Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2011-2012

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0320_12

Senator Abetz asked on 31/05/2011, Hansard page 18.

Question

Number Of Job Seekers On JSA With Exemptions

Ms Paul: We do not have that. We will have to take that on notice. What we do have is a bigger set which is not only those job seekers who are in JSA system but also those job seekers who are, say, in disability employment services and so on. It is coming off a bigger base. The bigger base is 753,676 job seekers, so that is not just JSA. As at March the total number of job seekers, out of that bigger base, with exemptions, was 61,590 which Ms Milliken gave you before, that equals eight per cent. What we will try to do for you on notice is two things: one is break down those reasons, what is the proportionality; and, secondly, try to give you those figures just for JSA, clients which is the basis of your question. But that gives you a feel for it at any rate.

Answer

As at 31 May 2011 there were 759,829 job seekers in Job Services Australia. Of these, 164,576 (21.7%) were suspended from JSA provider servicing. Of the suspended job seekers 46,567 (28.3%) had an exemption applied by Centrelink.

Please refer to EW0321_12for further information on suspensions and exemptions.