

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Social Services Portfolio**  
**2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1**

**Question No: 759**

**Topic: Numbers on the DSP**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Brown asked:**

Please provide estimates of trends in recipients of DSP from 1990 to the present year:

- a. As a proportion of working age population
- b. As a proportion of the working age population, adjusted for population ageing over this period.

**Answer:**

**Disability Support Pension Recipients as a proportion of Working Age and proportion of 15 y.o. to Pension Age - 1990 – 2013 (Thousands)**

YEAR	DSP <sup>(a)</sup>	Working Age <sup>(b)</sup>	%	15 y.o. to Age Pension Age <sup>(c)</sup>	%
1990	316.7	11,416.8	2.8%	11,046.1	2.9%
1991	334.2	11,547.8	2.9%	11,177.7	3.0%
1992	378.6	11,663.7	3.2%	11,298.8	3.4%
1993	406.6	11,750.9	3.5%	11,392.0	3.6%
1994	436.2	11,854.9	3.7%	11,499.0	3.8%
1995	464.4	11,986.0	3.9%	11,630.7	4.0%
1996	499.2	12,137.9	4.1%	11,819.9	4.2%
1997	527.5	12,277.6	4.3%	11,954.3	4.4%
1998	553.3	12,412.6	4.5%	12,121.4	4.6%
1999	577.7	12,560.6	4.6%	12,259.9	4.7%
2000	602.3	12,721.2	4.7%	12,450.5	4.8%
2001	623.9	12,895.4	4.8%	12,617.3	4.9%
2002	658.9	13,064.9	5.0%	12,823.1	5.1%
2003	673.3	13,239.7	5.1%	12,991.8	5.2%
2004	696.7	13,399.6	5.2%	13,189.0	5.3%
2005	706.8	13,581.6	5.2%	13,364.1	5.3%
2006	712.2	13,784.5	5.2%	13,606.3	5.2%
2007	714.2	14,044.2	5.1%	13,855.4	5.2%
2008	732.4	14,343.1	5.1%	14,192.8	5.2%
2009	757.1	14,643.0	5.2%	14,487.0	5.2%
2010	792.6	14,846.4	5.3%	14,740.4	5.4%
2011	818.9	15,018.5	5.5%	14,893.6	5.5%
2012	827.5	15,209.7	5.4%	15,149.7	5.5%
2013	821.7	15,424.0	5.3%	15,364.5	5.3%

a) sourced DHS administrative data.

b) sourced from ABS 3101059 Australian Demographic Characteristics - Estimated resident Population: Persons 15 to 64 years of age

c) sourced from ABS 3101.0 Australian Demographic Statistics and 3222.0 Projections, Series B, Population Projections, Australia. Adjusted to account for the transition of females from an age pension age of 60 to an age pension age of 65).