

# Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

## SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 21 NOVEMBER 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Income Management

**Question reference number:** HS 96

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 24 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 5

#### **Question:**

Please update for the year 2012-13 answers to Supplementary Estimates, 18 October 2012, Questions on Notice, question reference numbers HS 53 and HS 54.

#### **Answer:**

*Note: In accordance with the protocol for the release of Social Security information, numbers less than 20 are not released publicly. Numbers greater than 20 are also not released if they can be used to identify groups with numbers less than 20.*

#### SECTION A: HS 53

##### Questions

- a) How many people have received a \$500 matched savings payment? How many received smaller amounts? Provide a breakdown by Indigenous status and payment type.
- b) Since 2007 how many \$250 VIM incentive payments have been received? Indicate how many people have received 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. Provide a breakdown by Indigenous status and payment type and by state.

##### Answers

- a) As at 18 October 2013, a total of 31 customers had received a Matched Savings Scheme Payment since its introduction, of which customers:

<20	have received less than \$500
>20	have received the maximum amount of \$500
<20	are Indigenous

<b>Payment Type</b>	<b>Total Customers</b>
Austudy	<20
Carer Allowance	<20
Parenting Payment Single	<20
Parenting Payment Partnered	<20

Newstart Allowance	<20
Family Tax Benefit	<20
Youth Allowance	<20

- b) Since 1 July 2010, when the Voluntary Income Management Incentive Payment was introduced, 7,722 customers have received one or more Voluntary Income Management Incentive Payments (VIPs).

Breakdown by State

No. VIPs	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	VIC	WA	Total
1	0	36	1,135	91	221	100	653	2,241
2	0	<20	500	23	82	20	352	984
3	<20	0	460	<20	<20	0	250	719
4	0	0	415	<20	<20	0	201	624
5	0	<20	921	<20	<20	0	181	1,110
6	0	0	1,917	<20	<20	0	120	2,044
Total	<20	44	5,348	121	324	120	1,757	7,722

Breakdown by Payment type

Payment Type	Number of VIPs Received						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Abstudy	<20	<20	0	0	0	0	<20
Age Pension	146	129	114	117	248	540	1,294
Austudy	<20	0	0	0	0	0	<20
Baby Bonus*	<20	<20	0	<20	0	0	<20
Carer Payment	91	47	42	<20	34	82	314
Child Care Fee Relief*	<20	0	0	0	0	0	<20
Carer Allowance	0	<20	<20	0	0	0	<20
Disability Support Pension	871	495	400	392	763	1,369	4,290
Family Tax Payment*	31	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	55
GSR One-off Payment to the Aged*	0	0	<20	0	0	0	<20
Maternity Payment*	<20	<20	0	<20	0	0	<20
Newstart Allowance	667	164	83	50	23	<20	1,005
Parenting Payment Partnered	117	41	<20	<20	<20	<20	185
Parenting Payment Single	203	74	40	26	26	<20	376
Partner Allowance	0	0	<20	0	0	<20	<20
Widow Allowance*	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	41
Wife Pension Age	0	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	<20
Wife Pension Disability	<20	0	0	0	0	<20	<20
Youth Allowance	82	<20	<20	<20	0	0	111
<b>Total</b>	2,241	984	719	624	1,110	2,044	7,722

\* This data represents the customer's current payment type. There are Voluntary Incentive Payments identified in this data on non-eligible payment types, as a result. The customer was on an eligible payment type when they received the Voluntary Incentive Payment.

Breakdown by Indigenous indicator

Number of VIPs	Indigenous Indicator* (No)	Indigenous Indicator* (Yes)	Grand Total
1	452	1,789	2,241
2	186	798	984
3	87	632	719
4	74	550	624
5	41	1,069	1,110
6	46	1,998	2,044
<b>Total</b>	886	6,836	7,722

\* Indigenous indicator refers to those customers who have identified as Indigenous

SECTION B: HS 54

Questions

- 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 2012-13 related to income management? What is the outcome of the appeal, by level of appeal, and by state?

Answers

*Note: The following data is as at 18 October 2013.*

- a) 1) **18,892** people were income managed in the Northern Territory:

7,814 were male	11,078 were female
1,956 were non-Indigenous	16,936 were Indigenous

<b>Payment Type: Income Managed customers</b>	
Abstudy	<20
Age Pension	809
Baby Bonus	<20
Carer Payment	175
Carer Allowance	<20
Disability Support Pension	2,680
Newstart Allowance	8,934
Parenting Payment - Partnered	2,118
Parenting Payment - Single	2,175
Partner Allowance	<20

<b>Payment Type: Income Managed customers</b>	
Special Benefit	<20
Widow Allowance	41
Wife Pension Age	<20
Wife Pension DSP	<20
Youth Allowance	1,943
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,892</b>

2) **14,607** Compulsory Income Managed customers were in the Northern Territory:

5,958 were male	8,649 were female
1,805 were non-Indigenous	12,802 were Indigenous

<b>Payment Type: Compulsory Income Managed customers</b>	
Abstudy	<20
Age Pension	<20
Baby Bonus	<20
Disability Support Pension	<20
Newstart Allowance	8,704
Parenting Payment - Partnered	2,074
Parenting Payment - Single	2,113
Special Benefit	<20
Widow Allowance	<20
Youth Allowance	1,701
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,607</b>

3) **3,779** Voluntary Income Managed customers were in the Northern Territory:

1,616 were male	2,163 were female
56 were non-Indigenous	3,723 were Indigenous

<b>Payment Type: Voluntary Income Managed customers</b>	
Abstudy	<20
Age Pension	778
Carer Payment	170
Disability Support Pension	2,521
Newstart Allowance	173
Parenting Payment - Partnered	24
Parenting Payment - Single	28
Partner Allowance	<20
Widow Allowance	39
Wife Pension Age	<20
Wife Pension DSP	<20
Youth Allowance	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,779</b>

b) As at 18 October 2013, **3,304** people were being income managed under Voluntary Income Management and had been previously income managed under the Northern Territory Emergency Response.

- c) As at 18 October 2013 there were **2,363** total customers with a current exemption (29.7 per cent Indigenous, 70.3 per cent non-Indigenous).
- Parenting requirements – 1,749:
    - 37.5 per cent Indigenous – 62.5 per cent non-Indigenous.
  - Full time students – 529:
    - 4.5 per cent Indigenous – 95.5 per cent non-Indigenous.
  - Regular paid work – 72:
    - 26.4 per cent Indigenous – 73.6 per cent non-Indigenous.
  - Full time new apprentices – <20:
    - 11.1 per cent Indigenous – 88.9 per cent non-Indigenous.
  - Special benefit – <20:
    - 25.0 per cent Indigenous – 75.0 per cent non-Indigenous.
- d) As at 18 October 2013, there were **1,882** people under the Vulnerable Welfare Payment recipient measure, broken down by state and non-Indigenous status:

NT – 408	QLD – 852
SA – 365	VIC – 128
NSW – 110	TAS – <20
WA – <20	non-Indigenous 930

e)

<b>Income Management Appeals: 2012-13 Financial Year</b>							
<b>Decision Outcome</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>Total</b>
Affirmed Decision	<20	24	<20	<20	<20	<20	41
Decisions set aside	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Withdrawn	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
<b>Total</b>	<20	33	<20	<20	<20	<20	61

Note: It is not possible to report this data by ‘level of appeal’. Since 2012-13, only one internal review of a decision takes place. Although these reviews may be undertaken by either a Subject Matter Expert or an Authorised Review Officer, the status of their decisions is considered equal.