

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

**Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments**

**Question No: SQ17-000519**

**Topic: Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Rachel Siewert asked:**

What percentage of those income support recipients that have a mental illness have been identified as having a drug addiction as part of their diagnosis?

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2017, there were a total of 324,231 recipients of Disability Support Pension, Newstart Allowance with a partial capacity to work (PCW), Parenting Payment Single with a PCW, Sickness Allowance, activity tested Special Benefit recipients with a PCW and Youth Allowance with a PCW, who had a primary psychological or psychiatric medical condition recorded. Of these, 19,392 (or 6 per cent) also had a drug dependence condition recorded.