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HM Revenue and Customs KAI Personal Tax

Trusts Statistics

Number of trusts making self
assessment returns, total tax paid
by trusts and total income by type of
trust

2005-06 to 2009-10



Trusts Statistics

January 2012

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About These Statistics

This is a National Statistics publication produced by HM Revenue and Customs using receipts information from HMRC's administrative systems. For more information on National Statistics and governance of statistics produced by public bodies please see the UK Statistics Authority website:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/>.

This publication contains two tables. In these tables statistics are presented on an annual basis and cover years 2005-06 to 2009-10. The tables contain:

- 13.1) Number of trusts which make a full SA return by type of trust, income of trusts by type of income and type of trust, and tax from trusts by type of trust and type of tax
- 13.2) Number of trusts and income of trusts by type of trust, broken down by income band

New or Updated Statistics in this Release

These statistics were published on 31 January 2012. Figures are updated annually and were last published in January 2011. Statistics for 2009-10 are included for the first time in the current publication. Figures for previous years have been revised due to availability of further data, see section 1.8 for further information about these revisions.

User Survey

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) are conducting a survey of users of Trust statistics, from 3rd January to 5th April 2012. The survey aims to understand how customers use the statistics and how the statistics can be improved to better meet their needs. To take part please fill out this short online survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TrustIHTusersurvey>

1. Introduction

1.1 What is a trust?

A trust is a legal arrangement which involves one individual (the 'settlor') transferring his or her assets (the 'trust property') to another individual or company (the 'trustee') who is made legally responsible for the assets. The trustee holds these assets for the benefit of one or more persons (the 'beneficiaries') named by the settlor. The settlor's wishes for the trust are usually written in their will or given in a legal document called the 'trust deed'.

A trust can be established during the lifetime of the settlor, upon their death in the terms of their will or through operation of the intestacy laws (where no will has been made).

The assets put into ('settled') into a trust need not be money, they can also include land, buildings, shares, and other assets. The trust property may produce income such as interest, dividends or rental income, or gains if the assets are sold. The way the income is taxed will depend on the type of trust and type of income.

There are a number of reasons for setting up trusts, including:

- To control and protect family assets
- When someone is too young to handle their affairs
- When someone cannot handle their affairs because they are incapacitated
- To pass on money or property while the settlor are still alive
- To pass on money or assets when the settlor dies under the terms of their will
- Under the rules of inheritance that apply when someone dies without leaving a valid will (England and Wales only)

1.2 Types of trust

These statistics cover UK family trusts. They do not cover specialist vehicles, such as Venture Capital Trusts or Authorised Unit Trusts, which are treated as companies. For more information about Venture Capital Trusts and Authorised Unit Trusts see the HMRC website:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/guidance/vct.htm>

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/individuals/savings-income.htm>

There are a number of types of family trust in the UK. The types of trusts that are covered by these statistics are explained below.

There are other types of trusts beside those outlined below (e.g. settlor interested trusts, foreign trusts, trusts for children and disabled people) but for income tax purposes they are mostly treated as one of three main types already described. For further information about all types of trusts see the HMRC website Trusts pages:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/trusts/index.htm>

1.2.1 Interest in possession trusts

An 'interest in possession' trust is one where the beneficiary is entitled to trust income as it arises. The trustee must pass on all the income received, less any trustee's expenses, to the beneficiary.

The beneficiary who receives income (the 'income beneficiary') often doesn't have any rights over the capital held in such a trust. The capital will normally pass to a different beneficiary or beneficiaries in the future. Depending on the terms of the trust, the trustees might have the power to pay capital to a beneficiary even though that beneficiary only has a right to receive income.

1.2.2 Discretionary trusts

A discretionary trust is one where trustees are the legal owners of any assets held in the trust and have 'discretion' about how to use the income of the trust, and sometimes the capital. The trustees are responsible for running the trust for the benefit of the beneficiaries. Trustees may be able to decide:

- How much income or capital is paid out
- Which beneficiaries to make payments to
- How often the payments are made
- What, if any, conditions to impose on the recipients.

Discretionary trusts can be used to put capital aside for beneficiaries who are not capable or responsible enough to deal with money by themselves, or perhaps to cover a future need that may not yet be known (e.g. when one beneficiary requires more financial assistance than other beneficiaries at a particular point in time). The extent of the trustee's discretion depends on the terms of the trust deed.

1.2.3 Accumulation trusts

An accumulation trust is one where the trustees have the power to accumulate income within the trust (add it to trust capital). An accumulation trust can be set up to build capital until the beneficiary becomes legally entitled to the trust assets.

1.2.4 Mixed trusts

A mixed trust is one where the income is taxable on more than one basis. This may be because there are distinct different parts to the trust fund so that income is always held in different trusts. Alternatively changes to the trust may occur depending on the beneficiaries' circumstances (e.g. two children benefit from an accumulation trust. According to the terms of the trust deed, the beneficiaries are entitled to income received by the trust when they reach 18. The first child reaches 18 while the second is still 14. The part of the trust benefiting the first child becomes an interest in possession trust, while the part that benefits the second child remains an accumulation trust until she reaches 18. In other words, when the first child reaches 18 the trust becomes a mixed trust).

1.3 Income tax payable on income from trusts

Trustees are responsible for declaring and paying income tax on income received by the trust. This is declared each year on a Trust and Estate Tax Return, part of the self assessment tax return. The beneficiary of a trust must declare any trust income they receive or are entitled to on their personal tax return. As a beneficiary it's important to understand the type of trust, as the tax rules vary according to the trust type. Guidance for beneficiaries on paying and reclaiming tax on trusts is available on the HMRC website:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/trusts/beneficiaries-pay-reclaim.htm>

The income tax payable on trusts is dependent on the type of trust. Tax treatment broadly falls into two categories: the taxation of interest in possession trusts, and taxation of other trusts.

1.3.1 Income tax payable on interest in possession trusts:

There are different tax rates depending on the type of income. The table below shows applicable tax rates in each year covered in this publication.

Type of income	Tax rate in tax years 2005-06 to 2009-10
Rent, trading, savings	20% (basic rate)
UK dividends (e.g. Income from stocks and shares)	10% (dividend ordinary rate)

In some instances special trust rates of tax may apply. See the HMRC website for further information:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/trusts/types/iip.htm#2>

1.3.2 Income tax payable on other trusts:

Income from discretionary and accumulation trusts is taxed at the special trust rate apart from the first £1,000 of trust income which is known as the 'standard rate band'.

If a settlor has more than one trust the standard rate band is divided by the number of trusts the settlor has. The tables below show applicable tax rates in each year covered in this publication

Trust income up to £1,000

Type of income	Tax rate in tax years 2005-06 to 2009-10
Rent, trading, savings	20% (basic rate)
UK dividends (e.g. Income from stocks and shares)	10% (dividend ordinary rate)

Trust income over £1,000

Type of income	Tax rate in tax years 2005-06 to 2009-10
Rent, trading, savings	40% (trust rate)
UK dividends	32.5% (dividend trust rate)

In mixed trusts, the income from each part of the trust will be taxed under the rules that apply to that type of trust.

1.4 Capital gains tax and trusts

Capital gains tax (CGT) is a tax on the gain in the value of an asset. A trust may have to pay CGT if assets are sold, given away or exchanged and they've gone up in value since being put into the trust. The trust will only have to pay the tax if the assets have increased in value above a certain allowance, the 'annual exempt amount'. For more information about trusts and CGT see the HMRC website:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/trusts/cgt/index.htm>

There is no difference between tax treatment for interest in possession and other trusts. The tax rate applicable to trusts in each year covered by this publication is shown in the table below.

Tax year:	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10
Capital gains tax rate applicable to trusts income	40%	40%	40%	18%	18%

1.5 What information does this publication cover?

The statistics on the income and capital gains of trusts are drawn from data captured from all those trusts which complete the trust and estates self assessment tax return.

Trusts which hold only non-income producing assets will not in general be part of the self assessment regime and therefore will not be covered by the tables. The statistics are derived from data captured by December 31st 2011 and should cover

the majority of returns expected for 2009-10 and previous years. However the 2009-10 data are slightly less complete than those for earlier years as they will exclude some late returns.

Tables 13.1 and 13.2 identify interest in possession and other trusts separately because of differences in tax treatment. Table 13.1 does not provide a detailed analysis of the estates, charities and small numbers of non-standard trust types which make self assessment returns; although the table does indicate the total number of returns from this group (categorised as 'other' trusts).

Table 13.1 provides statistics on the numbers of trusts making self assessment returns in each year since 2005-06. It also provides statistics on the total income and chargeable gains declared by these trusts, by type of income and type of trust. Finally the table shows the income tax and capital gains tax paid by trusts, split by type of trust.

Amounts of chargeable gains and amounts of capital gains tax are also published in table 14.2. There are some differences between figures published in table 13.1 and figures published in table 14.2. Differences in chargeable gains figures relate to coverage. Table 14.2 shows gains for all trusts and table 13.1 only shows chargeable gains for interest in possession and trusts paying tax at the rate applicable to trusts. Differences in capital gains tax figures relate to the timing of production of statistics, and availability of later data. Link to table 14.2:

http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/capital_gains/table14-2.pdf

Table 13.2 shows a breakdown by income band of the numbers of trusts making self assessment returns (where income bands are defined as total income excluding capital gains). The table also shows the distribution of total income across trusts in different income bands.

1.6 Who might be interested in this publication?

These tables are likely to be of interest to policy makers in government, academics, think tanks and other research bodies, and journalists. They would be of use to individuals or organisations interested in the number of trusts, income from trusts and tax raised from trusts in the latest year for which data is available, and trends over time.

1.7 Rounding

The amounts shown in the tables have been independently rounded to the nearest £5 million and numbers have been rounded to the nearest 500 (with the exception of the category of "less than £0" in table 13.2 where numbers have been rounded to the nearest 100).

1.8 Revisions strategy and revisions made in this publication

This publication includes figures for 2009-10 for the first time plus revised figures for earlier years back to 2005-06, reflecting any self assessment tax returns for these

years received since statistics were last published. All figures are potentially subject to revision in the light of further returns received after 31 December 2011. The table below shows changes since last publication. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 500 and income and tax figures are rounded to the nearest £5 million.

		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Year on year increase	Number	0	500	1,500	3,000
Percentage increase	of trusts	0.0%	0.2%	0.7%	1.6%
Year on year increase	Total				
(£ million)	income	0	-5	10	45
Percentage increase		0.0%	-0.2%	0.4%	1.8%
Year on year increase	Total				
(£ million)	income	0	0	5	25
Percentage increase	tax	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	3.3%
Year on year increase	Total				
(£ million)	capital	0	0	5	-330
Percentage increase	gains tax	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	-117.9%

In tables 13.1 and 13.2 there have been small revisions in the years 2006-07 and 2007-08, with more sizeable revisions in 2008-09. The revisions in the headline total figures in Table 13.2 will be the same as the revisions made in Table 13.1.

The most notable revision is to total capital gains tax in 2008-09, a downward revision of £330 million. This revision is generated by an error in figures published in January 2011. The tax rate applied in the previous published figures to chargeable gains for 2008-09 was 40%, the same rate as in years prior to 2008-09, rather than 18%, the applicable rate in 2008-09. Correcting this error gives a significantly lower capital gains tax figure for 2008-09.

1.9 User Engagement

HMRC are committed to providing impartial quality statistics that meet our users' needs. We encourage our users to engage with us so we can improve our statistics and identify gaps in them. If you would like to comment on these statistics or have any queries about the statistics please contact the statistician named at the start of this document.

Alternatively we would welcome any views you have using the link to the feedback form below. We will undertake to review user comments on a quarterly basis and use this information to influence the development of our statistics. We will summarise and publish user comments at regular intervals.

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/user-engagement.htm>"

1.10 User survey of National Statistics on trusts:

HMRC are conducting a survey of users of Trust statistics between 3 January and 5 April 2012. Users can participate in the survey by accessing the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TrustIHTusersurvey>

The survey aims to understand how customers use the statistics and how the statistics could be improved to better meet their needs. The survey will take around 5 minutes to complete. We welcome your views on these statistics to enable us to improve the service we provide.

2. Commentary

2.1 Summary of key statistics

- Latest data shows that 176,000 trusts made self assessment returns for tax year 2009-10, 17,000 fewer than in 2008-09.
- Income from interest in possession trusts and trusts paying income tax at the special trusts rate in 2009-10 totalled £2,650 million, of this £900 million was from income in possession trusts, 13% less than in 2008-09, and £1,750 million was from trusts paying income tax at the special trusts rate, 14% more than in 2008-09.
- Total income tax payable on income from trusts in 2009-10 was £750 million. Of this £150 million arose from income in possession trusts and £570 million from trusts taxable at the special trust rate.
- Chargeable gains in 2009-10 were £2,045 million, 38% higher than in 2008-09.

2.2 Latest figures available, 2009-10

There were 66,000 interest in possession trusts in 2009-10. Figure 1 shows the distribution of these trusts by band of income. 38,000, or 57% of trusts had income of less than £1,000. 10,000, or 15% had income between £1,000 and £5,000. Only 3,000 trusts had income of more than £100,000.

Figure 1: Number of income in possession trusts, and income from these trusts by income band

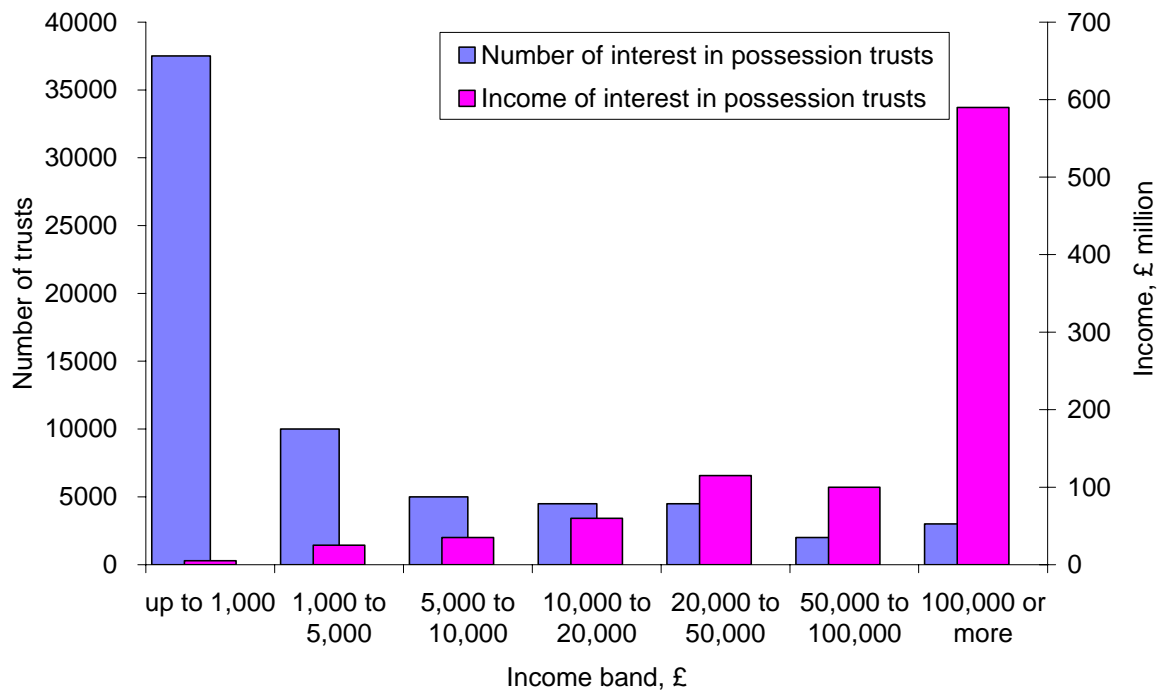
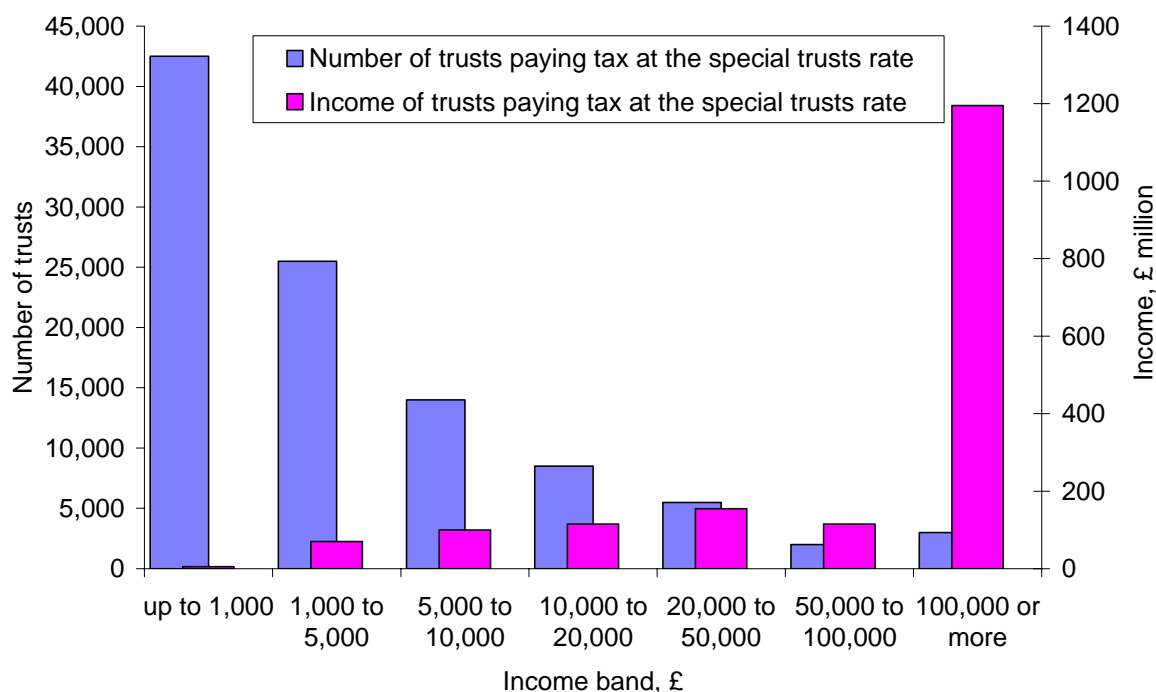


Figure 1 also shows total income from interest in possession trusts, split by income band. The small number of trusts with income of more than £100,000 account for £590 million, or 66% of total income.

Figure 2 shows the number and income from trusts paying tax at the special trusts rate. 101,000 trusts paying income tax at the special trusts rate in 2009-10. 43,000, 42% had income of less than £1,000 and 26,000, 25%, had income of between £1,000 and £5,000. 3,000 trusts had income of more than £100,000.

Figure 2: Number of trusts, and income from trusts paying tax at the special trusts rate by band of income



Total income from trusts paying income tax at the special trusts rate was £1,750 million in 2009-10. Trusts with income of more than £100,000 accounted for 68% of this.

2.3 Overall trends in the time series

Figure 3 shows that the total number of trusts has been slowly declining since 2005-06. In 2005-06 there were 210,000 trusts in the UK and a steady fall has resulted in only 176,000 trusts in 2009-10, a 16% decline. There are a few reasons why this trend has occurred. Firstly, in 2004 the special tax rate for trusts was increased from 34% to 40% and this may have made trusts less attractive (there may have been a gradual change in behaviour which would mean the effects of this change would still be seen in the current statistics). Secondly the standard rate band was introduced from 6 April 2005. Those trusts with income consistently below £500 no longer needed to complete a self assessment tax return every year. This policy measure automatically excluded a large number of trusts from the data. Thirdly, the number of interest in possession trusts have seen a decline due to inheritance tax policy which applied an exit charge to interest in possession trusts (thus making them less attractive).

Figure 3: Total number of trusts

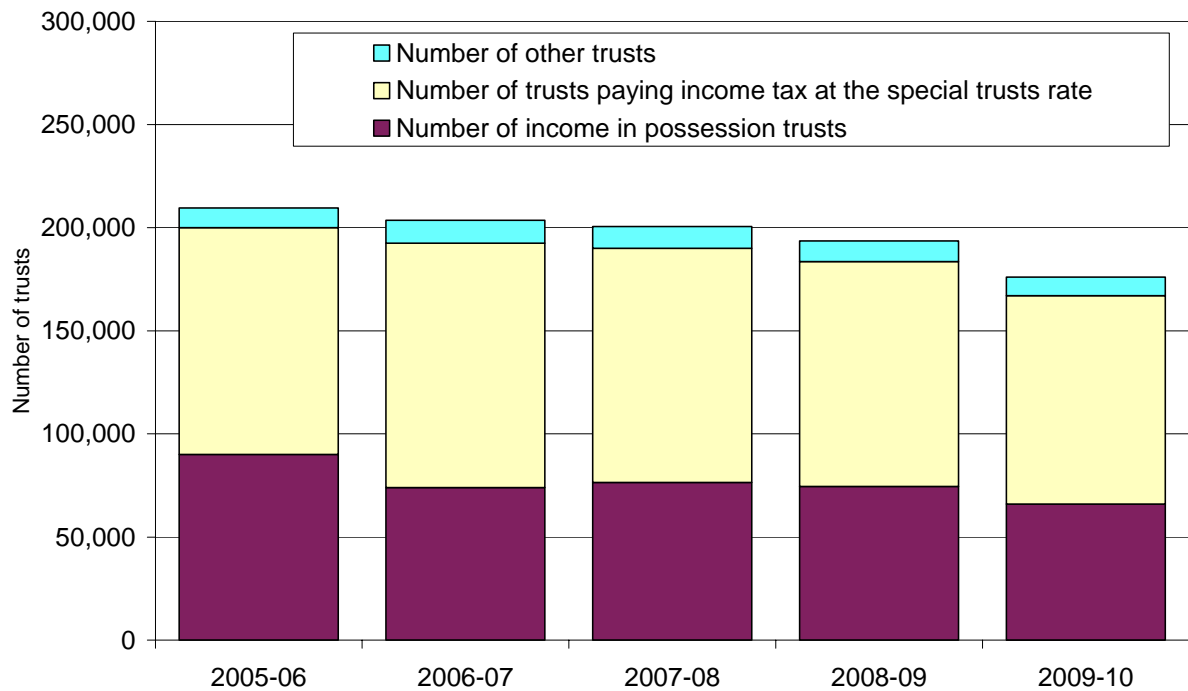


Figure 4 shows the level of income of income in possession trusts, by type of income. Total income has decreased year on year with the exception of 2007-08. The decreases in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are particularly driven by falls in interest income.

Figure 4: Income from interest in possession trusts by type of income

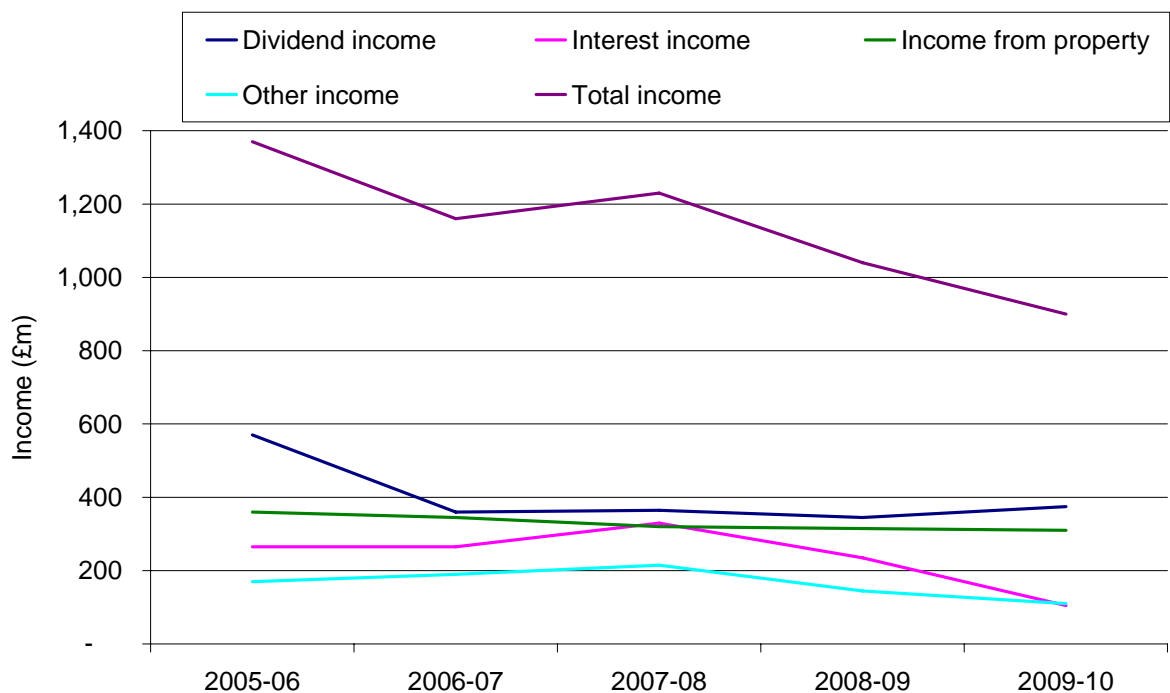


Figure 5 shows the level of income for trusts paying income tax at the special rate. Total income consistently rose up until 2007-08 when total income was £1,625

million. Total income decreased to £1,530 million in 2008-09 before increasing again in 2009-10 to £1,750 million. The decrease in 2008-09 was driven by a fall in interest income. Interest income has continued to decrease in 2009-10, however strength in dividend income, which has increased by 45% year on year, has more than offset this.

Figure 5: Income from trusts taxable at the special tax rate by type of income

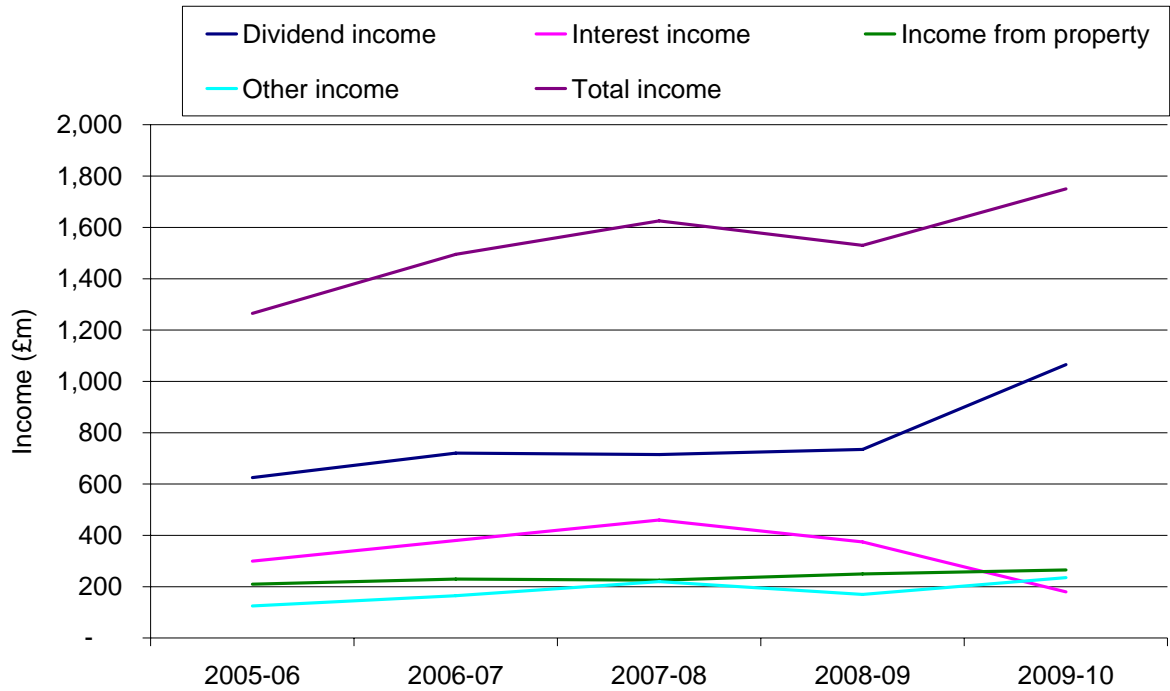


Figure 6 shows tax payable on income from trusts. Levels of both income tax and capital gains tax peaked in 2007-08. For capital gains tax the fall in 2008-09 is due to a change in the tax rate. For income tax, total tax has been unchanged between 2008-09 and 2009-10, although this disguises offsetting changes, with tax from trusts paying at the special rate for trusts increasing slightly and tax from income in possession trusts decreasing slightly.

Figure 6: Tax payable on income from trusts

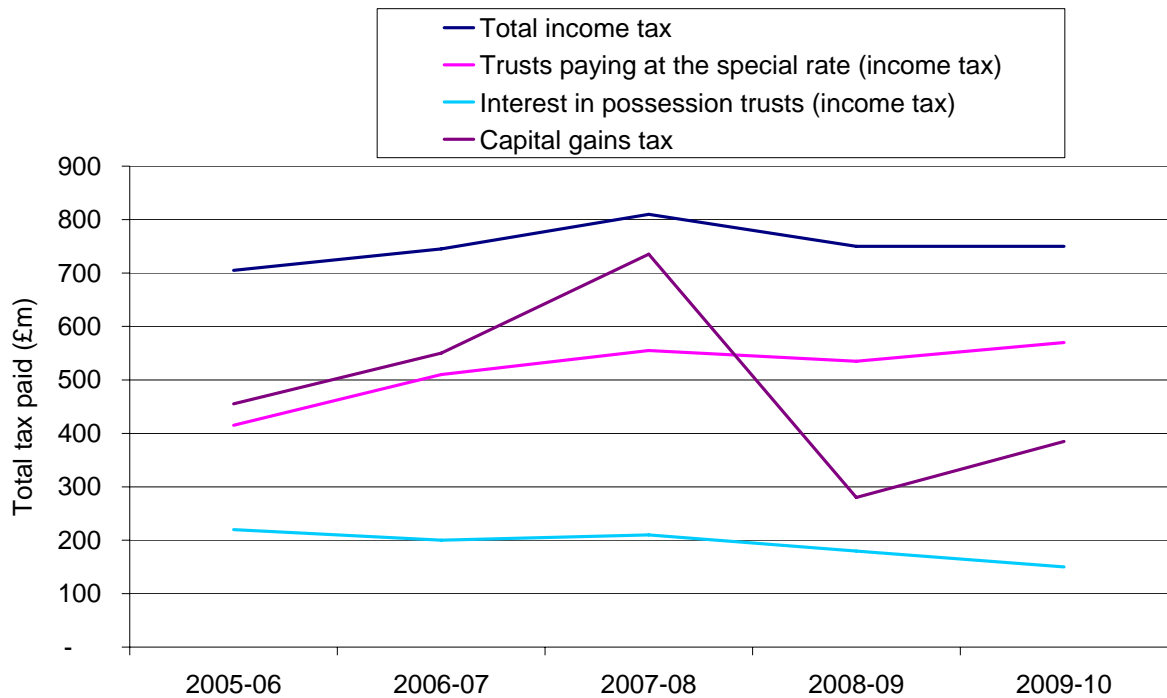


Figure 7 shows the number of income in possession trusts in each income band. In all years the majority of trusts have income of less than £1,000. There was a significant drop in the number of trusts in this income band in 2006-07, this was due in part to the introduction of a £500 lower income threshold for completion of a self assessment return. Another reason for this drop can be found in the inheritance tax measures brought in at Budget 2006. These measures meant that interest in possession trusts would be liable to exit charges, which has resulted in making interest in possession trusts a less attractive proposition. It must be noted that these are inheritance tax measure so will only have an indirect effect on trusts. The number of trusts falling into other income bands have been slowly falling over time, with the exception of the very largest trusts. The number of trusts with income over £100,000 remained constant between 2005-06 and 2008-09, and increased slightly in 2009-10.

Figure 7: Number of income in possession trusts by income band

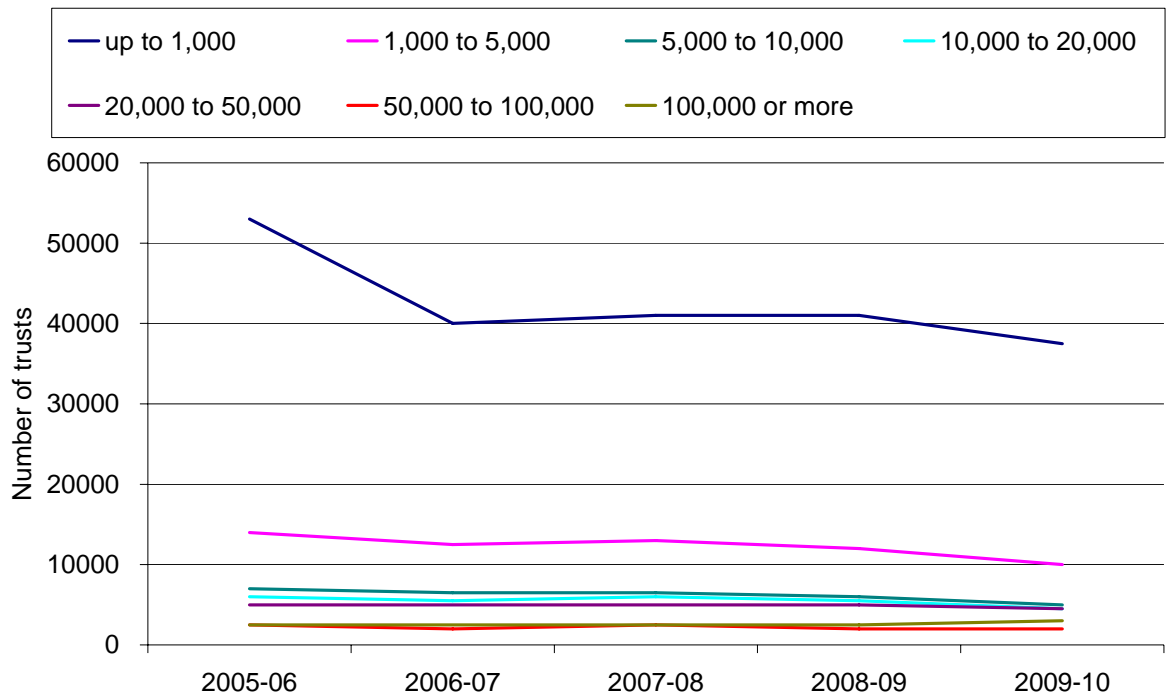
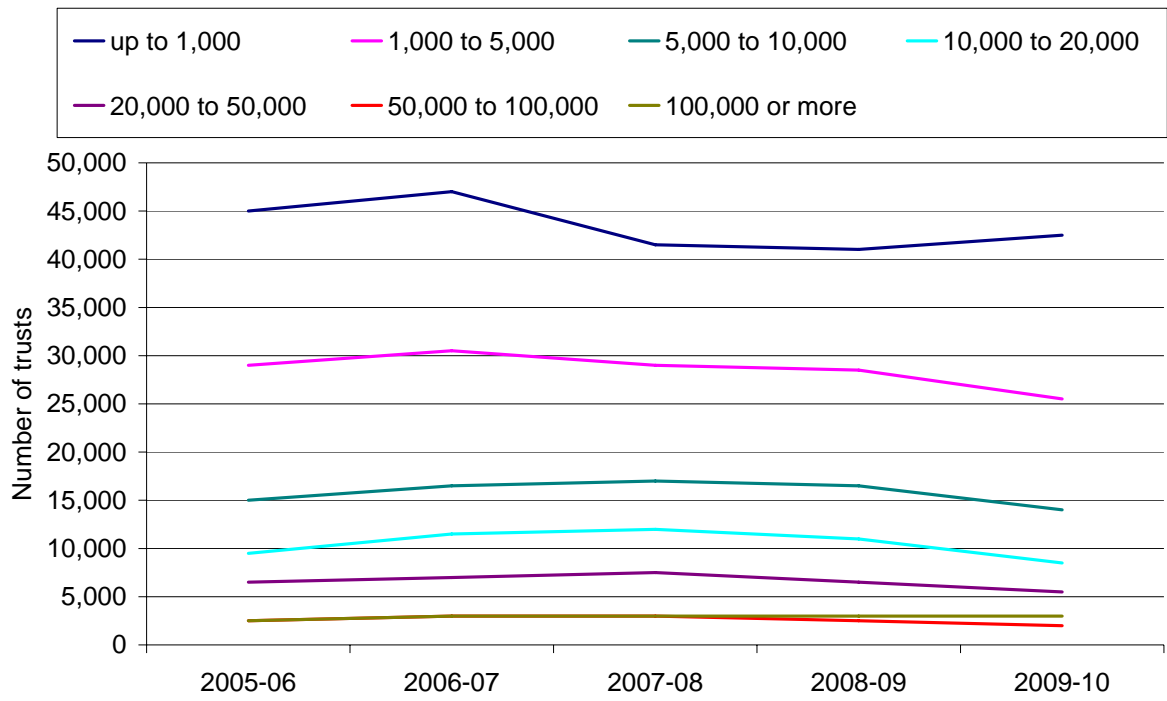


Figure 8 shows the number of trusts paying income tax at the special trusts rate by income band. There has been a slight increase in the number of trusts with income of less than £1,000 in 2009-10. The number of trusts in all other income bands has decreased (or remained constant). The number of trusts has been in decline since 2006-07.

Figure 8: Number of trusts taxable at special trust rate of income tax by income band



13.1 Trusts

Trusts and estates which make a full Self Assessment return

Numbers, income and tax 2005-06 to 2009-10 ^{1 2 3}

Numbers: actual; Amounts: £ million

Numbers ³	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Total, of which:	210,000	203,500	200,500	193,000	176,500
Interest in possession trusts	90,000	74,000	76,500	74,500	66,000
Trusts paying tax at the rate applicable to trusts ⁴	110,000	118,500	113,500	109,000	101,000
Others (estates, charities, etc)	9,500	11,000	10,500	10,000	9,000
Income (£ million) ³	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Interest in possession trusts					
Dividend income	570	360	365	345	375
Interest income	265	265	330	235	105
Income from property	360	345	320	315	310
Other income	170	190	215	145	110
Total income	1,370	1,160	1,230	1,040	900
Chargeable gains ⁴	530	640	740	840	1,045
Trusts paying tax at the rate applicable to trusts ⁵					
Dividend income	625	720	715	735	1,065
Interest income	300	380	460	375	180
Income from property	210	230	225	250	265
Other income	125	165	220	170	235
Total income	1,265	1,495	1,625	1,530	1,750
Chargeable gains	515	610	965	640	1,000
Tax (£ million) ⁶	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Income tax	705	745	810	750	750
of which:					
Interest in possession trusts	220	200	210	180	150
Trusts paying tax at the rate applicable to trusts ¹	415	510	555	535	570
Capital gains tax ⁷	455	550	735	280	385

Notes on the table

1. Because some returns are filed late, statistics for the most recent year will be marginally less complete than for earlier years.
2. This table includes all trusts and estates making a Self Assessment return. Trusts which do not make a Self Assessment return are not captured in the table.
3. Numbers are given to the nearest 500 and amounts are given to the nearest £5 million, which may cause small discrepancies in totals.
4. Income figures are displayed for interest in possession trusts and trusts where income tax is payable at the rate applicable to trusts only. Chargeable gains shown in this table do not equate to the total displayed in table 14.2 due to additional gains from other trusts not being shown here. Also figures in this table show gains after deduction of the annual exempt amount whereas gains are shown before the deduction of the annual exempt amount in table 14.2
5. The income tax rate applicable to trusts was 34% until 5 April 2004 and are currently taxed at 40%.
6. Total income tax and capital gains tax revenues include tax paid by estates and non-standard trusts. Statistics relate to tax accrued in the respective year.
7. There are small differences between capital gains tax figures displayed in this table and those published in table 14.2 in November 2011 as later information is included in these tables (http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/capital_gains/table14-2.pdf).



13.2

Trusts

Trusts and Estates which make a full Self Assessment return

Numbers and Income 2005-06 to 2009-10 ^{1 2 3}

Numbers: actual ³; Amounts: £ million ³

Band of total income (£)	2005-06 ⁴	2006-07 ⁴	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Interest in possession trusts										
less than 0	100	100	100	100	100	-5	-10	-15	-10	-30
up to 1,000	53000	40000	41000	41000	37500	5	5	5	5	5
1,000 to 5,000	14000	12500	13000	12000	10000	35	30	35	30	25
5,000 to 10,000	7000	6500	6500	6000	5000	45	45	45	45	35
10,000 to 20,000	6000	5500	6000	5500	4500	75	75	75	75	60
20,000 to 50,000	5000	5000	5000	5000	4500	140	130	140	135	115
50,000 to 100,000	2500	2000	2500	2000	2000	125	115	125	120	100
100,000 or more	2500	2500	2500	2500	3000	945	770	820	640	590
Total	90000	74000	76500	74500	66000	1370	1160	1230	1040	900
Trusts paying tax at the rate applicable to trusts										
less than 0	200	200	200	200	200	-5	-5	-15	-25	-10
up to 1,000	45,000	47,000	41,500	41,000	42,500	10	10	5	5	5
1,000 to 5,000	29,000	30,500	29,000	28,500	25,500	80	85	80	80	70
5,000 to 10,000	15,000	16,500	17,000	16,500	14,000	110	120	125	120	100
10,000 to 20,000	9,500	11,500	12,000	11,000	8,500	125	145	160	150	115
20,000 to 50,000	6,500	7,000	7,500	6,500	5,500	170	195	210	190	155
50,000 to 100,000	2,500	3,000	3,000	2,500	2,000	120	150	160	145	115
100,000 or more	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	650	795	895	865	1195
Total	110,000	118,500	113,500	109,000	101,000	1265	1495	1625	1530	1750

Notes on the Table

1. Because some returns are filed late, statistics for the most recent year will be marginally less complete than for earlier years.
2. This table includes all trusts and estates making a Self Assessment return. Trusts which do not make a Self Assessment return are not captured in the table.
3. Numbers are given to the nearest 500 and amounts are given to the nearest £5 million, which may cause small discrepancies in totals.
4. The standard rate band was introduced from 6 April 2005. Those trusts with income consistently below this level no longer need to complete a Self Assessment tax return every year. The size of the band was £500 for 2005/06 and £1,000 for 2006/07.



Annex A: Data sources, methodology and data quality

Data sources

Statistics are compiled using information on self assessment tax returns. This information is contained on HMRC's departmental administrative system CESA (Computerised Environment for Self Assessment). This is an administrative data source so no sampling of data is required in order to produce these statistics.

A datamart is created at the end of each month containing all information on CESA at that time. The datamart created at the end of December 2011 has been used to produce these statistics.

The date for submitting self assessment returns to HMRC depends on the way in which returns are sent. Returns completed on paper are due for return on 31 October following the end of the relevant tax year, and returns completed online are due on 31 January following the end of the tax year. Information from the tax return is not included within the trusts statistics until the year after returns are due. This means that the bulk of tax returns are available for all years for which statistics are published. However returns continue to be received or updated after the return due dates so figures in all years are liable to change when statistics are updated.

Trusts that do not require completion of a self assessment return are not captured within these statistics.

Methodology

The trust statistics are compiled using aggregated information collected in the trust and estates pages of the self assessment return. The 2009-10 return is available on line here:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/sa/forms/net-09-10.htm#c>

The count of trusts is based on the number of completed tax returns on the CESA datamart.

Income figures are collated from information supplied on tax returns.

The tax calculation is applied to information on tax returns and tax figures are derived by selecting stages from the calculation. The 2009-10 tax calculation guide is available online here:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/worksheets/2010/sa951.pdf>

The tax return and tax calculation will vary from year to year.

Data quality

The quality of these statistics is assessed against the six European Statistical Service dimensions of quality developed by Eurostat to ensure they are appropriate for publication. A summary of adherence with each dimension follows.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/quality/guidelines-for-measuring-statistical-quality/index.html>

Relevance

Understanding ways in which statistics are used

In the trust statistics publication HMRC include a statement about potential users of, and uses for the statistics (see section 1.6 “Who might be interested in this publication”). HMRC are working towards finding out more about the users of these statistics. A user survey is being conducted between 3 January and 5 April 2012. A summary of survey responses will be published in due course.

Uses for source data

These statistics cover trusts that make self assessment returns. Other trusts are not captured in the statistics. The primary purpose for collecting data through this administrative source is to ensure that taxpayers completing self assessment tax returns are paying the correct amount of tax.

Accuracy

Coverage of statistics

The statistics in this publication specifically only cover trusts making self assessment returns. There are further trusts with income that falls below the standard rate band that are not required to complete tax returns. However if trusts below the standard rate band do complete an SA return they will be included in these statistics.

Identification of erroneous records

The datamart used to compile these statistics is checked for spurious cases, and duplicated entries or erroneous returns are removed from the analysis. Validation checks are applied to SA records to check that income and associated tax figures are plausible.

Late returns

No adjustments are made to figures to account for likely late returns. Late returns are picked up as revisions in figures in future years (see section 1.8 on revisions).

Timeliness and punctuality

Availability of data

Datamarts are created monthly, these datamarts capture all information on CESA on the date they are created. Statistics are published annually, using the datamart created at the end of December.

Timeliness versus completeness

Data from SA returns is not available until a number of months after the end of the tax year. Statistics on trusts are not published until 22 months after the end of the tax year, this is to ensure a reasonable level of completeness of data.

Accessibility and clarity

Restrictions on access to data – tax payer confidentiality

Statistics are compiled using data collected on Self Assessment returns. Information is not available on a disaggregated basis.

Disclosure control

Cells in table 13.2 which present a disclosure risk have been suppressed. The risk relates to late returns received since tables were last published.

Timetable for release of data

Publication of the next bulletin is due to in January 2013.

Comparability

Tax regime changes

Changes to tax rates, and rules around requirements to complete tax returns are detailed in sections 1.3, 1.4 and section 2 of this publication.

Back series available

Annual data is published in this release for a five year period. Statistics are readily available on the same basis back to 2000-01.

Coherence

Population units

The population units for Self Assessment are individuals whose tax affairs require them to complete a self assessment tax return, therefore the population units for trust statistics are trustees.