

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0150_14

Senator Cash asked on 4 June 2013, Hansard page 57

Question

Youth allowance recipients exempt from job-seeking participation requirements

Senator CASH: I now move on to Youth Allowance (other)? How many recipients of Youth Allowance (other) have been exempted from job-seeking participation requirements to date? Could you please also provide a breakdown of the reason, as we did before, for the exemptions?

Ms Drayton: The Youth Allowance (other) figure is the same as the one that I gave you earlier, so it is 5,835.

Senator CASH: Remind me why you gave me that figure.

Ms Drayton: You asked for the exemptions by payment type.

Senator CASH: Yes. That was the Youth Allowance—

Ms Drayton: That was one of the payment types.

Senator CASH: So that is 5,835. Are you able to provide a reason for the breakdown of those exemptions?

Ms Drayton: Just the Youth Allowance ones?

Senator CASH: Yes.

Ms Drayton: I will probably have to do that on notice.

Senator CASH: In taking that on notice, can you also provide a breakdown of the exemptions by approximate locations we discussed previously?

Ms Drayton: Of course.

Answer

The following table provides a breakdown by exemption category of Youth Allowance (Other) recipients with an exemption from the activity test or participation requirements, as at 29 March 2013. There were 106 753 activity tested Youth Allowance (Other) recipients as at 29 March 2013.

Exemption Category	Total - Youth Allowance (Other)
Temporary incapacity	
Temporary incapacity due to illness, injury or disability	3,153
Incapacity due to serious illness requiring long recovery periods, e.g. cancer, severe stroke, brain injuries, physical injuries.	65
Caring responsibility	
Caring Responsibilities temporarily caring for an adult or child/ren	156
Principal Carer Parent providing home schooling, includes main supporter of one or more secondary school children	<20
Principal Carer Parent - Special Family Circumstances eg providing kinship or family care, care for aged or disabled adult family member or has a 6 year old child not yet started school	<20
Personal circumstances	
Major personal crisis, e.g. homelessness, witness protection, domestic violence for non Principal Carer Parents, indigenous job seeker undertaking cultural or sorry business	661
Expectant mother within 6 weeks of expected due date of giving birth and 6 weeks after giving birth	937
Refugee first 13 weeks in Australia	263
Claiming Disability Support Pension*	291
Other special circumstances – case by case assessment of circumstances beyond the job seekers control	211
Approved overseas absence	<20
Major personal disruption at home, e.g. fire, burglary, storm, accident	33
Bereavement period	33
Principal Carer Parent - domestic violence	<20
Declared Natural Disaster	<20
Community Service Order	<20
Undertaking jury duty	<20
Refugee first 6 months in Australia undertaking preparatory Adult Migrant English Program	<20
Total with exemptions	5,835

Source: DHS Administrative Data as at 29 March 2013

*Claiming Disability Support Pension is an interim status whereby recipients do not have an Activity Test or Participation Requirement.

The following table provides a breakdown, by geographic area, of Youth Allowance (Other) recipients that have an exemption from the activity test or participation requirements as at 29 March 2013:

Geographic Area*	Number of Job Seekers with exemption - Youth Allowance (Other)
Major Cities of Australia	3,520
Regional Australia	2,139
Remote Australia	168
Not Assigned to a Geographic Area	<20
Total	5,835

Source: DHS Administrative Data as at 29 March 2013

Geographic Area distribution is based on the recipient postcode as at 29/03/2013 using the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Postcode 2011 to Remoteness Area 2011 correspondence.