

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EM1666_15

Senator Siewert asked on 14 November 2014 on proof Hansard page 8

Question

Employment barriers for job seekers

Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Do you keep track of the main employment barriers for job seekers? Ms Drayton: We do, through the JSCI and through the employment service assessment tool, keep statistics on what the main barriers that job seekers identify through those processes are. Senator SIEWERT: Can you tell me what the current—I will ask for a more extensive list, but for the time being, the top 5 for streams 1, 2, 3 and 4? Ms Drayton: I can; I just have to get another folder, if that is all right. I have with me streams 1 and 2, and I will take 3 and 4 on notice, if that is all right. Senator SIEWERT: Okay.

Answer

Table 1 – Top five barriers identified in the ESA/JCA for JSA Stream 1 job seekers

Barrier		Total Stream 1 job seekers with barrier	% of Stream 1 job seekers
1	No or limited employment history	17,477	6%
2	No or limited work skills	14,577	5%
3	No or limited job seeking skills	13,492	5%
4	Psychological/psychiatric condition	11,098	4%
5	Transport issues	10,175	4%

Note: As at 31 August 2014 there were a total of 280,563 Stream 1 job seekers.

Table 2 – Top five barriers identified in the ESA/JCA for JSA Stream 2 job seekers

Barrier		Total Stream 2 job seekers with barrier	% of Stream 2 job seekers
1	No or limited employment history	19,014	10%
2	No or limited work skills	15,693	8%
3	No or limited job seeking skills	13,518	7%
4	Transport issues	10,971	6%
5	Psychological/psychiatric condition	10,401	5%

Note: As at 31 August 2014 there were a total of 198,022 Stream 2 job seekers.

Table 3 – Top five barriers identified in the ESA/JCA for JSA Stream 3 job seekers

Barrier		Total Stream 3 job seekers with barrier	% of Stream 3 job seekers
1	No or limited employment history	32,711	23%
2	No or limited work skills	24,886	17%
3	Physical limitations restricting type of work	22,312	15%
4	No or limited job seeking skills	19,776	14%
5	Endurance limitations	16,907	12%

Note: As at 31 August 2014 there were a total of 144,478 Stream 3 job seekers.

Table 4 – Top five barriers identified in the ESA/JCA for JSA Stream 4 job seekers

Barrier		Total Stream 4 job seekers with barrier	% of Stream 4 job seekers
1	No or limited employment history	77,649	49%
2	No or limited work skills	51,776	33%
3	Psychological/psychiatric condition	49,891	32%
4	Transport issues	43,465	28%
5	Accommodation issues	40,598	26%

Note: As at 31 August 2014 there were a total of 157,228 Stream 4 job seekers.