
South East	191.3	23.6
South West	147.7	29.7
Wales	183.2	62.2
Scotland	249.7	48.8
Great Britain	2,240.5	38.6
Northern Ireland	139.8	82.6

Table 9.6 Rates of Disability Living Allowance

Pregnancy, Childbirth	£ 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	

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 March 2001 is just over 240,000. The number of men in receipt of Retirement Pension is just over 85,000 (35%) and the number of women is just over 156,000 (65%). The percentage figures for Great Britain are 37% for men and 63% for women.

There has been a net increase of 1,801 (0.8%) in the retirement pensioner caseload over the period March 2000 to March 2001. This growth is similar to 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 880 and the number of women increased by 921.

The average amount of actual entitlement at March 2001 was £70.17 per week (an annual increase of 2%). The corresponding figure for Great Britain was an average entitlement of £67.88 per week, which also had an annual increase of 2%.

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 March 2001**

	Contributory					Non-contributory	All types
	A	B	ABL	BL	GRB only	C or D	
Men							
Sep-96	77,194	3			14	396	77,607
Mar-97	78,217	4			12	390	78,623
Sep-97	79,760	4			11	390	80,165
Mar-98	80,793	5			9	375	81,182
Sep-98	-	-			-	-	-
Mar-99	82,622	3			12	343	82,980
Sep-99	83,706	5			12	342	84,065
Mar-00	83,993	5			11	328	84,337
Sep-00	84,318	3			11	316	84,648
Mar-01	84,892	4			11	310	85,217
Women							
Sep-96	73,135	36,862	17,213	20,069	767	1,619	149,665
Mar-97	74,356	36,126	17,821	19,749	716	1,551	150,319
Sep-97	76,261	35,565	18,568	19,484	722	1,521	152,121
Mar-98	77,541	34,869	19,196	19,123	675	1,477	152,881
Sep-98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar-99	80,212	33,335	20,254	18,587	598	1,351	154,337
Sep-99	81,395	32,674	20,270	19,036	553	1,337	155,265
Mar-00	82,458	31,698	20,655	18,544	533	1,287	155,175
Sep-00	83,605	31,101	21,050	18,164	519	1,267	155,706
Mar-01	84,873	30,335	21,341	17,805	495	1,247	156,096
Men and Women							
Sep-96	150,329	36,865	17,213	20,069	781	2,015	227,272
Mar-97	152,573	36,130	17,821	19,749	728	1,941	228,942
Sep-97	156,021	35,569	18,568	19,484	733	1,911	232,286
Mar-98	158,334	34,874	19,196	19,123	684	1,852	234,063
Sep-98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar-99	162,834	33,338	20,254	18,587	610	1,694	237,317
Sep-99	165,101	32,679	20,270	19,036	565	1,679	239,330
Mar-00	166,451	31,703	20,655	18,544	544	1,615	239,512
Sep-00	167,923	31,104	21,050	18,164	530	1,583	240,354
Mar-01	169,765	30,339	21,341	17,805	506	1,557	241,313

Data is unavailable at September 1998

Table 10.2 Retirement Pensioners by category of pension and average amount of actual entitlement: September 1996 to March 2001

£ per week

	Contributory					Non-contributory	All types
	A	B	ABL	BL	GRB only	C or D	
All pensioners							
Sep-96	66.34	63.27	38.91	36.58	0.75	36.19	60.64
Mar-97	66.68	63.39	38.92	36.56	0.73	36.20	60.94
Sep-97	68.53	64.89	39.78	37.27	0.74	36.98	62.58
Mar-98	68.84	65.03	39.81	37.23	0.71	37.03	62.86
Sep-98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar-99	72.22	67.76	41.33	38.50	1.60	38.39	65.89
Sep-99	75.22	70.46	42.71	39.77	1.94	39.68	68.57
Mar-00	75.55	70.70	42.73	39.74	1.89	39.76	68.90
Sep-00	76.69	71.73	43.23	40.17	2.18	40.23	69.95
Mar-01	76.87	71.93	43.23	40.14	2.08	40.38	70.17

Data is unavailable at September 1998

Table 10.3 Retirement Pensioners at March 2001 by category of pension, age and gender

	Contributory					Non-contributory	All types
	A	B	ABL	BL	GRB only	C or D	
Men							
Age 65-69	27,088	0			5	0	27,093
Age 70-79	41,941	0			5	0	41,946
Age 80-89	14,475	2			0	240	14,717
Age 90-99	1,368	1			0	68	1,437
Age 100+	20	0			0	2	22
All ages	84,892	3			10	310	85,215
Women							
Age 60-64	23,514	610	3,974	2,547	325	0	30,970
Age 65-69	18,801	2,064	7,148	4,620	65	0	32,698
Age 70-79	31,226	8,977	9,463	7,804	90	1	57,561
Age 80-89	9,730	15,292	753	2,694	9	915	29,393
Age 90-99	1,543	3,306	3	140	6	319	5,317
Age 100+	59	86	0	0	0	12	157
All ages	84,873	30,335	21,341	17,805	495	1,247	156,096
Men and Women							
Age 60-64	23,514	610	3,974	2,547	325	0	30,970
Age 65-69	45,889	2,064	7,148	4,620	70	0	59,791
Age 70-79	73,167	8,977	9,463	7,804	95	1	99,507
Age 80-89	24,205	15,294	753	2,694	9	1,155	44,110
Age 90-99	2,911	3,307	3	140	6	387	6,754
Age 100+	79	86	0	0	0	14	179
All ages	169,765	30,338	21,341	17,805	505	0	241,311

Table 10.4 Retirement Pension claimants at March 2001 by District Council and gender

District Council	Male	Female	Total
Ards	3,880	7,076	10,956
Belfast East	3,709	7,535	11,244
Belfast North & West	7,690	14,829	22,519
Belfast South	3,722	7,520	11,242
Castlereagh	4,179	7,517	11,696
Down	3,036	5,539	8,575
Lisburn	4,873	9,231	14,104
North Down	4,563	8,613	13,176
Antrim	2,008	3,635	5,643
Ballymena	3,214	5,795	9,009
Ballymoney	1,404	2,391	3,795
Carrickfergus	1,853	3,482	5,335
Coleraine	2,991	5,406	8,397
Cookstown	1,446	2,427	3,873
Larne	1,750	3,172	4,922
Magherafelt	1,802	2,904	4,706
Moyle	855	1,472	2,327
Newtownabbey	4,340	7,866	12,206
Armagh	2,504	4,607	7,111
Banbridge	2,021	3,552	5,573
Craigavon	3,864	7,115	10,979
Dungannon	2,197	3,836	6,033
Newry & Mourne	3,803	6,635	10,438
Derry	3,772	7,017	10,789
Fermanagh	2,532	4,116	6,648
Limavady	1,198	2,023	3,221
Omagh	2,034	3,444	5,478
Strabane	1,746	2,834	4,580
Missing Postcode	2,229	4,506	6,735
Total	85,215	156,095	241,310

Table 10.5 Retirement Pensioners at March 2001 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	5,637.8	1,202.9	852.5	944.3	62.7	14.6	* 0.1	19.6	8,734.5
North East	304.4	71.8	45.3	49.1	3.2	0.6	-	* 0.5	474.8
North West	832.1	153.1	122.8	103.8	7.4	1.6	-	2.4	1,223.2
Yorkshire and Humberside	570.5	134.4	85.1	102.6	7.3	1.0	-	1.2	902.1
East Midlands	471.8	105.7	75.4	88.4	5.9	1.2	-	0.9	749.3
West Midlands	612.0	130.2	93.2	102.9	7.0	1.5	-	1.4	948.2
East of England	624.3	134.7	103.0	122.1	6.5	1.3	-	1.9	993.8
London	652.2	128.9	81.2	90.9	8.3	4.1	-	4.8	970.2
South East	925.5	202.2	141.1	163.7	10.4	2.2	-	4.0	1,449.1
South West	645.1	141.8	105.4	120.9	6.7	1.2	-	2.5	1,023.6
Scotland	618.0	117.5	88.4	75.0	5.3	0.9	-	2.0	907.2
Wales	358.8	84.3	52.1	59.0	3.1	0.8	-	1.1	559.1
Channel Islands	8.6	2.1	0.9	2.1	* 0.1	-	-	-	13.7
Overseas	551.5	99.6	57.8	125.7	15.3	2.0	-	0.6	852.6
of which:									
frozen rate	286.8	59.3	30.1	83.2	8.3	1.4	-	* 0.3	469.5
Northern Ireland	169.8	30.3	21.3	17.8	0.5	0.0	-	1.6	241.3

All countries

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

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

Section 11 - Widow's Benefit

Introduced 6 July 1948

Contributory, Not means tested, Taxable

A widow is entitled to National Insurance Widow's Benefit if her late husband met the contribution conditions. If he fully satisfied the conditions, she will get the standard rate of benefit, otherwise she will get a reduced rate.

For women widowed on or after 11 April 1988, 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 got 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, that she would have got 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 got 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 Widow's Benefit at March 2001 is 7,554. This represents a net decrease of 596 (7.3%) in the widow's benefit caseload over the period March 2000 to March 2001.

Of the total number of persons in receipt of Widow's Benefit 73.4% were in receipt of Widow's Pension, while 26.6% were in receipt of Widowed Mother's Allowance.

The average amount of actual entitlement at March 2001 was £70.74 per week. This represents an increase of £1.20 (1.7%) over the period March 2000 to March 2001.

Table 11.1 Widow's Benefit by category - September 1996 to March 2001

	Widow's Pension		Widowed Mother's Allowance		All types
	Not age related	Age related	With increase for child	Without increase for child	
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	-	-	-	-	-
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

Data is unavailable at September 1998

Table 11.2 Widow's Benefit by category and average amount of actual entitlement: September 1996 to March 2001

	Widow's Pension		Widowed Mother's Allowance		All types
	Not age related	Age related	With increase for child	Without increase for child	
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	-	-	-	-	-
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

Data is unavailable at September 1998

Table 11.3 Rates of Widow's Benefit

	£ per week			
	Widow's Pension	Widowed Mother's Allowance		
	Not age related	Personal	Increase for first child	Increase for other child
23-November-1981	29.60	29.60	7.70	7.70
22-November-1982	32.85	32.85	7.95	7.95
21-November-1983	34.05	34.05	7.60	7.60
26-November-1984	35.80	35.80	7.65	7.65
25-November-1985	38.30	38.30	8.05	8.05
28-July-1986	38.70	38.70	8.05	8.05
06-April-1987	39.50	39.50	8.05	8.05
01-April-1988	41.15	41.15	8.40	8.40
10-April-1989	43.60	43.60	8.95	8.95
09-April-1990	46.90	46.90	9.65	9.65
08-April-1991	52.00	52.00	9.70	10.70
06-April-1992	54.15	54.15	9.75	10.85
12-April-1993	56.10	56.10	9.80	10.95
11-April-1994	57.60	57.60	9.80	11.00
10-April-1995	58.85	58.85	9.85	11.05
08-April-1996	61.15	61.15	9.90	11.15
07-April-1997	62.45	62.45	9.90	11.20
06-April-1998	64.70	64.70	9.90	11.30
06-April-1999	66.75	66.75	9.90	11.35
10-April-2000	67.50	67.50	9.85	11.35
09-April-2001	72.50	72.50	9.70	11.35

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.

Source

Statistics are based on a 5% sample.

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

Table 12.2 Rates of Child Benefit

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

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 31 May 2001. 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 August 2000 and August 2001 the CSA liveload has increased by 1,739 (5%) and now stands at 34,954.

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 44% of NRPs and PWCs are between the ages of 30 and 39 years, with an average age of 37.0 years for NRps and 35.0 years for PWCs.

For PWCs, 62% are in receipt of Income Support and 26% are in receipt of WFTC/DPTC. For the NRPs, 39% have an earned income, 23% are in receipt of Income Support and the remaining 38% have other sources of income, mostly other benefits.

The mean full maintenance assessment for all NRPs is £13.96 per week, with the median equal to zero. The mean full maintenance assessment for NRPs with regular income from employment, as an employee is £34.37 per week, with a median of £31.16, compared with £20.39 for the self-employed, with a median of £5.21. The mean maintenance assessment for NRPs with an interim maintenance assessment is £2.98 per week, with a median of £102.88.

**Table 13.1 Total number of live and assessed cases on the Child Support Computer System:
August 1998 - August 2001**

Month	Total	Full	Interim
August 1998	25,716	24,274	1,442
November 1998	26,829	25,405	1,424
February 1999	28,068	26,631	1,437
May 1999	29,110	27,619	1,491
August 1999	29,896	28,397	1,499
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

**Table 13.2 Gender of Non-resident Parent and Parent/Person with Care
Full assessments: August 2001**

	Non-resident parent		Parent/Person with care	
		%		%
Total	33,590	100%	33,590	100%
Male	31,943	95%	1,628	5%
Female	1,647	5%	31,962	95%

Table 13.3 Age of Non-resident Parent by age of Parent/Person with Care
Full assessments: August 2001

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	33,590	163	1,731	4,438	7,210	7,811	6,155	3,507	1,737	838
Under 20	410	114	239	42	10	5	0	0	0	0
20-24	3,074	46	1216	1288	397	93	22	9	2	1
25-29	5,539	2	230	2406	2159	561	137	30	11	3
30-34	7,451	0	34	559	3537	2515	595	145	43	23
35-39	7,455	0	11	107	892	3660	2167	426	138	54
40-44	5,374	1	1	26	167	795	2606	1382	296	100
45-49	2,726	0	0	6	37	139	517	1245	621	161
50-54	1,137	0	0	2	7	24	83	232	532	257
55 & over	424	0	0	2	4	19	28	38	94	239
Average Age of :										
Non-resident Parent	37.0 years									
Parent/Person with Care	35.0 years									

Table 13.4 Benefit Status of Parent/Person with Care and Non-resident Parent
Full assessments: August 2001

Parent/Person With Care	Non-resident Parent							
	Total	In Employment Employee	Self Emp	Income Support	JSA (IB)	JSA (Cont)	Incapac/ Disabled	Other
Total	33,590	12,016	1,182	7,796	4,774	1,068	1,872	4,882
Income Support	20,850	5,941	615	5,882	3,576	659	1,216	2,961
WFTC/DPTC	8,747	3,978	375	1,458	939	286	467	1,244
Others	3,993	2,097	192	456	259	123	189	677

Table 5 Maintenance assessment by Non-resident Parent's employment status/benefit type, All assessments: May 2001

Maintenance (£ per week)	Non-resident Parents								IMAs Total
	FMAs							Other	
	Total	In Employment Employee	Self Emp	Income Support	JSA (IB)	JSA (Cont)	Incapac/ Disabled		
Total	33,590	12,016	1,182	7,796	4,774	1,068	1,872	4,882	1,364
£0	20,030	1,439	258	7,523	4,618	496	1,720	3,976	170
£0.01-£5.40	3,044	1,370	345	235	118	512	24	440	2
£5.41-£9.99	561	453	55	4	4	4	18	23	1
£10.00-£19.99	1,453	1,202	115	5	8	14	25	84	1
£20.00-£29.99	1,618	1,386	100	6	8	12	24	82	3
£30.00-£39.99	1,543	1,356	80	7	7	9	25	59	31
£40.00-£49.99	1,556	1,381	62	7	5	8	17	76	75
£50.00-£59.99	1,308	1,176	51	4	1	6	10	60	63
£60.00-£69.99	1,039	940	44	3	4	4	3	41	49
£70.00-£79.99	638	581	32	-	-	2	3	20	61
£80.00-£89.99	340	308	16	2	-	-	-	14	39
£90.00-£99.99	201	190	7	-	-	-	-	4	131
£100.00-£109.99	106	95	7	-	-	1	2	1	194
£110.00-£119.99	66	61	4	-	-	-	-	1	156
£120 & over	87	78	6	-	1	-	1	1	388
Average maintenance	£13.96	£34.37	£20.39	£0.26	£0.35	£4.10	£2.23	£4.01	£92.98

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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