

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team

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

Our Ref: FoI 3606

DATE: 27 October 2016

Dear Trudy Baddams,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 September 2016. You asked:

How many people die before reaching retirement age?

How many people die before claiming their state pension?

How many of these are men and how many are women?

What percentage of people died before claiming the state pension in 2015?

I can confirm that we hold information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would **exceed the appropriate limit for central Government, set by regulations at £600**. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not therefore obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing it further.

Under section 16 of the Act we should assist the requester in helping narrow their request so that it may fall beneath the cost limit. You might like to narrow your request by specifying a time period.

We will consider afresh any revised request however we cannot guarantee that any revised request will fall within the cost limit.

You may be interested to know that the Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes mortality statistics which can be found here:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths>

In particular, the publication 'Death registrations summary tables - England and Wales', within the 2015 supporting table provides registered deaths by individual year of age and gender which may be of most interest.

Should you require any further information on these statistics, information on how to submit a freedom of information request to ONS can be found via the link below:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/transparencyandgovernance/freedomofinformationfoi>

The General Register for Scotland produces similar statistics for Scotland and can be found here: <http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths>

The Department does not hold this information for Northern Ireland. The responsibility for statistics in Northern Ireland lies with the Department for Communities:
<http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk>

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

Yours sincerely,

DWP Strategy 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@dwpgsi.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 www.ico.gov.uk