

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2016-2017 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments**

**Question No: SQ17-000270**

**Topic: Pause to indexation of working age payments**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Murray Watt** asked:

Could you please provide the number of people impacted by the freeze on indexation for working age payments by payment type, electorate and State?

**Answer:**

Payments will not be reduced unless recipients' circumstances change, such as their income increasing in value. The magnitude of impacts will depend upon the particular payment and individual's circumstances.

The estimated number of recipients who will be impacted in the first year of the pauses are as follows.

**Working Age Payments**

<b>Payment type</b>	<b>Number of Recipients</b>
Newstart Allowance	134,500
Parenting Payment (Partnered)	8,300
Parenting Payment (Single)	59,700
Partner Allowance	100
Sickness Allowance	600
Widow Allowance	900
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>204,000</b>

A breakdown of the number of customers impacted by electorate or state is not available and would require a significant diversion of resources.