

# First Release

## DWP STATISTICAL SUMMARY

20 January 2010

Coverage: Great Britain

**Theme**  
People and Places

### Introduction

This Statistical Summary contains statistics produced by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit caseload, inactive benefit early estimates and statistics on children in out-of-work benefit households. Other monthly outputs may be added in the future – user views on the format of this release are welcome via the contact details in the margin.



The Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit caseload statistics are full National Statistics;

The inactive benefit early estimates and children in out-of-work benefit households are Experimental Statistics – for more information see the notes for editors.

National Statistics for the main DWP benefits are still released on quarterly basis and can be viewed at:

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/statistical\\_summaries.asp](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/statistical_summaries.asp)

The early estimates for working age inactive benefit client groups are released monthly and are designed to give indicative, timely information; they are not a substitute for the National Statistics. They will be replaced by the quarterly National Statistics covering the same period when they are published. The National Statistics are the finalised figures.

### Key findings



#### Housing Benefit /Council Tax Benefit:

- At October 2009, the total number of people claiming Housing Benefit was 4.57 million, with 5.59 million claiming Council Tax Benefit.
- The total number of people claiming either Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit was 6.11 million at October 2009, with 4.05 million claiming both benefits.

Further information can be viewed:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb\\_ctb/hbctb\\_arc.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/hbctb_arc.asp)

#### Early Estimates for inactive benefits:

- Experimental statistics show that the working-age Income Support lone parent early estimate is 695 thousand as at the end of November 2009. The latest National Statistic caseload figure for this client group stands at 720 thousand in May 2009
- Experimental statistics show that the Employment and Support Allowance/incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimate for November 2009 is 2.615 million. The latest National Statistic for this client group stands at 2.62 million claimants in May 2009.

Further information can be viewed:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/early\\_ests.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/early_ests.asp)

#### Children in out-of-work benefit households:

- Experimental statistics show that the numbers of children who lived in households where at least one parent or guardian claimed one or more of the following out-of-work benefits: Job Seekers' Allowance, Income Support, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, or Pension Credit at May 2008 was 2.40 million. They represented 1.27 million households.

Further information can be viewed:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/ben\\_hholds/child\\_ben\\_hholds.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/ben_hholds/child_ben_hholds.asp)

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Work and Pensions

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## 1. Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit

**Table 1.1 Housing Benefit (HB) / Council Tax Benefit (CTB) recipients: October 2009**

	All HB recipients		All CTB recipients	
	Number (thousands)	Average Award	Number (thousands)	Average Award
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,568.73</b>	<b>£81.90</b>	<b>5,588.29</b>	<b>£15.59</b>
<b>Passported Benefit</b>				
In receipt of JSA (IB), IS, ESA (IB), PC (GC)	3,173.97	£85.76	3,872.29	£16.60
Not in receipt of JSA (IB), IS, ESA (IB), PC (GC)	1,390.73	£73.02	1,701.07	£13.30
<b>Client Group</b>				
Working Age	3,026.42	£88.33	2,991.45	£15.44
Elderly	1,542.20	£69.38	2,596.73	£15.77
<b>Tenancy Type</b>				
<b>Social Rented Sector</b>				
Local Authority Tenants	1,503.20	£67.09		
Registered Social Landlord Tenants	1,700.30	£76.10		
<b>Private Rented Sector</b>				
Private Regulated Tenants	52.29	£74.50		
Private Deregulated Tenants:				
Local Housing Allowance Tenants	850.31	£110.07		
Non-Local Housing Allowance Tenants	407.58	£101.31		

*Source: Single Housing Benefit Extract (SHBE)*

**Notes relating to table 1.1:**

- Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit recipients are individual claimants who had a live in payment claim on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Council Tax Benefit recipients exclude Second Adult Rebate cases.
- Passported Benefit and Tenancy Type breakdowns are as recorded within the Local Authorities Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit administration systems.
- Client Group breakdown is derived from a combination of information on passported benefit and recipient's age.
- Caseload figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Components may not sum to total due to independent rounding.
- Average award figures are shown as pounds per week and rounded to the nearest penny.
- Local Housing Allowance (LHA) Tenants may include a small number of non-LHA cases making a new claim since 6 April 2008. This will include recipients in caravan accommodation.

Latest statistical data available from: [http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb\\_ctb/hbctb\\_arc.asp](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/hbctb_arc.asp)

## 2. Early Estimates for Working Age Inactive Benefit Client Groups

We announced in the last first release that we were introducing some small changes to the methodology for deriving our early estimates. These changes have improved accuracy, meaning that we can present numbers rounded to 5 thousand for November 2009 estimates onwards (compared to 10 thousand previously) and with a narrower 'error bound'.

### 2.1 Employment and Support Allowance / incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) client group

**Table 2.1 Point estimate for the early estimates of numbers in working age ESA/IB client group June 2009 to November 2009**

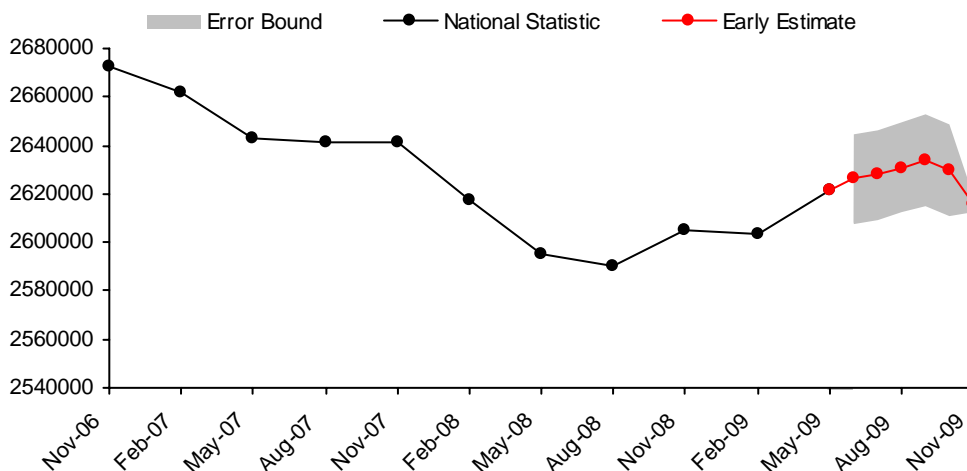
Time Series	National Statistics	Early Estimate
	Number of Claimants	Number of Claimants
Aug-08	2,590.61	
Nov-08	2,605.51	
Feb-09	2,603.54	
May-09	2,621.43	
Jun-09		2,630
Jul-09		2,630
Aug-09		2,630
Sep-09		2,630
Oct-09		2,630
Nov-09		2,615

The working-age **ESA/ incapacity benefits** early estimate for November 2009 is **2.615 million** to the nearest 5,000. This represents a fall of less than half a percent since May 2009 (the latest National Statistic).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to May 2009. Final figures for the quarter ending August 2009 will be released on 17 February 2010. **The most recent National Statistics show 2.62 million individuals were in the ESA/IB client group at May 2009.**

See: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

**Figure 2.1: National Statistics to May 2009 and Early Estimates of working age Employment and Support Allowance/ incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) client group: June 2009 to November 2009.**



#### Notes relating to figure 2.1 and table 2.1:

1. ESA/ incapacity benefits: From November 2008 the "incapacity benefits group" includes Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27 October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" referred to claimants of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance including people claiming IS on the grounds of Incapacity.
2. Estimates from June – October 2009 are given to the nearest 10,000, November 2009 estimate is rounded to the nearest 5,000 following methodological improvements to the estimation process implemented this month.
3. Final National Statistics are expected to be within 0.12 percent of the ESA/IB early estimate – as shown by the pale grey band in Figure 2.1. This error bound is calculated using the average of the standard errors between early estimate and monthly National Statistic over a recent 12 month period. Error bounds prior to November 2009 are calculated using previous methodology and are rounded to the nearest 10,000.
4. Early estimates methodology: Technical document and question and answers document are available at <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>
5. Source data: DWP Information Directorate: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study
6. When the next quarterly National Statistics are published they will be included as the fourth quarterly National Statistic in Table 2.1, and all monthly early estimates included in this quarter will be removed from Table 2.1.

## 2.2 Income Support Lone Parent (ISLP) client group

**Table 2.2 Point estimate for the early estimates of numbers in working age ISLP client group June 2009 to November 2009**

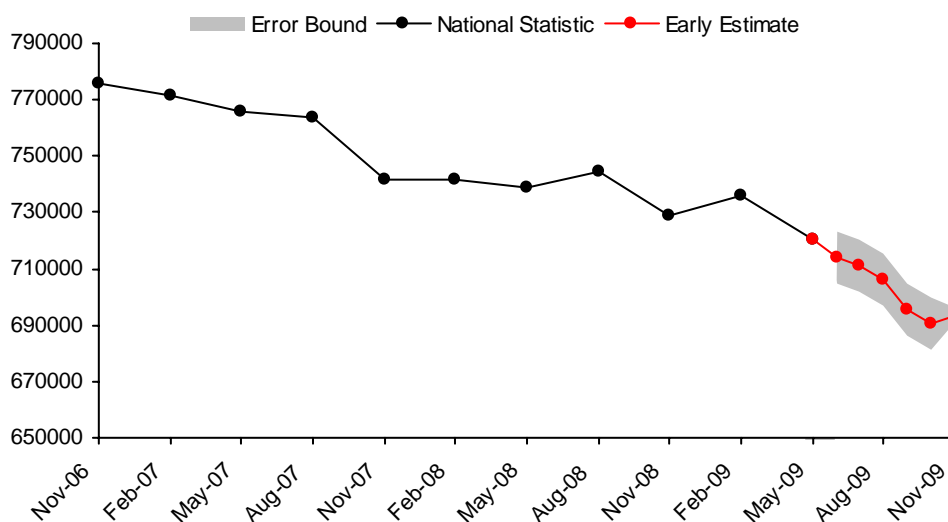
Time Series	National Statistics	Early Estimate
	Number of Claimants	Number of Claimants
Aug-08	744.69	
Nov-08	728.98	
Feb-09	736.04	
May-09	720.48	
Jun-09		710
Jul-09		710
Aug-09		700
Sep-09		690
Oct-09		690
Nov-09		695

The working-age Income Support **Lone Parent** early estimate for November 2009 is **695 thousand** to the nearest 5,000. This represents a fall of less than four percent since May 2009 (the latest full National Statistic figure).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to 31 May 2009. Final figures for the quarter ending August 2009 will be released on 17 February 2010. **The most recent National Statistics show 720 thousand individuals were in the ISLP client group at May 2009.** See: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

The number of lone parents claiming Income Support has been affected by the Lone Parent Obligations policy changes which came into effect from 24 November 2008. For more information see notes to editors.

**Figure 2.2: National Statistics to May 2009 and Early Estimates of working age Income Support Lone Parent client group: June 2009 to November 2009.**



### Notes relating to figure 2.2 and table 2.2:

- Income Support Lone Parents: claimants on Income Support with child under 16 and no partner. New and repeat customers with the following conditions will no longer be entitled to Income Support:
  - A youngest child aged 12 or over from 24 November 2008;
  - A youngest child aged 10 or over from 26 October 2009.
- Estimates from June – October 2009 are given to the nearest 10,000, November 2009 estimate is rounded to the nearest 5,000 following methodological improvements to the estimation process implemented this month.
- Final National Statistics are expected to be within 0.3 percent of the ISLP early estimate – as shown by the pale grey band in Figures 1 and 2. This error bound is calculated using the average of the standard errors between early estimate and monthly National Statistic over a recent 12 month period. Error bounds up to November 2009 are calculated using previous methodology and are rounded to the nearest 10,000.
- Early estimates methodology: Technical document and question and answers document are available at <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>
- Source data: *DWP Information Directorate: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study*
- When the next quarterly National Statistics are published they will be included as the fourth quarterly National Statistic in Table 2.2, and all monthly early estimates included in this quarter will be removed from Table 2.2.

### 3. Children in out-of-work benefit households

#### 3.1 Number of children in out-of-work benefit households as at May 2008

These figures show the numbers of children who lived in households where at least one parent or guardian claimed one or more of the following out-of-work benefits: Job Seekers' Allowance, Income Support, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, or Pension Credit at May 2008.

The key points from the latest release are:

- There were 2.40 million children living in an out of work benefit household at May 2008.
- They represented 1.27 million households.

**Table 3.1 Numbers of children living in out-of-work benefit households at May 2008 by Region and Benefit Type**

Government Office Region	Number of 0-18 year olds (thousands)				
	All	IS	JSA	IB/SDA	PC
<b>GB Total</b>	2,397.41	1,901.89	193.17	698.98	37.31
<b>North East</b>	122.96	94.71	10.49	40.16	1.49
<b>North West</b>	321.05	253.86	22.53	106.72	5.07
<b>Yorkshire and the Humber</b>	210.39	163.93	19.82	62.03	3.41
<b>East Midlands</b>	156.16	120.53	13.96	47.30	2.10
<b>West Midlands</b>	254.28	195.29	28.62	70.70	4.27
<b>East of England</b>	175.11	136.43	15.87	48.14	2.51
<b>London</b>	455.35	388.82	35.76	95.91	9.16
<b>South East</b>	227.66	183.02	17.22	59.68	3.13
<b>South West</b>	148.85	117.25	9.16	49.01	2.16
<b>Wales</b>	138.51	103.52	8.64	54.15	1.85
<b>Scotland</b>	186.14	144.47	11.10	64.32	2.17
<b>Other / Unknown</b>	0.95	0.07	0.01	0.87	-

**Notes relating to table 3.1:**

1. Statistics are experimental. Background guidance is available here: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/ben\\_hholds/child\\_ben\\_hholds.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/ben_hholds/child_ben_hholds.asp)
2. IS='Income Support'; JSA='Jobseeker's Allowance'; IB/SDA='Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance'; PC='Pension Credit'. There is a considerable overlap in the breakdown by Benefit Type, as for example, a claimant of Income Support may also be claiming Incapacity Benefit alongside. The 'All' column captures children once, irrespective of the combination of benefits being claimed.
3. The postcode of the DWP customer is used to assign Government Office Regions to children.
4. Data are rounded to nearest ten. Some additional disclosure controls have also been applied. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
5. "-" denotes Nil or Negligible.
6. Source data: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study, HMRC Child Benefit administrative data.

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### 1. Links to further information

For each statistic in this publication, access to more detailed statistics and methodology are available by clicking on the following web links.

Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit caseload statistics:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb\\_ctb/hbctb\\_arc.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/hbctb_arc.asp)

Early estimates for working age inactive benefit client groups:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/early\\_ests.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/early_ests.asp)

Children in out-of-work benefit households:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/ben\\_hholds/child\\_ben\\_hholds.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/ben_hholds/child_ben_hholds.asp)

### 2. Early Estimates

The Early Estimates are designed to give indicative, timely information ahead of the publication of full National Statistics. They are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published.

This month we are introducing some small changes to the methodology for deriving our early estimates. These changes have improved accuracy, meaning we can present numbers rounded to 5 thousand (compared to 10 thousand previously) and with a narrower 'error bound'. More detailed information can be accessed via the following links:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early\\_ests/technical\\_document\\_final.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early_ests/technical_document_final.pdf)

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early\\_ests/QandA\\_Early\\_Estimates\\_final.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early_ests/QandA_Early_Estimates_final.pdf)

### 3. Local Authority Changes

On 1st April 2009, the reorganisation of the local authorities of England created nine new unitary authorities (UAs). The HB/CTB statistics and children in out-of-work benefit household statistics are presented using the new geographies.

### 4. Welfare Reform

Employment Support Allowance replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity on 27 October 2008 for new claims. The figures relating to Employment Support Allowance have been thoroughly quality assured to National Statistics standard; however it should be noted that this is a new benefit using a new data source which may not have reached steady state in terms of operational processing and retrospection. Hence ESA National Statistics for May 2009 remain provisional. The February 2009 provisional figures have not been subsequently revised since the levels of additional retrospection were small. These figures should now be considered final.

The Lone Parent Obligation policy came into effect from 24 November 2008; Lone Parents (LPs) with a youngest child aged 12 or over were no longer able to make a new or repeat claim for Income Support (IS) solely on the basis of their parental status. Existing IS LPs with a youngest child aged 12 or over are having their eligibility removed over a period of time commencing 2 March 2009. From October 2009 this policy will be extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 10 or 11 and from October 2010 the policy will be extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 7 or over.

### 5. Other National Statistics issued by the Department for Work and Pensions

Abstract of Statistics for Benefits and Contributions and Indices of Prices and Earnings (annual) – *provides a reference source for those people interested in the main aspects of benefits, contributions and indices of prices and earnings. Latest published figures:* [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/other\\_stats.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/other_stats.asp)

Appeal Tribunal Statistics (quarterly) – *provides statistics on appeals and decisions. Latest published figures:* <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/qat.asp>

Child Support Agency Quarterly Summary of Statistics – *provides statistics on the Child Support Agency. Latest published figures:* <http://www.childmaintenance.org/publications/statistics.html>

**DWP Quarterly Statistical Summary – provides summary of all DWP statistical outputs including latest quarterly benefit caseloads. Latest published figures:**

**[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats\\_summary/Stats\\_Summary\\_Nov2009.pdf?x=1](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_summary/Stats_Summary_Nov2009.pdf?x=1)**

Family Resources Survey (annual) - provides information on the incomes and circumstances of private households in the United Kingdom: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs>

Households Below Average Income (annual) - provides information on potential living standards as determined by disposable income, changes in income patterns over time and income mobility:

<http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai.asp>

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Quarterly Performance Statistics – provides high level statistics on Local Authority processing of Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit from quarterly administrative returns and also includes speed of processing new claims and charges of circumstances. Latest published figures:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb\\_ctb/performance/performance.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/performance/performance.asp)

Housing Benefit Quarterly Fraud Performance Statistics – provides high level statistics on Local Authority fraud performance from quarterly administrative returns and also includes numbers of referrals, investigations actioned and sanctions administered. Latest published figures:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb\\_ctb/performance/performance.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/performance/performance.asp)

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit and Reduced Earnings Allowance Statistics (annual) – provides statistics on current assessments and movements during statistical period. Latest published figures:

<http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/iidb.asp>

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit Quarterly Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on people in receipt of Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, new claims and newly diagnosed prescribed diseases.

Latest published figures: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/iidb.asp>

National Insurance numbers allocated to overseas nationals (Previously migrant workers statistics – quarterly) provides statistics on migrant workers. Latest published figures:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp#ni\\_alloc](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp#ni_alloc)

Neighbourhood Statistics – Quarterly ward and Lower Super Outputs Area caseloads for Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefits, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit and State Pension are available from: <http://83.244.183.180/NESS/page1.htm>

Pensioner Income Series (annual) - examines the levels, sources and distribution of pensioners' incomes and the position of pensioners within the population income distribution. Latest published figures:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd6/pensioners\\_income.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd6/pensioners_income.asp)

Second Tier Pension Provision (annual) – contains analysis of contracted out pension schemes. Latest published figures: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/dsu/second\\_tier/second\\_tier.asp](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/dsu/second_tier/second_tier.asp)

Tax/Benefit Model Tables (annual) – designed to illustrate the weekly financial circumstances of a selection of hypothetical local authority and private tenants. Latest published figures:

<http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tbmt.asp>

## **6. Other statistical outputs issued by the Department for Work and Pensions**

Benefit Expenditure Tables - financial year historic information on benefit expenditure and caseloads, along with forecasts are available from <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd4/expenditure.asp>

Six Month Offer Statistics - a support package offering up to 500,000 opportunities for Jobseeker's Allowance customers reaching six months unemployment. Latest published figures:

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/6month\\_offer.asp](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/6month_offer.asp)

Employment and Support Allowance - work capability assessment statistics. Latest published figures:

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/esa\\_wca/esa\\_wca\\_arc.asp](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/esa_wca/esa_wca_arc.asp)

Pathways to Work Officials Statistics - Pathways to Work comprises a comprehensive range of support and provision designed to improve customers' prospects of returning to work. Latest published figures:

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/ib\\_ref\\_p2w.asp](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/ib_ref_p2w.asp)