

Social Security for Scotland

Updated March 2020

EQUALITY, POVERTY AND SOCIAL SECURITY

JK government expenditure, £217.1 billion £198.5 billion spent on social security in **Rest of Great Britain** Scotland, £18.7 billion **Scottish Government** expenditure, £286 million

Social Security Expenditure in Scotland in 2018/19

In 2018/19, the forecasted expenditure by UK Government on benefits in Great Britain was £217.1 billion. Of this, the estimated amount spent on individuals in Scotland in 2018/19 was £18.7 billion (8.6%). Of this, around £15.8 billion (84.4%) was spent on reserved benefits and £2.9 billion (15.6%) was spent on devolved benefits.

In 2018/19 the Scottish Government spent a total of £286 million on benefits in Scotland, around three times the amount spent in 2017/18. This included £191 million on benefits through Social Security Scotland (Carer's Allowance, Carer's Allowance Supplement and Best Start Grant), and £95 million on benefits administered by local authorities (£62 million Discretionary Housing Payments awarded and £33 million allocated to the Scottish Welfare Fund).

In total £19.0 billion was spent on individuals in Scotland.

Reserved benefits, £15.8 billion

Benefits to be devolved, £2.9 billion Social Security Scotland benefits, £191 million Localised benefits, £95 million £19.0 billion spent on social security in Scotland by UK government and Scottish Government

Sources: DWP Outturn and Forecast Spring Statement 2019, DWP benefit expenditure by Region 1996/97 to 2018/19, HMRC Tax Receipts between England, Wales, Scotland & Northern Ireland, Scottish Welfare Fund Statistics: update to June 2019, Office for National Statistics mid-year population estimates. Note: figures may not sum due to rounding . *A total of £35.3 million was spent on Scottish Welfare Fund awards in 2018/19 – funding for these awards came from SG allocation, underspend from previous years, and additional funds from Local Authorities.

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.

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Sources and abbreviations

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**.

A summary of the benefits that have been devolved or that remain reserved is available on the Scottish Government website at:

https://www.gov.scot/publications/responsibility-for-benefits-overview/.

Currently, **Social Security Scotland** (an executive agency of the Scottish Government) is administering Carer's Allowance Supplement, Best Start Grant, Funeral Support Payment and Young Carer's Grant. The Scottish Government also allocates funding to local authorities to administer Discretionary Housing Payments and the Scottish Welfare Fund. This will be followed by Job Start Payment in Spring 2020. Scottish Child Payment will open for applications in 2020 for children aged 0-6. Further changes to benefits have also been announced for 2020 and 2021.

Sources: https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/

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Social security in Scotland by recipient group

The benefit system <u>currently</u> 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 described on the <u>next page</u>. Future benefits have been announced: Job Start Payment Spring 2020, Scottish Child Payment will open for applications for children aged 0-6 in 2020. Further changes to benefits have also been announced for 2020 and 2021.

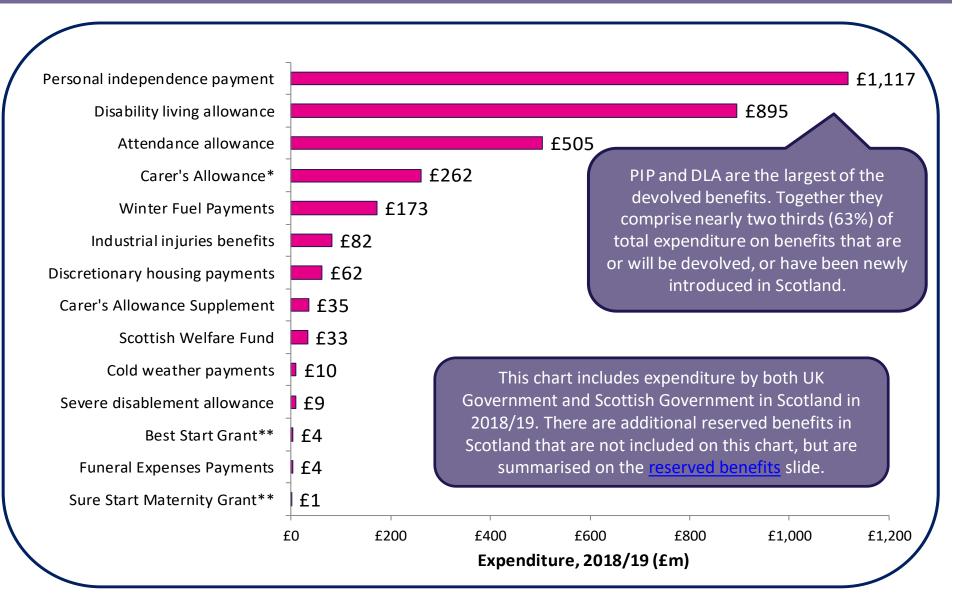
Benefits for people out of work	Benefits for elderly people	Benefits for people who are ill or disabled	Benefits for families with children	Benefits for people on low incomes	Other
Income Support	Winter Fuel Payments	Attendance Allowance	Child Benefit	Discretionary Housing Payments	Universal Credit, Inc. UC Scottish Choices
In Work Credit & Return to Work Credit	Financial Assistance Scheme	Carer's Allowance	Child Tax Credit	Scottish Welfare Fund	Bereavement Benefits
Jobseekers Allowance	Pension Credit	Carer's Allowance Supplement	Guardians Allowance	Cold Weather Payments	Christmas Bonus
JODSEEVELS WILDMAILER		Young Carer Grant	Maternity Allowance	·	
	State Pension State Pension Transfers	Disability Living Allowance	Statutory Maternity Pay	Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods	Other small benefits
	State Pension Transfers	Personal Independence Payment		Funeral Expenses	
	TV Licences	Severe Disablement Allowance		Payment/Funeral Support Payment	
		Industrial Injuries benefits Inc. Industrial Injury Disablement Benefit		New Deal & Employment Programme Allowances	
		Employment & Support Allowance		New Enterprise Allowance	
		Incapacity Benefit		Working Tax Credit	
		Specialised Vehicles fund		Housing Benefit	
		Statutory Sick Pay			
		Vaccine Damage Payments			

Social security in Scotland - benefits with published data

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	Benefits*	Primary purpose of current benefit and devolved status.	Devolved/delivered status		
For carers, disabled people & those who are ill	Attendance allowance	To help with personal care for individuals aged 65 or over with a physical or mental disability.	Disability Assistance for Older People new claims in 2021.		
	<u>Carer's Allowance</u>	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.	Devolved September 2018 and currently administrated by DWP. Scottish Carer's Assistance launch in 2022.		
	<u>Carer's Allowance</u> <u>Supplement</u>	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.	Introduced by Social Security Scotland from September 2018.		
	Young Carer Grant	Yearly payment for young people aged 16 to 18 who care for someone 16 hours or more each week.	Introduced by Social Security Scotland from October 2019.		
	Disability Living Allowance / Personal Independence Payment	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. PIP replaced working-aged DLA.	Child Disability Payment new claims from summer 2020. Disability Assistance for Working Age People new claims from early 2021.		
	<u>Industrial Injuries</u> <u>Disablement Benefit</u>	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.	To be delivered by DWP using agency agreement April 2020.		
	<u>Severe Disablement</u> <u>Allowance</u>	For working age individuals who are unable to work due to illness or disability. Closed to new entrants.	To be delivered by DWP using agency agreement April 2020.		
pun	Cold Weather Payments	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.	Cold Spell Heating Assistance by end 2021.		
Regulated Social Fund	<u>Funeral Support Payment</u> (<u>Funeral Expenses Payment</u>)	For individuals on low income and needing help to pay for a funeral they are arranging.	Delivered by Social Security Scotland since September 2019.		
	Best Start Grant (Sure Start Maternity Grant)	Best Start Grant launched on 10 December 2018, replacing Sure Start Maternity Grant, and providing 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.	Delivered by Social Security Scotland since December 2018.		
	Winter Fuel Payment	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).	Winter Heating Assistance by end 2021.		
Other	<u>Discretionary Housing</u> <u>Payments</u>	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.	Administered by Scottish local authorities, devolved April 2017.		
	Scottish Welfare Fund	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.	Administered by Scottish local authorities, localised April 2013.		
	<u>Universal Credit (Scottish</u> <u>Choices)</u>	Universal Credit (Scottish Choices) give recipients of UC in Scotland a choice to have their UC award paid either monthly or twice monthly, and have the housing costs in their award of UC paid direct to their landlord.	Introduced in October 2017 (delivered by DWP on behalf of the Scottish Government).		
	Reserved Benefits	Benefits that remain reserved to the UK government (e.g. Universal Credit, State Pension). Statistics on reserved benefits are available from the <u>Department of Work and Pensions</u> (DWP), and via <u>StatXplore</u> and <u>Nomis</u> .			

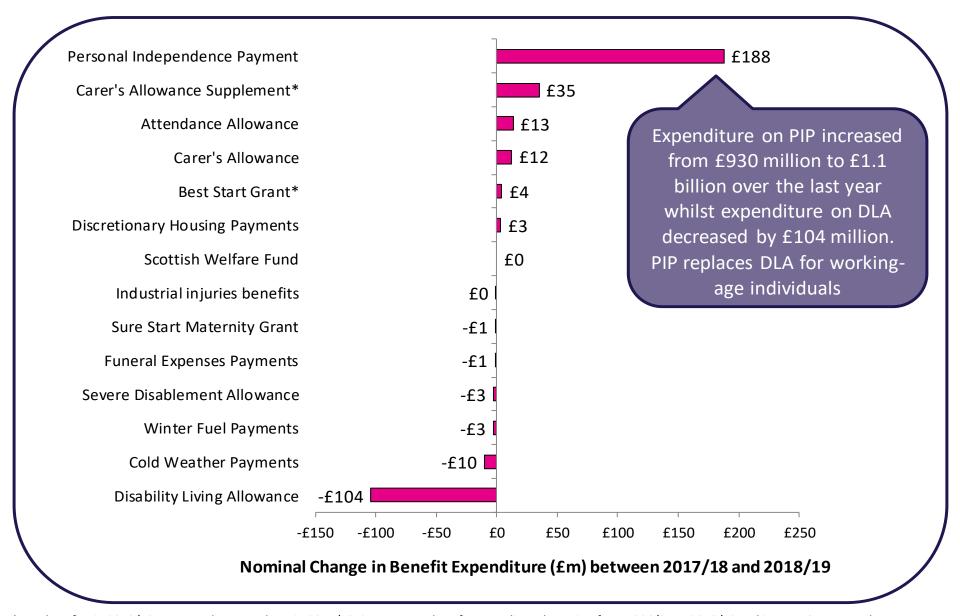
^{*}Benefits are summarised in the slide pack where there is available published data. Therefore, the slide pack does not yet include information on new benefits. Sources: www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/, https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/, https://www.gov.scot/news/3

Expenditure in Scotland on devolved and new benefits - 2018/19



^{*}Carer's Allowance includes expenditure by both UK Government and Scottish Government. **Sure Start Maternity Grant was replaced with Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Payment in December 2018 and expenditure on Sure Start Maternity Grant is an estimate based on a proportion of 2017/18 DWP unpublished figures. Source: DWP benefit expenditure by region from 1996/97 to 2018/19, DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019, NRS Mid-Year Population estimates. Industrial Injuries benefits includes IIDB - a further breakdown is unavailable. Scottish expenditure on Funeral Expenses Payments estimated based on GB figures in DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019. Additional expenditure on individuals in Scotland issummarised on the 'Reserved benefits and UC Scottish choices' slide.

Change in expenditure in Scotland between 2017/18 & 2018/19

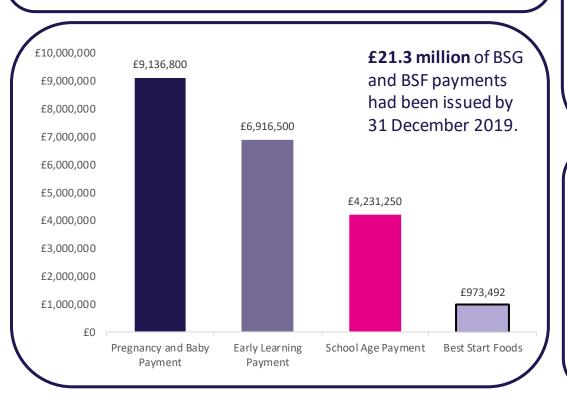


^{*}New benefits in 2018/19, no expenditure on these in 2017/18. Source: DWP benefit expenditure by region from 1996/97 to 2018/19 and in DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019. Industrial Injuries benefits includes IIDB. A further breakdown is unavailable. Scottish expenditure on Funeral Expenses Payments estimated based on DWP Outturn and Forecast GB figures. Scottish expenditure on Sure Start Maternity Grant estimated based on a proportion of 2017/18 DWP unpublished figures.

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods – December 2019

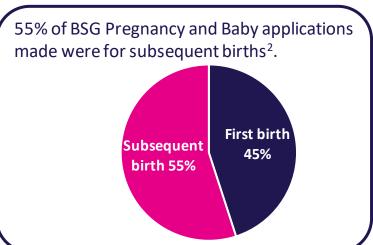
Best Start Grant (BSG) includes three types of payment: Pregnancy and Baby Payment (applications taken from 10 December 2018, replacing Sure Start Maternity Grant), Early Learning Payment (29 April 2019) and School Age Payment (3 June 2019). Best Start Foods (BSF) replaced Healthy Start Vouchers for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

Sure Start Maternity Grant (SSMG) was a one off payment of £500 to help towards the costs of having your first child, for individuals who are in receipt of certain benefits. In 2018/19, estimated expenditure for Scotland was £1 million up to 10 December 2018¹. During the rest of 2018/19, Social Security Scotland issued around £4 million in Best Start Grant payments.



From 10 December 2018 to 31 December 2019, **120,700** BSG/BSF applications were received, **113,330** applications had been processed and **75,800** (**67%** of processed applications) had been authorised for payment.

Of these authorised applications 23,150 included Pregnancy and Baby Payment, 27,275 included Early Learning Payment, 16,745 included School Age Payment and 17,730 included a Best Start Foods Payments.

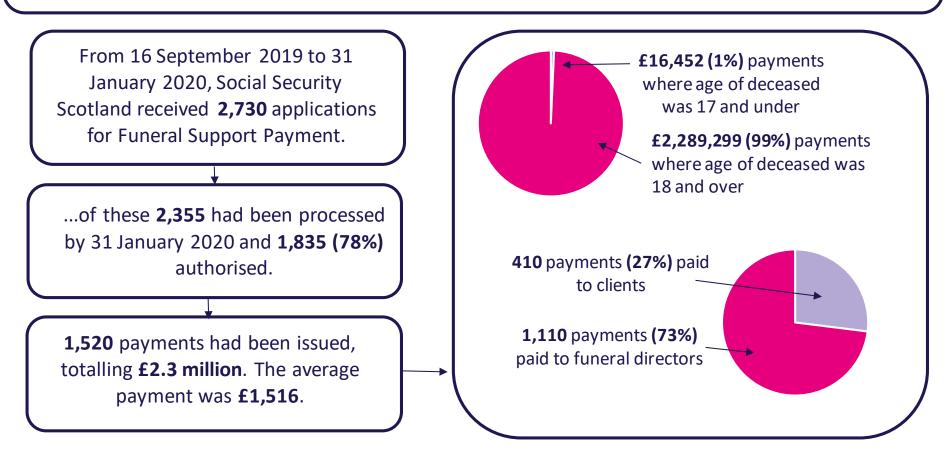


Sources: 1. Sure Start Maternity Grant has been replaced by Best Start Grant, estimate is based on eight months of 2017/18 unpublished historical DWP data. 2. Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods: high level statistics to 31 December 2019.

Funeral Support Payment – January 2020

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, which DWP ceased to deliver in Scotland on the same day.

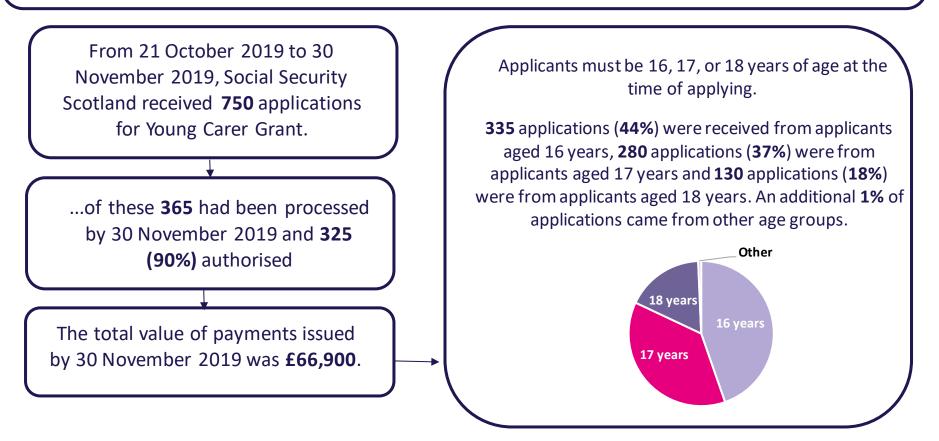
Funeral Expenses Payment (FEP) is a payment made to people on certain benefits who need help to pay for a funeral they're arranging. In 2018/19, estimated expenditure for Scotland was **£5 million**. From 16 September 2019 this was replaced with FSP. Future expenditure figures for 2019/20 will be split between Funeral Expenses Payment and Funeral Support Payment.



Young Carer Grant – November 2019

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 of £300 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.

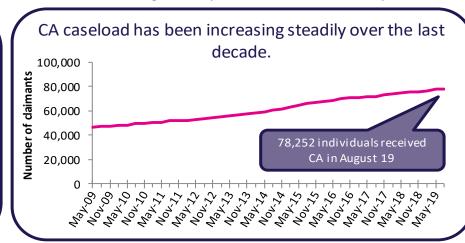


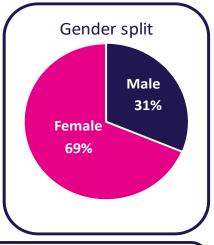
Carer's Allowance (August 2019) & Carer's Allowance Supplement (October 2019)

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 data is available for payments made to carers eligible in April 2018, October 2018, April 2019 and October 2019.

In 2018/19 an estimated total of £262 million was spent on Carer's Allowance in Scotland.

This included £110 million by UK Government and £152 by Social Security Scotland.



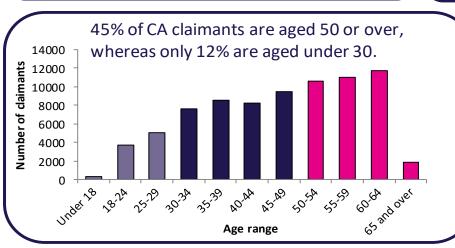


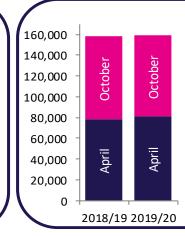


Over two thirds (69%) of claimants have been receiving CA for over 2 years, with 38% receiving CA for 5 years and over.



36% of CA claimants are entitled to CA but do not receive a CA payment. This is because they are also in receipt of another benefit, such as State Pension, JSA or ESA, which provide a higher level of income.





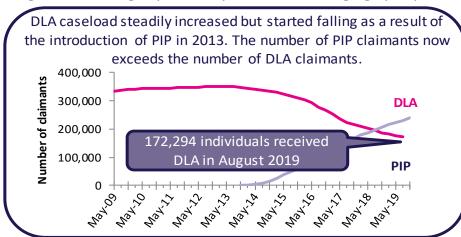
Since launching in September 2018, 317,055 Carer's Allowance
Supplement payments have been made to 98,275 carers who were eligible in 2018/19 or 2019/20. Individual payments were £221 in 2018/19, totalling £34.9 m and £226.20 in 2019/20 totalling £36.0 million, giving a total expenditure since launch of £70.9 m.

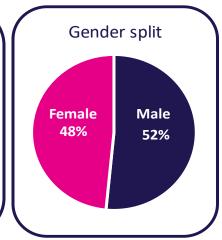
Sources: Stat-Xplore, DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019, DWP benefit expenditure by Region 1996/97 to 2018/19, Scottish Government Carer's Allowance at August 2019 and Carer's Allowance Supplement, October eligibility date 2019. Note: caseload data relates to cases in payment.

Disability Living Allowance in Scotland – August 2019

Provides help if health or a disability means a person needs help looking after themselves, or if they have difficulty walking. DLA is being replaced by PIP for working age people.

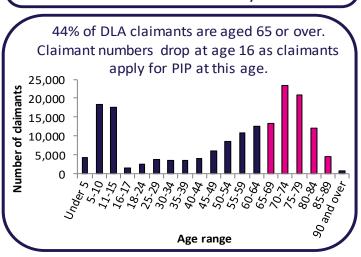
In 2018/19, £895m was spent on DLA in Scotland, 11% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

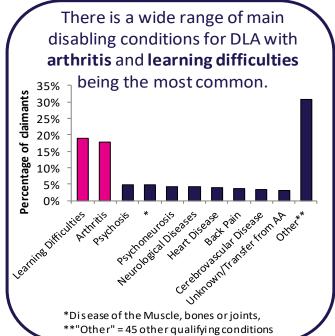






The majority (85%) of claimants have been receiving DLA for over 5 years, with 8% receiving DLA for between 2 to 5 years.





73% of DLA claimants are in receipt of both the Mobility and Care elements of DLA.

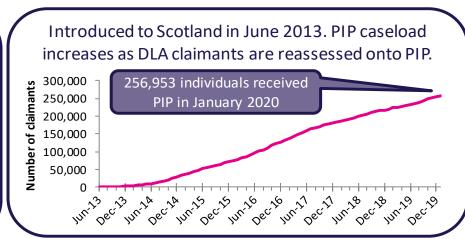
		Mobility Rate		
		Higher	Lower	Nil
<u>5</u>	Highest	17%	8%	2%
Award	Middle	14%	19%	6%
are /	Lowest	10%	6%	5%
O	Nil	10%	2%	0%

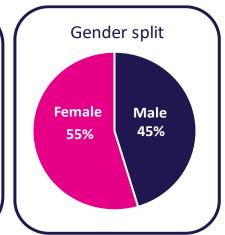
Sources: Stat-Xplore, DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019, DWP benefit expenditure by Region 1996/97 to 2018/19. Note: caseload data relates to cases in payment.

Personal Independence Payments in Scotland – January 2020

PIP 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 DLA for working age individuals.

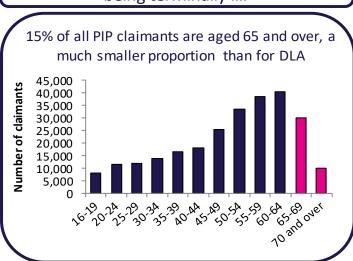
In 2018/19, £1117m was spent on PIP in Scotland, 11% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

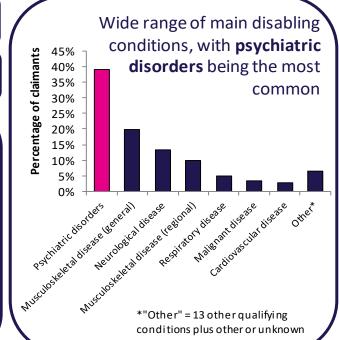




48% of current PIP claimants have been re-assessed from DLA.

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





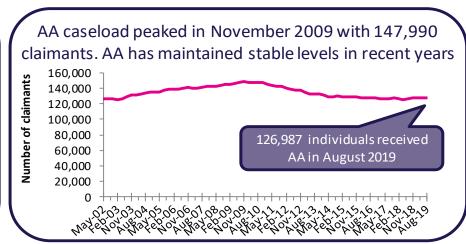
68% of PIP claimants are in receipt of both the mobility and daily living elements of PIP.

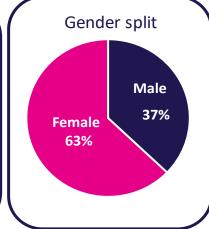
		Mobility Award Rate			
		Enhanced	Standard	Nil	
Daily	Enhanced	30%	10%	7%	
Living	Standard	10%	18%	22%	
Award	Nil	1%	2%	0%	
		-			

Attendance Allowance in Scotland – August 2019

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

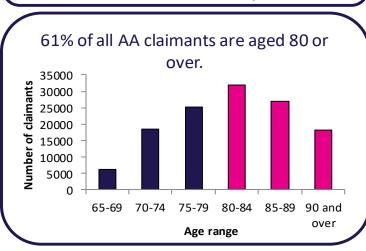
In 2018/19, £505m was spent on AA in Scotland, 9% of the GB total which is slightly more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

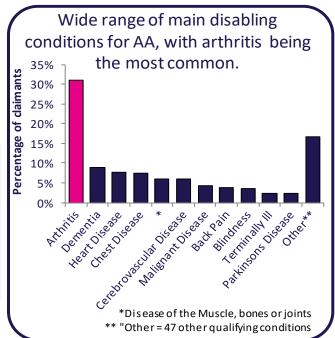


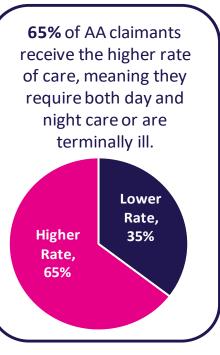




41% of claimants have been receiving AA for over 5 years, and29% have been receiving AA for between 2 to 5 years.



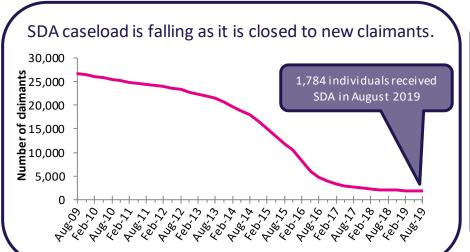


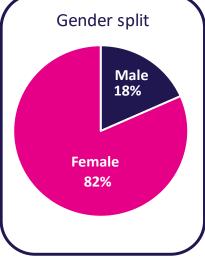


Severe Disablement Allowance in Scotland – August 2019

SDA 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 2018/19, £9m was spent on SDA in Scotland, 10% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).

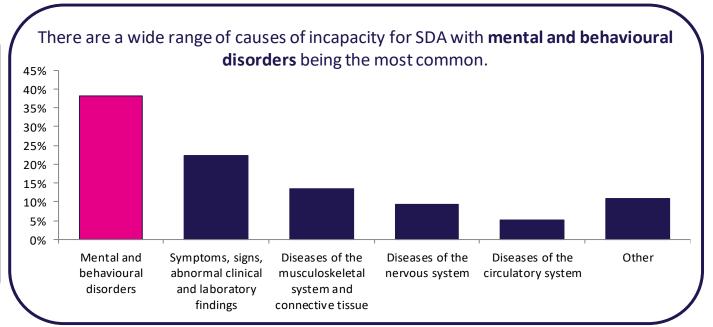




Individuals aged under 65 account for less than 1% of all SDA claimants. This is because the benefit has been closed to new claimants since 2001.

Under 65

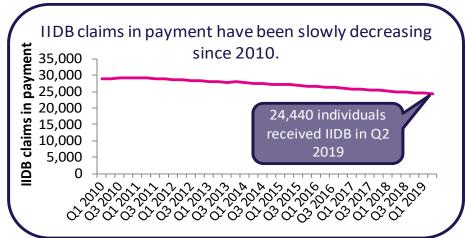
65 or over more than 99%

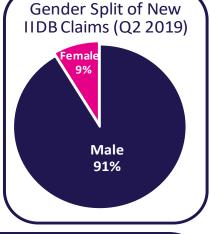


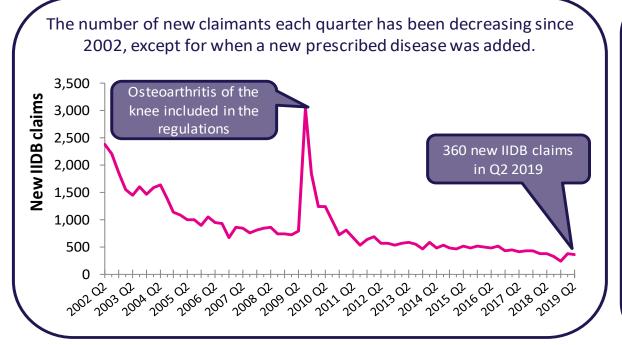
Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit in Scotland – June 2019

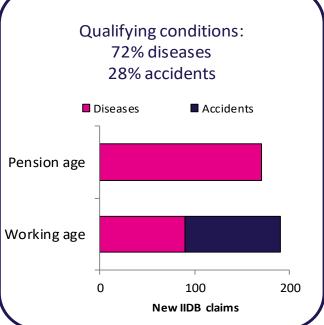
For those who are ill or disabled as a result of an accident or disease caused by work or while they were on an approved employment training scheme or course.

In 2018/19, £82m was spent on IIDB in Scotland, 10% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).







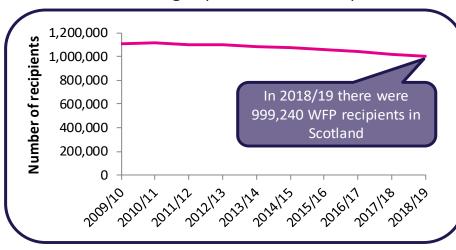


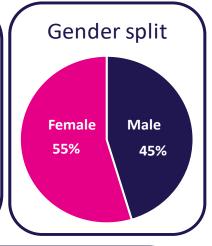
Sources: Stat-Xplore, DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019, DWP benefit expenditure by Region 1996/97 to 2018/19, DWP Industrial injuries disablement benefit quarterly statistics.

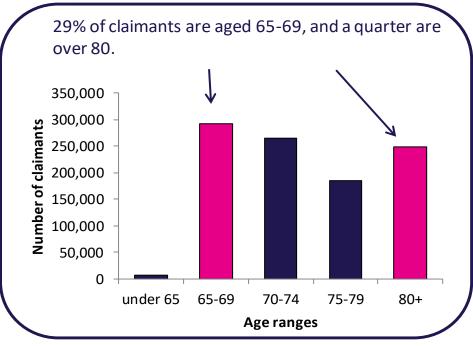
Winter Fuel Payment in Scotland – 2018/19

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.

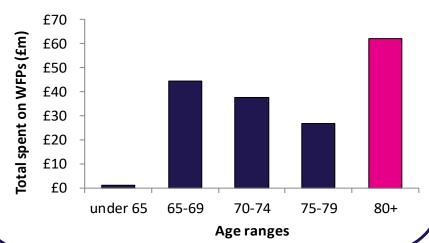
In 2018/19, £173m was spent on WFP in Scotland, 9% of the GB total which is more than Scotland's population share (8.4%).







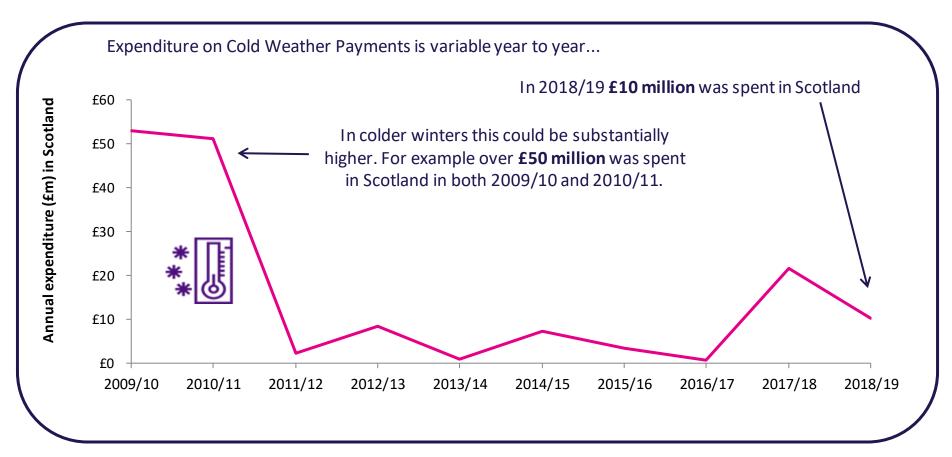
WFPs depend on age and circumstances. Older people receive higher payments on average, so the greatest amount in total is received by the 80+ age group.



Sources: DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019, DWP benefit expenditure by Region 1996/97 to 2018/19, DWP Winter Fuel Payment: recipient and household figures 2018 to 2019.

Cold Weather Payments in Scotland - 2018/19

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).



Discretionary Housing Payments in Scotland – September 2019

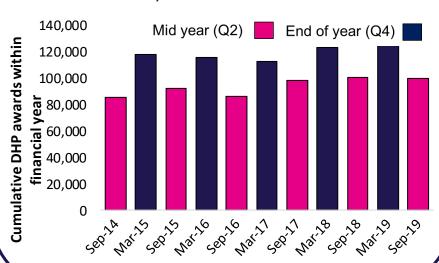
Help to meet rent payments for Housing Benefit recipients.

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

The total value of awards across Scotland in 2018/19 was **£62.5 million**.

DHP awards include a sizeable number of cases affected by the removal of the spare room subsidy (the 'bedroom tax'), where local authorities have continued to make up their shortfall in weekly rent through the use of DHPs.

In 2018/19 local authorities processed 116,618 applications and made 125,161 awards. By September 2019 99,910 awards had been made, with committed spend for 2019/20 at £59.1 million.



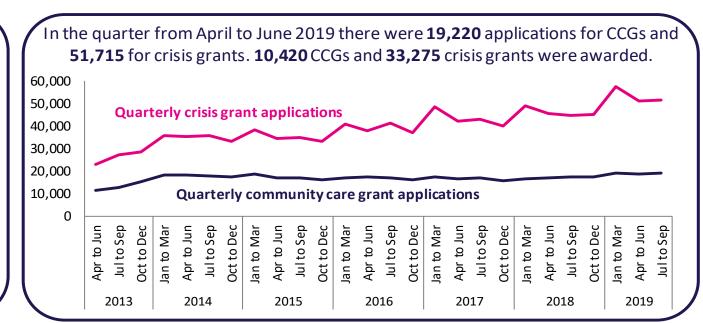
By September 2019 the average DHP award was £592. The average award varies between local authorities.



Scottish Welfare Fund – September 2019

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 2018/19, a total of
£35.3m was awarded
through the Scottish
Welfare Fund (SWF). This
included £24.8m on CCGs
and £10.4m on crisis
grants. This was funded by
£33m allocated to the
SWF by SG and the £2.3m
underspend in 2017/18
carried forward from
previous years.



CCGs are most commonly awarded for floor coverings, beds and bedding and kitchen appliances.





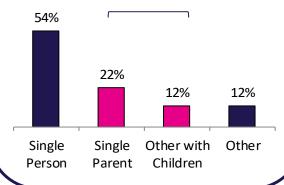
In July to September 2019 the average value of a CCG award was **£581**

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

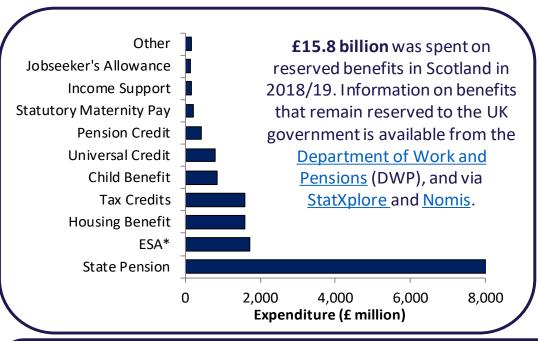


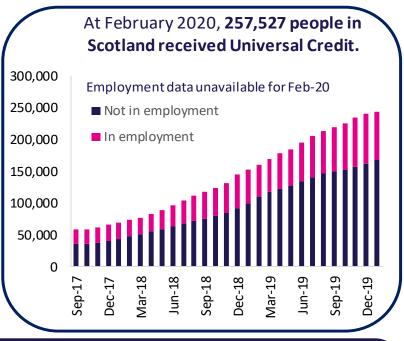
In July to September 2019 the average value of a crisis grant award was £96

357,350 households have received an award since the SWF scheme began in 2013. Of these, 1 in 3 have been families with children.



Reserved benefits and UC Scottish choices

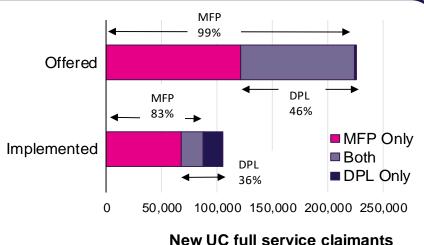




<u>Universal Credit (Scottish choices)</u> give recipients of Universal Credit (UC) in full service areas a choice to have their award paid either monthly or twice monthly (MFP) and/or have the housing costs in their award of UC paid direct to their landlord (DPL).

As of the end of August 2019, a total of **226,200 new claimants** who were offered have taken up one or both choices. Of these claimants **46%** took up at least one of the UC Scottish choices offered to them.

In total up to the end of August 2019, **105,170 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, 67,780 have chosen MFP and 17,570 have chosen DPL.



Sources: DWP Outturn and Forecast: Spring Statement 2019, DWP benefit expenditure by Region 1996/97 to 2018/19, HMRC Tax Receipts between England, Wales, Scotland & Northern Ireland. Stat Xplore. Scottish Universal Credit Choices - management information to end August 2019 http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Social-Welfare/SocialSecurityforScotland.*Employment Support Allowance

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AA Attendance Allowance

BSG Best Start Grant

CA Carer's Allowance

CAS Carer's Allowance Supplement

CWP Cold Weather Payment

DHP Discretionary Housing Payments

DLA Disability Living Allowance

DWP Department for Work & Pensions

ESA Employment & Support Allowance

FSP Funeral Support Payment

IB Incapacity Benefit

IIDB Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

IS Income Support

JSA Jobseeker's Allowance

PC Pension Credit

PIP Personal Independence Payment

SDA Severe Disablement Allowance

SP State Pension

SPA State Pension Age

SSMG Sure Start Maternity Grant

UC Universal Credit

WA Widow's Allowance

WFP Winter Fuel Payment

YCG Young Carer Grant

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