

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 18 OCTOBER 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Age Pension

Question reference number: HS 128

Senator: Back

Type of question: Written question

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) How many recipients of the Age Pension were there in 2011-12 financial year?
Please break this down by state and territory.
- b) What was the total expenditure on Age Pension in 2011-12 on a state and territory basis?
- c) How much was the Age Pension as a percentage of the total Centrelink budget?

Answer:

- a) Recipients of Age Pension as at the 30 June 2012

State	Age Pension
Australian Capital Territory	21,700
New South Wales	736,496
Northern Territory	8,004
Queensland	415,190
South Australia	197,939
Tasmania	63,091
Victoria	564,340
Western Australia	193,056
Unknown	78,399
Total	2,278,215

- b) The total value of payments made by the Department of Human Services for Age Pension in 2011-12 was \$34.70 billion. Payment data is not readily held in a format that enables a state and territory breakup and to compile this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

- c) The Age Pension represents 34.88 per cent of the third party payments made by the Department of Human Services from and on behalf of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education, the Attorney General's Department, the Department of Infrastructure and Transport, the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in regard to the Centrelink Master Program as detailed in the Human Services Portfolio Budget Statements 2012-13 (Budget Related Paper No. 1.11 page 17).