

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 (CDP/RJCP) - Exemptions

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewert

Question reference number: 144

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

What percent of Community Development Program (CDP) participants were exempted from activity requirements because of medical or 'special circumstances' over the last quarter (12 months?) and how does that compare with the percentage of exemptions provided to participants in Jobactive over the same period? And to Disability Employment Service participants over the same period?

Please break down by category of exemption.

What percentage of Indigenous CDP participants were granted a 'special circumstances' or medical exemption over the last 12 months?

What percentage of non-Indigenous CDP participants were granted a 'special circumstances' or medical exemption over the last 12 months?

How many CDP participants are currently identified as having a Work for the Dole requirement?

Of these, how many are identified as 'vulnerable'?

Answer:

There are currently 17,500 job seekers on full rate, between 18 and 49 years of age that are required to participate in Work for the Dole in CDP regions.

The Department of Human Services has advised that data identifying special circumstance and medical exemptions is not readily obtainable and would require a review of individual job seeker records for a twelve month period. The Department of Human Services considers this would represent an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.