

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Additional Estimates 2005-2006, 14 February 2006

**Question: HS9**

**Outcome 1, Output 1.1**

**Topic: Centrelink – Numbers of customers with Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome on Disability Support Pension**

**Written Question on Notice**

**SENATOR MCLUCAS** asked:

1. What are the numbers of people with Autism and with Asperger’s Syndrome who have been granted Disability Support Pension?
2. Is the data available by age and state over the last 10 years?

**Answer:**

Centrelink commenced detailed data collection on medical conditions during 2004. The available data is set out in the table below comparing January 2005 and January 2006 on a point in time basis.

**TOTAL CURRENT AND SUSPENDED DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION CUSTOMERS  
BY MEDICAL CONDITION <sup>1 2 3 4 5</sup>**

		AS AT 07 JANUARY 2005			AS AT 06 JANUARY 2006		
State	Age Group	Aspergers Only	Autism Only	Both Autism & Aspergers	Aspergers Only	Autism Only	Both Autism & Aspergers
<b>ACT</b>	16-17	<20	<20	0	0	<20	0
	18-19	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	0
	20-21	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	<20
	22-23	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	24-25	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	26-30	0	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	31+	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
<b>NSW</b>	16-17	68	195	<20	92	229	<20
	18-19	86	147	<20	103	190	<20
	20-21	72	107	<20	81	132	<20
	22-23	38	69	<20	55	91	<20
	24-25	<20	27	0	27	42	0
	26-30	28	45	0	34	57	0
	31+	32	76	<20	46	88	<20

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<b>NT</b>	16-17	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
	18-19	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	<20
	20-21	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
	22-23	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	24-25	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	26-30	0	<20	0	0	<20	0
	31+	0	<20	0	0	<20	0
<b>QLD</b>	16-17	89	219	48	93	242	43
	18-19	101	177	35	119	202	50
	20-21	83	124	26	99	155	29
	22-23	35	69	<20	56	101	20
	24-25	24	34	0	21	44	<20
	26-30	28	33	0	37	44	0
	31+	37	54	0	63	64	0
<b>SA</b>	16-17	39	51	<20	51	52	<20
	18-19	37	39	<20	45	51	<20
	20-21	23	33	<20	32	38	<20
	22-23	<20	<20	<20	<20	22	<20
	24-25	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	<20
	26-30	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
	31+	<20	20	0	<20	27	0
<b>TAS</b>	16-17	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
	18-19	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	20-21	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	22-23	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	24-25	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	26-30	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	31+	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
<b>VIC</b>	16-17	60	207	<20	66	244	<20
	18-19	59	163	<20	72	191	<20
	20-21	46	145	<20	56	155	<20
	22-23	39	94	<20	45	131	<20
	24-25	30	47	0	35	64	0
	26-30	26	68	<20	37	72	<20
	31+	47	108	0	57	133	<20

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<b>WA</b>	16-17	<20	77	<20	<20	80	<20
	18-19	<20	54	<20	<20	77	<20
	20-21	<20	51	<20	<20	48	<20
	22-23	<20	34	<20	<20	50	<20
	24-25	<20	<20	0	<20	<20	0
	26-30	<20	22	0	<20	26	0
	31+	<20	33	<20	<20	41	<20
<b>Total</b>	16-17	280	775	90	325	883	89
	18-19	311	607	72	371	744	95
	20-21	242	484	57	296	555	72
	22-23	138	297	<20	191	418	40
	24-25	92	134	0	107	187	<20
	26-30	101	199	<20	140	229	<20
	31+	146	308	<20	203	373	<20

1. Data is current at 10/2/06.
2. All data supplied is point in time data. This means that the data is reflective of the point in time when the snapshot was taken. The data that the snap shot was taken from can be found in the heading above the data. All snap shot data is taken as at a particular fortnight within a particular month or quarter depending on the data source.
3. Confidentiality provision: All cells that have a value of less than 20, other than zero, have been changed to display "<20". This rule has been employed for privacy reasons. Where total fields are included these will only have a value when it does not make it possible to work out the value of any "<20" fields.
4. Detailed data on medical conditions has only been collected by Centrelink from 2004. It is not a mandated process for Disability Support Pension claims.
5. This data should be indicative only.

This answer required 38 hours at a cost of \$1523.00 to prepare.