

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1, 2
Output Group: 1.2 Assistance for individuals including those with special needs
2.5 Assistance for post-school students including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E807_07

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Youth Allowance payments - budget costings

1. How many youth allowance recipients (number and as a proportion of all youth allowance recipients) were paid a part rate under the parental income test?
2. How many Youth Allowance recipients are getting the independent rate (numbers and proportion of the total) by age cohort? (ie 18, 19, 20 etc)
3. Also need breakdowns (those affected being still at school, university students, TAFE/other) by age cohort? (ie 18, 19, 20 etc)
4. What amount on average were these people paid (by age)?
5. Have there been any discernible trends occurring in this area?
6. Has the Department done any costing on reducing the age of independence or increasing the parental income test?
7. What proportion of students classify as being on a nil rate of Youth Allowance (ie - not getting Youth Allowance but who would be eligible for Family Tax Benefit Part A)?
8. How many people receiving independent rate of Youth Allowance are also receiving rent assistance? Can you provide this information by reason they qualified for Independent rate (ie workforce participation)?

Answer:

Youth Allowance payments - budget costings

- 1-5, 8 Data have been requested from Centrelink and will be provided when available.
6. Any costings prepared would be part of policy advice provided to Government.
 7. The Department of Education, Science and Training does not hold data on students who do not receive Youth Allowance but whose families may be eligible for Family Tax Benefit Part A. Questions relating to Family Tax Benefit should be referred to the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.