

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0322_12

Senator Abetz asked on 31/05/2011, Hansard page 20.

Question

Suspended Jobseekers That Are Exempted

Senator ABETZ: In that case I should ask: out of the suspended, how many are exempted? Ms Paul: That is what we cannot give you because we do not have it here just for JSA. Senator ABETZ: But you will provide it on notice? Ms Paul: We will provide it on notice... We will give you a nice clear table which takes that 21 per cent and just breaks down all the categories.

Answer

The table below provides a list of suspension categories for those job seekers who were on the Job Services Australia (JSA) caseload as at 31 May 2011. Identified in the table are those job seekers where the JSA caseload suspension is due to Centrelink applying an exemption from the activity test or participation requirements.

As explained in EW320_12, as at 31 May 2011 there were 759,829 job seekers in Job Services Australia. Of these, 164,576 (21.7 per cent) were suspended. Of the suspended job seekers 46,567 (28.3 per cent) had an exemption.

Suspension Reason for JSA Caseload at 31 May 2011

Suspension Description	Number	Percentage	Is this an exemption from the activity test/participation requirements?
Suspensions			
Job seeker undertaking part-time work	32091	19.50%	No
Provisional Exit - Jobseeker has commenced employment or education but is yet to achieve a 13 week outcome.	26167	15.90%	No
Job seeker has a Temporary Reduced Work Capacity	24775	15.10%	No
Job seeker is undertaking Voluntary Work	15538	9.40%	No
Job seeker has a Partial Capacity To Work	4245	2.60%	No
Job seeker is undertaking an approved short course	4232	2.60%	No
Job seeker is a full time student	2065	1.30%	No
Job seeker is undertaking Self Employment	1954	1.20%	No
Participating in National Green Jobs Corp	1467	0.90%	No
Participating in New Apprenticeship Access Program	1280	0.80%	No
Job seeker undertaking voluntary/paid work combination	1261	0.80%	No
Participating in Youth Connections Program	1100	0.70%	No
Preclusion	733	0.40%	No
Job seeker undertaking Study & Paid Work - Combined	553	0.30%	No
Participating in Youth activities	352	0.20%	No
Vulnerable Youth Eligibility Not Determined	91	0.10%	No
Job seeker undertaking Study & Self Employment - Combined	41	0.00%	No
Medical reasons	23	0.00%	No
JTS participation break	22	0.00%	No
Experiencing Personal Crisis	<20	0.00%	No
Job seeker part time student	<20	0.00%	No
Participating in Youth Pathways Programme	<20	0.00%	No
Suspensions Sub Total	46576		
Suspensions due to Exemptions			
Incapacitated due to illness, injury or disability of a temporary nature	24945	15.20%	Yes
Incapacitated due to serious illness e.g. cancer, acquired brain injury	720	0.40%	Yes
Undertaking a rehabilitation program to assist returning to work	<20	0.00%	Yes
Caring responsibility			Yes
Job seeker has caring responsibilities	1512	0.90%	Yes
Principal Carer of a large Family (four or more children 6-15 years old, or 16-18 years old and still completing secondary school)	1226	0.70%	Yes
Experiencing other special circumstances	626	0.40%	Yes
Job seeker is caring for a child with high needs but not eligible for Carer Payment	575	0.30%	Yes
Job seeker is an emergency and respite foster carer	484	0.30%	Yes
Principal carer providing home schooling	480	0.30%	Yes
Job seeker has special family circumstances e.g. a stressful separation	96	0.10%	Yes
Job seeker is facilitating distance education	82	0.00%	Yes

Job seeker has unexpected caring responsibilities of an adult or child	58	0.00%	Yes
Job seeker is caring for a child in accordance with a court order or State/Territory protection or care plan	42	0.00%	Yes
Receiving Special Benefit payment with a child under 6 years	<20	0.00%	Yes
Personal circumstances			Yes
Job seeker is on Approved Overseas Absence	7983	4.90%	Yes
Job seeker is experiencing a Major Personal Crisis e.g. homelessness	2734	1.70%	Yes
Job seeker is pregnant and within 6 weeks of expected due date of giving birth	2514	1.50%	Yes
Refugee first 13 weeks in Australia or undertaking a preparatory program	309	0.20%	Yes
Job seeker has been bereaved	178	0.10%	Yes
Major personal disruption e.g. fire, burglary	109	0.10%	Yes
Other special circumstances case-by-case, beyond job seekers control	91	0.10%	Yes
Undertaking a community service order	53	0.00%	Yes
Has suffered domestic violence or relationship breakdown	51	0.00%	Yes
Remote Location Exemption	<20	0.00%	Yes
Job seeker is undertaking Jury Duty	<20	0.00%	Yes
Job seeker is Claiming DSP	1674	1.00%	Yes
Exemptions Sub Total	118009		
Grand Total of all Suspensions/Exemptions on the JSA Caseload	164576		