

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 143

Topic: Disability Support Pension

Hansard Page: 14/02/2013 CA78

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Of the DSP recipients with a mental illness, how many are working and how many are on a full pension?

Answer:

As at 22 February 2013, of DSP recipients with a primary medical condition of psychological/psychiatric:

- 16,078 had declared earnings from employment,
- 218,723 were receiving DSP at the full rate.

Note that these numbers do not add up to the total 254,672 people receiving DSP with a primary medical condition of psychological/psychiatric as recorded in the Centrelink Administration data (DEEWR Bluebook) because the rate of DSP a person receives may be impacted by income or assets other than earnings from employment. For example their pension may be reduced because of their partner's income or because they have income from:

- compensation;
- real estate;
- financial investments and/or shares; or
- superannuation.