

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: National Indigenous Australians Agency

Topic: Comparison of social security suspensions issued in Community Development Program - April 2019 to April 2020

Senator: McCarthy

Question reference number: 0058

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Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator McCARTHY: I ask about the Community Development Program. Because of the suspension of mutual obligation, how many fewer social security penalties and suspensions were issued in the CDP in April 2020 compared to April 2019? You may want to take that on notice.

Mr Griggs: We will take the comparison on notice.

Mr Bulman: We will take the comparison on notice, but no penalties were applied in April 2020.

Answer:

During April 2020 no Community Development Program (CDP) job seekers received a penalty or suspension of payment as a result of not meeting CDP requirements. During April 2019, 9,163 penalties and 6,799 suspensions of payment were applied for not meeting CDP requirements.