

Table 108 **Housing benefit – numbers of claimants and average claim in Great Britain**

	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 provisional
Housing benefit claimants (000's)																					
Social rented	-	-	-	3,588	3,175	3,169	3,154	3,101	3,116	3,186	3,294	3,324	3,383	3,385	3,337	3,283	3,211	3,104	2,942	2,623	2,337
of which																					
Local authority housing	2,843	3,710	2,922	2,939	2,230	1,753	1,674	1,581	1,533	1,505	1,511	1,462	1,457	1,445	1,413	1,359	1,322	1,268	1,191	1,061	947
Housing association	-	-	-	649	945	1,416	1,480	1,520	1,583	1,681	1,783	1,862	1,926	1,941	1,925	1,924	1,889	1,836	1,752	1,562	1,389
Private rented sector	-	-	-	1,168	815	816	866	934	1,049	1,221	1,455	1,552	1,646	1,680	1,646	1,560	1,468	1,364	1,232	974	772
of which:																					
Regulated tenancies	-	-	-	257	124	76	71	69	56	54	50	45	41	36	33	29	26	23	21	19	17
Deregulated tenancies	-	-	-	900	687	713	794	864	998	1,167	1,406	1,507	1,605	1,644	1,614	1,531	1,304	1,216	1,211	955	755
Other or unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3,556	4,860	3,950	4,757	3,991	3,986	4,021	4,036	4,166	4,408	4,749	4,876	5,028	5,066	4,983	4,844	4,679	4,468	4,175	3,597	3,109
Universal credit claimants in receipt of housing payment (000's)																					
Social rented																15	42	107	236	581	1,042
Private rented sector																14	39	89	186	483	1,126
Other or unknown																-	-	1	4	10	27
Total																29	29	197	426	1,074	2,194
Total claimants in receipt of housing allowance (000's)																					
Social rented																3,298	3,253	3,211	3,178	3,204	3,379
Private rented sector																1,574	1,507	1,453	1,418	1,457	1,898
Other or unknown																-	-	1	4	10	27
Total																4,872	4,708	4,665	4,601	4,672	5,303
Mean weekly housing benefit award (£)																					
Local authority housing	5.67	11.87	21.85	35.43	45.22	57.58	61.52	66.16	67.16	68.19	67.66	71.19	75.53	76.34	79.81	82.38	82.84	82.11	82.79	85.51	91.93
Housing association	-	-	-	48.46	54.20	63.80	65.80	69.10	71.70	75.46	77.30	80.01	84.86	85.89	89.94	92.68	93.96	94.27	95.64	98.32	104.63
Private rented sector	-	-	-	62.46	70.92	87.23	94.48	96.47	100.40	104.06	109.79	111.62	107.06	105.73	106.8	108.82	110.30	110.78	113.61	118.30	129.70
of which:																					
Regulated tenancies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71.30	73.10	76.40	79.20	82.60	86.50	90.00	93.00	96.40	100.30	104.07	108.44	112.80
Deregulated tenancies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	102.00	105.50	110.90	112.50	107.70	106.10	107.10	109.10	110.50	110.90	113.78	118.49	130.08
Total	5.52	12.54	24.74	43.85	54.25	67.02	70.79	74.76	78.74	80.86	84.14	87.4	89.4	89.72	92.61	94.97	96.03	95.95	97.28	99.95	106.99

Sources: DWP Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Summary Statistics and Stat-Xplore.

Notes: 1. Figures prior to 2009 are from DWP Summer Budget Expenditure and Caseload Statistics and are averages for the financial year. Stat-Xplore figures from 2009 are for May of each year, except 2016 which are from August.

2. Separate statistics for housing association tenants have only been collected since May 1992 and statistics for private and housing association claimants may be incomplete prior to 2008.

3. Universal credit statistics are based on households in receipt of a housing payment. All UC statistics are experimental and are subject to revision, especially those for 2020.