

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Budget Estimates – 3–4 June 2021

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Social Services Portfolio
Department of Social Services

Topic: Duration of Income Support

Question reference number: DSS SQ21-000622

Outcome Number: 1 - Social Security

Senator: Nita Green

Type of Question: Written. **Hansard Page/s:** N/A

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 28 July 2021

Question:

Please provide information on duration on income support by payment type (as provided in the DSS Demographics publication) by gender and by age bracket (i.e. show recipients by gender/age on income support for less than 1 year; 1-<2 year; 2-<5 years; 5-<10 years; 10 years+ and average duration).

Answer:

Please see below table.

Duration of Income Support Payment recipients by gender and age as at 30 April 2021

PAYMENT TYPE		Female					Male					Total					Average duration on Income Support (weeks)
		Duration on Income Support					Duration on Income Support					Duration on Income Support					
		Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2-<5 years	5-<10 years	10 years+	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2-<5 years	5-<10 years	10 years+	Under 1 year	1-<2 years	2-<5 years	5-<10 years	10 years+	
ABSTUDY (Living Allowance)	Under 25	1,990	1,547	850	61	0	1,343	1,045	526	58	0	3,333	2,592	1,376	119	0	66
	25-34	310	308	198	np.	<5	254	249	174	np.	<5	564	557	372	np.	<5	78
	35-44	147	112	68	6	0	80	62	53	8	0	227	174	121	14	0	74
	45-54	118	86	81	6	0	42	41	39	np.	<5	160	127	120	np.	<5	83
	55-64	np.	np.	np.	np.	0	np.	np.	np.	<5	0	np.	46	np.	np.	0	88
	65+	<5	<5	<5	0	0	<5	<5	<5	0	0	<5	6	<5	0	0	92
Age Pension	65+	49,666	48,365	139,588	245,524	946,754	49,062	54,385	145,291	274,183	638,956	98,728	102,750	284,879	519,707	1,585,710	785
Austudy	25-34	5,579	5,641	2,705	841	342	4,309	5,086	2,926	647	257	9,888	10,727	5,631	1,488	599	96
	35-44	1,337	1,582	1,042	507	383	881	1,336	914	311	105	2,218	2,918	1,956	818	488	150
	45-54	678	917	630	357	301	322	470	353	190	67	1,000	1,387	983	547	368	188
	55-64	192	288	252	np.	np.	88	152	117	np.	np.	280	440	369	223	181	233
	65+	8	11	10	np.	np.	9	8	7	<5	<5	17	19	17	18	8	241
Carer Payment	Under 25	568	941	2,012	np.	<5	425	748	1,444	np.	<5	993	1,689	3,456	np.	<5	169
	25-34	1,154	1,833	3,696	np.	np.	585	1,263	2,254	np.	np.	1,739	3,096	5,950	np.	np.	398
	35-44	1,777	2,852	6,250	9,481	18,047	796	1,596	3,115	3,928	3,528	2,573	4,448	9,365	13,409	21,575	510
	45-54	2,419	3,719	7,409	11,369	25,581	1,123	2,026	4,059	5,733	6,283	3,542	5,745	11,468	17,102	31,864	574
	55-64	3,909	5,300	10,527	13,738	27,014	1,690	2,535	4,966	6,932	8,368	5,599	7,835	15,493	20,670	35,382	559
	65+	818	1,022	3,335	7,873	23,679	374	543	1,704	4,890	11,704	1,192	1,565	5,039	12,763	35,383	754
Disability Support Pension	Under 25	1,914	2,474	6,713	6,311	0	3,412	4,454	11,670	11,074	0	5,326	6,928	18,383	17,385	0	212
	25-34	574	568	1,854	7,652	21,789	1,335	776	2,735	11,486	30,667	1,909	1,344	4,589	19,138	52,456	600
	35-44	691	728	2,140	5,544	34,092	1,428	955	3,018	7,773	43,221	2,119	1,683	5,158	13,317	77,313	866
	45-54	1,157	1,341	3,897	10,095	61,098	1,654	1,538	4,620	12,314	68,318	2,811	2,879	8,517	22,409	129,416	965
	55-64	1,919	2,614	7,720	18,618	99,023	2,371	3,189	8,752	19,433	94,957	4,290	5,803	16,472	38,051	193,980	969
	65+	314	399	1,581	6,149	42,427	442	633	2,075	6,740	39,838	756	1,032	3,656	12,889	82,265	1,087
JobSeeker Payment	Under 25	11,749	14,367	10,120	np.	np.	16,924	20,370	12,989	np.	<5	28,673	34,737	23,109	13,410	7	114
	25-34	20,913	29,118	14,872	np.	np.	38,238	52,713	26,077	np.	np.	59,151	81,831	40,949	32,105	23,572	176
	35-44	15,881	24,757	16,263	17,510	27,832	27,733	40,634	21,784	15,146	10,315	43,614	65,391	38,047	32,656	38,147	263
	45-54	18,624	30,342	19,874	20,775	34,242	22,776	35,512	21,159	17,240	11,961	41,400	65,854	41,033	38,015	46,203	303
	55-64	20,589	33,284	25,633	23,403	26,346	21,558	34,747	22,850	19,864	12,552	42,147	68,031	48,483	43,267	38,898	282
	65+	2,520	3,865	4,068	3,622	2,803	2,530	3,993	3,198	2,780	1,423	5,050	7,858	7,266	6,402	4,226	270
Parenting Payment Partnered	Under 25	2,196	2,937	3,818	np.	<5	103	111	93	37	0	2,299	3,048	3,911	np.	<5	144
	25-34	8,415	9,988	8,507	8,091	4,608	589	799	600	372	172	9,004	10,787	9,107	8,463	4,780	212
	35-44	4,597	6,308	5,617	5,064	3,461	710	1,098	897	565	198	5,307	7,406	6,514	5,629	3,659	239
	45-54	288	471	504	516	403	198	333	352	276	123	486	804	856	792	526	280
	55-64	np.	np.	np.	np.	np.	np.	np.	np.	np.	np.	np.	145	180	np.	58	235
	65+	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	np.	np.	<5	<5	<5	13	8	<5	np.	300
Parenting Payment Single	Under 25	3,890	6,514	13,136	9,577	11	92	190	217	175	0	3,982	6,704	13,353	9,752	11	186
	25-34	11,538	16,221	26,372	32,184	24,829	653	1,047	1,371	1,053	474	12,191	17,268	27,743	33,237	25,303	313
	35-44	7,804	10,813	17,798	16,267	17,063	547	995	1,353	882	427	8,351	11,808	19,151	17,149	17,490	351
	45-54	879	1,320	2,696	2,941	2,885	164	359	474	367	168	1,043	1,679	3,170	3,308	3,053	402
	55-64	np.	np.	340	np.	np.	np.	np.	103	np.	np.	143	228	443	450	527	471
	65+	np.	np.	24	np.	np.	<5	<5	5	<5	<5	9	13	29	29	42	499

Partner Allowance	65+	0	0	0	0	160	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	171	1,224
Special Benefit	Under 25	320	145	111	np.	0	229	126	104	np.	<5	549	271	215	np.	<5	76
	25-34	227	259	257	np.	<5	258	309	157	8	0	485	568	414	np.	<5	85
	35-44	167	210	301	14	0	242	326	241	14	0	409	536	542	28	0	97
	45-54	78	100	156	np.	<5	77	130	201	np.	<5	155	230	357	np.	<5	120
	55-64	28	61	89	np.	0	35	58	107	np.	<5	63	119	196	np.	<5	138
	65+	287	278	509	433	5	238	242	483	478	8	525	520	992	911	13	187
Widow Allowance	65+	0	0	478	1,040	561	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	478	1,040	561	484
Youth Allowance (other)	Under 25	20,200	20,518	15,338	505	0	23,656	21,874	14,314	414	0	43,856	42,392	29,652	919	0	75
Youth Allowance (student and apprentice)	Under 25	46,258	38,227	30,863	np.	<5	32,367	26,772	21,901	np.	<5	78,625	64,999	52,764	np.	<5	76
	25-34	725	2,002	2,846	np.	np.	503	1,658	2,647	np.	np.	1,228	3,660	5,493	np.	np.	143

Data Descriptions

Includes the following recipients:

- 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.
- Recipients of Austudy or Youth Allowance (student, apprentice) who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) on the Centrelink payment system.
- Recipients of Partner Allowance or Widow Allowance who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) on the Centrelink payment system.
- Recipients of Special Benefit who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) on the Centrelink payment system and not in receipt of a zero rate of payment.
- Recipients of Age Pension, Carer Payment and Disability Support Pension who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) or suspended on the Centrelink payment system.
- Recipients of ABSTUDY (Living Allowance) and Austudy who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) on the Centrelink payment system.

NOTE: In order to protect individuals' privacy, identified populations <5 are reported as "<5" and other data that would allow these populations to be derived are not provided "np."