

Northern Ireland Client Group Analysis

Persons of working age and their children and persons of pensionable age receiving key benefits – **KEY FACTS**
May 2006



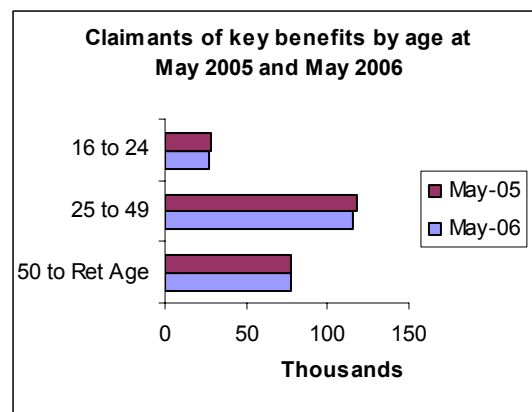
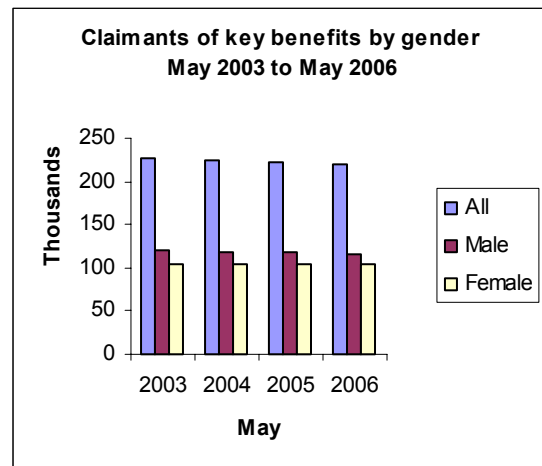
Social & Welfare

STATISTICAL BULLETIN

SECTION 1: PERSONS OF WORKING AGE ON KEY BENEFITS

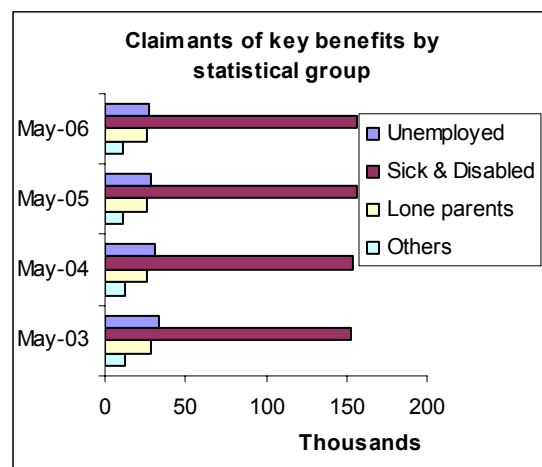
Age and Gender

- 220,820 people (116,600 men and 104,220 women) of working age were claiming at least one key benefit in May 2006, down 2,220 from the previous year
- The number of male claimants fell by 1,780 whilst the number of female claimants fell by 440 over the year
- 21% of the working age population claimed at least one key benefit at May 2006
- In the last year the number of claimants decreased in the 25 – 49 age group by 1% and in the 16 – 24 age group by 2%. Whilst the 50 – Retirement age group increased by less than 1%

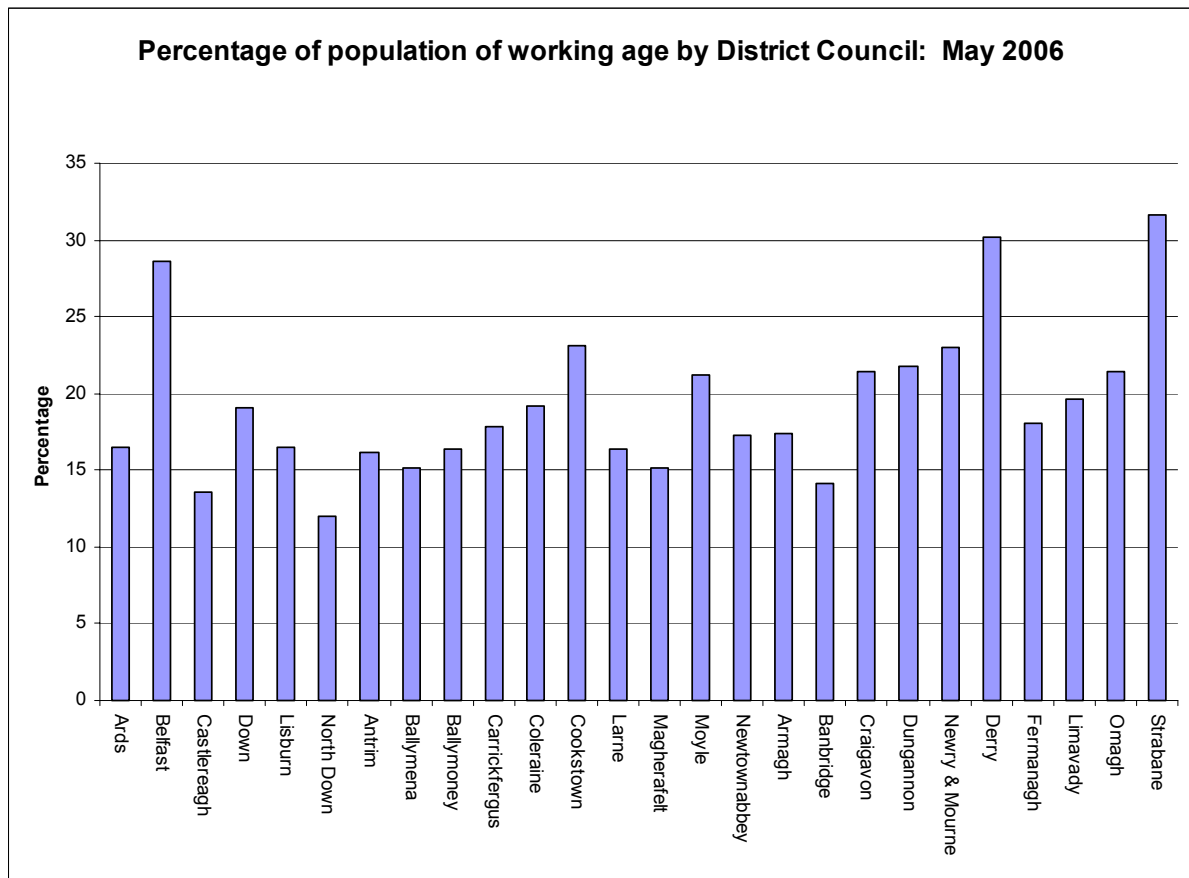


Statistical Group

- The number of claimants in the unemployed group fell by 3.8% between May 2005 and May 2006 whilst the numbers in the sick and disabled fell by 0.2%
- People of working age claiming sickness and/or disability benefits made up the largest group in May 2006 (155,920 claimants – 71% of the overall total)



Regions

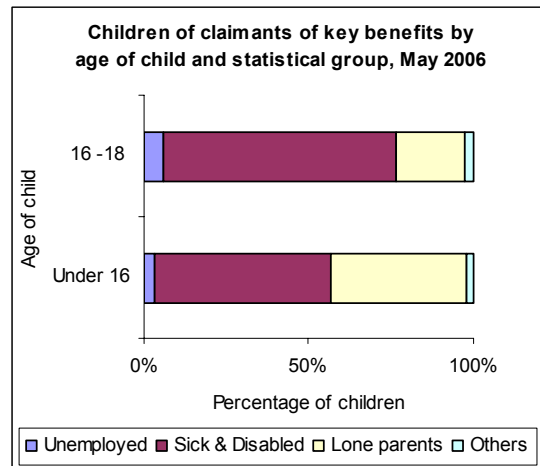


- The proportion of working age population claiming at least one key benefit was 20.8% in Northern Ireland compared to 14.7% in Great Britain at May 2006
- The proportion of the working age population in Northern Ireland claiming at least one key benefit ranged from 32% (Strabane) to 12% (North Down)

SECTION 2: FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ON KEY BENEFITS

Children

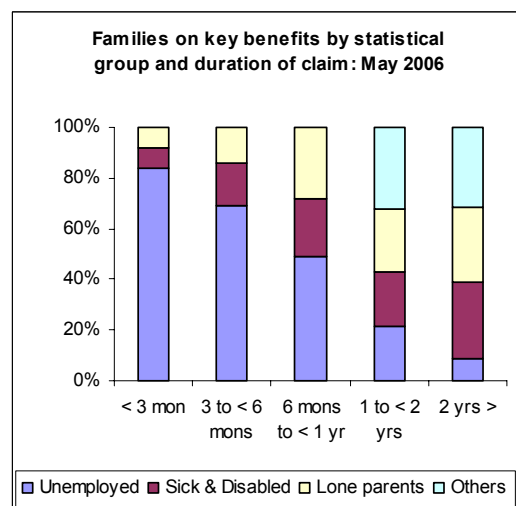
- 129,100 children were living in families claiming a key benefit at May 2006
- 4,740 were children of claimants in the unemployed group, 72,060 in the sick & disabled group and 49,540 in the lone parents group at May 2006
- 65% of key benefit children were in families where Income Support was being claimed



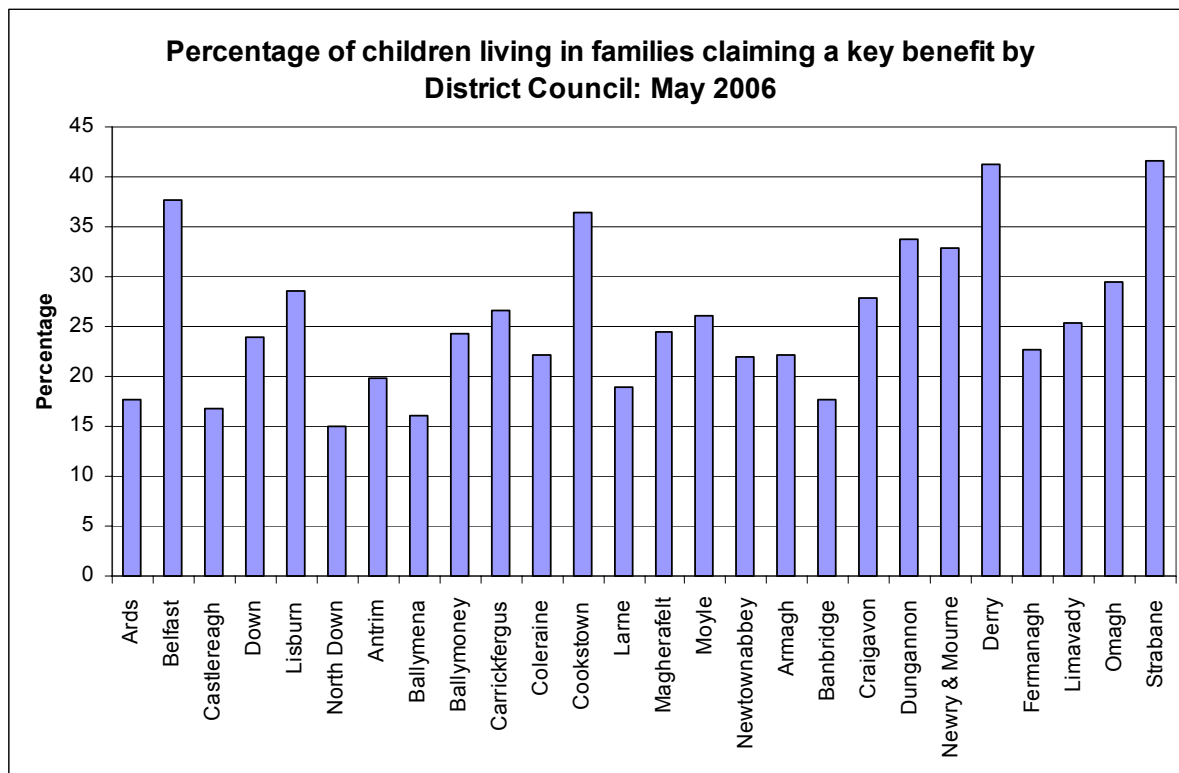
- The number of children under 16 years of age living in families where the benefit claimant was single was 66,820 (whilst the number where the claimant had a partner was 42,500) at May 2006
- Amongst the sick and disabled group proportionally fewer children were under the age of five, reflecting the older age profile of those claiming sickness and/or disability benefits. The children of lone parents had the youngest profile with 63% aged under 11

Families

- At May 2006, 67,120 claimants of key benefits had children and/or young dependants
- 71% of families had been on benefit for at least 2 years. For the sick and disabled group the figure was 74%, while that for the unemployed group was 21%
- 8.0% of families had four or more children at May 2006



Regions

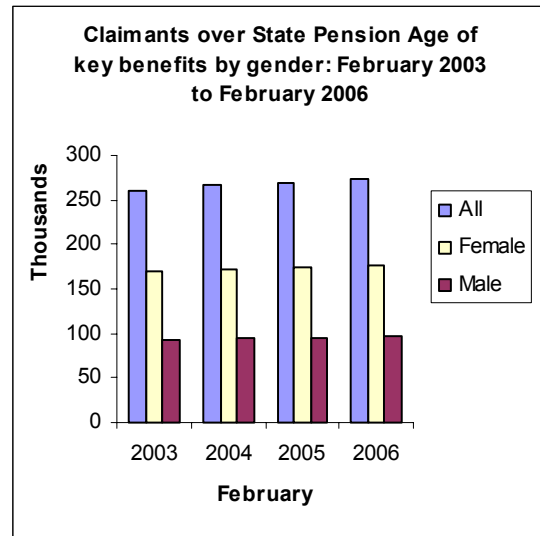


- The percentage of children living in families claiming a key benefit varied from 42% in Strabane to 15% in North Down

SECTION 3: PERSONS OF PENSIONABLE AGE ON KEY BENEFITS

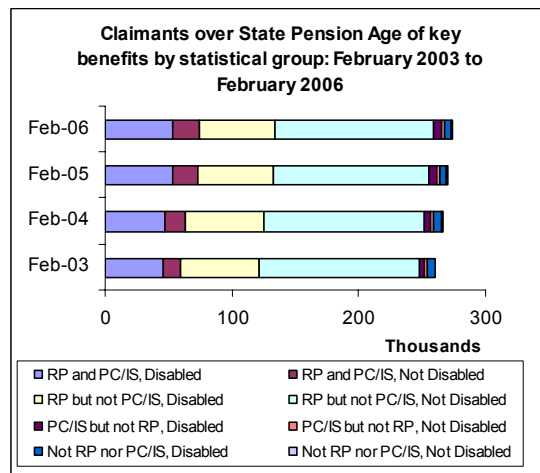
Age and Gender

- 274,280 (98%) of people over state pension age were claiming at least one key benefit at February 2006
- The number of people over state pension age claiming at least one key benefit rose by 4,111 (1.5%) between February 2005 and February 2006
- The proportion of people above state pension age claiming at least one key benefit was 98% for men and 98% for women at February 2006

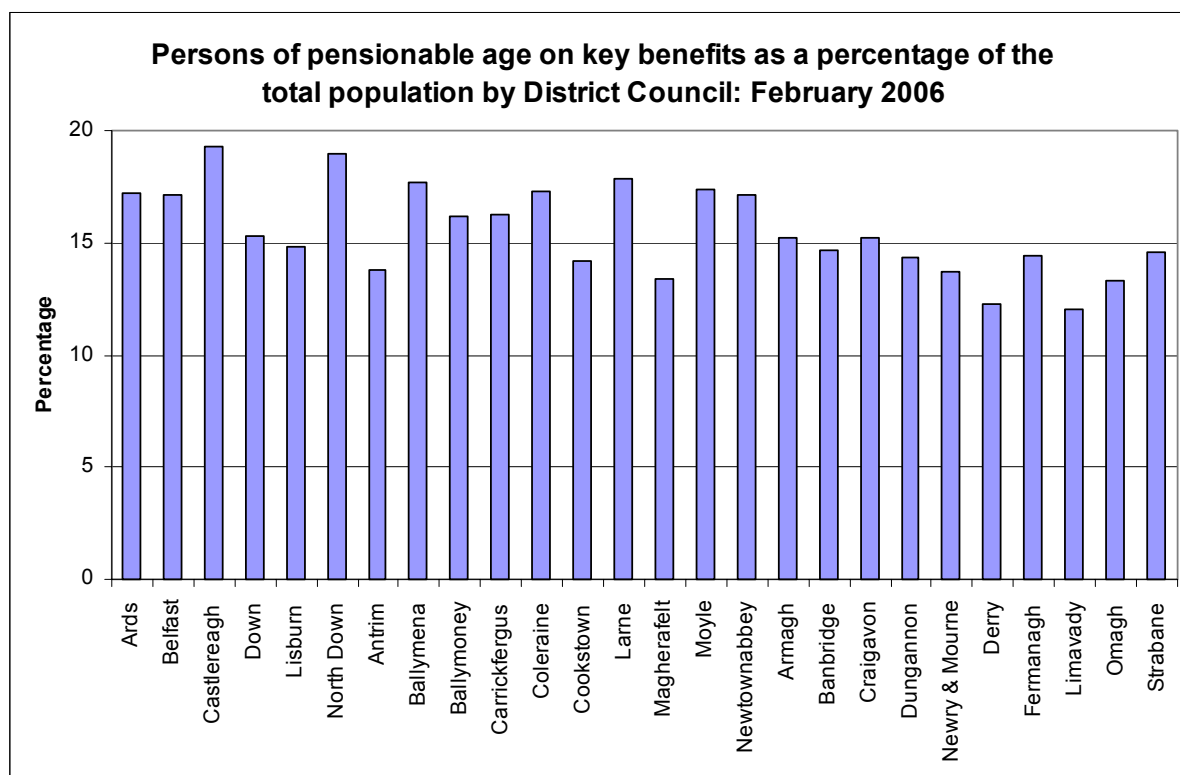


Statistical Group

- The largest increase between February 2005 and 2006 was in the PC/IS non RP disabled group which rose by 4.8%. The non RP nor PC/IS disabled group decreased by 1.2%
- Non disabled claimants of RP but not PC/IS made up the largest group in February 2006 (125,523 claimants – 46% of the overall total)



Regions



- At February 2006, there were 274.28 thousand claimants of pensionable age in Northern Ireland and 11,817.23 thousand claimants in Great Britain
- The percentage of persons of pensionable age claiming a key benefit varied from 19% in Castlereagh and North Down to 12% in Derry and Limavady

Notes

The key benefits for persons of working age and their children are defined as:

- Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Incapacity Benefit (IB)
- Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- Income Support (IS)
- Pension Credit (PC) (males 60-64)

The key benefits for persons of pensionable age are defined as:

- Attendance Allowance (AA)
- Incapacity Benefit (IB)
- Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- Carer's Allowance (CA)
- Pension Credit (PC)
- Retirement Pension (RP)
- Widow's Benefit (WB)

Further information can be obtained from the full publication which is available on the Internet. The address is www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/stats_and_research.htm. The next issue will be available online on 16 February 2007.

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