

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

DEEWR Question No. EW0139_11

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

COMPLIANCE DATA

Number of: Comprehensive Compliance Assessments (including outcomes, review of activity requirements, referrals, etc).

Breakdown of the areas I asked for (8 week non-payment periods and No Show No Pay penalties) by:

- Type of failure (including refusing a suitable job offer, dismissal for misconduct or being assessed as being 'persistently and wilfully non-compliant', etc)
- Reason for failure (indicating top five reasons)
- Centrelink Area Office
- Recipients newly unemployed (ie. within three months of new claim)
- Recipients with a mental health condition
- Recipients experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness

Number and percentage of participation failures recommended by Job Services Australia compared to those applied by Centrelink.

Number of job seekers with compliance issues who seek to review or re-negotiate their Employment Pathway Plan.

Answer

The number of Comprehensive Compliance Assessments (including outcomes, review of activity requirements, referrals, etc).

The job seeker compliance data on the DEEWR website www.deewr.gov.au contains data for the requested categories for Comprehensive Compliance Assessments for the period 1 July 2009 to 31 March 2010.

Eight week non payment periods and No Show No Pay penalties by:

- Type of failure (including refusing a suitable job offer, dismissal for misconduct or being assessed as being 'persistently and wilfully non-compliant', etc)
- Reason for failure (indicating top five reasons)

The job seeker compliance data on the DEEWR website www.deewr.gov.au contains data in the requested categories (type of failure and reason for failure) for the period 1 July 2009 to 31 March 2010.

Number and percentage of participation failures recommended by Job Services

Australia compared to those applied by Centrelink.

For the period 1 July 2009 to 31 March 2010, there were 267 582 Participation Reports submitted by employment services providers and, of those, 74 755 were applied (27.9 per cent) by Centrelink. The reasons for Participation Reports not being applied were generally due to a range of reasonable excuses such as the job seeker had a medical illness or was working or attending another activity at the time to which the Participation Report relates. There were also a significant portion of Participation Reports rejected due to administrative errors by providers during the first few months of the compliance framework.

Number of job seekers with compliance issues who seek to review or re-negotiate their Employment Pathway Plan.

Employment Pathway Plans are updated regularly as providers work with job seekers to ensure their requirements are current, appropriate and reflect their circumstances. Job seekers may at any time request to re-negotiate their Employment Pathway Plan. There is no data available that records why an Employment Pathway Plan has been re-negotiated, i.e. whether the re-negotiation was initiated by the job seeker or the provider.

Remaining questions:

- **Eight week non payment periods and No Show No Pay penalties by Centrelink Area Office**
- **Eight week non payment periods and No Show No Pay penalties for the newly unemployed (i.e. within three months of new claim)**
- **Eight week non payment periods and No Show No Pay penalties for job seekers with a mental health condition**
- **Eight week non payment periods and No Show No Pay penalties for job seekers experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness**

The job seeker compliance data on the DEEWR website www.deewr.gov.au contains data broken down by Gender, Indigenous Status, Age Group, Employment Services Type and Allowance Type for the period 1 July 2009 to 31 March 2010. The requested data goes beyond this breakdown and is not readily available. Provision of this additional data would require unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.