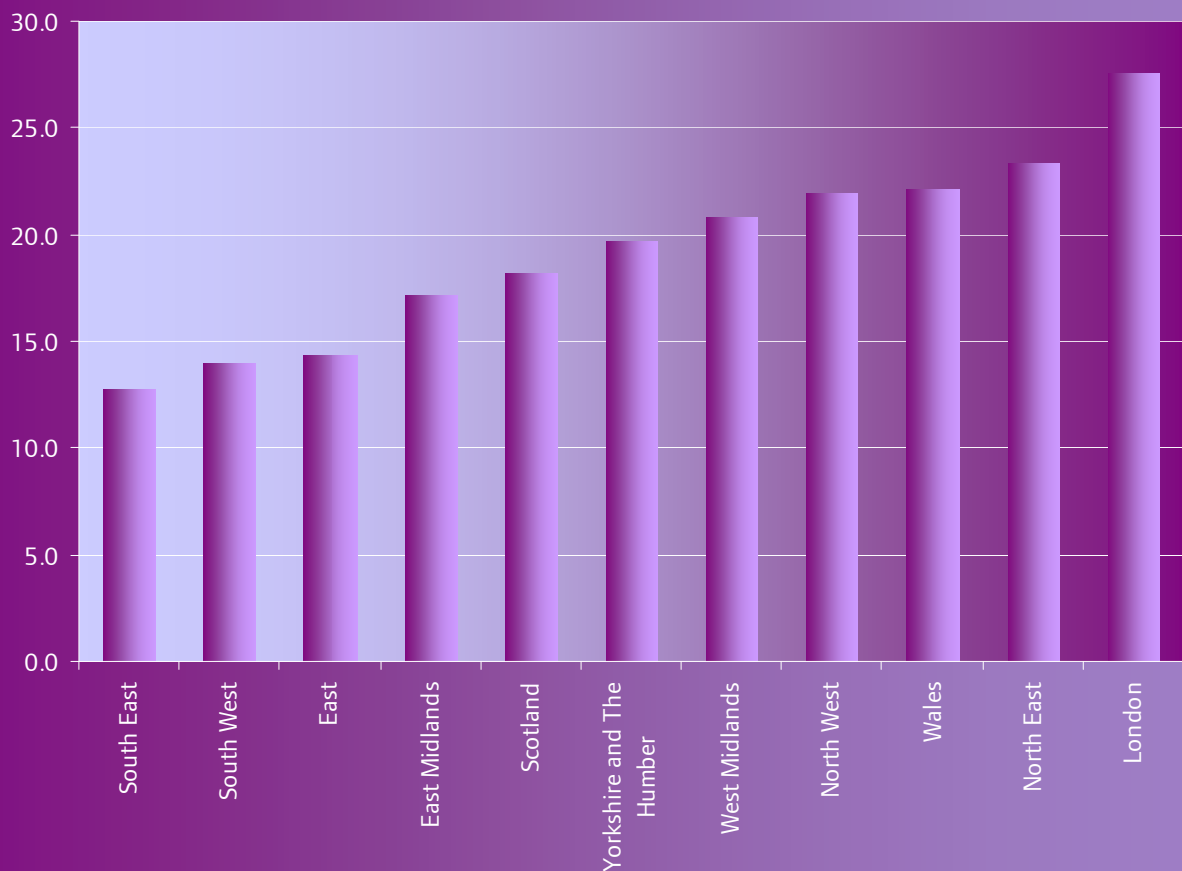


## Data Management and Analysis Group

### Children in Benefit Claiming Families 2007



# **DMAG Briefing 2008-29**

**August 2008**

## **Children in Benefit Claiming Families 2007**

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Cover is Chart 1 from this Briefing.

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# Children in Benefit Claiming Families 2007

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## Main Findings

- Over 18 per cent of all the children in Great Britain, who live in a family claiming benefits, are from London – that’s nearly half a million children and young people.
- In London, nearly 28 per cent of those aged 0 to 18 live in families with at least one adult claiming a major benefit - this is the highest rate in the country.
- London has the highest proportion of children (76 per cent) in single parent families claiming benefits.
- London has the highest proportion claiming only Income Support with 67 per cent – in Great Britain as a whole the proportion is 57 per cent.
- The London borough with the highest claimant rate for all aged 18 and under is Tower Hamlets with 49 per cent, closely followed by Islington with nearly 46 per cent and then Hackney and Newham both with 41 per cent. These four London boroughs have the highest rates not only in London but in the whole of Great Britain.
- The list of the worst 5 per cent of Local Authorities (ie those with the highest rates in Great Britain) contains 12 London boroughs out of 20 local authorities.
- Seven London boroughs have among the ten highest rates in Great Britain – all Inner London boroughs.

## Introduction

The number of children in families claiming a benefit is an important issue when determining how best to reduce poverty in the future. A report by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation<sup>1</sup> has shown that '*children who are poor as teenagers are more likely than those who are not poor to grow up to be poor adults. This is true through to middle age*'.

Children in London are more likely to be in families that have the characteristics which increase the risk of poverty - this can be shown by looking at certain surveys like the Annual Population Survey but also by the numbers claiming certain benefits.

- A quarter of all London children live in workless households<sup>2</sup> and the largest out-of-work group in London are people with dependent children. London has the highest rates for workless benefits and children in workless families, where the risk of poverty is considerably above the average.
- London has the highest ethnic minority populations in the country and more than a third of all ethnic minority families live in poverty.
- London has higher than average family sizes and children in families with 4 or more children have a high risk of poverty.

The *children in families claiming a benefit* indicator is also one of the main indicators used to monitor child poverty by the London Child Poverty Commission (LCPC). Although the LCPC produced their final report in February 2008 the monitoring of their child poverty indicators will continue for the foreseeable future. The national Government's measure of child poverty uses the 'Households Below Average Income' dataset to show the number of children living in households below 60 per cent of median equivalised household income. However, the children in families claiming benefits indicator has an advantage over the HBAI in that it can drill down to Local Authority level. It can also show year on year trends whereas three years' worth of data has to be combined with the HBAI due its small sample size.

The dataset is based on children in families where an adult of working age claims a key benefit (see definition below) and either receives:

- an additional allowance of benefit for children or young adult dependants (i.e. those aged 16-18 and still in full-time education); or
- contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) or JSA National Insurance credits only, with children or young adult dependants recorded in the assessment; or
- Child Tax Credit (CTC).

The key benefits are:

- Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA),
- Incapacity Benefit (IB),

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<sup>1</sup> The persistence of poverty across generations, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2006

<sup>2</sup> London Development Agency, 2004

- Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA),
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA),
- Income Support (IS).

Additional amounts are payable for all dependent children in families receiving income related benefits (i.e. Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based)). These additional amounts for children will be payable via either benefit or CTC.

The main gaps relate to children of claimants of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance without CTC, for whom child information is incomplete; and children of claimants of Disability Living Allowance without CTC, for whom no child information is recorded. Not all CTC children are included in this dataset, only those in families also claiming a key benefit.

This *Briefing* will look at the key characteristics of claimants including: benefit combination, family type and duration of claim.

As this dataset is based on a five per cent sample, the values obtained are subject to sampling variation. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100, and those below 50 are suppressed as statistically unreliable. Figures below 500 are subject to a proportionally large degree of sampling variation and should be used with caution. Further details about confidence intervals are shown in Appendix 2.

### **Effect of Child Tax Credits**

Figures in this dataset were affected by the introduction of the Child Tax Credit (CTC) in April 2003. Dates when there may have been particular changes in the figures were:

- April 2003, when Child dependency increases paid with non-income related benefits were abolished for new claims.
- October 2003, when families on the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) with children had child elements migrated to CTC.
- Financial year 2004/05, when families on Income Support and income-based Jobseeker's Allowance had child elements migrated to CTC.

A small number of former IS/JSA(IB) recipients are no longer eligible once CTC is paid. This is because CTC payments raise total income above the IS/JSA(IB) threshold, or other income exceeds the threshold once child allowances are removed. DWP advise that data users exercise caution when performing year on year comparisons, or when comparing with the previous quarter.

The main effect of incorporating CTC data into the children dataset has been to provide additional information on children/dependants and family type for claimants of non income-related benefits.

### **Working-age benefits definitions**

The list below gives a summary of the different working-age benefits for which information is available.

- Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is paid to people who have become disabled before the age of 65 and who need assistance with personal care and/or mobility.
- Incapacity Benefit (IB) is paid to people who have been incapable of work because of sickness or disability for at least four days in a row and who have paid sufficient contributions throughout their working lives.
- Income Support (IS) is available to those under 60 who have a low income. Until October 2003, IS was also payable to males aged 60 to 64 and was called Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). From October 2003 Pension Credit replaced MIG. Both MIG and Pension Credit claimants aged 60 to 64 are included in the working age client group dataset (and the related children and families client group datasets) as IS claimants. They do not appear in the pension age client group dataset.
- Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) was introduced on October 7th 1996 and is a contributory or income-related benefit paid to people under State Pension age who are available for and actively seeking work. They agree with Jobcentre Plus any restrictions on their availability for work and the steps they intend to take in order to find work. Additional help is available for partners and children of claimants.
- Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) was paid to those unable to work for 28 weeks in a row or more because of illness or disability. Since April 2001 it has not been possible to make a new claim for Severe Disablement Allowance.

The family type is derived from a combination of information about a claimant's dependent children and whether the claimant has a partner, as recorded for benefit or child tax credit (CTC) administration purposes.

Dependent children are those aged under 16, together with those aged 16 to 18 still in full-time education, for whom an additional allowance is paid. The incorporation of CTC data has provided additional information on children/dependants and family type for claimants of non income-related benefits and reduced the number of unknowns after May 2003.

Further information may be obtained from <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/cga.asp>

## Regional Analysis

Over 18 per cent of all the children in Great Britain, who live in a family claiming benefits, are from London – that’s nearly half a million children and young adults. See Table 1.

When the numbers are presented as rates, using population projections for 2007 as a base, the true scale of the problem in London becomes clear. Table 1 shows the rates for all regions in Great Britain. The overall rate for London is 27.5 per cent (per cent of those aged 0 to 18 living in families with at least one adult claiming a major benefit). This is the highest rate in the country, with the North East having the second highest rate at 23.3 per cent. The rate for Great Britain as a whole is just over 19 per cent.

The region with the lowest rate is the South East with nearly 13 per cent - half the rate for Greater London. This is followed by the South West with 14 per cent.

This pattern is confirmed with data from the Labour Force Survey on workless households<sup>3</sup>. Compared with other regions, London has, by far, the highest percentage of children living in workless households. At 25 per cent, London’s rate is considerably higher than the rate in the rest of the UK (15 per cent). Within London, rates are exceptionally high in Inner London where 32 per cent of all children live in workless households. While the rate in Outer London is far lower (21 per cent), it still remains well above the national average.

**Table 1 Children in families claiming benefits, number and claimant rate by region, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample. The source for the population base is the Subnational Population Projections (2006 based), ONS

Region	All children in benefit families	Proportion of Great Britain total	Rate: percentage of all aged 18 and under
North East	132,300	5.2	23.3
North West	349,400	13.6	21.9
Yorkshire and The Humber	233,900	9.1	19.7
East Midlands	171,100	6.7	17.2
West Midlands	265,800	10.4	20.9
East	186,400	7.3	14.4
<b>London</b>	<b>472,400</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>27.5</b>
South East	243,900	9.5	12.8
South West	156,900	6.1	14.0
Wales	150,800	5.9	22.1
Scotland	202,100	7.9	18.2
Great Britain	2,564,900	100.0	19.1

<sup>3</sup> See [DMAG Update 05- 2008](#)

The figures are further supported by DWP data on Households Below Average Incomes (HBAI). Based on three year averages, in 2004/05 - 2006/07 Greater London had the highest rate of child poverty (after housing costs) of any region in Great Britain, at 41 per cent. This was more than a third higher than the national rate. The Inner London poverty rates are particularly high with almost half of all children living in Inner London in households with incomes below 60 per cent of median income after housing costs. Children in the HBAI are defined as all individuals under 16 years of age and all unmarried 16-18 year-olds in secondary education - the same definition as the Children in Families Claiming Benefit Dataset<sup>4</sup>.

**Chart 1 Children in families claiming benefits – percentage of all children aged 0-18, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

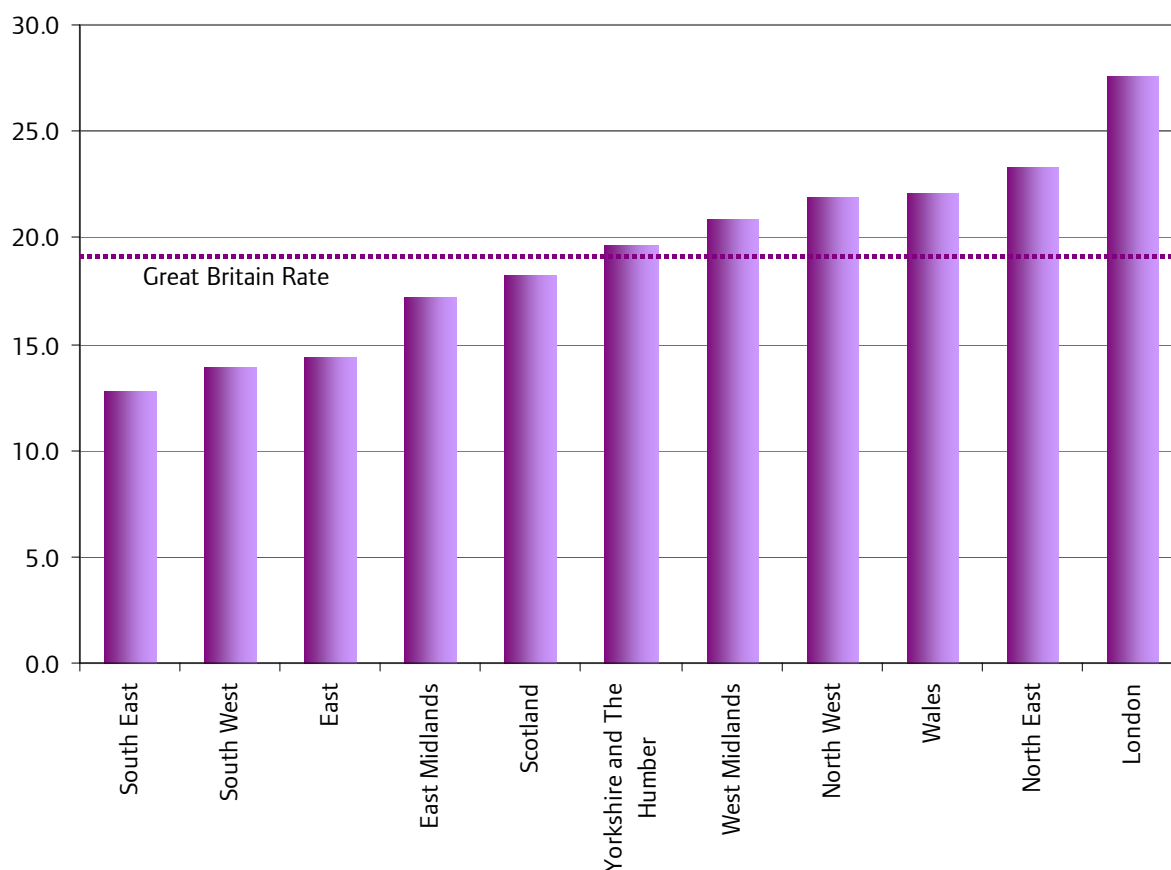


Table 2 breaks this down proportionally by age. For London, the proportion of under five year olds living in families claiming benefits is 28.4 per cent, similar to the national figure - this rises to 29.4 per cent for children with a single parent. Most children in claimant families are aged between five and ten with 34 per cent in London. The proportion for 16 to 18 year olds was under 10 per cent.

<sup>4</sup> see: [DMAG Update 10- 2008](#)

**Table 2 Children in families claiming benefits, by family type and age of child, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

Region	Total	Aged under 5	Aged 5-10	Aged 11-15	Aged 16-18
<b>All family types</b>					
North East	132,300	37,700	42,800	37,200	13,200
North West	349,400	97,000	114,900	97,800	35,600
Yorkshire and The	233,900	67,800	76,000	65,400	21,900
East Midlands	171,100	50,900	55,800	47,200	15,700
West Midlands	265,800	78,100	86,100	72,600	25,500
East	186,400	53,800	63,800	50,500	16,000
<b>London</b>	<b>472,400</b>	<b>134,300</b>	<b>159,900</b>	<b>127,600</b>	<b>44,200</b>
South East	243,900	70,600	84,700	66,500	19,900
South West	156,900	44,400	50,900	45,600	13,700
Wales	150,800	39,300	50,000	44,400	15,300
Scotland	202,100	56,800	68,700	60,100	15,500
<i>Great Britain</i>	<i>2,564,900</i>	<i>730,700</i>	<i>853,500</i>	<i>714,900</i>	<i>236,400</i>
<b>Single parent with children</b>					
North East	82,700	26,200	27,400	21,300	7,100
North West	222,500	66,000	75,400	58,900	20,600
Yorkshire and The	142,400	44,900	46,600	37,200	12,700
East Midlands	106,000	34,500	35,500	27,100	8,400
West Midlands	166,300	52,400	54,400	43,700	14,500
East	122,900	37,600	43,500	31,300	9,600
<b>London</b>	<b>357,500</b>	<b>105,100</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>92,800</b>	<b>31,800</b>
South East	163,600	50,200	57,800	42,500	12,100
South West	98,700	30,800	32,600	26,900	7,600
Wales	88,300	26,100	30,400	23,600	7,700
Scotland	137,300	40,900	48,000	38,600	9,500
<i>Great Britain</i>	<i>1,688,200</i>	<i>514,800</i>	<i>575,300</i>	<i>444,000</i>	<i>141,700</i>
<b>Couple with children</b>					
North East	49,200	11,400	15,300	16,000	6,000
North West	125,900	31,000	39,500	38,900	15,000
Yorkshire and The	91,100	22,900	29,500	28,300	9,200
East Midlands	64,900	16,400	20,300	20,100	7,300
West Midlands	99,000	25,700	31,700	28,900	11,000
East	63,000	16,200	20,300	19,100	6,500
<b>London</b>	<b>114,600</b>	<b>29,200</b>	<b>36,200</b>	<b>34,800</b>	<b>12,400</b>
South East	80,100	20,400	26,900	24,000	7,800
South West	57,700	13,600	18,300	18,700	6,100
Wales	62,100	13,200	19,500	20,800	7,600
Scotland	64,400	15,900	20,700	21,400	5,900
<i>Great Britain</i>	<i>872,000</i>	<i>216,000</i>	<i>278,200</i>	<i>271,000</i>	<i>94,700</i>

Note: Total includes those where the age is unknown (6,400 children in London)

**Table 3 Children in families claiming benefits, by family type and age of child  
- percentage of all ages, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

Region	Aged under 5	Aged 5-10	Aged 11-15	Aged 16-18
<b>All family types</b>				
North East	28.5	32.4	28.1	10.0
North West	27.8	32.9	28.0	10.2
Yorkshire and The Humber	29.0	32.5	28.0	9.4
East Midlands	29.7	32.6	27.6	9.2
West Midlands	29.4	32.4	27.3	9.6
East	28.9	34.2	27.1	8.6
<b>London</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>9.4</b>
South East	28.9	34.7	27.3	8.2
South West	28.3	32.4	29.1	8.7
Wales	26.1	33.2	29.4	10.1
Scotland	28.1	34.0	29.7	7.7
Great Britain	28.5	33.3	27.9	9.2
<b>Single parent with children</b>				
North East	31.7	33.1	25.8	8.6
North West	29.7	33.9	26.5	9.3
Yorkshire and The Humber	31.5	32.7	26.1	8.9
East Midlands	32.5	33.5	25.6	7.9
West Midlands	31.5	32.7	26.3	8.7
East	30.6	35.4	25.5	7.8
<b>London</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>8.9</b>
South East	30.7	35.3	26.0	7.4
South West	31.2	33.0	27.3	7.7
Wales	29.6	34.4	26.7	8.7
Scotland	29.8	35.0	28.1	6.9
Great Britain	30.5	34.1	26.3	8.4
<b>Couple with children</b>				
North East	23.2	31.1	32.5	12.2
North West	24.6	31.4	30.9	11.9
Yorkshire and The Humber	25.1	32.4	31.1	10.1
East Midlands	25.3	31.3	31.0	11.2
West Midlands	26.0	32.0	29.2	11.1
East	25.7	32.2	30.3	10.3
<b>London</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>10.8</b>
South East	25.5	33.6	30.0	9.7
South West	23.6	31.7	32.4	10.6
Wales	21.3	31.4	33.5	12.2
Scotland	24.7	32.1	33.2	9.2
Great Britain	24.8	31.9	31.1	10.9

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to unknowns.

Table 4 and Chart 2 show the proportion of children in families claiming benefits in either single parent families or couples. For Great Britain the proportion is approximately two thirds in single parent families compared to a third in couples with children. In London the proportion is 76 per cent compared to 24 per cent. London has the highest proportion in single parent families compared to other regions. Wales has the smallest proportion with nearly 59 per cent.

**Table 4 Children in families claiming benefits, by family type, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

Region	All family types	Single parent with children		Couple with children	
		Number	As a percentage of all	Number	As a percentage of all
North East	132,300	82,700	63	49,200	37
North West	349,400	222,500	64	125,900	36
Yorkshire and The Humber	233,900	142,400	61	91,100	39
East Midlands	171,100	106,000	62	64,900	38
West Midlands	265,800	166,300	63	99,000	37
East	186,400	122,900	66	63,000	34
<b>London</b>	<b>472,400</b>	<b>357,500</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>114,600</b>	<b>24</b>
South East	243,900	163,600	67	80,100	33
South West	156,900	98,700	63	57,700	37
Wales	150,800	88,300	59	62,100	41
Scotland	202,100	137,300	68	64,400	32
<i>Great Britain</i>	<i>2,564,900</i>	<i>1,688,200</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>872,000</i>	<i>34</i>

**Chart 2 Children in families claiming benefits – by family type, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

■ Single parent with children ■ Couple with children

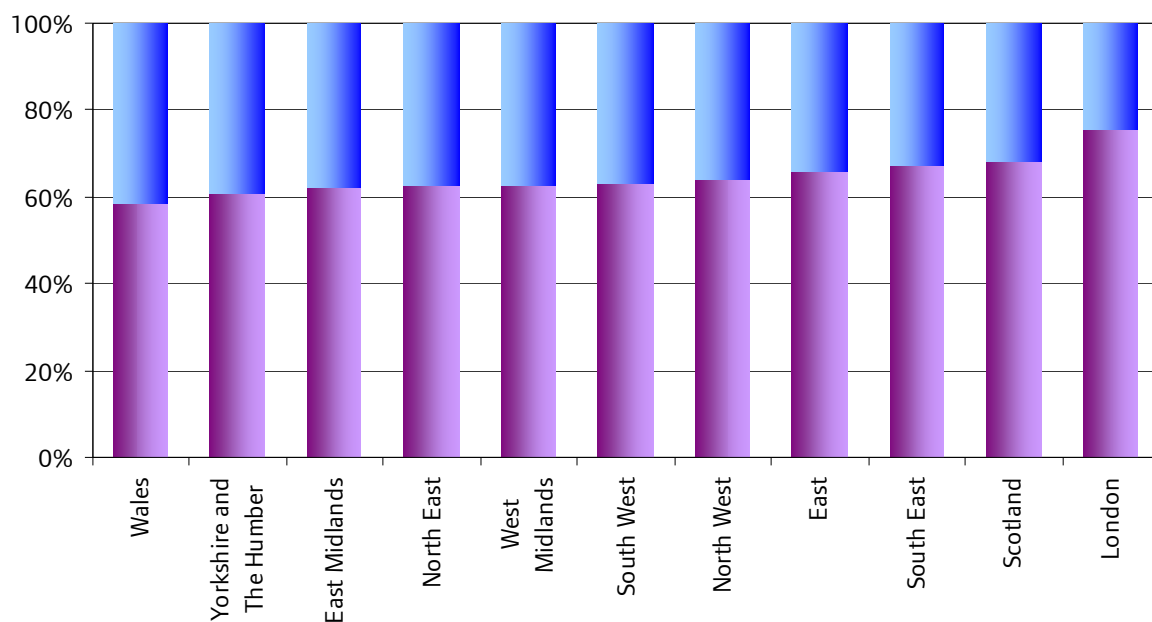


Table 5 shows, from 2001 to 2007, the total number of children in families claiming benefits and the percentage of those children as a percentage of all aged 18 and under (see the Introduction for the effect of Child Tax Credits on these figures). The table shows that London has had the highest rates throughout this period – the highest rate of all being in 2006 when nearly 29 per cent of all those aged under 18 in London were in families with at least one adult claiming benefits. The rate was at its lowest in 2002 with 26.8 per cent. Chart 3 compares the trend in rates in London with Great Britain as a whole.

The other regions in the south of the country (excluding London) have the lowest rates: with the South East consistently showing the lowest, closely followed by the Eastern and South West Regions.

**Table 5 Children in families claiming benefits, August 2001 to August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

	August 2001	August 2002	August 2003	August 2004	August 2005	August 2006	August 2007
	<b>Total number of children (000's)</b>						
North East	148.5	143.4	160.1	146.5	130.6	134.9	132.3
North West	376.2	362.7	407.3	382.8	340.4	364.1	349.4
Yorkshire and The Humber	239.8	227.2	254.6	238.0	220.6	237.9	233.9
East Midlands	162.4	156.4	181.0	168.6	157.3	172.4	171.1
West Midlands	260.9	255.2	290.6	281.0	258.5	275.6	265.8
East	176.4	171.8	197.4	189.0	173.2	184.5	186.4
<b>London</b>	<b>464.8</b>	<b>456.9</b>	<b>481.0</b>	<b>478.0</b>	<b>459.0</b>	<b>488.3</b>	<b>472.4</b>
South East	229.6	226.1	257.0	247.0	229.2	247.2	243.9
South West	154.2	145.1	169.0	160.6	146.4	160.0	156.9
Wales	156.9	149.8	178.2	169.2	147.0	161.2	150.8
Scotland	222.7	213.2	247.1	232.0	204.8	214.8	202.1
Great Britain	2,592.4	2,507.9	2,823.3	2,692.7	2,466.9	2,641.0	2,564.9
	<b>Rate: Total number of children as a percentage of all aged 0-18</b>						
North East	24.8	24.1	27.2	25.1	22.7	23.6	23.3
North West	22.7	22.0	24.8	23.5	21.1	22.7	21.9
Yorkshire and The Humber	19.9	18.9	21.2	19.9	18.5	20.0	19.7
East Midlands	16.3	15.7	18.1	16.9	15.8	17.3	17.2
West Midlands	20.1	19.7	22.5	21.8	20.1	21.6	20.9
East	13.8	13.4	15.3	14.7	13.4	14.3	14.4
<b>London</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>27.5</b>
South East	12.2	12.0	13.5	13.0	12.0	13.0	12.8
South West	13.8	13.0	15.0	14.3	13.0	14.2	14.0
Wales	22.5	21.5	25.7	24.5	21.4	23.6	22.1
Scotland	19.2	18.6	21.7	20.5	18.2	19.2	18.2
Great Britain	19.1	18.5	20.8	19.9	18.3	19.6	19.1

The source for the population base is: ONS Mid Year Estimates for 2001 to 2006 and Subnational Population Projections for 2007 (2006 based).

**Chart 3 Percentage of children in families claiming benefits - August 2001 to August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample



Over half the children in families claiming a key benefit (in Great Britain) live with adults claiming Income Support only (see Table 6). The rest live with adults claiming either Job Seekers Allowance, Incapacity Benefits, Disability Allowance or different combinations of these.

**Table 6 Children in families claiming benefits, by type of benefit claimed – percentage of total, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

	Income Support (IS) only	Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) only	Incapacity Benefit (IB) only	Disability Living Allowance (DLA) only	Combination of two or more benefits
North East	54	8	10	5	24
North West	53	7	8	5	27
Yorkshire and Humber	55	9	7	5	24
East Midlands	55	8	7	6	24
West Midlands	55	11	6	5	23
East	58	9	7	5	21
<b>London</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>
South East	60	8	7	5	20
South West	54	6	8	6	26
Wales	48	6	11	5	30
Scotland	55	6	9	4	26
Great Britain	57	8	7	5	24

London has the highest proportion claiming only Income Support with 67 per cent – the lowest is in Wales with 48 per cent. In Great Britain as a whole the proportion is 57 per cent.

London has the lowest proportions for both Incapacity Benefits and Disabled Living Allowance compared to the other regions (three and two per cent respectively). Wales has the highest proportion of its total claiming only Incapacity Benefits (11 per cent) and the South West and East Midlands have the highest proportion of their totals claiming only Disabled Living Allowance with six per cent each.

Table 7 shows the proportion of children in benefit claiming families by their parents allocated statistical group. Claimants have been allocated to statistical groups to give an indication of the main reason why they are claiming benefit. This is only one of the possible ways in which claimants could be classified.

Claimants are assigned to statistical group according to the following hierarchy:

<i>If claimant receives:</i>	<i>then allocated to:</i>
JSA (including credits)	JSA claimant
IB (including credits), SDA, DLA, IS with disability premium	sick/disabled
IS and is a single parent with children	lone parent
IS not in other groups e.g. carers	other

For example, if a claimant who is a single parent receives IS but no disability premium they are assigned to lone parent; but if they also receive the disability premium then they are assigned to sick/disabled. The table shows that London has the highest proportion in the lone parent group (64 per cent) and the lowest in the sick and disabled group.

**Table 7 Children in families claiming benefits, by statistical group, August 2007**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

	JSA claimant	sick or disabled	lone parent	other group
North East	8	40	50	2
North West	7	41	50	2
Yorkshire and The Humber	9	37	50	3
East Midlands	9	38	51	2
West Midlands	11	35	52	3
East	9	34	55	2
<b>London</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2</b>
South East	8	33	57	2
South West	6	42	50	2
Wales	6	47	45	2
Scotland	6	40	52	2
Great Britain	8	36	54	2

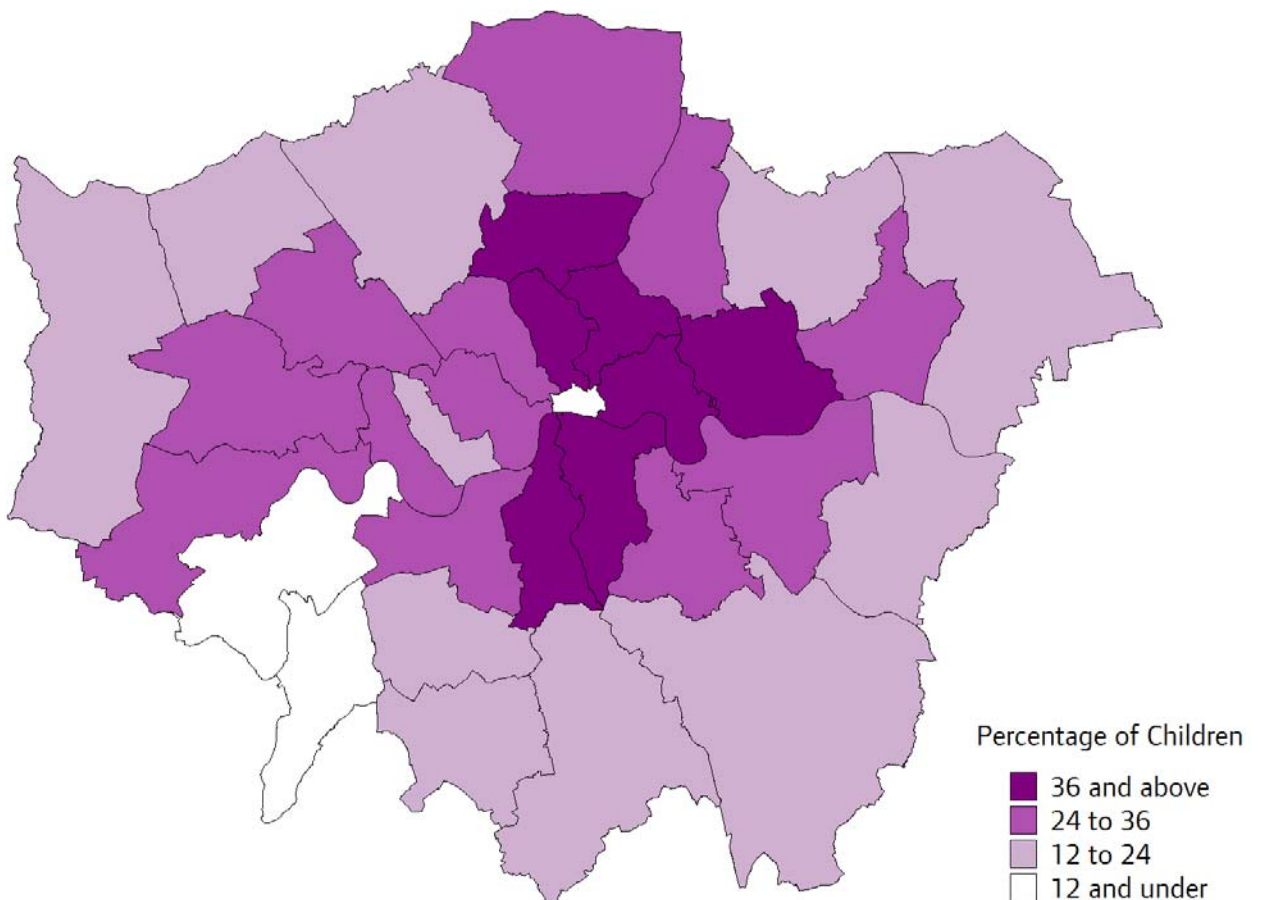
## Borough Analysis

Appendix 1 shows tables at the London borough level. The confidence intervals shown in Appendix 2 should be referred to when using these numbers.

The London borough with the highest rate for all aged 18 and under is Tower Hamlets with 49 per cent, closely followed by Islington with nearly 46 per cent and then Hackney and Newham both with 41 per cent. These four London boroughs have the highest rates not only in London but in the whole of Great Britain. If considering only those children aged under 16 than Tower Hamlets and Islington would have rates of over 50 per cent – that is to say just over half the children (aged under 16) living in either Tower Hamlets or Islington live in a family with at least one adult claiming a benefit.

The list of those Local Authorities in the worst five per cent (ie those with the highest rates in Great Britain) are shown in Table 8 and contains 12 London boroughs, over a third of all London boroughs. Seven London boroughs have among the ten highest rates in Great Britain – all in Inner London (see Map 1).

**Map 1 Number of children in families claiming benefits as a percentage of all aged 18 and under, by London borough, August 2007**



Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

**Table 8 Children aged 18 and under in families claiming benefits as a percentage of all aged 18 and under, August 2007 – Local Authorities ranked in the worst 5 per cent (where the highest rate is ranked number 1)**

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

Region	Local Authority	Rate	Rank out of 406
London	Tower Hamlets	49	1
London	Islington	46	2
London	Newham	41	3
London	Hackney	41	4
North West	Manchester	40	5
London	Haringey	39	6
London	Southwark	37	7
London	Lambeth	36	8
North West	Liverpool	36	9
East Midlands	Nottingham	35	10
Yorkshire and Humber	Kingston upon Hull	35	11
London	Barking and Dagenham	34	12
North West	Knowsley	34	13
North East	Middlesbrough	34	14
London	Waltham Forest	33	15
London	Greenwich	33	16
North East	Easington	33	17
London	Brent	32	18
East Midlands	Leicester City	32	19
London	Hammersmith and Fulham	32	20

The source for the population base is: Subnational Population Projections (2006 based), ONS

The highest rate of all is for Tower Hamlets in the 11 to 15 age group – nearly 63 per cent of the borough’s children, for this age group, are in a family with at least one adult claiming benefits – double the rate for London as a whole. The boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Waltham Forest and Greenwich have the highest rates for Outer London and occupy positions 12, 15 and 16 in the list of Local Authorities with the highest rates in Great Britain. Richmond upon Thames has the lowest rates for all the age groups.

Appendix Table 1C shows the number and percentage of children in either single parent families or couples who are claiming benefits. Overall, three quarters of those aged 18 and under are in single parent families and the rest in couple families. This pattern is more or less repeated at the borough level apart from a few exceptions.

In Tower Hamlets, 45 per cent of the children in families claiming benefits are in a couple family – the highest proportion in London. This is different to most other Inner London boroughs in that the proportions for children in single parent families are nearer 80 per cent – the highest being in Lambeth with 87 per cent.

This doesn't imply that there are fewer single parent families in Tower Hamlets, just more children in couple families claiming benefits. A fifth of all children in Inner London in couple families claiming benefits live in Tower Hamlets.

Appendix Table 1D shows the percentage of children in families by the type of benefit being claimed. In London as a whole, 67 per cent are claiming Income Support only - for boroughs this varies from 74 per cent down to 52 per cent in Tower Hamlets. In Westminster only 55 per cent are claiming Income Support only - with a third of children in families claiming a combination of two or more other benefits.

In Tower Hamlets the percentage of children in families claiming JSA only is 19 per cent - much higher than any of the other boroughs in the capital.

The difference in Tower Hamlets is reflected in the statistical group analysis in Appendix Table 1E. This table also gives a clue as to why Westminster children are in families that, more than other boroughs, claim a combination of benefits: as nearly 40 per cent are claiming due to being sick or disabled - the highest in London.

## Appendix 1 Borough Level Tables

### A) Children in families claiming benefits, by age and borough, August 2007

London Borough	Total	Aged under 5	Aged 5-10	Aged 11-15	Aged 16-18
Barking and Dagenham	15,700	4,900	5,000	4,200	1,500
Barnet	14,800	3,900	5,400	3,800	1,500
Bexley	8,000	2,400	2,700	2,100	700
Brent	19,600	5,700	6,400	4,900	2,000
Bromley	11,200	3,100	3,900	3,000	1,000
Camden	12,900	3,500	4,500	3,300	1,400
Croydon	19,400	5,800	6,700	4,900	1,800
Ealing	18,900	5,600	6,500	4,900	1,700
Enfield	21,500	6,800	7,200	5,300	2,000
Greenwich	17,900	5,100	6,300	4,800	1,500
Hackney	22,000	6,700	7,600	5,200	2,200
Hammersmith and Fulham	10,400	2,700	3,600	2,900	900
Haringey	19,900	5,800	6,800	5,200	1,800
Harrow	9,000	2,100	3,000	2,600	1,000
Havering	8,700	2,100	3,200	2,600	700
Hillingdon	13,700	3,700	4,500	4,200	1,100
Hounslow	13,800	4,300	4,700	3,600	1,200
Islington	16,600	4,100	5,600	5,000	1,600
Kensington and Chelsea	5,800	1,400	2,000	1,700	700
Kingston upon Thames	3,700	1,000	1,200	1,200	300
Lambeth	20,500	5,700	7,200	5,600	1,600
Lewisham	18,200	5,400	5,900	5,200	1,500
Merton	8,700	2,300	3,000	2,500	800
Newham	28,300	7,000	10,000	8,200	2,600
Redbridge	15,400	4,300	4,700	4,300	1,800
Richmond upon Thames	3,500	900	1,300	1,000	200
Southwark	21,100	6,900	6,900	5,300	1,900
Sutton	6,400	1,800	2,300	1,800	500
Tower Hamlets	25,500	7,400	8,300	7,100	2,400
Waltham Forest	18,400	5,800	5,900	4,600	1,800
Wandsworth	12,400	3,600	4,100	3,300	1,300
Westminster	10,400	2,600	3,600	3,100	1,000
Inner London	224,200	62,700	76,000	61,200	21,000
Outer London	248,200	71,600	83,900	66,300	23,200
Greater London	472,400	134,300	159,900	127,600	44,200

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

Figures under 500 are subject to high sampling variation and should be used with caution.

**B) Children in families claiming benefits, by age and borough, claimant rates, August 2007**

<b>London Borough</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Aged under 5</b>	<b>Aged 5-10</b>	<b>Aged 11-15</b>	<b>Aged 16-18</b>
Barking and Dagenham	33.9	34.4	35.6	36.5	22.8
Barnet	18.7	16.9	22.4	18.7	13.0
Bexley	14.8	17.5	16.8	14.1	7.5
Brent	32.5	28.5	37.9	35.1	21.0
Bromley	15.9	16.8	17.6	16.2	8.9
Camden	30.0	24.7	35.0	34.3	21.8
Croydon	23.2	25.6	26.5	22.3	13.2
Ealing	27.8	25.8	32.9	30.1	16.6
Enfield	30.2	32.2	34.0	29.6	18.3
Greenwich	32.6	28.9	38.6	37.7	18.1
Hackney	40.9	35.2	47.9	45.7	29.1
Hammersmith and Fulham	32.2	24.5	36.7	41.0	20.4
Haringey	38.6	32.9	45.7	45.5	23.7
Harrow	17.5	14.6	20.7	19.7	10.8
Havering	16.6	16.7	20.5	17.2	7.6
Hillingdon	22.3	21.3	24.4	27.0	10.8
Hounslow	27.2	26.1	32.3	30.4	15.3
Islington	46.5	35.6	53.4	60.9	29.1
Kensington and Chelsea	17.9	13.6	18.4	24.0	16.4
Kingston upon Thames	10.9	10.3	11.5	14.5	5.4
Lambeth	36.2	28.3	44.1	45.1	20.6
Lewisham	30.7	28.4	33.9	36.8	17.3
Merton	20.3	17.1	23.0	25.1	12.6
Newham	41.2	30.5	51.3	52.3	24.7
Redbridge	23.7	23.4	23.9	25.8	17.5
Richmond upon Thames	8.6	7.0	9.8	10.5	3.7
Southwark	36.8	34.9	42.0	40.9	23.1
Sutton	14.6	15.9	17.0	15.0	7.1
Tower Hamlets	48.9	41.1	53.8	62.8	32.4
Waltham Forest	33.4	32.3	36.9	35.6	22.0
Wandsworth	24.7	18.6	27.8	33.5	21.0
Westminster	28.3	21.0	33.0	40.0	17.4
Inner London	35.6	29.1	41.0	44.1	23.3
Outer London	22.9	22.6	25.8	24.3	13.6
Greater London	27.5	25.2	31.3	31.0	17.0

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

The source for the population base is: Subnational Population Projections (2006 based), ONS

Percentages based on figures under 500 are subject to high sampling variation and should be used with caution.

**C) Children in families claiming benefits, by family type and borough, August 2007 - by family type**

London Borough	All Families	Single parent with children		Couple with children	
		Total	% of total	Total	% of total
Barking and Dagenham	15,700	12,400	79	3,300	21
Barnet	14,800	11,300	76	3,500	24
Bexley	8,000	6,000	75	2,000	25
Brent	19,600	14,600	74	4,900	25
Bromley	11,200	8,400	75	2,700	24
Camden	12,900	10,300	80	2,700	21
Croydon	19,400	15,700	81	3,700	19
Ealing	18,900	12,900	68	6,000	32
Enfield	21,500	16,300	76	5,200	24
Greenwich	17,900	14,400	80	3,500	20
Hackney	22,000	17,600	80	4,400	20
Hammersmith and Fulham	10,400	8,800	85	1,600	15
Haringey	19,900	15,700	79	4,100	21
Harrow	9,000	6,200	69	2,800	31
Havering	8,700	6,400	74	2,300	26
Hillingdon	13,700	10,200	74	3,500	26
Hounslow	13,800	10,300	75	3,500	25
Islington	16,600	13,600	82	3,000	18
Kensington and Chelsea	5,800	4,200	72	1,600	28
Kingston upon Thames	3,700	2,700	73	1,000	27
Lambeth	20,500	17,800	87	2,700	13
Lewisham	18,200	14,600	80	3,600	20
Merton	8,700	6,700	77	1,900	22
Newham	28,300	19,600	69	8,700	31
Redbridge	15,400	10,500	68	4,900	32
Richmond upon Thames	3,500	2,600	74	900	26
Southwark	21,100	18,200	86	2,900	14
Sutton	6,400	5,000	78	1,400	22
Tower Hamlets	25,500	13,900	55	11,600	45
Waltham Forest	18,400	13,200	72	5,100	28
Wandsworth	12,400	9,800	79	2,600	21
Westminster	10,400	7,300	70	3,000	29
Inner London	224,200	171,600	77	52,500	23
Outer London	248,200	185,900	75	62,100	25
Greater London	472,400	357,500	76	114,600	24

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

**D) Children in families claiming benefits, by type of benefit claimed, August 2007**

**- percentage of total**

<b>London Borough</b>	<b>Income Support (IS) only</b>	<b>Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) only</b>	<b>Incapacity Benefit (IB) only</b>	<b>Disability Living Allowance (DLA) only</b>	<b>Combination of two or more benefits</b>
Barking and Dagenham	74	3	4	3	16
Barnet	67	7	2	3	21
Bexley	66	6	4	5	19
Brent	64	9	3	2	22
Bromley	67	4	4	4	21
Camden	64	5	2	1	29
Croydon	74	5	2	2	16
Ealing	62	7	4	3	24
Enfield	64	9	2	1	24
Greenwich	74	4	3	2	17
Hackney	73	6	2	2	17
Hammersmith and Fulham	70	3	2	1	24
Haringey	69	7	1	2	22
Harrow	61	9	2	4	23
Havering	66	8	7	3	16
Hillingdon	66	8	4	3	19
Hounslow	71	7	4	3	15
Islington	73	7	2	1	17
Kensington and Chelsea	60	7	2	2	29
Kingston upon Thames	65	11	5	~	19
Lambeth	73	7	3	1	16
Lewisham	71	6	3	3	17
Merton	71	8	1	3	16
Newham	62	11	4	2	21
Redbridge	62	8	5	2	22
Richmond upon Thames	69	9	3	6	14
Southwark	74	3	2	1	20
Sutton	69	6	5	3	17
Tower Hamlets	52	19	2	1	25
Waltham Forest	65	13	3	3	16
Wandsworth	69	7	4	2	18
Westminster	55	6	3	4	33
Inner London	67	8	2	2	21
Outer London	67	7	3	3	19
Greater London	67	8	3	2	20

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

**E) Children in families claiming benefits, by statistical group, August 2007 - percentage of total**

<b>London Borough</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>JSA claimant</b>	<b>sick or disabled</b>	<b>lone parent</b>	<b>other group</b>
Barking and Dagenham	15,700	3	24	71	1
Barnet	14,800	7	27	64	1
Bexley	8,000	6	29	63	3
Brent	19,600	9	27	62	3
Bromley	11,200	4	30	63	1
Camden	12,900	5	31	63	1
Croydon	19,400	5	22	71	2
Ealing	18,900	7	31	59	2
Enfield	21,500	9	27	62	1
Greenwich	17,900	4	22	71	3
Hackney	22,000	6	22	70	2
Hammersmith and Fulham	10,400	3	28	68	-
Haringey	19,900	7	27	65	2
Harrow	9,000	9	31	54	4
Havering	8,700	8	29	62	2
Hillingdon	13,700	8	28	61	3
Hounslow	13,800	7	23	67	4
Islington	16,600	7	20	70	3
Kensington and Chelsea	5,800	7	33	60	2
Kingston upon Thames	3,700	11	27	62	3
Lambeth	20,500	7	21	72	0
Lewisham	18,200	6	24	68	2
Merton	8,700	8	21	69	1
Newham	28,300	11	28	58	3
Redbridge	15,400	8	31	57	3
Richmond upon Thames	3,500	9	26	66	-
Southwark	21,100	3	23	73	0
Sutton	6,400	6	25	67	2
Tower Hamlets	25,500	19	30	46	5
Waltham Forest	18,400	13	23	61	3
Wandsworth	12,400	7	25	67	2
Westminster	10,400	6	40	51	3
Inner London	224,200	8	26	64	2
Outer London	248,200	7	26	64	2
Greater London	472,400	8	26	64	2

Source: Department for Work and Pensions 5% sample

Claimants have been allocated to statistical groups to give an indication of the main reason why they are claiming benefit. See page 14 for an explanation of statistical groups.

## Appendix 2 Sampling Errors

Because this dataset consists of 5 per cent samples of claimants, the statistics produced from them are subject to sampling error. The statistics produced, by rating up frequencies obtained from the 5% samples, are estimates of the true population values and, by chance, may be either lower or higher than the true population value.

An indication of the effect of these sampling errors can be gained from the table of confidence intervals below. The true value will most probably lie somewhere in a range around this estimate. The size of this range is usually indicated by a 95% confidence interval, and there is only a 1 in 20 chance that the true value lies outside this range.

<b>Estimated value</b>	<b>95% confidence interval (+ or -)</b>	<b>Confidence interval as % of estimate (+ or -)</b>
1,000	270	0.27
2,000	382	0.19
3,000	468	0.16
4,000	540	0.14
5,000	604	0.12
6,000	662	0.11
7,000	715	0.10
8,000	764	0.10
9,000	811	0.09
10,000	854	0.09
20,000	1,208	0.06
30,000	1,480	0.05
40,000	1,709	0.04
50,000	1,910	0.04
100,000	2,702	0.03
200,000	3,821	0.02
300,000	4,679	0.02
400,000	5,403	0.01
500,000	6,041	0.01
600,000	6,618	0.01
700,000	7,148	0.01
800,000	7,641	0.01
900,000	8,105	0.01
1,000,000	8,543	0.01

This interval is usually symmetric so, for example, an estimate of 10,000 is really showing that the true value probably lies in the range 9,100 to 10,900.

Approximate 95% confidence intervals for a sample based on 1 in every 20 cases in the population are shown in the table for estimates of 1,000 or more.

The above method applies only to estimates of numbers of people and not to other characteristics (such as percentages or averages).

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