

Table 111a Households in Great Britain in receipt of universal credit housing costs element, by country and region

Number of recipient households

Country/region	2016				2022 revised				2023 revised				2024 revised				2025 revised			
	Social tenants	Private tenants	Other or unknown	All tenures	Social tenants	Private tenants	Other or unknown	All tenures	Social tenants	Private tenants	Other or unknown	All tenures	Social tenants	Private tenants	Other or unknown	All tenures	Social tenants	Private tenants	Other or unknown	All tenures
North East	1,883	2,063	-	3,948	84,842	66,452	2,553	153,844	93,412	67,744	3,451	164,606	104,359	69,339	3,821	177,522	124,492	74,468	4,378	203,337
North West	19,025	18,740	-	37,761	187,684	184,899	7,999	380,575	207,423	191,049	10,028	408,499	232,812	197,369	11,904	442,089	283,119	216,366	14,119	513,610
Yorkshire & The Humber	2,353	3,526	-	5,874	128,855	123,626	5,907	258,390	144,652	128,475	7,856	280,982	164,434	134,868	9,474	308,778	201,558	147,235	11,191	359,983
East Midlands	1,662	1,979	-	3,642	100,045	94,163	4,774	198,978	113,311	100,861	5,954	220,123	129,821	106,915	7,175	243,908	159,676	115,896	8,628	284,196
West Midlands	3,777	3,226	-	7,000	154,369	119,683	5,883	279,937	171,889	126,038	7,639	305,561	191,963	129,799	8,976	330,738	232,689	142,188	10,503	385,379
East	1,797	2,334	-	4,137	125,675	114,247	6,037	245,954	142,496	121,046	7,433	270,975	162,640	126,235	8,798	297,679	199,378	136,464	10,195	346,040
London	5,853	4,925	88	10,867	208,294	293,973	12,035	514,305	230,796	303,616	14,080	548,493	261,901	316,239	16,036	594,186	335,959	358,767	18,873	713,598
South East	1,886	3,310	5	5,197	157,826	170,723	9,915	338,464	179,778	178,988	11,630	370,395	204,836	186,818	14,086	405,739	252,588	205,200	16,674	474,462
South West	1,880	3,510	-	5,395	106,506	110,519	6,291	223,317	120,079	113,976	7,374	241,438	135,281	118,296	8,894	262,464	164,415	128,318	10,045	302,775
England	40,115	43,612	-	83,828	1,254,095	1,278,281	61,391	2,593,761	1,403,831	1,331,791	75,453	2,811,078	1,588,043	1,385,885	89,173	3,063,102	1,953,873	1,524,894	104,614	3,583,373
Wales	1,501	2,093	-	3,593	77,526	60,711	2,063	140,303	87,571	61,443	2,551	151,567	98,479	64,482	2,810	165,780	125,084	70,948	3,382	199,413
Scotland	7,420	3,464	-	10,890	189,084	69,403	2,864	261,346	211,201	68,854	3,684	283,732	237,167	69,194	4,161	310,524	291,778	74,095	4,652	370,526
Great Britain	49,038	49,168	97	98,300	1,520,701	1,408,391	66,318	2,995,408	1,702,604	1,462,087	81,687	3,246,378	1,923,695	1,519,564	96,150	3,539,405	2,370,733	1,669,939	112,642	4,153,312

Source: DWP Stat-Xplore .

- Notes:
1. Universal credit statistics are classed as experimental and are subject to revision. All figures are for May of each year.
 2. Figures are based on households in receipt of universal credit where entitlement to a housing element has been recorded. The average values of the UC housing element award have not yet been published.
 3. The sharp rise in UC claimants in 2020 reflects the Covid-19 pandemic and associated operational and policy changes. Caution should therefore be exercised in making comparisons with trends before the pandemic and during it.
 4. A household that claims universal credit will usually not qualify for the housing element if they are a homeowner or occupy temporary or supported housing. The latter remain eligible to claim housing benefit.
 5. DWP statistical disclosure control procedures mean underlying counts may not sum precisely.

Table 111b Private rental households in receipt of universal credit where rent exceeds applicable LHA in Great Britain by country and region

Percentage of households in private rented sector claiming universal credit

Country/region	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 revised	2024 revised	2025 revised
North East	70.4	65.7	68.5	69.9	73.2	55.4	61.3
North West	69.3	60.1	63.0	65.2	70.5	48.0	55.5
Yorkshire & The Humber	70.9	62.1	64.5	66.5	71.6	49.1	56.2
East Midlands	76.3	59.2	62.4	65.3	70.8	52.3	58.8
West Midlands	70.5	56.7	60.7	63.4	69.1	46.5	54.0
East	70.8	54.9	58.0	60.1	64.9	48.9	55.3
London	51.7	36.1	41.5	42.4	47.3	37.1	43.5
South East	65.9	50.0	53.4	55.4	60.6	43.9	50.4
South West	69.3	56.4	59.3	61.7	66.6	44.9	51.2
England	66.9	52.9	56.0	58.1	63.2	45.5	52.1
Wales	77.0	66.5	69.2	71.3	75.6	57.8	63.0
Scotland	64.7	50.6	52.1	52.4	55.0	34.1	39.9
Great Britain	67.2	53.4	56.4	58.4	63.3	45.5	52.0

Notes: 1. See Table 11a.

2. Percentages are based on private rented sector households that claim the housing element of universal credit and indicate the proportion of such claimants where the LHA does not fully cover the household's rent.

3. The drop in percentage points in 2020 reflects the rebasing of LHA rates to the 30th percentile of local rents as at September 2019, from April 2020.

4. LHA rates were again rebased from April 2024 to the 30th percentile as at September 2023, following a four-year freeze. They have remained frozen since then.

5. Reliable figures prior to 2019 are not available. Award, entitlement and payment information is missing for a small number of claimants.