

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000120

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

jobactive penalties

Since the commencement of jobactive, how many job seekers have had a penalty or suspension applied to them, broken down by stream, by state and by type of penalty or suspension? How does this compare to the Governments expectations and to the same period under the Job Services Australian in the year previous?

Since the commencement of Jobactive, how many penalties and suspensions have been applied in total, broken down by stream, by state and by type of penalty or suspension? How does this compare to the Governments expectations and to the same period under the Job Services Australian in the year previous?

How many of the job seekers who have had penalties applied have had vulnerability markers at the time of the act or omission which lead to the penalty being imposed?

How many of the job seekers who have had more than one penalty applied have had vulnerability markers?

Answer

The following tables show the number of job seekers in jobactive who had a penalty or suspension applied and the number of penalties and suspensions by stream, state, and type of penalty or suspension for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 September 2015.

jobactive	Penalties		Suspensions	
Stream	Event	Job seekers	Event	Job seekers
Stream A	5,360	3,735	191,175	137,660
Stream B	4,880	2,859	112,726	74,604
Stream C	3,832	2,343	106,471	64,960

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

jobactive	Penalties		Suspensions	
State	Event	Job seekers	Event	Job seekers
ACT	<20	<20	4,332	2,880
NSW	4,086	2,701	124,420	84,044
NT	np	91	4,765	2,899
QLD	4,627	2,706	103,220	68,933
SA	1,362	827	34,488	23,786
TAS	225	165	10,305	7,072
VIC	2,832	1,914	86,593	60,117
WA	773	513	42,249	28,191

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

Note: In order to protect individuals' privacy, identified populations <20 are reported as <20. and other data that would allow these populations to be derived are not provided (np).

Note: A job seeker is counted once per state - hence won't match overall job seeker total.

Penalties		
Type	Event	Job seekers
Failure to attend or misconduct in an activity or job interview	11,715	7,192
Appointment related failures	627	598
Refused a suitable job/did not commence suitable work	210	209
Persistent non-compliance	544	499
Voluntary unemployment/unemployment due to misconduct	976	975

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

Suspensions		
Type	Event	Job seekers
Non Attendance at Appointment	299,762	187,676
Disengagement from Activity	12,659	10,386

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

The following tables show the number of job seekers in Job Services Australia who had a penalty or suspension applied and the number of penalties and suspensions by stream, state and type for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014.

JSA	Penalties		Suspensions	
Stream	Event	Job seekers	Event	Job seekers
Stream 1	14,911	11,137	88,537	61,945
Stream 2	19,498	12,577	75,605	47,711
Stream 3	14,153	8,522	50,971	30,687
Stream 4	23,719	15,626	97,308	53,858

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

JSA	Penalties		Suspensions	
State	Event	Job seekers	Event	Job seekers
ACT	643	470	3,480	2,262
NSW	23,242	15,053	95,465	58,672
NT	995	603	3,455	2,009
QLD	18,491	11,929	78,332	48,068
SA	5,790	3,858	26,661	16,591
TAS	1,416	1,026	8,234	5,523
VIC	14,632	9,977	64,726	41,181
WA	7,072	4,839	32,068	19,182

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

Note: A job seeker is counted once per state - hence won't match overall job seeker total.

Penalties		
Type	Event	Job seekers
Failure to attend or misconduct in an activity or job interview	26,591	16,983
Appointment related failures	38,474	31,280
Refused a suitable job/did not commence suitable work	434	389
Persistent non-compliance	4,884	4,638
Voluntary unemployment/unemployment due to misconduct	1,898	1,893

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

Suspensions		
Type	Event	Job seekers
Non Attendance at Appointment	299,762	187,676
Disengagement from Activity	12,659	10,386

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data.

In the September quarter 2015, there were 726 jobactive job seekers with a VI who had a financial penalty and 226 jobactive job seekers with a VI who had more than one financial penalty.

There are no expectations as to how much compliance action is undertaken or how many penalties or suspensions are applied.