

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0546_13

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

“Refers to previous DEEWR Question No. EW1042_12 which asked for a breakdown of exemptions from activity test or participation requirements by Indigenous/non-Indigenous recipients.”

Question

Income Support Payments

Could DEEWR Question No. EW1042_12 be updated by providing a breakdown of exemptions from activity test or participation requirements by Indigenous/non-Indigenous recipients and by gender?

Answer

The following table provides a breakdown by exemption category of income support recipients with an exemption from the activity test or participation requirements by Indigenous/non-Indigenous recipients as at 31 August 2012.

Exemption Category	Non Indigenous	Indigenous	Total
Temporary incapacity			
Temporary incapacity due to illness, injury or disability	44,268	2686	46,954
Incapacity due to serious illness requiring long recovery periods, e.g. cancer, severe stroke, brain injuries, physical injuries.	1187	48	1235
Caring responsibility			
Principal Carer Parent of a large family - four or more children	3268	392	3660
Caring Responsibilities temporarily caring for an adult or child/ren	2069	185	2254
Principal Carer Parent who is a registered and active foster carer and non Principal Carer Parent who is a emergency and respite foster carer	1214	217	1431

Exemption Category	Non Indigenous	Indigenous	Total
Principal Carer Parent providing home schooling, includes main supporter of one or more secondary school children	1198	37	1235
Principal Carer Parent caring for a child with high needs, however, carer not eligible for Carer Payment	898	41	939
Principal Carer Parent providing facilitating distance education, includes main supporter of one or more secondary school children	173	<20	176
Principal Carer Parent - Special Family Circumstances eg providing kinship or family care, care for aged or disabled adult family member or has a 6 year old child not yet started school	160	<20	173
Principal Carer caring for a child related to them where they are not a parent – through a Family Law Court Order	56	<20	63
Principal Carer caring for a child related to them where they are not a parent – through a State or Territory Court Plan	22	<20	24
Caring Responsibilities Exemption for Temporary Visa Holders not eligible for Carer Payment	<20	0	<20
Caring Responsibilities Exemption for Temporary Visa Holders with Dependent Child under 6	<20	0	<20
Personal circumstances			
Major personal crisis, e.g. homelessness, witness protection, domestic violence for non Principal Carer Parents, indigenous job seeker undertaking cultural or sorry business	3729	818	4547
Expectant mother within 6 weeks of expected due date of giving birth and 6 weeks after giving birth	2268	295	2563
Refugee first 13 weeks in Australia	2385	0	2385
Claiming Disability Support Pension*	2033	236	2269

Exemption Category	Non Indigenous	Indigenous	Total
Other special circumstances – case by case assessment of circumstances beyond the job seekers control	784	216	1000
Approved overseas absence	740	<20	744
Major personal disruption at home, e.g. fire, burglary, storm, accident	195	<20	212
Bereavement period	122	58	180
Principal Carer Parent - domestic violence	100	<20	115
Community Service Order	67	<20	80
Undertaking jury duty	<20	<20	<20
Refugee first 6 months in Australia undertaking preparatory Adult Migrant English Program	<20	0	<20
Principal Carer Parent - relationship breakdown	<20	<20	<20
Total with exemptions	66,966	5304	72,270

Source: DHS Administrative Data as at 31 August 2012

*Claiming Disability Support Pension is an interim status whereby recipients do not have an Activity Test or Participation Requirement.

The following table provides a breakdown by exemption category of income support recipients with an exemption from the activity test or participation requirements by gender as at 31 August 2012.

Exemption Category	Female	Male	Total
Temporary incapacity			
Temporary incapacity due to illness, injury or disability	22,876	24,078	46,954
Incapacity due to serious illness requiring long recovery periods, e.g. cancer, severe stroke, brain injuries, physical injuries.	650	585	1235
Caring responsibility			
Principal Carer Parent of a large family - four or more children	3390	270	3660
Caring Responsibilities temporarily caring for an adult or child/ren	1423	831	2254
Principal Carer Parent registered and active foster carer and non	1275	156	1431

Principal Carer Parent emergency and respite foster carer			
Principal Carer Parent providing home schooling, includes main supporter of one or more secondary school children	1131	104	1235
Principal Carer Parent caring for a child with high needs, however, carer not eligible for Carer Payment	878	61	939
Principal Carer Parent providing facilitating distance education, includes main supporter of one or more secondary school children	160	<20	176
Principal Carer Parent - Special Family Circumstances eg providing kinship or family care, care for aged or disabled adult family member or has a 6 year old child not yet started school	134	39	173
Principal Carer caring for a child related to them where they are not a parent – through a Family Law Court Order	61	<20	63
Principal Carer caring for a child related to them where they are not a parent – through a State or Territory Court Plan	23	<20	24
Caring Responsibilities Exemption for Temporary Visa Holders not eligible for Carer Payment	<20	0	<20
Caring Responsibilities Exemption for Temporary Visa Holders with Dependent Child under 6	<20	0	<20
Personal circumstances			
Major personal crisis, e.g. homelessness, witness protection, domestic violence for non Principal Carer Parents, indigenous job seeker undertaking cultural or sorry business	2114	2433	4547
Expectant mother within 6 weeks of expected due date of giving birth and 6 weeks after giving birth	2563	0	2563
Refugee first 13 weeks in Australia	431	1954	2385
Claiming Disability Support Pension*	968	1301	2269
Other special circumstances – case by case assessment of	439	561	1000

circumstances beyond the job seekers control			
Approved overseas absence	677	67	744
Major personal disruption at home, e.g. fire, burglary, storm, accident	110	102	212
Bereavement period	111	69	180
Principal Carer Parent - domestic violence	111	<20	115
Community Service Order	<20	71	80
Undertaking jury duty	<20	<20	<20
Refugee first 6 months in Australia undertaking preparatory Adult Migrant English Program	0	<20	<20
Principal Carer Parent - relationship breakdown	<20	<20	<20
Total with exemptions	66,966	5304	72,270

Source: DHS Administrative Data as at 31 August 2012

*Claiming Disability Support Pension is an interim status whereby recipients do not have an Activity Test or Participation Requirement.