

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** CDP

**Senator:** Dodson, Patrick

**Question reference number:** 229

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 2 December 2016

**Number of pages:** 3

**Question:**

1. Can you please provide the following data in relation to CDP: Average quantum of penalty by community in each quarter since the program was implemented
2. How is unemployment data collected in these communities and with what frequency? What is the current employment rate in each community?
3. Do you measure participation rates? What other data is collected, by whom and with what frequency?
4. Can you please provide all available data collected in relation to employment or unemployment rates over the period since 1 January 2014?

**Answer:**

1. The provision of data at the region or community level would reveal matters that are commercial-in-confidence or breach the privacy of individual job-seekers.
2. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) collects unemployment data in CDP communities every five years in the Census and approximately every three years through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander household surveys (e.g. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Surveys (NATSISS) and the 2004-05 and 2012-13 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Surveys). The ABS collected unemployment data for the CDP region in the 2011 Census and this information can be obtained for individual communities using ABS Microdata products. Unemployment data for these communities collected in the 2016 Census will be available from the ABS in October 2017.

Employment rates for CDP communities collected in the Census and above surveys have not been published by the ABS. Due to the large number of CDP communities, this data is unable to be compiled within the timeframe for this response.

The most recent data on employment rates by state/territory by remoteness area that have been released by the ABS are from the 2014-15 NATSISS. The data show, for example, that in 2014-15 the employment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15-64 years in remote areas of the Northern Territory was 37.7 per cent compared to 32.9 per cent in very remote areas of the Northern Territory.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) also analyses information on employment outcomes from the CDP including the number of job placements and outcomes 13 and 26 weeks after a job seeker is placed in a job.

3. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) collects the information necessary to measure participation rates (i.e. the labour force population and the not in the labour force population) in CDP communities every five years in the Census and approximately every three years in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander household surveys (e.g. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Surveys (NATSISS) and the 2004-05 and 2012-13 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Surveys).

The most recent data on participation rate by state/territory by remoteness area that have been released by the ABS are from the 2014-15 NATSISS. The data show, for example, that in 2014-15 the participation rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15-64 years in remote areas of the Northern Territory was 52.7 per cent compared with 43.1 per cent in very remote areas of the Northern Territory. The ABS also collects information on hours worked and whether employment is part-time or full-time, whether unemployed people are looking for a part-time or full-time job, and the industry and occupation people are employed in through the Census and household surveys. The 2014-15 NATSISS also collected information on duration of unemployment, difficulties finding work, and reasons not looking for a job.

4. All data collected in relation to employment or unemployment rates over the period since 1 January 2014 are available from the following ABS collections and web links. More detailed data can be extracted using ABS Microdata products and through the ABS Census Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Community Profiles that are available on the ABS website.
  - *Microdata: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2014-15* (cat. no. 4720.0.55.002)  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4720.0.55.002Main+Features12014-15>
  - *Microdata: Census 2011 TableBuilder*  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/tablebuilder?opendocument&navpos=240>

- *Census 2011 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Community Profiles*  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/communityprofiles?opendocument&navpos=230>
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2014-15* (cat. no. 4714.0) Tables 1-4, 11, 20, 22.  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4714.02014-15?OpenDocument>
- *Labour Force, Australia, Sep 2016* (cat. no. 6202.0)  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/6202.0Main%20Features1Sep%202016?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6202.0&issue=Sep%202016&num=&view=>
- *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery, Sep 2016* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/0/16CF9AD7C2477BA5CA257F630014C8C0?Opendocument>
- *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, Aug 2016* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/0/35006594EB1126B2CA257132000F9189?Opendocument>
- *Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, June 2015*  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/0/B5BB351E4358FFFECA25704500049985?Opendocument>