

## FRS 2019/20

## Technical note

SUBJECT BENEFITS Version 2019\_20

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	C. Lord	25/06/2010	(2009_10 update)
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## Summary

This note summarises the structure of the data relating to benefits held in Version 2019/20 of the FRS database and is intended to help users accessing the benefits data.

## Questionnaire

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

## Analysis database

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

rationalised so that the same information about each benefit is held in the same column or field, 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.

## Key fields

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

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, e.g. 19 = Income Support

Table 1 lists the code allocated to each benefit type.

## Data fields

The following data fields 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 spread sheet Hierarchical\_BenV\_Income.xls.

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

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. These exceptions are:

CTCAmt	Child Tax Credit (regular payment)
CTCLPay	Child Tax Credit (lump sum)
EXBENAMT	Extended Housing Benefit
GOVAmt	Total amount DWP pays directly for services, as defined in GOVPAY
LOANAMT	Social Fund : Budgeting Loan or Crisis Loan
OBBENAMt	Any National Insurance or Other State Benefit
PRGAMT	For Government Training, as answered to question TRAIN
REPAYAMT	Social Fund : Loan repayment from JSA/ESA or IS/PC
WID	Type of Bereavement Support Payment / Widowed Parent's Allowance
WTCamt	Working Tax Credit (regular payment)
WTCLPay	Working Tax Credit (lump sum)

N.B. The amount has been converted to a weekly value, apart from Lump Sums in the following benefits:

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
114	Admin-linked UC Advances (last 31 days)

**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. These exceptions are:

CTCPD	Child Tax Credit
EXBENPD	Extended Housing Benefit
GOVPD	DWP direct payments for JSA/ESA or IS/PC customers
PRGPD	Government Training Allowance recipients
WTCPD	Working Tax Credit

**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

**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. The exceptions are:

ESAWKS2	for Employment and Support Allowance, Integer 0-97
HBWeeks2	for Housing Benefit, Integer 0-97

ISWKS2 for Income Support or Pension Credit, Integer 0-97 JSAWKS2  
for Jobseeker's Allowance, Integer 0-97

NUMYEARS For Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance and Pension Credit only, this holds the number of years the respondent has been in receipt. If less than two (NUMYEARS=1), NUMWEEKS is also asked.

PRES Asks whether presently receiving the benefit

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')

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.

VAR1 - VAR3 Some questions only apply to individual benefits. Instead of creating separate fields for each different question, these questions share the three fields Var1 to Var3. The fields hold data as follows (Benefit Key Values precede benefit types).

1 Disability Living Allowance (Care component)

VAR1 Holds the response to GetCA is there anyone getting Carers Allowance for you?  
(1=Yes, 2=No)

VAR2 [For recipients of State Retirement Pension:](#)

DC - Is the Care component of DLA paid as part of your pension or do you receive it separately? (1=With pension, 2=Separately)

2 Disability Living Allowance (Mobility component)

VAR2 [For recipients of State Retirement Pension](#)

DM - Is the Mobility component of DLA paid as part of your pension or do you receive it separately? (1=With pension, 2=Separately)

4 Pension Credit

VAR1 Holds the response to 'contains PC Guaranteed Element'

VAR2 Holds the response to 'contains PC Savings Element'

5 Retirement Pension

VAR1 BUSAMTDK – When benefit amount is not usual (USUAL=2) and usual amount is not known (NOTUSAMT=.B), the respondent is asked if it is unknown because it is combined with one or more other benefit?

6 Bereavement Support Payment / Widowed Parent's Allowance

VAR1 BUSAMTDK – When benefit amount is not usual (USUAL=2) and usual amount is not known (NOTUSAMT=.B), the respondent is asked if it is unknown because it is combined with one or more other benefit? VAR2 1 = Bereavement Support Payment

2 = Widowed Parent's Allowance

12 Attendance Allowance

VAR1 Holds the response to GetCA is there anyone getting Carers Allowance for you?

VAR2 [For recipients of State Retirement Pension](#)

AA - Is Attendance Allowance paid as part of your pension or do you receive a separate pension? (1 = With pension 2 = Separately)

13 Carers Allowance

VAR3 ICAPer - Who is the person you care for that qualifies you for this allowance?

14 Jobseeker's Allowance

VAR1 BUSAMTDK – When benefit amount is not usual (USUAL=2) and usual amount is not known (NOTUSAMT=.B), the respondent is asked if it is unknown because it is combined with one or more other benefit?

VAR2 JSATYPE – There are two types of Jobseeker's Allowance.

1 = Contributory

2 = Income Based

3 = Contributory (Imputed)

4 = Income Based (Imputed)

5 = Both contributory and income based

6 = Both contributory and income based (Imputed)

16 Employment and Support Allowance

VAR1 BUSAMTDK – When benefit amount is not usual (USUAL=2) and usual amount is not known (NOTUSAMT=.B), the respondent is asked if it is unknown because it is combined with one or more other benefit?

VAR2 ESATYPE – There are two types of Employment and Support Allowance.

1 = Contributory

2 = Income Based

3 = Contributory (Imputed)

4 = Income Based (Imputed)

5 = Both contributory and income based

6 = Both contributory and income based (Imputed)

VAR3 ESAGROUP –

1 = Work-related activity group

2 = Support group

3 = Assessment phase

17 Incapacity Benefit

VAR1 MADEMP - Are you getting 'made up' pay from employer? (1=Yes, 2=No)

VAR2 MDUPWK - Are you paid every week? (1=Yes, 2=for only some weeks)

VAR3 MDUPNO - For how many weeks are you getting 'made-up' pay? (0-97)

19 Income Support

VAR1 BUSAMTDK – When benefit amount is not usual (USUAL=2) and usual amount is not known (NOTUSAMT=.B), the respondent is asked if it is unknown because it is combined with one or more other benefit?

VAR3 MAINT – Can I just check, does your Income Support include any payment from the Child Support Agency for your child(ren)? (1=Yes, 2=No)

65 DWP Payments (Income Support/Pension Credit recipients)

VAR2 GOVBEBOR - Just now, you said that you got [£amount] Income Support/ Pension Credit last time. Was that BEFORE or AFTER taking off what the DWP pay for directly?

1 = BEFORE deducting what DWP pay for directly (gross entitlement)

2 = AFTER deducting what DWP pay for directly (net amount received by respondent)

66 DWP Payments (Jobseeker's Allowance/Employment and Support Allowance recipients)

VAR2 GOVBEBOR - Just now, you said that you got [£amount] Jobseeker's Allowance/Employment and Support Allowance last time. Was that BEFORE or AFTER taking off what the DWP pay for directly?

1 = BEFORE deducting what DWP pay for directly (gross entitlement)

2 = AFTER deducting what DWP pay for directly (net amount received by respondent)

69 Social Fund Loan: Repayment (Income Support/Pension Credit recipients)

VAR2 SFINC - Just now you said that you got [£amount] of Income Support/ Pension Credit last time. Was that BEFORE or AFTER taking off your Social Fund loan repayments?

1 = BEFORE taking off amount for loan repayment

2 = AFTER taking off amount for loan repayment

70 Social Fund Loan: Repayment (Jobseeker Allowance/Employment and Support recipients)

VAR2 SFINC - Just now you said that you got [£amount] of Jobseeker's Allowance/Employment and Support Allowance last time. Was that BEFORE or AFTER taking off your Social Fund loan repayments?

1 = BEFORE taking off amount for loan repayment

2 = AFTER taking off amount for loan repayment

78 Extended Housing / Council Tax Benefit (separate or combined)

VAR1 EXTHBCTB - Did you receive an extended payment of Housing Benefit, or Council Tax Benefit, or both?

IF 'BOTH' were they paid together, or separately?

1 = Housing Benefit only

2 = Council Tax Benefit only

3 = HB and CTB paid together

4 = HB and CTB paid separately

VAR2 NIEXTHBB - As above for Northern Ireland respondents

90 Working Tax Credit

VAR1 WTCD – Does the payment include a disability element?

92 Working Tax Credit (Lump Sum)

VAR1 WTCD – Does the payment include a disability element?

95 Universal Credit

- VAR1 ACCUC – How do you receive the Universal Credit payment you just mentioned?  
Into a
- 1 = Bank account
  - 2 = Building society account
  - 3 = Post Office card account
  - 4 = Other method (including the Simple Payment Service)
- VAR2 UCJOINT – And can I just ask, is the/ this account held jointly with anyone else?
- 1 = Yes
  - 2 = No
- VAR3 UC\_LINKED – whether UC case is linked to admin data.
- 1= Yes, linked
  - 2= No, unlinked

#### 97 Personal Independence Payment (Daily Living component)

- VAR1 Holds the response to GetCA is there anyone getting Carers Allowance for you?  
(1=Yes, 2=No)

- VAR2 [For recipients of State Retirement Pension](#)

3 – Is the Daily Living component of PIP paid as part of your pension or do you receive it separately? (1=With pension, 2=Separately)

#### b Personal Independence Payment (Mobility component)

- VAR2 [For recipients of State Retirement Pension](#)

1 – Is the Daily Living component of PIP paid as part of your pension or do you receive it separately? (1=With pension, 2=Separately)

#### c Loan from the DWP

- VAR1 LOANNUM – Does How many such loans have you had in the past 6 months?

#### d Loan from local authority

- VAR1 LOANNUM – How many such loans have you had in the past 6 months?

#### 114 Linked UC Advance

- VAR1 Number of UC Advances Paid

## Subsidiary tables

### GOVPAY table

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 fields:

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 (Payments from UC)

**GOVPAY**      Item type i.e.:

1. Mortgage Interest	7. Council Tax arrears (GB)
2. Rent Arrears	8. Rates Arrears (NI)
3. Fees for nursing home or residential care	9. Fines
4. Gas or electricity bills	10. Personal or Commercial loan repayments
5. Service charges for heating or fuel	11. Maintenance payments
6. Water charges (GB)	12. Item not known

## Benefit existence fields

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 table with each field representing one benefit. The fields are listed in Table 1. The possible values in each field are the standard converted multiple choice responses:

- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 1  | Yes                           |
| 2  | No                            |
| 3  | All responses in set are “No” |
| -1 | Not applicable / skipped      |
| -9 | Don't Know                    |
| -8 | Refused to answer             |
| -2 | Not known / unable to derive  |

## Additional responses

In addition to benefit details there are some additional questions asking respondents if they are awaiting the outcome of a claim for certain benefits. These are held in the ADULT and BENEFITS tables.

**Table 1: Benefit codes**

Question on Adult table	Benefits table key	Benefit Description
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ClaiFut1	102	Future: Pension Credit
ClaiFut2	103	Future: Universal Credit
ClaiFut3	104	Future: Housing Benefit
ClaiFut4	105	Future: Working Tax Credit
ClaiFut5	106	Future: Child Tax Credit
ClaiFut6	107	Future: Income Support
ClaiFut7	108	Future: Jobseeker's Allowance
ClaiFut8	109	Future: Employment and Support Allowance
DisBen1 and PIP1	96	Personal Independence Payment (daily living component)
DisBen1 and PIP2	97	Personal Independence Payment (mobility component)
DisBen2 and DLA1	1	DLA (care component)
DisBen2 and DLA2	2	DLA (mobility component)
DisBen3	12	Attendance Allowance
DisBen4	10	Severe Disability Allowance
DisBen5	17	Incapacity Benefit
DisBen6	15	Industrial Injury Disablement Benefit
GPISPC	65	DWP third party payments - IS/PC
GPJSAESA	66	DWP third party payments - JSA/ESA
GPUC	110	DWP paying direct for 1 or more UC items
GTA	36	Government training allowances

Iclaim1	61	Unemployment/Redundancy Insurance
Iclaim2	31	Trade Union sick/strike pay
Iclaim3	33	Private sickness scheme benefits
Iclaim4	34	Accident insurance scheme benefits
Iclaim5	81	Permanent health insurance
Iclaim6	35	Hospital savings scheme benefits

IClaim7	32	Friendly Society Benefits
IClaim8	83	Critical Illness Cover
IClaim9	82	Any other sickness insurance
KidBen1	3	Child Benefit
KidBen2	37	Guardians Allowance
KidBen3	21	Maternity Allowance
OthBen1	78	Receipt last 6 months: Extended Housing Benefit
OthBen6	30	Any other National Insurance or State benefit
PenBen1	4	Pension credit
PenBen2	5	Retirement Pension
PenBen3	6	Bereavement Support Payment / Widowed Parent's Allowance
PenBen4	8	Armed Forces Compensation Scheme
PenBen5	9	War Widow's/Widower's Pension
SocFund1	24	Funeral Grant from Social Fund
SocFund2	22	Sure Start Maternity Grant / Best Start Grant
SocFund3	98	A loan from the DWP
SocFund4	99	A loan from your local authority
SRISPC	69	Social Fund Loan: Repayment from IS/PC
SRJSAESA	70	Social Fund Loan: Repayment from JSA/ESA
SRUC	111	Social Fund Loan: Repayment from UC
WageBen1	95	Universal Credit
WageBen2	94	Housing benefit
WageBen3 and CTCLum1	93	CTC lump sum
WageBen3 and CTCLum2	91	CTC

WageBen3 and WTCLum2	90	WTC
WageBen3 andWTCLum1	92	WTC lump sum
WageBen5	19	Income Support
WageBen6	14	Jobseeker's Allowance
WageBen7	16	Employment and Support Allowance
WageBen8	13	Carer's Allowance
WintFuel	62	Winter Fuel Payments