

Department of Social Services

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 - Written Question from Senator Gallagher

Question reference number: SQ20-000482

Senator: Katy Gallagher

Type of Question: Written. Hansard Page/s:

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 03 July 2020

Question:

1. For the most recent available week, please provide a breakdown of the following by gender:
 - a. Coronavirus supplement – total value and number of recipients for Newstart, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other)
 - b. Social security payments – total value and number of recipients for Newstart, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other)
2. Provide a breakdown for each payment – not for all payments as an aggregate.
3. ‘Social security payments’ means Newstart, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) – not the pension.

Answer:

Table 1 provides the number of JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) recipients as at 26 June 2020, and total outlays (including the Coronavirus Supplement) for the fortnight ending on 26 June 2020. All JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) recipients receive the Coronavirus Supplement.

As the number of recipients is point in time (as at 26 June 2020) and Coronavirus Supplement outlays cover the fortnight ending on 26 June 2020, these figures are not directly comparable. For example, recipients of the Supplement during the fortnight may no longer be on a payment as at 26 June 2020.

A breakdown of outlays by gender is not available. Newstart Allowance is not included as the payment has ceased and was replaced by JobSeeker Payment on 20 March 2020.

Table 1

Payment	Number of Recipients* - Female	Number of Recipients* - Male	Total Number of Recipients*	Coronavirus Supplement Outlays: fortnight ending 26 June 2020 - \$m	Total Payment Outlays: (including Supplement) fortnight ending 26 June 2020 - \$m
JobSeeker Payment	667,908	773,379	1,441,287	814.3	1,595.6
Youth Allowance (other)	83,812	89,313	173,125	93.0	163.1
Total	751,720	862,692	1,614,412	907.4**	1,758.7

*Recipients as at 26 June 2020

**Does not add due to rounding