

## T5.2 Mortgage Interest Relief

Cost of relief (at current prices) and number of beneficiaries, 1988-89 to 1999-2000

Year	Cost of mortgage interest relief	Average Building Society rate of interest %	Number of single people or married couples benefiting from mortgage interest relief	Numbers: thousands Amounts: £ million	
				Average mortgage interest relief £	Cost of relief at excess over basic rate (1)
1988-89	5,400	11.7	9,200	590	350
1989-90	6,900	14	9,400	730	460
1990-91	7,700	14.9	9,600	800	500
1991-92	6,100	12	9,700	630	-
1992-93	5,200	9.9	9,800	530	-
1993-94	4,300	7.9	10,000	430	-
1994-95	3,500	7.8	10,400	340	-
1995-96	2,700	7.6	10,500	260	-
1996-97	2,400	6.6	10,600	230	-
1997-98	2,700	7.3	10,700	250	-
1998-99	1,900	7.5	10,800	180	-
1999-2000	1,600	6.5	10,900	150	-

### Footnotes

(1) Included in figures given for the cost of mortgage interest relief.

### Notes on the Table

#### Cost of relief and number of beneficiaries, 1988-89 to 1999-2000

1. This table shows the cost, in current prices, of mortgage interest relief. The decrease in the cost of mortgage interest relief since 1990-91 is due to the decrease in interest rates, the abolition of higher rate relief in 1991-92 and the reduction of the rate of relief to 20 per cent in 1994-95, to 15 per cent in 1995-96 and to 10 per cent in 1998-99.