

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

**Outcome 4 - Employment**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW1042\_12

**Senator Siewert provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Exemptions from activity test or participation requirements**

Provide a breakdown of exemptions from activity test or participation requirements by Indigenous/non-Indigenous recipients.

**Answer**

The following table provides a breakdown by exemption category of income support recipients with an exemption from the activity test or participation requirements by indigenous/non-Indigenous recipients as at 25 November 2011.

**Exemptions from activity test or participation requirements on 25 November 2011**

<b>Exemption category as at 25 November 2011</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous</b>	<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Temporary illness, injury, disability</b>			
Incapacitated due to illness, injury or disability of a temporary nature	39 829	2368	42 197
Incapacitated due to serious illness e.g. cancer, acquired brain injury	1212	51	1263
<b>Caring Responsibility</b>			
Principal Carer of a large family (four or more children 6-15 years old, or 16-18 years old and still completing secondary study)	2985	355	3340
Temporary unexpected caring responsibilities (caring for an adult or child)	2004	191	2195
Emergency and respite foster carer	1175	207	1382
Caring for a child with high needs, however, carer not eligible for Carer Payment	1013	48	1061
Principal Carer providing home schooling	1194	35	1229
Is facilitating distance education	181	<20	190
Principal Carer caring for a child through the result of complying with a court order or protection or care plan	86	<20	97
Receiving Special Benefits income support with a child under 6 years	<20	<20	<20

<b>Personal circumstances</b>			
Experiencing a major personal crisis e.g. homelessness	3716	838	4554
Pregnant and within 6 weeks of expected due date of giving birth	2110	293	2403
Refugee in their first 13 weeks in Australia or undertaking a Preparatory Program	2236	N/A	2236
Other special circumstances – case by case circumstances beyond the job seekers control	807	285	1092
Overseas	711	<20	713
Special family circumstances – case by case circumstances e.g. stressful separation	257	<20	276
Bereavement	121	97	218
Has suffered a major personal disruption at home e.g. fire, burglary	184	<20	201
Undertaking a community service order	48	<20	57
Has suffered a domestic violence/relationship breakdown	91	28	119
Undertaking jury duty	<20	<20	<20
*Is claiming Disability Support Pension	1916	208	2124
<b>Total With Exemption</b>	<b>61 895</b>	<b>5071</b>	<b>66 966</b>

\* Claiming Disability Support Pension is an interim status whereby recipients do not have an Activity Test or participation requirement.

Source: Department of Human Services Administrative Data as at 25 November 2011