

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 413

Topic: Disability Support Pension

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Please provide an update of Supplementary Estimates QoN 217.

Answer:

The following table shows the number of appeals received during the period 1 July 2012 to 31 December 2013, for DSP claims rejected by the stage of appeal:

Stage of Appeal	Total decided during 2012-13	Total decided 1/07/13 to 31/12/13
Review Officer*	18,346	9,412
Social Security Appeals Tribunal	3,320	1,498
Administrative Appeals Tribunal (customer appeal)	765	426
Administrative Appeals Tribunal (secretary appeal)	<20	<20
Federal Court of Australia	n/a	<20

For appeals of rejected DSP claims that were decided during the period 1 July 2012 to 31 December 2013, the following table shows the appeal outcomes for each stage of appeal:

Stage of Appeal	Decision Outcome	Total decided during 2012-13	Total decided 1/07/13 to 31/12/13
Review Officer*	Affirmed	9,177	4,725
	Set aside	4,169	1,564
	Withdrawn	1,156	839
	Varied	237	86
	Dismissed/No Jurisdiction	<20	n/a
Social Security Appeals Tribunal	Affirmed	2,605	1,334
	Set aside	397	201
	Withdrawn	152	79
	Varied	<20	n/a
	Dismissed/No Jurisdiction	25	10
Administrative Appeals Tribunal (customer appeal)	Affirmed	116	87
	Set aside	<20	<20
	Withdrawn	255	184
	Settled/Decision by consent	170	114
	Dismissed/No Jurisdiction	29	32
Administrative Appeals Tribunal (secretary appeal)	Affirmed	n/a	<20
	Set aside	<20	n/a
	Withdrawn	<20	<20
	Settled/Decision by Consent	n/a	<20
Federal Court of Australia	Dismissed/No Jurisdiction	n/a	<20

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To protect individuals' privacy, totals of less than 20 are represented as <20.

There were nil appeals received or decided at the Federal Court level, during 2012-13.

*'Review Officer' refers to Original Decision Makers (ODM), Subject Matter Experts (SME) and Authorised Review Officers (ARO).