

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

**2007-2008 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
28 AND 29 MAY 2007
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 1: **Efficient and effective labour market assistance**

Output Group 1.1: **Working age payments**

Output 1.1.1: **Working age payments and compliance**

Question Number: **W217-08**

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing: Working Age Payments: For the following payments/allowances/supplements/benefits a) Disability Support Pension b) Mature Age Allowance c) Mobility Allowance d) Newstart allowance e) Parenting Payment Single d) Parenting Payment Partnered e) Partner Allowance and Benefit f) Pensioner Education Supplement g) Sickness Allowance h) Utilities Allowance i) Widow Allowance j) Youth Allowance (other) Please provide a) Current numbers of recipients at maximum rate b) Current numbers of recipients at partial rate c) Average length of duration on benefit d) Estimated number of recipients at maximum and partial rate for each of the forward estimates e) Total appropriation for each of the forward estimates years

Answer:

- a) Current number of recipients at maximum rate as at 31 March 2007.
b) Current number of recipients at partial rate as at 31 March 2007.

PAYMENT TYPE	RATE	
	Maximum Rate	Partial Rate
Disability Support Pension	560,815	152,867
Mature Age Allowance	4,915	1,550
Newstart Allowance	337,279	94,367
Parenting Payment Single	268,484	137,208
Parenting Payment Partnered	90,722	60,363
Partner Allowance	32,660	16,616
Sickness Allowance	6,372	1,333
Widow Allowance	31,014	10,340
Youth Allowance (other)	54,526	16,087

Note:

Neither Mobility Allowance nor Pensioner Education Supplement are Income Support payments and income /assets tests do not apply.

Payment Type	Rate	
	High rate	Standard Rate
Mobility Allowance	3,436	50,780
Pensioner Education Supplement	Full-rate	Part-rate
	41,622	2,844

Utilities Allowance is paid as a twice yearly component of an Income Support payment, and is not a payment in its own right.

c) Average length of duration on benefit:

Payment Type	Average Duration on Current Income Support Payment (weeks)
Disability Support Pension	472
Mature Age Allowance	215
Newstart Allowance	108
Parenting Payment Single	216
Parenting Payment Partnered	164
Partner Allowance	359
Sickness Allowance	28
Widow Allowance	211
Youth Allowance (other)	68

d) Estimated number of recipients at maximum and partial rate for each of the forward estimates

The Government does not make forward estimates for these programmes publicly available.

e) Total appropriation for each of the forward estimates years

The Government does not make forward estimates for these programmes publicly available.

Estimated cost: Using the FOI calculator, to prepare this answer it has taken approximately 13 hours 25 minutes at an estimated cost of \$233.53.