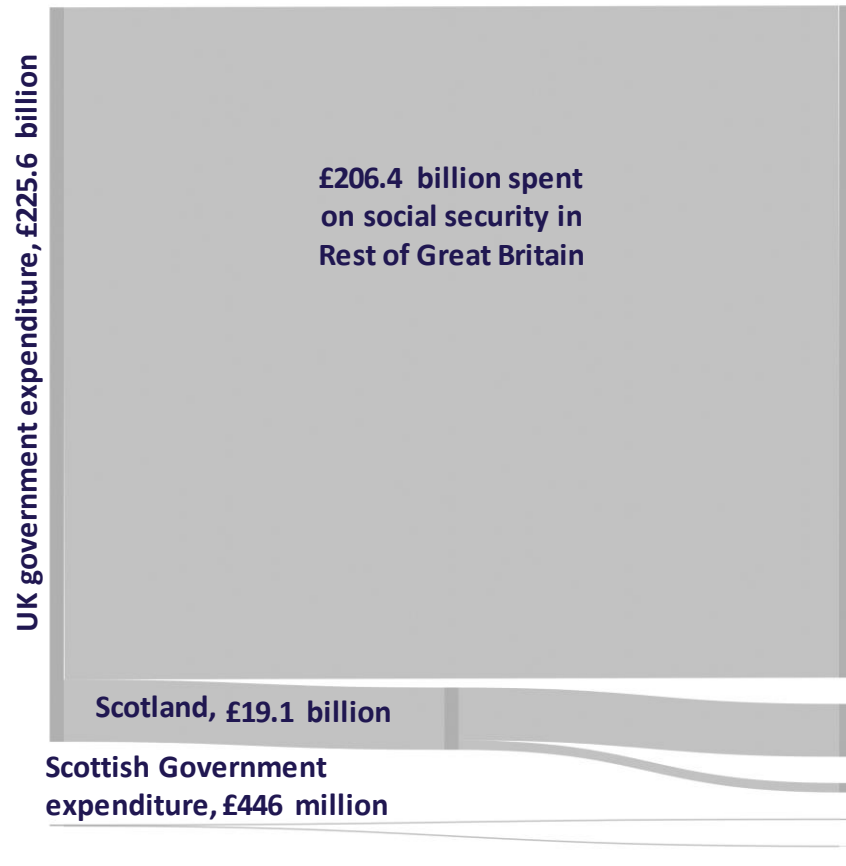


# Social Security for Scotland

Updated September 2021

## EQUALITY, POVERTY AND SOCIAL SECURITY



### Social Security Expenditure in Scotland in 2019/20

In 2019/20, expenditure by UK Government on benefits in Great Britain was **£225.6 billion**. Of this, the estimated amount spent on individuals in Scotland was **£19.1 billion** (8.5%). Of this, around **£16.2 billion** (84.9%) was spent on reserved benefits and **£2.9 billion** (15.1%) was spent on devolved benefits.

In 2019/20 the Scottish Government spent a total of **£446 million** on benefits in Scotland. This included **£347 million** on benefits through Social Security Scotland (Carer's Allowance, Carer's Allowance Supplement, Best Start Grant, Funeral Support Payment and Young Carer Grant), and **£99 million** on benefits administered by local authorities (**£66 million** Discretionary Housing Payments awarded and **£33 million** allocated to the Scottish Welfare Fund).

In total **£19.6 billion** was spent on individuals in Scotland.

Reserved benefits, £16.2 billion	} £19.6 billion spent on social security in Scotland by UK government and Scottish Government
Benefits to be devolved, £2.9 billion	
Social Security Scotland benefits, £347 million	
Localised benefits, £99 million	

# Introduction

This slide pack summarises the current social security system in Scotland and how this will change as benefits are devolved to Scotland under the Scotland Act 2016, and as new benefits and top-ups to reserved benefits are introduced.

## **Background**

Following the Scottish independence referendum in 2014, the **Smith Commission** recommended that the Scottish Parliament be given autonomy to determine the structure and value of a range of powers over disability, as well as the power to make administrative changes to Universal Credit and to vary the housing cost element. It also recommended that Scottish Parliament be given powers to create new benefits in areas of devolved responsibility, and top-up reserved ones. These recommendations were made law by the **Scotland Act 2016**.

The Scottish Government website provides [a summary of the benefits that have been devolved or that remain reserved](#).

Currently, **Social Security Scotland** (an executive agency of the Scottish Government) is administering Carer's Allowance Supplement, Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods, Funeral Support Payment, Young Carer Grant, Job Start Payment, Child Winter Heating Assistance, Scottish Child Payment and Child Disability Payment. The Scottish Government also allocates funding to local authorities to administer Discretionary Housing Payments and the Scottish Welfare Fund.

Sources: [Scottish Government Policies Webpage – Social Security](#)

**For enquiries about this publication please contact:**

Social Security Scotland – Disability Benefit Statistics  
[MI@socialsecurity.gov.scot](mailto:MI@socialsecurity.gov.scot)

**For general enquiries, complaints or suggestions about Scottish Government statistics please contact:**

Office of the Chief Statistician,  
Telephone: 0131 244 0442  
e-mail:  
[statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

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# Social security in Scotland by recipient group

The benefit system currently in place in Scotland is distributed across a number of recipient groups. Benefits that are devolved, localised, new Scottish benefits, and top-ups to reserved benefits are highlighted in **bold** and end in [1]. These are also described in more detail on the [next page](#).

Benefits for people out of work	Benefits for elderly people	Benefits for people who are ill or disabled
<p>Income Support</p> <p>In Work Credit &amp; Return to Work Credit</p> <p>Jobseekers Allowance</p>	<p><b>Winter Fuel Payments [1]</b></p> <p>Financial Assistance Scheme</p> <p>Pension Credit</p> <p>State Pension</p> <p>State Pension Transfers</p> <p>TV Licences</p>	<p><b>Attendance Allowance [1]</b></p> <p><b>Carer's Allowance [1]</b></p> <p><b>Carer's Allowance Supplement [1]</b></p> <p><b>Young Carer Grant [1]</b></p> <p><b>Disability Living Allowance / Child Disability Payment [1]</b></p> <p><b>Personal Independence Payment</b></p> <p><b>Severe Disablement Allowance</b></p> <p>Industrial Injuries benefits Inc. <b>Industrial Injury Disablement Benefit [1]</b></p> <p><b>Child Winter Heating Assistance [1]</b></p> <p>Employment &amp; Support Allowance</p> <p>Incapacity Benefit</p> <p>Specialised Vehicles fund</p> <p>Statutory Sick Pay</p> <p>Vaccine Damage Payments</p>

# Social security in Scotland by recipient group

The benefit system currently in place in Scotland is distributed across a number of recipient groups. Benefits that are devolved, localised, new Scottish benefits, and top-ups to reserved benefits are highlighted in **bold** and end in [1]. These are also described in more detail on the [next page](#).

Benefits for families with children	Benefits for people on low incomes	Other
<p><b>Child Benefit</b></p> <p><b>Child Tax Credit</b></p> <p><b>Guardians Allowance</b></p> <p><b>Maternity Allowance</b></p> <p><b>Statutory Maternity Pay</b></p>	<p><b>Discretionary Housing Payments [1]</b></p> <p><b>Scottish Welfare Fund [1]</b></p> <p><b>Cold Weather Payments [1]</b></p> <p><b>Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods [1]</b></p> <p><b>Funeral Support Payment [1]</b></p> <p><b>Scottish Child Payment [1]</b></p> <p><b>Job Start Payment [1]</b></p> <p>New Deal &amp; Employment Programme Allowances</p> <p>New Enterprise Allowance</p> <p>Working Tax Credit</p> <p>Housing Benefit</p>	<p>Universal Credit, including <b>Universal Credit Scottish Choices [1]</b></p> <p>Bereavement Benefits</p> <p>Christmas Bonus</p> <p>Other small benefits</p>

# Social security in Scotland - benefits with published data

For carers, disabled people & those who are ill

Benefits*	Primary purpose of current benefit and devolved status.	Devolved/delivered status
<a href="#">Attendance allowance</a>	To help with personal care for individuals aged 65 or over with a physical or mental disability.	To be replaced with Pension Age Disability Payment
<a href="#">Carer's Allowance</a>	To help an individual look after someone with substantial caring needs. To be eligible the individual must be 16 or over and spend at least 35 hours a week caring for them.	<b>Devolved September 2018 and currently administrated by DWP</b> – to be replaced with Scottish Carer's Assistance.
<a href="#">Carer's Allowance Supplement</a>	Carer's Allowance Supplement is an extra payment to increase the level of Carer's Allowance to that of Jobseeker's Allowance. First payments were made in September 2018.	<b>Introduced by Social Security Scotland from September 2018.</b>
<a href="#">Young Carer Grant</a>	Yearly payment for young people aged 16 to 18 who care for someone 16 hours or more each week.	<b>Introduced by Social Security Scotland from October 2019.</b>
<a href="#">Disability Living Allowance/ Personal Independence Payment</a>	Help if your disability or health condition means one or both of the following are true: You need help looking after yourself or you have walking difficulties. Personal Independence Payment replaced working-aged Disability Living Allowance.	<b>Child Disability Payment pilot from 26 July 2021.</b> Child Disability Payment national launch 22 November 2021. Personal Independence Payment to be replaced by Adult Disability Payment.
<a href="#">Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit</a>	For individuals who are ill or disabled as a result of an accident or disease caused by work or while you were on an approved employment training scheme or course.	Delivered by DWP using agency agreement April 2020.
<a href="#">Severe Disablement Allowance</a>	For working age individuals who are unable to work due to illness or disability. Closed to new entrants.	Delivered by DWP using agency agreement April 2020.
<a href="#">Child Winter Heating Assistance</a>	For children and young people under 18 who get the highest rate of the care component of Disability Living Allowance for children	<b>Introduced by Social Security Scotland in November 2021.</b>

\*Benefits are summarised in the slide pack where there is available published data. Therefore, the slide pack does not yet include information on new benefits.

Sources: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk), [www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/](http://www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/), <https://www.gov.scot/news/1>, <https://www.gov.scot/news/2>, <https://www.gov.scot/news/3>

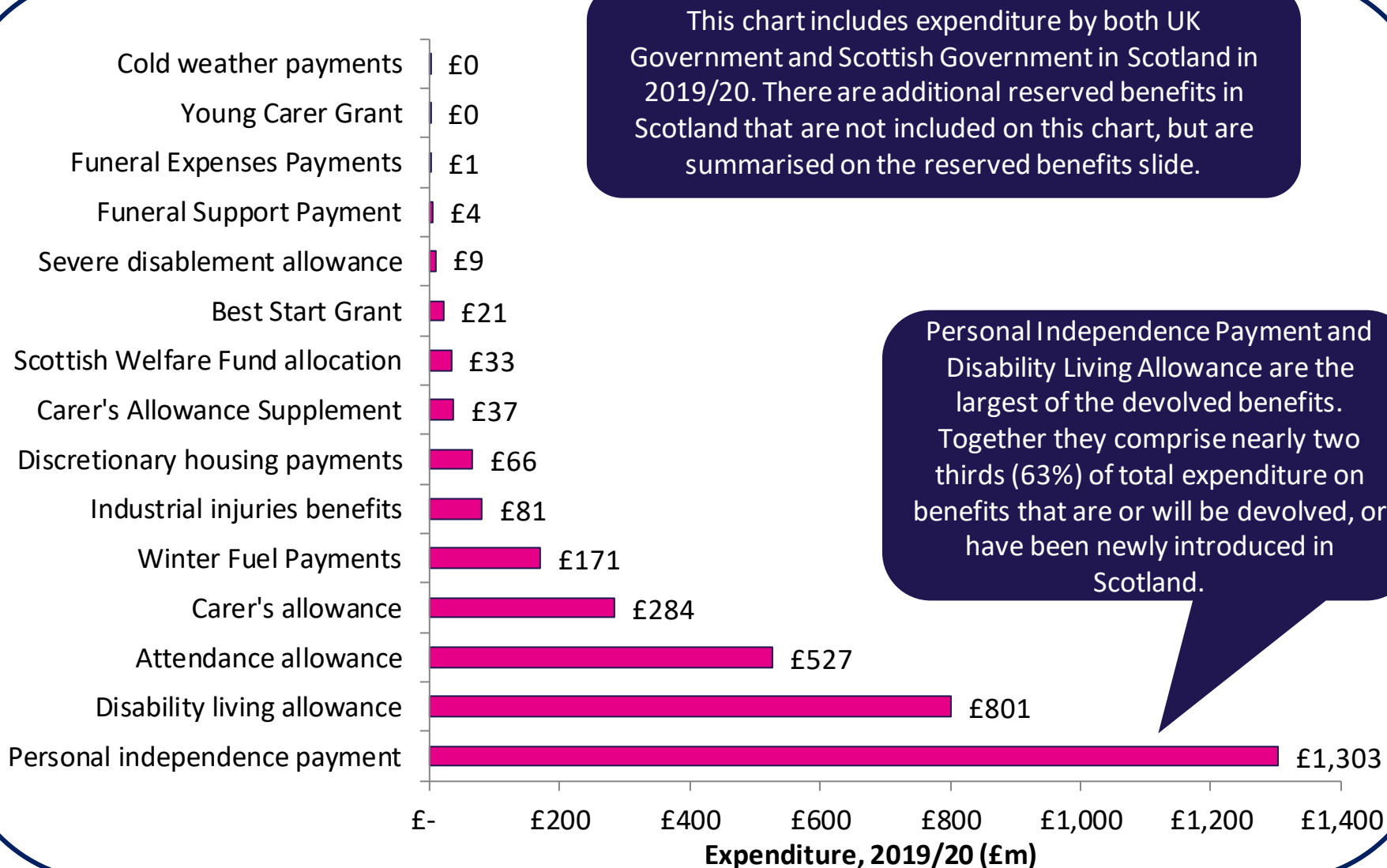
# Social security in Scotland - benefits with published data

	Benefits*	Primary purpose of current benefit and devolved status.	Devolved/delivered status
Low income benefits	<a href="#">Cold Weather Payments</a>	A payment for individuals on certain benefits when the temperature is either recorded as, or forecast to be, an average of zero Degree Celsius or below over seven consecutive days.	To be replaced with Cold Spell Heating Assistance.
	<a href="#">Best Start Grant</a>	Provides lower-income families with financial support during the key early years of a child's life. Pregnancy and Baby, Early Learning and School Age payments are all available.	<b>Delivered by Social Security Scotland since December 2018.</b>
	<a href="#">Funeral Support Payment</a>	For individuals on low income and needing help to pay for a funeral they are arranging.	<b>Delivered by Social Security Scotland since September 2019.</b>
	<a href="#">Job Start Payment</a>	To help young people with the costs associated with the transition into employment, after a period of time out of paid work	<b>Introduced by Social Security Scotland from August 2020.</b>
	<a href="#">Scottish Child Payment</a>	For low-income families with children under six, to help towards the costs of supporting a family.	<b>Applications from November 2020, first payments by end April 2021.</b>
Localised	<a href="#">Discretionary Housing Payments</a>	To help for those in receipt of Housing Benefit and having difficulty meeting their rent payments. Paid at the discretion of the local authority. Also used to mitigate against the bedroom tax in Scotland.	<b>Devolved April 2017.</b>
	<a href="#">Scottish Welfare Fund</a>	Crisis Grants provide a safety net in a disaster or emergency. Community Care Grants enable people to live independently, preventing the need for institutional care.	<b>Localised April 2013.</b>
Other	<a href="#">Winter Fuel Payment</a>	A tax-free payment to help pay for heating bills if you were born on or before 5 July 1952 (current state pension age for women).	To be replaced with Winter Heating Assistance.
	<a href="#">Universal Credit (Scottish Choices)</a>	Universal Credit (Scottish Choices) give recipients of Universal Credit in Scotland a choice to have their award paid either monthly or twice monthly, and have the housing costs in their award of Universal Credit paid direct to their landlord.	<b>Delivered by DWP on behalf of Scottish Government since October 2017</b>
	<a href="#">Reserved Benefits</a>	Benefits that remain reserved to the UK government (e.g. Universal Credit, State Pension). Statistics are available from the <a href="#">Department of Work and Pensions</a> (DWP), and via <a href="#">StatXplore</a> and <a href="#">Nomis</a> .	

\*Benefits are summarised in the slide pack where there is available published data. Therefore, the slide pack does not yet include information on new benefits.

Sources: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk), [www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/](http://www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/), <https://www.gov.scot/news/1>, <https://www.gov.scot/news/2>, <https://www.gov.scot/news/3>

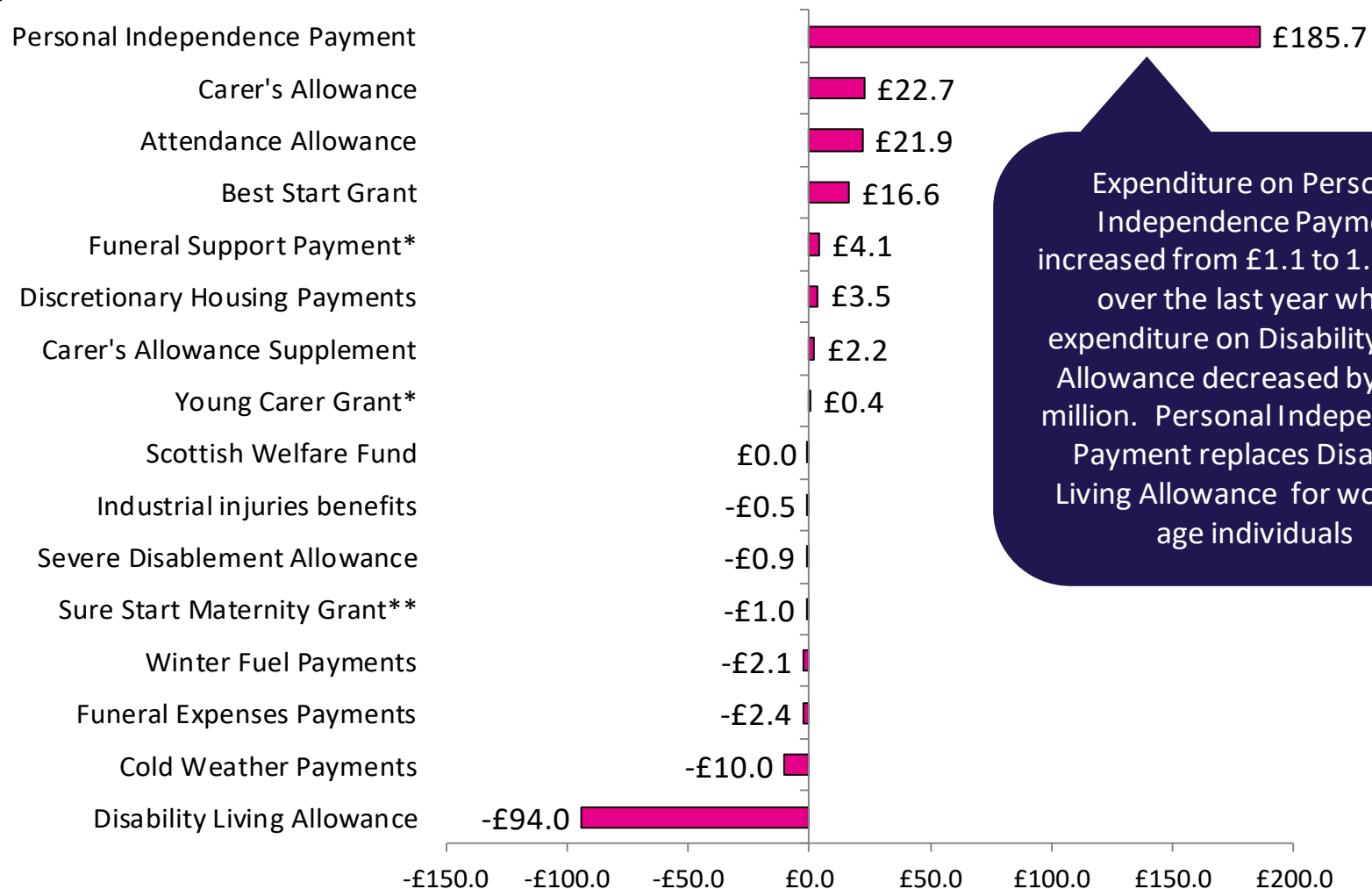
# Expenditure in Scotland on devolved and new benefits – 2019/20



Funeral Expenses Payment was replaced with Funeral Support Payment in September 2019, and expenditure on Funeral Expenses Payment is an estimate based on a proportion of 2019/20 spend at GB level. Source: DWP benefit expenditure by region from 1996/97 to 2019/20, DWP Outturn and Forecast: Autumn Budget 2020, NRS Mid-Year Population estimates. Industrial Injuries benefits includes IIDB - a further breakdown is unavailable. Additional expenditure on individuals in Scotland is summarised on the 'Reserved benefits and UC Scottish choices' slide.



# Change in expenditure in Scotland between 2018/19 & 2019/20



Expenditure on Personal Independence Payment increased from £1.1 to 1.3 billion over the last year whilst expenditure on Disability Living Allowance decreased by £194 million. Personal Independence Payment replaces Disability Living Allowance for working-age individuals

**Nominal Change in Benefit Expenditure (£m) between 2018/19 and 2019/20**

\*New benefits in 2019/20, no expenditure on these in 2018/19. \*\*Sure Start Maternity Grant was completely replaced by Best Start Grant during 2019/20. Source: DWP benefit expenditure by region from 1996/97 to 2019/20 and in DWP Outturn and Forecast: Autumn Budget 2020. Industrial Injuries benefits includes IIDB. A further breakdown is unavailable. Funeral Expenses Payment was replaced with Funeral Support Payment in September 2019, and expenditure on Funeral Expenses Payment is an estimate based on a proportion of 2019/20 spend at GB level.

# Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods – May 2021

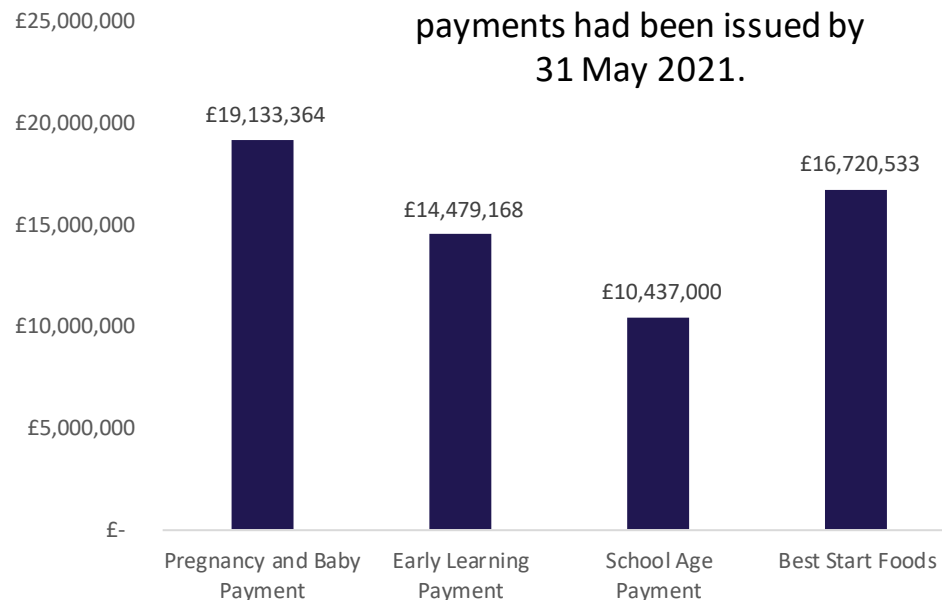
Best Start Grant (BSG) includes three types of payment: Pregnancy and Baby Payment (applications taken from 10 December 2018, replacing Sure Start Maternity Grant), Early Learning Payment (29 April 2019) and School Age Payment (3 June 2019). Best Start Foods (BSF) replaced Healthy Start Vouchers for new claims from 12 August 2019.

In 2020/21, **£29.5 million** was paid to clients in total, including **£6.9 million** for Pregnancy and Baby Payment, **£5.4 million** for Early Learning Payment, **£5.7 million** for School Age Payment and **£11.4 million** for Best Start Foods.

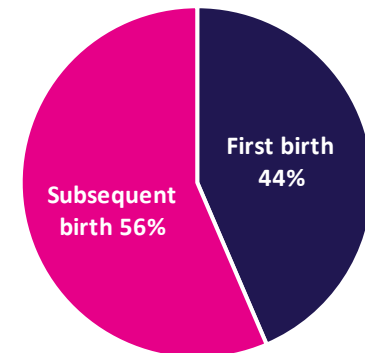
From 10 December 2018 to 31 May 2021, **276,250** applications were received, **268,375** applications had been processed and **179,575** (67% of processed applications) had been authorised for payment.

Of these authorised applications **46,660** included Pregnancy and Baby Payment, **54,995** included Early Learning Payment, **40,070** included School Age Payment and **85,490** included a Best Start Foods Payments.

**£60.8 million** of BSG and BSF payments had been issued by 31 May 2021.



56% of BSG Pregnancy and Baby applications made were for subsequent births.



# Young Carer Grant – July 2021

Young Carer Grant (YCG) is a cash payment for young carers providing 16 hours or more of care a week to someone in receipt of a qualifying disability benefit. Applications have been taken by Social Security Scotland since 21 October 2019.

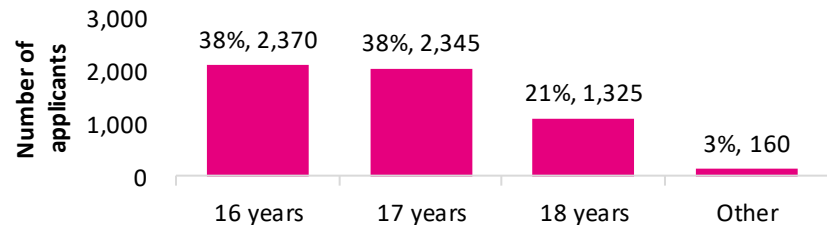
The Young Carer Grant payment is a flat rate, currently £308.15, which can be applied for once a year. The payment is in acknowledgement of the young person's carer role and is intended to help them access life opportunities that are the norm for many other young people. Young carers can spend this money as they choose.

From 21 October 2019 to 31 July 2021, Social Security Scotland has received **6,205** applications for Young Carer Grant.

...of these **5,895** had been processed by 31 July 2021 and **4,190 (71%)** authorised.

In total around £695,000 payments were issued in 2020/21, with the total value of payments issued since launch at **£1.25 million by July 2021**

Applicants must be 16, 17, or 18 years of age at the time of applying. **2,370** applications (**38%**) were received from applicants aged 16 years, **2,345** applications (**38%**) from applicants aged 17 years and **1,325** applications (**21%**) from applicants aged 18 years. An additional **3%** of applications came from other age groups.



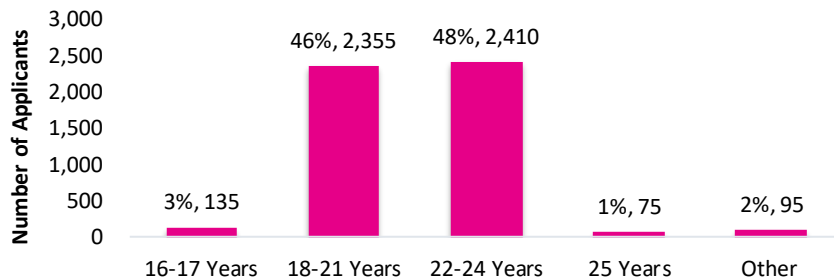
Around **99%** of all applications received were for applicants **caring for one person**. Less than 1% of applications were for applicants **caring for two people**.

# Job Start Payment – June 2021

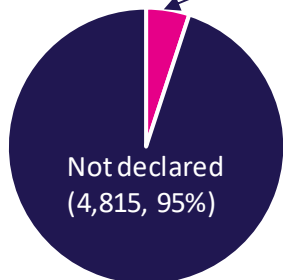
Job Start Payment (JSP) is a payment to help young people in Scotland with the costs associated with the transition into employment, after a period of time out of paid work. Applications have been taken by Social Security Scotland since 17 August 2020.

The payment is a currently one-off cash sum of either £252.50 for those who do not have responsibility for a child or a higher amount of £404 for those who do. The upper age is extended to 25 if the young person is a care leaver.

From 17 August 2020 to 30 June 2021, **5,070** applications were received for Job Start Payment. Approximately 94% applicants were aged 18 to 24.



Care leaver (255, 5%)



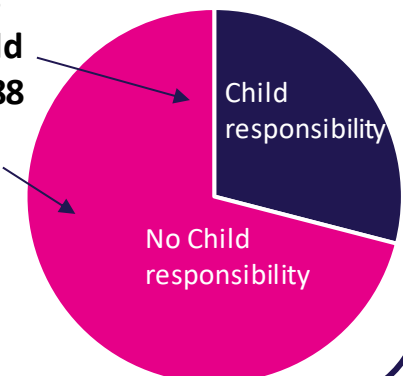
Around **5%** of applications received included evidence that the applicant was a care leaver.

The remaining **95%** of applications were from applicants who did not provide evidence of being a care leaver.

In total, **4,350** applications were processed by 30 June 2021. Of the processed applications, 41% were authorised, 57% were denied, and 2% were withdrawn.

The total value of payments issued from launch to June 2021 was £473,852. Of these payments, **£137,564** were for clients with a child responsibility and **£336,288** were for clients without a child responsibility.

**£277,450** was issued in 2020/21, and **£196,402** so far in 2021/22.



# Funeral Support Payment – June 2021

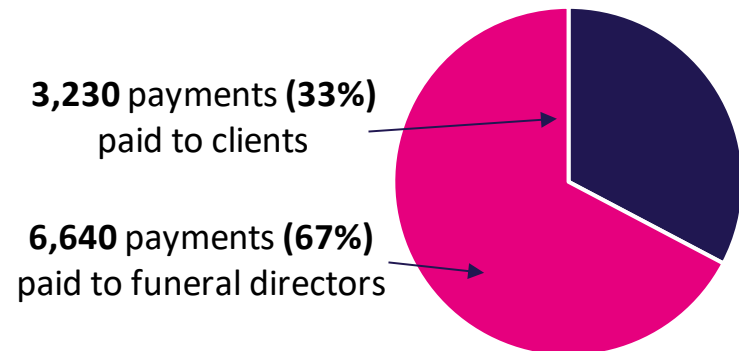
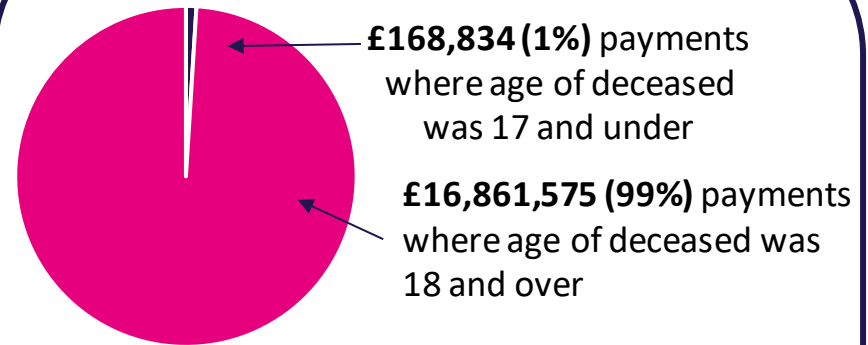
Funeral Support Payment (FSP) is a cash payment to help towards the costs of a funeral. Applications have been taken by Social Security Scotland since 16 September 2019. This replaced the Funeral Expenses Payment (FEP), which DWP ceased to deliver in Scotland on the same day.

£34 million was spent on Funeral Expenses Payment in 2019/20 at GB level. Based on this we have used an estimate of **around £1 million** for expenditure in Scotland in 2019/20 from April to August 2019. From September 2019 to March 2020, total value of Funeral Support Payments paid to clients by Social Security Scotland was **around £3.5 million**. **£11.0 million** was paid to clients in 2020/21.

From 16 September 2019 to 30 June 2021, Social Security Scotland received **14,700** applications for Funeral Support Payment.

...of these **14,075** had been processed by 30 June 2021 and **10,860 (77%)** authorised.

**9,865** payments had been issued, totalling **£17.0 million**. The average payment was around £1,505 in 2019/20, £1,791 in 2020/21, and £1,804 so far in 2021/22.

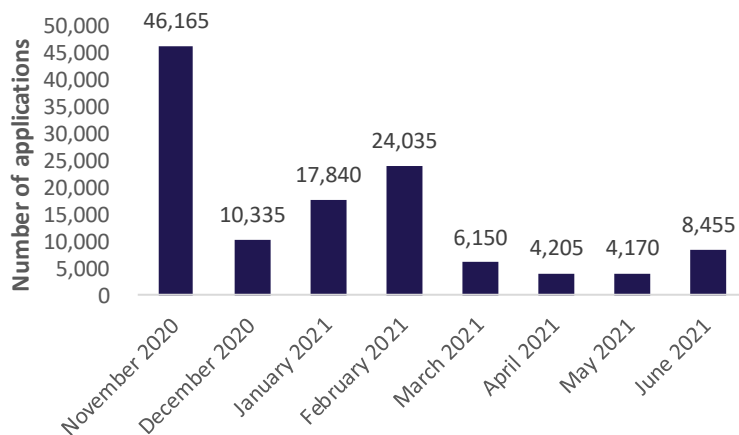


# Scottish Child Payment – June 2021

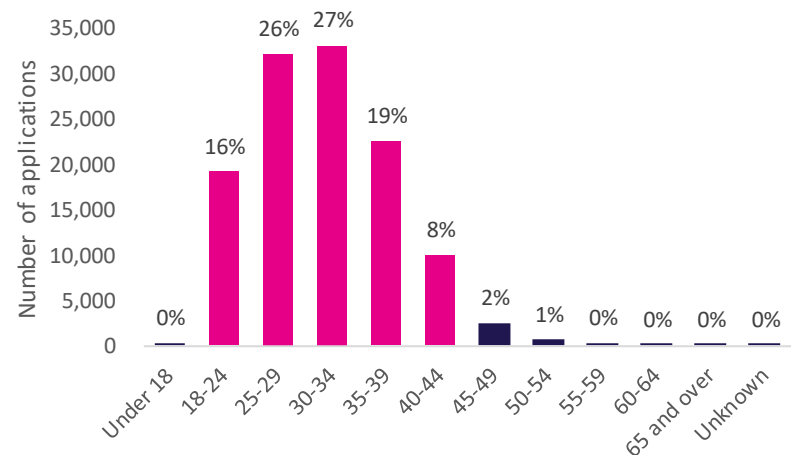
Scottish Child Payment (SCP) is a weekly payment of £10 that people can get for every child they look after under 6 years of age. It is intended to provide regular, additional financial support for families already in receipt of qualifying benefits to assist with the costs of caring for a child.

In 2020/21 around **£14.0 million of payments** were issued. In total since launch, £17.5 million had been issued by 30 June 2021.

From 9 November 2020 to 30 June 2021, **121,360 applications** were received for Scottish Child Payment. Clients were able to apply from 9 November 2020, in advance of the benefit being launched. In November 2020, 46,140 applications were received, representing **38%** of the total applications received to date.



Around **96%** of applications were made by people aged **18 to 44** by end of June 2021. **Less than 1%** of applications were made by people **under 18** and **3%** by people aged **45 or over**. Less than 1% of applications received were made by applicants who had not provided information relating to their age.



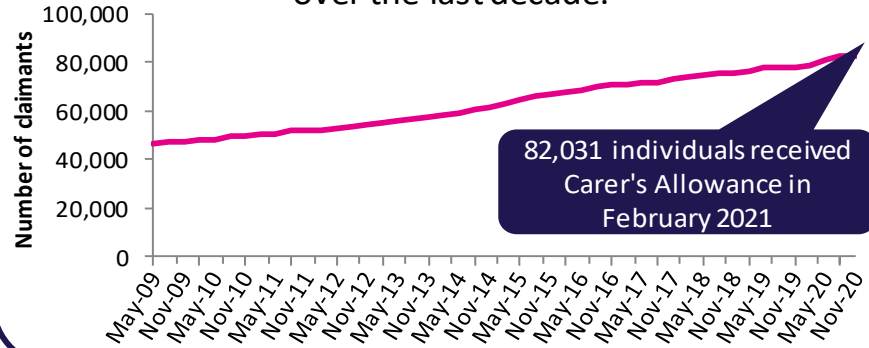
In total, **115,710 applications** were processed by 30 June 2021. Of the processed applications, 89% were authorised, 9% were denied, and 2% were withdrawn. To date **83,455 clients** have received at least one payment, benefitting **108,075 children**. At 30 June 2021, **105,000 children** were in receipt.

# Carer's Allowance (February 2021) & Carer's Allowance Supplement (April 2021)

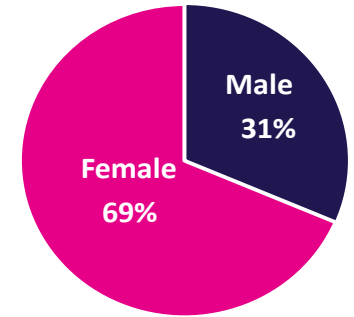
Carer's Allowance (CA) is provided to help an individual look after someone with substantial caring needs. Must be 16 or over and spend at least 35 hours a week providing care. Devolved in September 2018. Carer's Allowance Supplement (CAS) was introduced in September 2018, and is paid twice a year to carers eligible on eligibility dates in April and October.

In 2019/20 **£284** million was spent on Carer's Allowance in Scotland, with an additional **£37** million on Carer's Allowance Supplement.

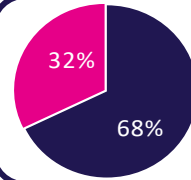
Carer's Allowance caseload has been increasing steadily over the last decade.



Gender split

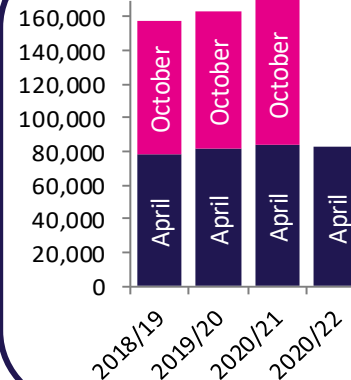
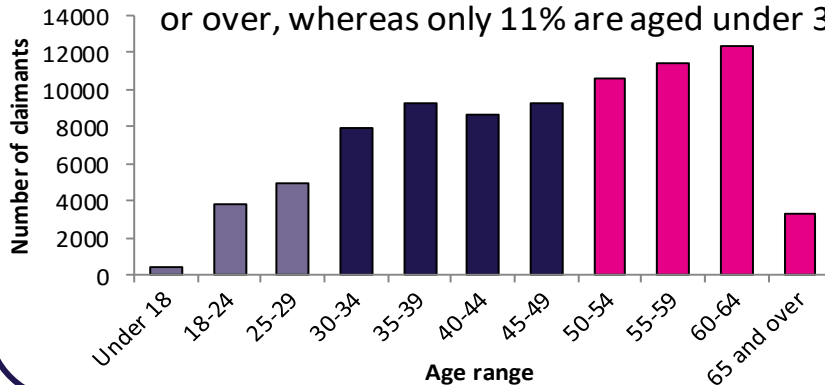


Over two thirds (**72%**) of claimants have been receiving Carer's Allowance for over 2 years, with **41%** receiving it for 5 years and over.



**32% of Carer's allowance claimants are entitled but do not receive a payment.** This is because they are also in receipt of another benefit, such as State Pension, which provide a higher level of income.

46% of Carer's Allowance claimants are aged 50 or over, whereas only 11% are aged under 30.

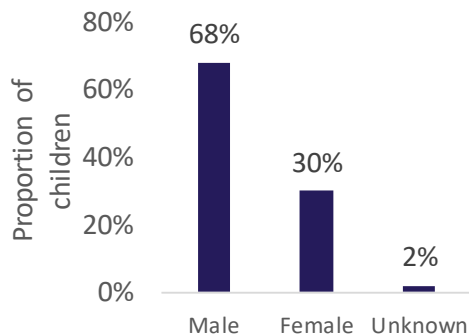


Since launching in September 2018, **574,020** Carer's Allowance Supplement payments totalling **£149.4 million** have been made to **119,945** carers. Carers receiving a payment for the April 2020 eligibility date received a one-off Coronavirus Carer's Allowance Supplement (£230.10) in addition to standard Carer's Allowance Supplement (£230.10).

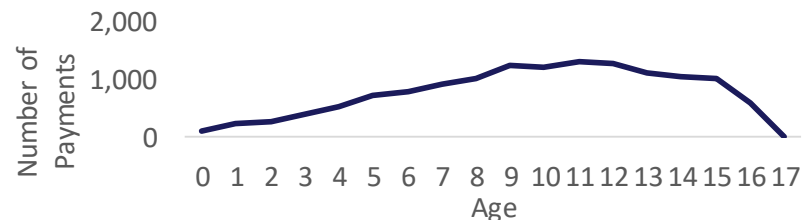
# Child Winter Heating Assistance - winter 2020/21

Child Winter Heating Assistance is an automatic payment for children and young people under 18 who get the highest rate of the care component of Disability Living Allowance for children. Child Winter Heating Assistance was introduced in November 2020 by Social Security Scotland.

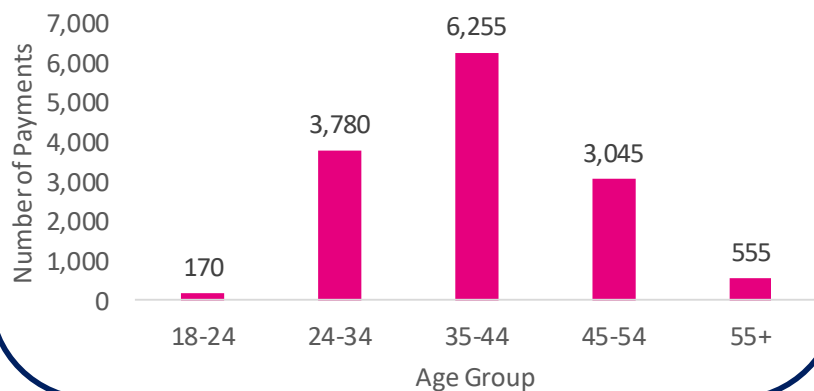
Just over **two thirds of children or young people in receipt were male** (9,495, 68%) and under a third were female (4,190, 30%).



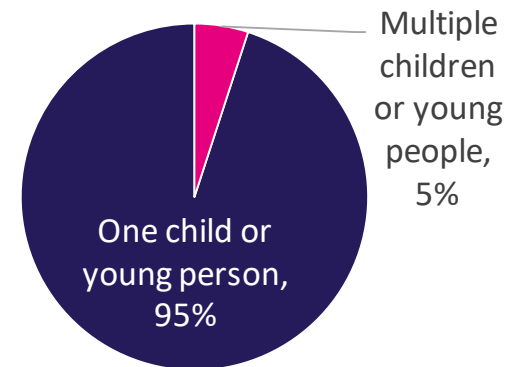
**Children and young people in receipt were aged 0 to 17. Around 4% were aged 16 or 17** - these are young people that have stayed in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, rather than being invited to apply for Personal Independence Payment.



Around **45% of recipients were aged 35-44**, with **93% aged 24-54**. This is as expected given that many recipients will be parents or guardians of children aged 8 to 15.



**Payments were received by at least 13,175 different recipients** such as parents, guardians or appointees. Of these, **690 (5%) received more than one payment**.



Official statistics covering from November 2020 to 17 March 2021 show that **14,015 Child Winter Heating Assistance payments** were made in winter 2020/2021, with a **total value of £2.8 million**.

Source: Child Winter Heating Assistance statistics: winter 2020/21. Sex information is based on data from DWP and may not be totally consistent with Social Security Scotland data. Figures may not sum due to rounding. Recipients could include young people aged 16 or 17 who manage their own money, parents, guardians and appointees ('personal acting bodies' or 'corporate acting bodies'). There were an additional 115 payments made where the identifier for the recipient (e.g. parent, guardian, appointee) was missing. It is not possible to determine whether or not these were an additional 115 different individuals.

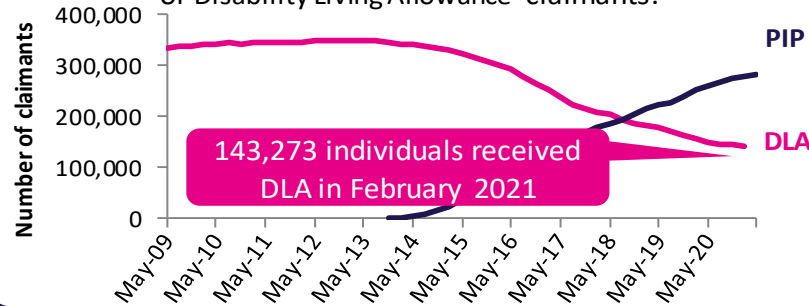


# Disability Living Allowance – February 2021

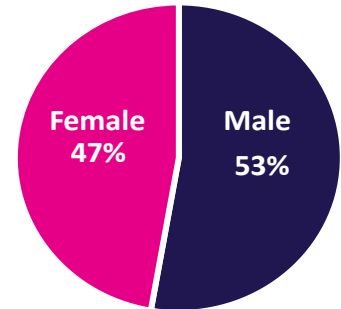
Provides help if health or a disability means a person needs help looking after themselves, or if they have difficulty walking. Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is being replaced by Personal Independence Payment for working age people.

In 2019/20, £801m was spent on Disability Living allowance in Scotland, 11% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

Disability Living Allowance caseload is falling as a result of the introduction of Personal Independence Payment in 2013. The number of Personal Independence Payment claimants now exceeds the number of Disability Living Allowance claimants.

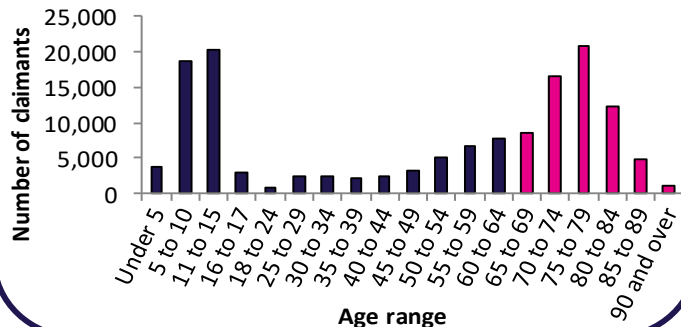


Gender split

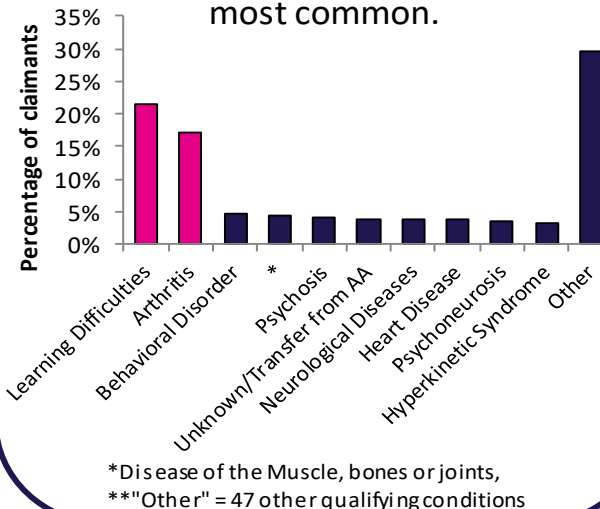


The majority (81%) of claimants have been receiving Disability Living Allowance for over 5 years, with 11% receiving it for between 2 to 5 years.

45% of claimants are aged 65 or over. Claimant numbers drop at age 16 as claimants apply for Personal Independence Payment at this age.



There is a wide range of main disabling conditions with **learning difficulties and arthritis** being the most common.



72% of claimants are in receipt of both the Mobility and Care elements.

		Mobility Rate		
		Higher	Lower	Nil
Care Award Rate	Highest	17%	9%	3%
	Middle	13%	20%	8%
	Lowest	9%	5%	5%
	Nil	10%	2%	0%

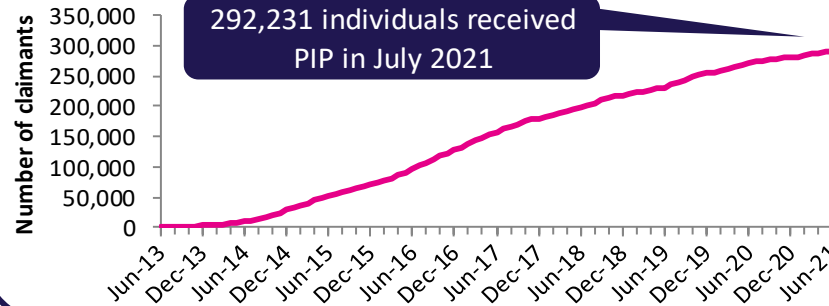
Sources: Stat-Xplore, DWP Outturn and Forecast: Autumn Budget 2020, DWP benefit expenditure by Region 1996/97 to 2019/20. Note: caseload data relates to cases in payment.

# Personal Independence Payment – July 2021

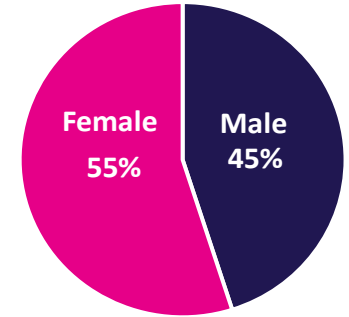
Personal Independence Payment helps with some of the extra costs caused by long-term ill-health or disability for individuals aged 16 to 64. It is also replacing Disability Living Allowance for working age individuals.

In 2019/20, £1303m was spent on Personal Independence Payment in Scotland, 10% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

Introduced to Scotland in June 2013. PIP caseload increases as DLA claimants are reassessed onto PIP.



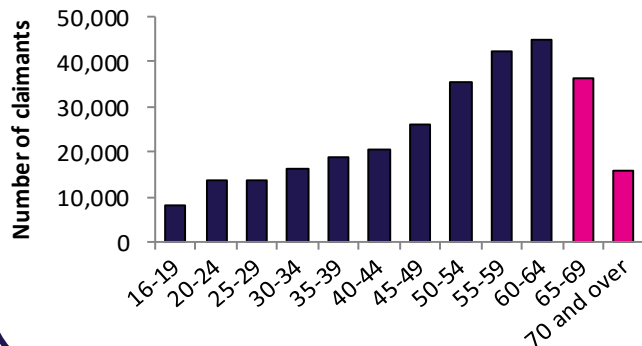
Gender split



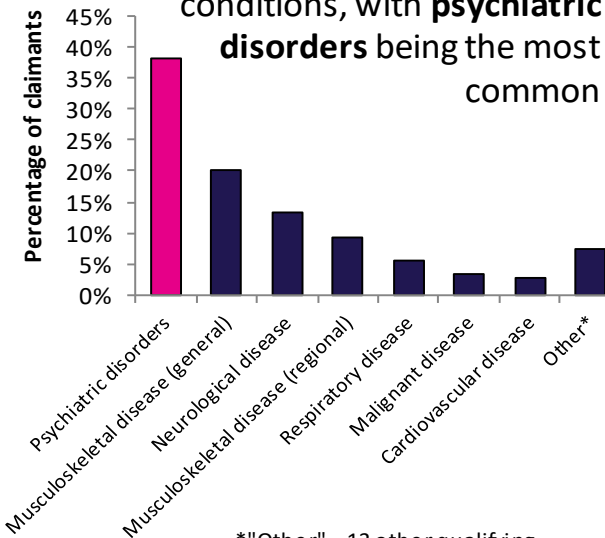
46% of current PIP claimants have been re-assessed from DLA.

1% of current PIP claimants are classed as being terminally ill.

18% of all claimants are aged 65 and over, a much smaller proportion than for DLA



Wide range of main disabling conditions, with **psychiatric disorders** being the most common



\*\*"Other" = 13 other qualifying conditions plus other or unknown

70% of claimants are in receipt of both the mobility and daily living elements.

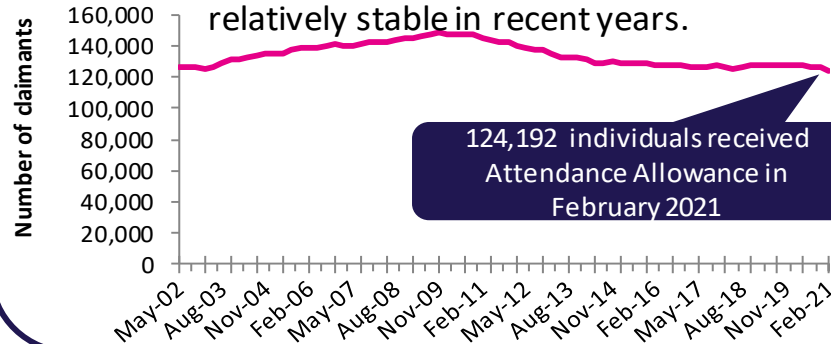
		Mobility Award Rate		
		Enhanced	Standard	Nil
Daily Living Award	Enhanced	32%	10%	6%
	Standard	10%	17%	21%
	Nil	1%	2%	0%

# Attendance Allowance – February 2021

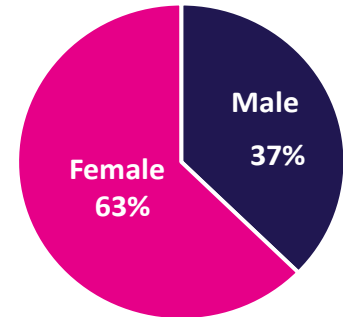
Attendance Allowance (AA) provides help with personal care for individuals aged 65 or over with a physical or mental disability.

In 2019/20, £527m was spent on Attendance Allowance in Scotland, 9% of the GB total which is slightly more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

Attendance Allowance caseload peaked in November 2009 with 147,990 claimants. Caseload has been relatively stable in recent years.



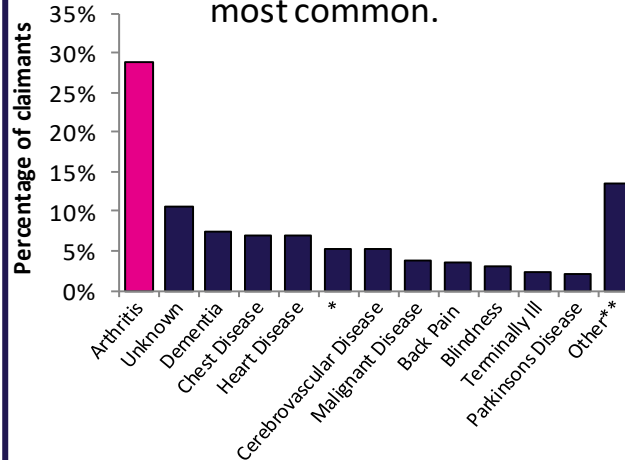
Gender split



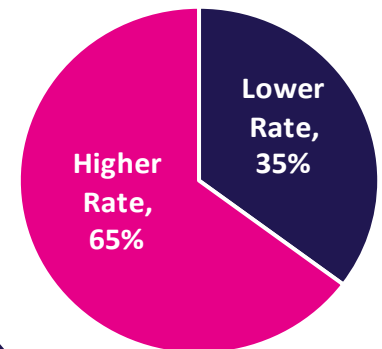
**41%** of claimants have been receiving Attendance Allowance for over 5 years, and **31%** have been receiving it for between 2 to 5 years.



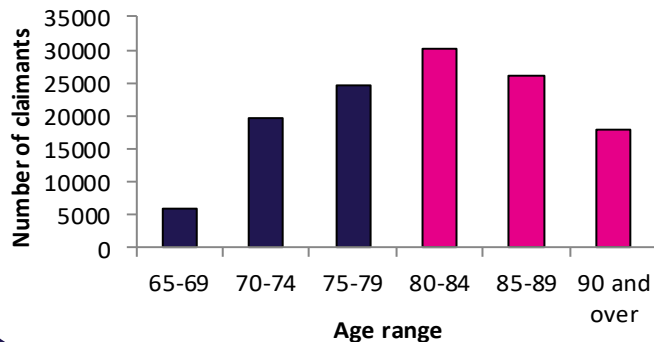
Wide range of main disabling conditions, with arthritis being the most common.



**65%** of claimants receive the higher rate of care, meaning they require both day and night care or are terminally ill.



60% of all claimants are aged 80 or over.



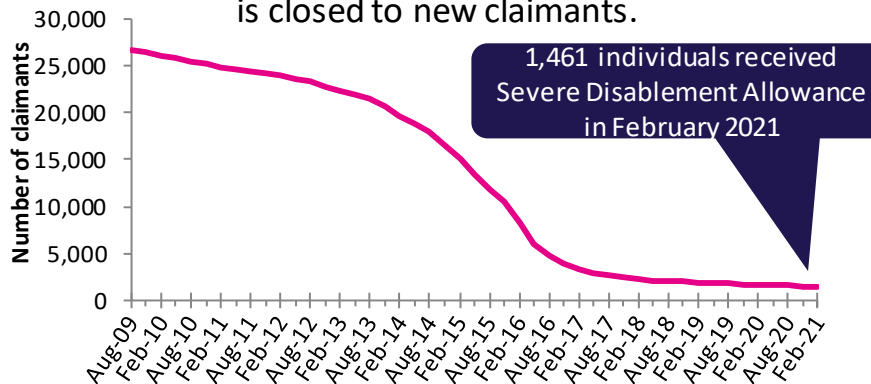
\*Disease of the Muscle, bones or joints  
\*\* "Other" = 45 other qualifying conditions

# Severe Disablement Allowance – February 2021

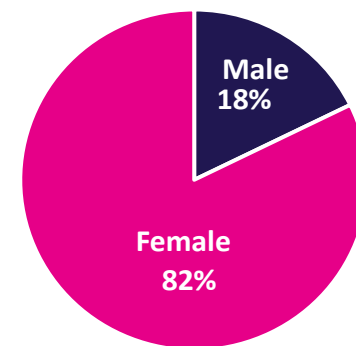
Severe Disablement Allowance is for working age individuals who are unable to work due to illness or disability. It was closed to new entrants and the provision replaced by Incapacity Benefit in April 2001, which is now replaced by Employment and Support Allowance.

In 2019/20, £9m was spent on Severe Disablement Allowance in Scotland, 10% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

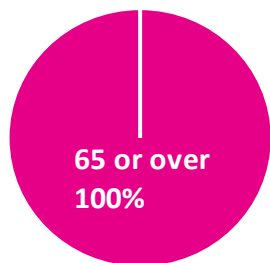
Severe Disablement Allowance caseload is falling as it is closed to new claimants.



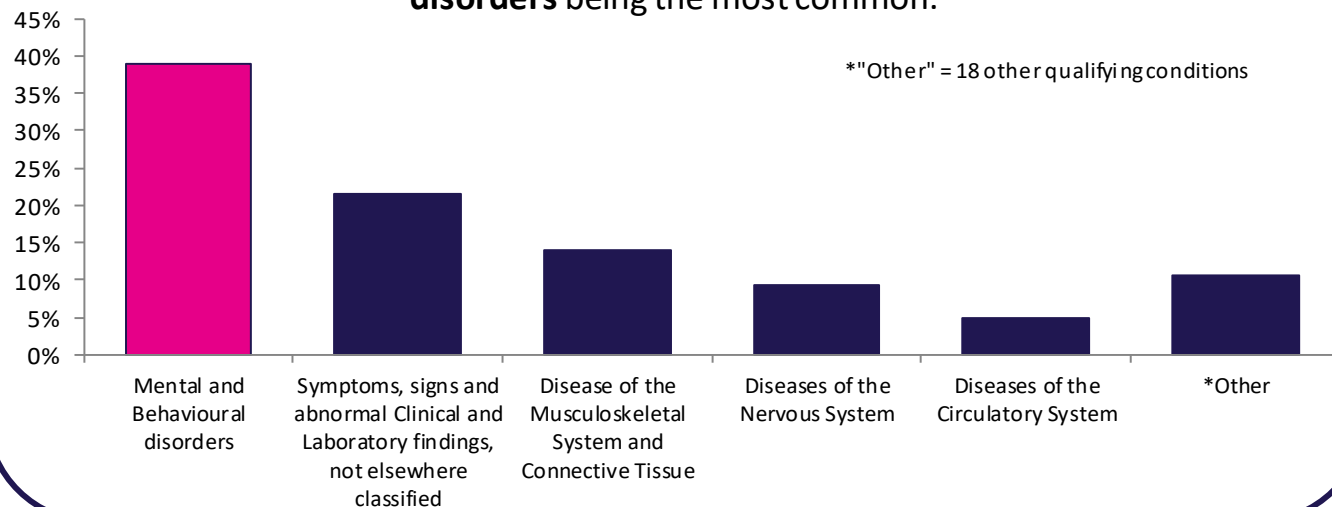
Gender split



Just under 100% of claimants are now aged 65 or over. This is because the benefit has been closed to new claimants since 2001.



There are a wide range of causes of incapacity with **mental and behavioural disorders** being the most common.

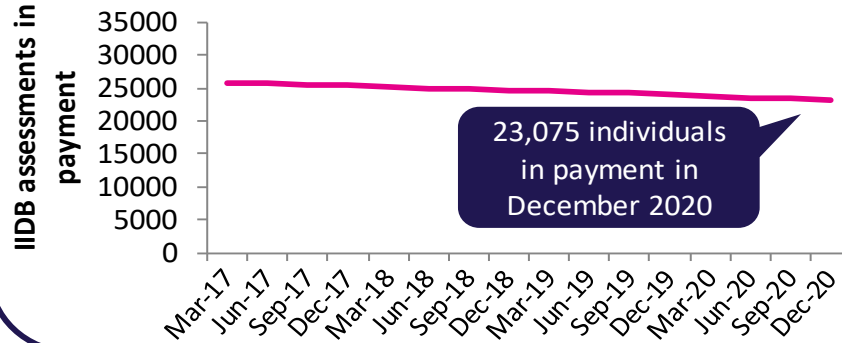


# Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit – December 2020

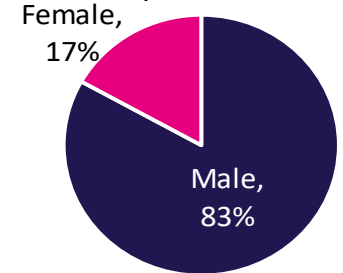
For those who are ill or disabled as a result of an accident or disease caused by work or while they were on an approved employment training scheme or course.

In 2019/20, £81m was spent on Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit in Scotland, 10% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

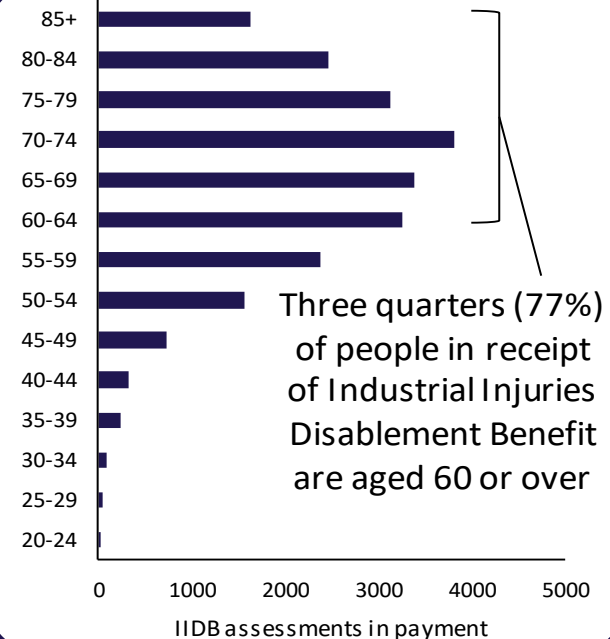
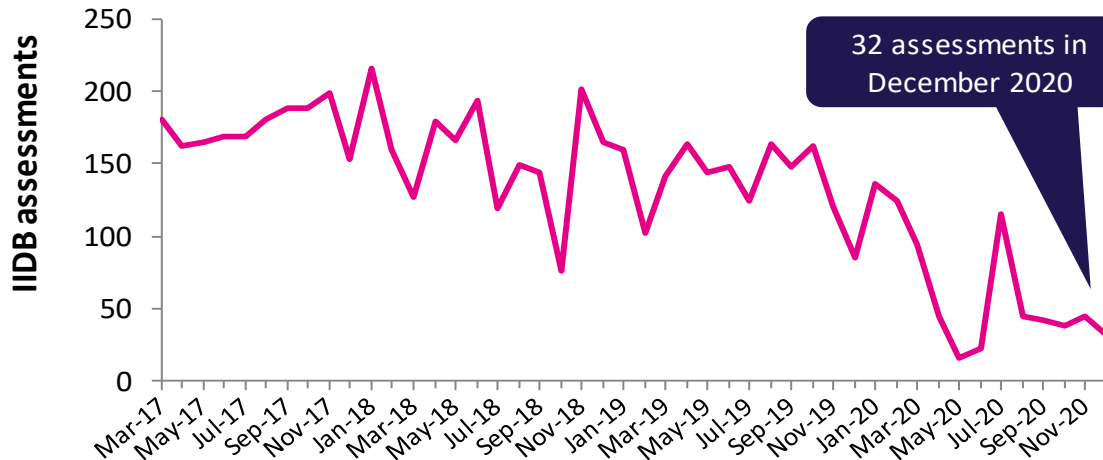
Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit assessments in payment have been slowly decreasing.



Gender Split of assessments in payment in latest quarter



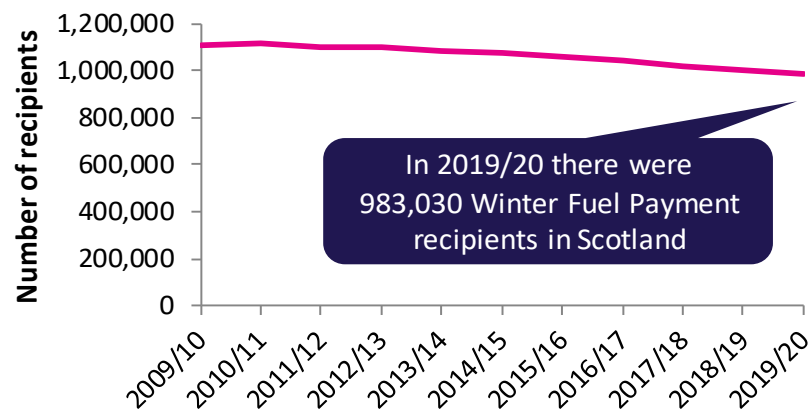
The number of new assessments each month is decreasing overall, but varies month to month due to small numbers of people.



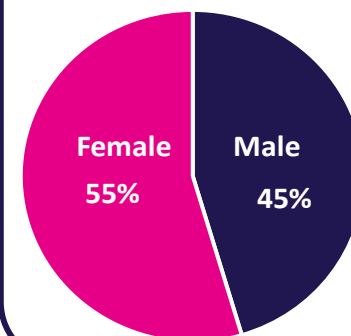
# Winter Fuel Payment in Scotland – 2019/20

Tax-free payment to help with heating bills. For those born on or before 5 July 1952 (current State Pension Age for women). Must be UK resident during a specified week in September of that year.

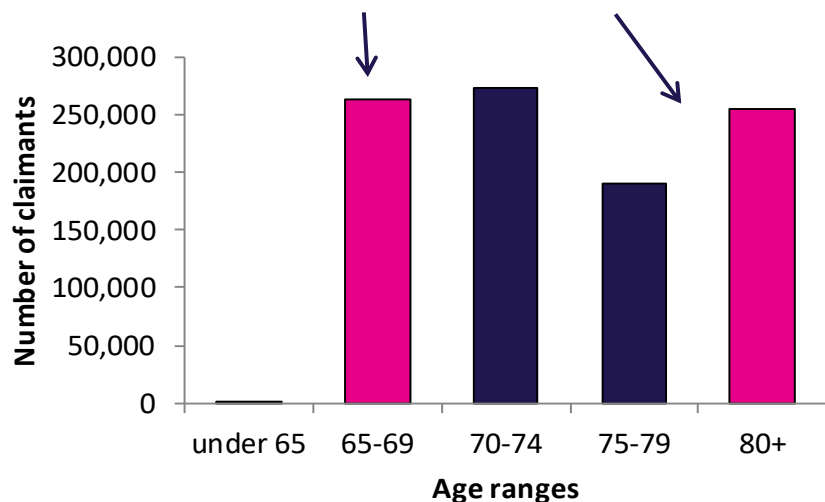
In 2019/20, £171m was spent on Winter Fuel Payment in Scotland, 9% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).



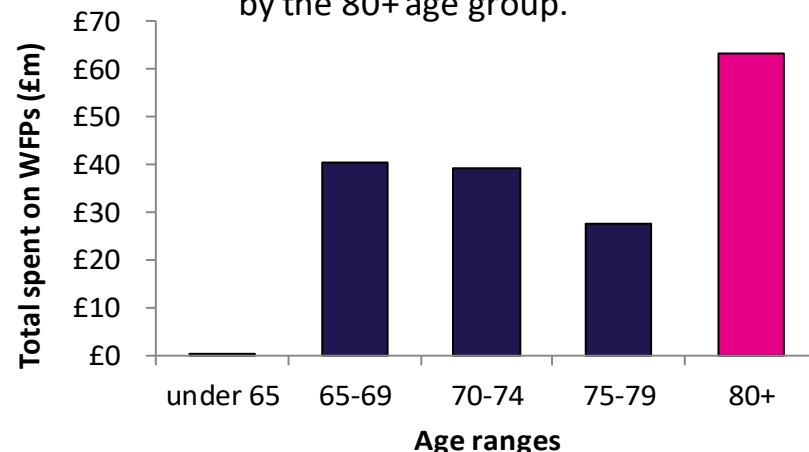
## Gender split



27% of claimants are aged 65-69, and a 26% are over 80.



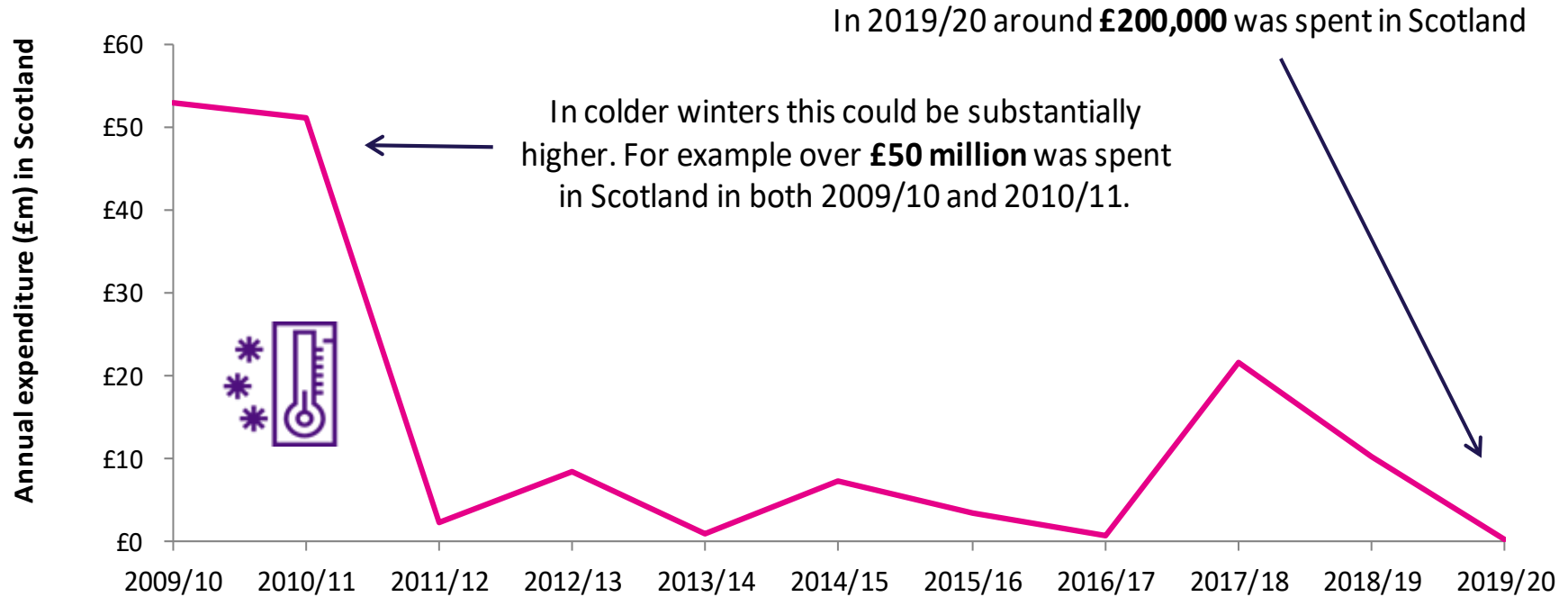
Winter Fuel Payments depend on age and circumstances. Older people receive higher payments on average, so the greatest amount in total is received by the 80+ age group.



# Cold Weather Payments - 2019/20

Cold Weather Payments are for those receiving certain benefits, for when the temperature is either recorded as, or forecast to be, an average of 0°C or below over 7 consecutive days. Cold Weather Payments are the last part of the Regulated Social Fund that has not been replaced in Scotland. The Regulated Social Fund also used to include Funeral Expenses Payment (replaced in Scotland by Funeral Support Payment) and Sure Start Maternity Grant (replaced in Scotland by Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Payment).

Expenditure on Cold Weather Payments is variable year to year...



# Discretionary Housing Payments – March 2021

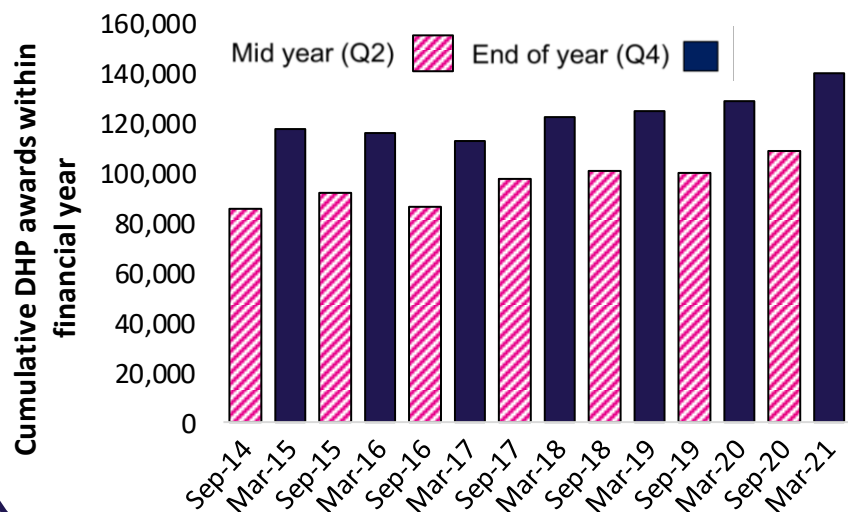
Help to meet rent payments for Housing Benefit recipients.

Paid at Local Authority discretion. As of April 2017, DHPs are fully devolved to Scottish Government.

The total value of awards across Scotland in 2020/21 was **£76.5 million**. Monthly statistics show that £67.0 million had been committed to be spent in 2020/21 by July 2021, 8% more than by July 2020.

Discretionary Housing Payments can be awarded to mitigate the removal of the spare room subsidy (the 'bedroom tax'). In 2020/21 **82% of spending was to mitigate removal of the spare room subsidy**.

In 2020/21 local authorities received **128,770 applications** and processed **145,910 determinations**. By March 2021 **139,835 awards** had been made.



The average Discretionary Housing Payment award in 2020/21 was **£547**. The average award varies between local authorities.



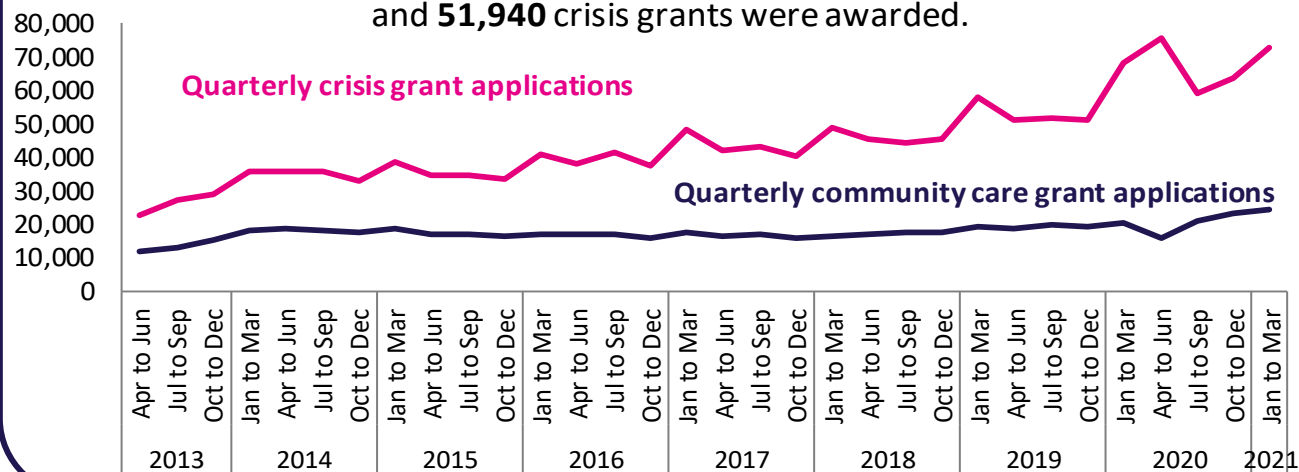


# Scottish Welfare Fund – March 2021

National grant scheme run by Local Authorities. Crisis Grants provide a safety net in a disaster or emergency. Community Care Grants (CCGs) enable people to live independently, preventing the need for institutional care.

In 2020/21, a total of **£49.5m** was awarded through the Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF). This included **£29.5m** on Community Care Grants and **£20.0m** on crisis grants. This was funded by **£57.5m** allocated to the Scottish Welfare Fund by Scottish Government, £2.0m underspend from 2019/20, and additional funds from local authorities.

In the quarter from January to March 2021 there were **24,430** applications for Community Care Grants and **72,645** for crisis grants. **17,000** Community Care Grants and **51,940** crisis grants were awarded.



Community Care Grants are most commonly awarded for floor coverings, beds and bedding and kitchen appliances.



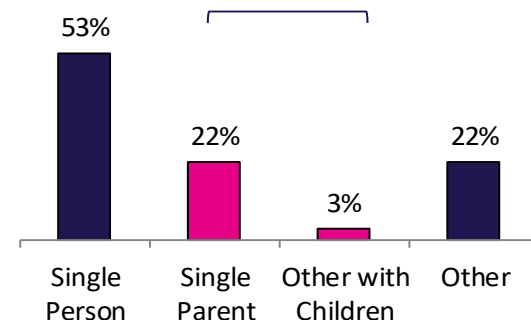
In Jan to March 2021 the average value of a Community Care Grant award was **£697**

Crisis grants are most commonly awarded for food, essential heating expenses and other living expenses.

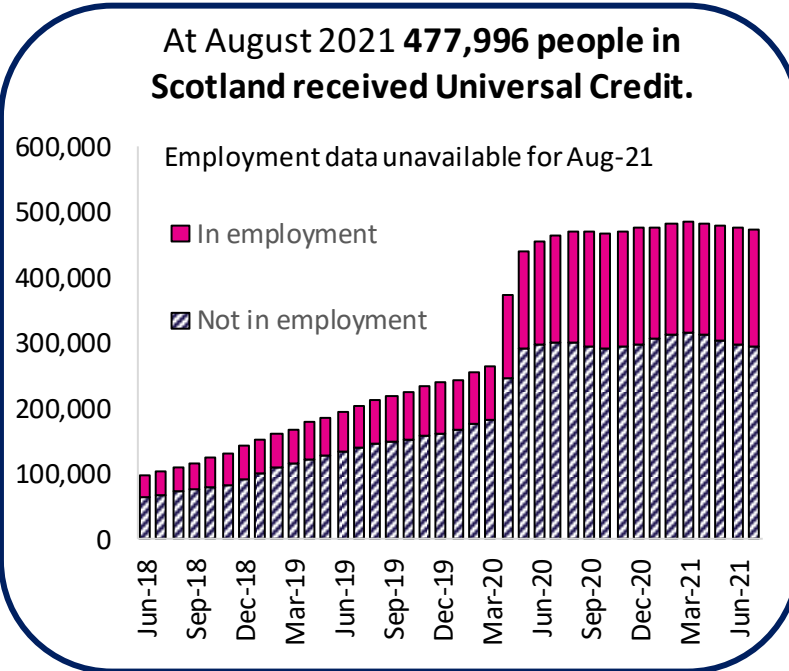
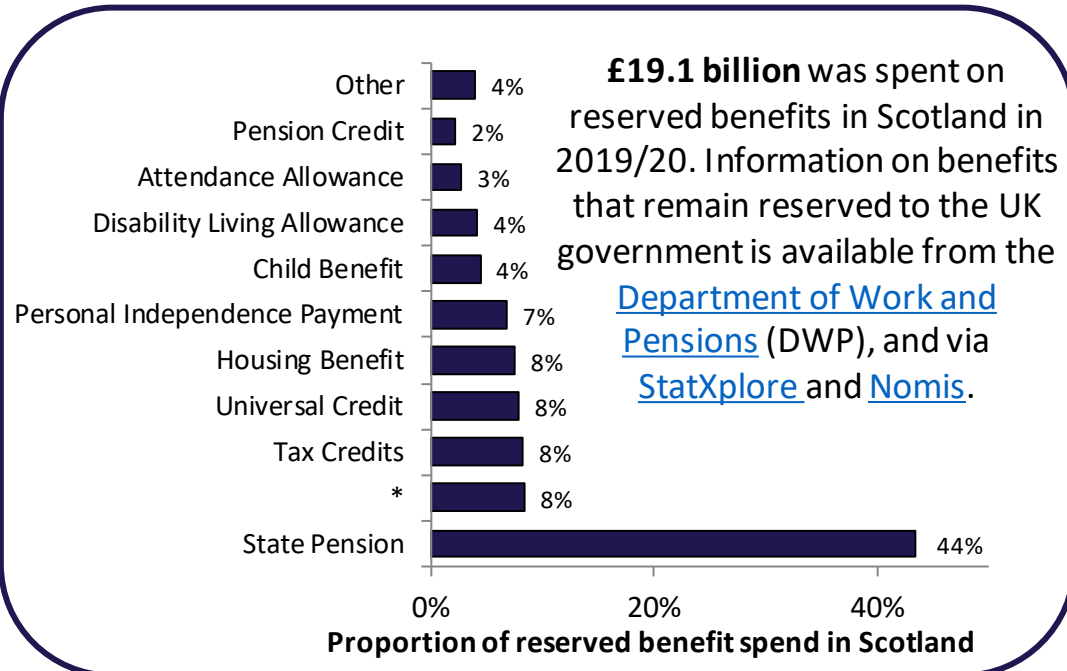


In Jan to March 2021 the average value of a crisis grant award was **£117**

**428,255** households have received an award since the Scottish Welfare Fund scheme began in 2013. Of these, 1 in 4 have been families with children.

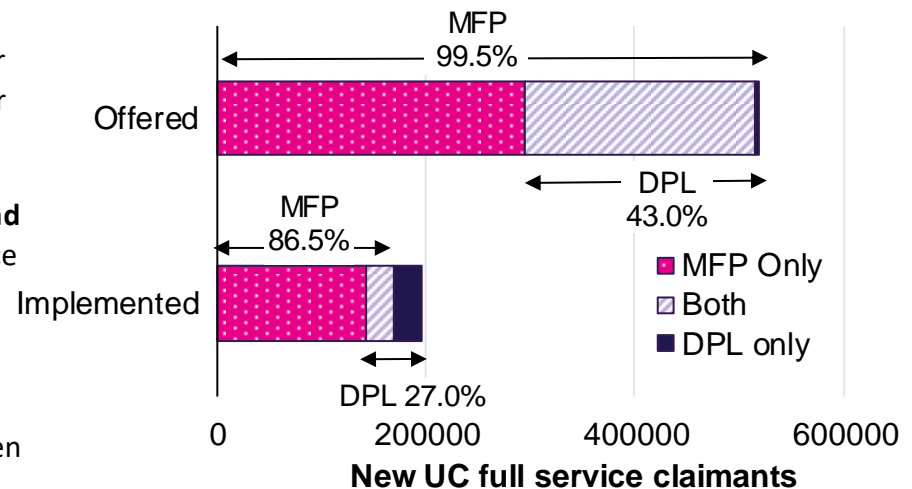


# Reserved benefits and Universal Credit (Scottish choices)



**Universal Credit (Scottish choices)** give recipients of Universal Credit (UC) in full service areas a choice to have their award paid either monthly or twice monthly (MFP) and/or have the housing costs in their award of UC paid direct to their landlord (DPL).

Since October 2017, a total of **195,540 new claimants were offered and took up** one or both UC Scottish choices. The rate of new UC full service claimants who took up at least one of the UC Scottish choices offered was **38 per cent** in August 2020. In total up to the end of August 2020, **224,790 people have taken up one or two choices**, either with or without an offer (this includes new, existing and live to full transfer claimants). Of those, **184,150** have chosen MFP and **75,030** have chosen DPL.



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## Scottish Government - continued

Scottish Welfare Fund, Self-Isolation Support Grant and Discretionary Housing Payments: monthly data <https://www.gov.scot/publications/swf-monthly-management-information/>

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<https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/>

Social security Committee Report  
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12090&mode=pdf>

## Social Security Scotland

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods statistics  
<https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#beststartgrantandbeststartfoodsstatistics>

Carer's Allowance and Carer's Allowance Supplement statistics  
<https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#carer'sallowanceandcarer'sallowancesupplementsstatistics>

Funeral Support Payment statistics <https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#funeralsupportpaymentsstatistics>

Young Carer Grant statistics <https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#youngcarergrantstatistics>

Job Start Payment statistics <https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#jobstartpaymentsstatistics>

Scottish Child Payment statistics <https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#scottishchildpaymentsstatistics>

Child Winter Heating Assistance statistics  
<https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#childwinterheatingassistance>

# Acronyms

AA Attendance Allowance	JSA Jobseeker's Allowance
BSG Best Start Grant	JSP Job Start Payment
CA Carer's Allowance	PC Pension Credit
CAS Carer's Allowance Supplement	PIP Personal Independence Payment
CWP Cold Weather Payment	SCP Scottish Child Payment
DHP Discretionary Housing Payments	SDA Severe Disablement Allowance
DLA Disability Living Allowance	SP State Pension
DWP Department for Work & Pensions	SPA State Pension Age
ESA Employment & Support Allowance	SSMG Sure Start Maternity Grant
FSP Funeral Support Payment	UC Universal Credit
IB Incapacity Benefit	WA Widow's Allowance
IIDB Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit	WFP Winter Fuel Payment
IS Income Support	YCG Young Carer Grant