## Research report

## Destinations of Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support and Employment and Support Allowance Leavers 2011

by Lorna Adams, Katie Oldfield, Catherine Riley and Andrew Skone James

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# Abbreviations and glossary of terms 

CATI

DWP

ESA

HMRC

IB

IS

Jobcentre Plus

JSA
Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing
A telephone surveying technique whereby the interviewer follows a programmed script on screen.

Department for Work and Pensions
Government department responsible for welfare and pension policy.

Employment and Support Allowance
Employment and Support Allowance replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from the 27 October 2008. While claiming ESA, customers receive some financial assistance and undertake work-related activities to help them prepare for a return/ entering work.

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
A non-ministerial department of the UK Government responsible for the collection of taxes and the payment of some forms of state support.

Incapacity Benefit
A weekly payment for people under State Pension age who are incapable of work because of illness or disability. From 31 January 2011, no new claim for IB were processed.

Income Support
A top up payment available to those on a low income and do not have to sign on as unemployed. Eligibility for IS depends on an individual's circumstances.

Supports people of working age from welfare into work and helps employers to fill their vacancies.

Jobseeker's Allowance
Jobseeker's Allowance is the main benefit for people of working age who are out of work or work less than 16 hours a week on average.

| SDA | Severe Disablement Allowance <br> A benefit for people who are unable to work as a result of a <br> long term severe illness or disability and who have not paid <br> sufficient National Insurance contributions to qualify for <br> Incapacity Benefit. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WFI Work Focused Interview |  |
| WCA | ESA leavers attend six WFIs with a personal adviser at which <br> they draw up and implement an action plan with a view to <br> returning to work. |
| WRAG $\quad$Work Capability Assessment |  |
|  | Introduced in October 2008 to assess entitlement to ESA. |
|  | Work Related Activity Group |
|  | One of two groups those found eligible to receive ESA are <br> placed in. Leavers placed in this group are not considered <br> ready for an immediate return to work, but are deemed <br> capable of work-related activities to help them prepare for <br> a return to work. |

## Summary

This report details findings from a study conducted to explore the destinations of a leavers cohort of individuals who ended a claim for Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Income Support (IS) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). The study was designed to provide insight into the accuracy of the figures used to calculate the key Department for Work and Pensions' (DWP) Departmental measure 'rate of people moving from out of work benefits into employment'. HMRC data could be used to provide a measure of benefit leavers entering employment, but is known to be incomplete and may therefore substantially underestimate the measure.

The study consisted of 9,000 telephone interviews with leavers who ended a claim for JSA, IS or ESA between February and March 2011. The interviews were conducted in October and November 2011, around seven to eight months after claims were initially ended. The study looked to explore initial destinations, activities at the time of interview and any intervening periods of working, claiming or other activities.

## Jobseeker's Allowance leavers cohort

Individuals who ended a claim for JSA most commonly entered paid work (this was the case for two thirds (68 per cent) of the JSA leavers cohort).

Most JSA leavers who entered work initially were working full-time ${ }^{1}$. Two in five ( 41 per cent) of the leavers cohort as a whole left benefit to enter full-time work (equating to 61 per cent of all those who entered work). A further one in five (18 per cent) entered part-time ${ }^{2}$ work and one in ten (nine per cent) entered self-employment. Men were more likely to have left JSA to enter employment than women.

In just under half of cases where JSA leavers entered work for an employer they were employed on a permanent or open-ended basis ( 45 per cent of those entering work for an employer). The rest were employed on either a fixed-term or temporary/casual basis. Those entering part-time work were slightly more likely to be employed on an open-ended basis. Average earnings among those entering work were $£ 13,800$ per annum.

Those in the JSA leavers cohort who did not immediately enter work were split almost evenly between those who set up a claim for an out-of-work benefit (14 per cent) and those who were neither working nor claiming (18 per cent).

Among those JSA leavers who remained in the benefit system, two-fifths (39 per cent) set up a new claim for ESA and a slightly lower proportion (30 per cent) returned to claim JSA. Most of the remainder ( 20 per cent) claimed IS.

By the time of research (seven to eight months after ending their JSA claim), there had already been some change in the activities of JSA leavers so that:

- the proportion in paid work had reduced substantially (from 68 per cent to 55 per cent) reflecting, in part, temporary/casual contracts coming to an end;

[^0]- the proportion claiming an out of work benefit had doubled (from 14 per cent initially to 30 per cent seven to eight months later). Most of those who set up a new claim as soon as the initial one ended were still claiming as were 18 per cent of those who initially entered work and 28 per cent of those who were neither working nor claiming initially.

On average the period between the leaving benefit and the follow-up interview was seven months. On average individuals in the JSA leavers cohort spent 4.8 months out of these seven in paid work and 1.8 months claiming an out-of-work benefit ${ }^{3}$.

## Income Support leavers cohort

Nearly half of the IS leavers cohort (46 per cent) ended their original claim in February/March 2011 to set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit. The majority (approaching three-quarters) moved on to JSA.

Just over one-quarter of the IS leavers cohort (28 per cent) ended their claim to enter paid work. It was more common for individuals to enter part-time work than full-time work (17 per cent of the leavers cohort entered part-time work, seven per cent entered full-time work and four per cent became self-employed).

Most who started work for an employer did so on a permanent or open-ended contract ( 60 per cent). Fixed term and temporary contracts were less common than among JSA leavers who entered work. Average earnings were lower than for either of the other two benefit groups at $£ 8,550$ per annum.

One-quarter ( 25 per cent) of the IS leavers cohort neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit at the point when they ended their claim. Among this group, common reasons for ending the original IS claim were because leavers were told they were no longer eligible to claim IS, they started living with their partner or because their partner's status changed (33 per cent, 21 per cent and 16 per cent of those who neither entered paid work nor set-up a new claim).

Initial destinations were relatively stable and there was not much movement between working and claiming in the seven to eight months covered by the research. At the point of interview, the overall proportion of the IS leavers cohort in paid work was similar to that at the point immediately after ending the original claim. The proportions claiming and neither claiming nor working also remained relatively consistent. At the time of interview:

- 29 per cent were in paid work;
- 49 per cent were claiming an out-of-work benefit; and
- 22 per cent were neither working nor claiming.

A total of ten per cent of the IS leavers cohort were claiming IS again by the time of interview.
On average individuals in this leavers cohort spent 2.2 months in paid work in the time since ending their original claim for IS. On average, they spent 3.8 months claiming an out-of-work benefit.

[^1]
## Employment and Support Allowance leavers cohort

Individuals were roughly equally likely to end their claim for ESA to set up a claim for another out of work benefit as to enter paid work. Of the leavers cohort as a whole 37 per cent entered paid work on leaving and 41 per cent immediately set up a claim for another out of work benefit. One in five (22 per cent) were neither working nor claiming initially. Over half ( 55 per cent) of those who neither started paid work nor claimed ended the original ESA claim because they were told they were no longer eligible to claim the benefit.

Among those who entered paid work, roughly equal proportions worked full-time for an employer, part-time for an employer or started a period of self-employment ( 13 per cent, 13 per cent and 11 per cent of the leavers cohort as a whole).

In terms of contract type, the profile of IS leavers entering work was similar to that for ESA leavers. The majority of those entering work ( 65 per cent) entered work on a permanent or open-ended basis. Average earnings among those entering work were $£ 12,350$ per annum. The difference between this figure and the average wage of JSA leavers is largely accounted for by the higher incidence of part-time working.

Where individuals set up a new claim for another out-of-work benefit, this was generally for JSA.
As with the IS leavers cohort, overall the situations of the ESA leavers cohort remained relatively stable throughout the seven to eight month period between leaving ESA and the point of interview. Small numbers had moved between working, claiming and neither working nor claiming but at an overall level the proportions of the leavers cohort in each of these three groups was about the same as was the case when claims were first ended:

- 38 per cent were in paid work;
- 42 per cent were claiming an out of work benefit;
- 20 per cent were neither working nor claiming.

Across the ESA leavers cohort as a whole, individuals spent an average of three months in paid work (out of the average seven months between the end of claims and the point of interview) and 3.5 months claiming an out-of-work benefit.

## Leavers cohort as a whole

This research combines findings from the three separate benefit leavers cohorts to give an overall picture of destinations of leavers from either JSA, IS or ESA. This overall picture is dominated by the destinations of the JSA group who account for more than three-quarters ( 77 per cent) of all leavers.

Taken as a whole, the majority (three-fifths) of the leavers cohort entered paid work on ending their original claim. This was most commonly full-time work for an employer and on a permanent or open ended-contract. A fifth of the leavers cohort ended their original claim in February/March and immediately set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit and a further fifth had ended the original claim but neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit.

By the time of research seven to eight months later, the proportion of the leavers cohort in paid work had reduced to half. The proportion claiming had correspondingly increased with the majority of this group claiming JSA.

On average across the overall leavers cohort individuals spent 4.3 months in paid work in the period between ending the original claim and the research interview (a period of seven months on average). They spent 2.2 months on average claiming an out of work benefit.

## Key messages

The majority of individuals who left JSA entered paid work. Around two-thirds (68 per cent) of those ending a claim for JSA immediately entered work. This figure was considerably lower among IS and ESA leavers ( 28 per cent and 37 per cent respectively). Among both IS leavers it was more common for individuals to set up a new out-of-work benefit claim than to enter paid work and among ESA leavers both paid work and a new claim were equally common.

Temporary and fixed-term jobs were more common among JSA leavers than among leavers from IS or ESA. This resulted in more movement between working and claiming for the JSA leavers cohort over a relatively short (seven to eight month) period between leaving benefit and being interviewed. Among those leaving JSA to enter work for an employer, a third ( 31 per cent) were employed on a temporary/casual basis and a further 18 per cent were employed on a fixed term contract of less than a year. By the time of interview around seven to eight months after claims ended, one-quarter ( 25 per cent) of JSA leavers who initially entered paid work for an employer were no longer working. Most of these were initially working on a temporary or short fixed term contract.

IS and ESA leavers were less likely to enter work at all and where individuals entered work this was more likely to be part-time. IS leavers were more likely to enter part-time work than full-time work (60 per cent of the IS leavers cohort who entered any paid work compared to 26 per cent of the JSA leavers cohort). ESA leavers were equally likely to enter work full or part-time (or indeed selfemployment).

Movement between benefits accounted for quite a high proportion of benefit leavers. Over two fifths of leavers from IS ( 46 per cent) and ESA ( 41 per cent) immediately set up a claim for another out-of-work benefit as did 14 per cent of JSA leavers. Across the leavers cohort as a whole, 20 per cent of benefit leavers immediately set up a new claim. By a period seven to eight months later, the overall proportion claiming an out-of-work benefit rose to a third.

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Introduction

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Strategic Reform Plan includes an impact indicator on the rate of people moving from out of work benefits and into employment. Data on flows off benefit is available, but whether benefit leavers enter employment is not necessarily recorded. Data drawn from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) provides some information. This data has some limitations for this purpose and does not fully record the proportion of benefit leavers moving into employment. It is possible that some of those who move into employment do not appear on HMRC records (e.g. because of the nature of their work, such as self-employment or their level of pay may fall below the Lower Earnings Limit (LEL) and where employment spells are recorded it is reasonably common for date information to be incomplete.

It is important for the DWP to obtain and publish an accurate measure of off-flows into employment and hence the Department commissioned IFF Research to conduct a survey of leavers leaving Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Income Support (IS) to establish initial and substantive destinations on leaving benefit.

JSA is an out-of-work benefit available to those who are unemployed and seeking work. It is available to those who are looking for work or working fewer than 16 hours per week, are aged between 18 and State Pension age and are living in England, Scotland or Wales.

ESA was introduced in October 2008 to replace IB, Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and IS paid on the grounds of illness or disability. It provides financial support and personalised help for people who are unable to work because of a health condition with an emphasis on what people can do, as well as what they are unable to do. Most people claiming ESA will be expected to take steps to prepare themselves for work, including attending a Work Focused Interview (WFI) with a personal adviser. However, those with an illness or disability that severely affects their capability to work will not be expected to prepare for a return to work, although they can volunteer to do so if they wish.

IS is a 'top-up' payment available to individuals on a low income who do not have to sign on as unemployed. Eligibility for IS depends on an individual's circumstances but typically it is available to those:

- aged between 16 and the age they qualify for Pension Credit;
- working fewer than 16 hours a week, depending on the amount of wages earned;
- not in full-time study (although there are some exceptions);
- not receiving JSA or ESA;
- without savings above $£ 16,000$;
- living in England, Scotland or Wales.


### 1.2 Methodology

Data for this exercise was collected through a quantitative survey of a cohort of leavers from JSA, IS and ESA. The survey consisted of telephone interviews with 9,000 leavers who stopped claiming their benefit between February and March 2011.

### 1.2.1 Survey fieldwork

Leavers were eligible for the survey if they had ended a claim for JSA, IS or ESA between February and March 20114. They were interviewed between seven and eight months later, in October and November 2011. The survey sample was drawn from the population of all eligible benefit leavers using a stratified sampling approach (stratified by benefit type, then by a combination of location, gender, age, ethnicity and duration of claim) with benefit leavers randomly selected within each stratum.

An opt-out exercise was undertaken prior to the survey fieldwork commencing. The full sampling strategy is detailed in Appendix A.

A small number of pilot interviews were conducted before the main survey fieldwork to test the questionnaire structure and to ensure that respondents fully understood the nature of the questions being asked. A few minor adjustments were made to the questionnaire as a result of this.

The questionnaire was divided into two principal sections, the first establishing benefit leavers' initial activity(ies) immediately after ending their original claim, while the second identified any further activities Where benefit leavers had immediately entered work they were asked about the type of contract they were employed on and their earnings. Benefit leavers who immediately made another claim were asked the benefit type they moved on to.

Telephone interviews were conducted from IFF's computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) centre in central London. The main stage of the survey took place between 3 October and 20 November 2011. Interviews were conducted predominantly in the evening and on week-ends, to ensure those who may have entered work were able to participate.

The majority of interviews were conducted in English although a small number of individuals were assisted through the interview by speakers of other languages. In total, 132 interviews were conducted in this way.

A total of 9,000 interviews were achieved with an overall response rate of 69 per cent (completed interviews as a percentage of completed interviews plus refusals). This is detailed further in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Completed contacts and interviews

| Benefit type | Complete contacts | Total achieved | Response rate <br> $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| JSA | 4,943 | 3,400 | 69 |
| IS | 4,203 | 3,000 | 71 |
| ESA | 3,946 | 2,600 | 66 |
| Total | 13,092 | 9,000 | 69 |

A breakdown of those interviewed by benefit type based on demographics is also shown in Appendix B. Alongside this is shown the overall profile of all those who left claims in the same months as those interviewed, based on population counts provided by the DWP.

Targets based on the strata as outlined above were set to ensure robust findings at the sub group level. Data have been weighted to ensure findings are representative of the population of leavers in each stratum at the point of extraction. Further details can be found in Appendices A and B.
The survey questionnaire is available in Appendix C.

[^2]
### 1.3 Report outline

The remainder of the report is organised as follows:

- Chapter 2 presents the findings from the JSA leavers cohort. This covers their immediate destination after ending their original JSA claim, as well as more in depth analysis of those who entered paid work (including contract type, salary and hours worked). This is followed by an exploration of the total length of time spent in paid work and the number of jobs acquired since ending the original JSA claim, as well as the total length of time spent claiming and the number of claims made since ending the original JSA claim. JSA leavers' current destination is also covered in this section.
- Chapters 3 and 4 follow a similar pattern to Chapter 2, concentrating firstly on the IS leavers cohort, and subsequently on the ESA leavers cohort.
- Chapter 5 presents overall findings from those leaving across all three types of benefit, comparing results across benefit types. Again, this explores the same broad areas as the previous three chapters.
- The report closes with the technical appendices, which illustrate the sampling strategy, fieldwork outcomes and weighting method as well as the survey profile of benefit leavers. The Jobcentre Plus destinations survey questionnaire is also included as the final appendix to the report.


# 2 Outcomes for Jobseeker's Allowance leavers cohort 

### 2.1 Summary

Around two-thirds (68 per cent) of the Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) leavers cohort ended their claim to enter paid work. Most commonly these leavers entered full-time work for an employer (61 per cent) and of these around half (47 per cent) entered a work on a permanent or open-ended contract.

One in seven of the JSA leavers cohort ended their original claim to set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit. Two-fifths of this group set up a new claim for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and a slightly lower proportion returned to claim JSA.

One-fifth (18 per cent) ended the original JSA claim and neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit.

By the time of research (seven to eight months after ending their JSA claim), the overall proportion of the JSA leavers cohort in paid work had reduced to around one half ( 55 per cent) and the proportion claiming an out-of-work benefit had doubled to around a third (30 per cent). One-fifth (21 per cent) of all JSA leavers were claiming JSA again by the time of interview.

### 2.2 Introduction

This chapter explores the destinations of a leavers cohort of individuals who ended a claim for JSA in February and March 20115. The leavers cohort was interviewed for this research between seven and eight months after ending this original claim for JSA.

The chapter starts by summarising the immediate destination of the leavers cohort in terms of whether they entered work, returned to claiming an out-of-work benefit or did something else. Later sections of the chapter look at the nature of paid work entered, reasons for leaving work and the types of benefit claims that individuals set up on ending their original JSA claim. The final section summarises the current destination of the leavers cohort (as at the time of research) and the incidence of employment and claiming in the intervening period between ending the original JSA claim and the time of interview.

### 2.3 Summary of immediate destinations

The diagram below (Figure 2.1) summarises the main destinations entered by the JSA leavers cohort immediately after ending their original claim for JSA.

Figure 2.1 Summary of immediate destinations


The majority of JSA leavers ended their claim to enter paid work. Seven in ten (68 per cent) JSA leavers ended their claim and immediately entered paid work (self-employment, full-time work for an employer or part-time work for an employer). Around one in seven (14 per cent) had ended their JSA claim to set up another claim for people who are out of work and a slightly higher proportion one in five (18 per cent) - had neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim.

Unsurprisingly, those in the leavers cohort who neither entered work nor set-up a new claim were particularly likely to be those of retirement age. This was the case for 42 per cent of those aged over 65 ( 30 per cent of over 65s gave retiring or claiming Pension Credit this as their main reason for ending their original JSA clam).

Reasons for leaving JSA other than entering work or starting a new benefit claim are shown in Table 2.1. Sometimes these reasons were given alongside entering work or starting a new benefit claim. The table shows the proportion of the leavers cohort as a whole mentioning each of these reasons and also the proportion of those in each of the three main destination groups - work, new benefit claim and neither - mentioning each reason.

Table 2.1 Reasons for ending original JSA claim other than entering paid work or starting a new benefit claim

|  | All JSA leavers cohort $(3,400)$ \% | All who entered paid work $\begin{gathered} (2,106) \\ \% \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | All who started a new claim (462) \% | All who neither entered paid work nor claimed (832) \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Told no longer eligible /benefit stopped | 12 | 7 | 16 | 29* |
| Became ill/went to hospital | 5 | - | 26* | 9 |
| Entered full-time training or education ${ }^{1}$ | 4 | 1 | - | $14 *$ |
| Worked for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 3 | 2 | 2 | 9* |
| Entered part-time training or education ${ }^{2}$ | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5* |
| Decided not to claim | 3 | 1 | - | 9* |
| Full-time carer | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Went overseas | 2 | - | 2 | 10* |
| Retire and/or claiming a pension/ pension credit | 1 | - | 1 | 3* |
| Change in family circumstances | 1 | - | 6* | 3 |
| Partner's status changed | 1 | - | 1 | 4* |
| Did not like Jobcentre Plus service | 1 | 1 | - | 2 |
| Moved house | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |

$\begin{array}{ll}1 & \text { Full-time training or education - } 16 \text { hours or more per week. } \\ 2 \text { Part-time training or education - Less than } 16 \text { hours week. } \\ \text { * indicates a statistically significant finding at the } 95 \text { per cent level. }\end{array}$
Other than entering work or starting a new benefit claim, the most common reason given for leaving JSA was that individuals were told they were no longer eligible to claim. Around one in eight (12 per cent) were advised that they were no longer eligible to receive JSA or had their benefit stopped. This is likely to reflect, at least in part, the fact that contributions-based JSA ends after 26 weeks and those who are not entitled to receive income-based JSA stop receiving payments at this point. It may also include individuals moving on to pension credit and those who experienced sanctions. Individuals giving ineligibility or their benefit stopping as a reason for ending their claim accounted for 29 per cent of all of those who ended their JSA claim and neither entered work nor started a new benefit claim. However, some of those who entered work or started to claim another benefit also gave this as a reason for leaving JSA (seven per cent and 16 per cent respectively).

After entering work, starting a new benefit claim and ineligibility/claims stopping, entering training was the next most common reason for leaving JSA. Four per cent of the JSA leavers cohort ended their claim to enter full-time training or education and a further three per cent to enter part-time training or education. Individuals entering training (either full or part-time) accounted for one in five (20 per cent) of those who neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim immediately after ending their original JSA claim.

Individuals leaving JSA to work for an employer on a voluntary basis accounted for three per cent of the leavers cohort as a whole and almost one in ten (nine per cent) of those who neither entered work nor set up a new benefit claim.

Of those who went on to immediately set up a new claim for another benefit, a quarter (26 per cent) stated that they left JSA because they became too ill or had a period of hospitalisation.

### 2.4 Paid work

The majority of JSA leavers ended their claim to enter paid work. Particular sub-groups of leavers were more likely to have entered paid work, including:

- men ( 71 per cent compared to 62 per cent of women);
- those in a relationship or married or in a same sex civil partnership (72 per cent 71 per cent respectively).


### 2.5 Type of work entered immediately after ending original JSA claim

Those who had ended their claim to enter paid work were asked to provide information on the type of work they entered, including contract type, salary and the number of hours worked on average per week.

As Figure 2.1 showed earlier, two-fifths ( 41 per cent) of JSA leavers entered paid work for an employer in a full-time position (equating to 61 per cent of all those who had entered paid work). One-fifth (18 per cent) - a quarter ( 26 per cent) of all who entered paid work - had started part-time work for an employer and around one in ten (nine per cent) - or 13 per cent of those who entered paid work - became self-employed.

Of those who entered paid work, certain sub-groups were more likely to have entered part-time work for an employer which included:

- single parents (58 per cent compared to 25 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort who entered paid work);
- Asian or Asian British group $2^{6}$ leavers ( 44 per cent compared to 26 per cent of individuals with other ethnic backgrounds who entered paid work);
- women ( 39 per cent of all women who entered paid work compared to 20 per cent of all men who entered paid work);
- those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability ( 36 per cent compared to 25 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort that entered paid work);
- 16-24s (31 per cent of all 16-24s who entered paid work compared to 24 per cent of those aged $25+$ who entered paid work).

Leavers who entered paid work for an employer (in either a full-time or part-time capacity) were also asked about the type of contract on which they were employed. Responses are shown below in Figure 2.2. This figure shows contracts at the overall level and split by full and part-time working.
$6 \quad$ Asian or Asian British group 2 refers to leavers of Pakistani, Bangladeshi or other Asian ethnic origin.

Most often JSA leavers for employment were employed on a permanent or open-ended contract (45 per cent), although it was also common for them to have been employed on a temporary or casual basis ( 31 per cent). A fifth ( 18 per cent) entered a fixed-term contract lasting less than a year.

Although less likely to have left JSA for paid work than their male counterparts, women who did so were more likely to have been employed on a permanent or open-ended contract ( 50 per cent compared to 43 per cent of men) as were single parents ( 61 per cent compared to 44 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort who entered paid work for an employer) ${ }^{7}$. Both these groups were more likely to be employed on a permanent contract in a part-time position.

Figure 2.2 Contract type


Young JSA leavers for paid work (16-24 year olds) were less likely to have been employed on a permanent or open-ended contract and more likely to have worked on a fixed-term contract lasting between six months and a year ( 17 per cent compared to eight per cent of those aged $25+$ ). Those JSA leavers for paid employment with a long-term illness, health problem or disability as well as several minority ethnic groups were more likely to have worked in a temporary or casual job:

- leavers with a long-term illness, health problem or disability ( 40 per cent compared to 31 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort who started work for an employer);
$7 \quad$ Whilst this is a statistically significant finding at the 95 per cent level it should be used indicatively given the small unweighted base size (less than 100).
- Black leavers ( 45 per cent to 31 per cent of those of other ethnic origin);
- Asian or Asian British group $1^{8}$ leavers ( 46 per cent compared to 31 per cent of those of other ethnic origin).

Some individuals were working in more than one job when they ended their JSA claim. The information in this section concentrates mostly on the job role that individuals stated was their main role but the survey also captured any other activity the leaver may have started at the same time as this main activity.

Of all those in employment one in twenty (four per cent) were working in more than one job at the point when they ended their JSA claim (equating to three per cent of the leavers cohort as a whole). Those who had ended their original JSA claim to enter a period of self-employment were most likely to have been doing more than one job at the same time. More than one in eight (13 per cent) of those who ended their original JSA claim to enter a period of self-employment also started work for an employer in a full-time role at the same time. A smaller proportion (five per cent) also worked in a part-time job for an employer.

Figure 2.3 provides information on earnings of JSA leavers who entered paid work (both selfemployment and for an employer) ${ }^{9}$.

[^3]Figure 2.3 Average annual earnings


Of those who ended their claim to enter employment, two-fifths ( 40 per cent) earned between $£ 10,000$ and less than $£ 20,000$ and a further three in ten ( 29 per cent) earned less than $£ 10,000$. Overall, the mean annual salary of JSA leavers who immediately entered paid work after ending their original claim was $£ 13,800^{10}$.

There was some variation in average annual earnings by contract type. Those who worked on a fixed-term contract lasting less than six months (which was more likely to be the case for men: eight per cent compared to four per cent of women) earned a higher average annual wage $(£ 15,200)$ as well as those who worked on a permanent or open-ended contract ( $£ 14,350$ ). Those working on a temporary or casual basis earned a lower average wage ( $£ 12,400$ ). The fact that some groups were more likely to enter part-time work is reflected in average earnings. Women had lower average earnings ( $£ 11,700$ compared with $£ 14,850$ for men). Similarly, single parents earned a significantly lower wage ( $£ 9,550$ compared to $£ 14,000$ for the rest of the leavers cohort) as well as those
suffering from a long term illness, health problem or disability ( $£ 11,050$ compared to $£ 14,050$ for the rest of the leavers cohort).

Despite being more likely to have entered part-time work, London weighting still had enough of an impact to mean that those in paid work in London earned a higher average wage than those elsewhere ( $£ 15,750$ compared to $£ 13,500$ ).

Leavers were also asked to provide information on the average number of hours worked per week which is illustrated in Figure 2.4. Reflecting the fact that most of those who had entered employment immediately after ending their JSA claim were working full-time, the majority ( 59 per cent) stated they worked more than 30 hours per week. A further fifth ( 18 per cent) worked more than 16 hours but fewer than 30 hours per week.

Figure 2.4 Hours worked per week

| $\square$ | More than 30 hours per week |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | 30 hours per week |
| $\square$ | More than 16 hours but fewer |
| than 30 hours per week |  |
| $\square$ | 16 hours per week |
| $\square$ | Less than 16 hours per week |



All JSA claimants who entered paid work immediately after ending their original JSA claim $(2,106)$.
Source: B16.

One factor that might make the destinations of the leavers cohort of JSA leavers covered for this research 'untypical' is that the point at which they left JSA (February-March 2011) coincided with the period of data collection for the 2011 Census which provided many temporary jobs. To establish the extent of this, individuals who entered work for an employer immediately after ending their JSA claim were asked whether this job related to the 2011 Census. The vast majority ( 93 per cent) of leavers stated their job was not related to the census in any way, however those with a long term illness, health problem or disability were more likely to state that they held Census-related jobs (11 per cent compared to seven per cent overall).

### 2.6 Claim destinations

As mentioned earlier in the chapter, one in seven (14 per cent) leavers who ended a claim for JSA did so to set up another claim for an out-of-work benefit. This was particularly likely to be the case for:

- single parents ( 40 per cent compared to 12 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- leavers with a long term illness, health problem or disability (39 per cent compared to ten per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- Asian or Asian British group 2 leavers ( 20 per cent compared to 13 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- women (17 per cent compared to 12 per cent of men);
- those in the North East of England (20 per cent 13 per cent elsewhere).

Leavers who had ended their original JSA claim to start a new claim for another benefit were asked which benefit they had moved on to. As Figure 2.5 shows, two-fifths ( 39 per cent) moved on to Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and a further fifth ( 20 per cent) started a claim for Income Support (IS). However, almost one-third (30 per cent) of those who ended their original JSA claim to start a new benefit claim set up a new claim for JSA. These individuals account for one in twenty (four per cent) of the leavers cohort as a whole.

Figure 2.5 New claim


All JSA claimants who entered paid work immediately after ending their original JSA claim (517). Source: B4.

Within the group of leavers who had moved to a new claim for an out-of-work benefit, there was some variation in the types of benefit claimed by sub-group. In keeping with the nature of the benefit, those with a long term illness, health problem or disability were more likely to have started a claim for ESA ( 72 per cent compared to 19 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort who started a new claim). On the other hand, Asian or Asian British group 2 leavers, 16 - 24 year olds and men were more likely to have started a new claim for JSA ( 48 per cent, 44 per cent and 41 per cent
respectively compared to 30 per cent overall). Similarly, those in London were also more likely to have immediately returned to JSA ( 43 per cent compared to 28 per cent of those elsewhere). Half (50 per cent) of single parents who ended their original JSA claim to set up another out-of-work benefit started a claim for IS (compared to 13 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort).

Among those who had started a claim for ESA, just under one-third (30 per cent) had received and knew the outcome of their claim. The remainder were either awaiting the outcome of the Work Capability Assessment (WCA) ( 28 per cent), had received their outcome but were not sure what it meant or which group they had been placed in (11 per cent), or did not know if they had received an outcome (31 per cent). One-fifth (21 per cent) of those who left JSA to set up a claim for ESA stated that they had been placed in the Support Group meaning that they were found to have limited capability for work related activity, and were not expected to prepare themselves for a return to work. This equates to seven in ten ( 70 per cent) of all who had successfully applied for ESA and were aware of their outcome.

One in ten (nine per cent) who started a new claim for ESA had been placed in the Work Related Activity Group (WRAG). This means that they would have been found capable of work related activity, but not an immediate return to work. This would have involved them attending a Work Focused Interview (WFI) with a personal adviser and receiving support to help them prepare for suitable work.

Of those who ended their original claim for JSA to start a claim for IS, fewer than one in twenty (three per cent) received a disability premium.

### 2.7 Current destination

As well as their activity on ending their JSA claim, individuals were also asked about their activities at the time of interview (seven to eight months later) and any activities in the intervening period. Figure 2.6 overleaf summarises the 'start' and 'end' destinations of the JSA leavers cohort who ended their original claim in February/March 2011.

The three boxes across the top of the diagram show the initial activities of individuals on ending their JSA claim (discussed earlier in this chapter). The three boxes across the bottom show the activities at the time of interview. The series of boxes in the middle of the diagram map how 'immediate' activities map to 'final activities'11.

### 2.7.1 Paid work

At the time of interview over half ( 55 per cent) of the JSA leavers cohort were in paid work which marks a decrease of 13 percentage points from the proportion who were in paid work immediately after ending their original JSA claim. Three-quarters ( 75 per cent) of JSA leavers who had ended their original claim to enter paid work were still in paid work at the time of interview (between seven and eight months later). Overall three-fifths (58 per cent) of those who had ended their original JSA claim to enter paid work had been in that same job or self-employment continuously throughout the intervening seven to eight month period. A further 13 per cent had moved between jobs but remained in employment. The remainder had moved in and out of work (but had ended up in work at the time of the research).
${ }^{11}$ 'Neither in paid work nor claiming' can include other destinations such as education or training, voluntary work, retirement or to claim a pension as well as unknown destination.

Sub-groups more likely to be in paid work at the time of interview were:

- those in a relationship ( 64 per cent compared to 54 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort) and those married or in a same-sex civil partnership (67 per cent);
- leavers not suffering from a long-term illness, health problem or disability ( 59 per cent compared to 28 per cent of those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability);
- leavers aged 25-65 ( 58 per cent compared to 50 per cent of young JSA leavers).

This set of over-represented groups is very similar to those mentioned earlier as more likely to have entered paid work immediately after ending their original JSA claim. However, at the point immediately after ending their JSA claim, men were more likely to be in work than women, but by the time of the follow-up interview this was no longer the case. This reflects the fact that men were more likely to have started work on fixed-term contracts lasting less than a year, some of which would have ended by the time of research.

Figure 2.6 Summary of initial and current destinations


Leavers who ended their original JSA claim to enter paid work and had subsequently moved on to another activity (which may have included another job or period of self-employment) were asked why they had ended that original job or period of self-employment. These reasons appear in Table 2.2.

## Table 2.2 Reasons for leaving first job/ending initial period of self-employment

|  | (878) |
| :--- | :---: |
| All JSA leavers who having ended their claim left their subsequent job | $\%$ |
| Temporary work /contract ended | 52 |
| Found another job | 16 |
| Not earning enough | 9 |
| Made redundant | 7 |
| Sacked/dismissed | 7 |
| Health reasons | 5 |
| Disliked job/industry | 4 |
| Went into training/education | 3 |
| Childcare commitments | 2 |
| Transport difficulties | 2 |
| Company closed | 2 |
| No promotion prospects | 1 |
| Caring responsibilities/family commitments | 1 |

Half (52 per cent) stated that they ended this initial period of employment or self-employment because the contract ended or because it was a period of temporary work. Around one in six ( 16 per cent) moved in to another job and a smaller proportion (nine per cent) stated they were not earning enough.

The profile of the type of work held by those in paid work at the time of interview was almost identical to that entered by those immediately after ending their original JSA claim. Three-fifths (60 per cent) were working for an employer in a full-time position, a quarter ( 26 per cent) were in parttime work for an employer and around one in seven (14 per cent) were self-employed.

However, the profile of jobs held by contract type had changed reflecting a decrease in the number of jobs held on a temporary/casual basis, which were more likely to be held by men. Figure 2.7 below shows the profile of employment by contract type among those in paid work immediately after ending their initial JSA claim both initially and at the time of interview seven to eight months later.

More than one-quarter ( 28 per cent) of those who had been in paid work an employer immediately after ending the original JSA claim were no longer in paid work for an employer at the time of interview. As the figure shows, this proportion no longer in paid work is largely accounted for by a drop in those employed on either a fixed-term or a temporary/casual basis.

Figure 2.7 Initial and current contract types


### 2.7.2 Claims for out-of-work benefits

Overall, approaching one-third ( 30 per cent) of JSA leavers were claiming another benefit at the time of research - more than double the proportion that were claiming immediately after ending their original claim for JSA.

Sub-groups more likely to be claiming at the time of interview were:

- those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability ( 55 per cent compared to 26 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- single parents (49 per cent compared to 28 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- Asian or Asian British group 2 leavers ( 40 per cent compared to 29 per cent of those of other ethnic backgrounds);
- Young leavers (33 per cent compared to 28 per cent of leavers aged 25+).

Again, this variation by sub-group reflects that displayed among those who were claiming a new out-of-work benefit immediately after ending their original JSA claim. However, at this point seven to eight months later, women are no longer over-represented among those claiming, reflecting the fact that men were more likely to have ended their initial period of self (employment) and returned to claiming by the time of research.

Nine in ten (91 per cent) of those who had ended their original JSA claim in February/March 2011 to claim for another out-of-work benefit, were claiming at the time of research (between seven and eight months later). More than one-quarter ( 28 per cent) of those who neither entered paid work nor claimed immediately after ending their JSA claim in February/March 2011 were also claiming at
the time of research. In total, seven in ten (68 per cent) leavers who ended their original JSA claim and started a new claim for an out-of-work benefit had claimed that same benefit continuously throughout the seven to eight month period covered by the research.

Almost three-quarters ( 72 per cent) of those who were claiming at the time of interview were claiming JSA. As Figure 2.8 shows, this means that by the time of research the proportion of the entire JSA leavers cohort who were claiming JSA had increased from one in twenty (four per cent) immediately after ending the original claim in February/March ('initial benefit') to one-fifth (21 per cent) at the time of interview ('current benefit').

Figure 2.8 Initial and current benefit claims


One in seven (15 per cent) of those who were claiming at the time of interview were claiming ESA and one in ten (nine per cent) were claiming IS.

### 2.7.3 Neither in paid work nor claiming

The proportion of JSA leavers neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview had risen slightly, but significantly from the proportion who were neither in paid work nor claiming immediately after ending their original JSA claim, to one in seven (15 per cent). Overall, more than half ( 56 per cent) of those who neither entered paid work nor stated a new claim immediately after ending the original JSA claim were also neither in paid work nor claiming at the point of interview. The remainder were more likely to have returned to claiming than to have entered work.

Among those JSA leavers neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview, one-quarter (23 per cent) were in either full-time or part-time training. A similar proportion decided not to set up another claim for an out-of-work benefit because they were previously told they were not eligible
to claim 24 per cent). Smaller numbers were either working in a voluntary role or were retired at the time of research (seven per cent and five per cent respectively).

### 2.8 Intermediate destinations

As well as ascertaining their activities immediately on ending their JSA claim and their activities at the time of interview, individuals were also asked to report any movement in and out of work or claiming between these two points.

Almost three-fifths (57 per cent) remained doing the same single activity (be it the same job, period of self-employment, claim or other activity) throughout the period from ending their claim to being interviewed seven to eight months later (and hence did not have any 'intermediate destinations'). Destinations of single parents were more likely than average to have been stable with a higher proportion of this group engaging in the same single activity throughout this period ( 68 per cent compared to 56 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort). Conversely, the destinations of young leavers were less stable ( 49 per cent had moved on from their initial activity compared to 40 per cent of those aged 25+).

Figure 2.9 shows the proportion doing the same single activity throughout the seven to eight month period by main destination - work, claiming or neither - on ending JSA claim.

Across the period covered by the research, three-quarters (73 per cent) of the leavers cohort had entered paid work at some point. Three-fifths ( 60 per cent) had held one job or period of selfemployment and a further one in eight (12 per cent), two.

On average, across the JSA leavers cohort as a whole, individuals had spent 4.8 months in work between ending the original JSA claim and the point of interview (a period averaging 7.8 months across the leavers cohort as a whole). In line with earlier findings, women and leavers with a longterm illness, health problem or disability were likely to have spent fewer months in paid work (4.6 and 2.5 months respectively) as were single parents ( 3.4 months).

Figure 2.9 Proportion remaining in same destination since ending original JSA claim


On average, individuals in the JSA leavers cohort spent 1.8 months claiming between ending the original JSA claim and the point of interview ${ }^{12}$.

Those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability were more likely to have spent a longer period claiming ( 3.9 months on average) as were single parents ( 3.7 months), however there were no marked differences by gender.

[^4]
## 3 Outcomes for Income Support leavers cohort

### 3.1 Chapter summary

Nearly half of the Income Support (IS) leavers cohort ended their original claim in February/March 2011 to set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit. The majority of these (approaching threequarters) moved on to Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA).

Just over one-quarter of the IS leavers cohort ended their claim to enter paid work. Most commonly these leavers entered part-time work for an employer and entered work on a permanent or open-ended contract.

The remaining quarter of the leavers cohort neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit.

On the whole, the initial destinations were relatively stable and there was not much movement between working and claiming in the seven to eight months covered by the research. At the point of interview, the overall proportion of the IS leavers cohort in paid work was similar to that at the point immediately after ending the original claim. The proportions claiming and neither claiming nor working also remained relatively consistent.

A total of ten per cent were claiming IS again by the time of interview.
On average individuals in this leavers cohort spent 2.2 months in paid work in the time since ending their original claim for IS. On average, they spent 3.8 months claiming an out-of-work benefit.

### 3.2 Introduction

This chapter explores the destinations of a leavers cohort of individuals who ended a claim for IS in February and March 2011 ${ }^{13}$. The leavers cohort was interviewed for this research between seven and eight months after ending this original claim for IS.

This chapter takes the same approach as the previous one covering the JSA leavers cohort. It starts by summarising the immediate destination of the IS leavers cohort in terms of whether individuals had entered work, returned to claiming an out-of-work benefit or done something else. Later sections of the chapter look at the nature of paid work entered, reasons for leaving work and the types of benefits claimed after individuals ended their original IS claims. The final section summarises the current destination of the leavers cohort (as at the time of research) and other activities between ending the original IS claim and the time of interview.

### 3.3 Summary of immediate destinations

Figure 3.1 summarises the main destinations entered by the IS leavers cohort immediately after ending their original claim for IS in February/March 2011.

Figure 3.1 Summary of immediate destinations


Most commonly ( 46 per cent) the IS leavers cohort ended their original claim to set up a new claim for another out-of-work benefit. The remainder of the leavers cohort split about evenly into those who had ended the original claim to enter paid work (either a period of self-employment, full-time work for an employer or part-time work for an employer - 28 per cent) or neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim ( 25 per cent).

Reasons for ending claims other than working or setting up a new benefit claim are shown below in Table 3.1.

## Table 3.1 Reasons for ending original IS claim other than entering paid work or starting a new benefit claim

|  | All IS leavers cohort $(3,000)$ <br> \% | All who entered paid work (867) \% | All who started a new claim $(1,366)$ \% | All who neither entered paid work nor claimed (767) \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Told no longer eligible/benefit stopped | 35 | 12 | 50 | 33 |
| Began living with partner | 8 | 1 | 6 | 21 |
| Partner's status changed | 6 | 1 | 4 | 16 |
| Entered part-time training or education ${ }^{1}$ | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| Entered full-time training or education ${ }^{2}$ | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| Worked for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 3 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| Change in family circumstances | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Retire and/or claiming a pension/pension credit | 2 | - | - | 8 |
| Became ill/went to hospital | 2 | - | 4 | 2 |
| Decided not to claim | 2 | 2 | - | 3 |
| Full-time carer | 1 | 2 | - | 3 |
| Moved house | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |

[^5]As with the JSA leavers cohort, it was relatively common for individuals in the IS leavers cohort to state that they ended their claim because they were told that they were no longer eligible to claim or had their benefit stopped. This applied to one-third ( 35 per cent) of the entire IS leavers cohort. This was especially likely to be the case among the following groups;

- those who went on to set up a new claim for another out-of-work benefit ( 50 per cent compared to 22 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- those who were separated or divorced (45 per cent compared to 32 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- those suffering from a long-term health problem, illness or disability (43 per cent compared to 32 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- single parents (41 per cent compared to 26 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort).

The fact that these particular sub-groups were more likely to mention ending their claim because they were no longer eligible is in keeping with the nature of the benefit. Single parents are no longer eligible to receive IS once their youngest child reaches the age of seven. Those who are separated or divorced who may have satisfied the necessary conditions for claiming IS when part of a couple may not meet the necessary eligibility criteria when assessed as an individual. Leavers suffering from a long-term health problem, illness or disability, may well be moved off IS as part of the nationwide reassessment programme of those claiming incapacity benefits (including IS paid on the grounds
of illness or disability) for ESA that is currently in progress. In a similar vein, one in twelve (eight per cent) began living with a partner and one in twenty (six per cent) of the entire leavers cohort stated that they ended their claim for IS because their partner's status had changed. These individuals accounted for 16 per cent of those who ended their claim and neither entered work nor set up a claim for an out-of-work benefit. A further three per cent worked for an employer in an unpaid role.

### 3.4 Work destinations

A minority of the IS leavers cohort ended their claim to enter paid work. Some sub-groups were more likely to have entered paid work, including:

- those of a mixed ethnic origin ( 41 per cent compared to 28 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- single parents (35 per cent compared to 19 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- those based in the South East (36 per cent compared to 27 per cent of those elsewhere).


### 3.5 Type of work entered immediately after ending original IS claim

Those who had ended their claim to enter paid work were asked to provide information on the type of work they entered, including contract type, salary and the number of hours worked on average per week. As Figure 3.1 showed earlier in the chapter, entering part-time work was more common than entering full-time work. Nearly one-fifth (17 per cent) of the IS leavers cohort entered paid work for an employer in a part-time position (equating to 60 per cent of all those who had entered paid work). Less than one in ten (seven per cent) - one-quarter ( 26 per cent) of all who entered paid work - had started full-time work for an employer and around one in twenty-five (four per cent) one in seven of those who entered paid work (14 per cent) - had become self-employed.

Among those who entered paid work, women and single parents were most likely to have started part-time work for an employer (both 67 per cent). There was also some variation by geographical location; those in London were more likely to have entered part-time work than those elsewhere ( 32 per cent compared to 25 per cent elsewhere).

Leavers who had entered paid work for an employer (in either a full-time or part-time capacity) were also asked about the type of contract on which they were employed, which is shown in Figure 3.2.

Most often individuals were employed on a permanent or open-ended contract (60 per cent). Around one-fifth (22 per cent) however, were employed on a temporary or casual basis. Work on a fixed-term basis was less common. Similar proportions had entered in to a fixed-term contract lasting between six months and a year or on a fixed-term contract lasting less than six months (six per cent and five per cent respectively). There was little variation in the type of contract entered by sub-groups of the leavers cohort.

Figure 3.2 Contract type


A small number of individuals started working in more than one job when they ended their IS claim. Of all those who immediately entered paid work, fewer than one in twenty (four per cent) were working in more than one job at the point when they ended their IS claim (equating to one per cent of the leavers cohort as a whole). Those who had ended their original IS claim to enter a period of self-employment were most likely to have been doing more than one job at the same time. Around one in ten (nine per cent) of those who ended their original IS claim to enter a period of selfemployment also started work for an employer in a part-time role at the same time. Around one in twenty (six per cent) of those who entered part-time paid work for an employer were also in parttime training immediately after ending the initial IS claim.

Figure 3.3 provides information on earnings of those IS leavers who ended their original IS claim to enter paid work (both self-employment and for an employer) ${ }^{14}$.

[^6]Figure 3.3 Average annual earnings


Of those who ended their claim to enter paid work, three-fifths ( 62 per cent) earned less than $£ 10,000$ and a further fifth ( 19 per cent) earned between $£ 10,000$ and $£ 20,000$. Overall, the average annual salary of IS leavers who immediately entered paid work after ending their original claim was $£ 8,550^{15}$. This is quite a lot lower than for the JSA leavers cohort - partly although not entirely accounted for by the fact that IS leavers were more likely to be working part-time.

The fact that some groups were more likely to enter part-time work is reflected in average earnings. Women had lower average earnings ( $£ 7,800$ compared with $£ 12,750$ for men). Similarly, single parents earned a significantly lower wage ( $£ 7,900$ compared to $£ 10,200$ for the rest of the leavers cohort). However, young leavers (aged 16-24) who were no more likely to have entered part-time

15 Annual derived salaries were calculated through applying a multiple depending on the basis on which a respondent provided salary information (e.g. monthly, weekly, hourly). Checks have been conducted to ensure that mean salaries were not different when including calculations for those whose derived annual salary used the midpoint of a banded hourly variable.
paid work for an employer were also among the lowest earners ( $£ 7,250$ on average compared to £8,950 of those aged 25+).

Of those in paid work, the majority ( 72 per cent) stated they worked fewer than 30 hours per week. As Figure 3.4 shows one in ten ( 11 per cent) stated they worked fewer than 16 hours per week and, three in ten ( 29 per cent) exactly 16 hours and one-third ( 32 per cent) more than 16 hours but fewer than 30 hours per week.

Figure 3.4 Hours worked per week


As mentioned in the previous chapter, one factor that might make the destinations of the cohort of IS leavers covered for this research 'untypical' is that the point at which they left IS coincided with the period of data collection for the 2011 Census which provided many temporary jobs. However, the vast majority ( 96 per cent) of leavers stated their job was not related to the census in any way.

### 3.6 Claim destinations

As mentioned earlier in the chapter, nearly half ( 46 per cent) of leavers who ended a claim for IS in February/March 2011 did so to set up another claim for an out-of-work benefit. This was particularly likely to be the case for:

- those in Scotland (58 per cent compared to 45 per cent elsewhere);
- leavers with a long-term illness, health problem or disability (54 per cent compared to 44 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- single parents (51 per cent compared to 40 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- leavers aged 25-65 (48 per cent compared to 39 per cent of those aged 16-24).

Leavers who had ended their original IS claim to start a new claim for another benefit were asked which benefit they had moved on to. As Figure 3.5 shows, nearly three-quarters ( 72 per cent) moved on to JSA and a further fifth (17 per cent) had started a claim for ESA. Around one in twenty (four per cent) had moved straight back to claiming IS. These individuals account for two per cent of the leavers cohort as a whole.

Figure 3.5 New claim


All IS claimants who set up another claim immediately after ending their original IS claim $(1,456)$.
Source: B4.

Within the group of leavers who had moved to a new claim for an out-of-work benefit, there was some variation in the types of benefit claimed by sub-group. Among those more likely to have set up a claim for JSA were single parents ( 76 per cent compared to 65 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort), women ( 73 per cent compared to 66 per cent of men) and those in London ( 78 per cent compared to 71 per cent). Among those who had ended their original claim for IS to immediately set up a new claim for JSA, one in seven (14 per cent) had subsequently moved into paid work at some point. A similar proportion (13 per cent) were in paid work at the time of interview.

In keeping with the nature of the benefit, those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability were more likely to have started a claim for ESA ( 50 per cent compared to four per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort). However, men (who were more likely to be suffering from a long-term illness, health problem or disability) and Asian or Asian British group $2^{16}$ leavers were also more likely to have started a new claim for ESA ( 24 per cent and 34 per cent respectively).

Among those who had started a claim for ESA, one-third (34 per cent) had received and knew the outcome of their claim. The remainder were either awaiting the outcome of the WCA (19 per cent), had received their outcome but were not sure what it meant or which group they had been placed in (17 per cent) or did not know if they had received an outcome (30 per cent).

A fifth (21 per cent) of those who left IS to set up a claim for ESA stated that they had been placed in the Support Group meaning that they were found to have limited capability for work related activity, and were not expected to prepare themselves for a return to work More than one in ten (13 per cent) who had claimed for ESA had been placed in the Work Related Activity Group (WRAG). This means that they would have been found capable of work related activity, but not an immediate return to work. This would have involved them attending a Work Focused Interview (WFI) with a personal adviser and receiving support to help them prepare for suitable work.

Of those who started a new claim for IS, around one in eight (13 per cent) received a disability premium.

### 3.7 Current destination

Figure 3.6 overleaf summarises the 'start' and 'end' destinations of the IS leavers cohort who ended their original claim in February/March 2011.

As in the previous chapter, the three boxes across the top of the diagram show the initial activities of individuals on ending their IS claim. The three boxes across the bottom show the activities at the time of interview. The series of boxes in the middle of the diagram illustrate how 'immediate' activities map to 'final activities'17.

### 3.7.1 Paid work

The proportion of the IS leavers cohort in paid work at the time of interviews was similar to that at the point immediately after ending the initial claim for IS had been ended ( 28 per cent immediately after ending the original IS claim and 29 per cent at the time of interview). This is because those who entered work had largely remained working while only very small numbers who initially claimed or neither worked nor claimed had moved into work during the period covered by the research.

Four-fifths (81 per cent) of IS leavers who had ended their original claim to enter paid work were still in paid work at the time of interview (between seven and eight months later).

Figure 3.6 Summary of initial and current destinations


Overall seven in ten (69 per cent) of those who had ended their original IS claim to enter paid work had been in that same employment or self-employment continuously throughout the intervening seven to eight month period. A further ten per cent had moved between jobs but remained in employment. The remainder had moved in and out of work (but had ended up in work at the time of the research).

Sub-groups more likely to be in paid work at the time of interview were:

- those who were a single parent ( 36 per cent compared to 19 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- female leavers ( 30 per cent compared to 23 per cent of men).

While single parents were also more likely to have been in paid work immediately after ending their original IS claim, this difference noted by gender at the time of interview was not apparent in immediate destinations (reflecting the fact that men were less likely to have achieved sustained employment). There was also a shift in likelihood to be in paid work by geography seven to eight months later. Whereas those in the South East were most likely to be in paid work immediately after ending the original IS claim, those in the South West were most likely to be in paid work at the time of research ( 36 per cent compared to 28 per cent elsewhere).

Leavers who had ended their original IS claim to enter paid work and had subsequently moved on to another activity (which may have included another job or period of self-employment) were asked why they had ended that original job or period of self-employment. Reasons given are shown in Table 3.2.

Just under three in ten ( 28 per cent) stated that they ended this initial period of employment or self-employment because the contract ended or because it was a period of temporary work. Around one in six (17 per cent) moved on to another job. There is some evidence of individuals struggling to make work pay with some individuals stating that they had to leave their employment because they were not earning enough or had to stop working due to childcare commitments (14 per cent for each reason). Of those who ended this initial period of work because they were not earning enough, half (51 per cent) immediately returned to claiming an out-of-work benefit while one-third (34 per cent) moved in to a new job.

## Table 3.2 Reasons for leaving first job/ending initial period of self-employment

|  | (261) |
| :--- | :---: |
| All IS leavers who having ended their claim left their subsequent job | $\mathbf{\%}$ |
| Temporary work/contract ended | 28 |
| Found another job | 17 |
| Not earning enough | 14 |
| Childcare commitments | 14 |
| Health reasons | 9 |
| Made redundant | 8 |
| Sacked/dismissed | 8 |
| Disliked job/industry | 7 |
| Caring responsibilities/family commitments | 4 |
| Company closed | 3 |
| Transport difficulties | 3 |
| Went into training/education | 2 |

The profile of the type of work entered by those in paid work at the time of interview was almost identical to that entered by those immediately after ending their original IS claim. Three-fifths (61 per cent) were working part-time for an employer, one-quarter ( 25 per cent) were in full-time work for an employer and around one in seven ( 15 per cent) were self-employed.
Figure 3.7 shows the variation in employment contract types among those in paid work immediately after ending their initial IS claim and at the time of interview seven to eight months later.

There is not as much variation in the profile of work by contract types immediately on ending claims compared with at the time of interview as seen for the JSA leavers cohort for example. This reflects the fact that a smaller proportion of the IS leavers cohort entered work on a temporary or casual basis and that this in turn means a smaller proportion moved out of work over the seven to eight month period covered by the research. At the time of interview, over half ( 54 per cent) were employed on a permanent or open-ended contract and the proportion employed on a temporary or causal basis had reduced from 22 per cent to 13 per cent.

One-fifth (21 per cent) of those who had been in paid work for an employer immediately after ending the original IS claim were no longer in paid work at the time of interview.

Figure 3.7 Initial and current contract types


### 3.7.2 Claim for a benefit for people who are not working

At the time of interview, half ( 49 per cent) of the entire IS leavers cohort were claiming an out-ofwork benefit (this marks an increase of three percentage points since the point immediately after claims ended ${ }^{18}$ ).

Sub-groups more likely to be claiming at the time of interview were:

- those with a long term illness, health problem or disability ( 62 per cent compared to 44 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- older leavers (50 per cent compared to 44 per cent of leavers aged 16-24);
- single parents (54 per cent compared to 42 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort).

Again, this variation by sub-group reflects the variation that was evident in the proportions claiming a new out-of-work benefit immediately after ending their original IS claim.

More than four-fifths ( 85 per cent) of those who had ended their original IS claim in February/March 2011 to claim for another out-of-work benefit were claiming at the time of research (between seven and eight months later). In total, two-thirds ( 66 per cent) of leavers who ended their original IS claim and started a new claim for an out-of-work benefit had claimed that same benefit continuously throughout the seven to eight month period covered by the research.

More than half ( 54 per cent) of those who were claiming at the time of interview were claiming JSA and one in five ( 19 per cent) were claiming ESA. One in five ( 22 per cent) were now claiming IS. As Figure 3.8 shows, this means that by the time of interview the proportion of the entire IS leavers cohort who were claiming IS had increased from one in fifty (two per cent) immediately after ending the original claim to one in ten (ten per cent) seven to eight months later.

Figure 3.8 Initial and current benefit claims


### 3.7.3 Neither in paid work nor claiming

The proportion of IS leavers neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview was at a very similar level to the period immediately after original IS claims ended ( 22 per cent compared to 25 per cent initially). Three-quarters ( 75 per cent) of those who neither entered paid work nor claimed immediately after ending their IS claim in February/March 2011 were also neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview.

Among those neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview almost one in five (17 per cent) were in either full-time or part-time training. Three in ten (29 per cent) decided not to set up another claim for an out-of-work benefit because they were previously told they were not eligible to claim. Roughly equal proportions were living with a partner by the time of research, or their partner's status had changed (19 per cent and 16 per cent respectively). One in ten (ten per cent) were retired at the time of research.

### 3.8 Intermediate destinations

As well as ascertaining their activities immediately on ending their IS claim and their activities at the time of interview, individuals were also asked to report any movement in and out of work or claiming between these two points. At an overall level, two-thirds (67 per cent) of leavers had remained doing the same single activity (be it the same job, period of self-employment, claim or other single activity) throughout the period from ending their claim to being interviewed seven to eight months later. Those aged between 25 and 65 years of age were more likely to have remained doing the same activity continuously ( 68 per cent). Conversely, single parents who were more likely to have ended their original IS claim and neither entered paid work nor claimed, were more likely to have changed activity during the seven to eight month period ( 35 per cent compared to 29 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort).

Figure 3.9 shows the proportion with the same continuous activity throughout the seven to eight month period by destination on ending IS claim.

Figure 3.9 Proportion remaining in same destination since ending original IS claim


During the seven to eight month period covered by the research more than one-third (thirty-five per cent) of the leavers cohort had entered paid work at some point. One in three (31 per cent) had held one job or period of self-employment and a further one in twenty five (four per cent), two.

Across the IS leavers cohort as a whole, individuals had spent an average of 2.2 months in work (out of the average 7.8 months between the end of original IS claims and the point of interview). Both men and those suffering from a long-term illness, health problem or disability had spent less time in paid work ( 1.9 months and 0.9 months respectively). Single parents spent longer in work on average ( 2.7 months compared to 1.5 for the rest of the leavers cohort).

On average, individuals in the IS leavers cohort spent 3.8 months claiming between ending the original IS claim and the point of interview ${ }^{19}$.

Average time spent in work/claiming was calculated across the entire cohort. Months were calculated based on the information provided by the respondent during the survey. Those individuals who did not enter any paid work/did not claim were assigned a value of 0 months.

Those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability were more likely to have spent a longer period claiming ( 4.6 months) as were single parents ( 4.2 months). Hence on average, single parents spent both longer periods in work and claiming (and correspondingly lower than average time neither working nor claiming).

## 4 Outcomes for the Employment and Support Allowance leavers cohort

### 4.1 Chapter summary

Individuals were roughly equally likely to end their claim for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) to set up a claim for another out of work benefit as to enter paid work.

Two-fifths of the ESA leavers cohort ended their original claim in February/March 2011 to enter paid work. Among those who entered paid work, roughly equal proportions worked full-time for an employer, part-time for an employer or started a period of self-employment. Most who started work for an employer did so on a permanent or open-ended contract.

A further two-fifths set up a new claim for another out-of-work benefit. The majority of this group set up a claim for JSA.

The remaining individuals in the ESA leavers cohort had neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit.

Overall, the situations of the ESA leavers cohort remained relatively stable throughout the seven to eight month period between leaving ESA and the point of interview. At the time of interview two-fifths were in paid work, two-fifths were claiming an out-of-work benefit and one-fifth were neither in paid work nor claiming.

On average individuals in this leavers cohort spent three months in paid work in the time since ending the original ESA claim. On average they spent 3.5 months claiming an out-of-work benefit.

### 4.2 Introduction

This chapter explores the destinations of a leavers cohort of individuals who ended a claim for ESA in February and March 201120. The leavers cohort was interviewed for this research between seven and eight months after ending this original claim for ESA ${ }^{21}$.

Following the same structure as for the previous two chapters, this chapter starts by summarising the immediate destinations of the leavers cohort in terms of whether they had entered work, returned to claiming an out-of-work benefit or done something else. Later sections of the chapter look at the nature of paid work entered, reasons for leaving work the types of new claims started after ending original ESA claims. The final section summarises the current destination of the leavers cohort (as at the time of research) and any other activities the leavers cohort may have undertaken between ending the original ESA claim and the time of interview.

[^7]
### 4.3 Summary of immediate destinations

Figure 4.1 summarises the main destinations entered by the ESA leavers cohort immediately after ending their original claim for ESA in February/March 2011.

Figure 4.1 Summary of immediate destinations


Roughly equal proportions of the ESA cohort ended their claim to enter paid work or set up a new claim. Two-fifths ( 41 per cent) had ended their ESA claim to set up another claim for an out-ofwork benefit while a slightly lower proportion ( 37 per cent) immediately entered paid work (selfemployment, full-time work for an employer or part-time work for an employer). The remainder (22 per cent), had neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim.

Table 4.1 shows reasons other than entering paid work or starting a claim for another benefit that were given as a reason for ending ESA claims. Some of these were also mentioned by those who entered work or started a new claim. The table shows responses given by the leavers cohort as a whole as well as separating those given by each of the three main groups - those who entered work, those who started a new claim and those who did neither.

Table 4.1 Reasons for ending original ESA claim other than entering paid work or starting a new benefit claim

|  | All ESA leavers cohort $(2,600)$ \% | All who entered paid work (912) \% | All who started a new claim $(1,078)$ \% | All who neither entered paid work nor claimed (610) \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Told no longer eligible/benefit stopped | 38 | 18 | 47 | 55* |
| Became ill/went to hospital | 9 | 5 | 10 | 15* |
| Decided not to claim | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| Entered part-time training or education | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6* |
| Retire and/or claiming a pension/pension credit | 3 | - | - | 14* |
| Worked for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5* |
| Full-time carer | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Entered full-time training or education | 1 | 1 | - | 4* |
| Change in family circumstances | 1 | - | 2 | 1 |
| Partner's status changed | 1 | - | 1 | 4* |
| Began living with partner | 1 | - | - | 3* |
| Went to prison | 1 | - | - | 3* |

1 Part-time training or education - less than 16 hours week.
2 Full-time training or education - 16 hours or more per week.
*indicates a statistically significant finding at the 95 per cent level.
Two-fifths (38 per cent) of the entire ESA leavers cohort stated they ended their original claim because they were advised that they were no longer eligible to receive ESA. For many this is likely to have happened through the renewal process; ESA is reviewed periodically, depending on a claimants' prognosis period, which can be three, six, or twelve months or longer. If found ineligible for ESA the claimant is deemed to be 'fit for work' and advised that they should move on to JSA and/or start looking for paid work. Being told they were no longer eligible was a reason given by just under one in five (18 per cent) of those who entered work immediately and around half (55 per cent) of those who either set up a claim for a new benefit or who neither worked nor claimed.

Nine per cent of the ESA leavers cohort ended their claim because they were too ill or spent some time in hospital. This rises to 15 per cent of those who neither worked nor claimed when they initially ended their ESA claim.

It was relatively uncommon for individuals to end an ESA claim to enter training (three per cent entered part-time training and one per cent entered full-time training).

Although individuals who left ESA because they retired or started to claim Pension Credit accounted for a relatively small proportion of the overall leavers cohort (three per cent), they represented 14 per cent of those who neither worked nor claimed when they initially left ESA. Half (54 per cent) of those aged over 65 who ended the original ESA claim and neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim ended their claim for this reason.

### 4.4 Work destinations

As mentioned above, around two-fifths (37 per cent) of the ESA leavers cohort ended their original ESA claim in February/March 2011 and immediately entered paid work (either self-employment or full-time or part-time paid work for an employer). Men particularly, were more likely to have done this than their female counterparts ( 40 per cent compared to 34 per cent of women) as well as those in the South East ( 45 per cent compared to 36 per cent elsewhere).

### 4.5 Type of work entered immediately after ending original ESA claim

Those who had ended their claim to enter paid work were asked to provide information on the type of work they entered, including contract type, salary and the number of hours worked on average per week.

As Figure 4.1 showed earlier in the chapter, individuals in the ESA leavers cohort entered a mix of types of work. Relatively even proportions of the ESA leavers cohort entered full-time work, part-time work and self-employment ( 13 per cent, 13 per cent and 11 per cent respectively).

Of those who entered paid work, certain sub-groups were more likely to have entered part-time work for an employer which are summarised below:

- single parents (65 per cent compared to 34 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- women ( 56 per cent compared to 22 per cent of all men who entered paid work);
- those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability ( 40 per cent compared to 33 per cent of the rest of the ESA leavers cohort who entered paid work).

Leavers who entered paid work for an employer (in either a full-time or part-time capacity) were also asked about the type of contract on which they were employed. The profile of employment by contract time is shown in Figure 4.2 both at an overall level and split by full and part-time work.

Figure 4.2 Contract type

| $\square$ | Permanent or open-ended <br> contract |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Fixed-term contract lasting <br> more than a year |
| $\square$ | Fixed-term contract <br> lasting between six <br> months and a year |
| $\square$ | Fixed-term contract <br> lasting less than six <br> months |
| $\square$ | Temporary or casual basis |



All ESA claimants who entered paid work for an employer immediately after ending their original ESA claim (645).
Source: B8.

Where individuals in the ESA leavers cohort entered work, this was largely on a permanent or openended contract ( 65 per cent). One-fifth ( 21 per cent) entered work on a temporary or casual basis and one in ten (11 per cent) entered into a fixed-term contract. Women, who were more likely to have entered part-time work for an employer, were more likely to have started work on a permanent or open-ended contract ( 72 per cent compared to 57 per cent of men). Conversely men, as well as young leavers (16-24 year olds), were more likely to have worked in a temporary job or on a casual contract ( 25 per cent and 42 per cent respectively).

Some individuals were working in more than one job when they ended their ESA claim. Of all those in paid work, one in twenty (five per cent) were working in more than one job at the point when they ended their ESA claim (equating to two per cent of the leavers cohort as a whole). Around one in twenty (five per cent) of those whose main destination was a period of self employment also held a part-time paid position for an employer, and a similar proportion (four per cent) a full-time position with an employer.

Figure 4.3 provides information of earnings of individuals who ended their ESA claim to enter paid work (both self-employment and for an employer) ${ }^{22}$.

Annual derived salaries were calculated through applying a multiple depending on the basis on which a respondent provided salary information (e.g. monthly, weekly, hourly). Checks have been conducted to ensure that mean salaries were not different when including calculations for those whose derived annual salary used the midpoint of a banded hourly variable.

Figure 4.3 Average annual earnings


Of those who ended their ESA claim to enter paid work, around two-fifths (37 per cent) earned less than $£ 10,000$ per year on average and just over a quarter ( 28 per cent) between $£ 10,000$ and less than $£ 20,000$. Overall, the average annual salary of ESA leavers who immediately entered paid work after ending their original claim was $£ 12,350^{23}$. There was little variation in average annual earnings by contract type, but those employed on a permanent or open-ended contract earned a slightly higher average wage ( $£ 12,750$ ).

The fact that some groups were more likely to enter part-time work is reflected in average annual earnings. Single parents earned a significantly lower wage ( $£ 8,550$ compared to $£ 12,650$ for the rest of the leavers cohort) as well as women $(£ 10,550)$ and those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability ( $£ 11,500$ ). Although not more likely to be working part-time, young leavers (aged 18-24) also earned a significantly lower wage on average ( $£ 8,750$ ).

Leavers were also asked to provide information on the average number of hours worked per week which is illustrated in Figure 4.4. More than two-fifths (44 per cent) of those who entered paid work said they worked more than 30 hours per week. Around a quarter ( 23 per cent) worked more than 16 hours but fewer than 30 hours per week.

Figure 4.4 Hours worked per week

| $\square$ | More than 30 hours per week |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | 30 hours per week |
| $\square$ | More than 16 hours but fewer |
| than 30 hours per week |  |
| $\square$ | 16 hours per week |
| $\square$ | Less than 16 hours per week |



All ESA claimants who enetered paid work immediately after ending their original ESA claim (912).
Source: B16.

As mentioned in the previous chapters, one factor that might make the destinations of the leavers cohort of ESA leavers covered for this research 'untypical' is that the point at which they left ESA (February-March 2011) coincided with the period of data collection for the 2011 Census which provided many temporary jobs. One in ten (nine per cent) of those who entered paid work for an employer stated that the job was related to the Census.

### 4.6 Claim destinations

As mentioned earlier in the chapter two-fifths (41 per cent) of the ESA leavers cohort ended their original claim in February/March 2011 to go on and set up a new claim for an out of-work-benefit.

This was more likely to be the case for:

- single parents (67 per cent compared to 37 per cent of the rest of the ESA leavers cohort);
- young leavers (51 per cent compared to 39 per cent of the rest of the ESA leavers cohort);
- those in Scotland and the West Midlands (49 per cent and 48 per cent respectively);
- women (44 per cent compared to 38 per cent of men).

Leavers who had ended their original ESA claim to start a new claim for another benefit were asked which benefit they had moved on to. As Figure 4.5 shows, four-fifths (79 per cent) of those who had set up a new claim had started claiming JSA. Smaller proportions had started a claim for IS or returned to ESA (eight per cent and seven per cent respectively). Overall, fewer than one in twenty (3 per cent) of the entire ESA leavers cohort ended their original ESA claim and immediately set-up a new claim for ESA.

The fact that the majority of those who started a new claim did so for JSA reflects that when being given their renewal/re-assessment outcome leavers assessed as fit for work are usually advised to set up a claim for JSA and start looking for paid work. Among those who had ended their original claim for ESA to immediately set up a new claim for JSA, nearly one-fifth (18 per cent) had eventually moved into paid work at some point and a smaller proportion (14 per cent) were in paid work at the time of interview.

Within the group of leavers who had moved to a new claim for an out-of-work benefit there was some variation in the types of benefit claimed by sub-groups. Men were more likely to have started a claim for JSA ( 86 per cent compared to 72 per cent of women) and conversely, women were more likely to have set up a claim for IS (15 per cent) as were single parents (30 per cent) and young leavers ( 17 per cent) (compared to eight per cent overall).

In keeping with the nature of the benefit, those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability were more likely to have returned to claiming ESA (12 per cent compared to three per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort).

Figure 4.5 New claim


All ESA claimants who set up another claim immediately after ending their original ESA claim $(1,139)$.
Source: B4.

Among those who had started a new claim for ESA, only around a quarter (26 per cent) were aware of the outcome of their claim (in terms of whether they had been allocated to the Support Group or the Work Related Activity Group (WRAG) ${ }^{24}$.

Of those who ended their claim for ESA to claim IS, fewer than one in ten (11 per cent) were receiving a disability premium.

### 4.7 Current destination

Figure 4.6 overleaf summarises the 'start' and 'end' destinations of the ESA leavers cohort who ended their original claim in February/March 2011.

As in the previous chapters, the three boxes across the top of the diagram show the initial activities of individuals on ending their ESA claim. The three boxes across the bottom show the activities at the time of interview. The series of boxes in the middle of the diagram map how 'immediate' activities map to 'final activities'25.

### 4.7.1 Paid work

At the time of interview two-fifths (38 per cent) of the ESA leavers cohort were in paid work - the same proportion who entered paid work immediately after ending the original ESA claim. Work outcomes were largely stable. Just over four-fifths (83 per cent) of those who entered paid work immediately after ending the original ESA claim were still in paid work seven to eight months later. Overall, three-quarters (73 per cent) had remained in the same job or self-employment continuously throughout the intervening seven to eight month period. A further seven per cent had moved between jobs but remained in employment. The remainder had moved in and out of work (but had ended up in work at the time of the research).

While men were more likely to have ended the original claim and immediately entered paid work, there was no noticeable difference when looking at main activity at the point of interview (seven to eight months later); as men who entered work were more likely to have returned to claiming by the time of research than women who entered work. This perhaps reflects the fact that men were more likely to enter employment on temporary or shorter fixed term contracts. Those in the south east as well as those in the east of England were still among those more likely to be working at the time of interview ( 45 per cent and 46 per cent respectively).

Leavers who had ended their original ESA claim to enter paid work and had subsequently moved on to another activity (which may have included another job or period of self employment) were asked why they had ended that original job or period of self employment. These reasons are shown in the Table 4.2.

Over a quarter (28 per cent) stated that they ended this initial period of (self) employment because the contract ended or because it was a period of temporary work.

[^8]Figure 4.6 Summary of initial and current destinations


A similar proportion (26 per cent) stated they had to stop work due to health reasons and one in ten (ten per cent) said they were not earning enough or found another job. Similar proportions stated they were sacked or dismissed, made redundant or did not like the work (seven per cent, six per cent and six per cent respectively).

Given there was relatively little overall movement between destinations in the intervening seven to eight month period, the profile of the type of work held at the time of interview was identical to that entered by those immediately after claims ended. Just over one-third (34 per cent) were working for an employer in a full-time position, the same proportion again (36 per cent) were in part-time work for an employer and just less than one-third (30 per cent) were self-employed. Similarly, there was relatively little change to the type of contract on which ESA leavers were working at the time of research.

## Table 4.2 Reasons for leaving first job/ending initial period of self-employment

|  | $\mathbf{( 2 4 3 )}$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| All ESA leavers who having ended their claim left their subsequent job | $\%$ |
| Temporary work/contract ended | 28 |
| Health reasons | 26 |
| Found another job | 10 |
| Not earning enough | 10 |
| Sacked/dismissed | 7 |
| Other reason | 7 |
| Made redundant | 6 |
| Disliked job/industry | 6 |
| Transport difficulties | 3 |
| Childcare commitments | 3 |
| Went into training/education | 2 |
| Company closed | 2 |
| No promotion prospects | 1 |

### 4.7.2 Claim for a benefit for people who are not working

Overall, two-fifths (42 per cent) of the ESA leavers cohort were claiming another benefit at the time of research. The differences by gender in likelihood to be claiming immediately after ending an ESA claim was not evident at the time of the interview. On the other hand, whereas previously, those with a long-term illness, health problem or disability were no more or less likely to have ended the original ESA claim to set up another claim for an out-of-work benefit, they were more likely to be claiming seven to eight months later ( 45 per cent compared to 39 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort).

Single parents and young leavers were also more likely to be claiming at this point (67 per cent and 54 per cent respectively) as well as those in London (49 per cent compared to 41 per cent elsewhere).

More than four-fifths (82 per cent) of those who ended their original ESA claim to set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit were also claiming at the time of research and two-thirds had one single claim (66 per cent) continuously through this seven to eight month period.

Two-thirds ( 66 per cent) of those who were claiming an out-of-work benefit at the time of interview were claiming JSA. Across the entire leavers cohort, this marked a decrease of seven percentage points over the seven to eight month intervening period (from 34 per cent to 27 per cent of the leavers cohort). Much of this decrease in claims for JSA is accounted for by an increase in claims for ESA. The proportion of those with a new claim for ESA rose from three per cent immediately after ending the original claim to eight per cent at the time of research. The proportion claiming IS had remained consistent throughout. These figures are shown in Figure 4.7.

Figure 4.7 Initial and current benefit claims


### 4.7.3 Neither in paid work nor claiming

The proportion of ESA leavers neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview also remained constant through the seven to eight months between leaving benefit and the point of interview ( 20 per cent). Three-quarters ( 73 per cent) of those who neither entered paid work nor claimed immediately after ending their ESA claim in February/March 2011 were neither working nor claiming at the time of research.

Among those neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview approaching half ( 46 per cent) decided not to set up a new claim because they had previously been found ineligible to claim benefit. Around one in five (18 per cent) had retired by the time of research and a slightly smaller proportion (13 per cent) were neither in paid work nor claiming because they were ill or in hospital.

### 4.8 Intermediate destinations

As well as their activities immediately on ending their ESA claim and their activities at the time of interview, individuals were also asked to report any movement in and out of work or claiming
between these two points. Seven in ten (69 per cent) had remained doing the same activity (be it the same job, claim or other single activity) during the seven to eight month period the research covered. This was especially the case for those who were married or in a same-sex civil partnership ( 78 per cent compared to 65 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort).

Younger leavers, who were more likely to have set up another claim for an out-of-work benefit immediately after ending the original ESA claim, were less likely to have remained doing the same thing continuously ( 59 per cent compared to 70 per cent of those ages $25+$ ). Figure 4.8 shows the proportion with the same single activity throughout the seven to eight month period by destination immediately on leaving ESA.

Figure 4.8 Proportion remaining in same destination since ending original ESA claim


All ESA cohort $(2,600)$.
Source: C2.

Approaching half (46 per cent) of the entire ESA leavers cohort had entered paid work at some point during the seven to eight month period covered by the research. One-fifth ( 42 per cent) had held one job and one in twenty (four per cent), two. On average across the entire ESA leavers cohort as a whole, individuals had spent an average of 2.9 months in work between ending the original ESA claim and the point of interview (which represented seven months on average across the whole leavers cohort). Men spent longer on average in paid work ( 3.1 months compared to 2.7 months for women).

Across the seven to eight months covered by the research, half of the entire ESA leavers cohort had some period of claiming an out-of-work benefit. Over two-fifths ( 43 per cent) had claimed just once in this time. On average, the ESA leavers cohort spent an average of 3.3 months claiming between leaving ESA and the point of interview (out of the average 7.8 months between leaving ESA and being interviewed) ${ }^{26}$.

Single parents, young leavers and women, all of whom were more likely to have ended their claim and immediately set up a claim for an out-of-work benefit had longer average lengths of time claiming ( $5.4,4.1$ and 3.6 months respectively).

# 5 Outcomes for whole leavers cohort 

### 5.1 Chapter summary

Taken as a whole, the majority (three-fifths) of the leavers cohort (i.e. including all those who ended a claim for Jobseeker’s Allowance (JSA), Income Support (IS) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) in February or March 2011) entered paid work on ending their original claim. This was most commonly full-time work for an employer and on a permanent or open ended-contract. The JSA leavers cohort accounts for three-quarters ( 77 per cent) of the leavers cohort and hence overall findings reflect those for JSA leavers to a large extent.

One-fifth of the leavers cohort ended their original claim in February/March and immediately set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit.

Another fifth had ended the original claim but neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit.

By the time of research seven to eight months later, the proportion of the leavers cohort in paid work had reduced to half. The proportion claiming had increased to a third with the majority of this group claiming JSA. The proportion neither in paid work nor claiming had decreased slightly, but not significantly.

On average across the overall leavers cohort individuals spent 4.3 months in paid work in the period between ending the original claim and the research interview (a period of seven months on average). They spent 2.2 months on average claiming an out of work benefit.

### 5.2 Introduction

Chapters 2 to 4 have looked at the destinations of those ending a claim for JSA, IS and ESA in turn. This chapter now considers these three groups of individuals as a whole leavers cohort. It therefore presents overall destinations information for a leavers cohort of individuals who ended a claim for either JSA, ESA or IS in February and March $2011{ }^{27}$ and were then interviewed for this research between seven and eight months later.

The chapter starts by summarising the immediate destination of the leavers cohort in terms of whether they had entered work, returned to claiming an out-of-work benefit or had done something else. Later sections of the chapter look at the nature of paid work entered, reasons for leaving work and information on any claim started immediately after ending the original claim. The final section summarises the 'current' destination of the leavers cohort (i.e. as at the time of research) and other activities undertaken between ending the original claim and the time of interview.

At an overall level, the leavers cohort is dominated by those who had ended a claim for JSA (77 per cent). Among those ending a claim in February and March 2011 those had ended an ESA claim or an IS claim represented much smaller proportions of the overall leavers cohort (13 per cent and ten per cent respectively). This means that at an overall level, outcomes are driven by the destinations of those ending a claim for JSA.

27 This leavers cohort will also include individuals who ended a claim in the last week of January 2011 and the first week of April 2011.

### 5.3 Summary of immediate destinations

Figure 5.1 summarises the main destinations entered by the overall leavers cohort immediately after ending their original claim for in February/March 2011.

Figure 5.1 Summary of immediate destinations


A slight majority (60 per cent) of the leavers cohort ended their original claim and immediately entered paid work (self-employment, full-time work for an employer or part-time work for an employer).
One-fifth (20 per cent) ended their claim to set up another claim for an out-of-work benefit and the remaining fifth ( 20 per cent) neither entered paid work nor set up a new claim. Those who ended a claim for JSA were significantly more likely to have immediately entered paid work (68 per cent compared to 28 per cent of those who ended a claim for IS and 37 per cent of those who had claimed ESA).

Leavers were asked if there were any other reasons (i.e. beyond simply finding work or moving on to another benefit) for ending their claim - the main reasons at the overall level are given in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1 Reasons for ending original claim other than entering paid work or starting a new benefit claim

|  | All leavers cohort $(9,000)$ \% | JSA leavers cohort $(3,400)$ \% | IS leavers cohort $(3,000)$ \% | ESA leavers cohort $(2,600)$ \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Told no longer eligible/benefit stopped | 18 | 12* | 35 | 38* |
| Became ill/went to hospital | 6 | 5 | 2* | 9* |
| Entered part-time training or education | 3 | 3 | 4* | 3 |
| Worked for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Entered full-time training or education | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1* |
| Decided not to claim | 3 | 3 | 2* | 4* |
| Full-time carer | 2 | 3* | 1 | 2 |
| Change in family circumstances | 2 | 1 | 3* | 1 |
| Partner's status changed | 2 | 1 | 6* | 1 |
| Retire and/or claiming a pension/pension credit | 1 | 1* | 2 | 3* |
| Began living with partner | 1 | - | 8* | 1 |
| Went to prison | 1 | - | 1* | 1 |

1 Part-time training or education - less than 16 hours week.
2 Full-time training or education - 16 hours or more per week.

* indicates a finding that is statistically significantly different from the remainder of the leavers cohort at the 95 per cent level.

Other than entering work or starting a new benefit claim, the most common reason given for leaving the benefit was that individuals were told they were no longer eligible to claim. At the overall level, just under a fifth (18 per cent) ended their claim because they were told that they were no longer eligible to receive the benefit. This was least likely to be the case among the JSA leavers cohort (12 per cent compared to 35 per cent of the IS leavers cohort and 38 per cent of the ESA leavers cohort). Further information on the eligibility criteria for IS and ESA can be found in Chapters 3 and 4 respectively.

After this, becoming ill or going into hospital was the next most common reason for leaving benefit. Six per cent of the leavers cohort ended their claim because they were ill or went into hospital and this was most likely to be the case among ESA leavers (nine per cent compared to five per cent of the JSA leavers cohort and two per cent of the IS leavers cohort).

Equal proportions ended their original claim to enter training (either full-time or part-time), work for an employer in an unpaid role or simply decided to stop claiming (all three per cent).

### 5.4 Work destinations

As mentioned above three-fifths (60 per cent) of individuals ended their original claim in February/ March 2011 and immediately entered paid work (either self employment or full-time or part-time paid work for an employer).

Overall, men were more likely to have ended their original claim and immediately entered paid work ( 66 per cent compared to 51 per cent of women). However, this was not a trend seen across each of the benefit groups. Whereas men were more likely to have entered paid work than women in the JSA and ESA leavers cohort, they were actually less likely (albeit not significantly so) to have entered paid work in the IS leavers cohort ( 25 per cent of men in the IS leavers cohort compared to 29 per cent per cent of women; 71 per cent of men in the JSA leavers cohort compared to 62 per cent of women; 40 per cent of men in the ESA leavers cohort compared to 34 per cent of women). This overall difference by gender is largely being driven by the difference in men and women's' work outcomes in the JSA leavers cohort.

### 5.5 Type of work entered immediately after ending original claim

Those who ended their claim to enter paid work were asked to provide information on the type of work they entered, including contract type, salary and the number of hours worked on average per week. As shown in Figure 5.1, at the overall level almost one-third (34 per cent) of the entire leavers cohort started work for an employer in a full-time position - representing a slight majority ( 57 per cent) of those who entered any type of paid work. Again, this overall finding is driven by the JSA leavers cohort given that the type of paid work entered by the ESA leavers cohort was relatively even balanced across full and part-time working and that the IS leavers cohort were in fact more likely have entered part-time paid work for an employer ( 60 per cent of the IS leavers cohort who entered any paid work compared to 26 per cent of the JSA leavers cohort and 36 per cent of the ESA leavers cohort).

Overall, almost a fifth (17 per cent) of the entire leavers cohort entered a part-time position on ending their claim, equating to 29 per cent of those who entered any type of paid work. Around one in ten (nine per cent) of the whole leavers cohort became self-employed immediately after ending their original claim, equating to 14 per cent of all those who entered any type of paid work.

Leavers that entered paid work for an employer (in either a full-time or part-time capacity) were asked about the type of contract they held. Results are summarised at the overall level and split by benefit type in Figure 5.2.

Figure 5.2 Contract type


Approaching half (47 per cent) of the leavers cohort were employed on a permanent or open ended contract. Just under a third ( 30 per cent) were employed on a temporary or casual basis. Although more likely to have entered full-time paid work for an employer, the JSA leavers cohort were least likely to have entered into a permanent or open ended contract ( 45 per cent compared to 60 per cent of the IS leavers cohort and 65 per cent of the ESA leavers cohort). Correspondingly, the JSA leavers cohort were the most likely to have started in a temporary or casual job (31 per cent) when compared with the IS (22 per cent) or ESA leavers cohort (21 per cent).

Some individuals were working in more than one job immediately after ending their original claim ${ }^{28}$. Of all those in paid work, one in twenty (five per cent) were working in more than one job at the point when they ended their claim (equating to three per cent of the leavers cohort as a whole). Around one in ten (11 per cent) of those whose entered self employment also held a full-time paid position for an employer, and one in twenty (five per cent) a part-time position with an employer. Around one in twenty-five (four per cent) of those who main destination was part-time work were also training part-time.

Where this was the case findings relating to a work destination in this chapter relate to the main role held.

Figure 5.3 Average annual earnings


Figure 5.3 above shows earnings data for all those who entered paid work after ending their original claim for JSA, ESA or IS (including those who entered self-employment as well as those working for an employer) ${ }^{29}$.

[^9]Most of those entering paid work had a wage equating to under $£ 20,000$ per year. Overall, around a third ( 31 per cent) earned less than $£ 10,000$ per year on average and a further two-fifths (38 per cent) between $£ 10,000$ and $£ 19,999$. The average annual salary of those who entered paid work after ending their original claim was $£ 13,400^{30}$.

Leavers were also asked to provide information on the average number of hours worked per week which is illustrated in Figure 5.4.

Overall, over half (56 per cent) of those who entered paid work said they worked more than 30 hours per week. Around a fifth (19 per cent) worked more than 16 hours but fewer than 30 hours per week.

Figure 5.4 Hours worked per week


### 5.6 Claim destinations

One-fifth (20 per cent) of the leavers cohort ended their original claim in February/March 2011 to go on and set up a new claim for an out of-work-benefit. This was three times as likely for those who had ended a claim for IS or ESA than those who had ended a claim for JSA ( 46 per cent of the IS cohort and 41 per cent of the ESA leavers cohort compared to 14 per cent of the JSA leavers cohort).

Leavers who had ended their original claim to start a new claim for another benefit were asked which benefit they had moved on to. As Figure 5.5 shows, half ( 52 per cent) had started claiming JSA, a quarter ( 26 per cent) had started a claim for ESA and around one in eight (13 per cent), IS. Of those that had started a claim for JSA, just under a third (30 per cent) had just ended a claim for JSA and so had returned quickly to the same benefit. A further third (32 per cent) had come to JSA from IS. And the remaining individuals (just over a third - 38 per cent) had originally been claiming ESA.

Figure 5.5 Benefit claimed by benefit left


All claimants who set up another claim immediately after ending their original claim. (Overall: 3,112; JSA: 517; IS: 1,456; ESA: 1,139).
Source: B4.

Where the original JSA leavers cohort had ended that claim only to start another claim, most were claiming ESA (39 per cent). Among those who had started a new claim for ESA, around a third (31 per cent) had successfully applied and knew the outcome of their claim, including which ESA group they were in. One-fifth ( 21 per cent) had been placed in the Support Group meaning that they were found to have limited capability for work related activity, and were not expected to prepare themselves for a return to work. This equates to seven in ten ( 69 per cent) of all who had successfully applied for ESA and received (and recalled) their outcome.

Just under one in ten (nine per cent) of those who had started a claim for ESA had been placed in the Work Related Activity Group (WRAG). This means that they would have been found capable of work related activity, but not an immediate return to work. This would have involved them attending a Work Focused Interview (WFI) with a personal adviser and receiving support to help them prepare for suitable work. The remainder were either awaiting the outcome of the WCA ( 25 per cent), had received their outcome but were not sure what it meant or which group they had been placed in ( 12 per cent) or did not know if they had received an outcome ( 32 per cent).

There was no difference in ESA group assigned by original benefit type. However, the ESA leavers cohort who arguably would have been more familiar with the process of claiming ESA were more likely to be unsure as to whether they had actually received an outcome.

Overall, of those who ended their original claim to start a claim for IS one in twenty (five per cent) received a disability premium.

### 5.7 Current destination

Figure 5.6 summarises the 'start' and 'end' destinations of the entire leavers cohort of individuals who ended their original claim in February/March 2011.

As in previous chapters, the three boxes across the top of the diagram show the initial activities of individuals on ending their original claim. The three boxes across the bottom show the activities at the time of interview ('current' destination). The series of boxes in the middle of the diagram show how 'immediate' activities map to 'final activities'31.

### 5.7.1 Paid work

At the time of interview half ( 50 per cent) of the overall leavers cohort were in paid work - a smaller proportion than was the case immediately after claims were ended (60 per cent).

Three-quarters (76 per cent) of those who entered paid work immediately after ending their original claim were also in paid work seven to eight months later. Overall, three-fifths ( 60 per cent) remained in the same job or same self-employed work continuously since ending their original claim. A further 12 per cent moved between jobs but remained in employment. The remainder (four per cent) had moved in and out of work (but had ended up in work at the time of the research).

As at the point immediately after ending the original claim, the JSA leavers cohort were most likely to be in paid work at the time of research ( 55 per cent compared to 29 per cent of the IS leavers cohort and 38 per cent of the ESA leavers cohort).

Figure 5.6 Summary of destinations


Those more likely to be in paid work at the time of research by key demographic groups were:

- men (52 per cent compared to 47 per cent of women - although this remains a statistically significant difference, the gap men and women had reduced over the seven to eight month period between ending the original claim and the time of the interview);
- leavers aged between 25 and 65 years of age ( 51 per cent);
- Asian and British Asian Group 1 leavers (56 per cent).

At the time of the interview, approaching three-fifths (56 per cent) of those in paid work were working for an employer in a full-time position, three in ten (29 per cent) were in part-time work for an employer and around one in seven ( 15 per cent) were self employed. This profile is identical to that observed among those that entered work immediately after ending a claim.

Figure 5.7 shows the type of contract held among those in paid work immediately after ending the initial claim and compares it with contract type at the time of interview seven to eight months later.

The main difference between the types of contracts that individuals were employed on initially and at the time of interview is a reduction in the proportion of individuals employed on a temporary or casual basis (which decreased from 30 per cent initially to 16 per cent at the time of interview). More than a quarter ( 27 per cent) of those who had been in paid for work an employer immediately after ending the original claim were no longer in paid work for an employer at the time of interview.

Figure 5.7 Initial and current contract types


### 5.7.2 Claim for an out-of-work benefit

Overall, one-third (33 per cent) of the entire leavers cohort were claiming an out-of-work benefit at the time of research. This represents a 13 percentage point increase from the situation immediately
after claims were ended. This change is largely driven by the JSA leavers cohort, where most movement back to claiming was seen over the seven to eight month period (from 14 per cent claiming immediately after ending the initial claim to 30 per cent at the time of interview). Across the entire leavers cohort the following sub-groups were more likely to be claiming:

- those whose original claim was IS (49 per cent compared to 42 per cent ESA and 30 per cent JSA);
- single parents (54 per cent compared to 30 per cent);
- those suffering from a long-term illness, health problem or disability ( 53 per cent compared to 29 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- those who were separated or divorced (44 per cent compared to 32 per cent of the rest of the leavers cohort);
- women ( 35 per cent compared to 32 per cent of men).

Across the whole leavers cohort almost nine in ten ( 87 per cent) of those who ended their original claim to set up a new claim for an out-of-work benefit were also claiming at the time of research seven to eight months on. Two-thirds ( 67 per cent) had been claiming continuously throughout this period. Nearly seven in ten ( 68 per cent) of those who were claiming any out-of-work benefit at the time of interview were claiming JSA. This represents a 16 percentage point increase from the proportion claiming JSA immediately after ending their original claim. Around one in six (16 per cent) were claiming ESA and a further one in ten (11 per cent) IS.

Figure 5.8 shows the proportions of the whole leavers cohort claiming the different out-of-work benefits immediately after ending their original claim (the 'initial benefit') and seven to eight months after ending an initial benefit claim ('current benefit'). Among the whole leavers cohort, by the time of the research almost a quarter ( 23 per cent) were claiming JSA.

Figure 5.8 Initial and current benefit claims


### 5.7.3 Neither in paid work nor claiming

The proportion of all individuals neither in paid work nor claiming at the time of interview had decreased since the period immediately after claims ended slightly but significantly from a fifth ( 20 per cent) to 17 per cent. This was more likely to be the current status of the IS leavers cohort than the other two benefit groups ( 22 per cent compared to 15 per cent of the JSA leavers cohort and 20 per cent of the ESA leavers cohort). Overall, three-fifths ( 61 per cent) of those who ended their original claim and neither entered paid work nor started a new claim immediately, were also neither working nor claiming at the time of interview. Half (51 per cent) had been doing the same activity continuously over the seven to eight month period.

Across the entire cohort, 12 per cent were neither working nor claiming and had not set up a new claim because they had previously been advised they were not eligible to claim. Fewer than one in twenty (three per cent) were in either part-time or full-time training at the time of research. Smaller proportions still had either retired and started claiming pension or pension credit or started work for an employer in a voluntary role (both two per cent).

### 5.8 Intermediate destinations

As well as describing their destinations immediately on ending the original claim and their activities at the time of interview, individuals were also asked to report any movement in and out of work or claiming between these two points.

Three-fifths (60 per cent) of the leavers cohort had done the same broad activity (whether working, claiming or neither) continuously throughout the period from ending their claim to being interviewed seven to eight months later (and therefore did not report any 'intermediate destinations'). This was least likely to be the case for the JSA leavers cohort ( 57 per cent did the same activity continuously compared to 67 per cent of the IS leavers cohort and 69 per cent of the ESA leavers cohort).

Over the seven to eight month period covered by the research, two-thirds ( 65 per cent) of the whole leavers cohort had entered paid work at some point. Over half (54 per cent) had held one job or period of self-employment and a further one in ten (ten per cent) had held two jobs or periods of work. On average, across the leavers cohort as a whole, individuals had spent 4.3 months in work between ending the original claim and the point of interview (a period averaging seven months across the leavers cohort as a whole). The JSA leavers cohort were likely to have spent longest in paid work during this time ( 4.8 months compared to 2.2 months for the IS leavers cohort and 2.9 months for the ESA leavers cohort). On average, the entire leavers cohort spent 2.2 months claiming between ending the original claim and the point of interview ${ }^{32}$. The IS leavers cohort spent longest claiming during this period and the JSA leavers cohort the shortest time ( 3.8 months for the IS leavers cohort compared to 3.3 months for the ESA leavers cohort and 1.8 months for the JSA leavers cohort). calculated based on the information provided by the respondent during the survey. Those individuals who did not enter any paid work/did not claim were assigned a value of 0 months.

## Conclusions

This study has provided some insight into the destinations of benefit leavers through exploring the initial destinations of a leavers cohort of individuals who ended a claim for JSA, IS or ESA in February to March 2011 and also their activities around seven to eight months later.

At a broad level, the initial destinations of individuals can be grouped into 'work', 'claiming benefits' and 'neither'. The division of benefit leavers between these three groups varied considerably between the three benefit groups. Leaving benefit to enter work was most common among those ending a claim for JSA. Around two-thirds of those ending a claim for JSA immediately entered work. This figure was considerably lower among IS and ESA leavers ( 28 per cent and 37 per cent respectively). Among both IS leavers it was more common for individuals to set up a new out-ofwork benefit claim than to enter paid work (among ESA leavers both paid work and a new benefit claim were equally likely).

Where leavers from IS and ESA entered paid work, this was more likely to be part-time than was the case for JSA leavers. Of all JSA leavers who entered paid work, a quarter (26 per cent) entered work part-time. This compares with three-fifths of IS leavers who entered work ( 60 per cent) and a third (35 per cent) of ESA leavers.

Temporary and fixed-term jobs were more common among JSA leavers than among leavers from IS or ESA. Among those leaving JSA to enter work for an employer, a third ( 31 per cent) were employed on a temporary/casual basis and a further 18 per cent were employed on a fixed term contract of less than a year. By the time of interview around seven to eight months after claims ended, over a quarter of JSA leavers who initially entered paid work for an employer were no longer working. Most of these were initially working on a temporary or short fixed term contract. At an overall level, this means the initial employment outcomes on leaving benefit were less stable for JSA leavers than for IS or ESA leavers. Three-quarters ( 75 per cent) of JSA leavers who initially entered work were still in paid work by the time of interview seven to eight months later. This compares with 81 per cent of IS leavers who initially entered work and 83 per cent of ESA leavers who initially entered work.

Across the three leavers cohorts there was quite a lot of movement between out-of-work benefits. Over two-fifths of leavers from IS and ESA immediately set up a claim for another out-of-work benefit as did 14 per cent of JSA leavers. The vast majority of ESA leavers who immediately set up a claim for a new benefit moved on to JSA (79 per cent). Those leaving IS and immediately setting up a new claim mostly set up a claim for JSA (72 per cent) but just under one in five set-up an ESA claim (17 per cent). JSA leavers who moved straight to a new were claim divided relatively evenly into those who set-up new claims for IS, for ESA and those who immediately set-up a new claim for JSA.

For some leavers, the amount of time spent off benefit was relatively short. Across the leavers cohort as a whole, 20 per cent ended their initial claim to set up a new benefit claim but the proportion claiming had risen to a third ( 33 per cent) by seven to eight months later. Within the JSA leavers cohort, a fifth of leavers ( 21 per cent) were claiming JSA again after seven to eight months.

Some of those who were neither working nor claiming in the period immediately after claiming benefit had entered work by a period seven to eight months later but this was relatively uncommon. Individuals from this group were almost twice as likely to return to claiming an out-of-work benefit as to enter paid work. However, the most common outcome was for individuals to remain neither working nor claiming ( 61 per cent of the overall leavers cohort who were neither working nor claiming on ending their claims).

## Appendix A Survey sampling, fieldwork outcomes

## A. 1 Sampling

The sample for the survey was drawn from the Department for Work and Pensions' administrative and client databases. and included a sample of individuals who left Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Income Support (IS) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) between February and March $2011^{33}$. A disproportionate stratified sampling method was then employed, with records drawn randomly within pre-defined strata based on a selection of location, duration of claim, gender, age and ethnicity within benefit group. This sample design was selected to:

- enable greater efficiency in getting the desired level of precision on main results, overall estimates of proportion of benefit leavers going to set destinations +/- 2 percentage-points, from the optimal (smallest) samples;
- prevent the possibility of unrepresentative samples by four out of the five dimensions outlined above for each of the benefit types (JSA, IS and ESA). More detail of the stratification breakdowns is provided in Appendix $B$ and;
- ensure a minimum number of respondents for key sub-groups that will enhance the robustness of secondary analysis.

This approach required the survey findings to be weighted so that each case reflected the fraction of the sub-group canvassed in the population. This was the number respondents interviewed from a sub-group over the number of leavers fitting that stratum profile (within benefit type) in the benefit system in the stated period.

A random sub-sample of records was selected to give a starting sample in a ratio of 5:1 where possible. In strata where the total number of records available was fewer than five times the target number of interviews, all available records were drawn. Following opt outs and screenouts the subsequent numbers of records were available for fieldwork. This is shown in Table A. 1

## Table A. 1 Sample frame available

| Benefit Type | Number of records <br> available for fieldwork | Total targeted |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Jobseeker's Allowance | 14,273 | 3,400 |
| Income Support | 12,262 | 3,000 |
| Employment and Support Allowance | 10,670 | 2,600 |
| Total | 37,205 | 9,000 |

## A. 2 Fieldwork outcomes

Tables A.2, A. 3 and A. 4 show the final fieldwork outcomes for all three benefit types. All leavers were given the opportunity before the survey started of opting out of the research project. The relatively high proportion of 'cases not issued to interviewers' reflects the fact that sample was drawn in a higher ratio than it was envisaged would be needed to give some contingency.

The refusals category shows leavers who did not want to participate in the interview while the 'partial (abandoned) interviews' accounts for those leavers who stopped during the interview.

The total number of JSA completes was 3,400, with an overall response rate (total number of completed interviews as a percentage of complete contacts) of 69 per cent.

Table A. 2 Fieldwork outcomes - Jobseeker's Allowance

|  | N | Population <br> in scope of <br> study <br> $\%$ | Population <br> in scope of <br> fieldwork <br> $\%$ | Complete <br> contacts <br> $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number sampled | 15,527 |  |  |  |
| Number opted-out of study | 833 |  |  |  |
| Invalid cases: Screenouts | 421 |  |  |  |
| In scope of study: | 14,273 |  |  |  |
| Cases not issued to interviewers | 5,273 | 37 |  |  |
| Invalid cases: Unobtainable numbers | 2,351 | 16 |  |  |
| Over quota sample | 1,687 | 12 |  |  |
| In scope of fieldwork: | 4,962 | 35 | 100 |  |
| General call backs | 18 | $<1$ | $<1$ |  |
| Appointments | 1 | $<1$ | $<1$ |  |
| Incomplete contacts | 19 | $<1$ | $<1$ | 100 |
| Complete contacts: | 4,943 | 35 | 100 | 16 |
| Refusals | 769 | 5 | 15 | 16 |
| Alternative language/format | 51 | $<1$ | 1 | 1 |
| Partial (abandoned) interviews | 723 | 5 | 15 | 15 |
| Complete interviews | 3,400 | 24 | 69 | 69 |

The total number of IS completes was 3,000, with an overall response rate of 71 per cent.

Table A. 3 Fieldwork outcomes - Income Support

|  | N | Population <br> in scope of <br> study <br> $\%$ | Population <br> in scope of <br> fieldwork <br> $\%$ | Complete <br> contacts <br> $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number sampled | 13,267 |  |  |  |
| Number opted-out of study | 787 |  |  |  |
| Invalid cases: Screenouts | 218 |  |  |  |
| In scope of study: | 12,262 | 100 |  |  |
| Cases not issued to interviewers | 3,577 | 29 |  |  |
| Invalid cases: Unobtainable numbers | 2,518 | 21 |  |  |
| Over quota sample | 1,678 | 14 |  |  |
| In scope of fieldwork: | 4,489 | 37 | 100 |  |
| General call backs | 278 | 2 | 6 |  |
| Appointments | 8 | $<1$ | $<1$ |  |
| Incomplete contacts | 286 | 2 | 6 | 100 |
| Complete contacts: | 4,203 | 34 | 94 | 13 |
| Refusals | 533 | 4 | 12 | 1 |
| Alternative language/format | 52 | $<1$ | 1 | 1 |
| Partial (abandoned) interviews | 618 | 5 | 14 | 15 |
| Complete interviews | 3,000 | 24 | 67 | 71 |

The total number of ESA completes was 2,600 , with an overall response rate of 66 per cent.
Table A. 4 Fieldwork outcomes - Employment and Support Allowance

|  | N | Population <br> in scape of <br> study <br> $\%$ | Population <br> in scope of <br> fieldwork <br> $\%$ | Complete <br> contacts <br> $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number sampled | 12,010 |  |  |  |
| Number opted-out of study | 787 |  |  |  |
| Invalid cases: Screenouts | 553 |  |  |  |
| In scope of study: | 10,670 | 100 |  |  |
| Cases not issued to interviewers | 2,834 | 27 |  |  |
| Invalid cases: Unobtainable numbers | 1,764 | 17 |  |  |
| Over quota sample | 2,083 | 20 |  |  |
| In scope of fieldwork: | 3,989 | 37 | 100 |  |
| General call backs | 43 | $<1$ | 1 |  |
| Appointments | 0 | $<1$ | $<1$ |  |
| Incomplete contacts | 43 | $<1$ | 1 |  |
| Complete contacts: | 3,946 | 37 | 99 | 100 |
| Refusals | 639 | 6 | 16 | 16 |
| Alternative language/format | 57 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Partial (abandoned) interviews | 650 | 6 | 16 | 16 |
| Complete interviews | 2,600 | 24 | 65 | 66 |

## Appendix B Survey profile of customers

The first column of data in Tables B.1a, B1.b and B1.c show the profile of leavers interviewed for each of the benefit types in turn, split on demographic information supplied by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on the sample frame. These demographics include location (for Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance), gender (for Income Support), age group, ethnicity and claim duration (all) and form the basis of the stratified sampling approach.

The data for each benefit type has been grossed to align the profile of leavers to the overall DWP population (within each benefit). This population contains all leavers cohort of individuals who left JSA, IS or ESA between February and March $20111^{34}$.

Table B. 1 JSA weighted customer profile

| Region | Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | Weighted \% | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| London | 16-24 Group | BMEGroup $2^{1}$ | Six months or fewer | 1 | 1 | 30 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  | BMEGroup $1^{2}$ | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 30 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | <1 | <1 | 3 |
|  |  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 1 | 2 | 50 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | $<1$ | 30 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 32 |

Continued

[^10]Table B. 1 Continued

| Region | Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Weighted } \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| London | 25-59/ Unassociated Groups | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 1 | 2 | 47 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | 1 | 31 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 33 |
|  |  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | 1 | 31 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 30 |
|  |  | White/ Unassoc. Groups | Six months or fewer | 3 | 4 | 89 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | 1 | 34 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 31 |
|  | 59+Group | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | <1 | <1 | 12 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | <1 | <1 | 16 |
|  |  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 26 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | <1 | <1 | 12 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | <1 | <1 | 5 |
|  |  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 31 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | $<1$ | 31 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | $<1$ | 30 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Continued |

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Table B. 1 Continued

| Region | Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { Weighted } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rest of the country | 16-24 Group | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 1 | 2 | 41 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | <1 | 31 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 31 |
|  |  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | 1 | 34 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 19 |
|  |  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 19 | 25 | 653 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 3 | 4 | 106 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 32 |
|  | 25-59/ <br> Unassociated Groups | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 2 | 2 | 57 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | 1 | 30 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 30 |
|  |  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | 1 | 33 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | <1 | 30 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  |  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 26 | 36 | 872 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 5 | 7 | 162 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 5 | 6 | 156 |

Table B. 1 Continued

| Region | Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | Weighted \% | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rest of the country | 59+ Group | BME-Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 22 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | <1 | <1 | 9 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | <1 | <1 | 9 |
|  |  | BME-Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | $<1$ | <1 | 12 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | <1 | <1 | 6 |
|  |  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 1 | 1 | 34 |
|  |  |  | Between six months and a year | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  | 3,400 | 556,676 | 3,400 |  |  |  |

[^11]Table B. 2 IS weighted customer profile

| Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | Weighted \% | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-24 Group | BME- Group 2 | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 17 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | <1 | 36 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 25 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 33 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | 2 | 43 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 6 | 8 | 166 |
|  |  | More than a year | 6 | 9 | 194 |
| 25-44 Group/ Unassociated Group | BME- Group 2 | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 36 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | 1 | 32 |
|  |  | More than a year | 2 | 3 | 73 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 36 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | 1 | 36 |
|  |  | More than a year | 3 | 3 | 79 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | 13 weeks or fewer | 2 | 2 | 53 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 8 | 11 | 245 |
|  |  | More than a year | 24 | 30 | 709 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Continue |

Table B. 2 Continued

| Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | Weighted \% | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 45+ Group | BME- Group 2 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 6 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | <1 | 26 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 34 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 2 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | <1 | 35 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 33 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 35 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | 1 | 37 |
|  |  | More than a year | 5 | 6 | 141 |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-24 Group | BME- Group 2 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 2 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | <1 | <1 | 9 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 34 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 1 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | <1 | <1 | 12 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 23 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | 1 | 32 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 34 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Continued |

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Table B. 2 Continued

| Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { Weighted } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 25-44 Group/ Unassociated Group | BME- Group 2 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 6 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | <1 | 21 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | 1 | 34 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 4 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | <1 | 34 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 30 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 34 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | 2 | 43 |
|  |  | More than a year | 4 | 6 | 129 |
| 45+Group | BME- Group 2 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 3 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | <1 | <1 | 6 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 31 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | 13 weeks or fewer | <1 | <1 | 1 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | <1 | <1 | 9 |
|  |  | More than a year | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | 13 weeks or fewer | 1 | <1 | 35 |
|  |  | Between 13 weeks and a year | 1 | 1 | 30 |
|  |  | More than a year | 4 | 5 | 111 |
| Base |  |  | 3,000 | 77,063 | 3,000 |

Table B. 3 ESA weighted customer profile

| Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | Weighted \% | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| London |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-24 Group | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | <1 | <1 | 10 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | <1 | <1 | 9 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 1 | 1 | 33 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | 1 | 31 |
|  | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 1 | 1 | 34 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | 2 | 35 |
| 25-59/ <br> Unassociated <br> Groups | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 32 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | <1 | 31 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 2 | 3 | 62 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 3 | 3 | 67 |
| 59+Group | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | <1 | <1 | 5 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | <1 | <1 | 11 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | <1 | <1 | 1 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | <1 | <1 | 4 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Continue |

Table B. 3 Continued

| Age group | Ethnicity | Claim duration | Unweighted \% | Weighted \% | Total number of interviews achieved (unweighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rest of the country |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-24 Group | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 30 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | <1 | 30 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 30 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | <1 | 19 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 8 | 9 | 201 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 4 | 5 | 101 |
| 25-59/ <br> Unassociated <br> Groups | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | 2 | 2 | 39 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | 1 | 33 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | 1 | <1 | 34 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | <1 | 33 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 29 | 36 | 756 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 25 | 28 | 640 |
| 59+Group | BME- Group 2 | Six months or fewer | <1 | <1 | 10 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 1 | <1 | 14 |
|  | BME- Group 1 | Six months or fewer | <1 | <1 | 4 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | <1 | <1 | 11 |
|  | White/ Unassociated Groups | Six months or fewer | 2 | 3 | 54 |
|  |  | More than 6 months | 3 | 3 | 66 |
| Base |  |  | 2,600 | 93,436 | 2,600 |

## Appendix C Survey questionnaire

Date 16/2/12
Destinations Survey for Jobcentre Plus Customers
Telephone

| Quota category | Number of interviews to <br> achieve | Quota category | Number of interviews <br> to achieve |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: |
| JSA customers | 3,500 |  |  |
| EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT <br> ALLOWANCE customers | 2,500 |  |  |
| IS customers | 3,000 |  |  |

## S Screener

ASK PERSON WHO ANSWERS PHONE
S1 Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is NAME and I'm calling from IFF Research. Please can I speak to NAME?

| Respondent answers phone | 1 | CONTINUE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Transferred to respondent | 2 |  |
| Hard appointment | 3 | MAKE APPOINTMENT |
| Soft Appointment | 4 |  |
| Refusal | 5 | CLOSE |
| Not available in deadline | 6 |  |
| Engaged | 7 |  |
| Fax Line | 8 |  |
| No reply/Answer phone | 9 |  |
| Business Number | 10 |  |
| Dead line | 11 |  |
| Respondent has died | 12 | GO TO S5 |

ASK ALL

S2 Good morning/afternoon, my name is NAME, calling from IFF Research, an independent market research company. We're conducting a survey on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions who want to know what people do after ending a benefit claim. We would like to ask you a few questions about what you have done since ending your claim for [SAMPLE BENEFIT] in [END DATE].

| Continue | 1 | GO TO A1 |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Referred to someone else in household <br> NAME | 2 | TRANSFER AND RE- <br> INTRODUCE |
| Hard appointment | 3 | MAKE APPOINTMENT |
| Soft appointment | 4 |  |
| Refusal | 6 | THANK AND CLOSE |
| Refusal - company policy | 7 |  |
| Refusal - taken part in recent survey | 8 |  |
| Not available in deadline | 9 | RECORD LANGUAGE AND <br> GO TO S3. |
| Respondent would prefer to complete survey in <br> another language | 10 | RECORD REQUIREMENTS <br> AND GO TO S4 |
| Respondent has other communication needs or needs <br> to complete survey in alternative format |  |  |

## REASSURANCES TO USE IF NECESSARY

The interview will take around 15 minutes to complete.
Please note that all data will be reported in aggregate form and your answers will not be reported to our client in any way that would allow you to be identified.
If respondent wishes to confirm validity of survey or get more information about aims and objectives, they can call:

- Your name has been randomly selected from Jobcentre Plus records of people who recently ended a claim for Jobseeker's Allowance/Income Support/Employment and Support Allowance
- We would like to speak to you regardless of whether you are now claiming benefit, working, or doing something else
- Completing the survey will not affect your benefits or other dealings with DWP or Jobcentre Plus, either now or in the future
- All responses will be treated with the strictest confidence under the guidelines of the Market Research Society
- MRS: Market Research Society
- IFF: Andrew Skone James or Catherine Riley:
- Michelle Harrison, DWP

ASK IF S2/9
S3 We will try our best to call back soon with an interviewer who can speak this language and help you complete the survey.

ASK IF S2/10
S4 We will be in touch soon to arrange an interview.
ASK IF S1/12
S5 We are very sorry for calling you and for any distressed caused. If it is ok with you, we will pass this information back to the Department for Work and Pensions so that they can update their records.

| Yes - would like information to be passed back | 1 | THANK AND CLOSE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No - would not like information to be passed back | 2 |  |

## A Confirming Benefit Status

A1 First of all could you confirm that you finished a claim for [SAMPLE BENEFIT] in [END DATE]? PROMPT IF NECESSARY, SINGLE CODE

| Yes - finished claim for [BENEFIT] in [MONTH AND <br> YEAR] | 1 | CHECK ROUTING ABOVE <br> A6 OTHERWISE A7 |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Finished claim for [BENEFIT] but not in [MONTH AND <br> YEAR] | 2 | GO TO A4 |
| Finished claim in [MONTH AND YEAR] but not for <br> [BENEFIT] | 3 | GO TO A5 |
| Did not finish claim in [MONTH AND YEAR] and still <br> receive [BENEFIT] | 4 | GO TO A3 |
| Did not finish a claim in [MONTH AND YEAR] and <br> never received [BENEFIT] | 5 | GO TO A2 |

ASK IF NEVER RECEIVED THIS BENEFIT (A1/5)
A2 Were you receiving any other benefits around [END DATE]?
DO NOT READ OUT. CODE ALL THAT APPLY
CATI INSTRUCTION - DO NOT DISPLAY BENEFIT FROM SAMPLE

| Jobseekers' Allowance | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Income Support | 2 |  |
| Employment and Support Allowance | 3 |  |
| Other (write in) | 4 |  |
| No not receiving any benefits around that time | 5 |  |

## ASK IF STILL RECEIVING SAME BENEFIT (A1/4)

A3 Can I just check, has there been any point between [END DATE] and now when you haven't claimed [SAMPLE BENEFIT]?

| Yes | 1 | GO TO A4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 | THANK AND CLOSE |
| Can't remember | 3 |  |

ASK IF STOPPED RECEIVING BENEFIT BUT NOT IN SAMPLE MONTH OR HAD A BREAK IN CLAIM (A1/2 OR A3/1)
A4 When did you stop claiming [SAMPLE BENEFIT]?

| Before January 2011 (Please specify) | 1 | THANK AND CLOSE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| January 2011 | 2 |  |
| February 2011 | 3 | CHECK ROUTING ABOVE |
| March 2011 | 4 |  |
| April 2011 | 5 |  |
| After April 2011 | 6 | THANK AND CLOSE |

CATI CHECK: IF MONTH GIVEN AT A4 IS WITHIN 1 MONTH OF END DATE FROM SAMPLE THEN CONTINUE.

IF MONTH GIVEN AT A4 IS NOT WITHIN 1 MONTH OF END DATE FROM SAMPLE THEN THANK AND CLOSE

FINAL DATE TEXT SUB INSTRUCTION:
IF A3/1 OR A1/2 USE DATE FROM A4. FOR ALL OTHERS USE END DATE FROM SAMPLE

ASK IF STOPPED RECEIVING DIFFERENT BENEFIT (A1/3)
A5 Please could you tell me which benefit you stopped receiving in [FINAL DATE]? DO NOT READ OUT, SINGLE CODE (IF MORE THAN ONE MENTIONED CODE FIRST MENTIONED)

| Jobseekers' Allowance | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Income Support | 2 |  |
| Employment and Support Allowance | 3 |  |
| Other (write in) | 4 |  |

FINAL BENEFIT TEXT SUB AND ROUTING INSTRUCTION:
IF A1/3 USE BENEFIT FROM A5. FOR ALL OTHER USE BENEFIT NAME FROM SAMPLE

IF FINAL BENEFIT=EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE
A6 Do you know which group you were in whilst you were claiming EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE?

| Support group - you would not have been expected <br> to prepare for work or attend any interviews at the | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jobcentre and would have received the highest rate <br> of the benefit | 1 |  |
| WRAG (work related activity group) - you would have <br> had to attend occasional work-focused interviews at <br> the Jobcentre and perhaps do work related tasks to <br> help prepare you for work e.g. writing an action plan <br> or producing an up-to-date CV | 2 | CONTINUE |
| Awaiting assessment/outcome - you had not <br> undergone a Work Capability Assessment (WCA) or <br> were awaiting the outcome of one | 3 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Had assessment/outcome but <br> don't know what group you were placed in | 4 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Don't know if had an outcome | 5 |  |

IF FINAL BENEFIT=IS
A7 And can you tell me, when you were receiving Income Support, were you also receiving a Disability Premium?
ADD AS NECESSARY: This would have been an extra payment on top of your basic payment and would have been called either a Disability Premium, the Severe Disability Premium (SDP) or the Enhanced Disability Premium.

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |
| Don't know | 3 |  |

## B Establishing destination immediately after leaving benefit

 ASK ALLB1 I'd now like to find out what you did immediately after ending your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE]. So could you tell me whether you ended your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT] to...?
INTERVIEWER NOTE: ONLY RECORD ACTIVITIES THAT WERE STARTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER ENDING BENEFIT CLAIM. IF RESPONDENT GIVES MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES CHECK BOTH WERE STARTED AT THE SAME TIME OTHERWISE JUST CODE FIRST ACTIVITY

|  |  | YES | NO |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Become self employed | 1 | 2 |
| b. | Start working full time for an employer in a paid role 30 hours or <br> more per week | 1 | 2 |
| c. | Start working part time for an employer in a paid role less than <br> 30 hours per week | 1 | 2 |
| d. | Retire and/or claiming a pension/pension credit | 1 | 2 |
| e. | Enter full time training or education - 16 hours or more per week | 1 | 2 |
| f. | Enter part time training or education - less than 16 hours per <br> week | 1 | 2 |
| g. | Move onto or set up another claim for a benefit for people who <br> are not in work | 1 | 2 |
| h. | Work for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 1 | 2 |

ASK IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE AT B1 AND (MORE THAN ONE PAID WORK OPTION SELECTED OR (MORE THAN ONE NON PAID WORK OPTION SELECTED AND NO PAID WORK OPTION)). IF MORE THAN ONE OF B1A-B1C OR (NONE OF B1A-B1C AND MORE THAN 1 B1D-B1H)

DO NOT ASK IF JUST 1 OF B1A-B1C MULTICODED WITH ANY OF B1D-B1H
B2 And which of these would you consider to have been your main activity after leaving [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE]?

CATI INSTRUCTION: ONLY DISPLAY OPTIONS SELECTED AT B1
IF JUST ONE OPTION SELECTED FORCE AT B2.
IF ONE TYPE OF PAID WORK (1 OF B1A-B1C) MULTICODED WITH OTHER ACTIVITY FORCE TO THAT TYPE OF PAID WORK AT B2.

IF MORE THAN ONE PAID WORK (1 OF B1A-B1C) MULTICODED WITH OTHER ACTIVITY ASK DISPLAY PAID WORK OPTIONS ONLY

IF ALL B1A-B1H CODED 2 FORCE TO CODE 9 AT B2
READ OUT SINGLE CODE

| Self employment | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Working full time for an employer in a paid role 30 <br> hours or more per week | 2 |  |
| Working part time for an employer in a paid role less <br> than 30 hours per week | 3 |  |
| Retire and/or claiming a pension/pension credit | 4 |  |
| Enter full time training or education - 16 hours or <br> more per week | 5 | CONTINUE |
| Enter part time training or education - less than 16 <br> hours per week | 6 |  |
| Move onto or set up another claim for a benefit for <br> people who are not in work | 7 |  |
| Work for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 8 |  |
| No main destination | 9 |  |

B2DUM Work status DUMMY VARIABLE, DO NOT ASK

| Self employed (B2/1) | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Paid work for an employer (B2/2-3) | 2 |  |
| New claim (B2/7) | 3 |  |
| Neither paid work nor new claim (B2/4-6 OR 8-9) | 4 |  |

ASK ALL
B3 ASK IF NOT OF LISTED B1 DESTINATIONS (ALL B1/2): Why exactly did you stop claiming [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE]? IF ANY B1 DESTINATIONS LISTED: Were there any other reasons for you stopping claiming [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE]?
DO NOT READ OUT. PROBE FULLY. CODE ALL THAT APPLY
IF RESPONDENT SAYS WORKING/TRAINING/RETIRED/VOLUNTARY WORK/OTHER CLAIM RETURN TO B1

IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY WERE TOLD THEY COULD NO LONGER RECEIVE INCOME SUPPORT BECAUSE OF THE AGE OF THEIR CHILDREN CODE TO 6

| Partner's status changed | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Became ill/went to hospital | 2 |  |
| Decided not to claim | 3 |  |
| Did not like Jobcentre Plus service | 4 |  |
| Began living with partner | 5 |  |
| Told no longer eligible/benefit stopped | 6 |  |
| Sanctioning or conditions imposed | 7 |  |
| Went to prison | 8 |  |
| Partner started claiming on respondent's behalf | 9 |  |
| Moved house | 10 |  |
| Full time carer | 11 |  |
| Went overseas | 12 |  |
| Other (write in) | 13 |  |
| DO NOT DISPLAY IF ALL B1/2 |  |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: No other reason | 14 |  |
| Don't know | 15 |  |

ASK IF SET UP ANOTHER CLAIM (B1G/1)
B4 Which benefit did you move onto after you stopped claiming for [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL END DATE]?
DO NOT READ OUT, SINGLE CODE (IF MORE THAN ONE MENTIONED CODE FIRST MENTIONED

| Jobseeker's Allowance | 1 | CHECK ROUTING ABOVE |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Employment and Support Allowance | 2 |  |
| B5 AND B6 OTHERWISE |  |  |
| GO TO B7 |  |  |$|$

IF SET UP A CLAIM FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE (B4/2)
B5 Do you know which group you were in whilst you were claiming EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE?
READ OUT SINGLE CODE

| Support group - you would not have been expected <br> to prepare for work or attend any interviews at the <br> Jobcentre and would have received the highest rate <br> of the benefit | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WRAG (work related activity group) - you would have <br> had to attend occasional work-focused interviews at <br> the Jobcentre and perhaps do work related tasks to <br> help prepare you for work e.g. writing an action plan <br> or producing an up-to-date CV | 2 |  |
| Awaiting assessment/outcome - you had not <br> undergone a Work Capability Assessment (WCA) or <br> were awaiting the outcome of one | 3 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Had assessment/outcome but <br> don't know what group you were placed in | 4 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Don't know if had an outcome | 5 |  |

IF SET UP A CLAIM FOR IS (B4/3)
B6 And can you tell me, when you were receiving Income Support, were you also receiving a disability premium?
ADD AS NECESSARY: This would have been an extra payment on top of your basic payment and would have been called either a Disability Premium, the Severe Disability Premium (SDP) or the Enhanced Disability Premium.

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |
| Don't know | 3 |  |

ASK IF ENDED CLAIM TO ENTER PAID WORK (B2DUM/1-2)
I'd now just like to ask a few questions about the [IF B2DUM/1: self employment] [IF B2DUM/2 AND MORE THAN ONE OF B1A-B1/C=1: main job] [IF B2DUM/2: job] you entered after ending your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE].

ASK IF ENDED CLAIM TO ENTER PAID WORK FOR AN EMPLOYER (B2DUM/2)
B7 Firstly, what was the name of your employer?
IF RESPONDENT GAINED WORK VIA A TEMPING AGENCY RECORD NAME OF COMPANY PLACED WITH NOT THE AGENCY

```
WRITE IN
```

B8 And was this job...?
READ OUT SINGLE CODE

| On a permanent or open-ended contract | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| On a fixed term contract lasting more than year | 2 |  |
| On a fixed term contract lasting between 6 months <br> and a year | 3 |  |
| On a fixed term contract lasting less than 6 months | 4 | CONTINUE |
| On a temporary or casual basis | 5 |  |
| Other (write in) | 6 |  |
| (DO NOT READ OUT) Don't know | 7 |  |
| (DO NOT READ OUT) Refused | 8 |  |

ASK IF ENTERED PAID WORK (B2DUM/1-2)
B9 We would like to ask you how much you were paid. Would it be easiest to tell us how much you were paid before tax...?
ADD AS NECESSARY: All your answers will be held in the strictest confidence, and will be used for statistical purposes only.

| Per year | 1 | GO TO B10 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Per month | 2 | GO TO B11 |
| Per week | 3 | GO TO B12 |
| Per hour | 4 | GO TO B13 |
| Other (write in) (DO NOT READ OUT) | 5 | GO TO B14 |
| Unwilling to answer (DO NOT READ OUT) | 6 | GO TO B15 |

ASK IF WANT TO ANSWER PER YEAR (B9/1)
B10 What were you paid per year before tax and any other deductions?
DO NOT INCLUDE ANY BONUSES, TAX CREDITS OR BENEFITS
WRITE IN FIGURE E.G. 15000

## CATI CHECK - IF LESS THAN $£ 5,000$ OR MORE THAN $£ 50,000$

Can I just confirm that you were paid $£$ [TEXT SUB: AMOUNT AT B10] PER YEAR before tax and other deductions?

| Yes | 1 | CONTINUE TO B16 |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| No | 2 | RE-ASK B10 |

ASK IF WANT TO ANSWER PER MONTH (B9/2)
B11 What were you paid per month before tax and any other deductions?
DO NOT INCLUDE ANY BONUSES, TAX CREDITS OR BENEFITS
WRITE IN FIGURE E.G. 800

CATI CHECK - IF LESS THAN $£ 400$ OR MORE THAN $£ 4,000$
Can I just confirm that you were paid $£$ [TEXT SUB: AMOUNT AT B11] PER MONTH before tax and any other deductions?

| Yes | 1 | CONTINUE TO B16 |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| No | 2 | RE-ASK B11 |

ASK IF WANT TO ANSWER PER WEEK (B9/3)
B12 What were you paid per week before tax and any other deductions?
DO NOT INCLUDE ANY BONUSES, TAX CREDITS OR BENEFITS
INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RATE OF PAY VARIES THEN ASK FOR RATE OF PAY THIS WEEK. DO NOT INCLUDE OVERTIME RATE IF DIFFERENT TO NORMAL RATE.

WRITE IN FIGURE E.G. 200

CATI CHECK - IF LESS THAN $£ 100$ OR MORE THAN $£ 1,000$
Can I just confirm that you were paid $£$ [TEXT SUB: AMOUNT AT B12] PER WEEK before tax and any other deductions?

| Yes | 1 | CONTINUE TO B16 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 | RE-ASK B12 |

ASK IF WANT TO ANSWER PER HOUR (B9/4)
B13 What were you paid per hour before tax and any other deductions?
DO NOT INCLUDE ANY BONUSES, TAX CREDITS OR BENEFITS
INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RATE OF PAY VARIES THEN ASK FOR AVERGAE RATE OF PAY. DO NOT INCLUDE OVERTIME RATE IF DIFFERENT TO NORMAL RATE.

```
WRITE IN FIGURE E.G. 7.50
```


## CATI CHECK - IF LESS THAN £5 OR MORE THAN £25

Can I just confirm that you were paid $£$ [TEXT SUB: AMOUNT AT B13] PER HOUR before tax and any other deductions?

| Yes | 1 | GO TO B15 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 | RE-ASK B13 |

ASK IF WANT TO ANSWER PER OTHER (B9/5)
B14 What were you paid per [TEXT SUB: ANSWER AT B9/5] before tax and any other deductions?
DO NOT INCLUDE ANY BONUSES, TAX CREDITS OR BENEFITS
INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RATE OF PAY VARIES THEN ASK FOR RATE OF PAY TODAY. DO NOT INCLUDE OVERTIME RATE IF DIFFERENT TO NORMAL RATE.

WRITE IN FIGURE E.G. 7.50

ASK IF PAID HOURLY B9/4
B15 How many hours on average did you work per week in this job?

```
WRITE IN NUMBER OF HOURS
ALLOW DK/REF
```


## CATI CHECK - IF OVER 50 HOURS PER WEEK

Can I just check that you worked [TEXT SUB: INSERT NUMBER OF HOURS FROM B15] hours per week?

| Yes | 1 | CHECK ROUTING ABOVE <br> B20 |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| No | 2 | GO BACK AND AMEND <br> HOURS |

ASK IF B9/NOT4 OR (B15/DK OR REF)
B16 Would you say that you typically worked...?
READ OUT, CODE ONE ONLY

| Less than 16 hours per week | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 16 hours per week | 2 |  |
| More than 16 hours but fewer than 30 hours per <br> week | 3 |  |
| 30 hours per week | 4 |  |
| More than 30 hours per week | 5 |  |
| Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT) | 6 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 7 |  |

ASK IF IN PAID WORK FOR AN EMPLOYER (B2DUM/2)
B17 And can I just check was this job related in any way to the 2011 census?

| Yes | 1 | CONTINUE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |

## C Establishing whether any other destinations

ASK ALL
I'd now like to find out about anything else that you might have been doing since leaving [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE].

ASK IF ANY B1A-B1H/1
C1 So you've just told us that immediately after finishing your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT] you [TEXT SUB IF B2/1: became self employed; IF B2/2-3: entered paid work for [ENTER EMPLOYER NAME GIVEN AT B7] [IF EMPLOYER = DK/REF: an employer]; IF B2/4; you retired/started claiming pension credit; IF B2/5-6: entered training or education; IF B2/7: started claiming for [TEXT SUB: INSERT BENEFIT FROM B4] [TEXT SUB IF B4/6: another benefit]; IF B2/8: worked in a voluntary/unpaid role].

Is this what you are currently doing now?
ASK IF ANY B1A-B1H/1
So you've just told us what you did immediately after finishing your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT]. Is this what you are currently doing now?

INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF RESPONDENT CURRENTLY DOING MORE THAN ONE ACTIVITY THEY SHOULD CONSIDER THEIR MAIN ACTIVITY

| Yes | 1 | CONTINUE |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| No | 2 | CHECK ROUTING ABOVE <br> C3 |

## IF STILL DOING THE SAME THING NOW (C1/1)

C2 Can I just check has there been any point since ending your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT] that you HAVE NOT BEEN [TEXT SUB IF B2/1: doing this self employment; ; IF B2/2-3: in paid work for [ENTER EMPLOYER NAME GIVEN AT B7] [IF EMPLOYER = DK/REF: an employer]; IF B2/4; retired/claiming pension credit; IF B2/5-6: in training or education; IF B2/7: claiming for [TEXT SUB: INSERT BENEFIT FROM B4] [TEXT SUB IF B4/6: another benefit]; IF B2/8: working in a voluntary/unpaid role; IF B2/9: doing this]?

| Yes | 1 | CONTINUE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No - have done this continuously | 2 | GO TO C2DUM (DO NOT <br> ASK) |

C2DUM Status change DUMMY VARIABLE, DO NOT ASK

| Done the same activity continuously (C1/1 \& C2/2) | 1 | CHECK ROUTING ABOVE <br> C4 |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Done something else since (C1/2 OR C2/1) | 2 | CONTINUE |

ASK IF DONE SOMETHING ELSE AND WAS PREVIOUSLY WORKING (C2DUM/2 \& B2DUM/1-2)
C3 Why did you [TEXT SUB IF B2DUM/2: leave this job; IF B2DUM/1: end this period of self employment] that you started after ending your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE]]?
READ OUT CODE ALL THAT APPLY

| Contract ended/ temporary work | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Sacked/ dismissed | 2 |  |
| Made redundant | 3 |  |
| Got another job | 4 |  |
| Went into training/ education | 5 |  |
| Wasn't earning enough | 6 |  |
| No promotion prospects | 7 |  |
| Child care commitments | 8 |  |
| Health reasons | 10 |  |
| The company closed | 11 |  |
| Job was not suitable in some other way (PLEASE <br> SPECIFY) | 12 |  |
| Transport issues/difficulty getting to work | 13 |  |
| Other (PLEASE SPECIFY) | 14 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) |  |  |

## ASK IF DONE SOMETHING ELSE SINCE (C2DUM/2)

C4 So, I'd just like to check when did [TEXT SUB IF B2/1: this period of self employment; ; IF B2/2-3: this paid work for [ENTER EMPLOYER NAME GIVEN AT B7] [IF EMPLOYER = DK/REF: an employer];; IF B2/4; this period of retirement/claim for pension credit; IF B2/5-6: this training or education; IF B2/7: this claim for [TEXT SUB: INSERT BENEFIT FROM B4] [TEXT SUB IF B4/6: another benefit]; IF B2/8: this work in a voluntary/unpaid role] [TEXT SUB: IF B2/1-8: end?] [IF B2/9: this end?]

## PROMPT IF NECESSARY CODE ONE ONLY

| February 2011 | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| March 2011 | 2 |  |
| April 2011 | 3 |  |
| May 2011 | 4 |  |
| June 2011 | 5 |  |
| July 2011 | 6 |  |
| August 2011 | 7 |  |
| September 2011 | 8 |  |
| October 2011 | 9 |  |

ON FIRST ITERATION ASK IF C2DUM/2
ON SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT ITERATIONS ASK IF NOT CURRENT ACTIVITY C16/2
C5 And what did you do next?
READ OUT CODE ALL THAT APPLY
INTERVIEWER NOTE: ONLY RECORD ACTIVITIES THAT WERE STARTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER PREVIOUS ACTIVITY. IF RESPONDENT GIVES MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES CHECK BOTH WERE STARTED AT THE SAME TIME OTHERWISE JUST CODE FIRST ACTIVITY

|  |  | YES | NO |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Become self employed | 1 | 2 |
| b. | Start working full time for an employer in a paid role 30 hours or <br> more per week | 1 | 2 |
| c. | Start working part time for an employer in a paid role less than <br> 30 hours per week | 1 | 2 |
| d. | Retire and/or claiming a pension/pension credit | 1 | 2 |
| e. | Enter full time training or education - 16 hours or more per week | 1 | 2 |
| f. | Enter part time training or education - less than 16 hours per <br> week | 1 | 2 |
| g. | Move onto or set up another claim for a benefit for people who <br> are not in work | 1 | 2 |
| h. | Work for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 1 | 2 |

ASK IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE AT C5 AND (MORE THAN ONE PAID WORK OPTION SELECTED OR (MORE THAN ONE NON PAID WORK OPTION SELECTED AND NO PAID WORK OPTION)). IF MORE THAN ONE OF C6A-C6C OR (NONE OF C6A-C6C AND MORE THAN 1 C6D-C6H)

DO NOT ASK IF JUST 1 OF B1A-B1C MULTICODED WITH ANY OF B1D-B1H
C6 Which of these would you consider to have been your main activity after leaving [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE]?

CATI INSTRUCTION: ONLY DISPLAY OPTIONS SELECTED AT C5
IF JUST ONE OPTION SELECTED FORCE AT C6.
IF ONE TYPE OF PAID WORK (1 OF C5A-C5C) MULTICODED WITH OTHER ACTIVITY FORCE TO PAID WORK AT C6.

IF MORE THAN ONE PAID WORK (1 OF C5A-C5C) MULTICODED WITH OTHER ACTIVITY ASK DISPLAY PAID WORK OPTIONS ONLY

IF ALL C5A-C5H CODED 2 FORCE TO CODE 9 AT C6

| Self employment | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Working full time for an employer in a paid role 30 <br> hours or more per week | 2 |  |
| Working part time for an employer in a paid role less <br> than 30 hours per week | 3 |  |
| Retire and/or claiming a pension/pension credit | 4 | CHECK ROUTING ABOVE |
| Enter full time training or education - 16 hours or <br> more per week | 5 |  |
| Enter part time training or education - less than 16 <br> hours per week | 6 |  |
| Move onto or set up another claim for a benefit for <br> people who are not in work | 7 |  |
| Work for an employer in a voluntary or unpaid role | 8 |  |
| No main destination | 9 |  |

## C6DUM Work status DUMMY VARIABLE, DO NOT ASK

| Self employed (C6/1) | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Paid work for an employer (C6/2-3) | 2 |  |
| New claim (C6/7) | 3 |  |
| Neither paid work nor new claim (C6/4-6 OR 8-9) | 4 |  |

ASK IF DID NOTHING AT C5 (ALL C5/2)
C7 Why didn't you claim another benefit for people who are not working?
MULTICODE
DO NOT READ OUT. PROBE FULLY. CODE ALL THAT APPLY
IF RESPONDENT SAYS WORKING/TRAINING/RETIRED/VOLUNTARY WORK/OTHER CLAIM RETURN TO C5

IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY WERE TOLD THEY COULD NO LONGER RECEIVE INCOME SUPPORT BECAUSE OF THE AGE OF THEIR CHILDREN CODE TO 6

| Partner's status changed | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Became ill/went to hospital | 2 |  |
| Decided not to claim | 3 |  |
| Did not like Jobcentre Plus service | 4 |  |
| Began living with partner | 5 |  |
| Told no longer eligible/benefit stopped | 6 |  |
| Went to prison | 7 |  |
| Partner started claiming on respondent's behalf | 8 |  |
| Moved house | 9 |  |
| Full time carer | 10 |  |
| Went overseas | 11 |  |
| Other (write in) | 12 |  |
| Don't know | 13 |  |

IF STARTED CLAIMING ANOTHER BENEFIT (C5G/1)
C8 Which benefit did you move onto?
DO NOT READ OUT, SINGLE CODE (IF MORE THAN ONE MENTIONED CODE FIRST MENTIONED

| Jobseeker's Allowance | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Employment and Support Allowance | 2 |  |
| Income Support | 3 |  |
| Other (write in) | 4 |  |
| Don't know | 5 |  |

IF IST ITERATION AND NEW BENEFIT AT C8 IS THE SAME AS B4 BENEFIT (B4=C8)
OR IF SUBSEQUENT ITERATION AND BENEFIT IS SAME AS PREVIOUS ITERATION OF C9
C9 IF IST ITERATION AND NEW BENEFIT AT C8 IS THE SAME AS B4 BENEFIT (B4=C8): You said you stopped receiving [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL END DATE] and then started receiving this again. Did you have a temporary break in your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT]?

IF SUBSEQUENT ITERATION AND BENEFIT IS SAME AS PREVIOUS ITERATION OF C9: You said you stopped and then started receiving the same benefit over this time period. Did you have a temporary break in your claim?

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |
| Can't remember | 3 |  |

IF SET UP A CLAIM FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE (C8/2)
C10 Do you know which group you were in whilst you were claiming Employment and Support Allowance?

| Support group - you would not have been expected <br> to prepare for work or attend any interviews at the <br> Jobcentre and would have received the highest rate <br> of the benefit | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| WRAG (work related activity group) - you would have <br> had to attend occasional work-focused interviews at <br> the Jobcentre and perhaps do work related tasks to <br> help prepare you for work e.g. writing an action plan <br> or producing an up-to-date CV | 2 |  |
| Awaiting assessment/outcome - you had not <br> undergone a Work Capability Assessment (WCA) or <br> were awaiting the outcome of one | 3 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Had assessment/outcome but <br> don't know what group you were placed in | 4 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Don't know if had an outcome | 5 |  |

ASK IF SET UP A CLAIM FOR IS (C8/3)
C11 And can you tell me, when you were receiving Income Support, were you also receiving a disability premium?

ADD AS NECESSARY: This would have been an extra payment on top of your basic payment and would have been called either a Disability Premium, the Severe Disability Premium (SDP) or the Enhanced Disability Premium

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |
| Don't know | 3 |  |

ASK IF MOVED INTO PAID WORK FOR AN EMPLOYER (C6DUM/2)
I'd now just like to ask a few questions about this job.

ASK IF ENDED CLAIM TO ENTER PAID WORK FOR AN EMPLOYER (C6DUM/2)
C12 Firstly, what was the name of your employer?
IF RESPONDENT GAINED WORK VIA A TEMPING AGENCY RECORD NAME OF COMPANY PLACED WITH NOT THE AGENCY

```
WRITE IN
```

C13 And was this job...?
READ OUT SINGLE CODE

| On a permanent or open-ended contract | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| On a fixed term contract lasting more than year | 2 |  |
| On a fixed tern contract lasting between 6 months <br> and a year | 3 |  |
| On a fixed term contract lasting less than 6 months | 4 |  |
| On a temporary or casual basis | 5 |  |
| Other (write in) | 6 |  |
| (DO NOT READ OUT) Don't know | 7 |  |
| (DO NOT READ OUT) Refused | 8 |  |

ASK IF WORKING PART-TIME (C6/3)
C14 Would you say that you typically worked...?
READ OUT, CODE ONE ONLY

| Less than 16 hours per week | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 16 hours per week | 2 |  |
| More than 16 hours but fewer than 30 hours per <br> week | 3 |  |
| Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT) | 4 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 5 |  |

ASK IF MOVED INTO PAID WORK FOR AN EMPLOYER (C6DUM/2)
C15 And can I just check was this job related in any way to the 2011 census?

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |

ASK IF DONE SOMETHING ELSE (C2DUM/2)
C16 And is this what you are doing now?

| Yes | 1 | GO TO NEXT SECTION |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| No | 2 | SEE ROUTING ABOVE C17 |

ASK IF NOT CURRENT ACTIVITY AND IS WORK (C16/2 \& C6DUM/1-2)
C17 Why did you [TEXT SUB IF C6DUM/2: leave this job; IF C6DUM/1: end this period of self employment]?
READ OUT CODE ALL THAT APPLY

| Contract ended/temporary work | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Sacked/ dismissed | 2 |  |
| Made redundant | 3 |  |
| Got another job | 4 |  |
| Went into training/ education | 5 |  |
| Wasn't earning enough | 6 |  |
| No promotion prospects | 7 |  |
| Child care commitments | 8 |  |
| Health reasons | 10 |  |
| The company closed | 11 |  |
| Job was not suitable in some other way (PLEASE <br> SPECIFY) | 12 |  |
| Transport issues/difficulty getting to work | 13 |  |
| Other (PLEASE SPECIFY) | 14 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) |  |  |

## ASK IF NOT CURRENT ACTIVITY (C16/2)

C18 So, I'd just like to check when did [TEXT SUB IF C6/1 this period of self employment; IF C6/2-3: this paid work for an employer; IF C6/4; this period of retirement/claim for pension credit; IF C6/5-6: this training or education; IF C6/7: this claim for [TEXT SUB: INSERT BENEFIT FROM C8] [TEXT SUB IF C8/6: another benefit]; IF C6/8: this work in a voluntary/unpaid role] [TEXT SUB: IF C6/1-8: end? IF C7/9: this end?]

PROMPT IF NECESSARY CODE ONE ONLY
CATI INSTRUCTION:
1ST ITERATION: DO NOT DISPLAY MONTHS THAT ARE BEFORE MONTH SELECTED AT C4
SUBSEQUENT ITERATIONS: DO NOT DISPLAY MONTHS THAT ARE BEFORE MONTH SELECTED AT PREVIOUS ITERATION OF C18

| February 2011 | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| March 2011 | 2 |  |
| April 2011 | 3 |  |
| May 2011 | 4 |  |
| June 2011 | 5 |  |
| July 2011 | 6 |  |
| August 2011 | 7 |  |
| September 2011 | 8 |  |
| October 2011 | 9 |  |

CATI INSTRUCTION:
REPEAT C5-C18 UNTIL RESPONDENT CONFIRMS THIS IS THEIR CURRENT ACTIVITY (C16/1)

## D Demographics

ASK ALL
That's all I need to know about what you have done since finishing your claim for [FINAL BENEFIT] in [FINAL DATE]. The next few questions are about you and are for classification purposes only.

D1 Which of the following best describes your ethnic background?

| WHITE British | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| WHITE Irish | 2 |  |
| WHITE Other background (SPECIFY) | 3 |  |
| MIXED White and Black Caribbean | 4 |  |
| MIXED White and Black African | 5 |  |
| MIXED White and Asian | 6 |  |
| MIXED Other mixed background (SPECIFY) | 7 |  |
| BLACK OR BLACK BRITISH Caribbean | 9 |  |
| BLACK OR BLACK BRITISH African | 10 |  |
| BLACK OR BLACK BRITISH Other background <br> (PLEASE SPECIFY) | 11 |  |
| ASIAN OR ASIAN BRITISH Indian | 12 |  |
| ASIAN OR ASIAN BRITISH Pakistani | 13 |  |
| ASIAN OR ASIAN BRITISH Bangladeshi | 14 |  |
| ASIAN OR ASIAN BRITISH Other background <br> (PLEASE SPECIFY) | 15 |  |
| CHINESE | 16 |  |
| OTHER ETHNIC BACKGROUND (PLEASE SPECIFY) | 17 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Don't know | 18 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Refused |  |  |

D2 What is your date of birth?
WRITE IN DD/MM/YYYY
CATI: ALLOW REFUSED

IF REFUSE AT D2
D3 Which of these age bands do you fall into?

| DO NOT READ OUT: Under 16 | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| $16-17$ years | 2 |  |
| $18-24$ years | 3 |  |
| $25-29$ years | 4 |  |
| $30-34$ years | 5 |  |
| $35-39$ years | 6 |  |
| $40-44$ years | 7 |  |
| $45-49$ years | 8 |  |
| $50-59$ years | 9 |  |
| $60-64$ years | 10 |  |
| $65-69$ years | 11 |  |
| $70+$ years | 12 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 13 |  |

D4 And in which of the following regions do you live in?
READ OUT SINGLE CODE

| East Midlands | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| East of England | 2 |  |
| Greater London | 3 |  |
| North East England | 4 |  |
| North West England | 5 |  |
| South East England | 6 |  |
| South West England | 7 |  |
| West Midlands | 8 |  |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 9 |  |
| Scotland | 10 |  |
| Wales | 11 |  |
| Northern Ireland | 12 |  |
| Don't know | 13 |  |
| Refused | 14 |  |

IF DK AT D4
D5 What town, city or area do you live in?

## WRITE IN

CATI: ALLOW REFUSED

ASK ALL
D6 Are you currently suffering from any long term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activities or the work you can do?

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 3 |  |

## ASK ALL

D7 Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 16 ?

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 3 |  |

## ASK IF D7/1

D8 And are you currently a single parent living with children aged under 16?

| Yes | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No | 2 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 3 |  |

ASK IF D8/1
D9 How many children under the age of 16 do you have?

| WRITE IN | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 2 |  |

ASK ALL
D10 Which of the following best describes your legal marital or same-sex civil partnership status...?

PROMPT AS NECESSARY. SINGLE CODE.

| Single | 1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| In a relationship but never married and never <br> registered a same-sex civil partnership | 2 |  |
| Married | 3 |  |
| Separated, but still legally married | 4 |  |
| Divorced | 6 |  |
| Widowed | 7 |  |
| In a registered same-sex civil partnership | 8 |  |
| Separated, but still legally in a same-sex civil <br> partnership | 9 |  |
| Formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is <br> now legally dissolved | 10 |  |
| Surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership | 11 |  |
| DO NOT READ OUT: Refused |  |  |

D11 Would it be OK if the answers you have given to this survey were combined with administrative records held by the Department for Work and Pensions?

All information will be used for research and statistical purposes only. Your personal details will, of course, be kept completely confidential and will not be passed to anyone else outside the research team and the Department for Work and Pensions. Your name and address are never included in the results and no individual can be identified from the research.

## ADD IF NECESSARY:

- This will be for analysis purposes only and will NOT affect your dealings, either now or in the future, with any Government department.
- The information will not be used to work out whether anyone is claiming benefits or credits they should not be.
- Any current or future claims for benefits or tax credits will not be affected.

| Yes |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No |  |  |

D12 Finally, I would like to ask you a question about your satisfaction with your life. There is no right or wrong answer. I'd like you to give an answer on a scale of nought to 10, where nought is 'not at all satisfied' and 10 is 'completely satisfied'. Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays? ${ }^{35}$

ADD IF NECESSARY: The Government is interested in measuring well-being in order to learn about what matters to people and by how much.

| WRITE IN |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| ALLOW 0-10 | 1 |  |
| Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT) | 2 |  |
| Refused (DO NOT READ OUT) | 3 |  | THANK RESPONDENT AND CLOSE INTERVIEW

Finally I would just like to confirm that this survey has been carried out under IFF instructions and within the rules of the MRS Code of Conduct. Thank you very much for your help today.

A 'subjective wellbeing' question was included at the end of the questionnaire, which asked individuals how satisfied they were with their life to date. This question (which is consistent with those being asked by ONS as part of its work developing statistics on national wellbeing) was included for testing purposes and will be analysed separately. Analysis of this question is not included in this report.

This report details findings from a study conducted to explore the destinations of a cohort of individuals who ended a claim for Jobseekers Allowance (JSA), Income Support (IS) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). This study aimed to provide the best possible estimate of the immediate and substantive destinations of leavers from JSA, IS and ESA benefit groups. The study explores movement into paid employment and the sustainability of this employment for each benefit group; movement onto and between different out-of-work benefits; and other reasons for ending a benefit claim. Information on leavers' salaries and number of hours worked was also collected.

If you would like to know more about DWP research, please contact:
Carol Beattie, Central Analysis Division, Department for Work and Pensions, Upper Ground Floor, Steel City House, West Street, Sheffield, S1 2GQ.
http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rrs-index.asp


[^0]:    130 hours or more per week.
    2 Less than 30 hours per week.

[^1]:    3 Average time spent in work/claiming was calculated across the entire cohort. Months were calculated based on the information provided by the respondent during the survey. Those individuals who did not enter any paid work/did not claim were assigned a value of 0 months.

[^2]:    $4 \quad$ This leavers cohort also includes individuals who ended a claim in the last week of January 2011 and the first week of April 2011.

[^3]:    $8 \quad$ Asian or Asian British group 1 refers to leavers of Indian and Chinese origin.
    9 Annual salaries were derived by multiplying the salary information by the appropriate figure, depending on whether this represented monthly, weekly or hourly pay. In a proportion of cases where the respondent was not able to give a precise number of hours worked on average, but only a broad band, the hours were assumed to be eight for those who said 'less than 16 ', 23 for those who said ' 16 to 30 ' and 35 for those who said 'more than 30 '. Overall mean salaries for those in this group were similar to the rest of the sample.

[^4]:    ${ }^{12}$ Average time spent in work/claiming was calculated across the entire cohort. Months were calculated based on the information provided by the respondent during the survey. Those individuals who did not enter any paid work/did not claim were assigned a value of 0 months.

[^5]:    1 Part-time training or education - less than 16 hours week.
    2 Full-time training or education - 16 hours or more per week.

[^6]:    14 Annual derived salaries were calculated through applying a multiple depending on the basis on which a respondent provided salary information (e.g. monthly, weekly, hourly). Checks have been conducted to ensure that mean salaries were not different when including calculations for those whose derived annual salary used the midpoint of a banded hourly variable.

[^7]:    20
    This leavers cohort will also include individuals who ended a claim in the last week of January 2011 and the first week of April 2011.
    It is possible that the ESA leavers cohort also included a small number of individuals who had ended a claim for Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) or Income Support (IS) based on the grounds of illness or disability.

[^8]:    24. These findings are not statistically significant at the 95 per cent level and should be treated as indicative only due to low base sizes.
    25 Neither in paid work nor claiming can include other destinations such as education or training, voluntary work, retirement or to claim a pension as well as unknown destination.
[^9]:    29
    Annual derived salaries were calculated through applying a multiple depending on the basis on which a respondent provided salary information (e.g. monthly, weekly, hourly). Checks have been conducted to ensure that mean salaries were not different when including calculations for those whose derived annual salary used the midpoint of a banded hourly variable.

[^10]:    ${ }^{34}$ This leavers cohort also includes individuals who ended a claim in the last week of January 2011 and the first week of April 2011.

[^11]:    1 BME group 2 refers to leavers of Pakistani, Bangladeshi or other Asian ethnic origin.
    2 BME group 1 refers to leavers of Indian and Chinese origin.

