

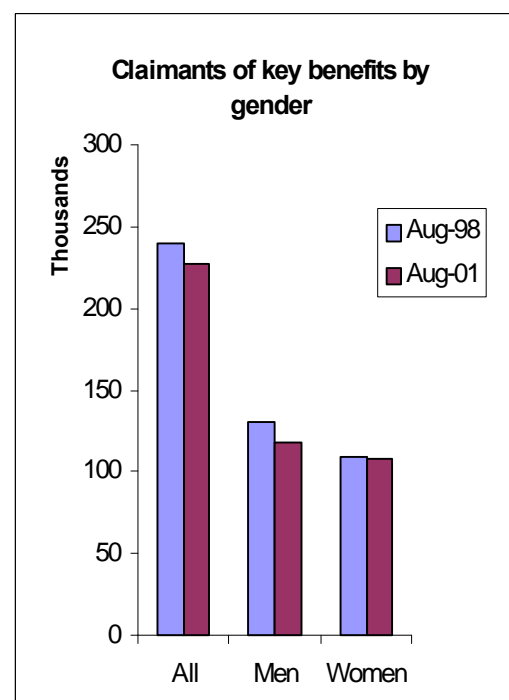
## Section 1: Persons of Working Age on Key Benefits

### 1.1 Age and Gender

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

	Aug-98	Aug-99	Aug-00	Aug-01
<b>All</b>	<b>240,080</b>	<b>231,740</b>	<b>227,660</b>	<b>226,900</b>
% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>
Men	130,500	123,540	120,320	118,520
% of pop <sup>1</sup>	25	23	23	22
Women	109,580	108,200	107,340	108,380
% of pop <sup>1</sup>	22	22	22	22

<sup>1</sup> Population of working age in Northern Ireland



- In August 2001 about 22% (226,900) of people of working age claimed a key benefit – down from 24% (240,080) in August 1998.
- Older people were more likely to be claiming benefits. In 2001, 35% of those aged 55 to 59 claimed a benefit compared to 18% of those aged 18 to 24.

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

	All		Men		Women	
	Number	% of pop in age group	Number	% of pop in age group	Number	% of pop in age group
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>118,520</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>108,380</b>	<b>22</b>
Under 18	1,700	3	860	3	840	3
18 to 24	28,560	18	13,240	16	15,320	20
25 to 34	45,860	18	20,000	15	25,860	20
35 to 44	51,780	21	24,620	21	27,160	22
45 to 54	51,200	26	26,800	27	24,400	25
55 to 59	30,560	35	15,760	37	14,800	33
60 to 64	17,240	49	17,240	49	.	.

## 1.2 Family Type

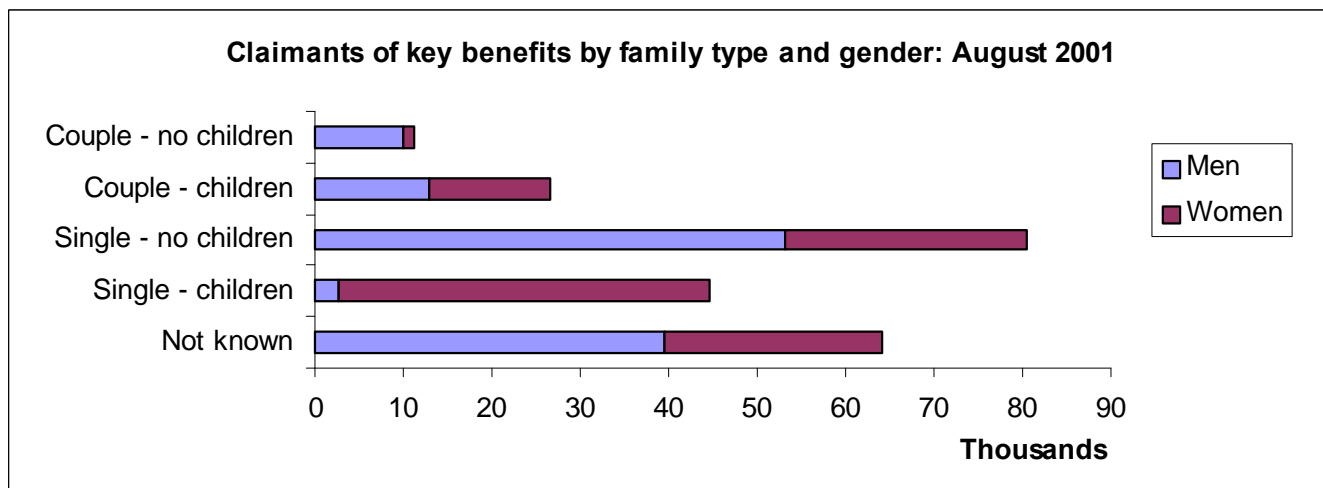
This section contains analyses of the type of family in which claimants live. Family type was assigned according to whether the claimant had a partner and/or children. It was not possible to assign a family type in every case (Not known).

**Table 1.2.1 Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup> and gender: August 2001**

	All	%	Men	%	Women	%
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	100	<b>118,520</b>	100	<b>108,380</b>	100
<b>All couples</b>	<b>37,760</b>	17	<b>23,040</b>	19	<b>14,720</b>	14
Couple - no children	11,240	5	10,040	8	1,200	1
Couple - children	26,520	12	13,000	11	13,520	12
<b>All single</b>	<b>125,100</b>	55	<b>55,900</b>	47	<b>69,200</b>	64
Single - no children	80,400	35	53,200	45	27,200	25
Single - children	44,700	20	2,700	2	42,000	39
<b>Not known</b>	<b>64,040</b>	28	<b>39,580</b>	33	<b>24,460</b>	23

<sup>1</sup> See Methodology for further details

- 125,100 claimants were single in August 2001.
- Over 31% (71,220) of claimants had children. The majority (44,700) were single.



**Table 1.2.2 Claimants of key benefits by family type<sup>1</sup> and statistical group:  
August 2001**

	<b>All</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Sick &amp; Disabled</b>	<b>Lone Parent</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>39,620</b>	<b>143,940</b>	<b>31,360</b>	<b>11,980</b>
<b>All couples</b>	<b>37,760</b>	<b>6,280</b>	<b>27,900</b>	.	<b>3,580</b>
Couple - no children	<b>11,240</b>	1,660	7,660	.	1,920
Couple - children	<b>26,520</b>	4,620	20,240	.	1,660
<b>All single</b>	<b>125,100</b>	<b>33,340</b>	<b>52,000</b>	<b>31,360</b>	<b>8,400</b>
Single - no children	<b>80,400</b>	32,400	39,600	.	8,400
Single - children	<b>44,700</b>	940	12,400	31,360	.
<b>Not known</b>	<b>64,040</b>	.	<b>64,040</b>	.	.

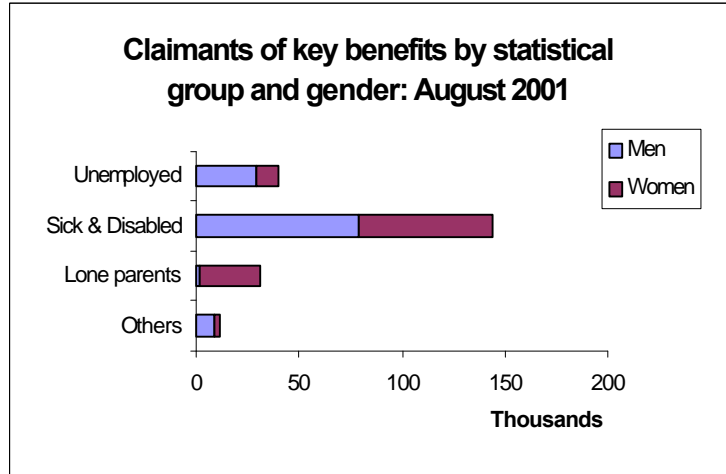
<sup>1</sup> See Methodology for further details

### 1.3 Statistical group and transitions

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

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

	All	Men	Women
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>118,520</b>	<b>108,380</b>
Unemployed	39,620	28,900	10,720
Sick & Disabled	143,940	79,540	64,400
Lone parents	31,360	1,520	29,840
Others	11,980	8,560	3,420



- The overall numbers fell by 13,180 between August 1998 and August 2001, mostly because of the unemployed group which fell by 20,200 (34%) over this period.
- Sick & disabled claimants were consistently the largest group between August 1998 and August 2001, rising from 55% of the total to 63% of the total; unemployed claimants were the second largest group.
- The size of the sick & disabled group rose by 11,640 (up 9%) between August 1998 and August 2001, whilst numbers in the lone parents group fell by 2,820 (down 8%) over the same period.

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

	Aug-98		Aug-99		Aug-00		Aug-01	
	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>
<b>All</b>	<b>240,080</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>231,740</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>227,660</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>22</b>
Unemployed	59,820	6	51,240	5	42,820	4	39,620	4
Sick & Disabled	132,300	13	134,840	13	139,540	14	143,940	14
Lone parents	34,180	3	33,640	3	32,200	3	31,360	3
Others	13,780	1	12,020	1	13,100	1	11,980	1

<sup>1</sup> 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: August 1998 to August 2001**

	On benefit in current year - status in previous year <sup>1</sup>				Left benefit since previous year <sup>2</sup>
	All	Same statistical group	Different statistical group	Not on benefit	
<b>Aug-98</b>	<b>240,080</b>	.	.	.	.
<b>Aug-99</b>	<b>231,740</b>	171,940	18,640	41,160	49,500
<b>Aug-00</b>	<b>227,660</b>	167,920	16,360	43,380	47,460
<b>Aug-01</b>	<b>226,900</b>	171,860	14,820	40,220	40,980

<sup>1</sup> Some claimants may have left benefit and then returned to it between years

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

**Table 1.3.4 Claimants of key benefits in August 2001 - by status in August 1998**

Benefit status in August 2001	All on benefit in August 2001	Benefit status in August 1998		
		Not on benefit	Same statistical group	Different statistical group
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>68,260</b>	<b>131,800</b>	<b>26,840</b>
Unemployed	39,620	20,980	13,660	4,980
Sick & Disabled	143,940	35,480	93,580	14,880
Lone Parents	31,360	9,080	19,960	2,320
Others	11,980	2,720	4,600	4,660

- Around 70% (158,640) of key benefit claimants in August 2001 were also on benefit in August 1998; 58% of the overall total were in the same statistical group.

## 1.4 Benefit Entitlement

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

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

	All	Income replacement benefits <sup>1</sup>	Other benefits only <sup>2</sup>	NI Credits <sup>3</sup>
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	202,060	19,040	5,800
Unemployed	<b>39,620</b>	36,540	.	3,080
Sick & Disabled	<b>143,940</b>	122,180	19,040	2,720
Lone parents	<b>31,360</b>	31,360	.	.
Others	<b>11,980</b>	11,980	.	.

<sup>1</sup> Income replacement benefits are JSA (excluding credits), IS, IB (excluding credits), SDA

<sup>2</sup> Other is DLA

<sup>3</sup> NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

- In August 2001, 202,060 claimants received an income replacement benefit, down from 217,880 in August 1998.
- In August 2001, 59,220 claimants received only a contributory benefit.
- 139,320 claimants received a benefit that was means tested in August 2001. Of those 122,440 claimants received a benefit that was means tested whilst 16,880 claimants in receipt of a means tested benefit also received or satisfied the qualifying conditions for a contributory benefit.

**Table 1.4.2 Claimants of key benefits by statistical group and main basis of entitlement: August 2001**

	Basis of benefit entitlement					
	All	Contributory <sup>1</sup>	Contributory and means tested <sup>2</sup>	Means tested <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	NI Credits <sup>5</sup>
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	59,220	16,880	122,440	22,560	5,800
Unemployed	<b>39,620</b>	5,080	400	31,060	.	3,080
Sick & Disabled	<b>143,940</b>	54,140	16,480	48,040	22,560	2,720
Lone Parents	<b>31,360</b>	.	.	31,360	.	.
Others	<b>11,980</b>	.	.	11,980	.	.

<sup>1</sup> Contributory benefits are contribution-based JSA, IB and not with IS

<sup>2</sup> 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

<sup>3</sup> Means tested benefits are income based JSA, IS

<sup>4</sup> Other benefits are SDA, DLA

<sup>5</sup> NI Credits includes JSA credits only, JSA credits and IB credits, JSA credits with DLA, IB credits only

## 1.5 Duration on benefit

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

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

	All	Duration of oldest claim <sup>1</sup>				
		Under 3 months	3 to under 6 months	6 months to under 1 year	1 year to under 2 years	2 years or over
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>22,100</b>	<b>15,520</b>	<b>22,620</b>	<b>30,380</b>	<b>136,280</b>
Unemployed	39,620	14,160	5,620	7,020	5,820	7,000
Sick & Disabled	143,940	5,600	7,180	11,540	18,060	101,560
Lone parents	31,360	1,160	1,640	2,720	4,460	21,380
Others	11,980	1,180	1,080	1,340	2,040	6,340

<sup>1</sup> Oldest benefit payable during current spell of benefit receipt

- Around 60% (136,280) of the claimants in August 2001 had been receiving a key benefit for 2 years or more.
- Of those longer duration claimants 75% (101,560) 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 dependants<sup>1</sup> by statistical group: August 2001**

	All	All with children	Age of youngest child/dependant				Not known <sup>2</sup>
			Under 5	5 to under 11	11 to under 16	16 or over	
<b>All</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>74,260</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>20,920</b>	<b>15,940</b>	<b>5,640</b>	<b>3,360</b>
Unemployed	39,620	<b>5,560</b>	2,120	1,240	1,080	1,120	.
Sick & Disabled	143,940	<b>35,680</b>	10,200	8,900	9,280	3,940	3,360
Lone parents	31,360	<b>31,360</b>	15,420	10,360	5,160	420	.
Others	11,980	<b>1,660</b>	660	420	420	160	.

<sup>1</sup> Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 to 18

<sup>2</sup> Children whose ages are not known

- In August 2001, 74,260 claimants of key benefits had children and/or young dependants.
- 38% (28,400) 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 Children<sup>1</sup> of claimants of key benefits by age of child, statistical group and family type: August 2001**

	Children aged under 16 years <sup>2</sup>					Young dependants aged 16 to 18 years					
	All	Family type				All	% of all aged 16 to 18 yrs in full-time education	Family type			Not known
		% of all aged under 16 yrs	Couple	Single	Not known			Couple	Single	Not known	
<b>All</b>	<b>131,540</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>48,760</b>	<b>77,180</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>15,340</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>7,340</b>	<b>.</b>	
Unemployed	<b>9,020</b>	2	8,640	380	.	<b>2,060</b>	<b>5</b>	1,320	740	.	
Sick & Disabled	<b>61,720</b>	15	36,640	19,480	5,600	<b>9,140</b>	<b>21</b>	6,200	2,940	.	
Lone Parents	<b>57,320</b>	14	.	57,320	.	<b>3,660</b>	<b>9</b>	.	3,660	.	
Others	<b>3,480</b>	1	3,480	0	.	<b>480</b>	<b>1</b>	480	0	.	

<sup>1</sup> Children aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 - 18

<sup>2</sup> Includes a small percentage of children whose age is not known

- In August 2001, 131,540 children under the age of 16 were living in families in which a key benefit was claimed.
- The majority of these children 77,180 were living in single parent families.
- 15,340 young people aged 16 -18 (36% of all 16 - 18 year olds in full-time education) were living in families with a key benefit claimant.
- 20% of all young people aged 16 - 18 were living with key benefit claimants in August 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: August 2001**

	Thousands					
	All		Men		Women	
	(000s)	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	(000s)	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	(000s)	% of pop <sup>1</sup>
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>4,961</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2,603</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2,358</b>	<b>14</b>
England	4,056	13	2,120	13	1,936	13
North East	315	20	175	21	141	19
North West <sup>2</sup>	751	18	403	18	348	17
Yorkshire & Humberside	464	15	252	15	212	15
East Midlands	329	13	173	13	156	13
West Midlands	473	15	252	15	221	14
East	316	9	157	9	159	10
London	678	14	333	13	345	15
South East	412	8	208	8	204	9
South West	316	11	166	11	150	11
Wales	342	19	181	19	161	19
Scotland	563	18	302	18	261	17
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>22</b>
IB/SDA claimants living abroad <sup>3</sup>	9	.	6	.	3	.

<sup>1</sup> Population of working age

<sup>2</sup> The old Merseyside GOR was merged with North West GOR on 3rd August 1998

<sup>3</sup> Great Britain claimants only, a figure for Northern Ireland claimants was not available

- The proportion of the working age population claiming a benefit ranges from 8% in South East England to 22% in Northern Ireland.
- The proportion of the working age population claiming a benefit ranges from 13% (North Down) to 33% (Strabane).
- The district council with the greatest proportion of working age claimants in the sick & disabled group was Cookstown (21%), followed by Strabane (20%) and Derry (18%). The district councils with the lowest proportion were Castlereagh and North Down (both 9%).
- The proportion of the working age population in the unemployed group ranged from 7% (Moyle and Strabane) to 2% (Ards, Antrim, Ballymena, Banbridge, Carrickfergus, Cookstown and North Down).

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

	All		Men		Women	
		% of pop <sup>1</sup>		% of pop <sup>1</sup>		% of pop <sup>1</sup>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>118,520</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>108,380</b>	<b>22</b>
Ards	7,260	16	3,420	15	3,840	18
Belfast	48,940	30	26,620	32	22,320	27
Castlereagh	5,620	14	3,140	15	2,480	13
Down	7,480	19	4,060	20	3,420	19
Lisburn	12,100	18	5,740	16	6,360	19
North Down	6,060	13	3,260	14	2,800	13
Antrim	4,960	15	2,300	13	2,660	17
Ballymena	5,500	15	3,140	16	2,360	14
Ballymoney	3,220	20	1,580	19	1,640	21
Carrickfergus	3,360	14	1,640	13	1,720	15
Coleraine	6,840	20	3,500	20	3,340	20
Cookstown	5,000	26	2,540	26	2,460	26
Larne	3,260	17	1,640	17	1,620	18
Magherafelt	4,460	19	2,220	18	2,240	20
Moyle	2,460	27	1,520	31	940	21
Newtownabbey	8,660	17	4,320	17	4,340	18
Armagh	5,980	18	3,400	19	2,580	17
Banbridge	3,800	15	1,820	14	1,980	16
Craigavon	11,720	24	5,500	22	6,220	26
Dungannon	7,000	24	3,880	25	3,120	22
Newry & Mourne	13,280	25	7,320	27	5,960	24
Derry	20,680	32	10,520	31	10,160	32
Fermanagh	7,200	21	3,820	21	3,380	21
Limavady	4,260	22	2,160	21	2,100	23
Omagh	6,640	23	3,760	25	2,880	21
Strabane	7,560	33	4,120	34	3,440	32
Unknown	3,600	.	1,580	.	2,020	.

<sup>1</sup> Population of working age in Northern Ireland

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

		Statistical group				
		All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone parents	Others
<b>Northern Ireland</b>		<b>226,900</b>	<b>39,620</b>	<b>143,940</b>	<b>31,360</b>	<b>11,980</b>
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
Ards		<b>7,260</b>	1,060	5,180	760	260
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>16</b>	2	11	2	1
Belfast		<b>48,940</b>	9,240	28,280	8,360	3,060
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>30</b>	6	17	5	2
Castlereagh		<b>5,620</b>	1,020	3,660	600	340
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>14</b>	3	9	1	1
Down		<b>7,480</b>	1,240	4,880	1,060	300
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>19</b>	3	13	3	1
Lisburn		<b>12,100</b>	1,840	7,600	2,280	380
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>18</b>	3	11	3	1
North Down		<b>6,060</b>	1,000	4,020	780	260
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>13</b>	2	9	2	1
Antrim		<b>4,960</b>	520	3,580	660	200
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>15</b>	2	11	2	1
Ballymena		<b>5,500</b>	800	3,820	660	220
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>15</b>	2	10	2	1
Ballymoney		<b>3,220</b>	760	1,860	400	200
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>20</b>	5	12	3	1
Carrickfergus		<b>3,360</b>	480	2,420	360	100
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>14</b>	2	10	2	0
Coleraine		<b>6,840</b>	1,660	3,920	840	420
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>20</b>	5	11	2	1
Cookstown		<b>5,000</b>	320	4,060	380	240
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>26</b>	2	21	2	1
Larne		<b>3,260</b>	560	2,100	420	180
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>17</b>	3	11	2	1
Magherafelt		<b>4,460</b>	720	3,020	540	180
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>19</b>	3	13	2	1
Moyle		<b>2,460</b>	680	1,320	340	120
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>27</b>	7	14	4	1
Newtownabbey		<b>8,660</b>	1,520	5,820	1,000	320
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>17</b>	3	11	2	1
Armagh		<b>5,980</b>	1,040	4,140	620	180
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>18</b>	3	13	2	1
Banbridge		<b>3,800</b>	480	2,760	440	120
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>15</b>	2	11	2	0
Craigavon		<b>11,720</b>	1,760	8,000	1,240	720
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>24</b>	4	16	3	1
Dungannon		<b>7,000</b>	800	4,780	900	520
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>24</b>	3	16	3	2
Newry & Mourne		<b>13,280</b>	2,460	8,600	1,580	640
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>25</b>	5	16	3	1
Derry		<b>20,680</b>	3,780	11,940	3,600	1,360
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>32</b>	6	18	6	2
Fermanagh		<b>7,200</b>	1,660	4,240	840	460
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>21</b>	5	12	2	1
Limavady		<b>4,260</b>	780	2,520	560	400
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>22</b>	4	13	3	2
Omagh		<b>6,640</b>	1,440	4,260	640	300
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>23</b>	5	15	2	1
Strabane		<b>7,560</b>	1,620	4,740	880	320
	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	<b>33</b>	7	20	4	1
Unknown		<b>3,600</b>	380	2,420	620	180

<sup>1</sup> 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:

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Unemployed	JSA
Sick & disabled <sup>1</sup>	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

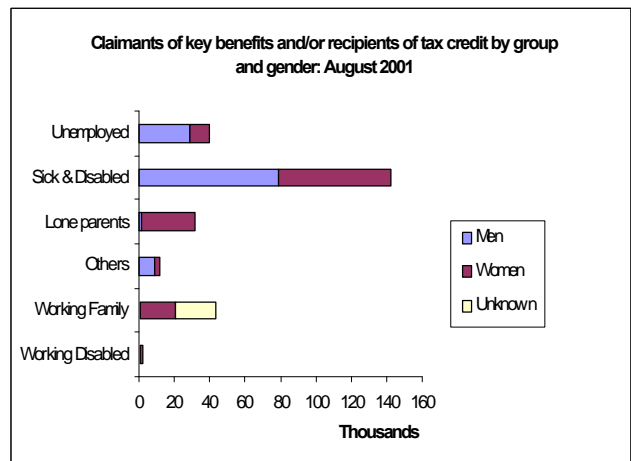
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<sup>1</sup>Due to the inclusion of FC/WFTC and DWA/DPTC data, the "Sick & Disabled" group figures in this section differ slightly from those given elsewhere in the publication as "statistical group". Includes DLA only cases who may be working.

**Table 1.9.1 Claimants of key benefits and/or recipients of tax credits by group and gender: August 2001**

	All	Men	Women	Unknown
<b>All</b>	<b>270,513</b>	<b>119,324</b>	<b>128,549</b>	<b>22,640</b>
Unemployed	39,620	28,900	10,720	.
Sick & Disabled <sup>1</sup>	142,020	78,580	63,440	.
Lone parents	31,360	1,520	29,840	.
Others	11,980	8,560	3,420	.
Working Family	43,520	680	20,200	22,640
Working Disabled	2,013	1,084	929	.

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



- The overall number of claimants of key benefits and/or tax credits rose by 3,131 between August 1998 and August 2001. The largest reduction was in the unemployed group which fell by 20,200 (down 34%). However, this fall was offset by an increase of 16,400 (up 60%) in the working family group.

- Sick and disabled claimants were consistently the largest group over the period August 1998 to August 2001, rising from 49% of the total to 53% of the total; unemployed claimants were the second largest group but have been overtaken by the working family group.
- The size of the sick & disabled group rose by 10,560 (8%), working families by 16,400 (60%) and working disabled by 991 (97%) between August 1998 and August 2001. The numbers in the lone parents group fell by 2,820 (8%).

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

	Aug-98		Aug-99		Aug-00		Aug-01	
	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>	All	% of pop <sup>1</sup>
<b>All</b>	<b>267,382</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>260,312</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>266,767</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>270,513</b>	<b>26</b>
Unemployed	59,820	6	51,240	5	42,820	4	39,620	4
Sick & Disabled <sup>2</sup>	131,460	13	133,740	13	137,880	13	142,020	14
Lone parents	34,180	3	33,640	3	32,200	3	31,360	3
Others	13,780	1	12,020	1	13,100	1	11,980	1
Working Family	27,120	3	28,520	3	39,140	4	43,520	4
Working Disabled	1,022	0	1,152	0	1,627	0	2,013	0

<sup>1</sup>Population of working age in Northern Ireland

<sup>2</sup>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.