

Dear Emma Caitlin Townend,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 27 January 2020. You asked:

"I would like to obtain data concerning Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

I would like to see:

- 1. All PIP applications grouped by main disability.*
- 2. Successful PIP applications grouped by main disability.*
- 3. Unsuccessful PIP applications grouped by main disability.*
- 4. Successful MR appeals grouped by main disability.*
- 5. Rejected MR appeals grouped by main disability.*
- 6. Successful tribunal appeals grouped by main disability.*
- 7. Unsuccessful tribunal appeals grouped by main disability.*

If any of these requests are unclear, please contact me for clarification."

DWP Response

I confirm that we hold some recorded information to respond to your request.

For question 1, I confirm that we do not hold the recorded information to respond to your request.

For questions 2 to 7, I confirm that we hold the recorded information to respond to your request.

With regard to question 1, in the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) application process, a claimant's main disabling condition is only recorded for collation by the Department at assessment. It is not recorded at the point of application. The Department does not therefore hold data on the number of applicants to PIP by main disabling condition. Only those claimants who undergo a disability assessment determination have a recorded main disabling condition.

In response to questions 2 and 3, section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you. The Department already publishes a range of PIP statistics, including the number of successful (awarded) and unsuccessful (disallowed) PIP applications by main disabling condition, in Stat-Xplore:

<https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/>

Statistics on PIP claims that have been awarded or disallowed at initial decision by main disabling condition can be found in the PIP clearances table. This includes data from when PIP was introduced, in April 2013, to October 2019, the latest available data.

Guidance on how to use Stat-Xplore can be found here:

<https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/webapi/online-help/index.html>

In response to questions 4, 5, 6 and 7, the information requested on Mandatory Reconsiderations (MRs) and tribunals is shown in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Table 1: Initial decisions following a PIP assessment – Mandatory Reconsideration (MRs) outcomes by primary disabling condition; (Initial decisions: April 2013 to 30th June 2019; MRs: to 30th September 2019)

Primary disabling condition	MRs - withdrawn	MRs - award changed	MRs - award unchanged
<i>Autoimmune disease (connective tissue disorders)</i>	20	730	3,720
<i>Cardiovascular disease</i>	70	3,890	22,850
<i>Diseases of the immune system</i>	#	60	440
<i>Diseases of the liver, gallbladder, biliary tract</i>	10	530	3,390
<i>Endocrine disease</i>	40	1,740	13,470
<i>Gastrointestinal disease</i>	30	1,430	12,720
<i>Genitourinary disease</i>	20	1,220	7,590
<i>Haematological Disease</i>	10	430	2,340
<i>Hearing disorders</i>	20	1,170	8,090
<i>Infectious disease</i>	10	340	1,580
<i>Malignant disease</i>	100	3,380	11,260
<i>Metabolic disease</i>	#	200	920
<i>Multisystem and extremes of age</i>	#	20	100
<i>Musculoskeletal disease (general)</i>	520	24,980	134,200
<i>Musculoskeletal disease (regional)</i>	330	15,290	89,850
<i>Neurological disease</i>	280	15,880	69,720
<i>Psychiatric disorders</i>	730	42,040	221,660
<i>Respiratory disease</i>	130	5,950	31,520
<i>Skin disease</i>	20	870	5,210
<i>Unknown or missing</i>	#	210	1,720
<i>Visual disease</i>	30	1,650	6,990
Total	2,370	122,000	649,330

**Table 2: Initial decisions following a PIP assessment –
Appeal outcomes by primary disabling condition;
(Initial decisions: April 2013 to 30th June 2019; Appeals: to 30th September 2019)**

Primary Disabling Condition	Appeals Withdrawn/ Struck out	Appeals Lapsed	Appeals Overturned	Appeals Upheld
<i>Autoimmune disease (connective tissue disorders)</i>	90	160	910	490
<i>Cardiovascular disease</i>	480	840	5,300	3,350
<i>Diseases of the immune system</i>	10	20	90	80
<i>Diseases of the liver, gallbladder, biliary tract</i>	50	110	770	450
<i>Endocrine disease</i>	200	390	2,830	1,970
<i>Gastrointestinal disease</i>	170	330	2,600	1,920
<i>Genitourinary disease</i>	120	300	1,730	1,000
<i>Haematological Disease</i>	50	110	590	320
<i>Hearing disorders</i>	120	240	2,170	1,100
<i>Infectious disease</i>	20	80	430	230
<i>Malignant disease</i>	230	630	2,260	1,100
<i>Metabolic disease</i>	10	50	250	100
<i>Multisystem and extremes of age</i>	#	#	30	10
<i>Musculoskeletal disease (general)</i>	3,140	5,160	31,820	19,440
<i>Musculoskeletal disease (regional)</i>	1,820	2,990	19,320	12,930
<i>Neurological disease</i>	1,190	3,940	21,390	7,240
<i>Psychiatric disorders</i>	2,830	9,990	56,620	24,010
<i>Respiratory disease</i>	660	1,330	7,290	4,470
<i>Skin disease</i>	90	200	1,170	660
<i>Unknown or missing</i>	30	40	440	310
<i>Visual disease</i>	100	350	2,090	670
Total	11,400	27,260	160,090	81,840

Notes

- More MRs and appeals could be made and completed after September 2019, so the numbers could go up.
- Data is based on primary disabling condition as recorded on the PIP computer systems. Claimants may often have multiple disabling conditions upon which the decision is based but only the primary condition is shown in these statistics.
- Appeals data taken from the DWP PIP computer system's management information. Therefore, this appeal data may differ from that held by Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service for various reasons such as delays in data recording and other methodological differences in collating and preparing statistics.
- Some decisions which are changed at MR, and where the claimant continues to appeal for a higher PIP award, are then changed again at tribunal appeal. Therefore, the number of people who had a decision changed at MR and the number of people who had a decision changed at appeal cannot be added together.

- Includes both 'normal rules' and special rules for terminally ill people (SRTI).
- Data has been rounded to their nearest 10. # refers to fewer than 5 cases in this category.
- 'MRs - award changed': As a result of the MR, a new decision has been issued and the award has been changed. This may include claims that were previously disallowed that are now awarded, or claims that had previously been awarded but the MR has resulted in a change in the level of the award.
- 'MRs - award unchanged': As a result of the MR, the award remains unchanged.
- 'MRs - withdrawn' includes all reconsiderations that were withdrawn prior to a reconsideration decision being made.
- 'Appeals - withdrawn/struck out' - includes where an appeal is brought to an end, or cleared, without a determination on the issue in dispute. Struck out appeal is where the proceedings have been brought to an end by the Tribunal Judge.
- 'Appeals - lapsed' - where DWP changed the decision (in the customer's favour) after an appeal was lodged but before it was heard at a tribunal hearing.
- 'Appeals - overturned' - where the DWP decision is revised in favour of the customer at a tribunal hearing.
- 'Appeals - upheld' - where the DWP decision is upheld at a tribunal hearing.
- Great Britain only.

Outside of our obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, you may find the following information useful. Since PIP was introduced 3.4 million initial decisions following an assessment have been made up to June 2019, and 9% have been appealed and 5% have been overturned at a tribunal hearing.

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

Yours sincerely,
DWP Central FOI 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.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FOI 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
Web: ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745