

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 19-23 October 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous

Topic: Community Development Program (RJCP)

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewert

Question reference number: 143

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2015

Number of pages: 8

Question:

Provide a breakdown of CDP participants (by no. and percentages) with reference to:

- a) payment type,
- b) age,
- c) gender,
- d) marital status,
- e) location (ie. remote, very remote),
- f) Indigenous status/CALD status,
- g) number with vulnerability flags (by type of vulnerability),
- h) by number of vulnerability flags per person,
- i) number of years on current payment,
- j) number of years on any payment,
- k) with/without earnings,
- l) with Rent Assistance,
- m) home-ownership status,
- n) number of Centrelink overpayments,
- o) number on Income Management,
- p) number with participation/activity exemptions,
- q) number undertaking FT-WFTD,
- r) number of penalties by type of penalties on job seeker with vulnerability flag/by type of vulnerability,
- s) number of job seekers who appeal decision, by all stages of appeal, and outcomes of appeal, for 2014-15, and each subsequent month.
- t) number of ex-prisoners,
- u) number who claimed the DSP in the previous 12 months, and the number successful/rejected.

Answer:

In response to questions (a) – (p) and (t) - (u), the Department of Human Services analysis of the CDP caseload, as at 26 June 2015, is at Attachment A.

In response to question (q), as at 30 September 2015, 61 per cent of job seekers were placed in CDP activities.

In response to questions (r) – (s), the Department of Employment, which has responsibility for compliance policy, and the Department of Human Services, which has responsibility for appeal processes, have advised that data on these matters are not readily obtainable and would represent an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

ATTACHMENT A

ADH15-0442: Community Development Programme (CDP) - Participant Caseload as at 26/06/2015.

Table 1: Participant Income Support Payment Type.

	Total	%
ABSTUDY (Living Allowance)	<20	np
Age Pension	47	0.1
Bereavement Allowance	<20	np
Carer Payment	246	0.7
Disability Support Pension	653	1.8
Farm Household Allowance	<20	np
Newstart Allowance	26582	72.2
Parenting Payment Partnered	418	1.1
Parenting Payment Single	1531	4.2
Widow Allowance	<20	np
Youth Allowance (other)	4634	12.6
Youth Allowance (student)	<20	np
Not on Income Support	2662	7.2
Total	36803	100.0

Income Support payment counts include participants with an Income Support payment status of current or suspended.

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Blue Book dataset).

Table 2: Participant Age.

	Total	%
Under 18	1185	3.2
18 - 20	4159	11.3
21 - 24	4504	12.2
25 - 34	9665	26.3
35 - 44	8066	21.9
45 - 54	5890	16.0
55 - 64	3279	8.9
65 and over	55	0.1
Total	36803	100.0

Source: Department of Employment administrative (Employment Services System) data.

Table 3: Participant Gender.

	Total	%
Female	16094	43.7
Male	20709	56.3
Total	36803	100.0

Source: Department of Employment administrative (Employment Services System) data.

Table 4: Participant Marital Status.

	Total	%
Partnered	12907	35.1
Single	23751	64.5
Unknown	145	0.4
Total	36803	100.0

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

Table 5: Participant Remoteness Area.

	Total	%
Major Cities of Australia	133	0.4
Inner Regional Australia	59	0.2
Outer Regional Australia	2451	6.7
Remote Australia	8473	23.0
Very Remote Australia	25297	68.7
Not Assigned to a Remoteness Area	390	1.1
Total	36803	100.0

Remoteness Areas based on the recipient's geo-coded address against the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Remoteness Correspondence 2011.

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

Table 6: Participant Indigenous Status.

	Total	%
Indigenous	30498	82.9
Not Indigenous	6305	17.1
Total	36803	100.0

Indigenous recipients include only those who have voluntarily identified as indigenous. These data may therefore represent an undercount.

Source: Department of Employment administrative (Employment Services System) data.

Table 7: Participant Non English Speaking Background (NESB).

	Total	%
English Speaking Background	36305	98.6
Non English Speaking Background	498	1.4
Total	36803	100.0

Source: Department of Employment administrative (Employment Services System) data.

Table 8: Participant Vulnerability Indicators.

	Total	%
Total Recipients	36803	100.0
Total With One or More Vulnerability Indicator	4007	10.9
Cognitive or Neurological impairment	106	0.3
Drug/alcohol dependency which impedes compliance	599	1.6
Homeless	349	0.9
Illness/injury requiring frequent treatment	615	1.7
Jobseeker in Transition	327	0.9
Significant lack of literacy and language skills	1677	4.6
Nationally approved Vulnerability	<20	np
Served 8 week NPP in previous 12 months	29	0.1
Psychiatric problem or Mental Illness	612	1.7
Recent traumatic relationship breakdown	37	0.1
Released prisoner (in gaol 14 days+)	612	1.7
Significant caring responsibilities	24	0.1

Vulnerability indicators reported for participants on Income Support only.

Vulnerability indicators are generally only recorded for recipients with Activity Test/Participation Requirements. These data may therefore represent an undercount of recipients with a vulnerability. Recipients may have more than one vulnerability indicator.

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Blue Book dataset).

Table 9: Participant Number of Vulnerability Indicators.

	Total	%
0	32796	89.1
1	3188	8.7
2	675	1.8
3+	144	0.4
Total	36803	100.0

Vulnerability indicators reported for participants on Income Support only.

Vulnerability indicators are generally only recorded for recipients with Activity Test/Participation Requirements. These data may therefore represent an undercount of recipients with a vulnerability.

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Blue Book dataset).

Table 10: Participant Duration on Current Income Support Payment.

	Total	%
< 1 year	12542	34.1
1 year to < 2 years	6771	18.4
2 years to < 5 years	9717	26.4
5+ years	5111	13.9
Not on Income Support	2662	7.2
Total	36803	100.0

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Blue Book dataset).

Table 11: Participant Duration on Income Support.

	Total	%
< 1 year	10599	28.8
1 year to < 2 years	4912	13.3
2 years to < 5 years	8264	22.5
5+ years	10366	28.2
Not on Income Support	2662	7.2
Total	36803	100.0

Income Support duration refers to duration on any income support payment, and may not reflect duration on current payment.

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Blue Book dataset).

Table 12: Participant Current Fortnightly Earnings.

	Total	%
Current Earnings	3408	9.3
No Current Earnings	30733	83.5
Unknown - Not on Income Support	2662	7.2
Total	36803	100.0

Earnings reported for participants on Income Support only.

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Blue Book dataset).

Table 13: Participant Receipt of Rent Assistance.

	Total	%
Receiving Rent Assistance	2586	7.0
Not Receiving Rent Assistance	34217	93.0
Total	36803	100.0

Rent Assistance counts include recipients paid Rent Assistance as part of their Income Support Payment or paid with Family Tax Benefit.

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

Table 14: Participant Home Ownership.

	Total	%
Homeowner	1593	4.3
Non-homeowner	35032	95.2
Unknown	178	0.5
Total	36803	100.0

Homeowner counts include recipients who are purchasing their home. These recipients cannot be identified separately as this level of information is not required for administrative purposes.

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

Table 15: Participant Overpayments.

	Total	%
No Overpayment	30078	81.7
Has Overpayment	6725	18.3
Total	36803	100.0

Includes overpayments that have been determined but not finalised i.e., balance outstanding and recoverable.

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

Table 16: Participants on Income Management.

	Total	%
Not Income Managed	25344	68.9
Income Managed	11459	31.1
Total	36803	100.0

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

Table 17: Participant Activity Test Status.

	Total	%
Activity Tested - With Activity Test Exemption	1040	2.8
Activity Tested - No Activity Test Exemption	31119	84.6
Not Activity Tested	4644	12.6
Total	36803	100.0

Source: Department of Human Services administrative data (DSS Blue Book dataset).

Table 18: Participant Ex-Offender Indicator.

	Total	%
Not Ex-Offender	30214	82.1
Ex-Offender	6589	17.9
Total	36803	100.0

Source: Department of Employment administrative (Employment Services System) data.

Table 20: Participants Who Claimed Disability Support Pension (DSP) in the Previous 12 Months.

	Total	%
DSP Claimed in Previous 12 Months - Granted	94	0.3
DSP Claimed in Previous 12 Months - Rejected	779	2.1
No DSP Claim in Previous 12 Months	35930	97.6
Total	36803	100.0

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