

Social Security Scotland Statistics

Summary statistics for Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance at November 2022

Key figures

In Scotland in November 2022, there were:

- 83,074 carers in receipt of Carer's Allowance
- 90,257 people in receipt of Disability Living Allowance
- 127,399 people in receipt of Attendance Allowance
- 1,167 people in receipt of Severe Disablement Allowance

Frequency of publications

The next publication, covering Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance, at February 2023 and Carer's Allowance Supplement, April 2023 eligibility date will be released in August 2023.

Under the Code of Practice for Official Statistics¹ we publish a timetable of statistical releases for the twelve months ahead².

¹ The Code of Practice for Statistics is available on the [UK Statistics Authority website](#).

² The forthcoming publication timetable is available on the [Scottish Government website](#).

Introduction

This publication provides information on recipients of Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance at November 2022.

All tables and charts relating to this publication are available in an Excel workbook on [Social Security Scotland statistics website](#).

This publication does not include an update on recipients of the Carer's Allowance Supplement. This supplement is given to people in Scotland who receive Carer's Allowance on the Carer's Allowance Supplement eligibility dates. These are two dates each year - one in April and one in October - which are set by the Scottish Government. The latest statistics for Carer's Allowance Supplement is available on [Social Security Scotland statistics website](#).

Carer's Allowance Supplement statistics will be updated for the April 2023 eligibility date in August 2023.

The Scotland Act 2016³ gives Scottish Parliament powers over Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance, which had been administered to Scottish clients by the Department for Work and Pensions. In September 2018, Carer's Allowance became the first of these benefits to have executive competency transferred from the Department for Work and Pensions to Social Security Scotland, the executive agency of Scottish Government which is responsible for delivering the social security benefits for Scotland. From 1 April 2020, executive competency for Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance was also transferred from the Department for Work and Pensions to Social Security Scotland.

There is a transitional period to allow administration of this benefit to be transferred, during which the Department for Work and Pensions will continue to administer Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance on Social Security Scotland's behalf.

The statistics for Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance are being published as official statistics in accordance with Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and the Code of Practice for Statistics⁴ to ensure they meet high standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

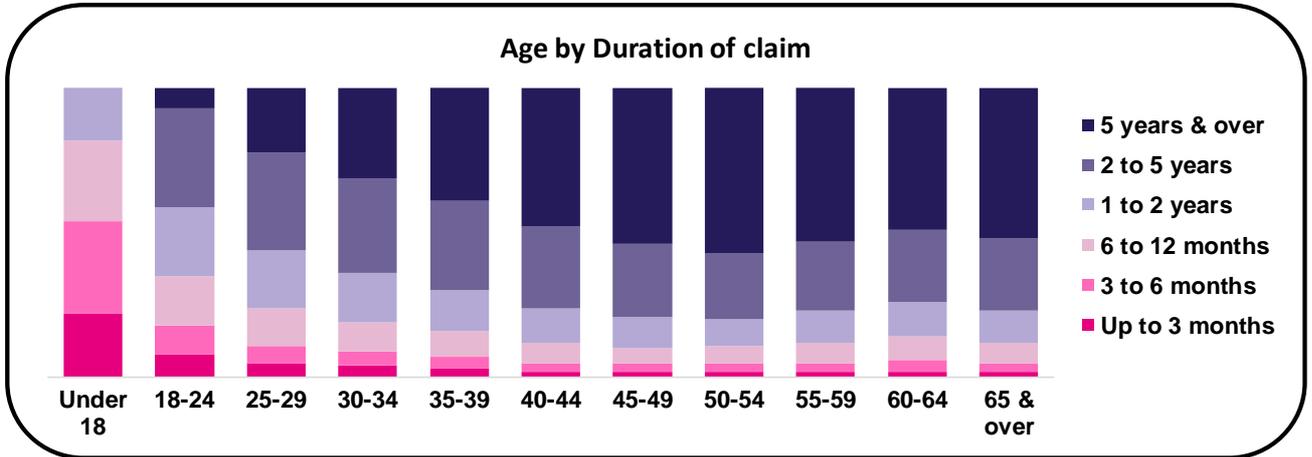
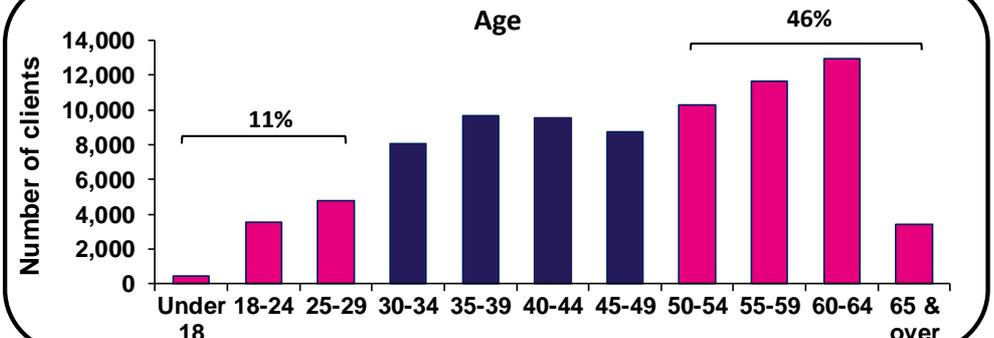
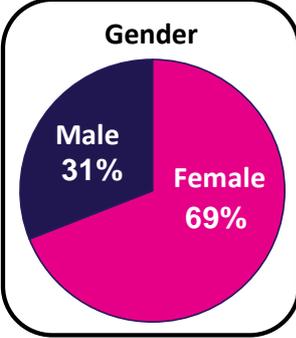
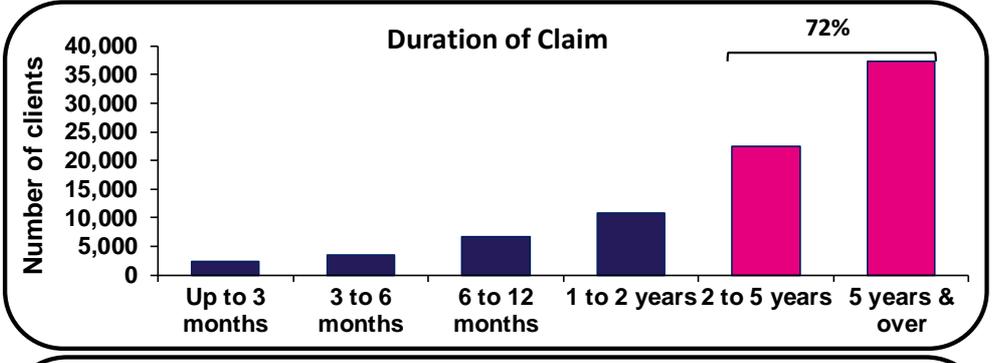
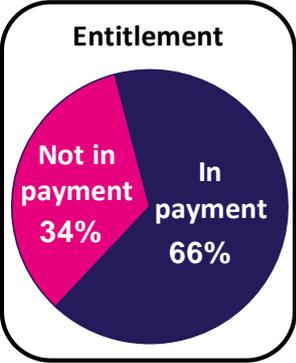
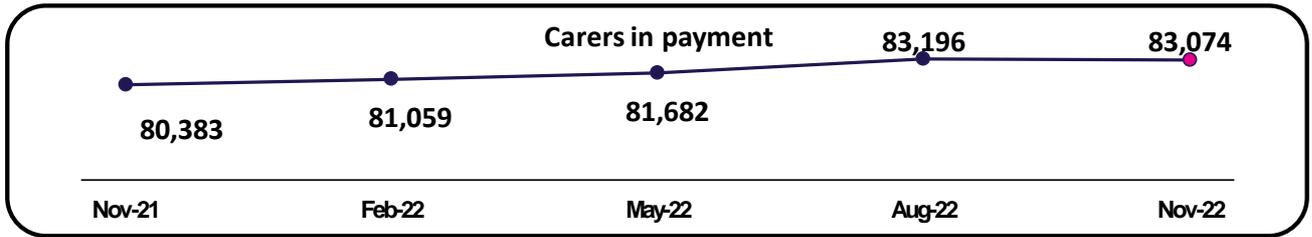
³ Information is provided on [the Scotland Act 2016 website](#).

⁴ The Code of Practice for Statistics is available on the [UK Statistics Authority website](#).

Carer's Allowance at November 2022

- In November 2022, there were 83,074 carers in Scotland in receipt of Carer's Allowance. This is a slight decrease, less than 1%, compared to the last quarter when there were 83,196 carers at August 2022. It is an increase of 3% since November 2021 when there were 80,383 carers [**Carer's Allowance Table S1**].
- A further 42,437 carers were entitled to Carer's Allowance but did not receive payments [**Carer's Allowance Table S1**]. This is typically people who are entitled to Carer's Allowance but are also eligible for another benefit such as a State Pension with a value equal to or exceeding their weekly rate of Carer's Allowance, which they receive instead of Carer's Allowance (see [Background Note](#)).
- Around 69% of Carer's Allowance clients were female and 31% were male [**Carer's Allowance Table S2**].
- Of the Carer's Allowance clients in receipt of payments, 46% were aged 50 or over, whereas only 11% were under the age of 30 [**Carer's Allowance Table S3**].
- Around 72% of clients have been receiving Carer's Allowance payments for two years or more. In total, 45% have been receiving Carer's Allowance payments for five years or more [**Carer's Allowance Table S4**].

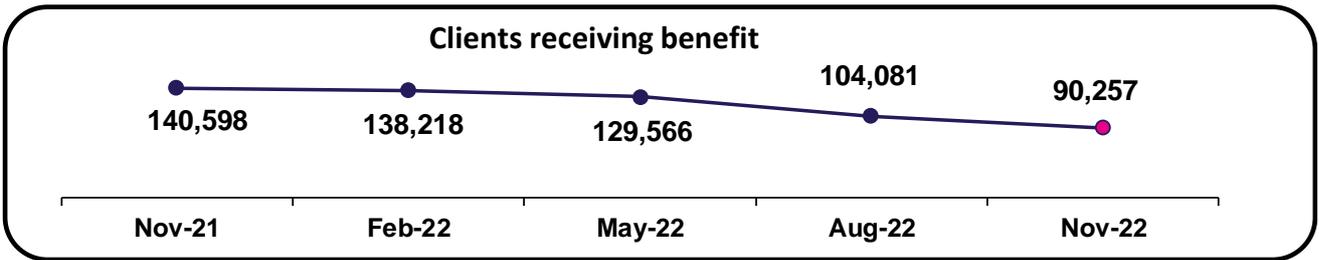
Summary Panel: Carer's Allowance at November 2022



Disability Living Allowance at November 2022

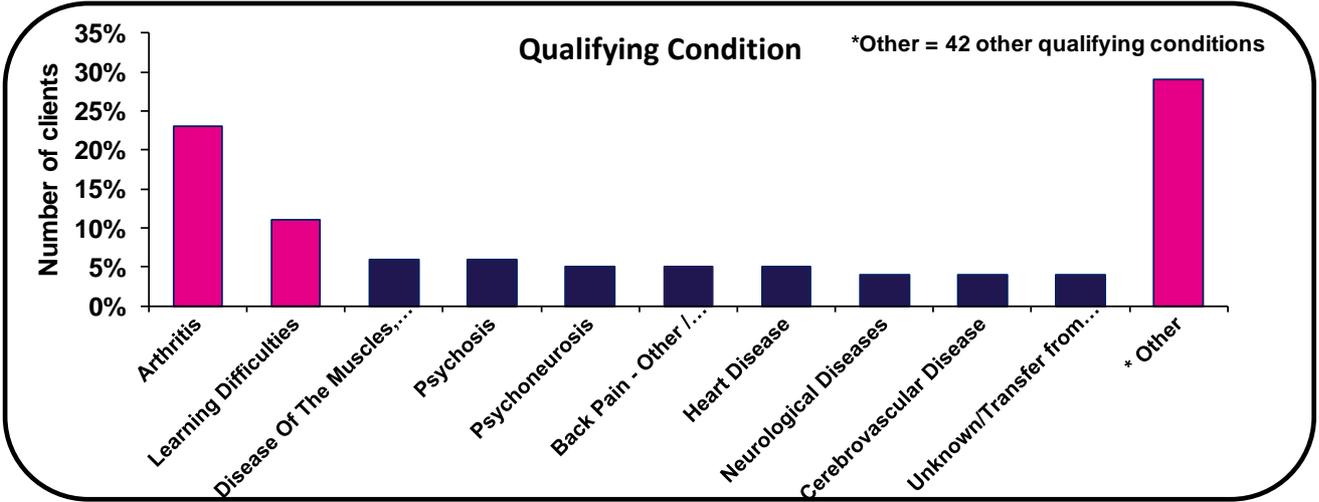
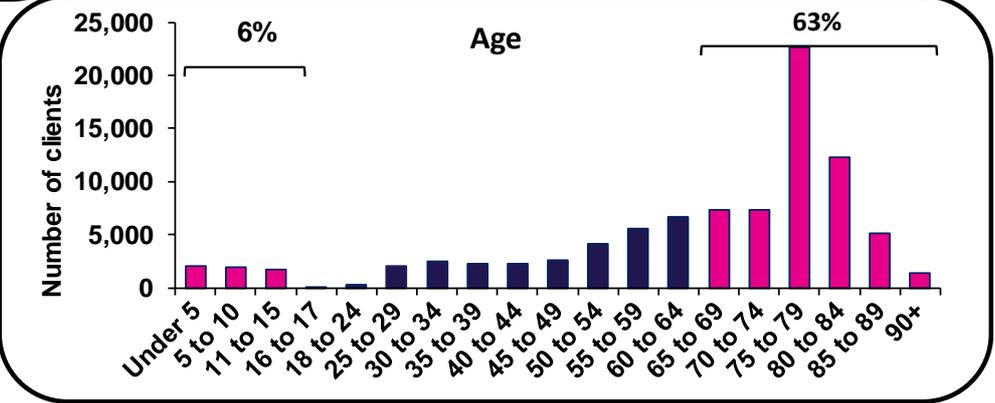
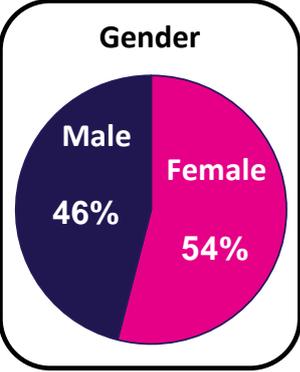
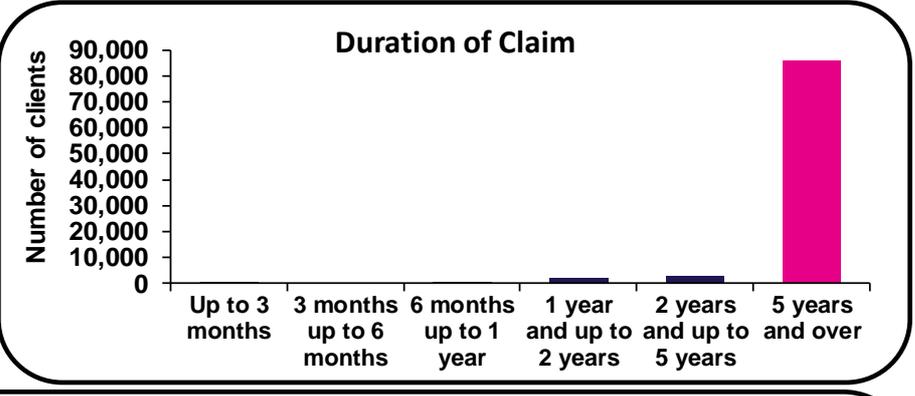
- At November 2022, there were 90,257 people in Scotland in receipt of Disability Living Allowance. This is a 13% decrease since the last quarter when there were 104,081 at August 2022. It is a decrease of 36% since November 2021 when there were 140,598 **[Disability Living Allowance Table S1]**.
- The benefit is now closed to new applications from those aged 16 and over. Additionally, from 26 July 2021 those under 16 from certain local authorities were asked to apply for Child Disability Payment rather than Disability Living Allowance. This was followed by the national launch of Child Disability Payment on 22 November 2021 (see below and [Background Note](#)).
- Around 46% of Disability Living Allowance clients were female and 54% were male **[Disability Living Allowance Table S2]**.
- Around 6% of Disability Living Allowance clients are aged under 16, and 63% are aged 65 and over **[Disability Living Allowance Table S3]**.
- Only 31% of Disability Living Allowance clients are aged between 16-64 **[Disability Living Allowance Table S3]**. This is because Disability Living Allowance is ending for people aged 16 to 64. While people under 16 can continue to claim Disability Living Allowance, it is closed for new claims from those over 16. Working aged people aged 16 and over can make new claims for Personal Independence Payment, and those with existing Disability Living Allowance claims are being invited to apply for Personal Independence Payment. People who have reached State Pension age can apply for Attendance Allowance, although those born on or before 8 April 1948 with an existing Disability Living Allowance claim can continue to claim Disability Living Allowance.
- Around 98% of the clients have been receiving Disability Living Allowance payments for two years or more. In total, 95% have been receiving Disability Living Allowance payments for five years or more. The benefit is now closed to new applications from those aged 16 and over meaning the duration of claim of each will continue to rise (see [Background Note](#)) **[Disability Living Allowance Table S4]**.
- Around 74% of Disability Living Allowance clients received both the mobility and care element (see Summary Panel: Disability Living Allowance).
- Of those receiving a care award, 45% are on the middle rate, 34% receive the highest rate and 21% are on the lowest rate **[Disability Living Allowance Table S5]**.
- Of those receiving a mobility award, 56% receive the higher rate and 44% receive the lower rate **[Disability Living Allowance Table S6]**.
- The most common disabling condition was Arthritis which accounted for 23% of clients, followed by Learning Difficulties which accounted for 11% of clients **[Disability Living Allowance Table S7]**.

Summary Panel: Disability Living Allowance at November 2022



Award Type

Care Award Rate	Mobility Rate		
	Higher	Lower	Nil
Higher	17%	10%	3%
Middle	13%	20%	7%
Lower	9%	5%	5%
Nil	9%	2%	-



Child Disability Payment and Disability Living Allowance: Caseload at November 2022

- From 26 July 2021 in certain pilot local authorities, and from 22 November 2021 nationally, new applications were taken in Scotland for Child Disability Payment for children aged under 16. This benefit is replacing Disability Living Allowance for children in Scotland (see [Background Note](#)). Data on new applications and payments issued for this time period is available (see [Social Security Scotland](#)).
- There is a transitional period to allow the administration of this benefit to be transferred, during which the Department for Work and Pensions will continue to administer Disability Living Allowance for existing clients on Social Security Scotland's behalf. Those people already in receipt of the Department for Work and Pensions benefits will not need to apply and their awards will be transferred in phases. This case transfer process began on 11 October 2021.
- The Disability Living Allowance figures are presented to the end of November 2022, relating to a period following the launch of Child Disability Payment. This overlap accounts for new applications for Child Disability Payment being accepted in pilot areas for around ten months (approximately 44 weeks) and nationally for just over six months (approximately 27 weeks).
- In order to accurately reflect the active caseload for Child Disability Payment, the number of children in receipt of Child Disability Payment and Disability Living Allowance in Scotland has been calculated. However, it is important to note that Social Security Scotland and the Department for Work and Pensions are unable to use the same methodology to calculate caseload (see [Background Note](#)). As a result, the two figures are presented separately as an estimation of the active caseload in Scotland. An explanation of the limitations is included in the publication [Background Note](#) and caution is advised when considering the use of these figures.
- As of 30 November 2022, it is estimated that 53,745 children aged 0 -18⁵ were in receipt of Child Disability Payment [**Disability Living Allowance Table S8**]. This estimated caseload, or number of children in receipt of Child Disability Payment, is a statistic derived by Social Security Scotland. It is calculated based on identifying all cases who are in receipt of, or have been approved for, a payment in the caseload period, even if they have not been paid yet. The caseload includes 12,180 new applicants and 41,565 clients who have been transferred.

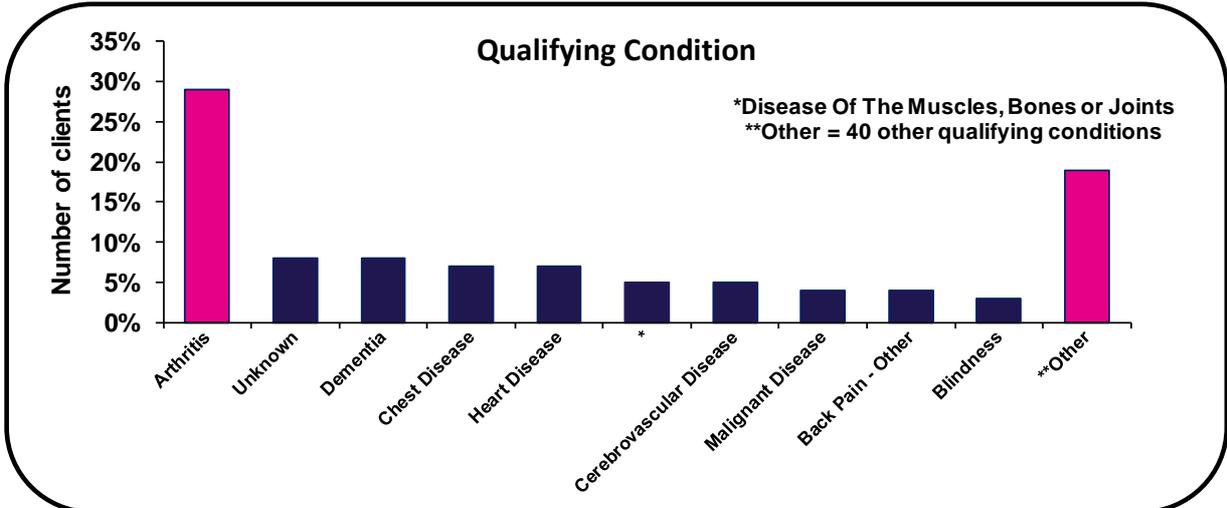
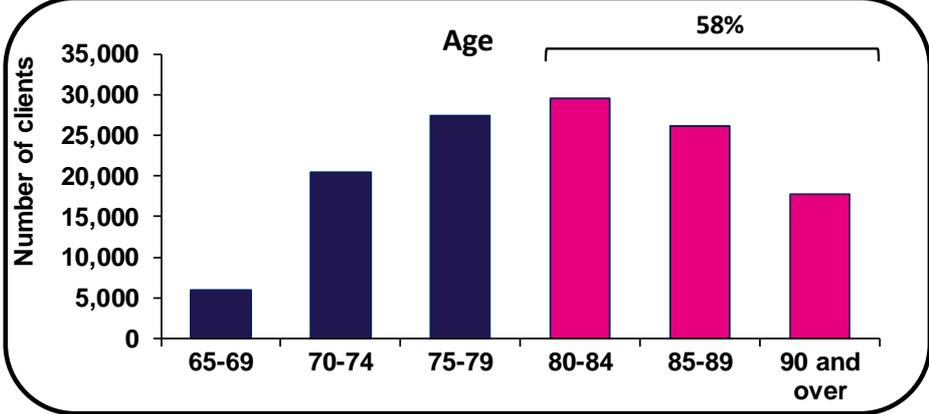
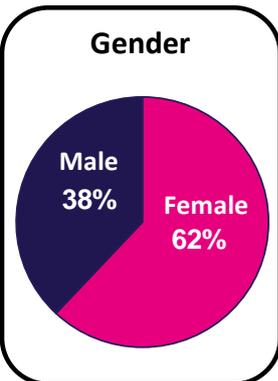
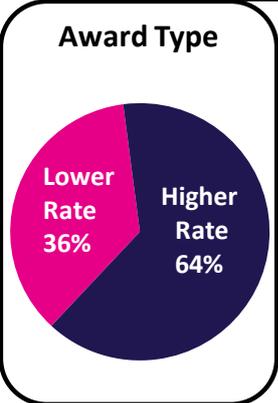
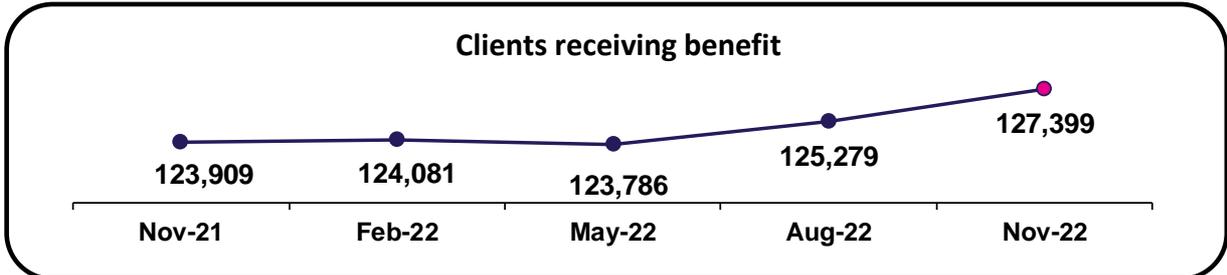
⁵ A key difference from Disability Living Allowance administered by the Department for Work and Pensions is that Social Security Scotland have extended the eligibility for Child Disability Payment from 16 to 18 years old. This is only where the applicant has already been in receipt of assistance before they were 16.

- At November 2022, there were 5,870 children aged 0 – 18⁵ in Scotland in receipt of Disability Living Allowance [**Disability Living Allowance Table S8**]. The Department for Work and Pensions use a true point-in-time measure of the number of children in receipt of Disability Living Allowance on the final day of the publication reporting period. In this publication, this is 30 November 2022 (see [Background Note](#) for comparison of different measures).

Attendance Allowance at November 2022

- At November 2022, there were 127,399 people in Scotland in receipt of Attendance Allowance. This is an increase of 2% since the last quarter when there were 125,279 at August 2022. It is an increase of 3% since November 2021 when there were 123,909 [**Attendance Allowance Table S1**].
- A further 18,834 people were entitled to Attendance Allowance but did not receive a payment [**Attendance Allowance Table S1**]. This is likely to be because they are eligible for another benefit with a value equal to or exceeding their weekly rate of Attendance Allowance, such as State Pension.
- Around 62% of Attendance Allowance clients were female and 38% were male [**Attendance Allowance Table S2**].
- Of the Attendance Allowance clients in receipt of payments, 58% were aged 80 or over [**Attendance Allowance Table S3**].
- In total, 68% of clients have been receiving Attendance Allowance payments for two years or more, with 40% receiving the payment for five years or more [**Attendance Allowance Table S4**].
- Around 64% of Attendance Allowance clients received the higher rate and 36% received the lower rate [**Attendance Allowance Table S5**].
- The most common disabling condition was Arthritis, which accounted for 29% of clients, followed by Unknown and Dementia, which both accounted for 8% of clients [**Attendance Allowance Table S6**].

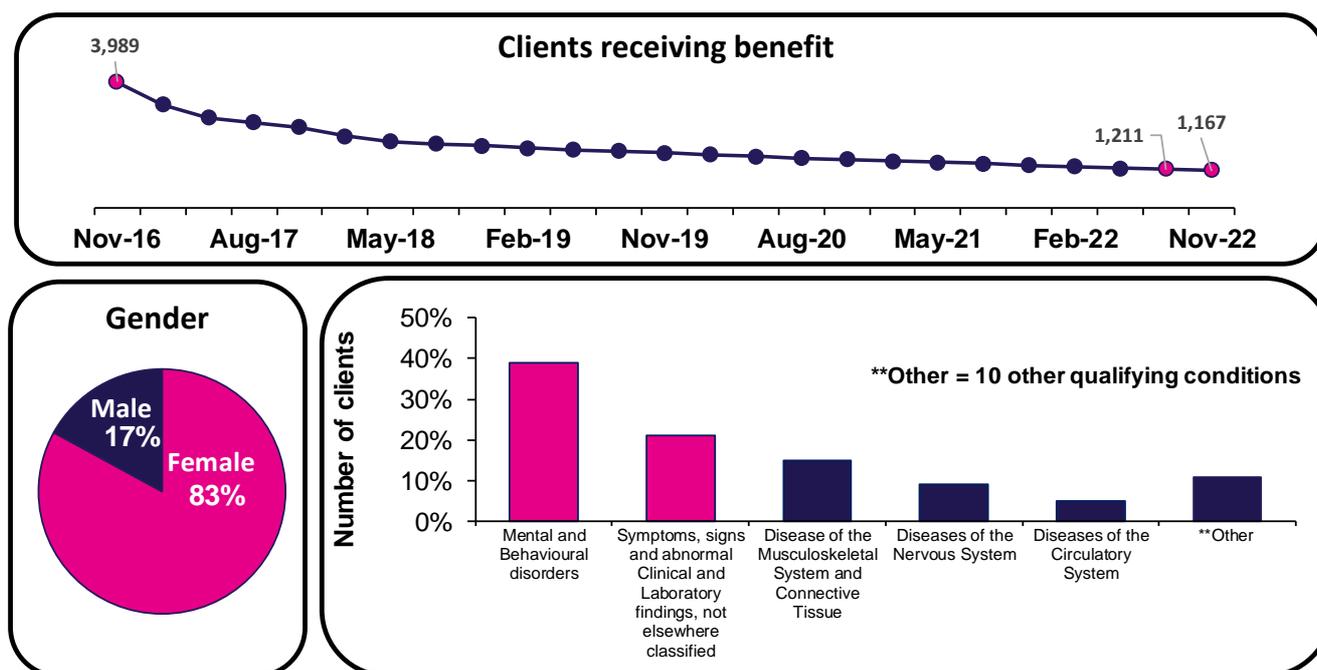
Summary Panel: Attendance Allowance at November 2022



Severe Disablement Allowance at November 2022

- At November 2022, there were 1,167 people in Scotland in receipt of Severe Disablement Allowance. This is a decrease of 4% since the last quarter when there were 1,211 at August 2022. It is a decrease of 71% since November 2016 when there were 3,989 people in receipt [**Severe Disablement Allowance Table S1**]. Severe Disablement Allowance is a closed benefit, so the caseload will continue to decrease each year. For further detail, see the [Background Note](#).
- Around 83% of Severe Disablement Allowance clients were female and 17% were male [**Severe Disablement Allowance Table S2**].
- The most common disabling condition was Mental and Behavioural disorders which accounted for 39% of clients, followed by 'Symptoms, signs and abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified' which accounted for 21% of clients [**Severe Disablement Allowance Table S3**].

Summary Panel: Severe Disablement Allowance at November 2022



Background to Carer's Allowance

Carer's Allowance is for people who spend at least 35 hours a week providing regular care to someone who has a disability. It was introduced on 5th July 1976.

To be eligible for Carer's Allowance:

- The person being cared for must already get one of these benefits:
 - Personal Independence Payment - daily living component
 - Disability Living Allowance - the middle or highest care rate
 - Attendance Allowance
 - Constant Attendance Allowance at or above the normal maximum rate with an Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit
 - Constant Attendance Allowance at the basic (full day) rate with a War Disablement Pension
 - Armed Forces Independence Payment
 - Child Disability Payment - the middle or highest care rate
 - Adult Disability Payment - daily living component

- In 2022/2023 the carer must have earned no more than £132 a week after tax and expenses. Expenses can include:
 - 50% of the carer's pension contributions
 - some of the costs of caring for the carer's children or the disabled person while they are at work

- And the carer must also:
 - be 16 or over;
 - spend at least 35 hours a week caring for someone;
 - have been in England, Scotland or Wales for at least two of the last three years (this does not apply if you're a refugee or have humanitarian protection status);
 - normally live in England, Scotland or Wales, or live abroad as a member of the armed forces;
 - not be in full-time education;
 - not be studying for 21 hours a week or more;
 - not be subject to [immigration control](#)

Some carers might still be eligible if they are moving to or already living in another [EEA country or Switzerland](#).

Some carers are entitled to receive Carer's Allowance because they satisfy the conditions listed above, but they do not actually receive a payment. This November occur as a temporary suspension of the Carer's Allowance payments, if the client is in hospital. Otherwise, this is because the client receives another benefit instead (e.g. Incapacity Benefit for people of working age, or State Pension for people of State Pension age) which equals or exceeds the weekly rate of Carer's Allowance.

Where the overlapping benefit paid is less than the weekly rate of Carer's Allowance, only the amount of Carer's Allowance which exceeds the amount of the

overlapping benefit is paid. Carers who are on low incomes and entitled to Carer's Allowance (whether in payment or not) November receive extra money with their Income Support/Jobseeker's Allowance/ Pension Credit/Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit.

During the outbreak of coronavirus, some Carer's Allowance rules were relaxed. To allow for self-isolating on the part of the carer or cared for person, care did not need to take place in the physical presence of the cared for person as it usually does. Where caring did not take place due to coronavirus, this will not count as a break in care, and Carer's Allowance continued to be paid. These rules reverted to normal from 1 September 2021.

Background to Carer's Allowance Supplement

Carer's Allowance Supplement is an extra payment for people in Scotland who get Carer's Allowance on a particular date. While the Department for Work and Pensions continues to administer Carer's Allowance on Social Security Scotland's behalf, Carer's Allowance Supplement is provided as a separate payment from Social Security Scotland.

The payment was initially set at a level which would raise Carer's Allowance to the equivalent of the current rate of Jobseeker's Allowance for 25 and over, however following uprating the combined payment now exceeds the rate of Jobseeker's Allowance.

Carer's Allowance Supplement payments are paid twice a year, based on eligibility at specific eligibility dates in April and October.

Eligibility date	Month payments issued	Payment amount
16 April 2018	September 2018	£221.00
15 October 2018	December 2018	£221.00
15 April 2019	June 2019	£226.20
14 October 2019	December 2019	£226.20
13 April 2020*	June 2020*	£460.20*
12 October 2020	December 2020	£230.10
12 April 2021	June 2021	£231.40
11 October 2021**	December 2021**	£462.80**
11 April 2022	June 2022	£245.70
10 October 2022	December 2022	£245.70

*The Scottish Government issued an extra Carer's Allowance Supplement payment of £230.10 in June 2020. This payment was issued to provide some more support for carers during coronavirus. Carers receiving a payment for the 13 April 2020 eligibility date will get a total payment of £460.20, made up of £230.10 standard Carer's Allowance Supplement, plus £230.10 Coronavirus Carer's Allowance Supplement. If a Carer's Allowance claim is backdated to include 13 April 2020 they will receive the extra payment. In the statistics this is counted as one payment with a value of £460.20.

** The Scottish Government issued an extra Carer's Allowance Supplement payment of £231.40 in December 2021. Carers receiving a payment for the 11 October 2021 eligibility date will get a total payment of £462.80, made up of £231.40 standard Carer's Allowance Supplement, plus £231.40 Coronavirus Carer's Allowance Supplement. If a Carer's Allowance claim is backdated to include 11 October 2021 they will receive the extra payment. In the statistics this is counted as one payment with a value of £462.80.

To be eligible for Carer's Allowance Supplement you must:

- be getting Carer's Allowance payments on the eligibility date;
- and live in Scotland on the eligibility date;
- or if living outside of the United Kingdom, have a genuine and sufficient link to Scotland and live in the European Economic Area, Switzerland or Gibraltar on the eligibility date.

- The person you are caring for does not have to live in Scotland.

It is possible for carers to have a temporary break in Carer's Allowance Supplement payments due to a temporary suspension of Carer's Allowance, as described above.

Background to Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance is for people who became disabled before the age of 65 and who have extra care or mobility needs (difficulty getting around).

It is made up of two components, care and mobility. A person might be eligible for one or both components. The rates for each are found in the tables below.

The value of payments for Disability Living Allowance were updated in April 2022. The below tables indicate the value of payments preceding the uprating in April 2022 as well as the value of the payments for the period covered by the publication (the 2022/2023 rates).

Care component	Weekly amount		Level of help needed
	2021/2022	2022/2023	
Lower Rate	£23.70	£24.45	Help for some of the day or with preparing cooked meals
Middle Rate	£60.00	£61.85	Frequent help or constant supervision during the day, supervision at night or someone to help while they're on dialysis
Higher Rate	£89.60	£92.40	Help or supervision throughout both day and night, or they're terminally ill

Mobility component	Weekly amount		Level of help needed
	2021/2022	2022/2023	
Lower Rate	£23.70	£24.45	They can walk but need help and or supervision when outdoors
Higher Rate	£62.55	£64.50	They cannot walk, can only walk a short distance without severe discomfort, could become very ill if they try to walk or they're blind, severely sight impaired

Children under 16 years of age can qualify for Disability Living Allowance for Children. They may qualify for the care component and/or the mobility component. They could qualify for the highest rate of the mobility component if they are aged 3 or older and the lowest rate if they are aged 5 or older. Their needs should be substantially in excess of those of a child of the same age who does not have a disability. Children under 16 cannot qualify for the lower rate of the care component through the 'cooking test' route as this only applies to individuals 16 years or older.

People who are terminally ill (i.e. have a progressive disease from which death can reasonably be expected within 6 months) automatically qualify for the higher rate

care component. They can also qualify for the mobility component if they satisfy the normal rules.

The Department for Work and Pensions have changed the definition of terminal illness as of April 2023, allowing those who have a progressive disease from which death can reasonably be expected within 12 months to claim. The data in this publication covers to November 2022 and as such the changed rules do not apply to this data.

Disability Living Allowance can be awarded for a fixed or an indefinite period. People can continue to receive the allowance after reaching age 65 if they continue to satisfy the entitlement conditions.

From 8 April 2013, the Department for Work and Pensions started to replace Disability Living Allowance for working age people with Personal Independence Payment for new claims. People can still apply for Disability Living Allowance if they are aged under 16.

From 28 October 2013, the Department for Work and Pensions has been inviting Disability Living Allowance working age recipients to claim Personal Independence Payment if:

- the department received information about a change in care or mobility needs which meant their claim had to be renewed;
- the client's fixed term award was due to expire;
- children turned 16 years old (unless they have been awarded Disability Living Allowance under the special rules for terminally ill people);
- or the client chose to claim Personal Independence Payment instead of Disability Living Allowance.

From July 2015, the remaining Disability Living Allowance working age recipients have started to be invited to claim Personal Independence Payment. However, since 1 April 2020, the Department for Work and Pensions have stopped proactively sending these invites to Disability Living Allowance working age recipients who live in Scotland.

Child Disability Payment replaces Disability Living Allowance for Children in Scotland and launched nationally on 22 November 2021.

Adult Disability Payment, the Scottish replacement benefit for Personal Independence Payment, has been receiving applications as part of a pilot since 21 March 2022. This was followed by a gradual rollout before national launch on 29 August 2022.

Background to Child Disability Payment and Disability Living Allowance: Caseload

Active Caseload for Child Disability Payment in Scotland

In order to accurately reflect the active caseload for Child Disability Payment, the number of children in receipt of Child Disability Payment and Disability Living Allowance in Scotland has been calculated. However, it is important to note that these benefits each use a different methodology to calculate caseload. As a result, the two figures are presented separately as an estimation of the active caseload in Scotland and caution is advised when considering the use of these figures.

Social Security Scotland Child Disability Payment Caseload Measure

The methodology used to estimate caseload, or number of children in receipt of, Child Disability Payment, reported by Social Security Scotland has changed in this publication. The new methodology has been introduced in order to produce a more accurate estimate of the caseload. This methodology uses a new caseload data extract which makes it possible to identify all cases who are in receipt of, or have been approved for, a payment in the caseload period, even if they have not been paid yet.

Payments are made every four weeks, in arrears, with the entitlement start date being the date that the applicant registered their part 1 form. The new methodology differs from the previous method by:

- Using a point-in-time measure of the number of people in receipt of Child Disability Payment on the final day of any given month. This methodology counts people from the point that they are approved for a payment until the point that their application is closed. Therefore, if a client's eligibility ended on the last day of a month, they would be counted in that month's caseload, but not in subsequent months. However, if the client's eligibility ended before the last day of the month then they would not be included in that month's caseload.
- Counting people in the caseload who are eligible for payment in the calculated caseload period, but who are not receiving payments yet due to it being their first payment which will be made in arrears.

A data cut from 16 April 2023 has been used to produce statistics on all cases who are in receipt of, or have been approved for, a payment in each caseload period, even if they have not been paid yet.

Comparison of new Child Disability Payment caseload methodology with previously published caseload methodology

As the new methodology counts not only those clients who are in receipt of payment, but also those that have been approved for a payment in the caseload period, it results in higher caseload numbers in this publication compared to those previously published. This is especially true for clients who have had their cases transferred. This is due to the new caseload measure capturing the approximate

date that a transferred case is approved for payment of Child Disability Payment, compared to the previous method which would capture these clients up to four weeks later when their payment was made in arrears.

This difference will be bigger in the earliest months of the launch, due to there being higher numbers of cases being transferred. In the later months this difference will not be as marked. For example, a comparison using November 2022 as the caseload period, shows that for overall caseload calculated using the new methodology is around 2% larger than that calculated with the previous methodology. See the below table for a comparison of the two methods for published caseload periods.

Month	Client Type	Caseload using previous method	Caseload using current method	% increase
November 2021	Total	180	200	11%
	New applicants	180	200	10%
	Case transfers	n/a	[c]	n/a
February 2022	Total	1,510	2,050	36%
	New applicants	1,430	1,610	13%
	Case transfers	80	440	449%
May 2022	Total	9,085	11,140	23%
	New applicants	4,655	4,895	5%
	Case transfers	4,430	6,245	41%
August 2022	Total	33,035	42,805	30%
	New applicants	8,510	8,795	3%
	Case transfers	24,525	34,010	39%
November 2022	Total	52,800	53,745	2%
	New applicants	12,065	12,180	1%
	Case transfers	40,740	41,565	2%

It is important to note that there are small differences between the methodology for calculating caseload used by Social Security Scotland and the Department for Work and Pensions. As a result, the two figures are presented separately as an estimation of the active caseload in Scotland and caution is advised when considering the use of these figures.

The Department for Work and Pensions Disability Living Allowance Caseload Measure

The methodology used to calculate caseloads for Disability Living Allowance identifies claims from their entitlement start date until the claim ends. The Department for Work and Pensions use a point-in-time measure of the number of people entitled to Disability Living Allowance on the final day of the publication reporting period. For the latest release the reference date is 30 November 2022 ([see the Department for Work and Pensions methodology statement](#)).

Comparison of caseload methodology for Disability Living Allowance and Child Disability Payment

The Disability Living Allowance publication and the Child Disability Payment (CDP) statistics are not directly comparable due to methodology differences:

The Disability Living Allowance statistics show the number of people with an entitlement to Disability Living Allowance from the date their entitlement began, whereas the Child Disability Payment statistics only include those customers that are in receipt of or have been approved for a payment and cover from the date the case is approved for payment. [For more information on this please see Child Disability Payment background methodology note.](#)

Additionally, the Disability Living Allowance caseload snapshots are produced using time delay of four months to capture retrospective changes. This data is then frozen and is not subject to changes from one publication to the next. For Child Disability Payment the data extract used for publication is cut roughly two weeks after the end of the month being reported on, and the data is revised with each publication as a new data extract is used.

Background to Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance is for people at the State Pension age or older with a disability that is severe enough that they need someone to help look after them, for example, help with washing, dressing or eating, during the day or overnight.

Attendance Allowance is currently administered by the Department for Work and Pensions on behalf of the Scottish Government under agency agreement.

To be eligible for Attendance Allowance the person must have reached [State Pension age](#) and have:

- a physical disability, a mental disability, or both
- a disability that is severe enough to need help caring for themselves or someone to supervise them, for their own or someone else's safety
- have needed help for at least 6 months (unless they are terminally ill)

If a person is terminally ill, i.e. they are not expected to live for more than 6 months there are 'special rules' (Please note that the Department for Work and Pensions have changed this definition to 12 months as of April 2023. This publication covers to November 2022 and as such the changed rules do not apply to this data):

- there's no qualifying period for how long they have had the illness
- if eligible, they will automatically get the higher rate of Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance is usually paid every 4 weeks at 2 different rates – depending on the level of help needed.

The value of payments for Attendance Allowance were updated in April 2022. The below tables indicate the value of payments preceding the uprating in April 2022 as well as the value of the payments for the period covered by the publication (the 2022/2023 rates).

Rate	Weekly amount		Level of help you need
	2021/2022	2022/2023	
Lower Rate	£60.00	£61.85	Frequent help or constant supervision during the day, or supervision at night
Higher Rate	£89.60	£92.40	Help or supervision throughout both day and night, or they're terminally ill

A person cannot get Attendance Allowance if they already get [Disability Living Allowance](#), [Personal Independence Payment](#) or [Adult Disability Payment](#).

Background to Severe Disablement Allowance

Severe Disablement Allowance is for people below the State Pension age who cannot work for 28 weeks in a row because of illness or disability.

Severe Disablement Allowance is administered by the Department for Work and Pensions on behalf of the Scottish Government under agency agreement. It was closed to new entrants and replaced by Incapacity Benefit in April 2001, which is now replaced by Employment and Support Allowance. Recipients that are now over the State Pension Age will continue to receive Severe Disablement Allowance unless their circumstances change. Recipients that are still under the State Pension Age are now being asked to undertake a re-assessment of their award by:

- Completing a questionnaire and returning it by the deadline
- Potentially attending a face-to-face Work Capability Assessment

If the re-assessment shows they cannot work, they will be transferred automatically onto [Employment and Support Allowance](#). They will continue to get Severe Disablement Allowance until that date.

Since Severe Disablement Allowance is a closed benefit, the caseload will continue to decrease each year.

A person's Severe Disablement Allowance is not usually affected if they:

- do volunteer work
- work for less than 16 hours a week on average and earn up to £152 a week
- work and earn up to £152 a week, if the work is done as part of a treatment programme or is supervised by someone from a local council or voluntary organisation
- work and earn up to £152 a week and are exempt from personal capability assessment

About the data

How Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance data is collected

The Department for Work and Pensions holds information on those in payment of Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance, and publishes quarterly statistics on the [UK Government website](#).

The Department for Work and Pensions produce summary tables for Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance in Scotland based on the data that are published in these quarterly statistical summaries, and provide these to Scottish Government for publication.

Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance data quality

Information about the methodology used to produce Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance statistics and the quality of the statistics is available on the [UK Government website](#).

Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance data are subject to the Department for Work and Pensions' rounding techniques for disclosure control.

Further breakdowns of Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance data

The data for Carer's Allowance in Scotland is available in more detail on [Stat-Xplore](#). This includes further information about Personal Independence registrations, payments, mandatory reconsiderations and appeals, and also data at lower geographies e.g. Local Authority, Census Output Area, Scottish and Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies.

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

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How to access background or source data

The data collected for this statistical bulletin:

are available in more detail through statistics.gov.scot

are available via an alternative route. Summary tables are available at:

<https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-scotland-stats-publications/#benefitsforcarersanddisabilityassistance>

November be made available on request, subject to consideration of legal and ethical factors. Please contact MI@socialsecurity.gov.scot for further information.

cannot be made available by Scottish Government for further analysis as Scottish Government is not the data controller.

Complaints and suggestions

If you are not satisfied with our service or have any comments or suggestions, please write to the Chief Statistician, 3WR, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

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