

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: CDP

Senator: Siewert, Rachel

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: You also say in question 1—and I would appreciate an update on these figures—that 1,765 people receiving activity days and so on have had their income support cancelled without returning to another income support payment within 12 months. Could you update those figures and explain why they have had their income support cancelled? If it is for a job is it actually cancelled or have they come off?

Ms Williams: That would be people who have come off income support for a range of reasons. It may well be that they have found work or that their circumstances have changed in some way.

Senator SIEWERT: I think you said 12,105 jobseekers have found placements.

Ms Williams: Yes.

Senator SIEWERT: So, obviously, a lot of those are part time, because that does not correlate with the figure that has come off income support.

Ms Williams: For us to count a full-time employment outcome, the individual has to have come fully off income support, but we also—

Senator SIEWERT: How many of those are there?

Ms Williams: We will need to check that. Ms Field may have that data with her. We also obviously count part-time employment outcomes, where a person is working part time, but they may still be receiving a proportion of income support.

Answer:

In the response to question on notice PM202 from Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016-17, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet reported that 1,765 people receiving an activity tested income support payment in Community Development Programme (CDP) regions had their income support cancelled without returning to another income support within 12 months (as at 28 October 2016). This data is analysed on a 12 monthly basis, to allow for observable trends to be tracked. Data will be available after October 2017.

Under the CDP, employment is monitored by “employment placements” and “employment outcomes”. Employment placement is achieved when a job seeker commences work. Employment outcomes are achieved at 13 weeks and 26 weeks of employment.

There were 12,446 job placements for the period 1 July 2015 to 31 December 2016. These are broken down by full-time, part-time and casual employment in the table below.

Employment Type	Total
Full Time	1,855
Part Time	1,727
Casual	8,864
Total	12,446

There have been 4,198 26 week employment outcomes achieved between 1 July 2015 and 31 December 2016. This comprised of a total of 3,216 full-time outcomes (completely independent of income support, or fully meeting a job seeker’s Mutual Obligation Requirements) and 982 part-time outcomes (a partial reduction in income support or partially meeting a job seeker’s Mutual Obligation Requirements).