

Dear Department for Communities (Northern Ireland),

Please provide information on the following:

1. Percentage and number of households in NI in receipt of benefits
2. Percentage and number of households in NI in receipt of income related benefit
3. Percentage and number of households in NI, with one or more adult in work, in receipt of benefits
4. Percentage and number of households in NI, with one or more adult in work, in receipt of income related benefits

Professional Services  
Unit (DfC)  
Level 6, Causeway  
Exchange  
1-7 Bedford Street  
Belfast  
BT2 7EG

Date: 21 June 2022

## Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information which you requested on 29 May 2022.

Historically, benefits have been administered on an individual basis and therefore it is difficult to produce data at a household level. For that reason the Family Resources Survey (FRS) is being used to answer this request.

Your requested information is below:

Question	Estimated Percentage	Estimated Number
Households in receipt of benefits	71	520,000
Households in receipt of income related benefits	23	169,000
Households with one or more adult in work, in receipt of benefits	58	291,000
Households with one or more adult in work, in receipt of income related benefits	10	47,000

Source data is from the Family Resources Survey. The most recent estimates are for the financial year 2019/20. The FRS collects detailed information on the incomes and circumstances of private households from April to March each year. The survey has been carried out in Great Britain since 1992, but in 2002/03 it was introduced to Northern Ireland for the first time.

[Family resources survey | Department for Communities \(communities-ni.gov.uk\)](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk)

If you are dissatisfied with this response and wish to request a review of our decision or make a complaint about how your request has been handled, you may ask for an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. You should write to the Information Access Manager, Department for Communities, Level 5, Nine Lanyon Place, BELFAST, BT1 3LP, or send an email to [foi@communities-ni.gov.uk](mailto:foi@communities-ni.gov.uk).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of our original decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours Sincerely