

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2007-08 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome 7

DEEWR Question No. EW013_09

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

Data on Newstart and Youth Allowance.

Please provide the data for the numbers of Newstart and Youth Allowance recipients by employment status, principal carer status, partial capacity to work status, those exempted from activity requirements, (including specifically: temporary exemptions for parents), by duration on those payments (less than 1 year, 1 year and less than 2, 2 years and less than 5, 5 years or more), State?

Answer

Data are provided on Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State and payment type with respect to employment status, duration on payment, and Principal Carer status, partial capacity for work status and activity test exemptions only for activity tested payments.

Data in the following tables are drawn from departmental administrative data as at 28 March 2008.

a) Employment Status

A person's employment status is determined by the presence of declared earnings in the previous fortnight. Tables 1 and 2 show the employment status by State of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients.

Table 1: Employment status of Newstart Allowance recipients by State at 28 March 2008

Employment Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Unemployed	2,823	118,641	9,885	59,254	28,416	10,327	79,808	23,283	369
Employed	591	22,974	653	14,435	7,011	3,315	18,897	4,934	38

Table 2: Employment status of Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State at 28 March 2008

Employment Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Unemployed	433	18,977	1,928	10,490	4,770	1,853	10,089	3,767	88
Employed	91	3,935	74	2,869	1,279	501	2,530	661	<20

b) Principal Carer Status

Tables 3 and 4 show Principal Carer status by State of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients.

Table 3: Principal Carer status of Newstart Allowance recipients by State at 28 March 2008

Principal Carer Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Non-Principal Carer	3,274	135,117	10,234	69,273	33,822	12,917	94,308	26,495	394
Principal Carer	140	6,498	304	4,416	1,605	725	4,397	1,722	<20

Table 4: Principal Carer status of Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State at 28 March 2008

Principal Carer Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Non-Principal Carer	524	22,888	2,000	13,346	6,035	2,349	12,608	4,416	95
Principal Carer	<20	24	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20

c) Partial Capacity to Work Status

Tables 5 and 6 show Partial Capacity to Work status of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients. A person with a physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment has a partial capacity to work if the impairment prevents them from working at least 30 hours per week at the relevant minimum wage or above, independently of a program of support, within the next 2 years.

Table 5: Partial Capacity to Work status of Newstart Allowance recipients by State at 28 March 2008

Principal Carer Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Non-Partial Capacity	3,031	123,562	9,903	65,615	31,179	12,136	86,220	25,145	360
Partial Capacity	383	18,053	635	8,074	4,248	1,506	12,485	3,072	47

Table 6: Partial Capacity to Work status of Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State at 28 March 2008

Principal Carer Status	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Non-Partial Capacity	506	22,292	1,979	12,939	5,859	2,299	12,293	4,314	94
Partial Capacity	<20	620	23	420	190	55	326	114	<20

d) Activity Test Exemption Status

Tables 7 and 8 show the number of people with exemptions from the activity test by State for Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) recipients respectively. 'Temporary for parents'

category includes only those Principal Carers with an exemption due to one of the following reasons: bereavement, caring responsibilities, dependent child exemption, major personal crisis, or major personal disruption at home.

Table 7: Activity Test Exemption reasons of Newstart Allowance recipients by State 28 March 2008

Activity Test Exemption Reason	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Temporary for Parents	<20	89	<20	77	23	<20	45	26	<20
Other	609	15,093	485	9,040	3,849	1,803	11,770	3,277	199

Table 8: Activity Test Exemption reasons of Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State 28 March 2008

Activity Test Exemption Reason	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Temporary for Parents	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Other	73	1,503	59	997	439	199	942	408	<20

e) Duration on the Payment

Tables 9 and 10 show the duration on the respective payment by State of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients. For Youth Allowance (other), the duration includes periods on other types of Youth Allowance, that is, Youth Allowance (student) or Youth Allowance (apprentice).

Table 9: Duration on payment for Newstart Allowance recipients by State 28 March 2008

Duration on Payment	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Less than 1 year	1804	68724	3995	41049	16803	5759	48221	15827	200
1 to <2 years	512	25950	1808	12223	6516	2495	17831	4675	82
2 to <5 years	678	29684	2266	13004	7336	2914	20468	4954	91
5 years or more	420	17257	2469	7413	4772	2474	12185	2761	34

Table 10: Duration on payment for Youth Allowance (other) recipients by State 28 March 2008

Duration on Payment	STATE								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown
Less than 1 year	278	12030	1220	8007	2970	1039	5749	2914	52
1 to <2 years	109	4704	388	2795	1261	492	2462	825	24
2 to <5 years	137	6146	392	2541	1817	822	4384	687	<20
5 years or more	<20	32	<20	<20	<20	<20	24	<20	<20