

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Inquiry into the Social Security Amendment (Income Support for Regional Students)
Bill 2010**

DEEWR Question No. SIH – H7

Senator Nash asked on 17 December 2010, EEWR Hansard page 53-54.

Question

Senator NASH – Could you take on notice for me how many students living in regional areas are accessing independent Youth Allowance now, of that date, and could you break them down for me into the inner regional, outer regional, remote and very remote areas.

Ms Milliken – Can I clarify that you are only interested in higher education students?

Senator NASH – Yes, independent higher education.

Answer

The following information is current as of 27 August 2010 and sourced from Centrelink Administrative Data.

		Inner Regional Australia	Outer Regional Australia	Remote Australia	Very Remote Australia	Not Assigned to a Remoteness Area	Total
Independent*	Youth Allowance (Higher Education Student)	16,471	5,346	499	128	796	23,240

Remoteness Area distribution is based on the recipient home postcode as at 27/08/2010 using the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) 2006 Postal Areas (POA) to 2006 Remoteness Areas (RA) concordance. Discrepancies may occur between the sum of the component items and the total due to rounding, caused by the use of a concordance.

*Includes students qualifying for independent Youth Allowance as a result of:

- satisfying the workforce participation criterion,
- reaching the age of independence
- being married or living in a de facto relationship
- having a child
- being assessed as unable to live at home
- being an orphan or refugee
- other special circumstances