

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 1

**Question No:** 297

**Topic:** Sickness Allowance

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Moore** asked:

Please provide the current number of people in receipt of Sickness Allowance by:

- (a) age;
- (b) state/territory;
- (c) electorate;
- (d) sex;
- (e) Indigenous/non-Indigenous status;
- (f) condition/disability of person for whom they are caring (if available);
- (g) duration on payment (>1yr, 1-2, 2-5, 5-10, 10+);
- (h) number and percentage reporting other employment;
- (i) number and percentage of people on part rate due to means test;
- (j) reported hours of work undertaken;
- (k) reported income from employment;
- (l) reported income from other assets; and
- (m) other payments received.

**Answer:**

The data requested as at June 2014 for questions a-e and g-i are available on data.gov.au at the following link: <<https://www.data.gov.au/dataset/dss-payment-demographic-data>>.

September data will be available in late 2014.

Data for question part f are not available.

June 2014 data for question parts j-m are provided in **Attachment A**. In order to protect the privacy of individuals, populations less than 20 are reported as "<20" and other data that would allow these populations to be derived are not provided "np".

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**Attachment A**

<b>j) Recipients of Sickness Allowance by Hours Worked Last Fortnight</b>	
<b>Hours worked last fortnight</b>	<b>Recipients</b>
No hours	7,228
1 - 14 hours	196
15 - 29 hours	205
30 hours +	178
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,807</b>

<b>k) Recipients of Sickness Allowance by Earnings Last Fortnight</b>	
<b>Earnings last fortnight</b>	<b>Recipients</b>
Nil earnings	7,176
\$1 - \$61	np
\$62 - \$235	117
\$236 - \$249	<20
\$250 Plus	458
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,807</b>

<b>l) Recipients of Sickness Allowance by Earnings from other sources</b>	
<b>Earnings last fortnight from other sources</b>	<b>Recipients</b>
Nil earnings	2,193
\$1 - \$61	5,141
\$62 - \$235	258
\$236 - \$249	<20
\$250 Plus	np
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,807</b>

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<b>m) Recipients of Sickness Allowance by Supplementary Payments</b> (note: recipients can receive more than 1 supplement)	
<b>Supplement</b>	<b>Recipients</b>
Carer Allowance	141
Clean Energy Supplement	7,709
Double Orphan Pension	<20
Family Tax Benefit	759
Mobility Allowance	<20
Pharmaceutical Allowance	7,697
Remote Area Allowance	96
Rent Assistance	2,625
Telephone Allowance	49
Income Support Bonus	5,004

Source: Department of Human Services Administrative Data (DSS Extract)