

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

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

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0183_11

Senator Fifield asked on 31/05/2010, Hansard page 55.

Question

INCOME SUPPORT RECIPIENTS AGED 34 YEARS AND UNDER.

Senator FIFIELD—Could the department advise what the numbers are of unemployed and underemployed people under the age of 34 receiving benefits in 2007-08. Mr Griew—Under 34 may not be data that we have here. We might have to go and look that up. Senator FIFIELD—If you need to, take that on notice. Mr Griew—So, it is unemployed and in receipt of benefits? Senator FIFIELD—Yes, that is right. Could you also take that on notice for 2006-07 and 2005-06? Could I have the youth unemployment rate for 2007-08, 2006-07 and 2005-06? Ms Paul—We will probably take it on notice to go that far back. Senator FIFIELD—Also, could you provide the long-term unemployment rate amongst young Australians under 34 years of age for 2006-07 and 2005-06?

Answer

Income Support Payments to unemployed people 34 years and under

The following table shows income support payments to those people aged 34 years and under by financial years.

Payment Type	Jun-06	Jun-07	Jun-08
Newstart Allowance	174,847	155,011	143,076
Youth Allowance (Other)	76,276	68,698	64,907

The figures do not include Parenting Payment recipients with participation requirements.

Source: Centrelink Administrative Data (DEEWR Bluebook Extract – point in time count)

Unemployment rate for persons aged 15-24

The following table provides the average unemployment rate(percentage) for persons aged 15-24 years by financial years, as reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

15 - 24 years	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.40%	9.50%	9.20%

Source: 15 – 24 unemployment: ABS Labour Force, Australia, May 2010 (cat no. 6202.0) data are in seasonally adjusted terms.

Note: The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed persons).

Long Term Unemployment rate for persons aged 15-34

The following table provides the Long term Unemployment Incidence (percentage) for persons aged 15-34 years by financial years, as reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

15 – 34 years	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
LTU Incidence (%)	12.5%	12.0%	10.5%

Source: 15 – 34 Unemployment and LTU: ABS Labour Force, Australia – detailed, electronic delivery (cat no. 6291.0.55.001) May 2010 – data are in original terms.

Note LTU incidence is the number of long-term unemployed persons (those unemployed for 52 weeks or longer) expressed as a percentage of total unemployed persons.