

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 27 FEBRUARY 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: School Enrolment and Attendance Measure – payment suspensions

Question reference number: HS 43

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 April 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

For each of the last three financial years, how many Centrelink customers' payments have been suspended under the School Enrolment and Attendance Measure (SEAM), by community?

- What was the duration of the suspension?
- Breakdown by Indigenous status?
- Of these suspensions, how many led to the cancellation of the customer's payment?

Answer:

Number of customers suspended under SEAM for the period 2009 - 2011*:

	Community	Number of customers suspended
Northern Territory	Katherine Township	<20
	Katherine Town Camps	<20
	Wallace Rockhole	<20
	Hermannsburg	<20
	Tiwi Islands	33
	Wadeye	78
Queensland	Woodridge	24
	Kingston	26
	Logan Central	<20
	Eagleby	<20
	Doomadgee	<20
	Mornington Island	<20

* Due to changes in management information reporting from August 2010, the Department of Human Services is unable to provide discrete data for the 2010-11 financial year. As a result this table incorporates cumulative data from the commencement of the SEAM trial, which includes 2009-10 financial year data.

Number of customers suspended under SEAM for the 2011-12 financial year (exact data period 25 June 2011—29 June 2012):

	Community	Number of customers suspended
Northern Territory	Katherine Township	<20
	Katherine Town Camps	<20
	Wallace Rockhole	<20
	Hermannsburg	<20
	Tiwi Islands	23
	Wadeye	57
Queensland	Woodridge	41
	Kingston	34
	Logan Central	<20
	Eagleby	23
	Doomadgee	<20
	Mornington Island	<20

Number of customers suspended under SEAM for the 2012-13 financial year (exact data period 1 July 2012—28 June 2013):

	Community	Number of customers suspended
Northern Territory	Groote Eylandt	<20
	Hermannsburg	<20
	Katherine Township	<20
	Katherine Town Camps	<20
	Milyakburra (Bickerton Island)	<20
	Numbulwar	<20
	Wadeye	<20
	Wallace Rockhole	<20

All above tables contain fields '<20' indicating the total number of customers in that category is less than 20. This is to ensure customer confidentiality.

- a) To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- b) The Department of Human Services does not report on the Indigenous status of SEAM customers.
- c) Less than 20.