

Social Security Scotland Statistics

Summary statistics for Personal Independence Payment at January 2023

Key figures

- In January 2023, there were 319,336 people entitled to Personal Independence Payment in Scotland.
- Of people entitled to Personal Independence Payment, 74% were receiving a Mobility Award.
- 96% of males and 97% of females entitled to Personal Independence Payment were receiving Daily Living Award.

Frequency of publications

The next publication, covering Personal Independence Payment at April 2023, will be released in June 2023.

Under the Code of Practice for 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 Personal Independence Payment in Scotland at January 2023. Personal Independence Payment is replacing Disability Living Allowance for eligible working age people aged 16 to 64. This summary covers both new claims to Personal Independence Payment and claims made by those with an existing claim for Disability Living Allowance (known as Disability Living Allowance reassessments).

Adult Disability Payment is the replacement for Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance for adults in Scotland. Following a phased pilot, Adult Disability Payment launched nationally on 29 August 2022. Following this national launch, people are now directed to apply for Adult Disability Payment instead of Personal Independence Payment if they live in Scotland.

From 13 June 2022, people who get Personal Independence Payment, and from 29 August 2022, some people who get Disability Living Allowance for adults from the Department for Work and Pensions started to have their award transferred to Adult Disability Payment in phases. Social Security Scotland aims to have the transfer process completed for everyone in receipt of Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance for adults by the end of 2025.

This publication provides statistics for the quarter up to 31 January 2023, hence covering a period where Adult Disability Payment was delivered across Scotland and some clients started to have their award transferred. As the result of these transfers we will see a gradual reduction in Personal Independence Payment caseload figures over time as clients move across. Personal Independence Payment clients will be reported here until their Adult Disability Payments have started.

The [Background](#) section provides further detail about the payment.

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

A number of changes have been made to the structure and formatting of the tables in an aim to improve their accessibility. If you have any comments or suggestions that you would like to provide around these changes or other developments, please email MI@socialsecurity.gov.scot.

These statistics are being published as Official Statistics in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and the Code of Practice for Statistics³ to ensure they meet high standards of trustworthiness, quality and value.

³ The Code of Practice for Statistics is available on the [UK Statistics Authority website](#).

Main Findings

Cases with Entitlement

- In January 2023, there were 319,336 people entitled to Personal Independence Payment in Scotland. Special Rules for End of Life applied to 0.7% of these clients [**Table 1**]. There has been a reduction in the number of people entitled to Personal Independence Payment from November 2022 to January 2023, which will mainly be the result of clients having their award transferred to Adult Disability Payment.
- The four most common disabling conditions accounted for 81% of claims. The most common condition was 'Psychiatric disorders' with 38% of claims, followed by 'Musculoskeletal disease (general)' with 20%, 'Neurological disease' with 13% and 'Musculoskeletal disease (regional)' with 9% [**Table 2**].
- 55% of people entitled to Personal Independence Payment in Scotland were female, and 45% were male [**Table 3**].
- The number of cases with entitlement increased with age up to the most common age band of 60-64, with this age band accounting for 15% of cases with entitlement. From age 65 and over the number of cases decreased, with only 7% in the 70 and over age band. This is because people are generally unable to start a new claim for Personal Independence Payment after they reach State Pension Age (see the [Eligibility](#) section) [**Table 3**].
- In the 16-19 age group, 60% of clients were male, while 40% were female. From age 30 and above, more than half of clients were female [**Table 3**].

Mobility Award

- 74% of people entitled to Personal Independence Payment were receiving a Mobility Award in January 2023 [**Table 4**].
- Of those entitled to Personal Independence Payment, 45% were receiving the Enhanced Mobility Award and 29% were receiving the Standard Mobility Award. 26% were not receiving a Mobility Award [**Table 4**].
- The proportions of those receiving a Mobility Award vary with age, with 58% of 16-19 year olds in receipt of Personal Independence Payment getting the Enhanced Mobility Award in January 2023. This decreased to 36% for ages 30-34 and then increased again up to the age band of 70 and over, where 51% received the Enhanced Mobility Award [**Table 4**].

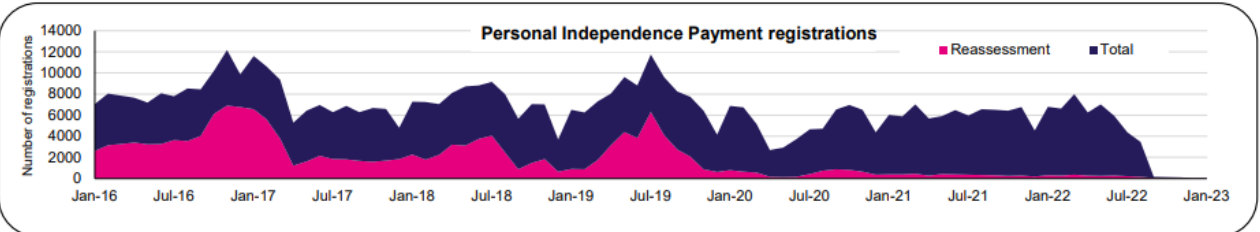
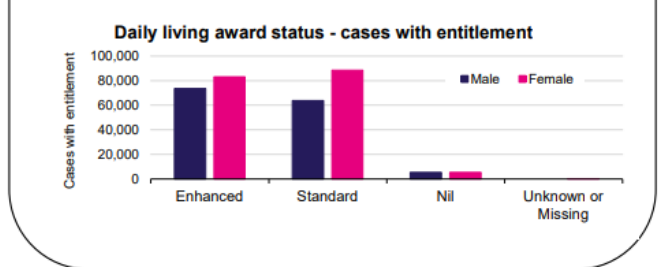
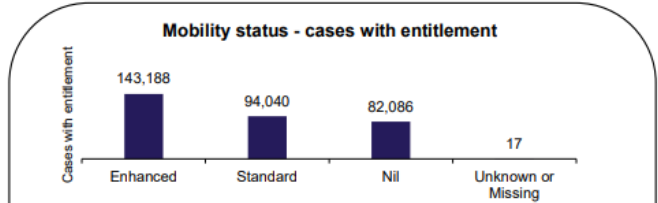
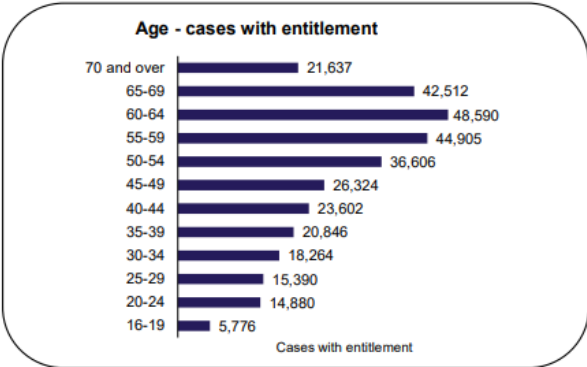
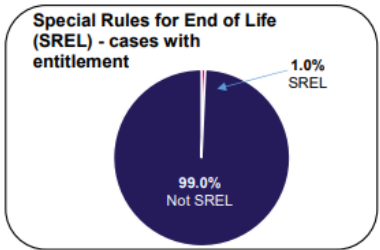
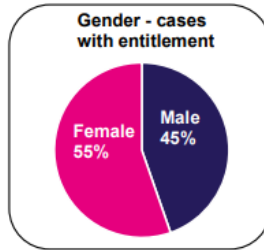
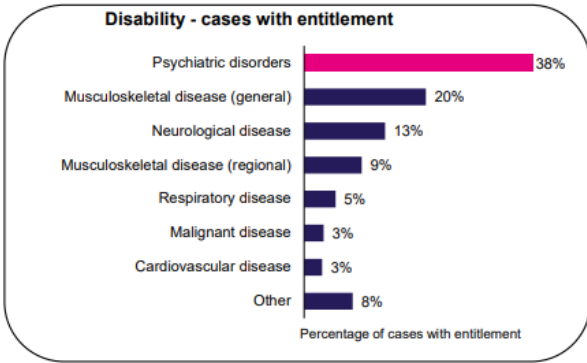
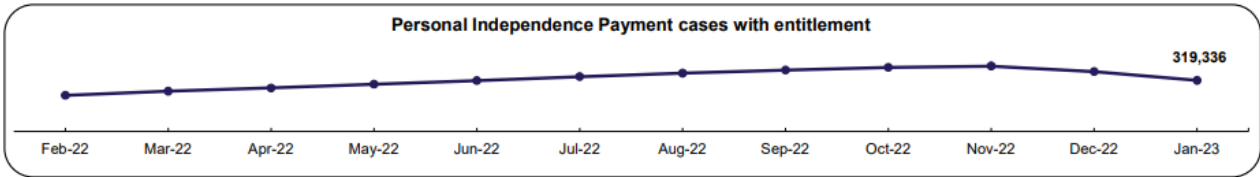
Daily Living Award

- In January 2023, 96% of males and 97% of females entitled to Personal Independence Payment were receiving a Daily Living Award [**Tables 5a and 5b**].
- 52% of males were receiving the Enhanced Daily Living Award, compared to 47% for females [**Tables 5a and 5b**].
- For males, 45% were receiving the Standard Daily Living Award, and 4% were receiving no Daily Living Award [**Tables 5a and 5b**].
- For females, 50% were receiving the Standard Daily Living Award, and 3% were receiving no Daily Living Award [**Tables 5a and 5b**].
- The percentage of people receiving the Enhanced Daily Living Award was highest for 16-19 year olds. For males, 83% of 16-19 year olds received the Enhanced Daily Living Award and for females of the same age this was 73%. This compares to between 45% and 55% for males and females in all age groups from 30 and above [**Tables 5a and 5b**]. Those age groups reflect the age at the latest caseload date, not the age at the point in time the client first joined the caseload.

Registrations and Reassessments

- The low number of registrations for Personal Independence Payment in recent months is due to the national launch of Adult Disability Payment on 29 August 2022. New clients are now directed to apply for Adult Disability Payment instead of Personal Independence Payment if they live in Scotland [**Table 6**].
- From 29 August 2022, Scottish clients that mistakenly complete a Personal Independence Payment form and send it to the Department for Work and Pensions will have their application re-directed to Social Security Scotland, where it will be treated as a new application for Adult Disability Payment. This will still result in Personal Independence Payment registration.
- Future editions of this publication will not report updates to the registrations and reassessments data, however this will still be published by Department for Work and Pensions on Stat-Xplore.

Summary Panel: Personal Independence Payment clients to January 2023



Background to Personal Independence Payment

Payment

Personal Independence Payment is provided to support working age clients with some of the extra costs caused by long-term disability, ill health or terminal ill health.

Personal Independence Payment in Scotland

The Scotland Act 2016⁴ gives Scottish Parliament powers over a number of social security benefits that had been administered to Scottish clients by the Department for Work and Pensions. From 1 April 2020, Personal Independence Payment became one of the benefits to have executive competency transferred from the Department for Work and Pensions to Social Security Scotland, the executive agency of Scottish Government that is responsible for delivering the social security benefits for 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 Personal Independence Payment on Social Security Scotland's behalf.

Adult Disability Payment, the Scottish replacement benefit for Personal Independence Payment, began receiving applications as part of a pilot which launched on 21 March 2022. The pilot launched for new applicants living in the local authorities of Dundee City, Na h-Eileanan Siar and Perth and Kinross and it then expanded to include Angus, North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire on 20 June 2022. It further expanded to include Fife, City of Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray, North Ayrshire, East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire on 25 July 2022, before launching nationally to all remaining local authorities on 29 August 2022. This publication provides statistics for the quarter up to 31 January 2023, hence covering a period where the Adult Disability Payment was delivered across Scotland.

New applications for Adult Disability Payment are reported separately and are not included within these statistics. Quarterly statistics on Adult Disability Payment are available on [Social Security Scotland statistics website](#). These include information about Adult Disability Payment applications and payments as well as information about clients who have transferred to Adult Disability Payment.

Introduction of Personal Independence Payment

From 8 April 2013, the Department for Work and Pensions started to replace Disability Living Allowance for working age people with Personal Independence Payment. It began as a controlled start, for new claims from people living in a limited area in the North West and part of the North East of England. On 10 June

⁴ Information is provided on [the Scotland Act 2016 webpage](#).

2013, Personal Independence Payment was introduced for new claims for the remaining parts of Great Britain.

From 28 October 2013, using a structured roll out to postcode areas, 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 End of Life)
- 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 started to be invited to claim Personal Independence Payment. However, since 1 April 2020, Department for Work and Pensions stopped proactively sending these invites to working age Disability Living Allowance recipients who live in Scotland.

Additionally, any recipients of Disability Living Allowance for Children who lived in Scotland and who turned 16 on or after 1 September 2020, were able to continue getting Disability Living Allowance until they turned 18. However, they were still eligible to apply for Personal Independence Payment if they chose to. Those who remained on Disability Living Allowance for Children, in these circumstances, were some of the first to have their award transferred to Child Disability Payment, its replacement in Scotland, which launched nationally in November 2021.

Eligibility

Following the national launch of Adult Disability Payment, the replacement for Personal Independence Payment in Scotland, on 29 August 2022, people are now directed to apply for Adult Disability Payment instead of Personal Independence Payment if they live in Scotland.

A person can get Personal Independence Payment whether they are working or not. It is non-means-tested, non-contributory and tax-free. It is also not linked to a person's ability to work and it is available equally to people in or out of work. It is not intended to be a substitute for a person's earnings.

The person must be aged 16 or over and usually have not reached [State Pension age](#) to apply. Personal Independence Payment can be paid to adults under the State Pension age, and people already on the benefit when they reach State Pension age will continue to receive it if their condition has not changed.

The person claiming must also have a [health condition or disability](#) where they:

- have had difficulties with daily living or getting around (or both) for 3 months
- expect these difficulties to continue for at least 9 months

Personal Independence Payment is made up of two parts. The mobility part of Personal Independence Payment may be given if the person needs help going out of moving around. The daily living part of Personal Independence Payment may be given if the person needs help more than half of the time with things like:

- preparing or eating food
- washing, bathing and using the toilet
- dressing and undressing
- reading and communicating
- managing medicines or treatments
- making decisions about money
- engaging with other people

The amount given depends on how the person's condition affects them, not the condition itself and they will be assessed by a health professional to work out the level of help they can get.

The person needs to have lived in England, Scotland or Wales for at least 2 of the last 3 years, and be in one of these countries when they apply. If they have recently returned from living in an [European Economic Area country](#), they might be able to get Personal Independence Payment sooner.

There are [different rules](#), where a person can claim more quickly, if their doctor or a medical professional has said they might have less than 6 months to live.

More information on eligibility can be found on the Department for Work and Pensions [Personal Independence Payment webpage](#).

Registration and awards

A 'registration' is recorded when a client has completed the initial Personal Independence Payment claim process. Following this a client completes a 'Part 2' form, an Assessment Provider conducts an assessment, and the Department for Work and Pensions makes a decision on the application. Not all registrations result in an 'award'.

As discussed in the section above, Personal Independence Payment is comprised of two components: i) Daily Living and ii) Mobility, both of which can be paid at

enhanced or standard rate. A client's need for one component does not affect the need for the other component. Clients who are terminally ill and who are not expected to live more than six months are automatically entitled to the enhanced rate of the daily living component.

Personal Independence Payment 'claims with entitlement' statistics show a total for all entitled cases. They show both the number of people in receipt of Personal Independence Payment and those with entitlement where the payment has been suspended (e.g. if they are in hospital or in prison at a point in time).

Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

Operational measures implemented by the Department for Work and Pensions in late March 2020 in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic included the suspension of routine reassessments of disability benefits i.e. Disability Living Allowance to Personal Independence Payment reassessments. Some Disability Living Allowance reassessment activity restarted in late July 2020 for voluntarily claims for Personal Independence Payment, although new invitations to apply for Personal Independence Payment for working age Disability Living Allowance clients are not currently being sent out.

COVID-19 provisions were put in place in late March 2020 and the Department for Work and Pensions continues to review and amend working practices where appropriate.

About the data

How Personal Independence Payment data is collected

The Department for Work and Pensions holds information on those in payment of Personal Independence Payment, and publish quarterly statistics on the [UK Government website](#).

The Department for Work and Pensions produces summary tables for Personal Independence Payment in Scotland based on the data that are published in these quarterly publications, and provide these to Scottish Government for publication.

From September 2022, the commentary in the quarterly statistics published by the Department for Work and Pensions focuses on claims in England & Wales, with a separate section covering Scotland to reflect the impact of Scottish devolution. Earlier releases covered all claims in Great Britain. However, since the introduction of Adult Disability Payment in Scotland, trends in Scottish Personal Independence Payment cases are expected to diverge from England & Wales.

Personal Independence Payment data quality

Information about the methodology used to produce Personal Independence Payment statistics and the quality of the statistics is available on the [UK Government website](#).

Personal Independence Payment data is subject to the rounding techniques for disclosure control that are used by the Department for Work and Pensions.

Further breakdowns of Personal Independence Payment data

The data for Personal Independence Payment 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.

As a result of the changes in the way statistics are presented by the Department for Work and Pensions from September 2022, a new high level geography breakdown has been added on Stat-Xplore to allow users to easily select people with “DWP policy ownership” (England, Wales, plus abroad/unknown cases) or “Policy devolved to Scotland” (those residing in Scotland but with their Personal Independence Payment claim still administered by the Department for Work and Pensions). Footnotes have been added to alert users to the changes in Scotland.

Personal Independence Payment Official Statistics published by the Department for Work and Pensions formerly referred to Special Rules for Terminal Illness (SRTI). From June 2022, these were updated to use the term Special Rules for End of Life (SREL) instead. This change was made for all commentary, tables and Stat-Xplore, with notes added to explain the amendment.

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

Official and National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Both undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs and are produced free from any political interference.

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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.socialsecurity.gov.scot/about/statistics/social-security-scotland-statistics-publications>

may 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@gov.scot.

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Details of forthcoming publications can be found at www.gov.scot/statistics

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