

DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS

# Family Resources Survey (FRS) Documentation

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Family Resources Survey 2021-2022  
March 2023

Benefits Documentation  
(version 1.0 (06/03/2023))

Surveys Branch

## 1 Summary

This note summarises the structure of the data relating to benefits held in the Family Resources Survey dataset for the 2021-2022 survey year and is intended to help users accessing the benefits data.

## 2 Questionnaire

In the questionnaire each adult is asked to identify benefits that they receive from a series of lists. After each list the interviewer asks a series of detailed questions about each benefit.

## 3 FRS Dataset

The details recorded about each type of benefit have been organised into a standard data table. Each benefit received occupies a row of the **BENEFITS** table.

The table has been organised so that the same information about each benefit is held in the same column or variable, even if the original question was different. Table 1 (below) shows the relationship between the yes/no question asking about receipt of a certain benefit on the ADULT table and the corresponding benefit key value on the BENEFITS table.

**Table 1:** Questionnaire to ADULT / BENEFITS lookup table

Question	Question Response Code	Variable on Adult table	Benefits Table Key	Benefit Description
WAgeBen	1	WAGEBEN1	95	Universal Credit
WAgeBen	2	WAGEBEN2	94	Housing benefit
WAgeBen and WTCLum	WAgeBen = 3 and WTCLum = 1	WAGEBEN3 and WTCLUM1	92	WTC (lump sum)
WAgeBen and WTCLum	WAgeBen = 3 and WTCLum = 2	WAGEBEN3 and WTCLUM2	90	WTC
WAgeBen	WAgeBen = 4		91	CTC
WageBen5	5	WAGEBEN5	19	Income Support
WageBen6	6	WAGEBEN6	14	Jobseeker's Allowance
WageBen7	7	WAGEBEN7	16	Employment and Support Allowance

WageBen8	8	WAGEBEN8	13	Carer's Allowance
DisBen and PIPtype	DisBen = 1 and PIPtype = 1, 3	DISBEN1 and PIP1	96	Personal Independence Payment (daily living component)
DisBen and PIPtype	DisBen = 1 and PIPtype = 2, 3	DISBEN1 and PIP2	97	Personal Independence Payment (mobility component)
DisBen and DLAtype	DisBen = 2 and DLAtype = 1, 3	DISBEN2 and DLA1	1	DLA (care component)
DisBen and DLAtype	DisBen = 2 and DLAtype = 2, 3	DISBEN2 and DLA2	2	DLA (mobility component)
DisBen	3	DISBEN3	12	Attendance Allowance
DisBen	4	DISBEN4	10	Severe Disability Allowance
DisBen	6	DISBEN6	15	Industrial Injury Disablement Benefit
DisBen	7	DISBEN7	116	Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment
PenBen	1	PENBEN1	4	Pension credit
PenBen	2	PENBEN2	5	Retirement Pension
PenBen	3	PENBEN3	6	Bereavement Support Payment / Widowed Parent's Allowance
PenBen	4	PENBEN4	8	Armed Forces Compensation Scheme
PenBen	5	PENBEN5	9	War Widow's/Widower's Pension
KidBen	1	KIDBEN1	3	Child Benefit
KidBen	2	KIDBEN2	37	Guardians Allowance
KidBen	3	KIDBEN3	21	Maternity Allowance
KidBen	4	KIDBEN4	112	Scottish Child Payment
SocFund	1	SOCFUND1	24	Funeral Grant from Social Fund
SocFund	2	SOCFUND2	22	Sure Start Maternity Grant / Best Start Grant
SocFund	3	SOCFUND3	123	School Uniform Grant

SocFund	4	SOCFUND4	98	A loan or advance from DWP
SocFund	5	SOCFUND5	99	A loan from your local authority
OthBen	1	OTHBEN6	30	Any other National Insurance or State benefit
GOVPay and WAgeBen or PenBen	GOVPay = 1-11 and (WAgeBen = 5 or PenBen = 1)	GPISPC	65	DWP third party payments - IS/PC
GOVPay and WAgeBen	GOVPay = 1-11 and WAgeBen = 6, 7	GPJSAESA	66	DWP third party payments - JSA/ESA
GOVPay and WAgeBen	GOVPay = 1-11 and WAgeBen = 1	GPUC	110	DWP paying direct for 1 or more UC items
SFRepay, and WAgeBen or PenBen	SFRepay = 1 and (WAgeBen = 5 or PenBen = 1)	SRISPC	69	Social Fund Loan: Repayment from IS/PC
SFRepay, and WAgeBen	SFRepay = 1 and WAgeBen = 6, 7	SRJSAESA	70	Social Fund Loan: Repayment from JSA/ESA
SFRepay, and WAgeBen	SFRepay = 1 and WAgeBen = 1	SRUC	111	Social Fund Loan: Repayment from UC
TrnAllow, and PrgAmt	TrnAllow = 1	GTA	36	Government training allowances
Ben7Q	1	ICLAIM1	61	Unemployment/Redundancy Insurance
Ben7Q	2	ICLAIM2	31	Trade Union sick/strike pay
Ben7Q	3	ICLAIM3	33	Private medical scheme benefits
Ben7Q	4	ICLAIM4	34	Personal accident insurance benefits
Ben7Q	5	ICLAIM5	81	Permanent health insurance
Ben7Q	6	ICLAIM6	35	Hospital savings scheme benefits
Ben7Q	7	ICLAIM7	32	Friendly Society Benefits
Ben7Q	8	ICLAIM8	83	Critical Illness Cover

Ben7Q	9	ICLAIM9	82	Any other sickness insurance
N/A	N/A	WINTFUEL	62	Winter Fuel Payments
AdJSP	1	ADJSP	115	Job Start Payment
DisBen, DisBCDP, and CDPtype	DisBen = 2 and DisBCDP = 1 and CDPtype = 1,3	CDP1	121	Child Disability Payment - Care
DisBen, DisBCDP, and CDPtype	DisBen = 2 and DisBCDP = 1 and CDPtype = 2,3	CDP2	122	Child Disability Payment - Mobility

## 4 Key variables

Each row in the benefit table is uniquely defined by the following key variables:

Key Variable	Description
SERNUM	Unique serial number for the household
BENUNIT	The benefit unit number within the household
PERSON	The person number within the household
BENEFIT	The benefit key value is a code that identifies the type of benefit received.

Table 1 (above) lists the code allocated to each benefit type.

## 5 Variables

The following variables exist for each row in the benefit table. A more complete description of the routing for variables associated with each benefit is given in the variable listing spread sheet.

**Note:** Except where otherwise stated, the variable has the same name as the question within the questionnaire (Rule 1). Exceptions to this rule have their variable name changed to be consistent e.g. the question GOVAMT would produce an answer in the variable BENAMT.

Variable	Notes
BANKSTMT	Asks whether a bank statement can be consulted (Yes/No).
BENAMT	In the database the variable holds the weekly amount of benefit last received for all benefits. However, on the questionnaire other variable names are used for certain benefits. <b>See Annex 1 for a full list.</b>

	The amount has been converted to a weekly value, apart from lump sum amounts in certain benefits. <b>See Annex 2 for a full list.</b>
BENAMTDK	If the answer to BENAMT above is "DON'T KNOW", is it because the benefit is paid in combination with another, and that a separate amount cannot be established (Yes/No)?
BENLETTR	Whether a benefit letter was consulted (Yes/No)?
BENPD	On the database, BENPD holds the period covered by the original answer to the BENAMT question for all benefits. So, for example, BENAMT will always hold a weekly equivalent amount if the corresponding value of BENPD represents a period (i.e. in range 1-52). However, on the questionnaire other variable names are used for certain benefits. <b>See Annex 3 for a full list.</b>
CBPAYE	How a high income Child Benefit tax charge is paid.
CBTAX	Whether respondent pays a high income Child Benefit tax charge on the Child Benefit they receive.
CCTC	Does this include a Child Care Tax Credit to help pay for child care expenses (Yes/No)?
COMBAMT	Holds the combined total value of benefits when the values of individual benefits are not known.
COMBPD	Period code for COMBAMT
COVESA1	Whether respondent is receiving Employment and Support Allowance because they are/were infected with COVID-19 or showing symptoms.
COVESA2	Whether respondent is receiving Employment and Support Allowance because they are/were self-isolating or because someone else in their household was showing symptoms.
COVESA3	Whether respondent is receiving Employment and Support Allowance because they are/were shielding on advice from their GP or the NHS because they are extremely vulnerable and at high risk of severe illness as a result of COVID-19.
COVESA4	Whether respondent is receiving Employment and Support Allowance because of another reason relating to COVID-19.
NOTUSAMT	The amount usually received converted to a weekly period if different from the amount last received. (Question producing this is BUSAMT in the questionnaire). This question is only asked if the respondent states that the amount given in BENAMT is not usual (USUAL=2).
NOTUSPD	The original period the usual amount covered before being converted to a weekly amount. (Question producing this is BUSAMT in the questionnaire (Period code answer - Symbolic 1...52). This question is only asked if the respondent states that the amount given in BENAMT is not usual (USUAL=2).
NUMWEEKS	This holds the number of weeks in the last 24 months that the benefit has been received, integer 0-104, if NUMYEARS = 1. In the questionnaire there are different variable names for certain benefits. <b>See Annex 4 for a full list.</b>
PRES	Asks whether presently receiving the benefit
UCBENCAP	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Indicates whether benefit has been affected by the benefit cap.
UCCAREEL	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Holds the weekly value of the carer element associated with the benefit record.
UCCARENO	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Indicates how many people the benefit recipient cares for as part of their claim.
UCCHLDEL	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Holds the weekly value of the child element associated with the benefit record.

UCHOUSEL	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Holds the weekly value of the housing element associated with the benefit record.
UCLCW	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Indicates the Limited Capability for Work status of the benefit recipient.
UCMPTL	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Indicates whether the housing element is paid to the recipient or their landlord.
UCSTART	Derived variable for Universal Credit record that has been linked to DWP administrative data. Holds the date that the benefit claim began.
USUAL	For Retirement Pension, Pension Credit, Bereavement Support Payment, Widowed Parents Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Jobseeker's Allowance and Income Support, the interviewee is asked if the amount last received was the usual amount ('yes', 'no' or 'no such thing as a usual amount')
VAR1 – VAR4	Some questions only apply to individual benefits. Instead of creating separate fields for each different question, these questions share the three fields Var1 to Var4. <b>See Annex 5 for a full list.</b>
WHOREC1 - 5	These questions are asked of those people claiming DLA (Care), DLA (Mobility), Attendance Allowance, PIP daily living and PIP mobility, or will claim any of these benefits in the future, as outlined below under Additional Responses (Person Number Symbolic 1..20,97). The benefits can be received for up to 5 people.

## 6 GOVPAY table

The GOVPAY table is related to the BENEFITS table. It holds the items that the DWP pay directly, each row in the table represents one item, the individual amounts are not asked. The rows are uniquely identified by the following key variables:

Key Variable	Description
SERNUM	Unique serial number for the household
BENUNIT	The benefit unit number within the household
PERSON	The person number within the household
BENEFIT	The benefit type is either 65 (Payments from IS/PC) or 66 (Payment from JSA/ESA) or 110 (Third party deductions from UC)
GOVPAY	Deduction type such as rent arrears, gas or electricity bills, fines, etc.

Records in the GOVPAY table are generated when the following BENEFITS records are created by the questionnaire:

Question	Question Response Code	Variable on Adult table	Benefits Table Key	Benefit Description
GOVPay and WAgeBen or PenBen	GOVPay = 1-11 and (WAgeBen =	GPISPC	65	DWP third party payments - IS/PC

	5 or PenBen = 1)			
GOVPay and WAgeBen	GOVPay = 1-11 and WAgeBen = 6, 7	GPJSAESA	66	DWP third party payments - JSA/ESA
GOVPay and WAgeBen	GOVPay = 1-11 and WAgeBen = 1	GPUC	110	DWP paying direct for 1 or more UC items

## 7 Benefit Receipt Variables

Accessing the BENEFITS table and looking for relevant rows can check for the existence of benefits. Additionally, it is possible to check whether an adult is in receipt of a benefit, using the ADULT table. The original responses to the benefit list questions are held in the ADULT and CHILD tables with each field representing one benefit. The variables are listed in Table 1. The possible values in each field are the standard converted multiple choice responses:

Value	Label
1	Yes
2	No
3	All responses in set are "No"
-1 (.A)	Not applicable / skipped
-9 (.B)	Don't Know
-8 (.C)	Refused to answer

## Annex 1: Benamt Question Exceptions

Question Name	Benefit Key Value	Benefit
CTCAMT	91	Child Tax Credit (regular payment)
GOVAmt	65, 66, 110	Total amount DWP pays directly for services, as defined in GOVPAY
LOANAMT	98, 99	Social Fund: Budgeting Loan or Crisis Loan
OBBENamt	30	Any National Insurance or Other State Benefit



PRGAMT	36	For Government Training, as answered to question TRAIN.
REPAYAMT	69, 70, 111	Social Fund: Loan repayment from JSA/ESA or IS/PC
SCAMT	123	School Uniform Grant
WTCamt	90	Working Tax Credit

## Annex 2: Lump Sum Benefits

Benefit Key Value	Benefit
31	Trade Union sick/strike pay
32	Friendly Society Benefits
33	Private sickness scheme benefits
34	Accident insurance scheme benefits
35	Hospital savings scheme benefits
61	Unemployment/Redundancy Insurance
62	Winter Fuel Payments
81	Permanent health insurance
82	Any other sickness insurance
83	Critical Illness Cover
98	A loan from the DWP or DfC Northern Ireland (UC advances included)
99	A loan/grant from local authority or Scottish or Welsh Government
112	Scottish Child Payment
115	Job Start Payment
116	Troubles Permanent Disablement Pension scheme
123	A school clothing grant/Pupil Development Grant/Uniform Grant

## Annex 3: Period Code Exceptions

Period Code Question	Benefit Key Value	Benefit
CTCPD	91	Child Tax Credit

GOVPD	65, 66, 110	DWP direct payments for JSA/ESA or IS/PC customers
OBBENAMT	30	Any National Insurance or Other State Benefit
PRGPD	36	Government Training Allowance recipients
WTCPD	90	Working Tax Credit

#### Annex 4: NumWeek Exceptions

Question Name	Benefit Key Value	Benefit
ESAWKS2	16	Employment and Support Allowance
HBWeeks2	94	Housing Benefit
ISWKS2	4, 19	Income Support or Pension Credit
JSAWKS2	14	Jobseeker's Allowance.

#### Annex 5: Full VAR1 – VAR4 List

Benefit Key Value	Benefit	VAR1 Question	VAR2 Question	VAR3 Question	VAR4 Question
1	Disability Living Allowance (Care Component)	GetCA	DC	-	-
2	Disability Living Allowance (Mobility component)	-	DM	DLAMota	-
4	Pension Credit	Pcomp	Pcomp	-	-
5	Retirement Pension	BUSAMTDK	-	-	-
6	Bereavement Support Payment / Widowed Parent's Allowance	-	Wid	-	-
12	Attendance Allowance	GetCA	AA	-	-
13	Carer's Allowance	-	-	CAPer	-
14	Jobseeker's Allowance	BUSAMTDK	JSAType	-	-
16	Employment Support Allowance	BUSAMTDK	ESAType	ESAGroup	-
19	Income Support	BUSAMTDK	-	-	-
65	DWP Payments (Income Support/Pension Credit recipients)	-	GOVBefor	-	-

66	DWP Payments (Jobseeker's Allowance/Employment and Support Allowance recipients)	-	<b>GOVBefor</b>	-	-
69	Social Fund Loan: Repayment (Income Support/Pension Credit recipients)	-	<b>SFInc</b>	-	-
70	Social Fund Loan: Repayment (Jobseeker Allowance/Employment and Support recipients)	-	<b>SFInc</b>	-	-
90	Working Tax Credit	<b>WTCD</b>	-	-	-
95	Universal Credit	<b>AccUC</b>	<b>UCJoint</b>	***	<b>MPTL</b>
96	Personal Independence Payment (Daily Living component)	<b>GetCA</b>	<b>DC</b>	-	-
97	Personal Independence Payment (Mobility component)	-	<b>DM</b>	<b>PIPMota</b>	-
98	Loan from DWP	<b>Loannum</b>	-	-	-
99	Loan from Local Authority	<b>Loannum</b>	<b>SocRepay</b>	-	-
121	Child Disability Payment – Care	<b>GetCA</b>	-	-	-
122	Child Disability Payment - Mobility	-	-	<b>CDPMota</b>	-