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Coverage: Great Britain (unless otherwise stated)

Theme: Social and Welfare

DWP QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Introduction

This Statistical Summary aims to give users a structured overview of the National Statistics published by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Statistics are grouped by component area of DWP and, for each statistic, links are given for users to access more detailed information.

Key benefit statistics and New Deal statistics from 100% sources are available on an internet-based tabulation tool. A similar tabulation tool derived from 5% sample data is also available, however wherever possible 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as they are more accurate and form DWP's headline statistics.

Not all DWP National Statistics are covered by this release. Some statistics have their own first releases but links to these are given throughout.

Key Findings

- The working age incapacity benefits caseload has fallen by 43 thousand to 2.66 million in the year to February '07.
- The number of jobseekers decreased between February '00 and February '05 - from 1,177 thousand to 849 thousand - but rose to 936 thousand at February '07.
- The lone parent caseload fell from 923 thousand to 777 thousand between February '00 and February '06. This decrease continued in the year to February '07 when the caseload stood at 771 thousand.
- 2.88 million people had started on a New Deal programme up to May '07. To date, some 1.81 million people have gained a job through the New Deal programme, with over 82 thousand people gaining a job through Employment Zones.
- At February '07 there were 11.99 million people of State Pension age claiming a key benefit, an increase of 175 thousand since February '06. Of these, 66% were claiming State Pension only.
- At February '07, there were 11.79 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 174 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 37% were male and 63% female.
- At February '07, there were 2.73 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.34 million including partners), a rise of 22 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 800 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.33 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 603 thousand claimed Savings Credit only.
- At the end of June '07, the total CSA caseload stood at 1.4 million cases, of which 45% were new scheme cases.
- At February '07, there were 2.86 million recipients of Disability Living Allowance, 464 thousand recipients of Carer's Allowance, and 1.50 million recipients of Attendance Allowance

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1. Working Age

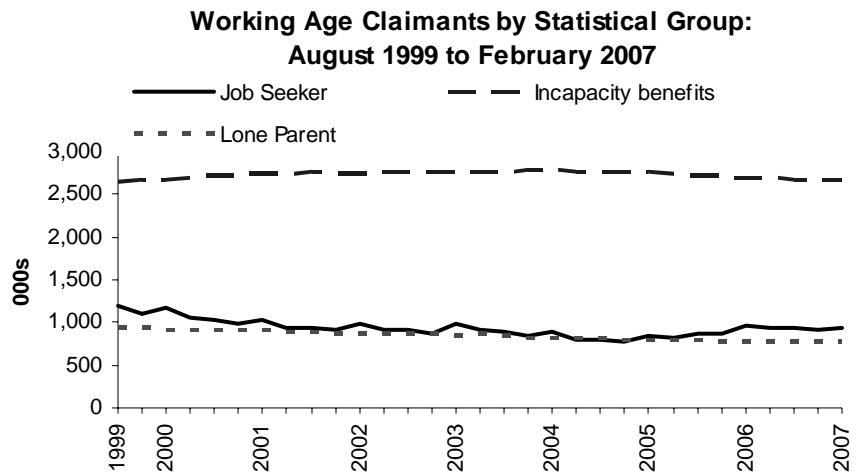
1.1 Working Age client group

Combines data collected for Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Bereavement Benefit and Income Support for working age claimants (including Pension Credit for males aged 60 to 64)

Between February 2000 and February 2005, the number of jobseekers fell from 1,177 thousand to 849 thousand, and rose to 936 thousand in February 2007.

The incapacity benefits caseload increased gradually to February 2004 and has fallen in each of the last ten quarters. Headline figures for incapacity benefits are shown in Table 1.2 and differ slightly to figures shown in Table 1.1 due to slight methodological differences.

The lone parent caseload fell from 923 thousand to 777 thousand between February 2000 and February 2006. This decrease continued in the year to February 2007, to stand at 771 thousand.



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

Table 1.1 Working Age claimants by Statistical Group: August 1999 to February 2007

| | <i>Thousands</i> | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total ⁹ | Job Seeker ² | Incapacity Benefits ³ | Lone Parent ⁴ | Carer ⁵ | Income Related | Disabled ^{7,9} | Bereaved ^{8,9} |
| Aug-99 | .. | 1,199.72 | 2,655.39 | 945.06 | 316.02 | 222.44 | .. | .. |
| Nov-99 | .. | 1,103.75 | 2,674.72 | 930.24 | 316.38 | 218.54 | .. | .. |
| Feb-00 | .. | 1,177.22 | 2,676.40 | 923.47 | 313.44 | 217.23 | .. | .. |
| May-00 | .. | 1,060.36 | 2,686.31 | 919.43 | 310.74 | 211.08 | .. | .. |
| Aug-00 | .. | 1,040.25 | 2,714.85 | 920.10 | 309.53 | 198.22 | .. | .. |
| Nov-00 | .. | 974.08 | 2,722.56 | 905.76 | 311.40 | 196.92 | .. | .. |
| Feb-01 | .. | 1,027.38 | 2,750.44 | 908.21 | 313.79 | 183.03 | .. | .. |
| May-01 | .. | 936.38 | 2,753.66 | 900.43 | 319.41 | 180.36 | .. | .. |
| Aug-01 | .. | 935.92 | 2,763.80 | 900.22 | 323.94 | 176.98 | .. | .. |
| Nov-01 | .. | 909.20 | 2,746.01 | 878.59 | 328.41 | 179.30 | .. | .. |
| Feb-02 | .. | 984.13 | 2,745.58 | 877.11 | 331.81 | 176.82 | .. | .. |
| May-02 | 5,483.91 | 906.06 | 2,765.73 | 870.95 | 335.57 | 165.79 | 244.97 | 194.85 |
| Aug-02 | 5,512.90 | 919.22 | 2,769.62 | 875.04 | 340.00 | 168.81 | 250.12 | 190.10 |
| Nov-02 | 5,456.76 | 878.74 | 2,776.56 | 856.23 | 343.50 | 161.50 | 256.26 | 183.97 |
| Feb-03 | 5,542.36 | 974.83 | 2,776.53 | 848.85 | 345.94 | 156.45 | 260.61 | 179.16 |
| May-03 | 5,487.80 | 914.52 | 2,773.61 | 855.81 | 347.70 | 156.06 | 265.93 | 174.18 |
| Aug-03 | 5,456.99 | 880.12 | 2,777.17 | 851.73 | 350.52 | 156.84 | 270.54 | 170.07 |
| Nov-03 | 5,391.84 | 832.61 | 2,780.50 | 831.75 | 353.00 | 154.27 | 275.20 | 164.52 |
| Feb-04 | 5,454.70 | 896.22 | 2,777.54 | 830.25 | 355.58 | 155.27 | 279.84 | 160.00 |
| May-04 | 5,355.64 | 806.35 | 2,772.85 | 823.27 | 358.99 | 155.43 | 283.03 | 155.70 |
| Aug-04 | 5,352.43 | 798.29 | 2,775.05 | 818.10 | 360.17 | 159.61 | 289.51 | 151.71 |
| Nov-04 | 5,299.21 | 770.21 | 2,772.20 | 796.53 | 361.15 | 157.90 | 293.87 | 147.36 |
| Feb-05 | 5,356.27 | 848.87 | 2,757.67 | 793.14 | 361.77 | 153.88 | 296.96 | 143.98 |
| May-05 | 5,317.91 | 830.11 | 2,741.66 | 789.32 | 363.49 | 151.02 | 300.70 | 141.61 |
| Aug-05 | 5,333.28 | 856.30 | 2,725.54 | 789.35 | 364.80 | 153.63 | 305.62 | 138.05 |
| Nov-05 | 5,321.03 | 870.52 | 2,710.74 | 778.58 | 363.05 | 155.65 | 309.09 | 133.40 |
| Feb-06 | 5,417.97 | 969.04 | 2,705.57 | 777.10 | 368.38 | 152.95 | 313.64 | 131.29 |
| May-06 | 5,360.14 | 930.86 | 2,688.13 | 774.86 | 368.21 | 152.58 | 316.84 | 128.66 |
| Aug-06 | 5,365.21 | 931.45 | 2,683.13 | 783.19 | 369.52 | 153.00 | 318.97 | 125.96 |
| Nov-06 | 5,331.50 | 904.23 | 2,673.05 | 775.62 | 371.35 | 160.97 | 326.33 | 119.97 |
| Feb-07 | 5,353.32 | 936.30 | 2,662.21 | 771.36 | 373.53 | 163.20 | 329.56 | 117.16 |

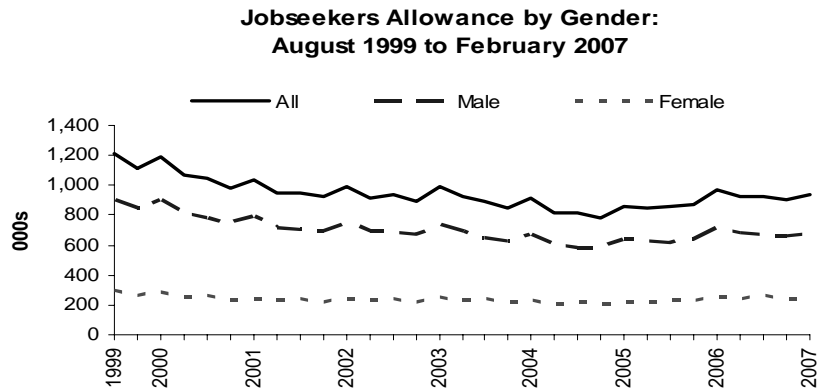
Source: DWP, Work & Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. Claimants have been assigned to a statistical group according to a hierarchy. The order is as shown in the table, i.e. 'Job Seekers', followed by 'Incapacity Benefits', etc. For example, lone parents with both Incapacity Benefits and Income Support will fall into the 'Incapacity Benefits' category.
2. 'Jobseekers' are recipients of Jobseeker's Allowance.
3. 'Incapacity Benefits' refer to recipients of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance.
4. 'Lone Parents' are single recipients of Income Support with a child under 16.
5. 'Carers' are recipients of Carer's Allowance.
6. 'Others on Income Related Benefit' are other recipients of Income Support (including Income Support Disability Premium) or Pension Credit.
7. 'Disabled' are recipients of Disability Living Allowance. Industrial Injuries benefits data is not available.
8. 'Bereaved' are recipients of Widow's Benefit or Bereavement Benefit.
9. Totals are not shown prior to May 2002 as Disability Living Allowance data is not available. Therefore complete data for the 'Disabled' and 'Bereaved' statistical groups are not available.
10. Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit data is not currently available but is expected to be added during 2006.
11. ".." denotes not available.

1.2 Jobseeker's Allowance

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) was introduced on 7 October 1996 and has both contributory and income-related elements. It is paid to people under state pension age who are available for and actively seeking work of at least forty hours per week

At February 2007, the total number of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants was 936 thousand. Female claimants represented 27% of the JSA caseload (252 thousand), while males represented 73% (685 thousand). The total caseload has fallen by 33 thousand since a year earlier.



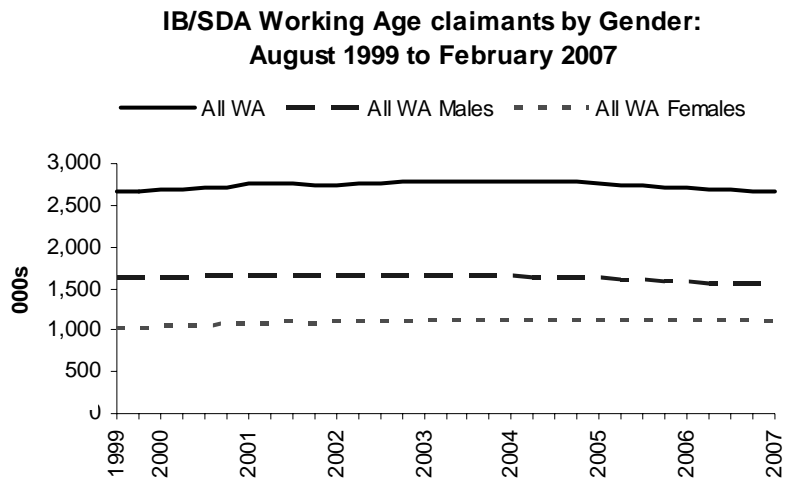
Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

1.3 Incapacity Benefits

Incapacity benefits consist of Incapacity Benefit (introduced on 13 April 1995 and paid to people who are incapable of work and who have paid sufficient contributions throughout their working life) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA).

At February 2007, there were 2.66 million working age claimants of incapacity benefits (Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance), a fall of 43 thousand on a year earlier. 58% of claimants were men and 42% women. Both the male and female caseloads are now falling: males by 31 thousand and females by 12 thousand in the year to February 2007.

At February 2007, 63% (1.67 million) of working age claimants were beneficiaries (i.e. were paid benefit), with the remaining 992 thousand receiving National Insurance Credits only. A further 42 thousand were claimants above State Pension Age: these were almost all recipients of Severe Disablement Allowance.



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

Table 1.2 Incapacity Benefits claimants & beneficiaries: August 1999 to February 2007

Thousands

| | All IB/SDA claimants | | | All IB/SDA beneficiaries | | |
|--------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | All ages | Working Age | State Pension Age | All ages | Working Age | State Pension Age |
| Aug-99 | 2,732.50 | 2,655.46 | 77.05 | 1,978.56 | 1,902.14 | 76.42 |
| Nov-99 | 2,738.13 | 2,674.81 | 63.32 | 1,967.96 | 1,905.13 | 62.83 |
| Feb-00 | 2,724.03 | 2,676.50 | 47.53 | 1,949.96 | 1,902.81 | 47.15 |
| May-00 | 2,728.09 | 2,686.40 | 41.69 | 1,941.20 | 1,899.81 | 41.39 |
| Aug-00 | 2,756.51 | 2,714.95 | 41.55 | 1,949.08 | 1,907.75 | 41.33 |
| Nov-00 | 2,764.14 | 2,722.65 | 41.49 | 1,945.44 | 1,904.11 | 41.33 |
| Feb-01 | 2,792.03 | 2,750.53 | 41.50 | 1,961.19 | 1,919.80 | 41.39 |
| May-01 | 2,795.34 | 2,753.74 | 41.60 | 1,955.00 | 1,913.52 | 41.49 |
| Aug-01 | 2,805.45 | 2,763.87 | 41.58 | 1,947.63 | 1,906.15 | 41.49 |
| Nov-01 | 2,787.71 | 2,746.07 | 41.64 | 1,926.79 | 1,885.22 | 41.56 |
| Feb-02 | 2,787.22 | 2,745.67 | 41.56 | 1,923.90 | 1,882.45 | 41.45 |
| May-02 | 2,807.63 | 2,765.82 | 41.80 | 1,925.86 | 1,884.16 | 41.70 |
| Aug-02 | 2,811.43 | 2,769.70 | 41.73 | 1,918.07 | 1,876.43 | 41.63 |
| Nov-02 | 2,818.48 | 2,776.64 | 41.83 | 1,912.53 | 1,870.79 | 41.74 |
| Feb-03 | 2,818.57 | 2,776.63 | 41.94 | 1,908.90 | 1,867.06 | 41.84 |
| May-03 | 2,815.66 | 2,773.71 | 41.95 | 1,897.03 | 1,855.19 | 41.84 |
| Aug-03 | 2,819.05 | 2,777.28 | 41.77 | 1,888.80 | 1,847.11 | 41.69 |
| Nov-03 | 2,822.27 | 2,780.58 | 41.70 | 1,881.88 | 1,840.25 | 41.63 |
| Feb-04 | 2,819.16 | 2,777.62 | 41.54 | 1,873.81 | 1,832.35 | 41.46 |
| May-04 | 2,814.71 | 2,772.93 | 41.79 | 1,859.96 | 1,818.25 | 41.70 |
| Aug-04 | 2,817.01 | 2,775.10 | 41.90 | 1,849.78 | 1,807.95 | 41.83 |
| Nov-04 | 2,814.41 | 2,772.23 | 42.17 | 1,840.28 | 1,798.18 | 42.10 |
| Feb-05 | 2,799.87 | 2,757.71 | 42.17 | 1,827.15 | 1,785.08 | 42.08 |
| May-05 | 2,783.72 | 2,741.67 | 42.05 | 1,809.98 | 1,768.02 | 41.96 |
| Aug-05 | 2,767.74 | 2,725.55 | 42.20 | 1,793.00 | 1,750.89 | 42.11 |
| Nov-05 | 2,752.90 | 2,710.74 | 42.16 | 1,780.31 | 1,738.21 | 42.10 |
| Feb-06 | 2,747.49 | 2,705.58 | 41.91 | 1,768.66 | 1,726.82 | 41.84 |
| May-06 | 2,730.00 | 2,688.14 | 41.86 | 1,750.91 | 1,709.12 | 41.79 |
| Aug-06 | 2,724.98 | 2,683.13 | 41.85 | 1,738.64 | 1,696.87 | 41.78 |
| Nov-06 | 2,714.95 | 2,673.05 | 41.90 | 1,724.35 | 1,682.52 | 41.83 |
| Feb-07 | 2,704.10 | 2,662.21 | 41.89 | 1,711.63 | 1,669.81 | 41.82 |

Source: DWP, Work & Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. *IB : Incapacity benefit. SDA : Severe Disablement Allowance.*
2. *Figures on IB Beneficiaries show those claimants who are receiving money. IB Claimants include these beneficiaries, but also those receiving National Insurance Credits and no monetary payment.*
3. *'Incapacity Benefits' refer to recipients of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance. Numbers of working age claimants of incapacity benefits (IB/SDA) are shown in both the Working Age Client Group and IB/SDA sections of this release. Working age IB/SDA totals vary slightly between the two sections (the differences are about 0.5%) because of minor differences in methodology.*

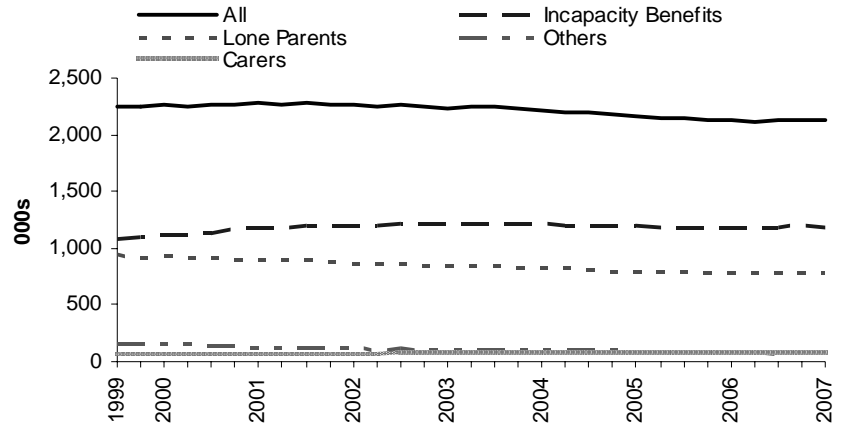
1.4 Income Support

Income Support (IS) was introduced on 11 April 1988 and is an income-related benefit that can be claimed by people aged 16-59 that work fewer than 16 hours a week and have insufficient income to meet their needs. Prior to the introduction of Pension Credit in October 2003, IS was available to people aged 60 and over.

At February 2007, the total number of Income Support (IS) claimants was 2.12 million. Claimants of incapacity benefits represented 56% of the IS caseload (1.19 million). Lone Parents (all single claimants with dependants excluding claimants of incapacity benefits) represented 36% of the IS caseload (771 thousand), while Carers and Others represented 8% of the caseload (165 thousand).

Pension Credit (PC) replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) in Income Support on 6 October 2003. MIG claimants have been excluded from these data.

**Income Support by Statistical Group:
August 1999 to February 2007**



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

Table 1.3 Income Support Lone Parents claimants: February 2007

| | Thousands | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Total | Female | Male |
| all ages | 771.36 | 736.05 | 35.31 |
| unknown age | 0.01 | 0.01 | - |
| under 18 | 5.71 | 5.69 | 0.02 |
| 18-24 | 160.60 | 159.22 | 1.38 |
| 25-34 | 285.67 | 277.12 | 8.55 |
| 35-44 | 248.72 | 232.03 | 16.69 |
| 45-54 | 65.84 | 58.36 | 7.48 |
| 55-59 | 4.81 | 3.62 | 1.19 |

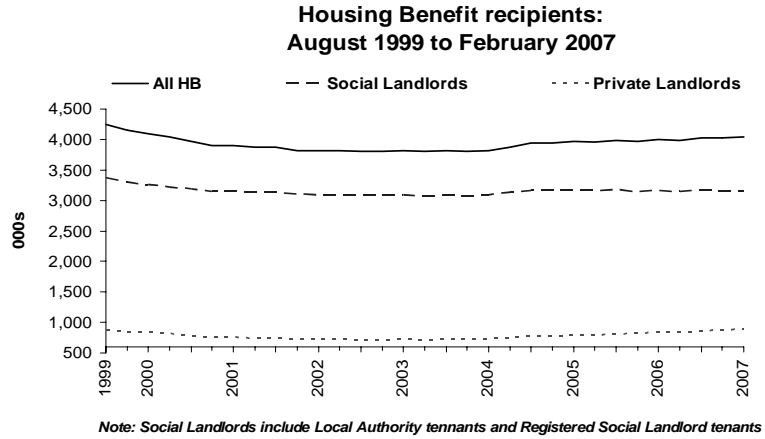
1. '-' in the table denotes nil or negligible.
2. Pension Credit (PC) replaced the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) in Income Support on 6th October 2003. MIG claimants have been excluded from these data.

1.5 Housing Benefit

Housing Benefit (HB) was introduced on 1 April 1983 and is an income-related benefit designed to help people on low incomes pay for rented accommodation whether in or out of work

At February 2007 there were 4.04 million recipients of Housing Benefit, of whom 1.52 million were aged 60 and over. The average weekly amount of Housing Benefit was £68.

72% of Housing Benefit recipients were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Pension Credit (GC).



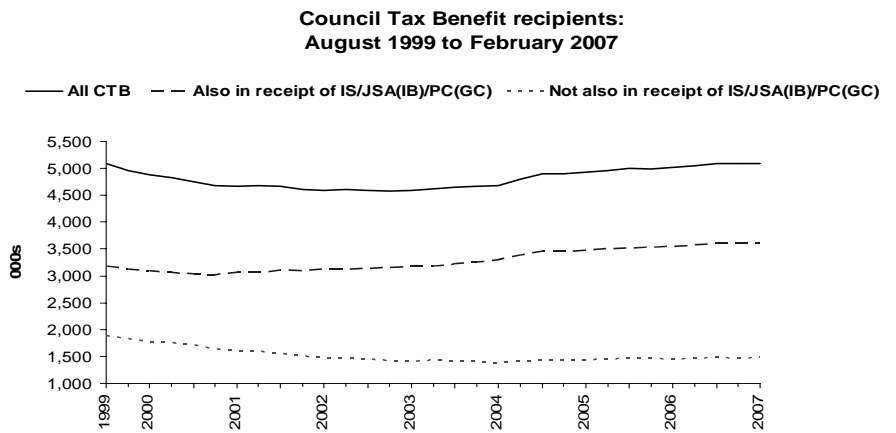
Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>

1.6 Council Tax Benefit

Council Tax Benefit (CTB) was introduced on 1 April 1993 and is an income-related benefit, calculated in a similar way to Housing Benefit, which has been designed to help people on low incomes pay their Council Tax

At February 2007 there were 5.10 million recipients of Council Tax Benefit (figure excludes second adult rebates), of whom 2.55 million were aged 60 and over. The average weekly amount of Council Tax Benefit was £14.

71% of Council Tax Benefit recipients were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Pension Credit (GC).



Latest statistical data available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>

1.7 Widow's Benefit & Bereavement Benefit

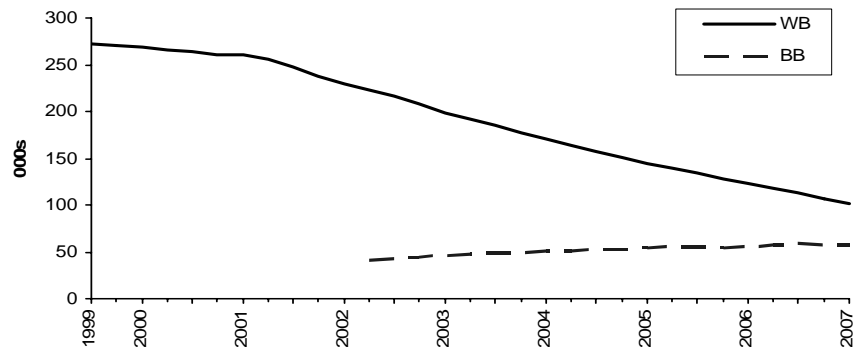
Widow's Benefit (WB) was introduced on 6 July 1948 and is payable to women widowed between 11 April 1988 and 8 April 2001 inclusive. There are three types of WB: Widow's Payment, Widowed Mother's Allowance and Widow's Pension. Women widowed before 11 April 1988 continue to receive Widow's Benefit based on the rules that existed before that date

Bereavement Benefit (BB) was introduced on 9 April 2001 as a replacement for Widow's Benefit. It is payable to both men and women widowed on or after 9 April 2001. There are three types of BB: Bereavement Payment, Widowed Parent's Allowance and Bereavement Allowance

At February 2007, there were 102 thousand claimants of Widow's Benefit, a fall of 21 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 85 thousand were in receipt of Widow's Pension and 17 thousand Widowed Mother's Allowance.

At February 2007, there were 58 thousand claimants of Bereavement Benefit, a rise of 2 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 21 thousand were in receipt of Bereavement Allowance and 37 thousand in receipt of Widowed Parent's Allowance.

Widow's Benefit and Bereavement Benefit recipients: August 1999 to February 2007



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

1.8 Fraud and Error statistics (link)

National Statistics are published regularly, presenting six-monthly estimates of fraud and error in claims for Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit and Housing Benefit, along with an annual estimate of the level of fraud and error in the benefit system as a whole. One-off benefit reviews have been carried out from time to time to estimate fraud and error in claims for other benefits. All these reports can be found at www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd2/fraud_error.asp.

1.9 Take-Up of Income-Related Benefits (link)

Publications contain information on the take-up of the main income-related benefits in Great Britain: Income Support, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and Jobseeker's Allowance (income based). Take-up is measured in two ways. Expenditure take-up compares the total amount of benefit received in the course of a year with the total amount that would have been received if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Caseload take-up compares the number of benefit claimants – averaged over the year – with the number who would be receiving if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Data is sourced from the Family Resources Survey and administrative benefit records. Latest published figures are available at <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/irb.asp>

1.10 Jobseeker's Allowance sanction and disallowance decisions

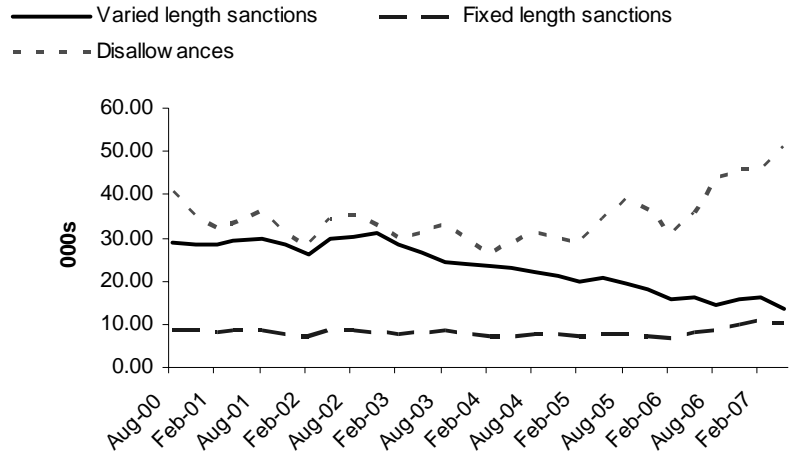
A JSA claimant can have their claim sanctioned (payment is temporarily suspended) or disallowed (entitlement ends) if they are deemed not to have just cause for failing to fulfil the conditions of their claim. Sanctions can be 'Varied length' (anything up to 26 weeks) or 'Fixed length' (2,4 or 26 weeks). Disallowances result in the claim ending.

In the quarter ending May 2007 there were 127 thousand decisions made, of which 75 thousand were adverse decisions (i.e. a sanction or disallowance was applied).

Of these, 13 thousand were varied length sanctions, 10 thousand were fixed length sanctions and 51 thousand were disallowance decisions. 59% of decisions made in this quarter resulted in an adverse decision.

NB – this summary includes data on decisions made for sanction referrals only, not opinions.

Adverse decisions for JSA Labour Market questions for sanctions and disallowances per quarter: August 2000 to May 2007



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/sanctions.asp>

1.11 New Deals & Employment Zones

New Deal for Young People was established in 1998 aimed at people aged 18 to 24 unemployed for at least 6 months. Since then a range of other mandatory and voluntary New Deal programmes have been established aimed at specific client groups.

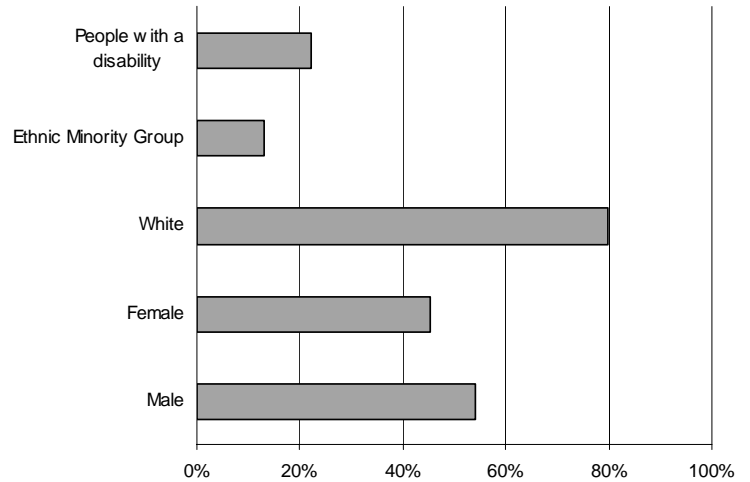
2.88 million people had started on a New Deal programme up to May '07.

To date, some 1.81 million people have gained a job through the New Deal programme, with over 82 thousand people also gaining a job through Employment Zones.

Statistics on ND50plus, NDDP, and NDP have been improved by incorporating additional data from the Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study. This has led to the identification of an additional 18 per cent of people gaining a job through these programmes, and the introduction for the first time of an immediate destination measure. As a result of these improvements the time series of people gaining a job through these programmes has been revised.

Data on the New Deal and Employment Zones programmes are now released via the DWP Tabulation Tool where users can construct their own bespoke statistical tables.

People starting New Deal, cumulative to May 2007



Latest statistical data available from: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/tabtool_nd.asp

Table 1.4 Summary of New Deal and Employment Zones

| | New Deal for: | | | | | | Thousands Employment Zones |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Young People | 25plus | Lone Parents | Disabled People | 50+ ³ | Partners ⁴ | |
| <i>latest data</i> ¹ : | | | | | | | |
| People starting ² | 1,208.2 | 703.5 | 778.3 | 256.6 | 87.3 | 15.4 | 171.9 |
| Currently Participating | 92.2 | 59.1 | 57.6 | 174.9 | 58.7 | 3.6 | 32.8 |
| People gaining a job | 745.4 | 292.6 | 507.8 | 142.7 | 172.8 | 6.3 | 82.3 |

Source: DWP, New Deal Evaluation Databases

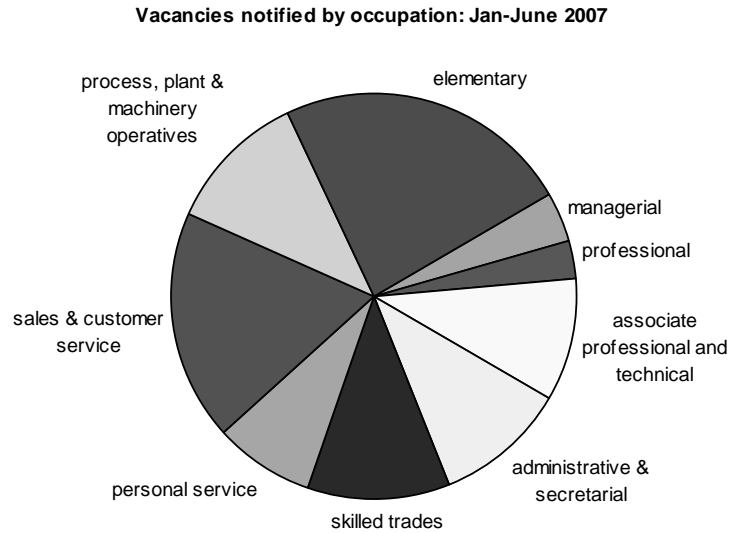
1. Latest data relates to end May 2007 for people starting NDYP, ND25plus, NDLP, NDDP, ND50plus, and NDP. For current participants and people gaining a job through NDYP, ND25plus, NDLP, NDDP, ND50plus, and NDP latest data relates to end of February 2007. Latest EZ data is to April 2007.
2. The sum of people starting and gaining a job for each separate New Deal will not equal the number of people starting and gaining a job through New Deal as a whole (as indicated above) because some people will start and gain a job through more than one New Deal programme.
3. Starts for ND50+ are from Jan 2004 onwards. The jobs figures for ND50+ include 98,040 people who had received Employment Credit up to March 2003.
4. Starts for NDP include 7,820 starts up to March 2004; jobs for NDP include 1,860 jobs up to March 2004.

1.12 Vacancies handled by Jobcentre Plus

As the Public Employment Service for Great Britain, Jobcentre Plus handle a significant share of all vacancies advertised by employers, albeit that vacancies notified to Jobcentre Plus do not represent the total number of vacancies in the whole economy

On average, 312 thousand vacancies per month were notified to Jobcentre Plus during the first half of 2007. Most commonly these are for elementary occupations (24%) and sales/customer services (18%). 16% of notified vacancies are in the North West region compared to 8% in London, 5% Wales and 11% Scotland

As at June 2007, the number of unfilled vacancies available to jobseekers was 407 thousand



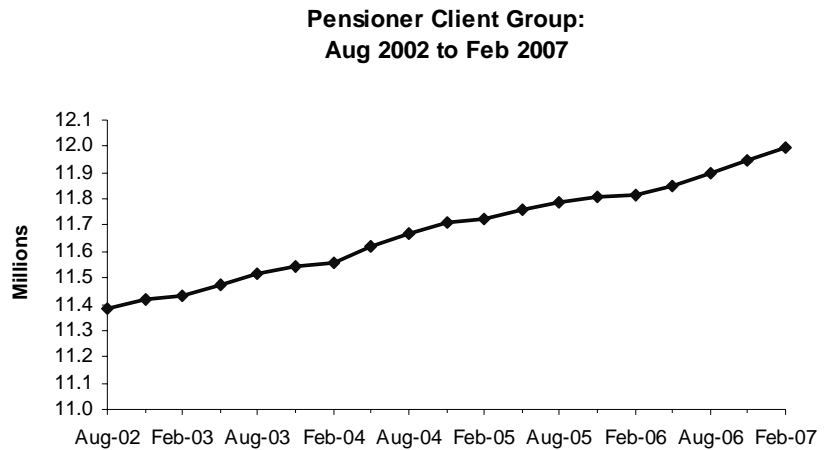
Latest statistical data available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/vacancies.asp>

2. Pensioners

2.1 Pensioner client group

The Pensioner Client Group covers claimants, aged 60 and over, of at least one of the following benefits: State Pension, Pension Credit, Attendance Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, and Severe Disablement Allowance. They are split into statistical groups that reflect their main reason for claiming benefit

At February 2007 there were 11.99 million claimants in the Pensioner Client Group, an increase of 175 thousand since February 2006. Of these, 21% were in receipt of Pension Credit. 47% of these Pension Credit claimants were disabled.



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

Table 2.1 Pensioner Client Group recipients: February 2003 to February 2007

| Thousands | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Total | SP and PC: Disabled | SP and PC: Not Disabled | SP but not PC: Disabled | SP but not PC: Not Disabled | PC but not SP: Disabled | PC but not SP: Not Disabled | Neither SP nor PC: Disabled | Neither SP nor PC: Not Disabled |
| Feb-03 | 11,430.79 | 704.92 | 717.54 | 1,437.51 | 8,367.51 | 70.48 | 68.46 | 39.34 | 25.04 |
| May-03 | 11,473.09 | 713.55 | 723.21 | 1,455.05 | 8,376.88 | 70.78 | 69.30 | 39.34 | 24.97 |
| Aug-03 | 11,515.97 | 725.58 | 734.00 | 1,474.14 | 8,378.73 | 71.00 | 69.44 | 38.55 | 24.53 |
| Nov-03 | 11,544.62 | 806.98 | 952.06 | 1,414.29 | 8,165.73 | 71.35 | 70.28 | 39.17 | 24.76 |
| Feb-04 | 11,557.87 | 868.52 | 1,083.74 | 1,360.45 | 8,039.64 | 71.27 | 70.62 | 38.89 | 24.72 |
| May-04 | 11,620.15 | 959.75 | 1,193.56 | 1,296.11 | 7,964.86 | 71.80 | 71.35 | 38.08 | 24.64 |
| Aug-04 | 11,668.11 | 1,003.82 | 1,245.69 | 1,282.39 | 7,929.91 | 72.57 | 71.81 | 37.76 | 24.16 |
| Nov-04 | 11,710.58 | 1,028.05 | 1,255.69 | 1,280.46 | 7,938.11 | 73.38 | 72.83 | 37.97 | 24.10 |
| Feb-05 | 11,726.47 | 1,037.26 | 1,268.33 | 1,273.89 | 7,938.28 | 73.49 | 73.51 | 37.74 | 23.98 |
| May-05 | 11,760.74 | 1,052.43 | 1,281.60 | 1,281.06 | 7,939.49 | 73.17 | 72.88 | 37.11 | 23.00 |
| Aug-05 | 11,786.58 | 1,065.96 | 1,280.72 | 1,298.46 | 7,933.04 | 73.71 | 73.80 | 37.60 | 23.30 |
| Nov-05 | 11,804.43 | 1,075.10 | 1,278.42 | 1,307.14 | 7,929.69 | 75.54 | 75.42 | 39.48 | 23.63 |
| Feb-06 | 11,817.23 | 1,081.17 | 1,277.97 | 1,315.46 | 7,934.50 | 73.53 | 73.75 | 37.77 | 23.08 |
| May-06 | 11,847.97 | 1,088.48 | 1,278.31 | 1,322.93 | 7,949.50 | 73.76 | 74.05 | 38.06 | 22.88 |
| Aug-06 | 11,896.50 | 1,100.55 | 1,274.33 | 1,338.09 | 7,973.44 | 74.29 | 74.59 | 38.42 | 22.78 |
| Nov-06 | 11,949.62 | 1,113.70 | 1,269.09 | 1,351.57 | 8,004.82 | 74.87 | 74.34 | 38.69 | 22.54 |
| Feb-07 | 11,992.45 | 1,114.06 | 1,260.09 | 1,356.42 | 8,052.20 | 74.56 | 74.19 | 38.60 | 22.33 |

Source: DWP, Work & Pensions Longitudinal Study

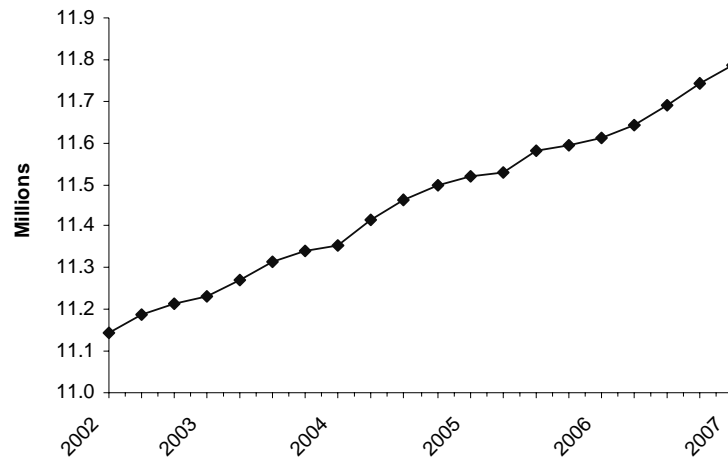
2.2 State Pension

State Pension (SP) was introduced on 1 January 1909 and is paid to people who have reached the state pension age (65 for men, 60 for women) and who fulfil the residency and contributions conditions

At February 2007, there were 11.79 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 174 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 37% were male and 63% female.

The average weekly amount in payment at February 2007 was £88.03, a rise of £3.02 since February 2006.

**State Pension Recipients:
Aug 2002 to Feb 2007**



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

Table 2.2 State Pension recipients: February 2003 to February 2007

| | Thousands | | |
|--------|-----------|----------|----------|
| | All | Male | Female |
| Feb-03 | 11,232.29 | 4,197.77 | 7,034.53 |
| May-03 | 11,271.62 | 4,216.74 | 7,054.88 |
| Aug-03 | 11,315.22 | 4,237.46 | 7,077.76 |
| Nov-03 | 11,340.71 | 4,249.69 | 7,091.01 |
| Feb-04 | 11,354.10 | 4,255.94 | 7,098.16 |
| May-04 | 11,416.15 | 4,281.06 | 7,135.09 |
| Aug-04 | 11,466.30 | 4,301.68 | 7,164.61 |
| Nov-04 | 11,504.32 | 4,315.80 | 7,188.52 |
| Feb-05 | 11,519.88 | 4,322.52 | 7,197.36 |
| May-05 | 11,556.81 | 4,342.15 | 7,214.66 |
| Aug-05 | 11,580.50 | 4,354.75 | 7,225.74 |
| Nov-05 | 11,592.75 | 4,362.20 | 7,230.55 |
| Feb-06 | 11,611.59 | 4,369.79 | 7,241.80 |
| May-06 | 11,641.83 | 4,379.54 | 7,262.29 |
| Aug-06 | 11,689.12 | 4,393.60 | 7,295.52 |
| Nov-06 | 11,742.01 | 4,408.91 | 7,333.10 |
| Feb-07 | 11,785.67 | 4,418.99 | 7,366.68 |

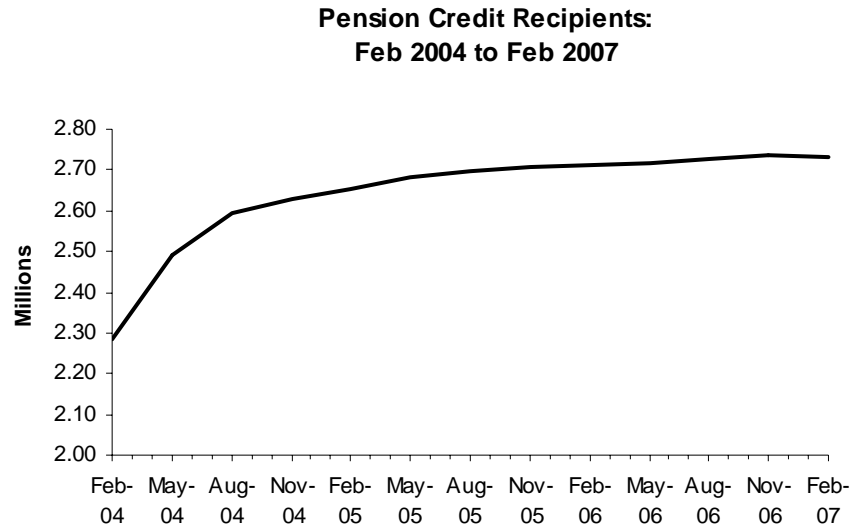
Source: DWP, Work & Pensions Longitudinal Study

2.3 Pension Credit

Pension Credit (PC) was introduced on 6 October 2003 and replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). For people aged 60 or over, the Guarantee Credit element guarantees an income at a set level. People aged 65 or over (and couples where one member is 65 or over) may also be entitled to Savings Credit if they have modest income from savings, investments or a second pension

At February 2007, there were 2.73 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.34 million including partners), a rise of 22 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 800 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.33 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 603 thousand claimed Savings Credit only.

The average weekly amount of Pension Credit in payment at February 2007 was £47.08, a rise of £5.53 since February 2006.



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

Table 2.3 Pension Credit claimants: February 2004 to February 2007

| | Thousands | | | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Total | Guarantee Credit only | Guarantee Credit & Savings Credit | Savings Credit only | Still on Minimum Income Guarantee |
| Feb-04 | 2,282.29 | 719.18 | 1,196.59 | 365.26 | 1.25 |
| May-04 | 2,490.76 | 735.03 | 1,269.45 | 485.98 | 0.31 |
| Aug-04 | 2,592.59 | 749.17 | 1,293.25 | 549.99 | 0.18 |
| Nov-04 | 2,629.58 | 759.90 | 1,298.96 | 570.58 | 0.14 |
| Feb-05 | 2,654.67 | 763.15 | 1,313.11 | 578.36 | 0.06 |
| May-05 | 2,682.73 | 767.26 | 1,321.68 | 593.74 | 0.04 |
| Aug-05 | 2,696.66 | 772.40 | 1,317.18 | 607.04 | 0.04 |
| Nov-05 | 2,708.05 | 776.94 | 1,313.48 | 617.60 | 0.04 |
| Feb-06 | 2,709.22 | 773.16 | 1,332.11 | 603.93 | 0.04 |
| May-06 | 2,717.39 | 775.57 | 1,343.23 | 598.56 | 0.02 |
| Aug-06 | 2,728.15 | 787.30 | 1,334.41 | 606.41 | 0.02 |
| Nov-06 | 2,738.56 | 798.13 | 1,325.87 | 614.54 | 0.02 |
| Feb-07 | 2,730.94 | 800.11 | 1,327.78 | 603.03 | 0.03 |

Source: DWP, Work & Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. Pension Credit replaced MIG on 6 October 2003.
2. A small number of MIG cases are yet to convert to PC.

3. Disabled and Carers

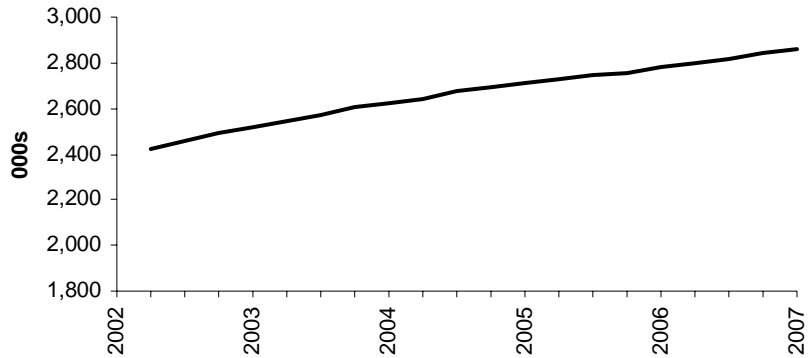
3.1 Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) was introduced on 1 April 1992 and is a benefit for people who have become disabled before the age of 65 and who need assistance with personal care or mobility

At February '07, 2.86 million people were receiving Disability Living Allowance (not including suspended cases), a rise of 75 thousand on a year earlier. 50% of claimants were male. Both the male and female caseloads are rising, males by 35 thousand and females by 40 thousand in the year to February '07.

At February '07, 10% of recipients were children, 58% were working age and 32% were pension age (a small number are an unknown age).

**Disability Living Allowance recipients:
May 2002 to Feb 2007**



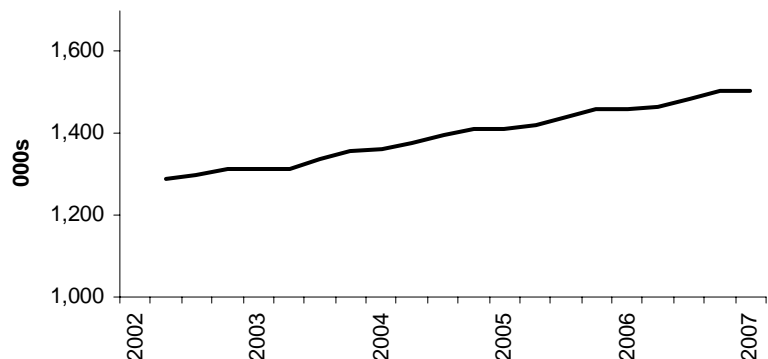
Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

3.2 Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance (AA) was introduced on 6 December 1971 and is a benefit for people over the age of 65 who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need a great deal of help with personal care or supervision. Those requiring constant help receive the higher rate of benefit.

At February '07 there were 1.50 million people receiving Attendance Allowance, a rise of 43 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 32% were male and 68% female. Both the male and female caseloads are rising, males by 20 thousand and females by 23 thousand in the year to February '07. At February '07, 66% were aged 80 or over.

**Attendance Allowance Cases in Payment:
May 2002 to Feb 2007**



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

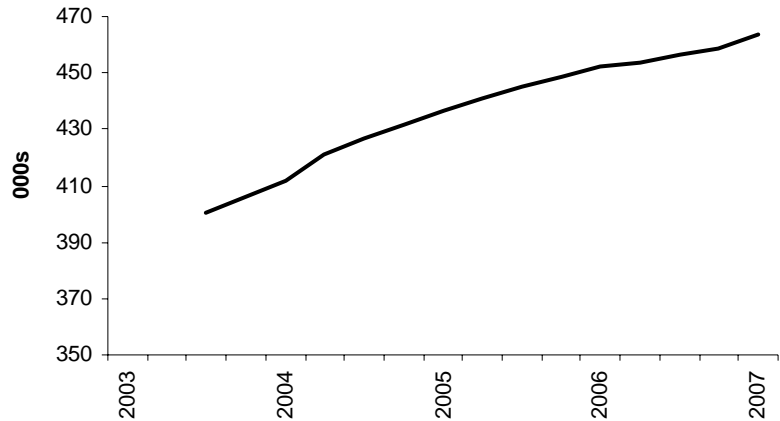
3.3 Carer's Allowance

Carer's Allowance (CA) was introduced on 5 July 1976; it is paid to carers who look after a severely disabled person for at least 35 hours a week. The severely disabled person must be getting either higher or middle rate DLA care component or AA or maximum rate Constant Attendance Allowance with their War Pension or Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

At February '07, there were 464 thousand people receiving Carer's Allowance (not including underlying entitlement cases). 26% of claimants were male, and 74% female.

At February '07, there were a further 360 thousand people entitled to Carer's Allowance but not receiving any payment due to overlapping benefit provisions (ie underlying entitlement cases).

**Carer's Allowance number in payment:
Aug 2003 to Feb 2007**



Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

Table 3.1 Awards currently in payment for Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance, and all entitled cases for Attendance Allowance: November 2002 to February 2007

Thousands

| | Disability Living Allowance ¹ | Attendance Allowance ¹ | Carers Allowance ² |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nov-02 | 2,488.49 | 1,313.74 | .. |
| Feb-03 | 2,516.13 | 1,312.75 | .. |
| May-03 | 2,547.09 | 1,315.64 | .. |
| Aug-03 | 2,573.54 | 1,336.21 | 400.18 |
| Nov-03 | 2,601.88 | 1,356.31 | 406.23 |
| Feb-04 | 2,625.39 | 1,363.81 | 412.12 |
| May-04 | 2,644.28 | 1,377.35 | 421.18 |
| Aug-04 | 2,672.16 | 1,397.30 | 426.34 |
| Nov-04 | 2,696.28 | 1,412.50 | 431.66 |
| Feb-05 | 2,712.91 | 1,411.33 | 436.94 |
| May-05 | 2,729.72 | 1,419.42 | 441.03 |
| Aug-05 | 2,749.48 | 1,440.09 | 445.43 |
| Nov-05 | 2,757.64 | 1,460.25 | * |
| Feb-06 | 2,785.68 | 1,460.57 | 452.54 |
| May-06 | 2,799.16 | 1,465.59 | 453.54 |
| Aug-06 | 2,814.29 | 1,484.58 | 456.70 |
| Nov-06 | 2,845.75 | 1,503.05 | 458.93 |
| Feb-07 | 2,860.79 | 1,503.85 | 463.50 |

Source: DWP, Work & Pensions Longitudinal Study

1. Excludes cases entitled but temporarily suspended.

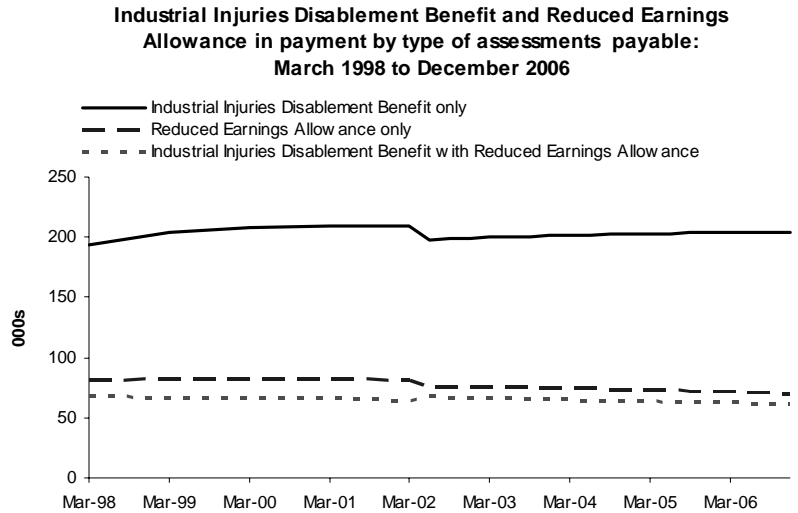
2. Excludes cases entitled but not in payment due to overlapping benefits provisions. Data are not available prior to August 2003.

* Figure taken from 100% extract of Carers Allowance Computer System, WPLS figure for this date is under investigation.

3.4 Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) was introduced on 5 July 1948 and is a benefit for people who are disabled because of an industrial accident or prescribed industrial disease. Since 1 October 1986 any claim resulting in an assessment of less than 14% disabled does not normally attract benefit

There were 335 thousand people claiming under the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit scheme in December 2006, of whom 61% received Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit only, 21% received Reduced Earnings Allowance only, and 18% received both. The number of people claiming benefit was 1.0% lower than in December 2006. The average weekly payment was £43.01.



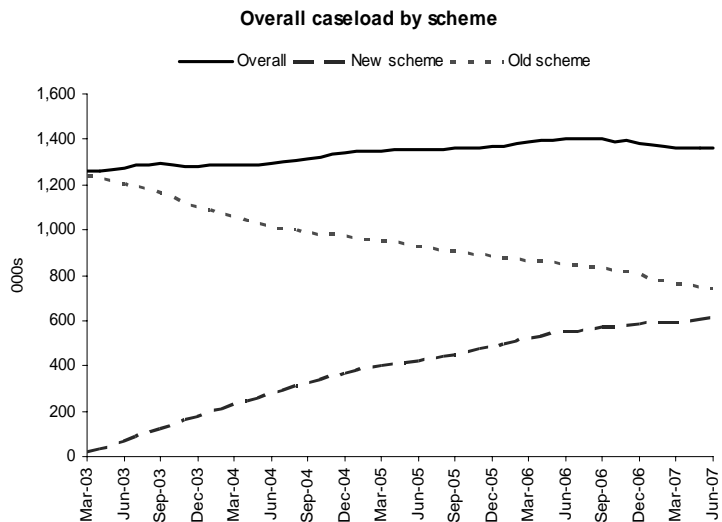
Latest statistical data available from : <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/iidb.asp>

4. Families & Children

4.1 Child Support Agency cases

Launched on 5 April 1993, the Child Support Agency (CSA) is an executive agency of the Department for Work and Pensions, set up to implement the Child Support Act 1991 and operate the new child maintenance system in Great Britain (there is a separate but parallel agency for Northern Ireland). The CSA is responsible for tracing Non-resident Parents, working out how much maintenance they should pay, and can collect and enforce payments. Prior to 3 March 2003, CSA stored information on the Child Support Computer System (CSCS). Since the introduction of the new computer system (CS2) on that date, all new Child Support applications have been assessed under a new scheme on the new system. The CSA statistics presented here were released on 25 July 2007. These charts reproduce those numbers to provide a complete picture of DWP business.

At the end of June 2007, the CSA caseload stood at 1.4 million, a decrease of 3% on the same point in the previous year.

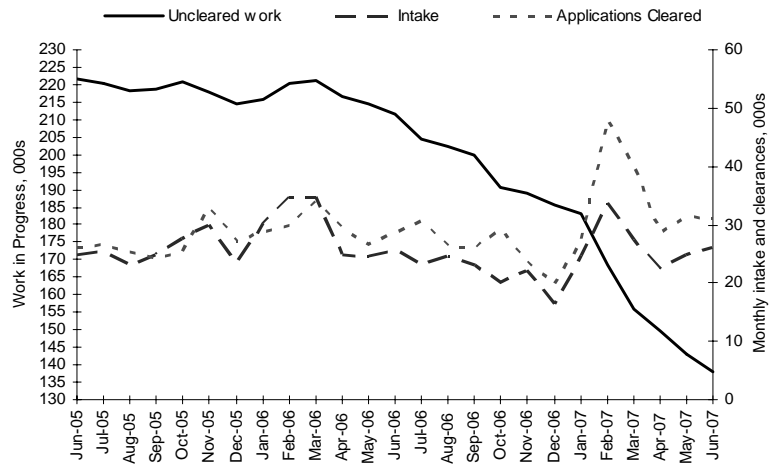


At the end of June 2007, there were 178,000 uncleared applications across both schemes, a fall of 36% over the previous twelve months. The volume of uncleared new scheme applications has fallen by 18,000 since March 2007 and, at 138,000, is at its lowest since January 2004. This represents a fall of 35% since June 2006.

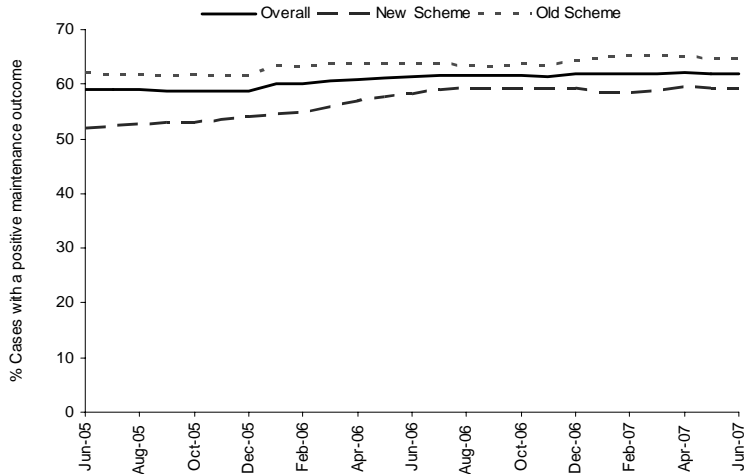
The mean average processing time for new scheme applications cleared in June 2007 was 232 days (33 weeks), with 50% cleared in 56 days (8 weeks) or less. The mean average age for uncleared cases was 585 days (84 weeks). A comprehensive definition of a clearance is provided within the tables.

In the quarter ending June 2007, 62% of all cases in which maintenance was due had either received maintenance via the CSA collection service, or had a maintenance direct arrangement in place. Performance in this area has been broadly flat for the last year.

New scheme application intake, clearances and work on hand: monthly



Rolling Last Quarter positive Maintenance Outcomes for 'Live' and Assessed CS2 and CSCS Cases with a positive maintenance liability



Latest statistical data available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/csa.asp>

5. Appeals Service

5.1 Appeals Service lodgements

The Independent Tribunal Service was introduced in 1984 to provide an independent appeals system. It was replaced by the Appeals Service (tAS) in April 2000. From 1st April 2006 the Appeals Service, was renamed as the Social Security and Child Support Appeals Tribunal (SSCSA) and became part of The Tribunals Service (a new Executive agency within the Department for Constitutional Affairs). For operational reasons, the DWP is continuing to produce statistics on its behalf. In a rolling program over 2006, SSCSA has replaced GAPS (the Generic Appeals Processing System) with a new system: GAPS2. The last month for which reliable figures can be produced (under GAPS1) is May 06. It is not yet possible to provide reliable figures for the Statistical Summary under the new system. Therefore no figures are published here. When reliable figures become available the Appeals Section of the Statistical Summary will be resumed.

Latest statistical data available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/qat.asp>

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Modernisation of DWP statistics

The National Statistics paper "DWP statistics transformed: the modernisation of the DWP's data sources and statistical publications" announced major changes to the National Statistics the Department publishes, both in the data sources employed and the methods of dissemination. The paper is available from http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_consultation/modstats.pdf

2. Links to internet-based statistical tables

For each statistic in this publication, access to more detailed statistics are available by clicking on the web links. For benefit, New Deal and vacancy statistics derived from 100% sources, an internet-based Tabulation Tool is available with the ability for users to define their own statistical queries (available from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>). A similar Tabulation Tool, derived from 5% sample data, is also available. Data on key benefits continue to be available via NOMIS <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>. Whenever possible, 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as these are both more accurate and form DWP's headline statistics.

Some statistics remain outside the scope of the Tabulation Tool but will continue to be available via the internet as pre-defined summary tables. From August 2007, this will include publication - for the first time - of National Statistics relating to the ethnicity of lone parents claiming Income Support (see below).

3. Statistical Groups

DWP has introduced a new typology to define Statistical Groups within the client group classifications. The aim of the Statistical Group typology is to present each person by the main reasons they are in contact with the Department. Like the client group classification, each client is classified just once, permitting the estimation of the total number of people claiming one or more benefits. The Statistical Group hierarchy is a] Jobseeker b] Incapacity benefits c] Lone parents d] Carers e] Other income-related benefits f] Disabled g] Bereaved h] Housing Benefit i] receiving State Pension only. More information can be found in the National Statistics paper described in paragraph 1 above.

4. National Insurance numbers allocated to foreign nationals

From this release onwards, figures on National Insurance number allocations to foreign nationals, broken down by region, local authority and parliamentary constituency, will be included in the quarterly release of statistics. See http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/niall/nino_allocation.asp.

5. Ethnicity of lone parents on Income Support

Following the publication of ethnicity figures on Jobseeker's Allowance claimants in November, this release includes figures on the ethnicity of lone parents claiming Income Support, a significant contribution towards the cross-government aim of improving statistics on minority groups. One-click tables showing data by age band, duration of claim, gender, and local area are available.

6. Attendance Allowance in payment

From this release, 100%-based data on Attendance Allowance cases in payment have been restored as National Statistics following improvements to the identification of suspended cases.

7. CSA amendment

The Old Scheme uncleared work figures for April 2007- June 2007 initially published on 25 July 2007 were incorrect. They have been amended and the updated figures are now available in the internet publication http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/child_support/csa_quarterly_jun07.asp.

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

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

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

Child Support Agency Quarterly Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on the Child Support Agency. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/csa.asp>

Contributions and Qualifying Years for Retirement Pension (annual) – provides statistics on the number of people who have qualified for State Pension.

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

Households Below Average Income (annual) - provides information on potential living standards as determined by disposable income, changes in income patterns over time and income mobility: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai.asp>

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Annual Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on Housing Benefit /Council Tax Benefit from a 1 per cent sample of data from Local Authorities. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Quarterly Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on Housing Benefit /Council Tax Benefit from quarterly caseload counts. Includes average amounts of benefit. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbctb.asp>

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Quarterly Performance Statistics – provides high level statistics on Local Authority processing of Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit from quarterly administrative returns. Includes speed of processing new claims and charges of circumstances. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/performance.asp

Housing Benefit Quarterly Fraud Performance Statistics – provides high level statistics on Local Authority fraud performance from quarterly administrative returns. Includes numbers of referrals, investigations actioned and sanctions administered. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/performance.asp

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

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit Quarterly Summary of Statistics – provides statistics on people in receipt of Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, new claims and newly diagnosed prescribed diseases. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/iidb.asp>

National Insurance numbers allocated to overseas nationals (Previously migrant workers statistics – quarterly) provides statistics on migrant workers. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/niall/nino_allocation.asp

Neighbourhood Statistics – Quarterly ward and Lower Super Outputs Area caseloads for Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefits, Disability Living Allowance, Pension Credit and State Pension are available from <http://193.115.152.21/NESS/page1.htm>

Pensioner Income Series (annual) - examines the levels, sources and distribution of pensioners' incomes and the position of pensioners within the population income distribution. Latest published figures: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd6/pensioners_income.asp

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

Tax/Benefit Model Tables (annual) – *designed to illustrate the weekly financial circumstances of a selection of hypothetical local authority and private tenants. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tbmt.asp>*

Work and Pension Statistics (annual) – *a summary of all Department for Work and Pensions' National Statistics, covers all benefits and schemes. Also includes take up of benefits and appeals. Latest published figures: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/wandp.asp>*

9. Other statistical outputs issued by the Department for Work and Pensions

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