

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.8 Income Support for People with Disability

Question No: SQ16-000237

Topic: DSP

Hansard page: 35 and 36

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Of the 2,450 that have been cancelled, where have they gone in the system? What has happened to these people? Have they got jobs? What was the reason for the cancellation?

Answer:

This data represents updated information provided by the Department of Human Services since 11 February 2016.

As at January 2016, of the 20,521 reviews that were completed, 2,986 DSP recipients had their DSP cancelled based on assessments of their work capacity and level of impairment. Not all reviews or appeal activity have been completed and as such, it is possible that some of these people will have their payment reinstated.

The table below shows cancellation reasons for the 2,986 customers who are aged under 35 years, have been reviewed, and have had their DSP cancelled.

Cancellation Reason	Total
withdrawn or voluntary surrender of payment	75
did not meet medical requirements (ie scored less than 20 points on revised Impairment Tables following review)	2,464
earnings (including partner earnings)	16
working over 30 hours per week	17
other	433
TOTAL cancellation action as at 16 January 2016	2,986

Data source: Data provided by Department of Human Services

The table below shows, that as at 31 January 2016, 2,254 of the 2,986 people who have had their DSP cancelled had transferred to another Income Support Payment. Of the 2,986 receipts who had their DSP cancelled following review, 732 of these are no longer on an Income Support Payment. The Department does not hold information on the employment status of these 732 people.

Income Support Payment Status as at 31 January 2016	Income support Payment	Number of Recipients
No Longer on Income Support	N/A	732
Current Payment	Austudy	47
	Carer Payment	64
	Disability Support Pension	48
	Newstart Allowance	1489
	Parenting Payment Partnered	135
	Parenting Payment Single	245
	Sickness Allowance	1
Current Payment - Suspended	Youth Allowance	197
	Disability Support Pension	1
	Newstart Allowance	20
	Youth Allowance	7
	TOTAL	2,986

Data source: Department of Human Services