

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 18 OCTOBER 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Income Management

Question reference number: HS 54

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Written question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 7 December 2012

Number of pages: 4

Question:

- a) For income management in the NT, by Indigenous/Non-Indigenous status, by gender, and by payment type:
 - 1) How many people are under Income Management in total?
 - 2) How many people under Compulsory Income Management?
 - 3) How many people under Voluntary Income Management?
- b) How many NTER 'transitioned' income support recipients are now on voluntary income management?
- c) Provide a breakdown by categories of exemptions for income management, by type of exemption, by Indigenous and non-Indigenous status, in the NT.
- d) How many people are under the Vulnerable Welfare Recipient Category, by state and by Indigenous-non-Indigenous status?
- e) How many appeals in 2011-12 related to income management? What is the outcome of the appeal, by level of appeal, and by state?

Answer:

As at 7 September 2012:

- a) 1) 17,481 people are income managed in the Northern Territory:

6,977 are male	10,504 are female
1,787 are non-Indigenous	15,694 are Indigenous

Payment Type: Income Managed customers*	
Abstudy	<20
Age Pension	841
Carer Payment	196
Disability Support Pension	2,789
Newstart Allowance	7,545

Parenting Payment - Partnered	2,351
Parenting Payment - Single	2,362
Partner Allowance	<20
Special Benefit	<20
Widow Allowance	36
Wife Pension Age	<20
Wife Pension DSP	<20
Youth Allowance	1,344
Total	17,481

2) 13,337 Compulsory Income Managed customers are in the Northern Territory:

5,204 are male	8,133 are female
1,732 are non-Indigenous	11,605 are Indigenous

Payment Type: Compulsory Income Managed customers*	
Abstudy	<20
Age Pension	<20
Disability Support Pension	<20
Newstart Allowance	7,388
Parenting Payment - Partnered	2,302
Parenting Payment - Single	2,313
Special Benefit	<20
Widow Allowance	<20
Youth Allowance	1,325
Total	13,337

3) 3,957 Voluntary Income Managed customers are in the Northern Territory:

1,703 are male	2,254 are female
52 are non-Indigenous	3,905 are Indigenous

Payment Type: Voluntary Income Managed customers*	
Abstudy	<20
Age Pension	814
Carer Payment	195
Disability Support Pension	2,673
Newstart Allowance	150
Parenting Payment - Partnered	30
Parenting Payment - Single	32
Partner Allowance	<20
Special Benefit	<20

Widow Allowance	35
Wife Pension Age	<20
Wife Pension DSP	<20
Youth Allowance	<20
Total	3,957

b) As at 7 September 2012, 3,616 people were being income managed under Voluntary Income Management and had been previously income managed under the Northern Territory Emergency Response.

c) As at 7 September 2012, 2,502 total customers with a current exemption (28.6 per cent Indigenous, 71.4 per cent non-Indigenous). *

- Parenting requirements – 1,728:
 - 37.0 per cent Indigenous – 63.0 per cent non-Indigenous.
- Full time students – 685:
 - 6.4 per cent Indigenous – 93.6 per cent non-Indigenous.
- Regular paid work – 71:
 - 35.2 per cent Indigenous – 64.8 per cent non-Indigenous.
- Full time new apprentices – <20:
 - 38.5 per cent Indigenous – 61.5 per cent non-Indigenous.
- Special benefit – <20:
 - 40.0 per cent Indigenous – 60.0 per cent non-Indigenous.

d) As at 7 September 2012, there were 146 people under the Vulnerable Welfare Payment recipient measure, broken down by state and non-Indigenous status: *

NT – 142	QLD – <20
SA – <20	VIC – <20
non-Indigenous <20	

e) As at 7 September 2012, total appeals that went to Original Decision Maker level before a decision outcome was reached: *

Finalised Review and Appeals 2011-12 Financial year – ODM *						
Decision Outcome	NSW	NT	QLD	VIC	WA	Total
Affirmed Decision	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	29
Decisions set aside	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Decisions varied	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Withdrawn	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Total	<20	22	<20	<20	<20	40

As at 7 September 2012, total appeals that went to Authorised Review Officer level before a decision outcome was reached: *

Finalised Review and Appeals 2011-12 Financial year – ARO *						
Decision Outcome	NSW	NT	QLD	VIC	WA	Total
Affirmed Decision	<20	25	<20	<20	<20	30
Decisions set aside	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Withdrawn	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Total	<20	27	<20	<20	<20	34

Caveat: The above Appeals by state data refers to the state that the customer currently resides in. This is not necessarily the state they were in at the time of the appeal.

* *In accordance with the protocol for the release of Social Security information, numbers less than 20 are not released publicly.*