

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

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

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0428_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

NEWSTART PAYMENT AND JOB SEARCH REQUIREMENTS

What percentage of the caseload, who are in receipt of a Newstart payment, has an exemption from job search requirements?

Answer

As at 27 August 2010, 7 per cent of Newstart Allowance recipients had an exemption from activity test requirements (including job search) due to circumstances such as major personal crisis, ill health, caring responsibilities, being an expectant mother or jury duty. A further 32 per cent of recipients were exempt from job search as they were undertaking an approved activity or had a reduced work capacity of 0-14 hours.