

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments**

**Question No: SQ15-000822**

**Topic: Newstart Allowance for Older Unemployed**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Siewert, Rachel** asked:

Update Additional Estimates Hearings 2013-14, Question No. 349

**Answer:**

**Attachment A** provides the number of Newstart Allowance recipients as at June 2015 according to the breakdown requested.

In order to protect the privacy of individuals, populations less than twenty are reported as "<20" and other data that would allow these populations to be derived are not provided "np".

## Attachment A

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by age and gender</b>			
<b>Age</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
51 years	9,165	7,662	16,827
52 years	8,769	7,454	16,223
53 years	8,504	7,337	15,841
54 years	8,008	7,208	15,216
55 years	7,753	7,003	14,756
56 years	7,900	7,006	14,906
57 years	7,863	6,808	14,671
58 years	7,688	6,782	14,470
59 years	7,813	6,995	14,808
60 years	6,653	6,965	13,618
61 years	6,749	7,177	13,926
62 years	7,151	7,450	14,601
63 years	7,408	7,781	15,189
64 years	7,807	8,237	16,044
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,231</b>	<b>101,865</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by State</b>	
New South Wales	69,036
Victoria	50,399
Queensland	46,061
South Australia	18,469
Western Australia	17,247
Tasmania	6,429
Northern Territory	2,140
Australian Capital Territory	1,294
Unknown	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by Indigenous indicator</b>	
Indigenous	9,011
Not Indigenous	202,085
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by earnings</b>	
Current Earnings	41,759
No Earnings	169,337
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by work capacity</b>	
Partial Capacity to Work (0-29 hours per week)	19,661
Full Capacity to Work (30+ hours per week)	191,435
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by principal carer status</b>	
Principal Carer	14,132
Not Principal Carer	196,964
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by rate type</b>	
Single-no dependent child	89,912
Single-dependent child	15,045
Single-aged 60+ after 9 months on payment	30,150
Single-principal carer with exemption	749
Partnered	75,240
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Recipients aged over 55 years by activity test requirements and gender</b>			
	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
Exempt from Activity to Test	7,194	6,680	13,874
Not Exempt from Activity Test	59,838	58,521	118,359
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,032</b>	<b>65,201</b>	<b>132,233</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by Rent Assistance status</b>	
Receiving Rent Assistance	66,122
Not Receiving Rent Assistance	144,974
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by Carer Allowance status</b>	
Receiving Carer Allowance for a Child	807
Receiving Carer Allowance for an Adult	2,453
<b>Total Receiving Carer Allowance</b>	<b>3,226</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by vulnerability indicator</b>	
Cognitive or Neurological impairment	714
Drug/alcohol dependency which impedes compliance	1,516
Homeless	690
Illness/injury requiring frequent treatment	14,346
Jobseeker in Transition	412
Significant lack of literacy and language skills	2,173
Nationally approved Vulnerability	<20
Served 8 week NPP in previous 12 months	<20
Psychiatric problem or Mental Illness	14,783
Recent traumatic relationship breakdown	162
Released prisoner (in gaol 14 days+)	186
Significant caring responsibilities	316
<b>Total with one or more vulnerability indicator(s)</b>	<b>28,350</b>

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients aged over 50 years by number of vulnerability indicators</b>	
No vulnerability indicators	182,746
1 vulnerability indicator	22,126
2 vulnerability indicators	5,517
3 vulnerability indicators	664
4 or more vulnerability indicators	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,096</b>

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Extract).