The Scotland Incapacity Benefit Experience

The Scottish Observatory for Work & Health
Judith Brown

4th September 09
Relationship between Work & Health

Introduce the NEW Scottish Observatory for Work & Health

Results from Year 1
- Incapacity benefit claiming population, on & off flows
- Age, sex
- Mental Health group
People not in work are more likely to be sicker and die earlier

Areas with higher proportions of people not in work have worse health

Is work good for your health and well-being? – Waddell & Burton 2006

Worklessness is the biggest cause of health inequality, social exclusion, deprivation and mortality

Dame Carol Black’s Review of the health of Britain’s working age population ‘Working for a healthier tomorrow’, 2008
Established July 2008

Based in Public Health & Health Policy at Glasgow University

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Funded for three years by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lanarkshire, Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives and the Scottish Government Health Directorates
What we are doing

Observe & understand those receiving benefit for health-related worklessness
Understand relationships between health and worklessness in a Scottish context

**Year 1**
- Produce real time reports on the stock IB, on flow and off flow populations for a variety of geographies. This data will be broken down sex, age, reason on IB (including mental health) and length of time of IB
- Investigate the destinations of those coming off IB
- Present the IB figures in the context of number of jobs available and change in employment rate

**Years 2 & 3**
- Update work from year 1 (additional geographical detail)
- Monitor substantive changes in the benefit system (e.g. the move towards employment and support allowance).
- Develop research on health consequences of worklessness
- Develop research evaluating effectiveness of interventions to return people to work
IB is the key contributory benefit for people who are incapable of work because of illness or disability.

2.6 million people receive IB in the UK.

UK government has set target of reducing the number claiming IB by 1 million by 2016.

Once on IB for more than two years more likely to retire or die than find a new job.
IB stock Population, On flow and Off flow

2000

On flow

IB Stock Population

Off flow

2007

On flow

Stock (% change in stock)

Off flow
Scotland, Stock Pop, On flow & Off flow

2000

83,480
335,770
81,870

2007

66,480
305,800 (-9%)
74,760
IB rates – expressed as % of working age pop.

IB rates in Scotland, Glasgow, North & South Lanarkshire

Source - DWP
On flow expressed as % of WAP* not on IB

*WAP – working age population
Off flow expressed as a % of the total stock population

IB Off Flow Rates in Scotland, Glasgow, North & South Lanarkshire

Year

%
Stock IB claimants by age - Scotland

Total IB claimants by age (expressed as % of denominator age group) in Scotland
Stock IB claimants by age - Glasgow

Total IB claimants by age (expressed as % of denominator age group) in Glasgow City

Age category

%


2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>CH(C)P Neighbourhood</th>
<th>Percent of 55-59 year olds claiming IB 2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td></td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glasgow City</td>
<td></td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Glasgow</td>
<td>Castlemilk</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Glasgow</td>
<td>Ibrox &amp; Kingston</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Glasgow</td>
<td>Parkhead &amp; Dalmarnock</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Glasgow</td>
<td>Ruchill &amp; Possilpark</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rate of on flow by age - Glasgow

Rate of On Flow in Glasgow City

Age category


%
Rate of Off Flow by age in Glasgow City
1. ‘Payment’ claimants – good recent work history and receive IB payment

2. ‘Credits only’ claimants – have not made sufficient NI contributions and receive financial support from other sources. Have less good recent work histories
Payments/Credits only claimants by sex - Scotland

Male Payments and Credits only IB claimants in Scotland

Female Payments and Credits only IB claimants in Scotland
Payments/Credits only claimants by sex - Glasgow

Male Payments and Credits only IB claimants in Glasgow City

Female Payments and Credits only IB claimants in Glasgow City
1. The main reason for claiming IB is ‘mental and behavioural disorders’

2. Credits only claimants are more likely to claim IB because of MH problem (60%)

3. The MH group can be broken down into 25 categories

4. The majority of MH problems were either depressive, neurotic and anxiety disorders


5. Those claiming because of MH make up the largest category coming on to IB

6. The highest off flow rates are for the injury group
What happens to claimants when they come off IB?

a. What is the *first* destination of the IB off flow claimants?

b. How may IB claimants return to work after leaving IB?

c. What characteristics delineate those who enter work after leaving IB?
Scottish Observatory for Work & Health Year 1 report
Available from GCPH
www.gcph.co.uk

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