

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Our Ref: FOI2019/02960

29 January 2019

Dear Nicola Tiffin,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 21 January. You asked:

Please can you provide the yearly accurate figures from 8th april 2013 to 31st december 2018, showing: the number of people receiving pip. Also the yearly figures showing how many people have decreased or increased in the rate of mobility and care. I.e moved from higher rate to lower rate or the opposite

DWP Response:

In respect to your first question, section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you. The Department publishes a range of Official Statistics on Personal Independence Payment (PIP) on Stat-Xplore here: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/>.

Guidance on how to use Stat-Xplore can be found here:
<https://sw.stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/webapi/online-help/index.html>.

These statistics show the total number of PIP claims in payment each month from April 2013 – October 2018, the last month for which published PIP data is available.

In respect of your second question asking how many people have increased or decreased the rate of mobility or care each year since April 2013, I cannot deal with the request without seeking further clarification. There are three ways that a claimant's PIP award level can change:

1. Reassessment from Disability Living Allowance (DLA) to PIP. DLA claimants are reassessed for their eligibility for PIP against the same criteria as new PIP claimants.
2. Award Review: A PIP Award Review is an opportunity to look at entitlement at set intervals to ensure a claimant continues to receive the correct award. The review date is selected based on the claimant's individual circumstances and takes place prior to the award end date.
3. Change of Circumstances: A claimant's personal circumstances may change at any time and in some cases those changes of circumstances may lead to a change in entitlement.

Please clarify if you are interested in changes to PIP component levels resulting from DLA to PIP reassessments, Award Reviews or Change of Circumstances.

The Department publishes a comparison of DLA and PIP entitlement in Table 1A in the data tables: “*PIP: DLA to PIP reassessment outcomes, October 2018 (XLS)*” here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/766240/pip-dla-to-pip-reassessment-outcomes-october-2018.xls

The latest available data is up to the end of October 2018 but this is not broken down by year.

The Department published experimental statistics on comparisons of PIP entitlement before and after a claimant’s Award Review and reported Change of Circumstances. These comparisons can be found in the data tables “*PIP: Planned Award Review and Change of Circumstance Registrations and Clearances, October 2018 (XLS)*” in Table 4A for Award Reviews and Table 4B for Changes of Circumstances here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/763515/pip-planned-award-review-and-change-of-circumstance-registrations-and-clearances-october-2018.xls

This data is from June 2016 up to October 2018 but this is not broken down by year.

Comparisons of entitlement before June 2016 are not available due to changes in the process of recording Award Review and Changes of Circumstances outcomes which was implemented on 25th June 2016.

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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.gsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, 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
https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745