

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
30 ,31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation**

**Output Group 3.1: Working age policy**

**Outputs 3.1.1: Working Age Policy and Legislation**

**Question Number: W005-06**

**Question:**

Senator Wong asked at *Hansard* page 14:

What is the maximum and average rate that is assumed in the Budget estimates for 2005-06 for the DSP, Mature Age Allowance, Mobility, Newstart, Partner Allowance, Pensioner Education Supplement, Parenting Payment Partnered, Parenting Payment Single and Youth Allowance? And what assumptions were made to arrive at that rate?

**Answer:**

Attachment A, Table A summarises the maximum rates of payment for the DEWR portfolio income support payments, as at 20 March 2005. These rates will be adjusted for 2005-06 in accordance with the indexation provisions of the *Social Security Act 1991*.

Attachment A, Table B summarises the annual average rate estimates for the DEWR portfolio income support payments for 2005-06, current as at the 2005-06 Budget. These estimates of maximum rates reflect assumptions about economic parameters, including the unemployment rate, CPI (allowances), and Male Total Average Weekly Earnings (pensions). However, estimates of average rates are more complex and include expected changes in customer numbers and the expected impacts of announced policy changes. Accordingly, the estimates are revised regularly as assumptions are refined in the light of emerging trends.

**Table A: Administered special appropriation maximum rates  
(Dollars) - per fortnight<sup>1,2</sup>**

<b>Payment</b>	
Disability Support Pension <sup>3</sup>	
Single, no children, aged under 18, at home	271.10
Single, no children, aged under 18, independent	418.90
Single, no children, aged 18-20, at home	307.30
Single, no children, aged 18-20, independent	418.90
Single, other cases	476.30
Partnered, no children, aged under 18 (each)	397.70
Partnered, no children, aged 18-20 (each)	397.70
Partnered, other cases (each)	397.70
Mature Age Allowance	
Single	432.00
Partnered (each)	397.70
Mobility Allowance	
	69.70
Newstart Allowance	
Single, no children	399.30
Single, with dependent child(ren)	432.00
Single, aged 60 or over, after nine months	432.00
Partnered (each)	360.30
Parenting Payment (Partnered)	
	360.30
Parenting Payment (Single)	
	476.30
Partner Allowance (Benefit)	
	360.30
Partner Allowance (Pension)	
	360.30
Pensioner Education Supplement	
Approved students with at least 50% study load	62.40
Approved students on DSP or invalidity Service Pension	62.40
Approved students with a dependent child receiving War Widow(er) Pension and an invalidity Income Support Supplement	62.40
Approved students (other than those listed above) with at least 25% study load	31.20
Sickness Allowance - same as Newstart Allowance	
Widow Allowance - same as Newstart Allowance	
Youth Allowance	
Single, no children, aged under 18, at home	178.70
Single, no children, aged 18 and over, at home	214.90
Single, no children, away from home	326.50
Single, with children	427.80
Partnered, no children (each)	326.50
Partnered, with children (each)	358.50
Partnered, other cases (each)	397.70

**Notes:**

1. Rates are for the period 20 March to 30 June 2005
2. Rates do not include additional amounts that may be payable for Telephone Allowance, Pharmaceutical Allowance, Rent Assistance, etc
3. Rates for people with no children under 21 include Youth Disability Supplement of \$92.40

**Attachment A (continued)**

**Table B: Administered special appropriation  
estimated annual average rates (Dollars) - per  
fortnight<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Payment</b>	<b>2005-06</b>
Disability Support Pension	455
Mature Age Allowance	389
Mobility Allowance	72
Newstart Allowance	349
Parenting Payment (Partnered)	285
Parenting Payment (Single)	424
Partner Allowance (Benefit)	339
Partner Allowance (Pension)	347
Pensioner Education Supplement	60
Sickness Allowance	362
Widow Allowance	416
Youth Allowance <sup>2</sup>	248

**Notes:**

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

2. Excludes full-time student customers.

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