

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.6 Income Support for Seniors

Question No: SQ17-000355

Topic: Pension Eligibility

Hansard page: 124

Senator Murray Watt asked:

Has the department done any modelling on life expectancy by workforce sector or geographical area? Do you know whether those assumptions differ, for want of a better term, between workforce sectors or is it across the board in Australia.

Answer:

No modelling on life expectancy by workforce sector or geographical area has been undertaken by the Department of Social Services (DSS).

In relation to the increases in the age pension qualification age from 65 to 67 and then from 67 to 70, Australian resident population data prepared by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is used to produce projected recipient numbers onto the social security and welfare payments administered by DSS. ABS projected population data based on age, sex, fertility, mortality and migration are used to determine projected take-up onto payments.