

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EM0797_15

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

Cost of JSA services

Please provide a breakdown of expenditure during 2012 on the following elements of JSA services, and in each case, the number of people assisted through the year (by Stream and in the Work Experience phase): (a) Service payments by Stream and for the Work experience phase as a whole (b) EPF credits available by Stream and for the Work experience phase as a whole (c) EPF expenditure by providers by Stream and for the Work experience phase as a whole (d) EPF expenditure broken down by expenditure type and number of transactions (e) Outcome payments by Stream and for the Work experience phase as a whole.

Answer

Table 1 provides a count of individual job seekers who were on the JSA caseload at any given point during the 2012–13 financial year.

Table 1 – Number of job seekers assisted during 2012–13

Stream	Number of participants
Stream 1 Limited	135,369
Stream 1	640,206
Stream 2	406,939
Stream 3	273,924
Stream 4	233,576
Work Experience Phase	336,553
Total JSA Participants	1,421,946

Note: A job seeker can participate in more than one stream over the course of a financial year, hence the sum of the streams is greater than the total JSA participant count.

Table 2 provides the total service and outcome fees and Employment Pathway Fund (EPF) expenditure by stream during the 2012–13 financial year.

Table 2 - JSA Expenditure – 2012–13 (GST inclusive)

Stream	Service Fees	Outcome Fees (including Job Placement Fees)	Employment Pathway Fund¹	Total
Stream 1	\$125,494,527	\$7,938,700	\$12,594,965	\$146,028,192
Stream 2	\$140,297,306	\$102,118,041	\$97,206,565	\$339,621,912
Stream 3	\$108,561,588	\$108,676,650	\$91,046,432	\$308,284,670
Stream 4	\$164,904,147	\$96,800,269	\$110,063,107	\$371,767,523
Total	\$539,257,568	\$315,533,660	\$355,420,808	\$1,210,212,036

Note: Work Experience and Compulsory Activity Phase expenditure has been distributed according to the stream the job seekers were in when the cost was incurred.

¹Stream-level EPF excludes expenditure such as Work Experience Group based activities that cannot be attributed to an individual job seeker. Total EPF expenditure includes \$114,508,601 on job seekers whilst in the Work Experience or Compulsory Phases.

Table 3 provides EPF expenditure and transaction counts during the 2012–13 financial year by stream and expenditure category.

Table 3 - EPF Expenditure by Stream and Category - 2012–13 (GST inclusive)

Stream¹	EPF Category²	Expenditure	Transactions
Stream 1	Clothing and presentation	\$566,692	6,485
	Professional services	\$908,512	6,614
	Provider services	\$2,825,005	44,889
	Training course	\$6,166,735	28,124
	Transport & Licensing assistance	\$432,020	6,863
	Wage subsidy	\$719,849	470
	Remaining Categories	\$976,152	9,272
	Total	\$12,594,965	102,717
Stream 2	Clothing and presentation	\$5,721,628	59,773
	Professional services	\$5,040,758	24,608
	Provider services	\$8,771,604	171,555
	Training course	\$53,351,389	186,884
	Transport & Licensing assistance	\$5,579,252	65,099
	Wage subsidy	\$13,107,775	9,009
	Remaining Categories	\$5,634,160	44,393
	Total	\$97,206,565	561,321
Stream 3	Clothing and presentation	\$4,835,441	49,329
	Professional services	\$4,708,185	26,756
	Provider services	\$10,039,555	192,005
	Training course	\$45,978,508	125,863
	Transport & Licensing assistance	\$4,434,948	48,315
	Wage subsidy	\$14,978,495	7,432
	Remaining Categories	\$6,071,299	65,215
	Total	\$91,046,432	514,915
Stream 4	Clothing and presentation	\$6,025,741	59,968
	Professional services	\$17,152,941	109,416
	Provider services	\$8,848,986	149,870
	Training course	\$41,978,752	127,971
	Transport & Licensing assistance	\$7,949,180	91,771
	Wage subsidy	\$18,159,415	7,777
	Remaining Categories	\$9,948,092	77,695
	Total	\$110,063,107	624,468
Total		\$310,911,069	1,803,421

¹ Some EPF expenditure is not recorded against individual job seekers and has not been included in table – this includes Work Experience Group-based Activities and bulk purchases.

² Remaining Categories includes: Other; Pre-employment checks; Interpreter services; Training, books and equipment; Tools and mobile phones; Stream four only assistance; Special Claims; NEIS and self-employment; Relocation assistance; Short term childcare assistance; Stream 1-3 rent and crisis accommodation.

Table 4 provides the EPF expenditure and transaction counts during the Work Experience and Compulsory Activity Phases (WEP/CAP) by expenditure category in the 2012–13 financial year. This is a subset of expenditure shown in Table 3.

Table 4 - EPF Expenditure in the Work Experience and Compulsory Activity Phases - 2012–13 (GST inclusive)

	EPF Category¹	Expenditure²	No. of transactions³
During WEP/CAP	Clothing and presentation	\$6,145,487	64,171
	Professional services	\$11,191,350	69,621
	Provider services	\$13,516,112	267,714
	Training course	\$55,380,194	163,243
	Transport & Licensing assistance	\$6,364,898	79,884
	Wage subsidy	\$14,389,474	7,449
	Remaining Categories	\$7,521,085	78,785
	Total	\$114,508,601	730,867

¹ Remaining Categories includes: Other; Pre-employment checks; Interpreter services; Training, books and equipment; Tools and mobile phones; Stream four only assistance; Special Claims; NEIS and self-employment; Relocation assistance; Short term childcare assistance; Stream 1-3 rent and crisis accommodation.

² Expenditure relating to Work Experience Group based activities, and bulk purchases, is not directly attributable to job seekers and is therefore not included.

³ Transaction counts will differ from figures previously provided as only claimed EPF commitments are reported.

Table 5 provides the total EPF credited to providers during the 2012–13 financial year. Most funds could be spent on any job seeker in any stream or phase of assistance at any time.

Table 5 - Employment Pathway Fund credits – 2012–13 (GST inclusive)

	Credits
Stream 1	\$2,496,602
Stream 2	\$96,261,690
Stream 3	\$87,763,304
Stream 4	\$84,643,333
Work Experience	\$199,709,913
Other¹	\$49,511,277
Total	\$520,386,119

¹ Includes credits for job seekers in Labour Adjustment Packages, and Early School Leavers. These credits cannot be attributed to a stream.