



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

**Deputy Secretary
Social Security**

Ref: EC22-000440

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
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Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

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Dear Committee Secretary

I am writing to you in relation to Senator Rice's letter to Ms. Skinner, Chief Executive Officer, Services Australia, dated 11 February 2022.

In the letter, Senator Rice requested the following data that was not able to be provided in the timeframe available:

- The number of recipients of Jobseeker/Youth Allowance Other payments on income support for (under 1 year, 1-2, 2+ years, respectively) at the latest available date, broken down by relevant categories:
 - Age (Under 25, 25-34, 35-54, 55+ years)
 - Gender
 - Duration of income support (under 1 year, 1-2 years, 2-5 years, 5 years +)
 - State/Territory
 - Partial work capacity
 - Principal carer
 - First Nations status
 - Ex-offender
 - Culturally Linguistically and Diverse

I have attached the results of this request. Please note, data on recipients who are ex-offenders is not available - as this data is not required to administer social security payments and is not specifically recorded in the system.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Flavel".

Matt Flavel
16 March 2022

Table 1: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support by Age, as at 28 January 2022

Recipient Age	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2 years+	Recipients
Under 25 years	42,628	50,012	62,859	155,499
25 to 34 years	38,975	47,772	96,917	183,664
35 to 44 years	29,218	40,768	108,067	178,053
45 to 54 years	26,875	43,527	124,231	194,633
55 years and over	32,194	63,678	157,161	253,033
Total	169,890	245,757	549,235	964,882

Table 2: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support by Gender, as at 28 January 2022

Recipient Gender	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2 years+	Recipients
Female	70,413	111,588	298,180	480,181
Male	99,477	134,169	251,055	484,701
Total	169,890	245,757	549,235	964,882

Table 3: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support, as at 28 January 2022

Duration on Income Support	Recipients
Under 1 year	169,890
1-<2 years	245,757
2-<5 years	228,382
5 years+	320,853
Total	964,882

Table 4: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support by State/Territory, as at 28 January 2022

State/Territory	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2 years+	Recipients
New South Wales	49,816	78,281	155,868	283,965
Victoria	37,748	60,286	123,063	221,097
Queensland	41,971	54,466	123,974	220,411
South Australia	12,855	18,290	51,193	82,338
Western Australia	17,378	22,181	60,477	100,036
Tasmania	3,984	5,711	16,554	26,249
Northern Territory	4,211	4,179	13,804	22,194
Australian Capital	1,858	2,269	4,244	8,371
Unknown	69	94	58	221
Total	169,890	245,757	549,235	964,882

Table 5: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support by Partial Capacity to Work, as at 28 January 2022

Partial Capacity to Work	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2 years+	Recipients
Partial Capacity to Work	35,472	64,611	277,180	377,263
No Partial Capacity to Work	134,418	181,146	272,055	587,619
Total	169,890	245,757	549,235	964,882

Table 6: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support by Principal Carer, as at 28 January 2022

Principal Carer	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2 years+	Recipients
Principal Carer	8,603	16,935	86,992	112,530
Not Principal Carer	161,287	228,822	462,243	852,352
Total	169,890	245,757	549,235	964,882

Table 7: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support by Indigenous Status, as at 28 January 2022

Indigenous Status	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2 years+	Recipients
Indigenous	23,164	23,584	71,930	118,678
Not identified Indigenous	146,726	222,173	477,305	846,204
Total	169,890	245,757	549,235	964,882

Table 8: JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (other) Recipients - Duration on Income Support by Cultural and Linguistic Diversity, as at 28 January 2022

Cultural and Linguistic Diversity	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2 years+	Recipients
English Speaking Background	143,258	194,399	445,117	782,774
Non-English Speaking Background	26,632	51,358	104,118	182,108
Total	169,890	245,757	549,235	964,882

Data Descriptions

Recipients of JobSeeker Payment who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) on the Centrelink payment system, and not in receipt of zero rate of payment.

Recipients of Youth Allowance (other) who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) on the Centrelink payment system.

Duration on Income Support refers to the duration the recipient has spent on income support payments. Duration may not reflect duration on current payment type.

Partial Capacity to Work refers to activity tested recipients with an assessed work capacity of under 30 hours per week.

Principal Carer refers to recipients who have principal caring responsibilities for a dependent child under the age of 16.

Note: Indigenous recipients include only those who have voluntarily identified as indigenous. These data may therefore represent an undercount.

Note: Non-English speaking background describes persons born outside of Australia, in countries where English is not the main language spoken. This indicator should be used with caution as it is based on country of birth.

Source: Services Australia administrative data, DSS extract.