

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

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
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	36.97	33.50	37.17	32.91	33.65	35.81	25.50	25.47	25.17	30.55	31.12	36.24	37.91
£ 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	1,922	1,742	1,933	1,711	1,750	1,862	1,326	1,324	1,309	1,589	1,618	1,884	1,971
Number of claimants (000s) (B)	134	196	235	242	277	356	334	300	281	310	411	499	555	529	499	451	379	334	307	279	260	242	232	232	229	223	215	202
Total mortgage interest per annum (£ million) (AxB)	71	124	170	150	219	351	335	286	353	539	925	1,141	1,210	1,040	1,016	867	660	646	525	488	484	321	307	303	364	360	404	398

Sources: Annual Statistical Enquiries, Parliamentary Question 9/7/91, Income Support Quarterly Statistics, Jobseeker's Allowance Quarterly Statistics, Pension 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. Figures from 2004 include provision as part of the pension credit scheme. No 1985 figures are available.