

Written Question: Social Security Benefits: Wales

2nd April 2008

Dr. Francis: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions how many and what proportion of people claimed each type of benefit in (a) Aberavon constituency and (b) Wales in each year since 1979. [190221]

Mr. Plaskitt: Information is not available prior to 2002. Estimates for the proportion of the population are not available at parliamentary constituency level. The available information is in the following tables.

<i>Working age and pensioner client groups, by statistical group and proportion (percentage) of adult population in Wales, as at May each year</i>						
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>All benefits</i>	947,340	949,200	944,530	945,710	949,070	948,240
Proportion	40.5	40.2	39.7	39.5	39.5	39.4
<i>Job seekers</i>	45,700	45,120	38,620	40,320	44,400	40,100
Proportion	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.7
<i>Incapacity benefits</i>	223,970	221,220	216,800	212,140	206,880	200,540
Proportion	9.6	9.4	9.1	8.9	8.6	8.3
<i>Lone parents</i>	46,580	45,020	42,860	40,540	39,800	38,540
Proportion	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6
<i>Carers</i>	30,350	34,180	41,780	46,310	49,860	52,540
Proportion	1.3	1.4	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.2
<i>Other income related benefit</i>	93,770	94,270	134,090	143,110	144,850	145,380
Proportion	4.0	4.0	5.6	6.0	6.0	6.0
<i>Disabled</i>	138,000	142,900	128,630	126,520	129,450	133,590
Proportion	5.9	6.1	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.6
<i>Bereaved</i>	10,610	9,530	8,500	7,860	7,080	6,340
Proportion	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3

<i>State pension only</i>	358,370	356,970	333,260	328,910	326,750	331,220
Proportion	15.3	15.1	14.0	13.8	13.6	13.8

Working age and pensioner client groups, by Statistical group in the Aberavon parliamentary constituency, as at May each year

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
All	25,240	25,280	24,870	24,860	24,720	24,560
Job seekers	1,070	1,110	860	1,000	1,010	960
Incapacity benefits	7,550	7,520	7,340	7,230	6,920	6,700
Lone parent	1,320	1,300	1,220	1,190	1,170	1,180
Carers	1,110	1,310	1,580	1,780	1,980	2,090
Other income related benefits	2,590	2,580	3,640	3,810	3,960	3,920
Disabled	4,620	4,760	4,240	4,100	4,060	4,150
Bereaved	210	190	170	140	140	120
State pension only	6,770	6,530	5,830	5,620	5,480	5,450

Notes:

1. Caseload figures are rounded to the nearest ten.
 2. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
 3. Figures for attendance allowance, carers allowance, and disability living allowance include those cases with entitlement but where payment is currently suspended (for example, because of an extended stay in hospital or an overlapping benefit).
 4. Statistical Group is a hierarchical variable. A person who fits into more than one category will only appear in the top-most one for which they are eligible.
- Job Seeker: claimant on jobseekers allowance;
Incapacity benefits: claimant on incapacity benefit or severe disablement allowance;
Lone Parent: claimant on income support with child under 16 and no partner;
Carer: claimant entitled to carer's allowance;
Other Income related benefit: claimant on income support or pension credit;
Disabled: claimant on attendance allowance or disability living allowance;
Bereaved: claimant on bereavement benefit or widow's benefit;
State Pension only: claimant in receipt of state pension only.
- For example a claimant of disability living allowance and jobseekers allowance would appear in "job seeker", not in "disabled".

Source:

Department for Work and Pensions Information Directorate: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study. ONS mid-year population estimates.