

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 18 OCTOBER 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Disability Support Pension

Question reference number: HS 131

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:

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

Answer:

- Recipients of Disability Support Pension as at the 29 June 2012.

State	Disability Support Pension
Australian Capital Territory	8,317
New South Wales	268,584
Northern Territory	10,257
Queensland	163,037
South Australia	76,180
Tasmania	27,962
Victoria	200,683
Western Australia	63,787
Unknown	8,653
Total	827,460

- b) The total value of payments made by the Department of Human Services for Disability Support Pension in 2011-12 was \$14.56 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 Disability Support Pension represents 14.64 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).