

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments**

**Question No: SQ16-000464**

**Topic: Newstart/Youth Allowance Recipients - percentages**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Rachel Siewert** asked:

Please provide a breakdown of the number and percentage of Newstart Allowance recipients (singles, couples, singles with children, couples with children, and total) who receive:

- a) Newstart only
- b) Newstart plus Rent Assistance (RA) only (and the average \$ amounts of each received)
- c) Newstart plus Family Tax Benefits (FTB) only (and the average \$ amounts of each received)
- d) Newstart plus RA and FTB (and the average \$ amounts of each received)
- e) Newstart plus any other supplementary payments without RA or FTB (and the names of the payments and average total \$ amounts of 'other supplementary payments' received)
- f) Newstart plus any other supplementary payments with RA only (and the names of the payments and average total \$ amounts of 'other supplementary payments', and average RA received)
- g) Newstart plus any other supplementary payments with FTB only (and the names of the payments and average total \$ amounts of 'other supplementary payments', and average FTB received)
- h) Newstart plus any other supplementary payments with RA and FTB (and the names of the payments and average total \$ amounts of 'other supplementary payments', and average FTB received and average RA received)

**Answer:**

A breakdown, as at 24 June 2016, of the number and percentage of Newstart Allowance (NSA) recipients who receive Rent Assistance (RA), Family Tax Benefit (FTB) and/or other supplementary allowances, and the average amount, is provided in the below tables, aggregated by:

- Single recipients (table 1)
- Partnered recipients (table 2)
- Single recipients who are a principal carer of children (table 3)
- Partnered recipients who are a principal carer of children (table 4)
- Newstart Allowance recipient totals (table 5)

Please note, 'Single recipients' and 'Partnered recipients' include NSA recipients who may have children but are not the principal carer yet may still be eligible for FTB.

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Table 1: Single recipients

<b>Single recipients</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Average RA (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average FTB (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average other supplements (\$p.f.)</b>
<b>(a) NSA only</b>	4,486	0.9	0	0	0
<b>(b) NSA and RA</b>	56	0	94.4	0	0
<b>(c) NSA and FTB</b>	64	0	0	314.5	0
<b>(d) NSA, FTB and RA</b>	51	0	124.5	325.3	0
<b>(e) NSA and other supplements only</b>	261,619	55	0	0	14.5
<b>(f) NSA, RA and other supplements</b>	186,719	39.3	97.5	0	13.8
<b>(g) NSA, FTB and other supplements</b>	11,435	2.4	0	306.2	19.7
<b>(h) NSA, FTB, RA and other supplements</b>	11,036	2.3	126.8	315.2	18.4
<b>Total</b>	475,466	100			

Table 2: Partnered recipients

<b>Partnered recipients</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Average RA (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average FTB (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average other supplements (\$p.f.)</b>
<b>(a) NSA only</b>	1,282	0.9	0	0	0
<b>(b) NSA and RA</b>	6	0	78.6	0	0
<b>(c) NSA and FTB</b>	42	0	0	373	0
<b>(d) NSA, FTB and RA</b>	42	0	129.2	377.2	0
<b>(e) NSA and other supplements only</b>	110,850	77.7	0	0	14.3
<b>(f) NSA, RA and other supplements</b>	19,780	13.9	75.9	0	12.1
<b>(g) NSA, FTB and other supplements</b>	5,602	3.9	0	394.7	18.5
<b>(h) NSA, FTB, RA and other supplements</b>	5,047	3.5	141.1	426.3	14.9
<b>Total</b>	142,651	100			

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Table 3: Single recipients with children

<b>Single recipients who are principal carer parents of children</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Average RA (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average FTB (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average other supplements (\$p.f.)</b>
<b>(a) NSA only</b>	52	0.1	0	0	0
<b>(b) NSA and RA</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>(c) NSA and FTB</b>	165	0.2	0	360.4	0
<b>(d) NSA, FTB and RA</b>	173	0.2	126.5	417	0
<b>(e) NSA and other supplements only</b>	1,661	1.9	0	0	25.6
<b>(f) NSA, RA and other supplements</b>	750	0.8	108.8	0	22.9
<b>(g) NSA, FTB and other supplements</b>	41,490	46.7	0	382.8	29
<b>(h) NSA, FTB, RA and other supplements</b>	44,595	50.2	128.1	403.1	27.8
<b>Total</b>	88,886	100			

Table 4: Partnered recipients with children

<b>Partnered recipients who are principal carer parents of children</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Average RA (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average FTB (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average other supplements (\$p.f.)</b>
<b>(a) NSA only</b>	76	0.3	0	0	0
<b>(b) NSA and RA</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>(c) NSA and FTB</b>	69	0.3	0	409.9	0
<b>(d) NSA, FTB and RA</b>	51	0.2	134.8	529.6	0
<b>(e) NSA and other supplements only</b>	3,838	15.3	0	0	15.9
<b>(f) NSA, RA and other supplements</b>	185	0.7	91.2	0	15
<b>(g) NSA, FTB and other supplements</b>	12,014	47.9	0	471.2	24.6
<b>(h) NSA, FTB, RA and other supplements</b>	8,864	35.3	146.1	487.8	20.6
<b>Total</b>	25,097	100			

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Table 5: Newstart Allowance recipient totals

<b>Newstart Allowance recipients totals</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Average RA (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average FTB (\$p.f.)</b>	<b>Average other supplements (\$p.f.)</b>
<b>(a) NSA only</b>	5,896	0.8	0	0	0
<b>(b) NSA and RA</b>	62	0	92.8	0	0
<b>(c) NSA and FTB</b>	340	0	0	363.4	0
<b>(d) NSA, FTB and RA</b>	317	0	127.9	415.1	0
<b>(e) NSA and other supplements only</b>	377,968	51.6	0	0	14.5
<b>(f) NSA, RA and other supplements</b>	207,434	28.3	95.5	0	13.7
<b>(g) NSA, FTB and other supplements</b>	70,541	9.6	0	386.4	25.9
<b>(h) NSA, FTB, RA and other supplements</b>	69,542	9.5	131.1	401.7	24.5
<b>Total</b>	732,100	100			

Notes:

‘Other Supplements’ refers to supplementary payments that are paid on a fortnightly basis, and includes Approved Program of Work Supplement, Carer Allowance, Energy Supplement, Language Literacy and Numeracy Supplement, Mobility Allowance, Pensioner Education Supplement, Pharmaceutical Allowance, and Remote Area Allowance. Education Entry Payment, Income Support Bonus and Telephone Allowance are not included, as these are not fortnightly payments, but are paid annually, biannually and quarterly respectively.

Recipients who receive NSA only are recipients who do not receive the Energy Supplement (ES) as they are either new to payments and have not received their first instalment, or have been overseas for more than six weeks (ES is not payable for absences beyond six weeks).

References to RA include where RA is paid as part of NSA or as part of FTB.