

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000152

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Relates to previous Employment Question No EMSQ15-000411

Question

Update to EMSQ15-000411 - jobactive - outcomes

Please provide updates to the following QoNs from Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015-16 using the latest available data/period: EMSQ15-000411

Since the commencement of jobactive, how many jobseekers have:

- Entered the program, classified as A, B and C respectively
- Entered the program being unemployed for at least 12 months already
- Reached the stage where they are required to undertake mutual obligation activities including Work for the Dole (divided into those under 30 years and others)
- Been referred to mutual obligation activities, by type of activity (including Work for the Dole and wage subsidies)
- Of the above, the proportions that commenced each of those activities
- Of those who were referred but did not commence, the proportions that left income support or did not proceed with their claim
- Of those who were referred but did not commence, the proportions that were sanctioned

Answer

Table 1 below shows all job seekers who have commenced in jobactive in Stream A, B or C between 1 July 2015 and 31 December 2015 (including job seekers who may have exited jobactive and therefore are not on the caseload as at 31 December 2015). The total commenced jobactive caseload as at 31 December 2015 was 760,584 job seekers.

Table 1: Job seekers who Commenced jobactive by Stream – 1 July 2015 to 31 December 2015

Stream type	Number of job seekers who Commenced jobactive between 1 July 2015 to 31 December 2015
Stream A*	656,793
Stream B	289,275
Stream C	164,557
Total	1,110,625

*Includes Stream A Volunteers. Note: These figures have been updated to only include those job seekers who have Commenced in jobactive. This includes those job seekers that subsequently have a status of Pending or Suspended.

There were 490,159 job seekers who commenced in jobactive during this period who were unemployed for 12 months or more.

All job seekers receiving an activity tested income support payment have mutual obligation requirements in jobactive. There were 228,377 job seekers who were required to meet an Annual Activity Requirement (a specific type of mutual obligation requirement) between 1 July and 31 December 2015. Of these, 79,466 were less than 30 years old and 148,911 were 30 years old or more.

The range of approved activities that job seekers may undertake to meet their Annual Activity Requirement does not include wage subsidies. Wage subsidies are payments to encourage businesses to employ eligible job seekers.

Of the 228,377 job seekers, 164,097 were referred to an activity to meet their Annual Activity Requirement (see Table 2), noting that a job seeker can be referred to more than one activity

Note that as some job seekers will have been referred to more than one activity, the sum of the activity types will be greater than the total number of job seekers referred.

Table 2: Job seekers referred to each individual activity type

Activity Type	Job seekers referred
Work for the Dole	81,057*
Part-time/Casual Paid Employment	71,908
Accredited Education and Training (Vocational)	21,918
Interventions/Non Vocational Assistance	8,141
Voluntary Work in community/non-profit sector	4,361
Other Government Programmes	5,821
Unpaid Work Experience	196
Defence Force	28
National Work Experience Programme	26

* This figure includes referrals to Work for the Dole activities with a status of 'Created In Error'. These referrals were excluded from the previous update provided as at 30 September 2015. Referrals to Work for the Dole that are 'Created In Error' are typically included, as they include referrals where the system automatically ends a referral where a job seeker is not commenced within ten days.

Table 3 provides the proportion of job seekers that commenced each activity type.

Table 3: The proportion of job seekers commenced in each individual activity type

Activity Type	Proportion of job seekers commenced
Work for the Dole	62.2%
Part-time/Casual Paid Employment	98.7%
Accredited Education and Training (Vocational)	94.7%
Interventions/Non Vocational Assistance	95.7%
Voluntary Work in community/non-profit sector	92.7%
Other Government Programmes	68.2%
Unpaid Work Experience	91.3%
Defence Force	96.4%
National Work Experience Programme	84.6%

Of the job seekers who were referred to an activity but did not commence and were receiving some form of income support at the time they were referred, 14.7 per cent were not receiving any kind of income support payment at 31 December 2015.

Of the job seekers who were referred to an activity but did not commence 13.1 per cent had a penalty applied under the job seeker compliance framework following their referral up until 30 September 2015.