

Older Workers:

Statistical Information

Spring 2006

DWP Department for
Work and Pensions

DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS

OLDER WORKERS: STATISTICAL INFORMATION BOOKLET SPRING 2006

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Summary: 'Mandating IAP for older New Dealers'

The Pensions Green Paper 'Simplicity, security and choice: Working and saving for retirement' announced the intention to run a pilot study mandating participation of people aged 50 and over on the Intensive Activity Period (IAP) part of New Deal 25+. This report presents interim results from the Mandatory IAP 50+ pilots which started in April 2004. Final results are expected in Summer 2008.

Main Findings:

- Most participants in both the action and control groups leave the Gateway within seven months of the random assignment. Action group members spend on average 20 days longer on the Gateway than those in the control group who voluntarily enter IAP.
- As expected, a much greater proportion of the action group enter IAP. 19 weeks after random assignment, 22 per cent of the action group are participating in IAP compared with only nine per cent of the control group.
- The estimated overall effect on unsubsidised employment is positive suggesting that mandating IAP increases outflows to employment. 36 weeks after random assignment, those mandated to IAP are five percentage points more likely to have found work than those for whom IAP was voluntary.
- There appears to be some effect on claiming benefits other than JSA, although this is only significant between 24 and 27 weeks after random assignment, at around three percentage points.
- There is some variation in the effect of mandating IAP by District and by level of qualification. Mandating IAP appears to work well for those with no qualifications and for those with GCSE or equivalent qualifications but works less well for those with NVQ level 1 or equivalent qualifications. It has no effect for those educated to A level standard or higher.

This report is DWP Research Report 362 and is available at:
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2005-2006/rrep362.pdf>

Summary: 'Survey of employers' policies, practices and preferences relating to age'

In October 2006, the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 will be implemented making many employment practices relating to age unlawful, unless they can be objectively justified. This research was designed to establish, prior to the implementation of the regulations, the extent to which current employment policies and practices accord with equal opportunity with respect to age. The study was based on a representative survey of 2087 establishments in Britain with at least five employees, conducted between November 2004 and May 2005.

Policies and practices relating to age:

Age and age-related factors played a role in a wide range of policies and practices.

- The use of age as a criterion in recruitment and the degree of compulsory retirement are particularly important for the employment and labour market participation of older people. Many other policies and practices directly use age as a criterion, but in a small number of establishments only. However, across the country, they are liable to affect a large number of staff.
- Time-related factors (length of service, periods of experience) made a wide range of policies and practices potentially hazardous. In terms of their impact on equality of opportunity, their use in redundancy selection criteria and in enhanced redundancy payments (the latter of which will remain lawful under the regulations) is important in affecting the labour market participation of older people. In terms of pay and benefits, the main effects are through incremental pay scales, annual leave entitlements and long service awards.
- Other factors, liable to be hazardous, such as qualification requirements, were also found which would be discriminatory or unlawful in some circumstances only. These policies and practices have been described as 'potentially hazardous'.

Pay and benefits:

For their largest occupational group, potentially hazardous pay practices included:

- taking age into account when setting starting salaries (15 per cent of establishments);
- incremental pay scales (36 per cent of establishments), including five per cent of establishments with length of service increments extending for more than five years within the same scale;
- merit or performance-based pay (33 per cent of establishments), including 15 per cent of establishments which had no formal process of performance assessment;
- age-related pay (14 per cent of establishments);
- length of service (41 per cent of establishments);
- years of relevant experience (41 per cent of establishments);
- qualifications (33 per cent of establishments); and
- likelihood of leaving (16 per cent of establishments).

Retirement:

Under the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 a national default retirement age will be set at 65. From this age, employers may retire employees, so long as they follow the correct process. Currently, for some or all staff:

- six per cent of establishments had a compulsory retirement age under 65;
- 29 per cent of establishments had a compulsory retirement age of 65 or older.

Recruitment:

Eighty-nine per cent of establishments had recruited in the previous five years and the findings in this section relate to these establishments only and to the largest occupational group within them:

- Recruiters were provided with age information on applicants in at least 50 per cent of establishments.
- 14 per cent of establishments targeted older or younger people in their recruitment: seven per cent older people and 11 per cent younger
- 49 per cent of establishments had a maximum recruitment age.

- eight per cent of establishments said that certain ages counted against applicants: those disadvantaged tended to be under 22 and aged 60 and over.
- Potential length of service was a selection criterion in 49 per cent of establishments, although only five per cent sought three years or more. However, to assess potential length of service, 21 per cent (of establishments) took into account time before retirement and eight per cent age.

Promotion:

Seventy-five per cent of establishments had promoted in the previous five years, but only half of these had had a formal assessment procedure for promotion. Promotion criteria included:

- age (five per cent of those who had been promoted);
- length of experience (70 per cent of those who had promoted); 11 per cent of those who had been promoted sought at least four years.

Redundancy:

Potentially hazardous selection criteria for compulsory redundancy included:

- age (12 per cent of establishments);
- last in first out (28 per cent);
- sickness absence records (41 per cent);
- length of service (40 per cent).

Policies and practices guarding against age discrimination:

Equal Opportunities policies and performance appraisal systems provide safeguards against discrimination. Performance appraisal would become yet more important if the retirement age were to be abolished in the future:

- 56 per cent of establishments had an Equal Opportunities policy addressing age.
- 68 per cent of establishments conducted performance appraisals and these normally covered all staff.

Employer attitudes:

Although the study focused on employers' policies and practices, as much age discrimination stems from individual attitudes, the study also investigated these:

- 21 per cent believed some jobs in their establishment were more suitable for certain ages than others.

Raising awareness:

Larger organisations, the public sector, the Financial intermediation industry and establishments with a recognised union seemed best placed to ensure that they comply with the regulations, as they were least likely to have discriminatory or potentially hazardous policies and practices and most likely to be aware of the forthcoming legislation. Awareness of the regulations needs to be raised across all types of establishments. However, most in need of awareness raising are small establishments and establishments in Manufacturing, Construction and Transport, storage and communication, Hotels and restaurants and the Wholesale and retail trade. Establishments with a US-based Head Office also tend to lack awareness:

- 66 per cent of respondents said they were aware of the impending legislation, but only 26 per cent thought they knew when it would be implemented and only seven percent correctly stated this was October 2006.
- 30 per cent of respondents said they had heard of the Age Positive campaign, but only three per cent said they had used the website. Those who had used the website tended to find it useful.

This report is DWP Research Report 325 and is available at:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2005-2006/rrep325.pdf>

Labour Force Survey Spring 2006

The majority of the results presented in this booklet are based on Labour Force Survey results for Great Britain in Spring (Mar-May) 2006.

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a sample survey of households living at private addresses. Some of the results in the tables that follow have been omitted where the sample on which they are based is small and the estimates derived are likely to vary considerably from one quarter to another due to sample variation. None of the estimates presented here are seasonally adjusted.

Calendar quarters:

Subsequent editions of this booklet will be based on calendar year quarters two (Apr-Jun) and four (Oct-Dec) due to a change in the data provided by the Office for National Statistics. Table 1 will include back series based on the new calendar quarters.

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON OLDER WORKERS SPRING 2006

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 - Great Britain¹)

There are over 19.4 million people aged 50 and over in Great Britain. 8.9 million are aged between 50 and State Pension Age² (SPA) and account for 25.0% of people aged 16 to SPA.

70.9% of those aged 50 to SPA are in employment. This is lower than the employment rate for people aged 25 to 49 (81.6%) but higher than those aged 16 to 24 (57.1%).

1.17 million individuals aged 50 to SPA are claiming Incapacity Benefit³, and 157,000 are on benefits relating to unemployment.

The difference between the employment rates of those aged 50 to SPA and all people aged 16 to SPA has decreased 0.4 percentage points to 3.5%, since Spring 2005.

Older workers are more likely to be working part-time than the 25 to 49 age group. 23.7% of those in work in the 50 to SPA age group are working part-time compared to 21.0% in the 25 to 49 age group.

Variations in older workers' employment rates across English Government Office Regions and countries range from 76.2% in the South East Region to 62.9% in the North East Region.

Self-employment is more common amongst older workers compared to the younger age groups. 17.3% of those in work in the 50 to SPA age group are self-employed, which is higher than the 25 to 49 age group (12.1%) and those aged 16 to 24 (3.7%).

Older workers have spent, on average, 13.4 years in their current employment, which is longer than the younger age groups.

Older people have fewer qualifications than their younger counterparts. 20.9% of the 50 to SPA age group have no formal qualifications.

Older people's ILO unemployment⁴ rates are lower than those of their younger counterparts. The ILO unemployment rate for those aged 50 to SPA is now 3.2% and for the 25 to 49 age group it is 4.2%, whilst for the 16 to 24 age group it is 13.5%.

Variations in older workers' ILO unemployment rates across English Government Office Regions and countries range from 2.5% in the South West Region to 7.0% in the Inner London Region.

Older people who are unemployed are much more likely to be long-term unemployed. 32.8% of the unemployed 50 to SPA age group have been unemployed for a year or more.

¹ Figures quoted in this document are not seasonally adjusted. Annual comparisons should be made with the same quarter of previous years.

² Currently 60 for women and 65 for men. From 2010 the female State Pension Age will be gradually increased to 65 by 2020.

³ Claimants of IB. DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS) – February 2006 provided by the DWP Information Directorate.

⁴ ILO unemployment is the internationally agreed definition of unemployment. It is recommended by the International Labour Organisation - an agency of the United Nations. Under ILO guidelines, all people aged 16 and over can be classified into one of three states: in employment; ILO unemployed; or economically inactive. ILO unemployed people are:

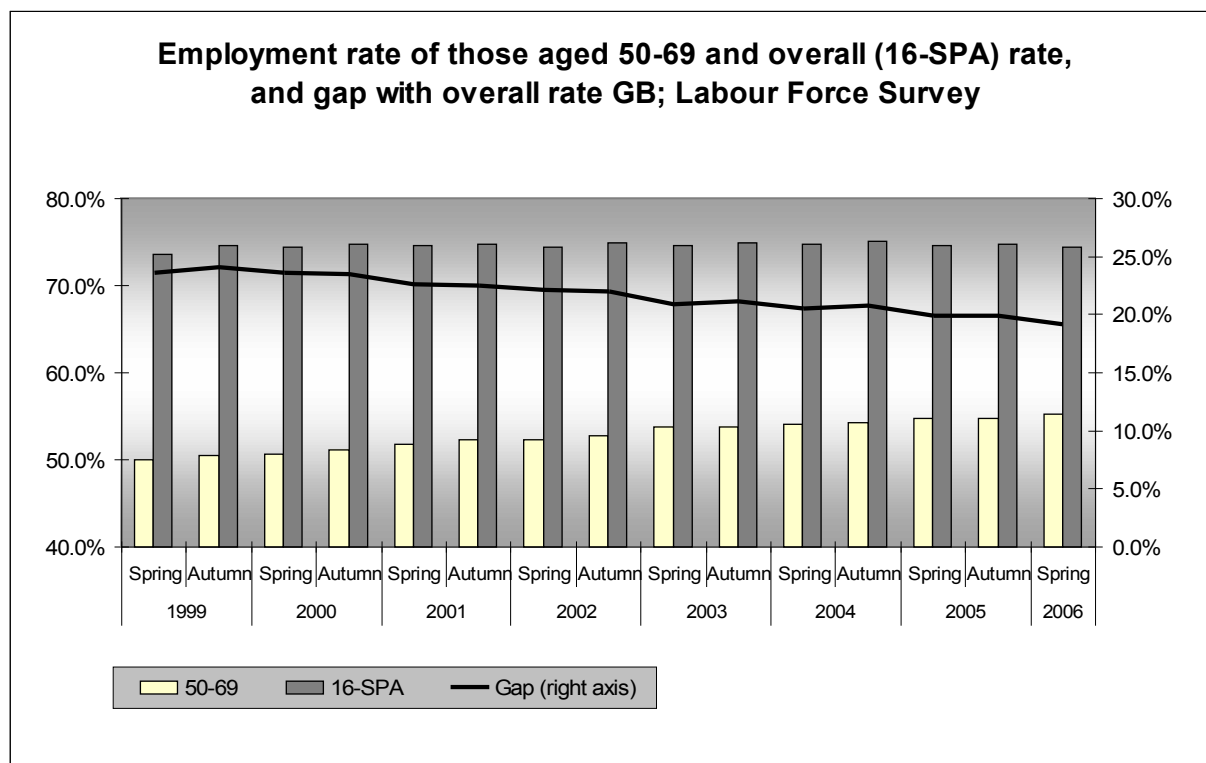
Out of work, want a job, have actively sought work in the last 4 weeks and are available to start work in the next 2 weeks or,

Out of work, have found a job and are waiting to start it in the next 2 weeks.

TRENDS IN THE ACTIVITY STATUS OF OLDER WORKERS

Chart 1:

The Department for Work and Pensions has a Public Service Agreement (PSA) target relating to the employment of over 50s¹. Whereas the previous targets for older workers looked at 50 to State Pension Age (SPA) employment rates, this target looks at the employment rate of those aged 50 to 69. The chart below gives the recent changes in the employment rate of the 50 to 69 group.



Employment rate amongst 50 to 69 year olds and overall rates, GB Source: LFS, GB

		50-69	16-SPA	Gap between the two
1999	Spring	50.1%	73.7%	23.6%
	Autumn	50.4%	74.5%	24.1%
2000	Spring	50.7%	74.4%	23.6%
	Autumn	51.2%	74.7%	23.5%
2001	Spring	51.9%	74.5%	22.7%
	Autumn	52.3%	74.8%	22.5%
2002	Spring	52.3%	74.3%	22.1%
	Autumn	52.8%	74.9%	22.1%
2003	Spring	53.7%	74.6%	20.9%
	Autumn	53.7%	74.9%	21.2%
2004	Spring	54.1%	74.7%	20.6%
	Autumn	54.3%	75.1%	20.8%
2005	Spring	54.7%	74.6%	19.9%
	Autumn	54.8%	74.7%	19.9%
2006	Spring	55.2%	74.4%	19.2%

¹ For details of this target see the DWP Departmental Report 2006, p26.

TABLE 1: HISTORICAL SERIES - SPRING KEY INDICATORS OF CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring quarters – Great Britain) (thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	Gender	Spring 1999 ¹	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	Spring 2006
In employment:							
Number of people: (000s)							
16-24	Male	1,869	1,971	1,952	2,009	1,954	1,893
	Female	1,766	1,853	1,839	1,880	1,845	1,853
25-49	Male	8,728	8,693	8,692	8,685	8,669	8,676
	Female	7,510	7,606	7,609	7,603	7,691	7,700
50-SPA	Male	3,265	3,457	3,587	3,625	3,683	3,749
	Female	2,187	2,402	2,497	2,521	2,550	2,557
SPA+	Male	278	281	328	331	351	377
	Female	520	581	576	643	685	737
Proportion of age group in employment:							
16-24	Male	63.2%	63.0%	61.4%	62.3%	60.0%	57.6%
	Female	58.9%	59.6%	58.1%	58.5%	56.8%	56.6%
	Total	61.0%	61.3%	59.8%	60.4%	58.4%	57.1%
25-49	Male	87.8%	88.2%	88.4%	88.4%	88.3%	88.4%
	Female	73.3%	74.2%	74.4%	74.4%	75.1%	75.1%
	Total	80.4%	81.1%	81.2%	81.3%	81.6%	81.6%
50-SPA	Male	68.6%	69.9%	71.8%	71.9%	72.4%	72.8%
	Female	63.1%	65.6%	67.6%	67.9%	68.4%	68.4%
	Total	66.3%	68.1%	70.0%	70.2%	70.7%	70.9%
SPA+	Male	7.6%	7.5%	8.6%	8.6%	9.0%	9.6%
	Female	8.1%	9.0%	8.9%	9.9%	10.5%	11.1%
	Total	7.9%	8.5%	8.8%	9.4%	9.9%	10.6%
ILO unemployed:							
Number of people: (000s)							
16-24	Male	308	294	301	270	301	354
	Female	199	179	193	208	206	233
25-49	Male	494	409	384	347	336	397
	Female	353	310	269	287	274	320
50-SPA	Male	197	148	148	135	125	135
	Female	74	71	60	60	57	74
SPA+	Male	*	11	*	11	*	10
	Female	10	11	*	*	*	15
Proportion of age group ILO unemployed:							
16-24	Male	10.4%	9.4%	9.5%	8.4%	9.3%	10.8%
	Female	6.6%	5.8%	6.1%	6.5%	6.3%	7.1%
	Total	8.5%	7.6%	7.8%	7.4%	7.8%	8.9%
25-49	Male	5.0%	4.1%	3.9%	3.5%	3.4%	4.0%
	Female	3.5%	3.0%	2.6%	2.8%	2.7%	3.1%
	Total	4.2%	3.6%	3.3%	3.2%	3.0%	3.6%
50-SPA	Male	4.1%	3.0%	3.0%	2.7%	2.5%	2.6%
	Female	2.1%	1.9%	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	2.0%
	Total	3.3%	2.5%	2.4%	2.2%	2.1%	2.4%
SPA+	Male	*	^	*	^	*	^
	Female	^	^	*	*	*	^
	Total	^	^	^	^	^	^

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ 1999 is used as a base year here as it encompasses previously published Statistical Information Booklets. In the Pre-Budget Report 2005 it was concluded that the economy was close to trend in 1999.

TABLE 1: (continued) HISTORICAL SERIES - SPRING KEY INDICATORS OF CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring quarters – Great Britain) (thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	Gender	Spring 1999 ¹	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	Spring 2006
Inactive:							
Number of people: (000s)							
16-24	Male	782	862	926	946	1,000	1,037
	Female	1,035	1,077	1,131	1,124	1,195	1,190
25-49	Male	723	753	761	792	816	744
	Female	2,379	2,331	2,349	2,332	2,272	2,233
50-SPA	Male	1,299	1,343	1,258	1,280	1,279	1,269
	Female	1,205	1,190	1,138	1,134	1,119	1,107
SPA+	Male	3,357	3,473	3,474	3,516	3,545	3,552
	Female	5,869	5,834	5,866	5,844	5,854	5,856
Proportion of age group inactive:							
16-24	Male	26.4%	27.6%	29.1%	29.3%	30.7%	31.6%
	Female	34.5%	34.6%	35.8%	35.0%	36.8%	36.3%
	Total	30.5%	31.1%	32.4%	32.2%	33.8%	34.0%
25-49	Male	7.3%	7.6%	7.7%	8.1%	8.3%	7.6%
	Female	23.2%	22.7%	23.0%	22.8%	22.2%	21.8%
	Total	15.4%	15.3%	15.5%	15.6%	15.4%	14.8%
50 - SPA	Male	27.3%	27.1%	25.2%	25.4%	25.1%	24.6%
	Female	34.8%	32.5%	30.8%	30.5%	30.0%	29.6%
	Total	30.4%	29.4%	27.6%	27.6%	27.2%	26.7%
SPA+	Male	92.1%	92.2%	91.2%	91.1%	90.8%	90.2%
	Female	91.7%	90.8%	90.9%	90.0%	89.4%	88.6%
	Total	91.9%	91.3%	91.0%	90.4%	89.9%	89.2%
Inactive due to sickness, disability or injury: (000s)							
16-24	Male	53	57	52	57	66	70
	Female	44	49	55	56	61	54
25-49	Male	435	462	447	456	481	434
	Female	470	475	471	471	456	452
50-SPA	Male	761	756	703	689	688	648
	Female	492	506	482	501	473	486
... as a percentage of the age group:							
16-24	Male	1.8%	1.8%	1.6%	1.8%	2.0%	2.1%
	Female	1.5%	1.6%	1.8%	1.7%	1.9%	1.6%
	Total	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%	1.9%
25-49	Male	4.4%	4.7%	4.5%	4.6%	4.9%	4.4%
	Female	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%	4.5%	4.4%
	Total	4.5%	4.7%	4.6%	4.6%	4.7%	4.4%
50-SPA	Male	16.0%	15.3%	14.1%	13.7%	13.5%	12.6%
	Female	14.2%	13.8%	13.0%	13.5%	12.7%	13.0%
	Total	15.2%	14.7%	13.6%	13.6%	13.2%	12.8%
Inactive due to retirement: (000s)							
50-SPA	Male	341	386	379	400	391	393
	Female	160	186	168	175	172	148
... as a percentage of the age group:							
50-SPA	Male	7.2%	7.8%	7.6%	7.9%	7.7%	7.6%
	Female	4.6%	5.1%	4.6%	4.7%	4.6%	4.0%
	Total	6.1%	6.6%	6.3%	6.6%	6.4%	6.1%

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ 1999 is chosen as a base year here as it encompasses previously published Statistical Information and actual economic output less trend output as a proportion of the trend was close to zero.

TABLE 2: CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 – Great Britain) (thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	All aged between 16-SPA	16-24	25-49	50-59/64 (SPA)	SPA and over ¹
Total population (000s)	35,521	6,560	20,070	8,890	10,546
per cent of all 16+	77.1%	14.2%	43.6%	19.3%	22.9%
per cent from ethnic minorities	10.3%	13.1%	11.5%	5.6%	3.4%
per cent women	48.6%	49.9%	51.1%	42.0%	62.7%
per cent with no qualifications ²	13.4%	13.4%	10.1%	20.9%	25.0%
per cent claiming IB or SDA ³	7.5%	2.5%	6.3%	14.1%	0.4%

In employment:

Total (000s)	26,428	3,746	16,375	6,306	1,113
per cent of age band	74.4%	57.1%	81.6%	70.9%	10.6%
per cent of all in employment who are:					
- self-employed	12.2%	3.7%	12.1%	17.3%	24.7%
- working part-time	23.9%	36.8%	21.0%	23.7%	69.7%
- in a permanent job	94.5%	88.0%	95.6%	96.2%	88.8%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment ⁴	47.1%	27.6%	52.3%	50.6%	no data
average time in current job (yrs)	7.9	1.7	7.1	13.4	14.6
average gross hourly wage (£)	11.40	6.60	12.08	12.12	8.67

ILO unemployed:

Total (000s)	1,513	587	717	209	25
per cent of age band	4.3%	8.9%	3.6%	2.4%	^
ILO unemployment rate ⁵	5.4%	13.5%	4.2%	3.2%	2.2%
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for a year or more	21.6%	14.3%	24.3%	32.8%	*

Inactive:⁶

Total (000s)	7,581	2,227	2,978	2,375	9,408
per cent of age band	21.3%	34.0%	14.8%	26.7%	89.2%
would like work (000s)	1,995	571	945	480	129
per cent of population	5.6%	8.7%	4.7%	5.4%	1.2%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	556	167	244	145	65
per cent of age band	1.6%	2.5%	1.2%	1.6%	0.6%
retired (000s)	540	*	*	540	8,943
per cent of age band	1.5%	*	*	6.1%	84.8%

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ Just over 5% of the SPA and over live in medical and care institutions. They are not included in these estimates.

² Of those aged SPA and over only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.

³ DWP Administrative Data - February 2006 provided by the DWP Information Directorate.

⁴ No data available for those aged SPA and over because only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.

⁵ The unemployment rate is the number of ILO unemployed (unemployed, ready to start work in a fortnight, having looked for work in the last four weeks) as a percentage of the total labour force (the sum of all persons in employment or ILO unemployed).

⁶ Not in employment and either not seeking work or not available for work.

TABLE 2a: CHARACTERISTICS OF MEN AND WOMEN IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET
Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 - Great Britain) (thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	16-24		25-49		50-59/64 (SPA)		SPA and over ¹	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total population (000s)	3,285	3,275	9,817	10,253	5,152	3,738	3,939	6,608
per cent of all 16+	14.8%	13.7%	44.2%	42.9%	23.2%	15.7%	17.7%	27.7%
per cent from ethnic minorities	12.5%	13.7%	11.5%	11.5%	5.2%	6.2%	3.6%	3.2%
per cent with no qualifications ²	14.3%	12.5%	9.6%	10.5%	17.8%	25.2%	21.2%	27.0%
per cent claiming IB or SDA ³	2.6%	2.3%	7.0%	5.6%	15.2%	12.4%	0.2%	0.5%

In employment:

Total (000s)	1,893	1,853	8,676	7,700	3,749	2,557	377	737
per cent of age band	57.6%	56.6%	88.4%	75.1%	72.8%	68.4%	9.6%	11.1%
per cent of all in employment who are:								
- self-employed	5.8%	1.5%	16.1%	7.6%	22.7%	9.4%	41.5%	16.1%
- working part-time	29.0%	44.8%	4.6%	39.6%	10.9%	42.5%	63.9%	72.6%
- in a permanent job	88.5%	87.5%	96.4%	94.8%	96.2%	96.1%	85.3%	90.0%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment ⁴	30.6%	24.3%	65.1%	41.1%	54.9%	46.4%	no data	no data
average time in current job (yrs)	1.8	1.5	7.7	6.5	14.6	11.6	16.7	13.6
average gross hourly wage (£)	6.67	6.53	13.55	10.68	13.81	10.14	9.81	8.36

ILO unemployed:

Total (000s)	354	233	397	320	135	74	10	15
per cent of age band	10.8%	7.1%	4.0%	3.1%	2.6%	2.0%	^	^
ILO unemployment rate ⁵	15.8%	11.2%	4.4%	4.0%	3.5%	2.8%	2.6%	2.0%
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for a year or more	18.0%	8.6%	30.7%	16.4%	39.7%	20.2%	*	*

Inactive:⁶

Total (000s)	1,037	1,190	744	2,233	1,269	1,107	3,552	5,856
per cent of age band	31.6%	36.3%	7.6%	21.8%	24.6%	29.6%	90.2%	88.6%
would like work (000s)	266	305	304	641	281	198	61	68
per cent of population	8.1%	9.3%	3.1%	6.2%	5.5%	5.3%	1.6%	1.0%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	81	86	72	173	86	59	35	30
per cent of age band	2.5%	2.6%	0.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%	0.9%	^
retired (000s)	*	*	*	*	393	148	3,379	5,564
per cent of age band	*	*	*	*	7.6%	4.0%	85.8%	84.2%

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ Just over 5% of the SPA and over live in medical and care institutions. They are not included in these estimates.

² Of those aged SPA and over only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.

³ DWP Administrative Data - February 2006 provided by the DWP Information Directorate.

⁴ No data available for those aged SPA and over because only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.

⁵ The unemployment rate is the number of ILO unemployed (unemployed, ready to start work in a fortnight, having looked for work in the last four weeks) as a percentage of the total labour force (the sum of all persons in employment or ILO unemployed).

⁶ Not in employment and either not seeking work or not available for work.

TABLE 2b: OLDER MEN AND WOMEN – 5 YEAR AGE BANDS BETWEEN 50-69
Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Yearly data: Summer 2005 - Spring 2006 - Great Britain)
(thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	50-54		55-59		60-64		65-69		Ethnic minorities 50-SPA ¹	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total population (000s)	1,756	1,805	1,871	1,928	1,499	1,563	1,264	1,355	252	221
per cent of all 16+	7.9%	7.6%	8.4%	8.1%	6.8%	6.6%	5.7%	5.7%	1.1%	0.9%
per cent from ethnic minorities	6.8%	6.8%	4.0%	5.1%	3.9%	3.8%	4.6%	4.7%	n/a	n/a
per cent with no qualifications ²	14.6%	21.6%	17.4%	28.8%	23.3%	7.6%	3.9%	3.7%	26.5%	38.9%
per cent claiming IB or SDA ³	11.1%	10.9%	14.5%	13.9%	21.1%	0.8%	0.2%	0.4%	no data	no data

In employment:

Total (000s)	1,490	1,352	1,423	1,196	808	498	245	144	175	108
per cent of age band	84.9%	74.9%	76.1%	62.0%	53.9%	31.9%	19.4%	10.6%	69.5%	48.9%
per cent of all in employment who are:										
- self-employed	20.2%	8.8%	22.7%	10.0%	27.9%	13.2%	40.8%	22.0%	24.3%	8.9%
- working part-time	6.0%	39.0%	10.9%	47.8%	21.9%	66.4%	60.5%	82.5%	10.3%	32.5%
- in a permanent job	97.0%	95.6%	95.4%	96.0%	93.2%	92.1%	86.0%	88.3%	95.6%	95.7%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment ⁴	65.2%	50.1%	62.1%	44.4%	41.1%	no data	no data	no data	51.2%	21.8%
Average time in current job (yrs)	13.8	10.5	14.4	12.1	14.6	13.1	15.0	14.1	12.5	10.6
Average gross hourly wage (£)	14.01	10.38	12.63	9.49	11.15	8.60	10.78	8.28	11.74	10.38

ILO unemployed:

Total (000s)	53	40	52	26	27	9	8	*	17	*
per cent of age band	3.0%	2.2%	2.8%	1.4%	1.8%	0.6%	0.6%	*	6.9%	*
ILO unemployment rate ⁵	3.4%	2.9%	3.5%	2.2%	3.2%	1.9%	3.0%	*	9.1%	*
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for 1 year or more	44.2%	23.3%	39.5%	29.5%	39.1%	*	*	*	52.0%	*

Inactive:⁶

Total (000s)	213	413	396	706	665	1,056	1,012	1,207	59	107
per cent of age band	12.1%	22.9%	21.2%	36.6%	44.4%	67.5%	80.0%	89.1%	23.6%	48.6%
would like work (000s)	72	97	94	107	105	62	60	*	12	16
per cent of population	4.1%	5.4%	5.0%	5.5%	7.0%	4.0%	4.8%	*	4.7%	7.1%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	17	26	26	31	37	27	36	*	*	*
per cent of age band	1.0%	1.4%	1.4%	1.6%	2.5%	1.7%	2.8%	*	*	*
retired (000s)	15	22	91	137	286	778	834	1,207	10	*
per cent of age band	0.8%	1.2%	4.9%	7.1%	19.1%	49.8%	66.0%	89.1%	3.8%	*

*Fewer than 6,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ This group contains those who classify themselves to an ethnic background that is non-white.

² Of those aged SPA and over only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.

³ DWP Administrative Data - February 2006 provided by the DWP Information Directorate.

⁴ No data available for those aged SPA and over because only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.

⁵ The unemployment rate is the number of ILO unemployed (unemployed, ready to start work in a fortnight, having looked for work in the last four weeks) as a percentage of the total labour force (the sum of all persons in employment or ILO unemployed).

⁶ Not in employment and either not seeking work or not available for work.

TABLE 3: OLDER PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET BY COUNTRY

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Yearly data: Summer 2005 - Spring 2006 - Great Britain)

(thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	ENGLAND		SCOTLAND		WALES		GB	
	50-59/64 (SPA)	SPA and over	50-59/64 (SPA)	SPA and over	50-59/64 (SPA)	SPA and over	50-59/64 (SPA)	SPA and over ¹
Total population (000s)	7,592	8,998	794	933	474	581	8,860	10,511
per cent of all 16+	19.2%	22.7%	19.6%	23.0%	20.3%	24.9%	19.3%	22.9%
per cent from ethnic minorities	6.0%	3.7%	1.0%	0.8%	1.5%	*	5.3%	3.3%
per cent women	42.1%	62.5%	42.6%	64.1%	41.8%	62.6%	42.1%	62.6%
per cent with no qualifications ²	21.0%	25.4%	21.8%	27.5%	24.2%	26.8%	21.3%	25.6%
per cent claiming IB or SDA ³	13.1%	0.4%	17.6%	0.5%	21.5%	0.6%	14.1%	0.4%

In employment:

Total (000s)	5,420	959	547	72	302	49	6,269	1,081
per cent of age band	71.4%	10.7%	68.9%	7.7%	63.7%	8.5%	70.8%	10.3%
per cent of all in employment who are:								
- self-employed	17.8%	24.9%	12.3%	25.2%	18.0%	34.3%	17.4%	25.3%
- working part-time	24.7%	69.7%	20.7%	64.2%	22.1%	62.6%	24.3%	69.0%
- in a permanent job	95.6%	89.9%	96.0%	92.1%	96.4%	93.0%	95.7%	90.2%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment ⁴	51.8%	no data	47.7%	no data	42.5%	no data	50.9%	no data
Average time in current job (yrs)	12.9	14.7	13.7	15.2	13.4	16.8	13.0	14.8
Average gross hourly wage (£)	11.63	8.97	11.37	8.49	10.77	8.86	11.56	8.94

ILO unemployed:

Total (000s)	169	21	19	*	9	*	198	24
per cent in age band	2.2%	^	2.4%	*	2.0%	*	2.2%	^
ILO unemployment rate ⁵	3.0%	2.2%	3.3%	*	3.0%	*	3.1%	2.2%
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for a year or more	35.4%	30.7%	43.8%	*	*	*	36.1%	30.7%

Inactive:⁶

Total (000s)	2,003	8,017	228	859	163	530	2,394	9,407
per cent of age band	26.4%	89.1%	28.7%	92.1%	34.3%	91.4%	27.0%	89.5%
would like work (000s)	389	106	52	10	34	*	475	123
per cent of age band	5.1%	1.2%	6.6%	1.1%	7.1%	*	5.4%	1.2%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	114	54	14	*	10	*	138	63
per cent of age band	1.5%	0.6%	1.8%	*	2.0%	*	1.6%	0.6%
retired (000s)	477	7,640	47	811	27	500	550	8,951
per cent of age band	6.3%	84.9%	5.9%	86.9%	5.6%	86.2%	6.2%	85.2%

*Fewer than 10,000 (or equivalent threshold for wages results), estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ Just over 5% of the SPA and over 65 live in medical and care institutions. They are not included in these estimates.² Of those aged SPA and over only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.³ DWP Administrative Data - February 2006 provided by the DWP Information Directorate.⁴ No data available for those aged SPA and over because only individuals in employment are asked to provide details of their educational qualifications.⁵ The unemployment rate is the number of ILO unemployed (unemployed, ready to start work in a fortnight, having looked for work in the last four weeks) as a percentage of the total labour force (the sum of all persons in employment or ILO unemployed).⁶ Not in employment and either not seeking work or not available for work.

TABLE 4: EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF PEOPLE AGED 50-SPA (60 FOR WOMEN/65 FOR MEN) BY ENGLISH GOVERNMENT OFFICE REGION AND COUNTRY

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 - Great Britain)

	Total number of people aged 50-59/64 (SPA) (000s)	% of local population aged 50-59/64 (SPA) ¹	Total number of people in employment aged 50-59/64 (SPA) (000s)	Employment rate ² (%)	Total number of people unemployed aged 50-59/64 (SPA) (000s)	ILO unemployment rate ³ (% of labour force)	% of inactives who are inactive due to sickness, disability or injury
Great Britain	8,890	19.3%	6,306	70.9%	209	3.2%	47.8%
England	7,617	19.2%	5,452	71.6%	178	3.2%	46.1%
North East	397	19.9%	250	62.9%	*	3.2%	60.1%
North West and Merseyside	1,040	19.5%	691	66.4%	18	2.6%	55.4%
Yorkshire and the Humber	772	19.5%	542	70.2%	20	3.5%	47.7%
East Midlands	679	20.0%	495	72.8%	14	2.7%	48.5%
West Midlands	825	19.7%	606	73.5%	17	2.8%	49.0%
Eastern	867	19.7%	644	74.3%	25	3.7%	32.6%
South East	1,274	19.6%	971	76.2%	30	3.0%	33.9%
South West	821	20.3%	604	73.6%	16	2.5%	39.6%
Greater London	942	16.1%	650	69.0%	31	4.5%	49.6%
Inner London	319	14.0%	203	63.7%	15	7.0%	57.1%
Outer London	622	17.4%	446	71.7%	15	3.3%	44.9%
Wales	475	20.3%	304	64.1%	*	2.8%	60.9%
Scotland	798	19.7%	550	68.8%	22	3.9%	53.3%

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ Expressed as a proportion of the population aged 16 and over.

² Expressed as a percentage of the total number aged 50-59/64.

³ The unemployment rate is the number of ILO unemployed (unemployed, ready to start work in a fortnight, having looked for work in the last four weeks) as a percentage of the total labour force (the sum of all persons in employment or ILO unemployed).

TABLE 5: CLAIMANTS OF INCAPACITY BENEFIT (IB) OR SEVERE DISABLEMENT ALLOWANCE (SDA) BY AGE GROUP, GENDER, ENGLISH GOVERNMENT REGION AND COUNTRY

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS), 100% sample at February 2006

	16-49			50-59/64 (SPA)		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
Great Britain (000s)¹	1,460	802	658	1,246	781	465
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	5.3%	5.8%	4.8%	14.1%	15.2%	12.4%
England (000s)¹	1,184	656	528	992	623	369
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	5.0%	5.5%	4.5%	13.1%	14.2%	11.6%
North East (000s)¹	87	48	39	83	53	30
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	7.4%	8.2%	6.5%	20.7%	23.0%	17.5%
North West and Merseyside (000s)¹	222	122	100	197	124	73
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	7.0%	7.8%	6.2%	18.7%	20.2%	16.6%
Yorkshire and Humberside (000s)¹	127	70	57	116	75	41
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	5.4%	5.9%	4.8%	15.0%	16.6%	12.8%
East Midlands (000s)¹	93	50	43	87	55	32
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	4.7%	5.1%	4.3%	12.8%	13.8%	11.4%
West Midlands (000s)¹	129	72	57	115	73	42
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	5.3%	5.8%	4.7%	14.1%	15.2%	12.5%
Eastern (000s)¹	96	52	44	80	49	31
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	3.8%	4.1%	3.5%	9.1%	9.6%	8.4%
South East (000s)¹	134	74	60	104	65	39
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	3.6%	3.9%	3.2%	8.2%	8.9%	7.3%
South West (000s)¹	107	60	47	86	54	31
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	4.9%	5.4%	4.3%	10.3%	11.3%	9.0%
Greater London (000s)¹	190	109	81	125	75	49
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	4.6%	5.2%	4.0%	14.0%	15.1%	12.6%
Inner London (000s)¹	94	55	39	56	34	22
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	5.2%	6.0%	4.4%	18.8%	20.6%	16.5%
Outer London (000s)¹	96	53	42	69	41	27
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	4.1%	4.5%	3.7%	11.6%	12.4%	10.6%

¹ All thousands rounded.

TABLE 5: (continued) CLAIMANTS OF INCAPACITY BENEFIT (IB) OR SEVERE DISABILITY ALLOWANCE (SDA) BY AGE GROUP, GENDER, ENGLISH GOVERNMENT REGION AND COUNTRY

Source: DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS), 100% sample at February 2006

	16-49			50-59/64 (SPA)		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
Wales (000s) ¹	102	54	49	103	65	38
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	7.8%	8.3%	7.4%	21.5%	23.4%	18.9%
Scotland (000s) ¹	170	91	80	142	86	55
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	7.1%	7.7%	6.6%	17.6%	18.7%	16.2%
Comparator						
England (000s) ¹	1,184	656	528	992	623	369
% of all in age band on IB/SDA	5.0%	5.5%	4.5%	13.1%	14.2%	11.6%

¹ All thousands rounded.

TABLE: 5a. WILLINGNESS AND AVAILABILITY FOR WORK OF PEOPLE IN RECEIPT OF IB, SDA AND STATE BENEFITS WITHIN GREAT BRITAIN

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 - Great Britain)

Total GB Population	16-49		50-59/64 (SPA)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
on IB/SDA:				
IB/SDA recipients Great Britain (000s) ¹	438	360	612	318
per cent of all not in work and would like work	41.9%	30.8%	28.9%	24.1%
per cent of all not in work and would like work and are available to start work in a fortnight	14.1%	7.8%	6.0%	4.8%
on state benefits:²				
Great Britain (000s) ³	13,102	13,528	5,152	3,738
on state benefits and not in work and would like work (000s)	650	686	292	163
per cent of all on state benefits and not in work and would like work	52.3%	34.5%	32.0%	23.4%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	433	349	122	58
per cent of all on state benefits and not in work and would like work and available to start work in a fortnight	34.9%	17.6%	13.4%	8.3%

¹ DWP Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS) - February 2006 provided by the DWP Information Directorate.

² Excluding Child Benefit

³ GAD 2001 principle projections (000s).

TABLE 6: GB WORKFORCE BY OCCUPATION (SOC2000)¹, AGE AND GENDER

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 – Great Britain) (thousands, per cent of all employed in age group)

	16-24			25-49			50-59/64 (SPA)			SPA and over		
	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
All in Employment thousands=100%	3,746	1,893	1,853	16,375	8,676	7,700	6,306	3,749	2,557	1,113	377	737

Split by occupation:												
Managers and Senior Officials	4.2%	4.6%	3.9%	17.5%	21.4%	13.1%	16.7%	20.4%	11.3%	13.3%	17.2%	11.4%
Professional	4.3%	4.2%	4.4%	14.3%	14.9%	13.5%	15.2%	16.0%	14.1%	10.8%	15.0%	8.6%
Associate Professional and Technical	9.4%	9.6%	9.1%	16.9%	15.4%	18.5%	11.8%	11.1%	12.8%	10.8%	11.7%	10.4%
Administrative and Secretarial	12.9%	8.0%	17.8%	11.7%	4.4%	19.8%	12.0%	4.1%	23.6%	17.9%	5.8%	24.1%
Skilled Trades	10.8%	20.1%	1.3%	10.4%	18.0%	1.8%	11.9%	18.7%	2.0%	7.2%	16.3%	2.5%
Personal Service Occupations	10.0%	3.1%	17.1%	7.8%	2.0%	14.2%	6.8%	2.4%	13.2%	9.6%	2.8%	13.0%
Sales and Customer Service	22.0%	16.6%	27.6%	5.5%	2.8%	8.4%	4.8%	2.3%	8.3%	8.7%	4.4%	10.9%
Process, Plant and Machine Operators	4.6%	8.0%	1.1%	7.3%	12.0%	2.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2.6%	6.1%	14.2%	1.9%
Elementary Occupations	21.7%	25.7%	17.7%	8.8%	9.1%	8.5%	10.9%	10.0%	12.1%	15.7%	12.7%	17.2%

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ Standard Occupational Classification SOC2000 was first used in Labour Force Survey in Spring 2001.

TABLE 6a: GB WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY (INDSECT), AGE AND GENDER

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 – Great Britain) (thousands, per cent of all employed in age group)

	16-24			25-49			50-59/64 (SPA)			SPA and over		
	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
All in Employment thousands=100%	3,746	1,893	1,853	16,375	8,676	7,700	6,306	3,749	2,557	1,113	377	737

Split by industry:												
Agriculture and Fishing	1.1%	1.8%	*	1.0%	1.5%	0.5%	1.5%	2.0%	0.7%	2.9%	5.6%	1.5%
Energy and Water	0.8%	0.9%	0.6%	1.0%	1.4%	0.5%	1.0%	1.4%	^	*	*	*
Manufacturing	8.3%	12.1%	4.5%	13.7%	19.1%	7.6%	14.5%	19.3%	7.5%	8.7%	13.3%	6.4%
Construction	8.2%	15.0%	1.2%	7.9%	13.1%	2.0%	8.3%	12.9%	1.7%	4.8%	9.3%	2.5%
Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants	39.5%	37.6%	41.5%	15.9%	14.8%	17.2%	14.4%	12.9%	16.6%	20.4%	19.1%	21.1%
Transport and Communications	4.8%	5.6%	4.1%	7.0%	9.9%	3.8%	8.0%	11.3%	3.1%	4.3%	8.5%	2.2%
Banking, Finance and Insurance	13.6%	12.2%	15.1%	17.4%	18.3%	16.3%	14.0%	15.0%	12.5%	15.9%	19.8%	14.0%
Public Administration, Education and Health	15.0%	7.7%	22.4%	30.5%	16.7%	45.9%	32.4%	19.5%	51.4%	33.3%	14.3%	43.0%
Other services	8.6%	7.2%	10.1%	5.6%	5.1%	6.1%	5.8%	5.7%	6.1%	9.2%	9.8%	8.9%
Workplace outside UK	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

TABLE 6b: GB WORKFORCE BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AGE AND GENDER

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 – Great Britain) (thousand, per cent of all employed in age group)

	16-24			25-49			50-59/64 (SPA)			SPA and over		
	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
All in Employment thousands=100%	3,746	1,893	1,853	16,375	8,676	7,700	6,306	3,749	2,557	1,113	377	737

Split by Educational Attainment:												
Degree or equivalent	11.8%	9.3%	14.4%	26.2%	25.6%	26.9%	18.5%	20.4%	15.8%	13.2%	18.4%	10.6%
Higher Education	4.4%	4.3%	4.5%	10.1%	9.0%	11.4%	10.9%	8.9%	13.8%	10.8%	8.0%	12.3%
GCE A level or equivalent	34.2%	34.4%	33.9%	22.4%	26.5%	17.8%	25.2%	32.9%	14.1%	16.7%	29.1%	10.3%
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent	34.4%	34.2%	34.6%	23.0%	18.6%	27.9%	16.2%	11.0%	23.7%	15.4%	8.4%	19.0%
Other qualifications	8.7%	10.3%	7.1%	11.9%	13.3%	10.3%	14.3%	13.4%	15.6%	18.8%	14.9%	20.8%
No qualifications	6.5%	7.6%	5.4%	6.4%	7.1%	5.7%	14.9%	13.5%	17.1%	25.0%	21.2%	27.0%

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

TABLE 7: HOUSEHOLDS WITH OLDER PEOPLE BY TENURE AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 - Great Britain) not seasonally adjusted

	At least one household member aged 50-59/64 (SPA)	At least one household member aged over SPA
Number of Households (000s)	6,431	7,784
Percentage with:		
Dependent child(ren) aged under 19	16.2%	2.2%
Owner/occupiers	80.0%	74.1%
owning outright	37.2%	64.3%
with mortgage	42.6%	9.7%
part rent/part mortgage	^	0.1%
Renting:	20.0%	25.9%
from Local Authority/Housing Association	14.2%	21.3%
rent free	0.9%	1.5%
Working households		
....as a percentage of total households	81.1%	24.7%
Household composition¹:		
Single, not in work	8.2%	42.0%
Single, in work	12.7%	2.8%
Two or more adults, none in work	10.7%	33.4%
Two or more adults, all in work	39.2%	5.2%
Two or more adults, one or more in work but not all in work	29.1%	16.7%

*Fewer than 10,000 estimate not shown.

^Less than 0.5%.

¹ Single households are households consisting of one adult or one adult with dependent children; households with two or more adults also include lone parents with non-dependent children.

TABLE 8: GB WORKFORCE BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey (Spring 2006 – Great Britain) (thousands, per cent of all employed in age group)

Background Details:	All aged between 16-SPA	16-24	25-49	50-59/64 (SPA)	SPA and over
Total population (000s)	35,521	6,560	20,070	8,890	10,546
as a proportion of 16+ population	77.1%	14.2%	43.6%	19.3%	22.9%
Proportion of age group in employment	74.4%	57.1%	81.6%	70.9%	10.6%
Proportion in each age group out of the total working in:					
the public sector	96.3%	6.3%	63.8%	26.3%	3.7%
the private sector	95.8%	15.8%	58.1%	21.8%	4.2%
self-employed	92.1%	3.9%	56.9%	31.3%	7.9%
a workplace of less than 25 employees	94.2%	17.8%	54.1%	22.3%	5.8%
a workplace of 25 to 49 employees	96.5%	14.6%	59.1%	22.8%	3.5%
a workplace of 50 or more employees	97.8%	11.9%	64.3%	21.6%	2.2%
Proportion of employees in age group who have received work training in the last three months	30.8%	37.1%	31.4%	25.2%	15.7%

TABLE 9: STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON SELECTED PROGRAMMES

Table 9a: Participants in and job entries from the New Deal and Employment Zones programmes

		Total		Those aged under 50		Those aged over 50	
		Individual starts	Individual jobs	Individual starts	Individual jobs	Individual starts	Individual jobs
New Deal 25 plus Enhanced	Apr 2001 – Feb 2006	424,570	194,570	324,730	166,140	99,840	28,470
New Deal for Lone Parents	Oct 1998 – Feb 2006	663,470	457,840	645,920	446,970	14,610	9,440
New Deal for Disabled People	Jul 2001 – Feb 2006	186,930	92,090	128,350	62,390	58,440	27,620
Employment Zones	Apr 2000 – Feb 2006	134,720	65,800	113,860	58,150	20,080	7,510
Total		1,409,690	810,300	1,212,860	733,650	192,970	73,040

Source: DWP Information Directorate

Notes:

1. All figures have been rounded to the nearest ten.
2. Totals in this table include people for whom age is not recorded. Because of this, and due to rounding, components will not necessarily sum to totals.
3. Data is cumulative up to the end of February 2006. The New Deal 25 plus Enhanced programme started in April 2001; New Deal for Lone Parents started in October 1998; New Deal for Disabled People started in July 2001 and Employment Zones started in April 2000.
4. Information on Employment Zones relates to the total number of spells on the programme and the total number of jobs gained.

TABLE 9: STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON SELECTED PROGRAMMES

Table 9b: New Deal 50 plus statistics

	Total	Ages 50-54	Ages 55-59	Ages 60+	Disabled	Ethnic Minorities
Employment Credit starts Apr 2000 - Mar 2003	98,040	55,940	37,110	4,830	33,190	4,520
Individuals gaining jobs Apr 2003 - May 2006	55,750	29,480	24,110	2,130	22,500	3,340
Individual starts Jan 2004 - May 2006	71,210	39,600	28,320	3,280	24,550	5,580

Source: DWP Information Directorate

Notes:

1. More statistics on New Deal 50 plus are available from the DWP Tabulation Tool, http://193.115.152.21/new_deals/nd50plus/live/tabtool.html
2. Information on New Deal 50 plus caseload starts is now available from January 2004 onwards.
3. Information on the numbers of Employment Credit starts is available for the period April 2000 to March 2003. In April 2003, the Employment Credit was replaced by the 50 plus return to work element of the Working Tax Credit. Data is now available on the number of individuals gaining jobs through New Deal 50 plus from April 2003 to date, but these figures are not closely comparable with Employment Credit figures as indicators of programme outcomes.
4. Disabled is defined as those recorded by Jobcentre Plus as having a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.
5. Jobs gained from April 2006 onwards may be underestimated due to changed recording procedures in Jobcentre Plus as a result of the introduction of the Job Outcome Target.

KEY INDICATORS: OLDER WORKERS IN GREAT BRITAIN - UP TO SPRING 2006						
Subject	Older Workers			All of Working Age		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Population	5,152,427	3,738,047	8,890,474	18,254,611	17,266,425	35,521,036
Employment (Mar-May 2006)						
-level	3,748,954	2,557,018	6,305,972	14,318,072	12,109,542	26,427,614
-change on previous year	+65,546 +1.8%	+6,679 +0.3%	+72,225 +1.2%	+11,164 +0.1%	+23,213 +0.2%	+34,377 +0.1%
-rate	72.8%	68.4%	70.9%	78.4%	70.1%	74.4%
-change on previous year	+0.4%	-0.0%	+0.2%	-0.3%	-0.1%	-0.2%
Claimant Count¹ (June 2006)						
-level	107,970	42,590	150,560	680,510	240,275	920,785
-change on previous year	+9,645 +9.8%	+5,450 +14.7%	+15,095 +11.1%	+69,275 +11.3%	+28,450 +13.4%	+97,725 +11.9%
-1 year plus unemployment as a % of all unemployed in age group	31.9%	23.6%	29.6%	16.9%	12.4%	15.7%
-2 year plus unemployment as a % of all unemployed in age group	15.8%	10.1%	14.2%	4.8%	3.3%	4.4%
ILO unemployment² (Mar-May 2006)						
-level	134,624	74,449	209,073	885,796	627,007	1,512,803
-change on previous year	+9,238 +7.4%	+17,010 +29.6%	+26,248 +14.4%	+123,553 +16.2%	+90,012 +16.8%	+213,565 +16.4%
-1 year plus unemployment as a % of all unemployed in age group	39.7%	20.2%	32.8%	27.0%	14.0%	21.6%
-2 year plus unemployment as a % of all unemployed in age group	25.4%	10.2%	20.0%	13.1%	6.3%	10.3%
Economic Activity (Mar-May 2006)						
Activity Rate	75.4%	70.4%	73.3%	83.3%	73.8%	78.7%
Inactivity Rate	24.6%	29.6%	26.7%	16.7%	26.2%	21.3%
Key Benefit Claimants by Client Group³ (Feb 2006)						
Total	1,086,000	782,000	1,868,000	2,701,000	2,717,000	5,418,000
Job Seeker	113,000	44,000	157,000	716,000	253,000	969,000
Incapacity benefits of which:	781,000	465,000	1,246,000	1,582,000	1,123,000	2,706,000
Incapacity Benefit	746,000	419,000	1,165,000	1,468,000	996,000	2,464,000
Severe Disablement Allowance	34,000	46,000	80,000	115,000	127,000	242,000
Lone Parent	4,000	18,000	21,000	36,000	741,000	777,000
Carer	53,000	90,000	143,000	105,000	263,000	368,000
Other on Income Related Benefit	80,000	14,000	94,000	104,000	49,000	153,000
Disabled	47,000	67,000	115,000	143,000	171,000	314,000
Bereaved	8,000	84,000	92,000	15,000	116,000	131,000
Workless Households (Spring 2006)⁴						
-proportion of households in age group with no members working	n/a	n/a	20.0%	n/a	n/a	15.9%

Country Analysis	England			Scotland			Wales		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Employment Rates (Spring 2006)									
16-59/64	78.9%	70.0%	74.6%	77.2%	72.1%	74.7%	73.1%	68.1%	70.7%
50-59/64	73.5%	68.9%	71.6%	70.0%	67.3%	68.8%	65.6%	62.0%	64.1%
ILO Unemployment Rates (Spring 2006)									
All 16 and over	5.8%	4.9%	5.4%	6.5%	5.2%	5.9%	5.7%	4.1%	5.0%
50-59/64	3.3%	2.9%	3.2%	4.8%	2.5%	3.9%	3.1%	2.4%	2.8%

¹ Claimant count figures relate to all aged 50 and over and all aged 16 and over.

² In each case households are selected for analysis if they have at least one member who falls into the relevant age band. Note that these figures can be affected by household composition, such as the number of single person households. Figures are adjusted for households of unknown economic activity (LFS household datasets).

³ The Key Benefit Claimants section now uses 100% Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS) data, covering some groups of benefit claimants not included in the previous Key Indicators tables. Individuals are placed in the first relevant group. More information on this data may be found at: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/guidance.pdf>

⁴ n/a = sample size too small.

ANALYSIS

- The Government Actuary's Department projections indicate in 2006 there are around 20.0 million people aged 50 or over in Great Britain. They make up around 42.1% of the adult population. The number of people aged 50 or over will rise to 24.5 million by 2020 and 28.4 million by 2041.
- Based on the Labour Force Survey, a survey primarily of private households, there are 8.9m people aged between 50 and State Pension Age (SPA), currently 60 for women and 65 for men.

Employment Rate

- There are around 6.3m older workers in employment – this accounts for 70.9% of the age group and is an increase of +0.2 percentage points in the employment rate for the group since Spring 2005.
- The employment rate increased for both men and women, leaving a relatively small number of the age group claiming JSA (150,560). Since Spring 2003, the 50-SPA employment rate for both men and women has been higher than any time since the early 1980s.
- The gap in the employment rate of older workers and the working population as a whole has reduced to 3.5 percentage points, with the gap between the employment rate of 50-SPA men and 25-49 year old men close to that seen 20 years ago.
- In recent years the employment rate for the over 50s has tended to increase faster than the overall employment rate.

Claimant Count

- The number of older JSA claimants has risen over the last year by 15,095 (+11.1%). Older claimants are more likely to be long term unemployed than the average. Amongst JSA claimants aged 50 and over, 29.6% have been claiming for 1 year or more and 14.2% for 2 years or more.
- Older claimants account for 16.4% of the total claimant count.

ILO Unemployment

- ILO unemployment is the internationally agreed definition of unemployment. The International Labour Organisation - an agency of the United Nations, recommends it. Under ILO guidelines, all people aged 16 and over can be classified into one of three states: in employment; ILO unemployed; or economically inactive.
- ILO unemployed people are:
Out of work, want a job, have actively sought work in the last 4 weeks and are available to start work in the next 2 weeks; or
Out of work, have found a job and are waiting to start it in the next 2 weeks.
- The ILO unemployment level of those aged 50 to SPA rose by 14.4% in the year to Spring 2006, compared to an increase of 16.4% for all of working age.

Economic Inactivity Rate

- A person is economically inactive if they are not in work and are not actively seeking work.
- 26.7% of people between 50 and SPA are economically inactive, around 2.4million people.

Sickness and Disability Benefits

- There are 1.25 million claimants of incapacity benefits aged 50 to SPA, accounting for 46% of all working age sick and disabled claimants. The number of people aged 50 to SPA receiving Incapacity Benefits (IB) in February 2006 was 1.17million (47% of all working age claimants) and 80,000 (33% of all working age claimants) were receiving Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA).

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These statistics are compiled by the Department for Work and Pensions, Extending Working Life Division's Economist Team, and as part of the Government's commitment to provide information on the position of Older Workers in the Labour Market.

Information is from the ONS (Office for National Statistics) Labour Force Survey data for Spring 2006.

If you require further information, please write to:

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DWP Department for
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