

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
COMMONWEALTH DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Question No. SBE15/051

Senator McKim asked the following question at the hearing on 20 October 2015:

For the financial year 2014/15, please provide a breakdown of the sentencing outcomes of recipients convicted (for social security fraud offences) by the CDPP by type of sentence (e.g. custodial sentence, good behaviour bond, community service order, etc.). Please provide a breakdown of sentencing outcomes by:

- a. Gender
- b. Age
- c. State and Territory, and
- d. Indigenous/non-Indigenous background

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Breakdown for period of 2014-15 financial year in sentencing outcomes of recipients convicted (for social security* offences) by the CDPP by type of sentencing by:

a. Gender

Gender	Highest penalty	2014-15
Female	Gaol	63
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	168
	Fine	28
	CSO/CBO	169
	Recogn Order	129
	Female Total	
Male	Gaol	59
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	102
	Fine	36
	CSO/CBO	82
	Recogn Order	49
	Periodic Detention	1
	Male Total	329
Unknown	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	1
	Unknown Total	1
Total		887

*Social Security fraud convictions are defined as those matters referred to the CDPP by Centrelink or sourced from Centrelink. 'Highest penalty' is calculated by taking the most severe penalty imposed on the defendant. For example, if a defendant received a fully suspended gaol sentence as well as a fine, only the fully suspended gaol sentence will be captured in this table. In this regard, the table is a count of defendants sentenced for Social Security fraud offences, not actual penalties imposed.

b. Age

Age (years)	Highest penalty	2014-15
20-29	Gaol	14

	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	36
	Fine	10
	CSO/CBO	49
	Recog Order	28
	20-29 Total	137
30-39	Gaol	37
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	85
	Fine	20
	CSO/CBO	97
	Recog Order	69
	30-39 Total	308
40-49	Gaol	35
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	86
	Fine	19
	CSO/CBO	67
	Recog Order	40
	Periodic Detention	1
	40-49 Total	248
50-59	Gaol	24
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	37
	Fine	11
	CSO/CBO	29
	Recog Order	30
	50-59 Total	131
60-69	Gaol	8
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	24
	Fine	2
	CSO/CBO	8
	Recog Order	9
	60-69 Total	51
70 years or over	Gaol	4
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	3
	Fine	2
	CSO/CBO	1
	Recog Order	2
	70 years or over Total	12
Total		887

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c. State and Territory

State/Territory	Highest penalty	2014-15
NSW	Gaol	20

	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	20
	Fine	14
	CSO/CBO	54
	Recog Order	42
	Periodic Detention	1
	NSW Total	151
Vic.	Gaol	11
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	32
	Fine	31
	CSO/CBO	75
	Recog Order	78
	Vic. Total	227
Qld.	Gaol	41
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	118
	Fine	7
	CSO/CBO	103
	Recog Order	32
	Qld. Total	301
WA	Gaol	16
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	19
	Fine	11
	CSO/CBO	14
	Recog Order	12
	WA Total	72
SA	Gaol	16
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	60
	Recog Order	5
	SA Total	81
Tas.	Gaol	14
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	16
	Fine	1
	CSO/CBO	2
	Recog Order	3
	Tas. Total	36
NT	Gaol	4
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	4
	Recog Order	6
	NT Total	14
ACT	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	2
	CSO/CBO	3
	ACT Total	5
Total		887

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d. Indigenous/non-Indigenous background

Indigenous/non-Indigenous	Highest penalty	2014-15
Indigenous	Gaol	11
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	24
	Fine	2
	CSO/CBO	13
	Recog Order	12
	Indigenous Total	62
Non-Indigenous	Gaol	83
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	176
	Fine	28
	CSO/CBO	160
	Recog Order	92
	Periodic Detention	1
	Non-Indigenous Total	540
Unknown	Gaol	28
	Gaol (Fully Suspended)	71
	Fine	34
	CSO/CBO	78
	Recog Order	74
	Unknown Total	285
Total		887

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