



Department
for Work &
Pensions

ESF Support for Families with Multiple Problems – statistics to July 2014

September 2014

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Introduction

1. The European Social Fund Support for Families with Multiple Problems (ESF Families programme) was launched in December 2011 and is due to run until March 2015. It supports disadvantaged families, facing multiple barriers to work, to move closer towards and into sustainable employment. The programme is funded by the 2007–2013 European Social Fund (ESF) programme in England, under DWP’s arrangements to act as one of the Co-Financing Organisations.

Key Findings

2. The key findings on participation are:
 - By July 2014 there were 56,160 participants.
 - Of these, 21,320 started within the last six months.
 - Females made up 57% of all participants.
3. For progress measures, the main findings are:
 - 48,190 progress measures have been achieved by 22,840 participants.
 - Of the 22,840 participants achieving progress measures, 9,480 have got three, 6,380 have got two and 6,970 have got one.
 - Of the 9,480 that have achieved a third progress measures over half, 5,110, of these have been claimed within the last six months.
4. For sustained job outcomes:
 - 2,810 sustained job outcomes have been achieved. Half of these - 1,460 - were achieved within the last six months.

- Overall job outcomes rates 18 months after joining the programme are 9.9%.
 - 18 month job outcome rates are 14.0% for JSA participants and for non-JSA participants they are 7.1%.
5. Job outcome rates for starts in 2013 are higher than for those in 2012. Whilst the overall rate for sustained job outcomes is 9.0% by 15 months, for starts between January and April 2013 they are between 10.7% and 11.8%.

Background

6. The ESF Families programme is voluntary and operates across England. There are twelve Contract Package Areas each with a single prime provider. There are eight prime providers as some cover multiple areas. These are listed as table 1.
7. Provision is open to any member of a family where one member of that family (not necessarily the programme participant) is on a working age benefit. Participants must be over 16 years old, able to work in this country, and either be out of work or working few enough hours to be on an out of work benefit. The family of which they are a member must also be regarded as facing multiple problems: the definition for which is determined locally, within guidelines set out by DWP. Eligibility criteria for this provision and for the Troubled Families Programme operated by the Department for Communities and Local Government overlap, but are not identical.
8. The primary referral route for the programme is via Local Authorities. Since September 2012 providers have also been able to identify and refer eligible participants themselves.
9. Once a participant is attached to the ESF Families programme, the relevant provider has the whole of the contract term to work with them and their family, if this is considered appropriate, to help them move towards and find sustained employment.
10. The ESF Families with Multiple Problems programme operates on a Payment by Results basis. Providers can claim an interim progress measure payment on agreement of an action plan after 10 weeks with the participant, but apart from that payment triggers fall into two main categories:

- **Progress Measures:** these are triggered where a participant completes a prescribed set of activities designed to assist the family to resolve or overcome particular problems. The exact activities attracting a progress payment vary across Contract Package Areas to reflect the different approaches taken and are contractually agreed between DWP and providers. Typically, these cover activities designed to address problems relating to housing, managing money and debt, family communications, community involvement, skills for working or work placements. Progress measures can be claimed from ten weeks after attachment and up to three may be claimed for each participant. Including the interim progress measure, 70% of funding for ESF Families is allocated to progress measures.
- **Job Outcome Payments:** these are paid when, in the case of a JSA participant, they are recorded as having worked for 26 weeks. For the non-JSA and JSA ex-IB participants, a payment is triggered after 13 weeks in work. Being in work is defined either by the benefit the participant is on, or for those not on benefits as 16 hours a week or more. Weeks in work do not need to be consecutive and providers may claim only one job outcome payment per participant.

11. Further information about the programme, including the nature of local provision, exact eligibility criteria and all payment triggers can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/provider-guidance-esf-for-families-with-multiple-problems>

12. The next update to these statistics will be in March 2015.

Data and Results

13. The data is taken from the Department's payment administrative system. Figures are subject to revision. They are rounded to the nearest 10, in line with standard DWP disclosure control policy. Percentages are calculated before rounding.

14. Performance is reported against the programme's objective to support participants towards and into work. It covers attachments (i.e. the number of individual participants), progress measures and sustained job outcomes. Tables referenced are at the back of the report.

15. Table 2 shows the build up of **attachments** over time. In total there have been 56,160 attachments up to July 2014.
16. In 2012 there were 9,120 attachments and in 2013 there were 22,760. In the first seven months of 2014 there have been 24,300.
17. All figures are subject to revision but in practice the major revisions since the March 2014 statistical publication have been to the figures for attachments. This is due to further claims being made and is most noticeable for the latest month's attachment figures, which are usually revised upwards when reported in the subsequent month. When we published the March 2014 statistical release, the January 2014 attachments were reported as 2,160 and now table 2 shows they are 2,980.
18. Table 3 shows **attachments by characteristics**. It covers gender, ethnicity and age group.
19. There have been 31,970 female participants, making up 57% of the total. The proportion has decreased from 61% when these statistics were last published. This may reflect more referrals of people who have completed the Work Programme, which has a high proportion of males.
20. Attachments from ethnic minorities comprise 16% (9,220) of participants. The largest ethnic minority group is Black or Black British, at 8% (4,280). White people comprise 79% (44,110) of participants and 5% of participants prefer not to say. The main difference with the overall unemployed population is that there are fewer people who are Asian or Asian British: 4% of the programme compared with 7% of the unemployed.
21. Young people under 25 make up 19% (10,540) of participants. People over 50 make up 16% (8,750) of participants. The proportion of under 25s is much lower than in the overall unemployed population (38%), which will be influenced by Work Programme eligibility on JSA being much earlier for this group.
22. There have been 48,190 **progress measures** payments, attributable to 22,840 participants. Of the 22,840 participants achieving progress measures, 9,480 had achieved three progress measures. A further 6,380 had achieved two progress measures and the remaining 6,970 had achieved one.

23. The build up of progress measures over time is shown in table 4. This shows the month for which the last payment was claimed for a progress measure for a participant. For example, if an individual had achieved two progress measures by May 2013 but then went on to achieve a third in January 2014 they would only be recorded once in the table, as three progress measures in January.
24. In January 2013 changes were made to allow progress measures to be claimed individually rather than cumulatively. This transition to a new way of claiming introduced uncertainty into the breakdown by month prior to April 2013, so the monthly information for this period has been combined.
25. Of the 9,480 payments for three progress measures, over half (5,120) were from the last six months.
26. Looking at movement into work, table 5 shows that by July 2014 there were 2,810 **sustained job outcomes**. This includes 1,730 from JSA participants, 1,060 from non-JSA participants and 20 from JSA ex-IB participants. Note that whilst ex-IB JSA participants are a distinct group and are included in totals, separate tables have not been included for them due to their small volumes.
27. The majority of sustained job outcomes (2,350) are from the last 12 months and half (1,460) have occurred in the last six months.
28. Tables 6-8 look at **Job outcome rates**. These are the proportions of attachments who move into a sustained job outcome within a set period of time, broken down by month of attachment¹. The tables present achievement of sustained job outcomes by 12, 15 and 18 months after their attachment. These are shown as table 6 for JSA participants, table 7 for non-JSA participants and table 8 for all participants.
29. Job outcome rates are shown for participants by month of attachment, with the exception of December 2011 to April 2012. Data for these months is combined due to low volumes making the individual months' data unreliable as a guide to performance.

¹ A 12 month job outcome rate is the proportion of the cohort starting the programme in the listed month who have achieved a sustained job outcome within a year of attachment. Additional participants in the cohort will get a sustained job outcome by 15 or 18 months, making these job outcome rates higher than the rate at 12 months.

30. Looking at JSA participants, 10.1% had a sustained job outcome by 12 months, 12.3% by 15 months and 14.0% by 18 months after starting.
31. For non-JSA participants, 5.2% had a sustained job outcome by 12 months, increasing to 6.5% by 15 months and 7.1% by 18 months after starting on the programme.
32. For the total, combining benefit groups for all participants starting provision up to January 2013, 9.9% had achieved a sustained job outcome within 18 months.
33. The JSA and non JSA tables both have a lot fluctuation in the sustained job outcome rates for individual months. This relates to relatively small monthly volumes and variation in how close participants are to being job ready. The table for total job outcomes is based on larger volumes, and hence has more stability between individual months.
34. The table on non-JSA job outcomes shows some signs of an increase for 2013: the three lowest rates at 12 months are all from earlier periods. This distinction is clearer for JSA, with all the periods in 2013 (10.1%-12.6%) having a higher level of sustained job outcomes by 12 months than any of the previous periods (6.0%-9.9%).
35. The table on total job outcome rates shows large increases for 12 month sustained job outcomes in 2013 similar to those of the JSA table. This is a result of both the increases mentioned in the previous two paragraphs and an increasing proportion of attachments being on JSA.
36. Attachments for each of the twelve **Contract Package Areas** are shown in table 9. The Contract Package Area with the highest amount was Greater Manchester, with 8,500, whilst the North East had the fewest, with 2,250.
37. Greater Manchester have the most individuals for whom any progress measures have been paid (3,510), and West Midlands have the most progress measures paid (8,100). Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire have the fewest, at 600 individuals with progress measures and 1,010 progress measures paid.
38. Table 10 shows sustained job outcomes by Contract Package Area. East Midlands, with 390, have achieved the most. This included 260 JSA job

outcomes and 130 non-JSA job outcomes. Greater Manchester had the second highest JSA job outcomes, at 230, and the highest level of non-JSA job outcomes, at 140.

Tables

Table 1: Provider by Contract Package Area

Contract Package Area	Area	Provider
1	East of England	Reed in Partnership
2	East Midlands	Working Links
3	East London	Reed in Partnership
4	West London	Reed in Partnership
5	North East	The Wise Group
6	Greater Manchester	G4S
7	Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire	Reed in Partnership
8	South East	Skills Training
9	South West	Twin Training
10	Cornwall	Paragon
11	West Midlands	EOS
12	Yorkshire and the Humber	EOS

Table 2: Attachments over time

	2012	2013	2014
January	30	1,000	2,980
February	140	1,170	3,530
March	510	1,360	3,810
April	480	1,370	3,800
May	960	1,600	3,780
June	1,190	1,690	3,480
July	1,000	2,100	2,920
August	950	1,990	
September	890	2,350	
October	1,020	2,990	
November	1,200	2,910	
December	750	2,230	
Total	9,120	22,760	24,300

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding; January 2012 includes starts from December 2011; all numbers are subject to revision and in particular the latest month's attachment figure is usually revised upward in the following month.

Source: DWP management information

Table 3: Attachments by characteristics, December 2011 to July 2014

	Attachments	%
Gender:		
Males	24,100	43%
Females	31,970	57%
Ethnic Group:		
Asian or Asian British	2,160	4%
Black or Black British	4,280	8%
Chinese/other	1,550	3%
Mixed	1,230	2%
White	44,110	79%
Prefer not to say	2,740	5%
Age:		
<25	10,540	19%
25-49	36,780	66%
>50	8,750	16%
Total	56,070	100%

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; the Total figure here represents only those for whom we have information on characteristics and is lower than the equivalent figure in other tables; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 4: Progress measures over time

	Attachments	Participants completing progress measures				Total progress measures
		any	one	two	three	
Dec-11 to Mar-13	12,620	990	340	170	480	2,120
Apr-13	1,370	680	300	200	180	1,240
May-13	1,600	620	230	220	170	1,170
Jun-13	1,690	820	300	220	290	1,620
Jul-13	2,100	800	290	240	270	1,570
Aug-13	1,990	870	330	250	300	1,720
Sep-13	2,350	940	300	260	380	1,960
Oct-13	2,990	1,180	330	320	530	2,550
Nov-13	2,910	1,210	360	290	560	2,630
Dec-13	2,230	1,380	410	380	590	2,940
Jan-14	2,980	1,530	450	460	620	3,220
Feb-14	3,530	1,710	410	530	770	3,780
Mar-14	3,810	1,610	400	420	790	3,600
Apr-14	3,800	1,850	640	460	740	3,800
May-14	3,780	2,100	650	630	820	4,380
Jun-14	3,480	2,070	560	590	930	4,510
Jul-14	2,920	2,490	660	760	1,060	5,380
Total	56,160	22,840	6,970	6,380	9,480	48,190

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding; all numbers are subject to revision and in particular the latest month's attachment figure is usually revised upward in the following month.

Source: DWP management information

Table 5: Sustained job outcomes over time

	Total	JSA	Non-JSA
Up to Dec-12	70	30	40
Jan-13	30	10	20
Feb-13	40	20	20
Mar-13	60	30	30
Apr-13	50	30	20
May-13	70	40	30
Jun-13	80	30	50
Jul-13	60	30	30
Aug-13	110	60	50
Sep-13	100	50	40
Oct-13	140	80	60
Nov-13	160	110	60
Dec-13	140	80	60
Jan-14	240	150	90
Feb-14	200	120	70
Mar-14	250	170	80
Apr-14	250	190	60
May-14	240	180	70
Jun-14	200	130	70
Jul-14	320	200	120
Total	2,810	1,730	1,060

Note: A sustained job outcome is 26 cumulative weeks of employment for JSA and 13 cumulative weeks for the non-JSA and JSA ex-IB groups; total column includes JSA ex-IB participants not shown separately; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 6: JSA job outcome rates

Date of attachment	Attachments	Job outcomes by		
		12 months	15 months	18 months
Dec-11 to Apr-12	430	9.9%	12.7%	16.5%
May-12	350	6.4%	8.1%	11.0%
Jun-12	410	6.5%	9.7%	13.3%
Jul-12	370	6.2%	8.8%	11.3%
Aug-12	380	9.7%	13.1%	16.3%
Sep-12	320	7.5%	8.8%	10.9%
Oct-12	430	7.5%	10.7%	13.8%
Nov-12	570	7.6%	11.1%	13.6%
Dec-12	330	6.0%	10.2%	13.6%
Jan-13	500	12.4%	16.8%	18.2%
Feb-13	560	12.6%	15.1%	-
Mar-13	670	12.3%	15.1%	-
Apr-13	680	10.7%	13.4%	-
May-13	850	12.5%	-	-
Jun-13	880	10.1%	-	-
Jul-13	1,200	12.3%	-	-
All	8,930	10.1%	12.3%	14.0%

Note: A sustained job outcome is 26 cumulative weeks of employment; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 7: Non-JSA job outcome rates

Date of attachment	Attachments	Job outcomes by		
		12 months	15 months	18 months
Dec-11 to Apr-12	740	4.4%	6.1%	6.6%
May-12	610	4.6%	6.1%	7.6%
Jun-12	760	3.6%	4.3%	4.7%
Jul-12	620	5.8%	8.7%	9.6%
Aug-12	560	5.9%	7.1%	8.5%
Sep-12	560	4.2%	5.7%	6.2%
Oct-12	590	5.1%	6.8%	8.2%
Nov-12	630	4.1%	5.2%	6.3%
Dec-12	410	3.4%	5.3%	5.6%
Jan-13	490	5.0%	6.8%	8.5%
Feb-13	600	5.9%	7.9%	-
Mar-13	680	5.9%	7.0%	-
Apr-13	680	6.6%	8.0%	-
May-13	750	6.8%	-	-
Jun-13	800	5.2%	-	-
Jul-13	900	6.1%	-	-
All	10,370	5.2%	6.5%	7.1%

Note: A sustained job outcome is 13 cumulative weeks of employment; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 8: Total job outcome rates

Date of attachment	Attachments	Job outcomes by		
		12 months	15 months	18 months
Dec-11 to Apr-12	1,170	6.4%	8.5%	10.2%
May-12	960	5.2%	6.8%	8.8%
Jun-12	1,190	4.6%	6.1%	7.7%
Jul-12	1,000	5.9%	8.7%	10.2%
Aug-12	950	7.4%	9.5%	11.6%
Sep-12	890	5.4%	6.8%	7.9%
Oct-12	1,020	6.1%	8.5%	10.5%
Nov-12	1,200	5.7%	8.0%	9.7%
Dec-12	750	4.6%	7.5%	9.1%
Jan-13	1,000	8.7%	11.8%	13.3%
Feb-13	1,170	9.2%	11.4%	-
Mar-13	1,360	9.1%	11.1%	-
Apr-13	1,370	8.6%	10.7%	-
May-13	1,600	9.8%	-	-
Jun-13	1,690	7.8%	-	-
Jul-13	2,100	9.7%	-	-
All	19,380	7.5%	9.0%	9.9%

Note: A sustained job outcome is 26 cumulative weeks for JSA and 13 cumulative weeks for the non-JSA and JSA ex-IB groups; includes JSA ex-IB participants not shown separately; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 9: Attachments and progress measures by Contract Package Area

	Attachments	Participants completing progress measures				Total progress measures
		any	one	two	three	
East of England	2,320	1,210	210	280	720	2,940
East Midlands	4,860	2,170	600	490	1,080	4,820
East London	3,340	840	330	340	170	1,510
West London	6,130	2,740	550	840	1,350	6,280
North East	2,250	690	260	270	160	1,290
Greater Manchester	8,500	3,510	1,280	1,040	1,190	6,930
Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire	2,860	600	310	160	130	1,010
South East	6,340	2,170	1,050	630	490	3,780
South West	3,390	1,320	590	410	320	2,380
Cornwall	2,880	1,020	330	430	260	1,970
West Midlands	6,640	3,390	650	770	1,970	8,100
Yorkshire & Humber	6,650	3,190	820	730	1,630	7,180
Total	56,160	22,840	6,970	6,380	9,480	48,190

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 10: Sustained job outcomes by Contract Package Area

	total	JSA	Non-JSA
East of England	160	90	70
East Midlands	390	260	120
East London	280	160	120
West London	130	60	60
North East	110	80	30
Greater Manchester	370	230	130
Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire	140	80	50
South East	260	170	90
South West	120	70	50
Cornwall	230	110	130
West Midlands	310	200	110
Yorkshire & Humber	320	220	100
Total	2,810	1,730	1,060

Note: Includes JSA ex-IB participants not shown separately; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Contacts

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