

**EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2007-08 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING**

**Outcome**            7

**DEEWR Question No. EW138\_08**

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

**Question**

Data on Parenting Payment, Disability Support Pension, Newstart and Youth Allowance

Please provide the data for the numbers of Newstart and Youth Allowance recipients by employment status, principal carer status, partial capacity to work status, those exempted from activity requirements, (including specifically: temporary exemptions for parents), by duration on those payment (less than 1 year, 1 year and less than 2, 2 years and less than 5, 5 years or more), State?

**Answer**

Data are provided on Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State and payment type with respect to employment status, Principal Carer status, activity test exemptions, and duration on payment.

Data in the following tables are drawn from departmental administrative data as at 29 February 2008.

a) Employment Status

A person's employment status is determined by the presence of declared earnings in the previous fortnight. Tables 1 and 2 show the employment status by State of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients.

**Table 1: Employment status of Newstart Allowance recipients by State**

Employment Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Unemployed	2,899	118,988	9,973	60,395	28,652	10,522	80,526	23,609	374
Employed	615	24,248	619	14,767	7,317	3,392	20,262	5,091	41

**Table 2: Employment status of Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State**

Employment Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Unemployed	467	20,133	1,886	10,837	5,036	1,945	10,880	3,992	105
Employed	121	4,392	83	3,009	1,375	586	2,923	757	<20

b) Principal Carer Status

Tables 3 and 4 show Principal Carer status by State of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients.

**Table 3: Principal Carer status of Newstart Allowance recipients by State**

Principal Carer Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Non-Principal Carer	3,377	136,893	10,288	70,821	34,439	13,195	96,487	27,022	400
Principal Carer	137	6,343	304	4,341	1,530	719	4,301	1,678	<20

**Table 4: Principal Carer status of Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State**

Principal Carer Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Non-Principal Carer	587	24,498	1,966	13,832	6,398	2,525	13,792	4,736	112
Principal Carer	<20	27	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20

c) Activity Test Exemption Status

Tables 5 and 6 show the number of people with exemptions from the activity test by State for Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) recipients respectively. Temporary exemptions includes only those Principal Carers with an exemption due to one of the following reasons: bereavement, caring responsibilities, dependent child exemption, major personal crisis, or major personal disruption at home.

**Table 5: Activity Test Exemption reasons of Newstart Allowance recipients by State**

Activity Test Exemption Reason	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Temporary for Parents	<20	83	<20	85	21	<20	51	20	<20
Other	623	15,104	473	9,325	3,885	1,817	11,943	3,399	186

**Table 6: Activity Test Exemption reasons of Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State**

Activity Test Exemption Reason	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Temporary for Parents	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Other	67	1,502	58	1,039	467	213	950	435	<20

d) Duration on the Payment

Tables 7 and 8 show the duration on the respective payment by State of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients. For Youth Allowance (other), the duration includes periods on other types of Youth Allowance, that is, Youth Allowance (student) or Youth Allowance (apprentice).

**Table 7: Duration on payment for Newstart Allowance recipients by State**

Duration on Payment	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Less than 1 year	1,900	70,213	4,065	42,304	17,312	5,941	49,959	16,231	207
1 to <2 years	527	25,899	1,801	12,373	6,499	2,533	18,023	4,659	77
2 to <5 years	669	29,851	2,282	13,017	7,413	2,943	20,629	5,037	98
5 years or more	418	17,273	2,444	7,468	4,745	2,497	12,177	2,773	33

**Table 8: Duration on payment for Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State**

Duration on Payment	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Less than 1 year	317	12,534	1,171	8,150	3,149	1,088	6,089	3,058	67
1 to <2 years	125	5,114	392	3,023	1,360	552	2,795	922	27
2 to <5 years	146	6,847	403	2,659	1,901	890	4,895	767	20
5 years or more	<20	30	<20	<20	<20	<20	24	<20	<20