



Department
for Work &
Pensions

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[DWP Website](#)

Our Ref: FOI2023/38885

08 June 2023

Dear Emily Silcock,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 19 May. You wrote:

“First, I would like to request the number of applications made for income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, at a daily level, for each day in 2016.

To be clear, I would like the total number for each day separately, so a sample dataset could have every date in 2016 in the first column and the applications in the second column. The date should be the date that the initial application was made, not the date of the decision - and I would like all applications, whether or not they were successful.

Second, could you confirm that there were zero applications for income-based JSA in 2017?”

DWP Response

We confirm that we do not hold the information you have requested.

With regards to the request for number of daily applications for Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance, the Department for Work and Pensions is unable to provide data for 2016 showing daily numbers of applications.

Income Support application volume data is available by calendar month. These numbers would be for internal use and therefore not subject to the same assurance as published data. An average daily intake figure could be derived from the monthly figure based on the number of days in each particular month in 2016 (total divided by days). However, we would emphasise that this would not be accurate nor reflect fluctuations or changes in the level of applications within month. For example, Bank Holidays or particular days where applications were higher or lower due to external factors. so would not necessarily be accurate on a day-by-day basis.

Similarly, daily Income based Jobseeker's Allowance & Employment and Support Allowance application volume data is not available. However, monthly data is available if required, and these numbers would be for internal use and therefore not subject to the same assurance as published data. It is pertinent to note that Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance management information systems do not differentiate between application

types i.e. Contributory or Income Based. Therefore, unfortunately specific Income based data is not available and only combined monthly volumes would be available if required.

To your second point regarding whether there were zero applications for income based JSA in 2017, I can advise that whilst a number of applications were received, monthly figures are available across 2017. These numbers would be for internal use and therefore, not subject to the same assurance as published data. Its pertinent to note however we are unable to differentiate as to whether they were Income based or contributory.

Regarding other alternative data sources that may be helpful in understanding DWP's statistics - [NOMIS](#), published by Office for National Statistics, features Jobseeker's Allowance onflow of applications but also does not break this down into income-based cases. Also, onflow of applications do not necessarily equate to all new applications as some applications received are not accepted for example, where evidence requirements are not met. Other information you may be interested in regarding Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance can be found on [Stat-Xplore](#) which provides a guided way to explore DWP benefit statistics.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team
Department for Work and Pensions

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk or by writing to: DWP Central FoI Team, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NA.

Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: [ICO FOI and EIR complaints](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.