

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Inquiry into the adequacy of Newstart and other allowance payments and other
matters**

Senator Gallacher asked on 22 August 2012.

Question

Can the Department advise the committee what happens to the 60 per cent of Newstart recipients who move on from receiving the payment within 12 months? For example, what proportion moved to paid employment? What proportion ceased to receive any other form of allowance payment?

Answer

Data provided in the Joint Agency Submission to the Senate Inquiry (Figure 17, pages 64-5) demonstrates that in recent years approximately 60 per cent of new recipients of Newstart Allowance moved off payment within 12 months.

The labour market outcomes of Newstart recipients who participate in DEEWR funded employment assistance programs are monitored through the Post-Program Monitoring Survey. This survey has identified that 83 per cent of Newstart recipients who accessed Job Services Australia assistance and who left payment within 12 months were employed when surveyed around three months later. This represents a high probability that the reason they left payment was due to finding a job or increasing their hours of employment.