

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 OCTOBER 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Crisis Payment

**Question reference number:** HS 175

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 12 December 2014

**Number of pages:** 3

#### **Question:**

For 2013-14:

- a) How many claims for Crisis Payment were successful?
- b) How many claims for Crisis Payment were rejected?
- c) How many claims for Crisis Payment were made?
- d) At November 2014, provide a breakdown of Crisis Payment recipients by:
  - 1) payment type;
  - 2) gender;
  - 3) age;
  - 4) reason for grant;
  - 5) Indigenous/non-Indigenous status; and
  - 6) state and territory of recipient.
- e) What was the cost of outlays on Crisis Payment for 2013-14?

#### **Answer:**

For 2013-14:

- a) 63,705 claims for Crisis Payment were successful.
- b) 3,745 claims for Crisis Payment were rejected.
- c) 67,450 claims for Crisis Payment were made, of which 63,705 were successful and 3,745 were unsuccessful.
- d) For the four month period between 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 there were 22,723 successful Crisis Payment claims. A breakdown of the recipients is shown in the tables below.

1) Crisis Payment recipients by payment type from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014

<b>Crisis Payment by payment type</b>	<b>Number of Crisis Payments granted by payment type</b>
Newstart Allowance	13,587
Disability Support Pension	3,685
Youth Allowance	2,321
Parenting Payment (Single)	2,048
Parenting Payment (Partnered)	406
Age Pension	224
Carer Payment	278
Special Benefit	68
Austudy	32
Abstudy	31
Unknown Payment Type	< 20*
Widow Allowance	< 20*
Sickness Allowance	< 20*
Wife (Age Pensioner)	< 20*
Wife (Disability Support Pension)	< 20*
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,723</b>

\* **Confidentiality Provision:** All cells that have a value of less than 20, including zero, have been changed to display '<20'. This rule has been employed for privacy reasons. Where the total fields are included these will only have a value when it does not make it possible to work out the value of any '<20' fields.

2) Crisis Payment recipients by gender from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number of Crisis Payments by gender</b>
Female	7,881
Male	14,842
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,723</b>

3) Crisis Payment recipients by age from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014

<b>Age</b>	<b>Total number of Crisis Payment recipients per age category</b>
Unknown	< 20*
<15	< 20*
15 - 24	5,069
25 - 34	8,347
35 - 44	6,073
45 - 54	2,336
55 - 59	436
60 - 64	214
>=65	244
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,723</b>

\* **Confidentiality Provision:** All cells that have a value of less than 20, including zero, have been changed to display '<20'. This rule has been employed for privacy reasons. Where the total fields are included these will only have a value when it does not make it possible to work out the value of any '<20' fields.

4) Crisis Payment recipients by reason for grant from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014

<b>Crisis Payment category</b>	<b>Crisis Payment population</b>
Domestic Violence - Alleged Perpetrator	234
Domestic Violence - Victim left home	4,539
Domestic Violence - Victim remain in home	436
Humanitarian Entrant	2,585
Prison Release	13,926
Other	1,003
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,723</b>

5) Crisis Payment recipients by Indigenous/non-Indigenous status from 4 July 2014 to 3 October 2014

The Department of Human Services compiles data for Crisis Payment made to Indigenous customers on a quarterly basis. The data below is for the period 4 July 2014 to 3 October 2014. The data for October and November 2014 will be available in the next quarter compilation expected to be in January 2015.

<b>Crisis Payment recipients by Indigenous status from 4 July 2014 to 3 October 2014</b>	<b>Crisis Payment recipients by non-Indigenous status from 4 July 2014 to 3 October 2014</b>
4,394	13,199

6) Crisis Payment recipients by state from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014

<b>Geographical location</b>	<b>Number of Crisis Payments granted</b>
Australian Capital Territory	219
New South Wales	6,435
Northern Territory	899
Queensland	5,846
South Australia	1,842
Tasmania	546
Victoria	4,482
Western Australia	2,444
Invalid*	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,723</b>

\*This indicates that the customers' addresses could not be mapped to a valid State at the time the data was extracted. This can occur if a customer was temporarily overseas or did not have a recognised, geographically valid Australian address recorded.

- e) There is no specific programme outlay for Crisis Payment. Outlays for Crisis Payment are attached to individual primary social security programmes. In the financial year 2013-14, the total amount of Crisis Payment paid to customers was \$17,271,393.52.