

Table 110 Mortgage interest taken into account for income support and jobseeker's allowance

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Average mortgage interest:																								
£ per week	10.18	12.18	13.87	11.93	15.18	18.96	19.31	18.33	24.18	33.41	43.27	43.98	41.92	37.81	39.16	36.98	33.60	37.16	32.93	33.65	35.80	25.50	25.47	25.59
£ per annum (A)	529	633	721	620	789	986	1,004	953	1,257	1,737	2,250	2,287	2,180	1,966	2,036	1,923	1,747	1,933	1,712	1,750	1,862	1,326	1,324	1,331
Number of claimants (000s) (B)	134	196	235	242	277	356	334	300	281	310	411	499	555	529	499	451	378	335	308	280	260	242	231	209
Total mortgage interest per annum (£ million) (A x B)	71	124	170	150	219	351	335	286	353	539	925	1,141	1,210	1,040	1,016	867	660	648	527	490	484	321	306	278

Sources: Annual Statistical Enquiries, Parliamentary Question 9/7/91, Income Support Quarterly Statistics, Jobseeker's Allowance Quarterly Statistics, Pensioner Credit Statistics.

Notes: All figures are for the May of the year. Figures to 1990 show mortgage interest liabilities taken into account in calculating eligibility for income support, and in earlier years supplementary benefit.

From 1990 onwards the figures are based on actual help provided, and are net of non-dependant deductions etc. From 1988 to 1995 the average figure for weekly mortgage interest was somewhat depressed by the regulation restricting new claims to 50 per cent of eligible mortgage costs during the first 16 weeks of a claim. The figures from 1996 reflect the further restrictions on initial help with mortgage costs introduced in October 1995. From 1997 onwards the figures also reflect the introduction of the jobseeker's allowance. The 2004 figure includes provision as part of the pension credit scheme. No 1985 figures are available.