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**Department of Families, Housing,
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs**

Statistical Paper No. 9

**Income support customers:
a statistical overview 2010**

Improving the lives of Australians

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FaHCSIA gratefully acknowledges the efforts and contribution of the staff of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) for their assistance in the preparation of this publication.

Administrative Arrangements Orders changes

In October 2004, responsibility for some income support payments (including Newstart Allowance, Parenting Payment, Partner Allowance, Youth Allowance (other) and Disability Support Pension) was transferred to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) and responsibility for Youth Allowance (students) and Austudy Payment was transferred to the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST).

In December 2007, Administrative Arrangement Orders were announced which created a new Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) to replace the former Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA). At the same time the departments formerly known as the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), and the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) were replaced with a new organisation titled the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR).

Revisions

From time to time, data previously published in the Statistical Paper series may be revised. Any such revision will be made available on the FaHCSIA website at <<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/about/publicationsarticles/research/statistical/Pages/default.aspx>>.

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1 Introduction

The purpose of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) is to improve the lives of Australians by creating opportunities for economic and social participation by individuals, families and communities.

FaHCSIA is the Australian Government's principal source of advice on social policy and works in partnership with other government and non-government organisations to manage a diverse range of programs and services designed to support and improve the lives of Australians. FaHCSIA has whole-of-government responsibilities in relation to Indigenous affairs and women.

This statistical overview covers FaHCSIA income support customers, and some income support payments offered through other Australian Government departments. Unless otherwise indicated, the statistics relate to the relevant pay periods closest to 30 June 2010. These periods will generally be within a fortnight either side of that date.

Key sections of the overview are:

- payments for older people, people with disability and those caring for people with disability, severe medical conditions, or those who are frail aged
- student and labour market related payments
- family assistance
- other payments and services
- pensioners paid overseas.

Payment and allowance information, including eligibility criteria, are included within each section. Further information to assist with the interpretation of statistics is available from the FaHCSIA and Centrelink websites:

<<http://www.centrelink.gov.au>>

<<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au>>.

Confidentiality

In some cases, small cells in tables have been suppressed and replaced with 'n.p.' (not published) for the purposes of confidentiality. Where a small cell can be derived by calculation, consequent suppression of the next smallest cell is performed until the small cell data are protected.

Table 1: Summary of income support recipients by payment type, 2000 to 2010

| Payment type | 2000 | 2001 ^(a) | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|---|------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Age Pension (incl. Dept of Veterans' Affairs Age Pensions) ^(b) | 1,738,215 | 1,793,426 | 1,818,205 | 1,861,055 | 1,876,250 | 1,915,036 | 1,922,129 | 1,952,686 | 2,039,305 | 2,117,530 | 2,158,303 |
| Disability Support Pension | 602,280 | 623,926 | 658,915 | 673,334 | 696,742 | 706,782 | 712,163 | 714,156 | 732,367 | 757,118 | 792,581 |
| Sickness Allowance | 10,043 | 11,058 | 9,540 | 8,755 | 8,478 | 8,367 | 7,573 | 7,624 | 7,437 | 6,968 | 6,703 |
| Widow B Pension | 8,892 | 6,456 | 5,130 | 2,986 | 1,879 | 839 | 775 | 732 | 683 | 637 | 600 |
| Wife Pension (partner receives Age Pension) ^(b) | 31,406 | 26,476 | 23,730 | 20,230 | 19,646 | 16,946 | 16,254 | 14,045 | 13,395 | 11,590 | 10,873 |
| Wife Pension (partner receives Disability Support Pension) | 59,935 | 51,225 | 44,238 | 37,880 | 33,183 | 28,144 | 24,627 | 21,228 | 18,555 | 15,847 | 13,782 |
| Carer Payment | 47,550 | 57,190 | 67,260 | 75,937 | 84,082 | 95,446 | 105,058 | 116,614 | 130,657 | 146,870 | 168,913 |
| Austudy Payment | 42,838 | 41,992 | 41,187 | 38,779 | 35,026 | 31,174 | 27,728 | 27,869 | 28,776 | 34,175 | 37,342 |
| ABSTUDY | 42,754 | 44,627 | 46,255 | 47,028 | 46,555 | 45,629 | 35,045 | 34,489 | 33,776 | 34,612 | 36,308 |
| Youth Allowance (full-time students and apprentices) | 309,528 | 308,663 | 313,068 | 304,946 | 297,140 | 285,383 | 271,408 | 264,008 | 256,634 | 278,664 | 297,023 |
| Youth Allowance (other) | 81,984 | 84,542 | 90,339 | 87,486 | 84,665 | 79,573 | 76,276 | 68,698 | 64,907 | 82,907 | 88,459 |
| Newstart Allowance | 552,879 | 541,004 | 554,821 | 512,332 | 483,093 | 453,614 | 437,667 | 417,793 | 399,401 | 520,194 | 553,893 |
| Partner Allowance | 87,416 | 90,416 | 102,330 | 102,811 | 90,936 | 71,615 | 59,800 | 45,988 | 38,456 | 29,369 | 24,054 |
| Mature Age Allowance ^(c) | 41,577 | 38,919 | 40,132 | 41,078 | 32,912 | 20,877 | 11,697 | 5,032 | 754 | 36,086 | 33,886 |
| Widow Allowance | 32,570 | 36,416 | 41,277 | 43,209 | 45,328 | 44,329 | 44,385 | 40,247 | 39,131 | 36,086 | 33,886 |
| Parenting Payment (Single) | 391,393 | 416,661 | 427,846 | 436,958 | 449,312 | 450,811 | 432,958 | 395,495 | 360,633 | 344,096 | 333,512 |
| Parenting Payment (Partnered) | 220,340 | 204,576 | 194,576 | 181,405 | 177,157 | 167,272 | 158,814 | 144,427 | 125,922 | 129,365 | 124,910 |
| Special Benefit | 10,971 | 12,712 | 13,091 | 12,228 | 11,216 | 9,408 | 6,841 | 6,244 | 6,003 | 5,809 | 6,307 |
| DVA service pension and income support supplement | 373,076 | 378,058 | 370,721 | 368,572 | 341,020 | 344,311 | 312,571 | 295,033 | 285,089 | 271,546 | 256,826 |
| Total | 4,685,647 | 4,768,343 | 4,859,661 | 4,857,009 | 4,814,620 | 4,775,556 | 4,663,769 | 4,572,408 | 4,581,881 | 4,823,383 | 4,944,275 |

(a) Break in series for allowances. Previously, customers were counted on a 'paid in the fortnight' basis. From this point, customer numbers now represent the customers 'current' at a point-in-time (excludes suspended recipients).

(b) For some years, Wife Age Pensions paid through the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) are captured in Age Pension figures.

(c) Mature Age Allowance was closed to new claimants in September 2003 and there are no recipients of Mature Age Allowance from 2009.

Note: This is not a complete list of social security income support payments.

Source: Centrelink and DVA administrative data.

2 Payments for older people, people with disability and those caring for people with disability, severe medical conditions or those who are frail aged

2.1 Age Pension

The Age Pension is a non-contributory payment for people satisfying age and residence requirements and whose income and assets are below certain limits. It is designed to ensure that senior Australians have adequate means of support.

For men, the current qualifying age for Age Pension is 65 years. For women, the qualifying age is gradually being increased to 65 years.

Table 2a: Age Pension qualifying age for women born before 1 July 1952

| Period within which a woman was born | Pension age | Date pension age changes |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Prior to 1 July 1935 | 60 years | |
| From 1 July 1935 to 31 December 1936 | 60 years and 6 months | 1 July 1995 |
| From 1 January 1937 to 30 June 1938 | 61 years | 1 July 1997 |
| From 1 July 1938 to 31 December 1939 | 61 years and 6 months | 1 July 1999 |
| From 1 January 1940 to 30 June 1941 | 62 years | 1 July 2001 |
| From 1 July 1941 to 31 December 1942 | 62 years and 6 months | 1 July 2003 |
| From 1 January 1943 to 30 June 1944 | 63 years | 1 July 2005 |
| From 1 July 1944 to 31 December 1945 | 63 years and 6 months | 1 July 2007 |
| From 1 January 1946 to 30 June 1947 | 64 years | 1 July 2009 |
| From 1 July 1947 to 31 December 1948 | 64 years and 6 months | 1 July 2011 |
| From 1 January 1949 to 30 June 1952 | 65 years | 1 July 2013 |

For both men and women born on or after 1 July 1952, the pension qualifying age is progressively increasing from 65 years to 67 years, starting on 1 July 2017, and will reach 67 years in 2023. This change is part of the *Secure and Sustainable Pensions* reform package. People born before 1 July 1952 will not be affected.

Table 2b: Age Pension qualifying age for people born on or after 1 July 1952

| Period within which a person was born | Pension age | Date pension age changes |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| From 1 July 1952 to 31 December 1953 | 65 years and 6 months | 1 July 2017 |
| From 1 January 1954 to 30 June 1955 | 66 years | 1 July 2019 |
| From 1 July 1955 to 31 December 1956 | 66 years and 6 months | 1 July 2021 |
| From 1 January 1957 | 67 years | 1 July 2023 |

Other Age Pension eligibility requirements specify that the person claiming must:

- have been an Australian resident for at least 10 years, with at least five of these years in one continuous period, or
- have a qualifying residence exemption (arrived as a refugee or under special humanitarian program), or
- be a woman widowed in Australia, when both she and her late partner were Australian residents, and who has at least two years' residence immediately prior to claiming, or
- be a person in receipt of Widow B Pension, Widow Allowance or Partner Allowance immediately before reaching Age Pension age.

Special rules apply to residence in countries with which Australia has an International Social Security Agreement.

The Age Pension is also subject to income and assets tests.

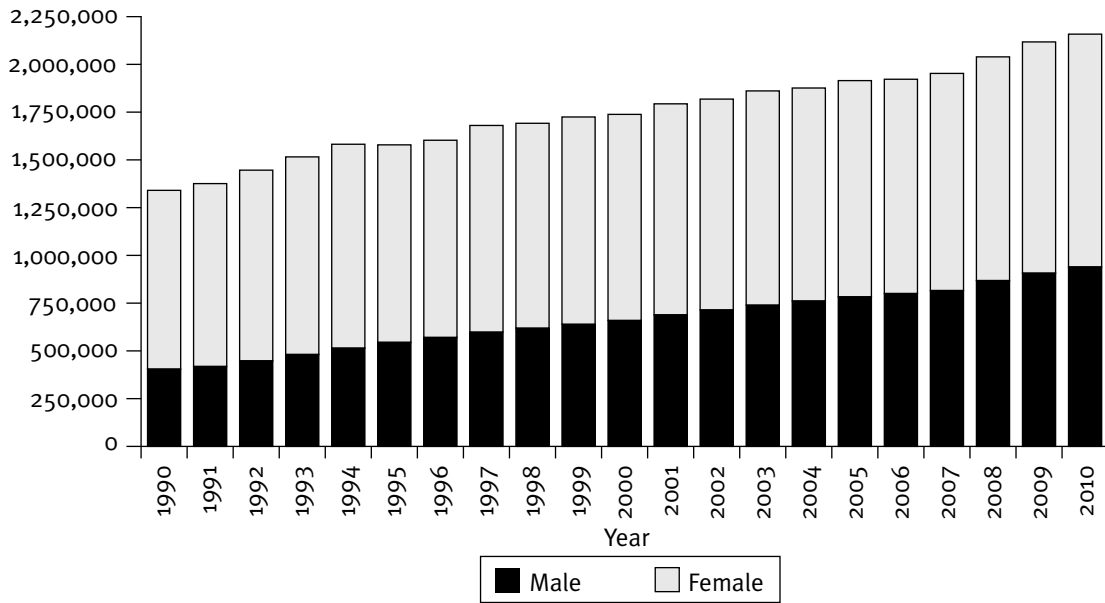
Table 3: Age Pension customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Male | | Female | | Total |
|------------|---------|------|-----------|------|-----------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 404,486 | 30.2 | 935,982 | 69.8 | 1,340,468 |
| 1991 | 418,383 | 30.4 | 957,466 | 69.6 | 1,375,849 |
| 1992 | 447,888 | 31.0 | 998,280 | 69.0 | 1,446,168 |
| 1993 | 481,196 | 31.7 | 1,034,486 | 68.3 | 1,515,682 |
| 1994 | 514,217 | 32.5 | 1,067,657 | 67.5 | 1,581,874 |
| 1995 | 544,571 | 34.5 | 1,034,127 | 65.5 | 1,578,698 |
| 1996 | 570,328 | 35.6 | 1,032,506 | 64.4 | 1,602,834 |
| 1997 | 597,859 | 35.6 | 1,082,355 | 64.4 | 1,680,214 |
| 1998 | 618,607 | 36.6 | 1,072,987 | 63.4 | 1,691,594 |
| 1999 | 639,008 | 37.1 | 1,085,581 | 62.9 | 1,724,589 |
| 2000 | 659,188 | 37.9 | 1,079,027 | 62.1 | 1,738,215 |
| 2001 | 688,563 | 38.4 | 1,104,863 | 61.6 | 1,793,426 |
| 2002 | 714,324 | 39.3 | 1,103,881 | 60.7 | 1,818,205 |
| 2003 | 739,187 | 39.7 | 1,121,868 | 60.3 | 1,861,055 |
| 2004 | 761,025 | 40.6 | 1,115,225 | 59.4 | 1,876,250 |
| 2005 | 782,977 | 40.9 | 1,132,059 | 59.1 | 1,915,036 |
| 2006 | 800,310 | 41.6 | 1,121,819 | 58.4 | 1,922,129 |
| 2007 | 815,912 | 41.8 | 1,136,774 | 58.2 | 1,952,686 |
| 2008 | 868,179 | 42.6 | 1,171,126 | 57.4 | 2,039,305 |
| 2009 | 906,769 | 42.8 | 1,210,761 | 57.2 | 2,117,530 |
| 2010 | 939,442 | 43.5 | 1,218,861 | 56.5 | 2,158,303 |

Note: Includes Age Pension payments administered by Centrelink and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

Source: Centrelink and DVA administrative data.

Figure 1: Age Pension customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010



Note: Includes Age Pension payments administered by Centrelink and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).
 Source: Centrelink and DVA administrative data.

Table 4: Age Pension customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---|----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 936,681 | 43.5 | 1,216,494 | 56.5 | 2,153,175 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 65 | 0 | 0.0 | 53,688 | 4.4 | 53,688 | 2.5 |
| 65–69 | 257,147 | 27.5 | 308,324 | 25.3 | 565,471 | 26.3 |
| 70–74 | 260,004 | 27.8 | 290,207 | 23.9 | 550,211 | 25.6 |
| 75–79 | 207,386 | 22.1 | 235,206 | 19.3 | 442,592 | 20.6 |
| 80–84 | 147,431 | 15.7 | 170,987 | 14.1 | 318,418 | 14.8 |
| 85–89 | 47,103 | 5.0 | 98,653 | 8.1 | 145,756 | 6.8 |
| 90–94 | 13,983 | 1.5 | 43,859 | 3.6 | 57,842 | 2.7 |
| 95–99 | 3,341 | 0.4 | 13,708 | 1.1 | 17,049 | 0.8 |
| 100 and over | 286 | 0.0 | 1,862 | 0.2 | 2,148 | 0.1 |
| Marital status ^(a) | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 666,496 | 71.2 | 562,311 | 46.2 | 1,228,807 | 57.1 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 270,185 | 28.8 | 654,183 | 53.8 | 924,368 | 42.9 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 541,359 | 57.8 | 761,451 | 62.6 | 1,302,810 | 60.5 |
| United Kingdom | 108,927 | 11.6 | 130,426 | 10.7 | 239,353 | 11.1 |
| Italy | 56,058 | 6.0 | 54,552 | 4.5 | 110,610 | 5.1 |
| Greece | 30,381 | 3.2 | 34,356 | 2.8 | 64,737 | 3.0 |
| Germany | 15,546 | 1.7 | 18,842 | 1.5 | 34,388 | 1.6 |
| Other | 184,410 | 19.7 | 216,867 | 17.8 | 401,277 | 18.6 |
| Home ownership | | | | | | |
| Home owner | 695,922 | 74.3 | 840,729 | 69.1 | 1,536,651 | 71.4 |
| Non-home owner | 240,759 | 25.7 | 375,765 | 30.9 | 616,524 | 28.6 |
| Payment status | | | | | | |
| Current—automatically assessed | | | | | | |
| Maximum rate | 542,099 | 57.9 | 746,778 | 61.4 | 1,288,877 | 59.9 |
| Reduced rate | 393,018 | 42.0 | 468,290 | 38.5 | 861,308 | 40.0 |
| Total | 935,117 | 99.8 | 1,215,068 | 99.9 | 2,150,185 | 99.9 |
| Current—manually assessed | 408 | 0.0 | 480 | 0.0 | 888 | 0.0 |
| Current total | 935,525 | 99.9 | 1,215,548 | 99.9 | 2,151,073 | 99.9 |
| Suspended | 1,156 | 0.1 | 946 | 0.1 | 2,102 | 0.1 |
| Paid under income test ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Single | 267,549 | 28.6 | 633,730 | 52.1 | 901,279 | 41.9 |
| Partnered | 558,036 | 59.6 | 464,182 | 38.2 | 1,022,218 | 47.5 |
| Home owner paid under assets test | | | | | | |
| Single | 17,164 | 1.8 | 31,670 | 2.6 | 48,834 | 2.3 |
| Partnered | 87,814 | 9.4 | 78,408 | 6.4 | 166,222 | 7.7 |
| Non-home owner paid under assets test | | | | | | |
| Single | 3,077 | 0.3 | 5,862 | 0.5 | 8,939 | 0.4 |
| Partnered | 2,070 | 0.2 | 1,858 | 0.2 | 3,928 | 0.2 |
| Income/assets test not coded ^(c) | 971 | 0.1 | 784 | 0.1 | 1,755 | 0.1 |

(a) Marital status figures will differ from figures on single and partnered pension rate as partnered pensioners may be eligible for a single rate of pension in some limited circumstances. (Social security law provides that where a couple is married or living together their social security pension payment is based on the partnered rate of payment. However, in special circumstances, a partnered person can be treated as single for social security purposes, for example, a member of a couple separated by illness or receiving respite care, or where a member of a couple is in gaol.)

(b) All pensioners paid a full rate of pension are classified as income tested and included in the 'paid under income test' category.

(c) At least one of the variables required to determine the customer's income or assets test category was not coded (that is, partnership category, home ownership type or whether income or assets tested).

Note: Table excludes 5,128 Age Pension payments administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 5: Age Pension customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 303,149 | 43.1 | 400,950 | 56.9 | 704,099 | 32.7 |
| Victoria | 229,957 | 42.6 | 309,505 | 57.4 | 539,462 | 25.1 |
| Queensland | 170,971 | 44.2 | 216,221 | 55.8 | 387,192 | 18.0 |
| Western Australia | 78,352 | 43.0 | 103,955 | 57.0 | 182,307 | 8.5 |
| South Australia | 80,436 | 42.4 | 109,356 | 57.6 | 189,792 | 8.8 |
| Tasmania | 26,219 | 44.1 | 33,296 | 55.9 | 59,515 | 2.8 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 8,213 | 40.2 | 12,242 | 59.8 | 20,455 | 0.9 |
| Northern Territory | 3,558 | 48.1 | 3,845 | 51.9 | 7,403 | 0.3 |
| Other ^(a) | 35,826 | 56.9 | 27,124 | 43.1 | 62,950 | 2.9 |
| Total | 936,681 | 43.5 | 1,216,494 | 56.5 | 2,153,175 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes all overseas pensioners, regardless of their length of stay overseas.

Note: Table excludes 5,128 Age Pension payments administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

2.2 Disability Support Pension

Disability Support Pension is intended to ensure that people who have an incapacity to work because of impairment have an adequate level of income.

As at June 2010, to be eligible for Disability Support Pension a person must be permanently blind or have a permanent physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment of at least 20 points under the impairment tables. An 'impairment' is defined as permanent under the *Social Security Act 1991* if it is fully diagnosed, treated and stabilised and likely to last for at least two years without significant functional improvement. The person must be unable to work for at least 15 hours per week at or above the relevant minimum wage for the next two years or be retrained for such work within the next two years because of that impairment.

To qualify for Disability Support Pension, a person must be aged 16 years or over but have not reached Age Pension age at the time of claiming. If already receiving Disability Support Pension, a person can continue to be paid Disability Support Pension after reaching Age Pension age. The person must also be an Australian resident, living in Australia at the time they claim, and have 10 years' qualifying residence.

There is no period of residence qualification required if the inability to work or permanent blindness occurs while the person is an Australian resident.

Disability Support Pension is subject to income and assets tests.

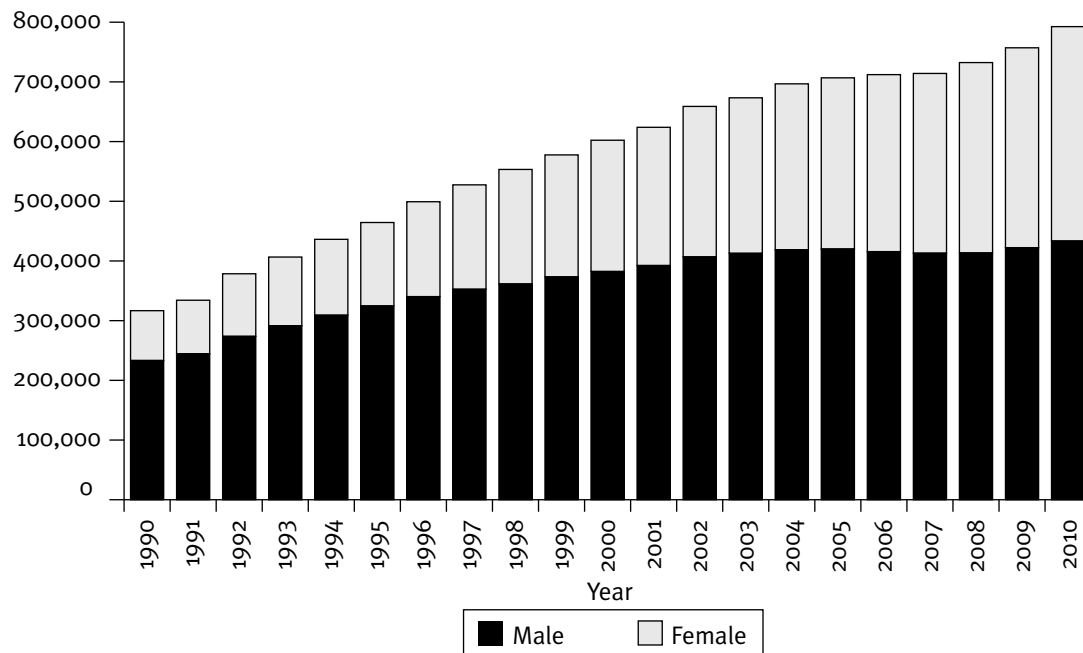
Table 6: Disability Support Pension customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Male | | Female | | Total |
|---------------------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 233,251 | 73.6 | 83,462 | 26.4 | 316,713 |
| 1991 ^(a) | 244,699 | 73.2 | 89,535 | 26.8 | 334,234 |
| 1992 | 273,697 | 72.3 | 104,861 | 27.7 | 378,558 |
| 1993 | 291,471 | 71.7 | 115,101 | 28.3 | 406,572 |
| 1994 | 309,123 | 70.9 | 127,111 | 29.1 | 436,234 |
| 1995 | 324,672 | 69.9 | 139,758 | 30.1 | 464,430 |
| 1996 | 340,256 | 68.2 | 158,979 | 31.8 | 499,235 |
| 1997 | 352,607 | 66.8 | 174,907 | 33.2 | 527,514 |
| 1998 | 361,539 | 65.3 | 191,797 | 34.7 | 553,336 |
| 1999 | 373,340 | 64.6 | 204,342 | 35.4 | 577,682 |
| 2000 | 382,351 | 63.5 | 219,929 | 36.5 | 602,280 |
| 2001 | 392,354 | 62.9 | 231,572 | 37.1 | 623,926 |
| 2002 | 406,893 | 61.8 | 252,022 | 38.2 | 658,915 |
| 2003 | 412,777 | 61.3 | 260,557 | 38.7 | 673,334 |
| 2004 | 418,829 | 60.1 | 277,913 | 39.9 | 696,742 |
| 2005 | 420,073 | 59.4 | 286,709 | 40.6 | 706,782 |
| 2006 | 415,618 | 58.4 | 296,545 | 41.6 | 712,163 |
| 2007 | 413,033 | 57.8 | 301,123 | 42.2 | 714,156 |
| 2008 | 413,484 | 56.5 | 318,883 | 43.5 | 732,367 |
| 2009 | 422,290 | 55.8 | 334,828 | 44.2 | 757,118 |
| 2010 | 433,456 | 54.7 | 359,125 | 45.3 | 792,581 |

(a) Disability Support Pension replaced Invalid Pension, Sheltered Employment Allowance and Rehabilitation Allowance from November 1991 as part of the Disability Reform Package.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 2: Disability Support Pension customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010



Note: Disability Support Pension replaced Invalid Pension, Sheltered Employment Allowance and Rehabilitation Allowance from November 1991 as part of the Disability Reform Package.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 7: Disability Support Pension customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 433,456 | 54.7 | 359,125 | 45.3 | 792,581 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 20 | 12,263 | 2.8 | 7,551 | 2.1 | 19,814 | 2.5 |
| 20–29 | 38,877 | 9.0 | 28,055 | 7.8 | 66,932 | 8.4 |
| 30–39 | 56,050 | 12.9 | 40,812 | 11.4 | 96,862 | 12.2 |
| 40–49 | 89,849 | 20.7 | 74,032 | 20.6 | 163,881 | 20.7 |
| 50–59 | 127,172 | 29.3 | 124,147 | 34.6 | 251,319 | 31.7 |
| 60–64 | 97,946 | 22.6 | 79,313 | 22.1 | 177,259 | 22.4 |
| 65 and over | 11,299 | 2.6 | 5,215 | 1.5 | 16,514 | 2.1 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 140,053 | 32.3 | 112,589 | 31.4 | 252,642 | 31.9 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 293,403 | 67.7 | 246,536 | 68.6 | 539,939 | 68.1 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 327,671 | 75.6 | 263,994 | 73.5 | 591,665 | 74.7 |
| United Kingdom/Ireland/Eire | 22,696 | 5.2 | 18,326 | 5.1 | 41,022 | 5.2 |
| New Zealand | 7,522 | 1.7 | 6,438 | 1.8 | 13,960 | 1.8 |
| Lebanon | 6,340 | 1.5 | 5,175 | 1.4 | 11,515 | 1.5 |
| Yugoslavia | 5,376 | 1.2 | 4,568 | 1.3 | 9,944 | 1.3 |
| Other | 63,851 | 14.7 | 60,624 | 16.9 | 124,475 | 15.7 |
| Home ownership | | | | | | |
| Home owner | 125,399 | 28.9 | 122,104 | 34.0 | 247,503 | 31.2 |
| Non-home owner | 308,057 | 71.1 | 237,021 | 66.0 | 545,078 | 68.8 |
| Paid under income test | | | | | | |
| Single | 291,790 | 67.3 | 245,019 | 68.2 | 536,809 | 67.7 |
| Partnered | 136,399 | 31.5 | 108,842 | 30.3 | 245,241 | 30.9 |
| Home owner paid under assets test | | | | | | |
| Single | 1,263 | 0.3 | 1,282 | 0.4 | 2,545 | 0.3 |
| Partnered | 3,527 | 0.8 | 3,633 | 1.0 | 7,160 | 0.9 |
| Non-home owner paid under assets test | | | | | | |
| Single | 350 | 0.1 | 235 | 0.1 | 585 | 0.1 |
| Partnered | 127 | 0.0 | 114 | 0.0 | 241 | 0.0 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <1 year | 27,777 | 6.4 | 19,412 | 5.4 | 47,189 | 6.0 |
| 1 to <2 years | 25,646 | 5.9 | 20,055 | 5.6 | 45,701 | 5.8 |
| 2 to <3 years | 21,547 | 5.0 | 17,082 | 4.8 | 38,629 | 4.9 |
| 3 to <4 years | 19,324 | 4.5 | 15,411 | 4.3 | 34,735 | 4.4 |
| 4 to <5 years | 18,805 | 4.3 | 14,541 | 4.0 | 33,346 | 4.2 |
| 5 to <10 years | 95,755 | 22.1 | 76,214 | 21.2 | 171,969 | 21.7 |
| 10 years and over | 224,602 | 51.8 | 196,410 | 54.7 | 421,012 | 53.1 |
| Mean (weeks) | 609.9 | | 627.4 | | 617.9 | |
| Median (weeks) | 557.0 | | 591.0 | | 573.0 | |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date (that is, duration may take into account periods on another income support payment before Disability Support Pension is granted).

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 8: Disability Support Pension customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 141,504 | 55.2 | 114,661 | 44.8 | 256,165 | 32.3 |
| Victoria | 101,194 | 52.7 | 90,979 | 47.3 | 192,173 | 24.2 |
| Queensland | 85,537 | 56.0 | 67,314 | 44.0 | 152,851 | 19.3 |
| Western Australia | 33,817 | 54.1 | 28,694 | 45.9 | 62,511 | 7.9 |
| South Australia | 40,563 | 54.5 | 33,885 | 45.5 | 74,448 | 9.4 |
| Tasmania | 14,978 | 55.1 | 12,199 | 44.9 | 27,177 | 3.4 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 4,005 | 51.6 | 3,750 | 48.4 | 7,755 | 1.0 |
| Northern Territory | 5,441 | 56.7 | 4,163 | 43.3 | 9,604 | 1.2 |
| Other ^(a) | 6,417 | 64.8 | 3,480 | 35.2 | 9,897 | 1.2 |
| Total | 433,456 | 54.7 | 359,125 | 45.3 | 792,581 | 100.0 |

(a) State/territory not coded.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

2.3 Sickness Allowance

Sickness Allowance is a payment that provides assistance for people who are employed or studying full-time and who are temporarily unable to work or study due to a medical condition and have a job or full-time study to which they can return.

To qualify for Sickness Allowance, a person must be 21 years of age or over but have not reached Age Pension age.

Sickness Allowance may be paid for up to 13 weeks when a customer is temporarily absent from Australia to seek medical treatment of a kind that is not available in Australia.

Sickness Allowance is subject to residence requirements and income and assets tests.

Table 9: Sickness Allowance customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June ^(a) | Male | | Female | | Total |
|---------------------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 56,674 | 71.6 | 22,521 | 28.4 | 79,195 |
| 1991 ^(b) | 50,991 | 71.4 | 20,408 | 28.6 | 71,399 |
| 1992 | 30,844 | 69.8 | 13,328 | 30.2 | 44,172 |
| 1993 | 31,802 | 68.3 | 14,777 | 31.7 | 46,579 |
| 1994 | 31,274 | 66.4 | 15,858 | 33.6 | 47,132 |
| 1995 | 31,131 | 65.8 | 16,180 | 34.2 | 47,311 |
| 1996 ^(c) | 22,254 | 67.0 | 10,961 | 33.0 | 33,215 |
| 1997 | 10,721 | 68.0 | 5,038 | 32.0 | 15,759 |
| 1998 ^(d) | 11,166 | 68.6 | 5,119 | 31.4 | 16,285 |
| 1999 | 7,799 | 69.8 | 3,382 | 30.2 | 11,181 |
| 2000 | 6,990 | 69.6 | 3,053 | 30.4 | 10,043 |
| 2001 | 7,598 | 68.7 | 3,460 | 31.3 | 11,058 |
| 2002 | 6,414 | 67.2 | 3,126 | 32.8 | 9,540 |
| 2003 | 5,973 | 68.2 | 2,782 | 31.8 | 8,755 |
| 2004 | 5,613 | 66.2 | 2,865 | 33.8 | 8,478 |
| 2005 | 5,671 | 67.8 | 2,696 | 32.2 | 8,367 |
| 2006 | 5,011 | 66.2 | 2,562 | 33.8 | 7,573 |
| 2007 | 4,877 | 64.0 | 2,747 | 36.0 | 7,624 |
| 2008 | 4,523 | 60.8 | 2,914 | 39.2 | 7,437 |
| 2009 | 4,182 | 60.0 | 2,786 | 40.0 | 6,968 |
| 2010 | 3,928 | 58.6 | 2,775 | 41.4 | 6,703 |

(a) Prior to 1998, these figures are an average of the number of weekly payments during June. Breakdown by sex for this table was estimated based on the proportion of males and females receiving this allowance from a point-in-time in the relevant quarter.

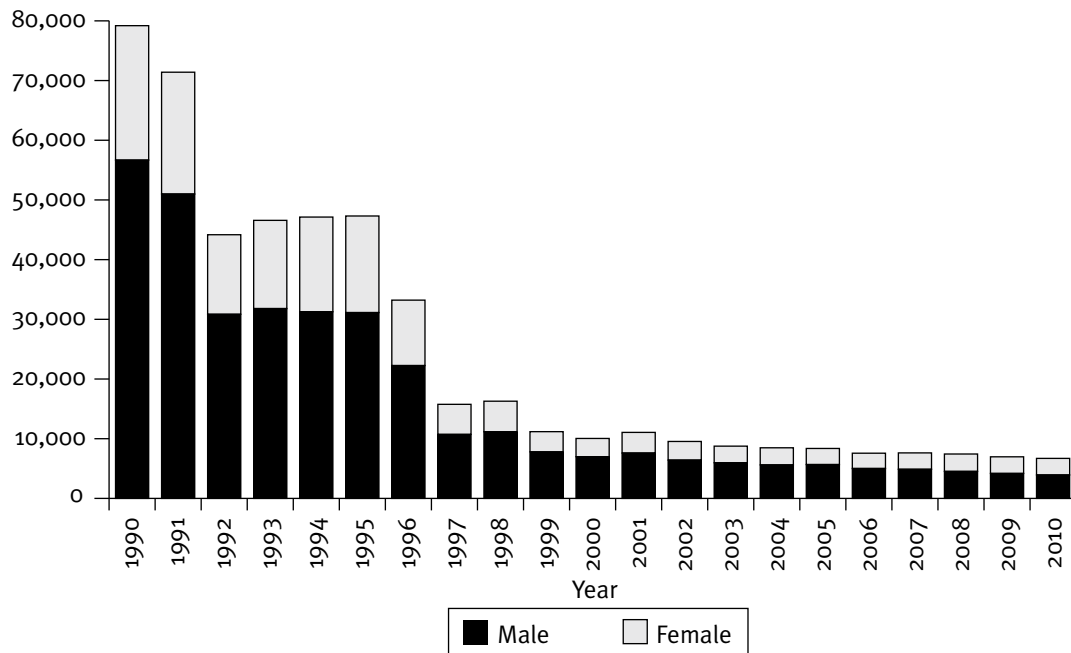
(b) Sickness Allowance replaced Sickness Benefit from November 1991 as part of the Disability Reform Package. This resulted in some customers transferring to the Disability Support Pension.

(c) From March 1996, unemployed people who became ill did not transfer to Sickness Allowance after 13 weeks. They continued to be paid Youth Training Allowance, Job Search Allowance or Newstart Allowance, subject to Sickness Allowance conditions.

(d) Break in series. Data from 1998 onward are derived from a point-in-time in June of the relevant year.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Figure 3: Sickness Allowance customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010



Notes: Prior to 1998, the table figures are an average of the number of weekly payments during June. Breakdown by sex for this table was estimated based on the proportion of males and females receiving this allowance from a point-in-time in the relevant quarter. Data from 1998 onward are derived from a point-in-time in June of the relevant year. Sickness Allowance replaced Sickness Benefit from November 1991 as part of the Disability Reform Package. This resulted in some customers transferring to the Disability Support Pension. From March 1996, unemployed people who became ill did not transfer to Sickness Allowance after 13 weeks. They continued to be paid Youth Training Allowance, Job Search Allowance or Newstart Allowance, subject to Sickness Allowance conditions.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 10: Sickness Allowance customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 3,928 | 58.6 | 2,775 | 41.4 | 6,703 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 21–24 | 431 | 11.0 | 209 | 7.5 | 640 | 9.5 |
| 25–34 | 915 | 23.3 | 462 | 16.6 | 1,377 | 20.5 |
| 35–44 | 912 | 23.2 | 640 | 23.1 | 1,552 | 23.2 |
| 45–54 | 919 | 23.4 | 931 | 33.5 | 1,850 | 27.6 |
| 55–59 | 401 | 10.2 | 340 | 12.3 | 741 | 11.1 |
| 60–64 | 350 | 8.9 | 193 | 7.0 | 543 | 8.1 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 1,426 | 36.3 | 558 | 20.1 | 1,984 | 29.6 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 2,502 | 63.7 | 2,217 | 79.9 | 4,719 | 70.4 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 3,086 | 78.6 | 2,138 | 77.0 | 5,224 | 77.9 |
| United Kingdom | 186 | 4.7 | 142 | 5.1 | 328 | 4.9 |
| New Zealand | 101 | 2.6 | 87 | 3.1 | 188 | 2.8 |
| Philippines | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 65 | 1.0 |
| Vietnam | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 65 | 1.0 |
| Other | 500 | 12.7 | 333 | 12.0 | 833 | 12.4 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <1 year—total | 3,309 | 84.2 | 2,275 | 82.0 | 5,584 | 83.3 |
| <7 weeks | 765 | 19.5 | 492 | 17.7 | 1,257 | 18.8 |
| 7 weeks to <3 months | 933 | 23.8 | 552 | 19.9 | 1,485 | 22.2 |
| 3 to <6 months | 919 | 23.4 | 684 | 24.6 | 1,603 | 23.9 |
| 6 months to <1 year | 692 | 17.6 | 547 | 19.7 | 1,239 | 18.5 |
| 1 year and longer—total | 619 | 15.8 | 500 | 18.0 | 1,119 | 16.7 |
| 1 to <2 years | 467 | 11.9 | 344 | 12.4 | 811 | 12.1 |
| 2 to <3 years | 86 | 2.2 | 68 | 2.5 | 154 | 2.3 |
| 3 years and over | 66 | 1.7 | 88 | 3.2 | 154 | 2.3 |
| Mean (weeks) | 30.5 | | 40.3 | | 34.6 | |
| Median (weeks) | 16.0 | | 18.0 | | 17.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 3,720 | 94.7 | 2,414 | 87.0 | 6,134 | 91.5 |
| 0.01 and above | 208 | 5.3 | 361 | 13.0 | 569 | 8.5 |

(a) Duration is measured from the allowance start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Notes: The table figures exclude 169 people who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. 'n.p.' = not published. See 'Confidentiality' on page 1.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 11: Sickness Allowance customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 1,062 | 60.1 | 705 | 39.9 | 1,767 | 26.4 |
| Victoria | 1,134 | 57.8 | 828 | 42.2 | 1,962 | 29.3 |
| Queensland | 936 | 59.5 | 637 | 40.5 | 1,573 | 23.5 |
| Western Australia | 278 | 55.9 | 219 | 44.1 | 497 | 7.4 |
| South Australia | 366 | 60.4 | 240 | 39.6 | 606 | 9.0 |
| Tasmania | 85 | 47.8 | 93 | 52.2 | 178 | 2.7 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 33 | 47.1 | 37 | 52.9 | 70 | 1.0 |
| Northern Territory | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 41 | 0.6 |
| Other ^(a) | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 9 | 0.1 |
| Total | 3,928 | 58.6 | 2,775 | 41.4 | 6,703 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Notes: The table figures exclude 169 people who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income.

'n.p.'=not published. See 'Confidentiality' on page 1.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

2.4 Mobility Allowance

The purpose of Mobility Allowance is to ensure that people with disability are encouraged to gain, retain or extend their independence. It assists with transport costs for people with disability who cannot use public transport without assistance.

To qualify for Mobility Allowance, a person must be aged 16 years or over, be undertaking an approved activity and be required to travel to and from their home for the purpose of undertaking that activity. A person is considered to be undertaking an approved activity if they are:

- engaged in paid or voluntary work or vocational training or any combination of these activities for at least 32 hours every four weeks, or
- undertaking job search activities under an agreement between Centrelink and a service provider funded by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), or
- receiving Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance or Austudy Payment and meet the activity or study tests for these payments, or
- participating in a Disability Employment Services—Disability Management Service.

Mobility Allowance is not payable if a person has a car under the Vehicle Assistance Scheme from the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

A person must be an Australian resident and be in Australia when claiming and receiving Mobility Allowance. Reviews of Mobility Allowance are conducted annually. Customers with a temporary medical condition undergo a medical review as part of their annual review.

Mobility Allowance is not an income or assets tested payment; however, there are residence requirements.

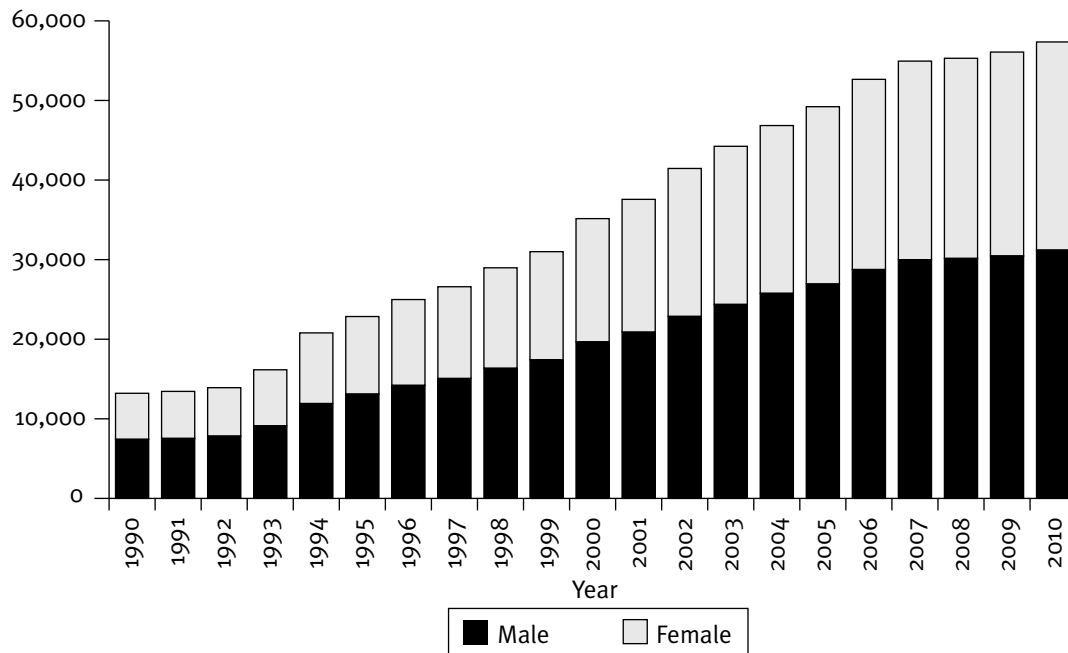
Table 12: Mobility Allowance customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Male | | Female | | Total |
|---------------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 7,422 | 56.2 | 5,785 | 43.8 | 13,207 |
| 1991 | 7,535 | 56.0 | 5,909 | 44.0 | 13,444 |
| 1992 | 7,826 | 56.3 | 6,085 | 43.7 | 13,911 |
| 1993 ^(a) | 9,118 | 56.4 | 7,042 | 43.6 | 16,160 |
| 1994 | 11,916 | 57.3 | 8,879 | 42.7 | 20,795 |
| 1995 | 13,106 | 57.4 | 9,745 | 42.6 | 22,851 |
| 1996 | 14,200 | 56.8 | 10,785 | 43.2 | 24,985 |
| 1997 | 15,066 | 56.6 | 11,529 | 43.4 | 26,595 |
| 1998 | 16,346 | 56.4 | 12,629 | 43.6 | 28,975 |
| 1999 | 17,415 | 56.2 | 13,586 | 43.8 | 31,001 |
| 2000 | 19,673 | 56.0 | 15,481 | 44.0 | 35,154 |
| 2001 | 20,887 | 55.6 | 16,687 | 44.4 | 37,574 |
| 2002 | 22,863 | 55.2 | 18,593 | 44.8 | 41,456 |
| 2003 | 24,370 | 55.1 | 19,869 | 44.9 | 44,239 |
| 2004 | 25,763 | 55.0 | 21,084 | 45.0 | 46,847 |
| 2005 | 26,940 | 54.7 | 22,275 | 45.3 | 49,215 |
| 2006 | 28,755 | 54.6 | 23,897 | 45.4 | 52,652 |
| 2007 | 29,995 | 54.6 | 24,947 | 45.4 | 54,942 |
| 2008 | 30,151 | 54.5 | 25,148 | 45.5 | 55,299 |
| 2009 | 30,462 | 54.3 | 25,618 | 45.7 | 56,080 |
| 2010 | 31,199 | 54.4 | 26,150 | 45.6 | 57,349 |

(a) Eligibility requirements were eased in March 1993 to include those undertaking eight hours a week or more of voluntary work, and to include Disability Support pensioners and Sickness Allowance recipients who have job search incorporated into their activity plan.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Figure 4: Mobility Allowance customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010



Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 13: Mobility Allowance customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 9,157 | 55.4 | 7,366 | 44.6 | 16,523 | 28.8 |
| Victoria | 8,434 | 54.0 | 7,196 | 46.0 | 15,630 | 27.3 |
| Queensland | 6,246 | 56.4 | 4,823 | 43.6 | 11,069 | 19.3 |
| Western Australia | 2,494 | 55.0 | 2,039 | 45.0 | 4,533 | 7.9 |
| South Australia | 3,423 | 50.2 | 3,399 | 49.8 | 6,822 | 11.9 |
| Tasmania | 1,007 | 52.2 | 922 | 47.8 | 1,929 | 3.4 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 287 | 52.2 | 263 | 47.8 | 550 | 1.0 |
| Northern Territory | 108 | 48.9 | 113 | 51.1 | 221 | 0.4 |
| Other ^(a) | 43 | 59.7 | 29 | 40.3 | 72 | 0.1 |
| Total | 31,199 | 54.4 | 26,150 | 45.6 | 57,349 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

2.5 Wife Pension

Wife Pension is gradually being phased out. No new grants have been made from 1 July 1995. However, women who received a Wife Pension at that date can continue to receive this payment. To qualify for Wife Pension, a woman must be the wife of an Age or Disability Support pensioner and not receiving a pension in her own right.

Partners of new applicants for Age or Disability Support Pensions need to test their own eligibility for payments such as Age Pension, Parenting Payment, Carer Payment, Disability Support Pension or Newstart Allowance.

Wife Pension is subject to income and assets tests. Residence requirements may apply.

Table 14: Wife Pension customers by partner pension type, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Age Pension ^(a) | | Disability Support Pension | | Rehabilitation Allowance ^(b) | | Sheltered Employment Allowance ^(c) | | Total ^(d) |
|------------|----------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|---|-----|---|-----|----------------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 23,766 | 20.5 | 91,068 | 78.7 | 583 | 0.5 | 278 | 0.2 | 115,695 |
| 1991 | 26,537 | 21.8 | 94,006 | 77.1 | 1,128 | 0.9 | 262 | 0.2 | 121,933 |
| 1992 | 30,902 | 23.2 | 101,731 | 76.4 | 561 | 0.4 | | | 133,194 |
| 1993 | 33,520 | 23.6 | 108,327 | 76.3 | 166 | 0.1 | | | 142,013 |
| 1994 | 36,539 | 23.9 | 116,036 | 76.0 | 45 | 0.0 | | | 152,620 |
| 1995 | 39,611 | 24.5 | 121,839 | 75.5 | 7 | 0.0 | | | 161,457 |
| 1996 | 41,125 | 27.6 | 107,803 | 72.4 | 3 | 0.0 | | | 148,931 |
| 1997 | 36,577 | 28.6 | 91,307 | 71.4 | 1 | 0.0 | | | 127,885 |
| 1998 | 36,233 | 31.2 | 79,892 | 68.8 | | | | | 116,125 |
| 1999 | 32,196 | 32.0 | 68,523 | 68.0 | | | | | 100,719 |
| 2000 | 31,406 | 34.4 | 59,935 | 65.6 | | | | | 91,341 |
| 2001 | 26,476 | 34.1 | 51,225 | 65.9 | | | | | 77,701 |
| 2002 | 23,730 | 34.9 | 44,238 | 65.1 | | | | | 67,968 |
| 2003 | 20,230 | 34.8 | 37,880 | 65.2 | | | | | 58,110 |
| 2004 | 19,646 | 37.2 | 33,183 | 62.8 | | | | | 52,829 |
| 2005 | 16,946 | 37.6 | 28,144 | 62.4 | | | | | 45,090 |
| 2006 | 16,254 | 39.8 | 24,627 | 60.2 | | | | | 40,881 |
| 2007 | 14,045 | 39.8 | 21,228 | 60.2 | | | | | 35,273 |
| 2008 | 13,395 | 41.9 | 18,555 | 58.1 | | | | | 31,950 |
| 2009 | 11,590 | 42.2 | 15,847 | 57.8 | | | | | 27,437 |
| 2010 | 10,873 | 44.1 | 13,782 | 55.9 | | | | | 24,655 |

(a) Includes Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). For some years, Wife (Age) Pensions paid through DVA are captured in Age Pension figures.

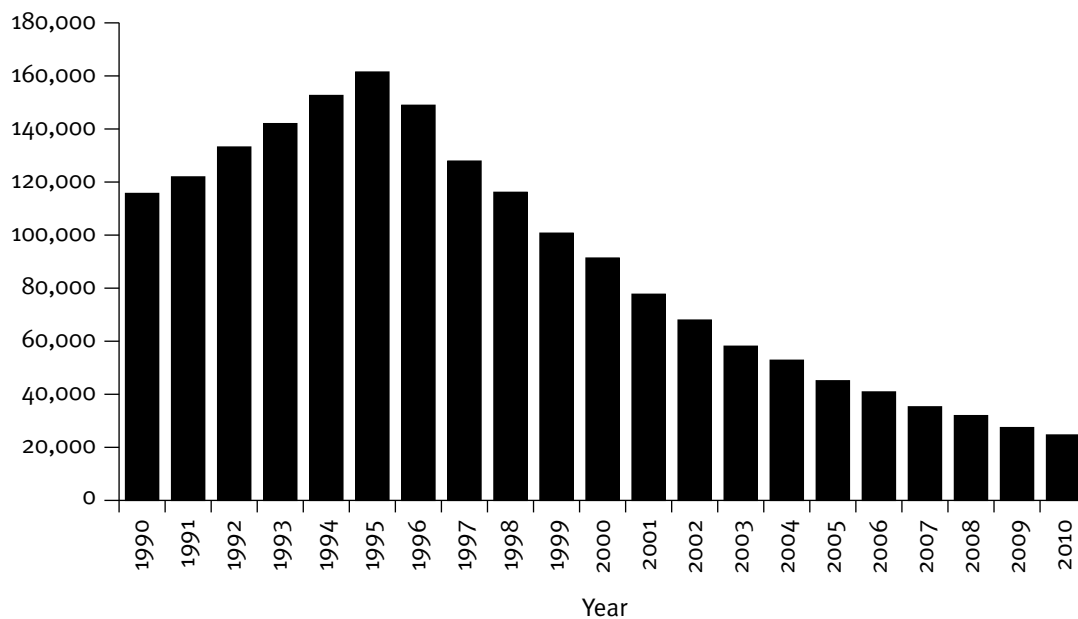
(b) Rehabilitation Allowance began in March 1983 and was phased out in November 1991 as part of the Disability Reform Package. Rehabilitation Allowance recipients continue on the payment until their program is completed.

(c) Sheltered Employment Allowance customers were transferred to Disability Support Pension in November 1991.

(d) Excludes Wife Disability Wage Supplement. From 1 January 1998, there were no further grants of Disability Wage Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 5: Wife Pension customers, June 1990 to June 2010



Note: Includes Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). For some years, Wife (Age) Pensions paid through DVA are captured in Age Pension figures. Excludes Wife Disability Wage Supplement. From 1 January 1998, there were no further grants of Disability Wage Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 15: Wife Pension customers, characteristics by pension type, June 2010

| Characteristics | Age Pension ^(a) | | Disability Support Pension | | Total ^(b) | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 10,834 | 44.0 | 13,782 | 56.0 | 24,616 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 40 | 15 | 0.1 | 215 | 1.6 | 230 | 0.9 |
| 40–49 | 368 | 3.4 | 2,458 | 17.8 | 2,826 | 11.5 |
| 50–59 | 3,486 | 32.2 | 7,667 | 55.6 | 11,153 | 45.3 |
| 60–64 | 6,304 | 58.2 | 3,329 | 24.2 | 9,633 | 39.1 |
| 65 and over | 661 | 6.1 | 113 | 0.8 | 774 | 3.1 |
| Marital status ^(c) | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 10,751 | 99.2 | 13,742 | 99.7 | 24,493 | 99.5 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 83 | 0.8 | 40 | 0.3 | 123 | 0.5 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 4,826 | 44.5 | 8,760 | 63.6 | 13,586 | 55.2 |
| Lebanon | 623 | 5.8 | 692 | 5.0 | 1,315 | 5.3 |
| United Kingdom/Ireland/Eire | 501 | 4.6 | 720 | 5.2 | 1,221 | 5.0 |
| Italy | 812 | 7.5 | 360 | 2.6 | 1,172 | 4.8 |
| Greece | 664 | 6.1 | 501 | 3.6 | 1,165 | 4.7 |
| Other | 3,408 | 31.5 | 2,749 | 19.9 | 6,157 | 25.0 |
| Home ownership | | | | | | |
| Home owner | 7,960 | 73.5 | 8,915 | 64.7 | 16,875 | 68.6 |
| Non-home owner | 2,874 | 26.5 | 4,867 | 35.3 | 7,741 | 31.4 |
| Rate | | | | | | |
| Full rate | 8,462 | 78.1 | 9,708 | 70.4 | 18,170 | 73.8 |
| Part rate | 2,372 | 21.9 | 4,074 | 29.6 | 6,446 | 26.2 |
| Paid under income test ^(d) | | | | | | |
| Single | 222 | 2.0 | 40 | 0.3 | 262 | 1.1 |
| Partnered | 10,371 | 95.7 | 13,498 | 97.9 | 23,869 | 97.0 |
| Paid under assets test ^(d) | | | | | | |
| Home owners | 227 | 2.1 | 130 | 0.9 | 357 | 1.5 |
| Non-home owners | 9 | 0.1 | 14 | 0.1 | 23 | 0.1 |
| Not coded ^(e) | 5 | 0.0 | 100 | 0.7 | 105 | 0.4 |

(a) Excludes 39 Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

(b) 'Total' percentages based on combined 'Age' and 'Disability' payments.

(c) Occurrences of 'single' wife pensioners can be attributed to rules that state that if the loss of the survivor's entitlement occurs as a result of the partner's death they can continue to temporarily remain qualified for Wife Pension for up to 14 weeks after the partner's death.

(d) All pensioners paid a full rate of pension are classified as income tested and included in the 'paid under income test' category. Wife Pension can be paid at the single pension rate if the couple is living apart because of ill health—the 'partnered' income and assets tests still apply.

(e) At least one of the variables required to determine the customer's income or assets test category was not coded (that is, partnership category, home ownership type or whether income or assets tested).

Note: Wife pensioners over age 65 years are most likely to be women who are not residentially qualified for Age Pension in their own right (that is, women who have been on Wife Pension since before 1 July 1995 but have not been an Australian resident for 10 years).

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 16: Wife Pension customers by state/territory and pension type, June 2010

| State/territory | Age Pension ^(a) | | Disability Support Pension | | Total | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 3,543 | 44.7 | 4,375 | 55.3 | 7,918 | 32.2 |
| Victoria | 2,549 | 46.0 | 2,990 | 54.0 | 5,539 | 22.5 |
| Queensland | 1,895 | 41.7 | 2,646 | 58.3 | 4,541 | 18.4 |
| Western Australia | 891 | 42.1 | 1,225 | 57.9 | 2,116 | 8.6 |
| South Australia | 1,062 | 46.0 | 1,248 | 54.0 | 2,310 | 9.4 |
| Tasmania | 372 | 38.8 | 588 | 61.3 | 960 | 3.9 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 62 | 51.7 | 58 | 48.3 | 120 | 0.5 |
| Northern Territory | 42 | 49.4 | 43 | 50.6 | 85 | 0.3 |
| Other ^(b) | 418 | 40.7 | 609 | 59.3 | 1,027 | 4.2 |
| Total | 10,834 | 44.0 | 13,782 | 56.0 | 24,616 | 100.0 |

(a) Excludes 39 Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

(b) Includes all overseas pensioners, regardless of their length of stay overseas.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

2.6 Carer Payment

Carer Payment is for carers who provide full-time care in the home of the person(s) being cared for, and who, because of the demands of their caring role, are unable to support themselves by participating substantially in the workforce.

To qualify for Carer Payment, a person must be caring for someone who has a severe disability or medical condition and who is:

- receiving a social security or a Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) income support payment, or
- not receiving payment solely for reasons of lack of sufficient period of residence in Australia, or
- not receiving a social security or a DVA income support payment but satisfying the special care receiver income and assets tests.

The person claiming must:

- be personally providing constant care to a care receiver who satisfies eligibility requirements, and
- not be in receipt of any other income support payment, and
- be in Australia at the time the care is given and be a permanent resident of Australia.

A care receiver satisfies the eligibility requirements if they:

- have a physical, intellectual or psychiatric disability, and
- are a person who is being provided with constant care, and
- are likely to suffer from that disability permanently or for an extended period, and
- have been assessed, rated and given a score of at least 25 under the Adult Disability Assessment Tool (ADAT), or
- have been assessed, rated and given a score of at least 20 under the ADAT, and have a Carer Allowance child under the age of 16 years or a child under the age of 6 years, or
- are a child that has been assessed under the Disability Care Load assessment as requiring an intense level of care.

Prior to 1 July 1997, Carer Payment was known as Carer Pension.

Eligibility for Carer Payment for carers of children under 16 years of age was introduced on 1 July 1998.

From 1 July 2009, Carer Payment (Child) assessment changed to being assessed under the Disability Care Load Assessment (DCLA) and the following categories are now covered:

- a child with severe disability or severe medical condition, or
- two or more children with disability or medical condition, or
- a disabled adult and one or more children each with a disability or medical condition, or
- a child with severe disability or severe medical condition on a short term or episodic basis, or
- a profoundly disabled child or a disabled child (continuing to qualify for a payment under previous legislation (pre-1 July 2009)).

Table 17: Carer Payment customers by payment type of care receiver, June 1990 to June 2010

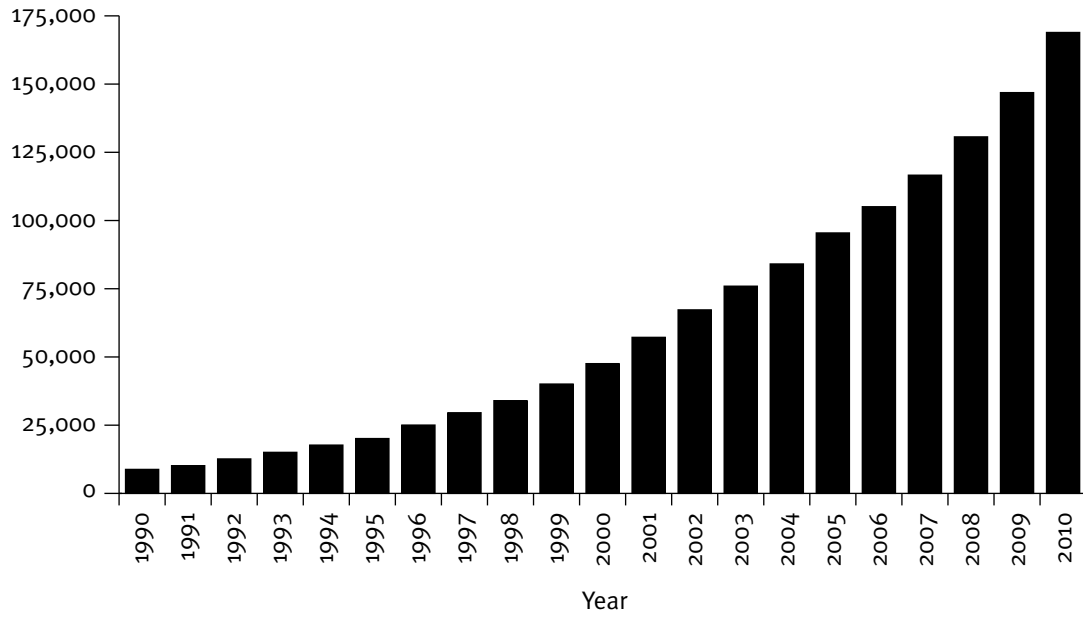
| As at June | Age Pension | | Disability Support Pension | | Other ^(a) | | Total |
|---------------------|-------------|------|----------------------------|------|----------------------|------|---------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 4,025 | 45.8 | 4,771 | 54.2 | | | 8,796 |
| 1991 | 4,619 | 45.5 | 5,478 | 53.9 | 64 | 0.6 | 10,161 |
| 1992 | 5,574 | 44.1 | 6,790 | 53.8 | 267 | 2.1 | 12,631 |
| 1993 | 6,507 | 43.3 | 8,056 | 53.5 | 482 | 3.2 | 15,045 |
| 1994 | 7,441 | 42.0 | 9,450 | 53.4 | 808 | 4.6 | 17,699 |
| 1995 | 8,324 | 41.4 | 10,633 | 52.9 | 1,141 | 5.7 | 20,098 |
| 1996 | 9,500 | 37.9 | 13,483 | 53.9 | 2,054 | 8.2 | 25,037 |
| 1997 | 10,954 | 37.1 | 15,735 | 53.2 | 2,869 | 9.7 | 29,558 |
| 1998 | 11,740 | 34.6 | 18,556 | 54.6 | 3,683 | 10.8 | 33,979 |
| 1999 | 13,407 | 33.5 | 21,392 | 53.4 | 5,271 | 13.2 | 40,070 |
| 2000 | 15,346 | 32.3 | 24,500 | 51.5 | 7,704 | 16.2 | 47,550 |
| 2001 | 18,097 | 31.6 | 28,171 | 49.3 | 10,922 | 19.1 | 57,190 |
| 2002 ^(b) | | | | | | | 67,260 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | 75,937 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | 84,082 |
| 2005 | | | | | | | 95,446 |
| 2006 | | | | | | | 105,058 |
| 2007 | | | | | | | 116,614 |
| 2008 | | | | | | | 130,657 |
| 2009 | | | | | | | 146,870 |
| 2010 | | | | | | | 168,913 |

(a) Includes those caring for a person on a Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) payment other than Age Pension or Disability Support Pension. It also includes those caring for a person not on a FaHCSIA payment.

(b) Figures by pension type are not available from 2002.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 6: Carer Payment customers, June 1990 to June 2010



Note: Includes those caring for a person on a Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) payment other than Age Pension or Disability Support Pension. It also includes those caring for a person not on a FaHCSIA payment.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 18: Carer Payment customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 52,202 | 30.9 | 116,711 | 69.1 | 168,913 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 20 | 715 | 1.4 | 1,157 | 1.0 | 1,872 | 1.1 |
| 20–29 | 3,682 | 7.1 | 6,720 | 5.8 | 10,402 | 6.2 |
| 30–39 | 6,456 | 12.4 | 15,502 | 13.3 | 21,958 | 13.0 |
| 40–49 | 11,055 | 21.2 | 28,086 | 24.1 | 39,141 | 23.2 |
| 50–59 | 13,930 | 26.7 | 36,179 | 31.0 | 50,109 | 29.7 |
| 60–64 | 9,097 | 17.4 | 19,909 | 17.1 | 29,006 | 17.2 |
| 65 and over | 7,267 | 13.9 | 9,158 | 7.8 | 16,425 | 9.7 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 31,934 | 61.2 | 74,705 | 64.0 | 106,639 | 63.1 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 20,268 | 38.8 | 42,006 | 36.0 | 62,274 | 36.9 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 33,663 | 64.5 | 73,283 | 62.8 | 106,946 | 63.3 |
| United Kingdom | 3,132 | 6.0 | 5,456 | 4.7 | 8,588 | 5.1 |
| Lebanon | 1,406 | 2.7 | 4,298 | 3.7 | 5,704 | 3.4 |
| Iraq | 1,925 | 3.7 | 2,857 | 2.4 | 4,782 | 2.8 |
| Vietnam | 1,174 | 2.2 | 3,497 | 3.0 | 4,671 | 2.8 |
| Other ^(a) | 10,902 | 20.9 | 27,320 | 23.4 | 38,222 | 22.6 |
| Home ownership | | | | | | |
| Home owner | 20,985 | 40.2 | 58,474 | 50.1 | 79,459 | 47.0 |
| Non-home owner | 31,217 | 59.8 | 58,237 | 49.9 | 89,454 | 53.0 |
| Rate ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Full rate | | | | | | 74.0 |
| Part rate | | | | | | 26.0 |
| Paid under income test | | | | | | |
| Single | 19,782 | 37.9 | 41,238 | 35.3 | 61,020 | 36.1 |
| Partnered | 30,809 | 59.0 | 71,376 | 61.2 | 102,185 | 60.5 |
| Home owner paid under assets test | | | | | | |
| Single | 211 | 0.4 | 483 | 0.4 | 694 | 0.4 |
| Partnered | 1,104 | 2.1 | 3,053 | 2.6 | 4,157 | 2.5 |
| Non-home owner paid under assets test | 125 | 0.2 | 230 | 0.2 | 355 | 0.2 |
| Income/assets test not coded ^(c) | 171 | 0.3 | 331 | 0.3 | 502 | 0.3 |
| Duration ^(d) | | | | | | |
| <1 year | 10,787 | 20.7 | 24,045 | 20.6 | 34,832 | 20.6 |
| 1 to <2 years | 8,611 | 16.5 | 18,730 | 16.0 | 27,341 | 16.2 |
| 2 to <3 years | 5,829 | 11.2 | 15,125 | 13.0 | 20,954 | 12.4 |
| 3 to <4 years | 4,850 | 9.3 | 12,111 | 10.4 | 16,961 | 10.0 |
| 4 to <5 years | 3,917 | 7.5 | 9,155 | 7.8 | 13,072 | 7.7 |
| 5 to <10 years | 12,756 | 24.4 | 28,565 | 24.5 | 41,321 | 24.5 |
| 10 years and over | 5,452 | 10.4 | 8,980 | 7.7 | 14,432 | 8.5 |
| Mean (weeks) | 230.6 | | 212.2 | | 217.9 | |
| Median (weeks) | 160.9 | | 156.5 | | 156.5 | |

(a) Includes any unknown country of birth.

(b) Full/part rate customer counts unavailable due to data integrity issues with the data source. Overall percentage breakdown for 'Total' derived from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Annual Report.

(c) At least one of the variables required to determine the customer's assets test category was not coded (that is, partnership category, home ownership type or whether income or assets tested).

(d) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 19: Carer Payment customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 20,197 | 31.2 | 44,617 | 68.8 | 64,814 | 38.4 |
| Victoria | 12,980 | 30.2 | 29,934 | 69.8 | 42,914 | 25.4 |
| Queensland | 9,025 | 29.8 | 21,213 | 70.2 | 30,238 | 17.9 |
| Western Australia | 3,029 | 30.2 | 7,005 | 69.8 | 10,034 | 5.9 |
| South Australia | 4,312 | 33.8 | 8,452 | 66.2 | 12,764 | 7.6 |
| Tasmania | 2,082 | 33.6 | 4,121 | 66.4 | 6,203 | 3.7 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 297 | 33.2 | 597 | 66.8 | 894 | 0.5 |
| Northern Territory | 255 | 27.2 | 684 | 72.8 | 939 | 0.6 |
| Other ^(a) | 25 | 22.1 | 88 | 77.9 | 113 | 0.1 |
| Total | 52,202 | 30.9 | 116,711 | 69.1 | 168,913 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unknown postcodes and overseas recipients.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

2.7 Carer Allowance

Carer Allowance is a supplementary payment available to a person who provides daily care and attention for adults or children with a disability or medical condition.

Carer Allowance was introduced on 1 July 1999. It combined Child Disability Allowance with Domiciliary Nursing Care Benefit (the latter of which was the responsibility of the Health and Aged Care portfolio).

- Carer Allowance may be paid for up to two adults who receive daily care and attention, and/or any number of dependent children with a disability or medical condition. The carer or parent may be eligible to receive a fortnightly payment of Carer Allowance for each eligible person in their care.
- Parents caring for two children with disabilities, who individually fall just below the qualification for Carer Allowance but whose combined assessment under the Child Disability Assessment Tool (CDAT) meets the threshold for payment, will receive a single rate of Carer Allowance.
- Customers who were entitled to Child Disability Allowance on 30 June 1998 were eligible for Carer Allowance until 30 June 2003, providing their circumstances did not change, and were not subject to Centrelink-initiated medical reviews during that period. These customers were subject to review against the current eligibility criteria from 1 July 2003.
- All Domiciliary Nursing Care Benefit recipients as at 30 June 1999 were automatically transferred to Carer Allowance (Adult) on 1 July 1999 when the new Carer Allowance was introduced.

The person claiming must:

- be personally providing daily care to a care receiver who satisfies eligibility requirements, and
- provide care and attention in a private home, or participate in the provision of care and attention given to the care receiver during a period of temporary hospitalisation, and
- provide at least 20 hours per week of personal care on a daily basis if not residing with the care receiver, and be in Australia at the time the care is given and be a permanent resident of Australia.

A care receiver satisfies the eligibility requirements if they are:

- aged 16 years or over with a disability that causes a substantial functional impairment (as assessed under the Adult Disability Assessment Tool (ADAT)), or
- a dependent child aged under 16 years:
 - with a disability or medical condition that is included in the list of disabilities or conditions that result in automatic qualification, or
 - assessed under the CDAT as functioning at a level below the standard expected for his or her age, and
 - living with the claimant, and
- an Australian resident, living with the claimant and likely to suffer from the disability permanently or for an extended period of at least 12 months (unless their condition is terminal).

In respect of a child care receiver only, a person can get either:

- a fortnightly payment plus a Health Care Card, or
- a Health Care Card.

Carer Allowance is neither income nor assets tested.

Table 20: Carer Allowance customers by carer type, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Child | Adult ^(a) | Adult and child | Total |
|---------------------|---------|----------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 1990 | 37,746 | | | 37,746 |
| 1991 | 42,405 | | | 42,405 |
| 1992 | 50,797 | | | 50,797 |
| 1993 | 61,174 | | | 61,174 |
| 1994 | 69,693 | | | 69,693 |
| 1995 | 78,898 | | | 78,898 |
| 1996 | 90,644 | | | 90,644 |
| 1997 | 95,520 | | | 95,520 |
| 1998 | 90,830 | | | 90,830 |
| 1999 | 100,452 | | | 100,452 |
| 2000 ^(b) | 116,955 | 84,104 | | 201,059 |
| 2001 | 111,691 | 121,755 | 1,595 | 235,041 |
| 2002 | 115,404 | 154,425 | 2,216 | 272,045 |
| 2003 | 119,003 | 177,862 | 2,744 | 299,609 |
| 2004 ^(c) | 96,153 | 198,598 | 2,856 | 297,607 |
| 2005 | 102,535 | 233,859 | 3,611 | 340,005 |
| 2006 | 106,622 | 256,107 | 4,231 | 366,960 |
| 2007 | 109,118 | 279,243 | 4,902 | 393,263 |
| 2008 | 113,549 | 303,661 | 5,695 | 422,905 |
| 2009 | 120,090 | 334,511 | 6,485 | 461,086 |
| 2010 | 126,315 | 362,185 | 7,233 | 495,733 |

(a) From 2002, includes customers not coded by carer type.

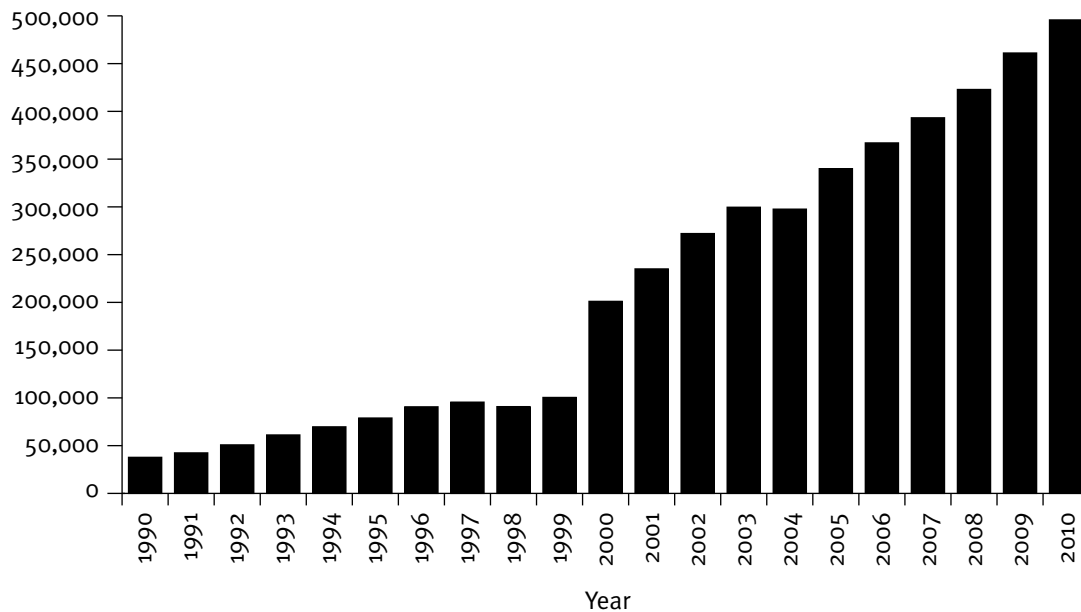
(b) Estimates for 2000 were derived from a different Centrelink data source. Caution should be exercised when utilising data for 2000 in conjunction with historical data and data from 2001 onwards.

(c) 2004 reduction was due to cessation of saved (grandfathered) ex Child Disability Allowance customers.

Note: Carer Allowance was introduced on 1 July 1999. It combined Child Disability Allowance with Domiciliary Nursing Care Benefit (the latter of which was the responsibility of the Health and Aged Care portfolio). Excludes Health Care Card only customers.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 7: Carer Allowance customers, June 1990 to June 2010



Note: Carer Allowance was introduced on 1 July 1999. It combined Child Disability Allowance with Domiciliary Nursing Care Benefit (the latter of which was the responsibility of the Health and Aged Care portfolio). Excludes Health Care Card only customers.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 21: Carer Allowance customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 125,474 | 25.3 | 370,259 | 74.7 | 495,733 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 20 | 1,066 | 0.8 | 1,724 | 0.5 | 2,790 | 0.6 |
| 20–29 | 4,800 | 3.8 | 17,989 | 4.9 | 22,789 | 4.6 |
| 30–39 | 10,595 | 8.4 | 69,963 | 18.9 | 80,558 | 16.3 |
| 40–49 | 19,232 | 15.3 | 89,764 | 24.2 | 108,996 | 22.0 |
| 50–59 | 23,104 | 18.4 | 74,365 | 20.1 | 97,469 | 19.7 |
| 60–69 | 27,953 | 22.3 | 67,414 | 18.2 | 95,367 | 19.2 |
| 70–79 | 24,326 | 19.4 | 36,211 | 9.8 | 60,537 | 12.2 |
| 80 and over | 14,398 | 11.5 | 12,829 | 3.5 | 27,227 | 5.5 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 90,785 | 72.4 | 263,880 | 71.3 | 354,665 | 71.5 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 34,689 | 27.6 | 106,379 | 28.7 | 141,068 | 28.5 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 78,561 | 62.6 | 258,423 | 69.8 | 336,984 | 68.0 |
| United Kingdom | 9,232 | 7.4 | 19,639 | 5.3 | 28,871 | 5.8 |
| Italy | 5,088 | 4.1 | 8,705 | 2.4 | 13,793 | 2.8 |
| Greece | 3,884 | 3.1 | 6,295 | 1.7 | 10,179 | 2.1 |
| Lebanon | 2,019 | 1.6 | 6,972 | 1.9 | 8,991 | 1.8 |
| Other | 26,690 | 21.3 | 70,225 | 19.0 | 96,915 | 19.5 |
| Home ownership | | | | | | |
| Home owner | 67,024 | 53.4 | 206,133 | 55.7 | 273,157 | 55.1 |
| Non-home owner | 58,450 | 46.6 | 164,126 | 44.3 | 222,576 | 44.9 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <1 year | 23,678 | 18.9 | 55,087 | 14.9 | 78,765 | 15.9 |
| 1 to <2 years | 23,229 | 18.5 | 59,711 | 16.1 | 82,940 | 16.7 |
| 2 to <3 years | 15,168 | 12.1 | 43,148 | 11.7 | 58,316 | 11.8 |
| 3 to <4 years | 12,989 | 10.4 | 36,642 | 9.9 | 49,631 | 10.0 |
| 4 to <5 years | 9,706 | 7.7 | 24,017 | 6.5 | 33,723 | 6.8 |
| 5 to <10 years | 34,227 | 27.3 | 115,316 | 31.1 | 149,543 | 30.2 |
| 10 years and over | 6,477 | 5.2 | 36,338 | 9.8 | 42,815 | 8.6 |
| Mean (weeks) | 200.6 | | 237.7 | | 228.3 | |
| Median (weeks) | 156.5 | | 191.3 | | 182.6 | |

(a) Duration is measured from the allowance start date.
 Note: Excludes 12,860 customers who receive a Health Care Card only.
 Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 22: Carer Allowance customers by state/territory and carer type, June 2010

| State/territory | Child ^(a) | | Adult ^(b) | | Adult and child | | Total | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 42,176 | 33.4 | 128,803 | 35.6 | 2,674 | 37.0 | 173,653 | 35.0 |
| Victoria | 33,455 | 26.5 | 97,483 | 26.9 | 1,866 | 25.8 | 132,804 | 26.8 |
| Queensland | 23,847 | 18.9 | 66,485 | 18.4 | 1,322 | 18.3 | 91,654 | 18.5 |
| Western Australia | 10,153 | 8.0 | 24,669 | 6.8 | 413 | 5.7 | 35,235 | 7.1 |
| South Australia | 11,269 | 8.9 | 29,155 | 8.0 | 648 | 9.0 | 41,072 | 8.3 |
| Tasmania | 3,013 | 2.4 | 11,042 | 3.0 | 241 | 3.3 | 14,296 | 2.9 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 1,632 | 1.3 | 2,903 | 0.8 | 51 | 0.7 | 4,586 | 0.9 |
| Northern Territory | 752 | 0.6 | 1,595 | 0.4 | 17 | 0.2 | 2,364 | 0.5 |
| Other ^(c) | 18 | 0.0 | 50 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 69 | 0.0 |
| Total | 126,315 | 100.0 | 362,185 | 100.0 | 7,233 | 100.0 | 495,733 | 100.0 |

(a) Excludes 12,860 customers who receive a Health Care Card only.

(b) Includes 99 customers not coded by carer type.

(c) Includes overseas payments, unknown state/territory and invalid postcodes.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

3 Student and labour market related payments

3.1 Austudy Payment

Austudy Payment provides support for students and Australian apprentices aged 25 years and over. Austudy Payment was introduced on 1 July 1998 and replaced the program formerly known as AUSTUDY.

Students must be full-time and undertaking an approved course with an approved institution. Approved courses generally include secondary education courses, undergraduate courses, associate diplomas and some other diplomas, TAFE courses and some postgraduate courses.

Apprentices must be full-time and have a current Commonwealth Registration Identification number.

Austudy Payment is subject to the personal income and assets tests and the partner income test.

Austudy Payment is subject to residence requirements.

Table 23: Austudy Payment customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 18,842 | 50.5 | 18,500 | 49.5 | 37,342 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 25–29 | 8,512 | 45.2 | 7,845 | 42.4 | 16,357 | 43.8 |
| 30–34 | 4,258 | 22.6 | 3,273 | 17.7 | 7,531 | 20.2 |
| 35–39 | 2,589 | 13.7 | 2,175 | 11.8 | 4,764 | 12.8 |
| 40–44 | 1,464 | 7.8 | 1,810 | 9.8 | 3,274 | 8.8 |
| 45–49 | 954 | 5.1 | 1,674 | 9.0 | 2,628 | 7.0 |
| 50–54 | 548 | 2.9 | 1,119 | 6.0 | 1,667 | 4.5 |
| 55–59 | 360 | 1.9 | 477 | 2.6 | 837 | 2.2 |
| 60 and over | 157 | 0.8 | 127 | 0.7 | 284 | 0.8 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Single or partnered (no child) | 14,679 | 77.9 | 14,945 | 80.8 | 29,624 | 79.3 |
| Single with children | 329 | 1.7 | 1,629 | 8.8 | 1,958 | 5.2 |
| Partnered with children | 3,834 | 20.3 | 1,926 | 10.4 | 5,760 | 15.4 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <3 months | 1,385 | 7.4 | 1,484 | 8.0 | 2,869 | 7.7 |
| 3 to <6 months | 4,050 | 21.5 | 4,269 | 23.1 | 8,319 | 22.3 |
| 6 to <9 months | 1,047 | 5.6 | 1,129 | 6.1 | 2,176 | 5.8 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 1,521 | 8.1 | 1,348 | 7.3 | 2,869 | 7.7 |
| 1 to <2 years | 5,291 | 28.1 | 4,609 | 24.9 | 9,900 | 26.5 |
| 2 to <3 years | 2,208 | 11.7 | 2,011 | 10.9 | 4,219 | 11.3 |
| 3 years and over | 3,340 | 17.7 | 3,650 | 19.7 | 6,990 | 18.7 |
| Mean (weeks) | 100.0 | | 121.3 | | 110.5 | |
| Median (weeks) | 66.0 | | 63.0 | | 65.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 14,052 | 74.6 | 12,592 | 68.1 | 26,644 | 71.4 |
| 0.01–118.00 | 1,344 | 7.1 | 1,521 | 8.2 | 2,865 | 7.7 |
| Over 118.00 | 3,446 | 18.3 | 4,387 | 23.7 | 7,833 | 21.0 |
| Study level | | | | | | |
| Secondary | 443 | 2.4 | 309 | 1.7 | 752 | 2.0 |
| Tertiary Group A | 1,075 | 5.7 | 1,162 | 6.3 | 2,237 | 6.0 |
| Tertiary Group B | 9,977 | 53.0 | 9,329 | 50.4 | 19,306 | 51.7 |
| Tertiary Group C | 2,772 | 14.7 | 2,912 | 15.7 | 5,684 | 15.2 |
| Tertiary Group D | 2,885 | 15.3 | 3,369 | 18.2 | 6,254 | 16.7 |
| Other | 1,213 | 6.4 | 1,202 | 6.5 | 2,415 | 6.5 |
| Not recorded | 477 | 2.5 | 217 | 1.2 | 694 | 1.9 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date. For customers who previously received AUSTUDY, this duration would have been reset when Austudy Payment was introduced and their durations may be underestimated.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: Customer numbers include 1,068 people who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. Tertiary Group 'A' refers to postgraduate bachelor degrees or postgraduate/graduate diplomas. Tertiary Group 'B' refers to undergraduate bachelor degrees. Tertiary Group 'C' refers to associate diplomas/degrees and TAFE diplomas that require completion of Year 12 for entry, or two-year undergraduate diploma and certificate courses. Tertiary Group 'D' refers to certificate courses. Figures represented in this table are not comparable to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Annual Report published figures due to an improved attribution of student income support recipient data.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Table 24: Austudy Payment customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 6,225 | 50.2 | 6,169 | 49.8 | 12,394 | 33.2 |
| Victoria | 5,355 | 51.1 | 5,134 | 48.9 | 10,489 | 28.1 |
| Queensland | 3,118 | 47.5 | 3,446 | 52.5 | 6,564 | 17.6 |
| Western Australia | 1,452 | 49.4 | 1,488 | 50.6 | 2,940 | 7.9 |
| South Australia | 1,678 | 54.8 | 1,386 | 45.2 | 3,064 | 8.2 |
| Tasmania | 582 | 52.8 | 521 | 47.2 | 1,103 | 3.0 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 319 | 56.4 | 247 | 43.6 | 566 | 1.5 |
| Northern Territory | 55 | 50.0 | 55 | 50.0 | 110 | 0.3 |
| Other ^(a) | 58 | 51.8 | 54 | 48.2 | 112 | 0.3 |
| Total | 18,842 | 50.5 | 18,500 | 49.5 | 37,342 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: Customer numbers include 1,068 people who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. Figures represented in this table are not comparable to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Annual Report published figures due to an improved attribution of student income support recipient data.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

3.2 ABSTUDY scheme

The purpose of the ABSTUDY scheme is to address the particular educational disadvantages faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by improving educational outcomes to a level commensurate with the Australian population in general. ABSTUDY policy aims to encourage eligible Indigenous students to take full advantage of available educational opportunities and improve their employment opportunities.

The main objectives of the ABSTUDY scheme are to:

- encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available
- promote equity of educational opportunity, and
- improve educational outcomes.

ABSTUDY is subject to residence requirements and income and assets tests dependent on the person's individual circumstances. Provisions could include personal or parental income test, and/or family assets test, family actual means test, independent assets test or independent partner income test.

Table 25: ABSTUDY scheme customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 17,314 | 47.7 | 18,994 | 52.3 | 36,308 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 12 or less | 1,363 | 7.9 | 1,420 | 7.5 | 2,783 | 7.7 |
| 13 | 2,830 | 16.3 | 2,828 | 14.9 | 5,658 | 15.6 |
| 14 | 3,039 | 17.6 | 2,852 | 15.0 | 5,891 | 16.2 |
| 15 | 2,756 | 15.9 | 2,830 | 14.9 | 5,586 | 15.4 |
| 16 | 2,116 | 12.2 | 2,017 | 10.6 | 4,133 | 11.4 |
| 17 | 1,569 | 9.1 | 1,625 | 8.6 | 3,194 | 8.8 |
| 18 | 654 | 3.8 | 737 | 3.9 | 1,391 | 3.8 |
| 19 | 357 | 2.1 | 498 | 2.6 | 855 | 2.4 |
| 20 | 268 | 1.5 | 361 | 1.9 | 629 | 1.7 |
| 21 and over | 2,362 | 13.6 | 3,826 | 20.1 | 6,188 | 17.0 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 611 | 3.5 | 1,324 | 7.0 | 1,935 | 5.3 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 16,703 | 96.5 | 17,670 | 93.0 | 34,373 | 94.7 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <3 months | 1,245 | 7.2 | 1,381 | 7.3 | 2,626 | 7.2 |
| 3 to <6 months | 6,823 | 39.4 | 7,739 | 40.7 | 14,562 | 40.1 |
| 6 to <9 months | 586 | 3.4 | 634 | 3.3 | 1,220 | 3.4 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 821 | 4.7 | 918 | 4.8 | 1,739 | 4.8 |
| 1 to <2 years | 4,623 | 26.7 | 4,867 | 25.6 | 9,490 | 26.1 |
| 2 to <3 years | 2,171 | 12.5 | 2,271 | 12.0 | 4,442 | 12.2 |
| 3 years and over | 1,045 | 6.0 | 1,184 | 6.2 | 2,229 | 6.1 |
| Mean (weeks) | 60.8 | | 59.5 | | 60.1 | |
| Median (weeks) | 39.0 | | 34.0 | | 37.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 16,629 | 96.0 | 17,737 | 93.4 | 34,366 | 94.7 |
| 0.01–118.00 | 210 | 1.2 | 416 | 2.2 | 626 | 1.7 |
| Over 118.00 | 475 | 2.7 | 841 | 4.4 | 1,316 | 3.6 |
| Study level | | | | | | |
| Secondary | 13,912 | 80.4 | 13,810 | 72.7 | 27,722 | 76.4 |
| Tertiary | 2,991 | 17.3 | 4,988 | 26.3 | 7,979 | 22.0 |
| Other | 411 | 2.4 | 196 | 1.0 | 607 | 1.7 |
| Student status | | | | | | |
| Full-time | 16,413 | 94.8 | 17,613 | 92.7 | 34,026 | 93.7 |
| Part-time ^(c) | 901 | 5.2 | 1,381 | 7.3 | 2,282 | 6.3 |

(a) Duration is measured from the ABSTUDY start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

(c) Includes concessional and other student status categories.

Note: Figures represented in this table are not comparable to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Annual Report published figures due to an improved attribution of student income support recipient data.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Table 26: ABSTUDY scheme customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory ^(a) | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 6,237 | 47.4 | 6,913 | 52.6 | 13,150 | 36.2 |
| Victoria | 1,167 | 46.9 | 1,319 | 53.1 | 2,486 | 6.8 |
| Queensland | 4,819 | 47.5 | 5,323 | 52.5 | 10,142 | 27.9 |
| Western Australia | 2,124 | 50.6 | 2,077 | 49.4 | 4,201 | 11.6 |
| South Australia | 1,004 | 45.7 | 1,195 | 54.3 | 2,199 | 6.1 |
| Tasmania | 421 | 46.5 | 484 | 53.5 | 905 | 2.5 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 130 | 46.9 | 147 | 53.1 | 277 | 0.8 |
| Northern Territory | 1,399 | 47.9 | 1,524 | 52.1 | 2,923 | 8.1 |
| Other ^(b) | 13 | 52.0 | 12 | 48.0 | 25 | 0.1 |
| Total | 17,314 | 47.7 | 18,994 | 52.3 | 36,308 | 100.0 |

(a) State/territory is the home or residential state/territory of the scheme participant. Participants may be attending an educational institution in a state/territory other than their home state/territory.

(b) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: Figures represented in this table are not comparable to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Annual Report published figures due to an improved attribution of student income support recipient data.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

3.3 Youth Allowance

Introduced on 1 July 1998, Youth Allowance (full-time student and apprentice) replaced AUSTUDY for full-time students under 25 years and Youth Allowance (other) replaced Sickness Allowance, Youth Training Allowance and Newstart Allowance for young people under 21 years of age who are temporarily incapacitated or unemployed and looking for work.

These changes were introduced in response to concerns from the community about the need for income support arrangements that address changing labour market conditions, the need for increased flexibility and simplicity, and the removal of disincentives to study.

Young people aged 16 to 20 years who are unemployed or aged 16 to 25 years (15 years if considered independent) and undertaking full-time studies, or a combination of approved activities such as part-time work and part-time study, are eligible for Youth Allowance.

A parental means test applies unless the customer is assessed as independent. Independence for Youth Allowance purposes can be obtained in a number of ways, including through minimum levels of prior workforce participation, marital status, or where it is considered by a Centrelink Social Worker unreasonable for the young person to live at home. Single, dependent young people receive the 'at home' rate of payment unless they live apart from their parent(s) for approved reasons.

Residence requirements apply.

Table 27: Youth Allowance (full-time student and apprentice) customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 134,733 | 45.4 | 162,290 | 54.6 | 297,023 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 15 | 48 | 0.0 | 105 | 0.1 | 153 | 0.1 |
| 16 | 26,304 | 19.5 | 27,170 | 16.7 | 53,474 | 18.0 |
| 17 | 23,229 | 17.2 | 25,770 | 15.9 | 48,999 | 16.5 |
| 18 | 15,505 | 11.5 | 18,772 | 11.6 | 34,277 | 11.5 |
| 19 | 14,322 | 10.6 | 19,096 | 11.8 | 33,418 | 11.3 |
| 20 | 15,367 | 11.4 | 21,347 | 13.2 | 36,714 | 12.4 |
| 21 | 13,637 | 10.1 | 18,514 | 11.4 | 32,151 | 10.8 |
| 22 | 10,239 | 7.6 | 13,168 | 8.1 | 23,407 | 7.9 |
| 23 | 7,196 | 5.3 | 8,611 | 5.3 | 15,807 | 5.3 |
| 24 | 5,194 | 3.9 | 5,752 | 3.5 | 10,946 | 3.7 |
| 25 and over | 3,692 | 2.7 | 3,985 | 2.5 | 7,677 | 2.6 |
| Rate | | | | | | |
| At home | 75,961 | 56.4 | 81,450 | 50.2 | 157,411 | 53.0 |
| Away from home or couple | 58,772 | 43.6 | 80,840 | 49.8 | 139,612 | 47.0 |
| Independent | 49,613 | 36.8 | 67,562 | 41.6 | 117,175 | 39.4 |
| Dependent | 85,120 | 63.2 | 94,728 | 58.4 | 179,848 | 60.6 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <3 months | 14,804 | 11.0 | 17,050 | 10.5 | 31,854 | 10.7 |
| 3 to <6 months | 22,492 | 16.7 | 27,372 | 16.9 | 49,864 | 16.8 |
| 6 to <9 months | 10,312 | 7.7 | 11,633 | 7.2 | 21,945 | 7.4 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 11,342 | 8.4 | 12,916 | 8.0 | 24,258 | 8.2 |
| 1 to <2 years | 38,423 | 28.5 | 46,115 | 28.4 | 84,538 | 28.5 |
| 2 to <3 years | 18,099 | 13.4 | 22,850 | 14.1 | 40,949 | 13.8 |
| 3 years and over | 19,261 | 14.3 | 24,354 | 15.0 | 43,615 | 14.7 |
| Mean (weeks) | 79.6 | | 81.3 | | 80.5 | |
| Median (weeks) | 59.0 | | 62.0 | | 61.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 99,044 | 73.5 | 102,934 | 63.4 | 201,978 | 68.0 |
| 0.01–118.00 | 13,550 | 10.1 | 22,696 | 14.0 | 36,246 | 12.2 |
| Over 118.00 | 22,139 | 16.4 | 36,660 | 22.6 | 58,799 | 19.8 |
| Study level | | | | | | |
| Secondary | 54,596 | 40.5 | 57,080 | 35.2 | 111,676 | 37.6 |
| Tertiary Group A | 1,284 | 1.0 | 2,122 | 1.3 | 3,406 | 1.1 |
| Tertiary Group B | 58,163 | 43.2 | 79,395 | 48.9 | 137,558 | 46.3 |
| Tertiary Group C | 6,656 | 4.9 | 8,268 | 5.1 | 14,924 | 5.0 |
| Tertiary Group D | 8,526 | 6.3 | 10,964 | 6.8 | 19,490 | 6.6 |
| Apprentices/other | 5,023 | 3.7 | 3,880 | 2.4 | 8,903 | 3.0 |
| Not recorded | 485 | 0.4 | 581 | 0.4 | 1,066 | 0.4 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Notes: Data include 6,462 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 4,479 apprentices. Figures represented in this table are not comparable to Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Annual Report published figures due to an improved attribution of student income support recipient data.

Tertiary Group 'A' refers to postgraduate bachelor degrees or postgraduate/graduate diplomas. Tertiary Group 'B' refers to undergraduate bachelor degrees. Tertiary Group 'C' refers to associate diplomas/degrees and TAFE diplomas that require completion of Year 12 for entry, or two-year undergraduate diploma and certificate courses. Tertiary Group 'D' refers to certificate courses.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Table 28: Youth Allowance (other) customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 46,782 | 52.9 | 41,677 | 47.1 | 88,459 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 15 | 23 | 0.0 | 47 | 0.1 | 70 | 0.1 |
| 16 | 2,622 | 5.6 | 2,444 | 5.9 | 5,066 | 5.7 |
| 17 | 6,208 | 13.3 | 6,031 | 14.5 | 12,239 | 13.8 |
| 18 | 12,433 | 26.6 | 11,751 | 28.2 | 24,184 | 27.3 |
| 19 | 13,087 | 28.0 | 11,567 | 27.8 | 24,654 | 27.9 |
| 20 | 12,368 | 26.4 | 9,806 | 23.5 | 22,174 | 25.1 |
| 21 and over | 41 | 0.1 | 31 | 0.1 | 72 | 0.1 |
| Rate | | | | | | |
| At home | 22,603 | 48.3 | 17,805 | 42.7 | 40,408 | 45.7 |
| Away from home or couple | 24,179 | 51.7 | 23,872 | 57.3 | 48,051 | 54.3 |
| Independent | 20,986 | 44.9 | 20,387 | 48.9 | 41,373 | 46.8 |
| Dependent | 25,796 | 55.1 | 21,290 | 51.1 | 47,086 | 53.2 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <3 months | 7,463 | 16.0 | 5,555 | 13.3 | 13,018 | 14.7 |
| 3 to <6 months | 7,197 | 15.4 | 6,077 | 14.6 | 13,274 | 15.0 |
| 6 to <9 months | 4,284 | 9.2 | 3,564 | 8.6 | 7,848 | 8.9 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 3,427 | 7.3 | 2,822 | 6.8 | 6,249 | 7.1 |
| 1 to <2 years | 10,779 | 23.0 | 9,443 | 22.7 | 20,222 | 22.9 |
| 2 to <3 years | 7,262 | 15.5 | 7,362 | 17.7 | 14,624 | 16.5 |
| 3 years and over | 6,370 | 13.6 | 6,854 | 16.4 | 13,224 | 14.9 |
| Mean (weeks) | 74.1 | | 81.7 | | 77.7 | |
| Median (weeks) | 56.0 | | 66.0 | | 60.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 41,099 | 87.9 | 33,426 | 80.2 | 74,525 | 84.2 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 257 | 0.5 | 391 | 0.9 | 648 | 0.7 |
| 31.01–118.00 | 1,695 | 3.6 | 2,540 | 6.1 | 4,235 | 4.8 |
| Over 118.00 | 3,731 | 8.0 | 5,320 | 12.8 | 9,051 | 10.2 |
| Main activity type | | | | | | |
| Jobsearch | 12,964 | 27.7 | 13,015 | 31.2 | 25,979 | 29.4 |
| Incapacitated | 1,016 | 2.2 | 1,121 | 2.7 | 2,137 | 2.4 |
| Work for dole | 330 | 0.7 | 168 | 0.4 | 498 | 0.6 |
| CDEP participant | 438 | 0.9 | 240 | 0.6 | 678 | 0.8 |
| Jobs placement, employment & training | 239 | 0.5 | 175 | 0.4 | 414 | 0.5 |
| Other | 31,795 | 68.0 | 26,958 | 64.7 | 58,753 | 66.4 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date. This may include periods on Youth Allowance as a full-time student.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: Data include 2,521 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. The figures also include 674 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Youth Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 29: Total Youth Allowance customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 181,515 | 47.1 | 203,967 | 52.9 | 385,482 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 15 | 71 | 0.0 | 152 | 0.1 | 223 | 0.1 |
| 16 | 28,926 | 15.9 | 29,614 | 14.5 | 58,540 | 15.2 |
| 17 | 29,437 | 16.2 | 31,801 | 15.6 | 61,238 | 15.9 |
| 18 | 27,938 | 15.4 | 30,523 | 15.0 | 58,461 | 15.2 |
| 19 | 27,409 | 15.1 | 30,663 | 15.0 | 58,072 | 15.1 |
| 20 | 27,735 | 15.3 | 31,153 | 15.3 | 58,888 | 15.3 |
| 21 | 13,677 | 7.5 | 18,545 | 9.1 | 32,222 | 8.4 |
| 22 | 10,240 | 5.6 | 13,168 | 6.5 | 23,408 | 6.1 |
| 23 | 7,196 | 4.0 | 8,611 | 4.2 | 15,807 | 4.1 |
| 24 | 5,194 | 2.9 | 5,752 | 2.8 | 10,946 | 2.8 |
| 25 and over | 3,692 | 2.0 | 3,985 | 2.0 | 7,677 | 2.0 |
| Rate | | | | | | |
| At home | 98,564 | 54.3 | 99,255 | 48.7 | 197,819 | 51.3 |
| Away from home or couple | 82,951 | 45.7 | 104,712 | 51.3 | 187,663 | 48.7 |
| Independent | 70,599 | 38.9 | 87,949 | 43.1 | 158,548 | 41.1 |
| Dependent | 110,916 | 61.1 | 116,018 | 56.9 | 226,934 | 58.9 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <3 months | 22,267 | 12.3 | 22,605 | 11.1 | 44,872 | 11.6 |
| 3 to <6 months | 29,689 | 16.4 | 33,449 | 16.4 | 63,138 | 16.4 |
| 6 to <9 months | 14,596 | 8.0 | 15,197 | 7.5 | 29,793 | 7.7 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 14,769 | 8.1 | 15,738 | 7.7 | 30,507 | 7.9 |
| 1 to <2 years | 49,202 | 27.1 | 55,558 | 27.2 | 104,760 | 27.2 |
| 2 to <3 years | 25,361 | 14.0 | 30,212 | 14.8 | 55,573 | 14.4 |
| 3 years and over | 25,631 | 14.1 | 31,208 | 15.3 | 56,839 | 14.7 |
| Mean (weeks) | 78.2 | | 81.4 | | 79.9 | |
| Median (weeks) | 59.0 | | 62.0 | | 60.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 140,143 | 77.2 | 136,360 | 66.9 | 276,503 | 71.7 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 1,541 | 0.8 | 2,505 | 1.2 | 4,046 | 1.0 |
| 31.01–118.00 | 13,961 | 7.7 | 23,122 | 11.3 | 37,083 | 9.6 |
| Over 118.00 | 25,870 | 14.3 | 41,980 | 20.6 | 67,850 | 17.6 |
| Student status | | | | | | |
| Apprentice | 3,258 | 1.8 | 1,221 | 0.6 | 4,479 | 1.2 |
| Full-time | 131,475 | 72.4 | 161,069 | 79.0 | 292,544 | 75.9 |
| Part-time | 380 | 0.2 | 608 | 0.3 | 988 | 0.3 |
| Not a student | 46,402 | 25.6 | 41,069 | 20.1 | 87,471 | 22.7 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: Figures represented in this table are not comparable to Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Annual Report published figures due to an improved attribution of income support recipient data.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

3.4 Newstart Allowance

Newstart Allowance is paid to people between 21 years and Age Pension age who are unemployed and satisfy the activity test. A person satisfies the activity test if they are actively seeking and willing to undertake suitable paid work, including casual and part-time work. The activity test can also be satisfied in other ways including, for example, undertaking a course of vocational training, participating in a labour market program, or entering and complying with the terms of an activity agreement requiring the person to engage in specified activities.

From 1 July 1998, mutual obligation requirements were placed on young people (18 to 24 years) who were unemployed for at least six months. These Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients were required to supplement their normal job search efforts with one of a range of activities, including part-time work, voluntary work, Work for the Dole, job search training and intensive employment assistance. From 1 July 1999, mutual obligation requirements were extended to 25 to 34 year olds who have been unemployed for 12 months or more.

Newstart Allowance is subject to residence requirements and income and assets tests. Newstart Allowance customers are required to complete a fortnightly statement (in some circumstances this period may be extended) to advise of changes in circumstances that may affect entitlement to the allowance or the rate payable and, in most cases, to provide details of their job search efforts.

Jobseekers

The jobseeker population is derived for Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients by excluding all people who did not receive a payment and those known not to have been required to search for work. People receiving intensive assistance under Job Network arrangements are classified as jobseekers. These people negotiate their activity agreement with their Job Network member. They may not always be undertaking job search. The total number of jobseekers is calculated by adding together the number of jobseekers in receipt of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other).

In the following tables, customers are defined as short-term (in receipt of a payment for less than 12 months) and long-term (in receipt of a payment for one year or more).

Table 30: Short-term Newstart Allowance customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 143,736 | 64.6 | 78,641 | 35.4 | 222,377 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 21–24 | 26,748 | 18.6 | 15,011 | 19.1 | 41,759 | 18.8 |
| 25–29 | 24,343 | 16.9 | 9,654 | 12.3 | 33,997 | 15.3 |
| 30–34 | 19,446 | 13.5 | 6,932 | 8.8 | 26,378 | 11.9 |
| 35–39 | 18,067 | 12.6 | 8,101 | 10.3 | 26,168 | 11.8 |
| 40–44 | 14,820 | 10.3 | 8,669 | 11.0 | 23,489 | 10.6 |
| 45–49 | 12,841 | 8.9 | 9,469 | 12.0 | 22,310 | 10.0 |
| 50–59 | 19,149 | 13.3 | 15,203 | 19.3 | 34,352 | 15.4 |
| 60 and over | 8,322 | 5.8 | 5,602 | 7.1 | 13,924 | 6.3 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 36,248 | 25.2 | 20,928 | 26.6 | 57,176 | 25.7 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 107,488 | 74.8 | 57,713 | 73.4 | 165,201 | 74.3 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 105,399 | 73.3 | 55,747 | 70.9 | 161,146 | 72.5 |
| United Kingdom | 5,284 | 3.7 | 3,267 | 4.2 | 8,551 | 3.8 |
| New Zealand | 3,912 | 2.7 | 2,248 | 2.9 | 6,160 | 2.8 |
| Vietnam | 2,378 | 1.7 | 1,419 | 1.8 | 3,797 | 1.7 |
| China | 1,583 | 1.1 | 1,731 | 2.2 | 3,314 | 1.5 |
| Other | 25,180 | 17.5 | 14,229 | 18.1 | 39,409 | 17.7 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <7 weeks | 26,740 | 18.6 | 14,044 | 17.9 | 40,784 | 18.3 |
| 7 weeks to <3 months | 21,287 | 14.8 | 11,379 | 14.5 | 32,666 | 14.7 |
| 3 to <6 months | 41,848 | 29.1 | 22,901 | 29.1 | 64,749 | 29.1 |
| 6 to <9 months | 29,093 | 20.2 | 16,769 | 21.3 | 45,862 | 20.6 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 24,768 | 17.2 | 13,548 | 17.2 | 38,316 | 17.2 |
| Mean (weeks) | 21.6 | | 21.9 | | 21.7 | |
| Median (weeks) | 19.0 | | 20.0 | | 19.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 125,289 | 87.2 | 61,278 | 77.9 | 186,567 | 83.9 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 571 | 0.4 | 521 | 0.7 | 1,092 | 0.5 |
| Over 31.00 | 17,876 | 12.4 | 16,842 | 21.4 | 34,718 | 15.6 |
| Activity type | | | | | | |
| Jobseekers | 90,222 | 62.8 | 41,586 | 52.9 | 131,808 | 59.3 |
| Incapacitated | 7,570 | 5.3 | 5,653 | 7.2 | 13,223 | 5.9 |
| Other ^(c) | 45,944 | 32.0 | 31,402 | 39.9 | 77,346 | 34.8 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

(c) 'Other' activity types include customers involved in paid employment, full-time and part-time voluntary work, part-time study, self-employment development, training, or otherwise exempt from job search for reasons such as major personal crisis, remote location or jury duty.

Note: The figures in this table are not comparable to the Labour Market and Related Payments (LMRP) publication due to different extract rules. The LMRP reports average numbers over the reporting period and the above table is reporting point-in-time numbers as at June 2010. The table figures exclude 14,876 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 1,178 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 31: Long-term Newstart Allowance customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 195,301 | 58.9 | 136,215 | 41.1 | 331,516 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 21–24 | 27,542 | 14.1 | 17,995 | 13.2 | 45,537 | 13.7 |
| 25–29 | 28,790 | 14.7 | 13,324 | 9.8 | 42,114 | 12.7 |
| 30–34 | 24,681 | 12.6 | 11,289 | 8.3 | 35,970 | 10.9 |
| 35–39 | 24,520 | 12.6 | 14,654 | 10.8 | 39,174 | 11.8 |
| 40–44 | 21,367 | 10.9 | 17,049 | 12.5 | 38,416 | 11.6 |
| 45–49 | 18,998 | 9.7 | 18,833 | 13.8 | 37,831 | 11.4 |
| 50–59 | 30,933 | 15.8 | 30,417 | 22.3 | 61,350 | 18.5 |
| 60 and over | 18,470 | 9.5 | 12,654 | 9.3 | 31,124 | 9.4 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 46,626 | 23.9 | 34,576 | 25.4 | 81,202 | 24.5 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 148,675 | 76.1 | 101,639 | 74.6 | 250,314 | 75.5 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 145,970 | 74.7 | 97,371 | 71.5 | 243,341 | 73.4 |
| United Kingdom | 7,549 | 3.9 | 5,198 | 3.8 | 12,747 | 3.8 |
| Vietnam | 4,471 | 2.3 | 4,515 | 3.3 | 8,986 | 2.7 |
| New Zealand | 4,047 | 2.1 | 3,054 | 2.2 | 7,101 | 2.1 |
| China | 1,837 | 0.9 | 2,716 | 2.0 | 4,553 | 1.4 |
| Other | 31,427 | 16.1 | 23,361 | 17.2 | 54,788 | 16.5 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| 1 to <2 years | 79,211 | 40.6 | 41,354 | 30.4 | 120,565 | 36.4 |
| 2 to <3 years | 31,780 | 16.3 | 19,796 | 14.5 | 51,576 | 15.6 |
| 3 to <4 years | 17,492 | 9.0 | 12,826 | 9.4 | 30,318 | 9.1 |
| 4 to <5 years | 12,167 | 6.2 | 7,621 | 5.6 | 19,788 | 6.0 |
| 5 years or more | 54,651 | 28.0 | 54,618 | 40.1 | 109,269 | 33.0 |
| Mean (weeks) | 225.2 | | 313.9 | | 261.6 | |
| Median (weeks) | 128.0 | | 182.0 | | 147.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 169,131 | 86.6 | 102,855 | 75.5 | 271,986 | 82.0 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 842 | 0.4 | 891 | 0.7 | 1,733 | 0.5 |
| Over 31.00 | 25,328 | 13.0 | 32,469 | 23.8 | 57,797 | 17.4 |
| Activity type | | | | | | |
| Jobseekers | 85,166 | 43.6 | 47,389 | 34.8 | 132,555 | 40.0 |
| Incapacitated | 7,849 | 4.0 | 6,990 | 5.1 | 14,839 | 4.5 |
| Other ^(c) | 102,286 | 52.4 | 81,836 | 60.1 | 184,122 | 55.5 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

(c) 'Other' activity types include customers involved in paid employment, full-time and part-time voluntary work, part-time study, self-employment development, training, or otherwise exempt from job search for reasons such as major personal crisis, remote location or jury duty.

Note: The figures in this table are not comparable to the Labour Market and Related Payments (LMRP) publication due to different extract rules. The LMRP reports average numbers over the reporting period and the above table is reporting point-in-time numbers as at June 2010. The table figures exclude 13,859 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 3,733 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 32: Total Newstart Allowance customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 339,037 | 61.2 | 214,856 | 38.8 | 553,893 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 21–24 | 54,290 | 16.0 | 33,006 | 15.4 | 87,296 | 15.8 |
| 25–29 | 53,133 | 15.7 | 22,978 | 10.7 | 76,111 | 13.7 |
| 30–34 | 44,127 | 13.0 | 18,221 | 8.5 | 62,348 | 11.3 |
| 35–39 | 42,587 | 12.6 | 22,755 | 10.6 | 65,342 | 11.8 |
| 40–44 | 36,187 | 10.7 | 25,718 | 12.0 | 61,905 | 11.2 |
| 45–49 | 31,839 | 9.4 | 28,302 | 13.2 | 60,141 | 10.9 |
| 50–59 | 50,082 | 14.8 | 45,620 | 21.2 | 95,702 | 17.3 |
| 60 and over | 26,792 | 7.9 | 18,256 | 8.5 | 45,048 | 8.1 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 82,874 | 24.4 | 55,504 | 25.8 | 138,378 | 25.0 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 256,163 | 75.6 | 159,352 | 74.2 | 415,515 | 75.0 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 251,369 | 74.1 | 153,118 | 71.3 | 404,487 | 73.0 |
| United Kingdom | 12,833 | 3.8 | 8,465 | 3.9 | 21,298 | 3.8 |
| New Zealand | 7,959 | 2.3 | 5,302 | 2.5 | 13,261 | 2.4 |
| Vietnam | 6,849 | 2.0 | 5,934 | 2.8 | 12,783 | 2.3 |
| China | 3,420 | 1.0 | 4,447 | 2.1 | 7,867 | 1.4 |
| Other | 56,607 | 16.7 | 37,590 | 17.5 | 94,197 | 17.0 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <1 year | 143,736 | 42.4 | 78,641 | 36.6 | 222,377 | 40.1 |
| 1 to <2 years | 79,211 | 23.4 | 41,354 | 19.2 | 120,565 | 21.8 |
| 2 to <3 years | 31,780 | 9.4 | 19,796 | 9.2 | 51,576 | 9.3 |
| 3 to <4 years | 17,492 | 5.2 | 12,826 | 6.0 | 30,318 | 5.5 |
| 4 to <5 years | 12,167 | 3.6 | 7,621 | 3.5 | 19,788 | 3.6 |
| 5 years or more | 54,651 | 16.1 | 54,618 | 25.4 | 109,269 | 19.7 |
| Mean (weeks) | 138.9 | | 207.0 | | 165.3 | |
| Median (weeks) | 66.0 | | 83.0 | | 71.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 294,420 | 86.8 | 164,133 | 76.4 | 458,553 | 82.8 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 1,413 | 0.4 | 1,412 | 0.7 | 2,825 | 0.5 |
| Over 31.00 | 43,204 | 12.7 | 49,311 | 23.0 | 92,515 | 16.7 |
| Activity type | | | | | | |
| Jobseekers | 175,388 | 51.7 | 88,975 | 41.4 | 264,363 | 47.7 |
| Incapacitated | 15,419 | 4.5 | 12,643 | 5.9 | 28,062 | 5.1 |
| Other ^(c) | 148,230 | 43.7 | 113,238 | 52.7 | 261,468 | 47.2 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

(c) 'Other' activity types include customers involved in paid employment, full-time and part-time voluntary work, part-time study, self-employment development, training, or otherwise exempt from job search for reasons such as major personal crisis, remote location or jury duty.

Note: The figures in this table are not comparable to the Labour Market and Related Payments (LMRP) publication due to different extract rules. The LMRP reports average numbers over the reporting period and the above table is reporting point-in-time numbers as at June 2010. The table figures exclude 28,735 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 4,911 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 33: Short-term unemployed customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 166,107 | 63.2 | 96,659 | 36.8 | 262,766 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 18 | 5,650 | 3.4 | 5,111 | 5.3 | 10,761 | 4.1 |
| 18–24 | 43,469 | 26.2 | 27,918 | 28.9 | 71,387 | 27.2 |
| 25–29 | 24,343 | 14.7 | 9,654 | 10.0 | 33,997 | 12.9 |
| 30–34 | 19,446 | 11.7 | 6,932 | 7.2 | 26,378 | 10.0 |
| 35–39 | 18,067 | 10.9 | 8,101 | 8.4 | 26,168 | 10.0 |
| 40–44 | 14,820 | 8.9 | 8,669 | 9.0 | 23,489 | 8.9 |
| 45–49 | 12,841 | 7.7 | 9,469 | 9.8 | 22,310 | 8.5 |
| 50–59 | 19,149 | 11.5 | 15,203 | 15.7 | 34,352 | 13.1 |
| 60 and over | 8,322 | 5.0 | 5,602 | 5.8 | 13,924 | 5.3 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 37,560 | 22.6 | 22,621 | 23.4 | 60,181 | 22.9 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 128,547 | 77.4 | 74,038 | 76.6 | 202,585 | 77.1 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 125,939 | 75.8 | 72,483 | 75.0 | 198,422 | 75.5 |
| United Kingdom | 5,450 | 3.3 | 3,410 | 3.5 | 8,860 | 3.4 |
| New Zealand | 4,299 | 2.6 | 2,587 | 2.7 | 6,886 | 2.6 |
| Vietnam | 2,400 | 1.4 | 1,437 | 1.5 | 3,837 | 1.5 |
| China | 1,627 | 1.0 | 1,752 | 1.8 | 3,379 | 1.3 |
| Other | 26,392 | 15.9 | 14,990 | 15.5 | 41,382 | 15.7 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <7 weeks | 30,680 | 18.5 | 16,921 | 17.5 | 47,601 | 18.1 |
| 7 weeks to <3 months | 24,810 | 14.9 | 14,057 | 14.5 | 38,867 | 14.8 |
| 3 to <6 months | 49,045 | 29.5 | 28,978 | 30.0 | 78,023 | 29.7 |
| 6 to <9 months | 33,377 | 20.1 | 20,333 | 21.0 | 53,710 | 20.4 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 28,195 | 17.0 | 16,370 | 16.9 | 44,565 | 17.0 |
| Mean (weeks) | 21.5 | | 21.8 | | 21.6 | |
| Median (weeks) | 19.0 | | 20.0 | | 19.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 145,337 | 87.5 | 76,068 | 78.7 | 221,405 | 84.3 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 676 | 0.4 | 696 | 0.7 | 1,372 | 0.5 |
| Over 31.00 | 20,094 | 12.1 | 19,895 | 20.6 | 39,989 | 15.2 |
| Activity type | | | | | | |
| Jobseekers | 96,038 | 57.8 | 47,185 | 48.8 | 143,223 | 54.5 |
| Incapacitated | 8,173 | 4.9 | 6,200 | 6.4 | 14,373 | 5.5 |
| Other ^(c) | 61,896 | 37.3 | 43,274 | 44.8 | 105,170 | 40.0 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

(c) 'Other' activity types include customers involved in paid employment, full-time and part-time voluntary work, part-time study, self-employment development, training, or otherwise exempt from job search for reasons such as major personal crisis, remote location or jury duty.

Note: The figures in this table are not comparable to the Labour Market and Related Payments (LMRP) publication due to different extract rules. The LMRP reports average numbers over the reporting period and this table is reporting point-in-time numbers as at June 2010. Unemployed customers are those who are in receipt of either Youth Allowance with a student status other than full-time student (generally referred to as Youth Allowance (other)) or Newstart Allowance. The table figures exclude 14,876 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 1,178 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 34: Long-term unemployed customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 219,712 | 57.9 | 159,874 | 42.1 | 379,586 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 18 | 3,203 | 1.5 | 3,411 | 2.1 | 6,614 | 1.7 |
| 18–24 | 48,750 | 22.2 | 38,243 | 23.9 | 86,993 | 22.9 |
| 25–29 | 28,790 | 13.1 | 13,324 | 8.3 | 42,114 | 11.1 |
| 30–34 | 24,681 | 11.2 | 11,289 | 7.1 | 35,970 | 9.5 |
| 35–39 | 24,520 | 11.2 | 14,654 | 9.2 | 39,174 | 10.3 |
| 40–44 | 21,367 | 9.7 | 17,049 | 10.7 | 38,416 | 10.1 |
| 45–49 | 18,998 | 8.6 | 18,833 | 11.8 | 37,831 | 10.0 |
| 50–59 | 30,933 | 14.1 | 30,417 | 19.0 | 61,350 | 16.2 |
| 60 and over | 18,470 | 8.4 | 12,654 | 7.9 | 31,124 | 8.2 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 48,215 | 21.9 | 36,557 | 22.9 | 84,772 | 22.3 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 171,497 | 78.1 | 123,317 | 77.1 | 294,814 | 77.7 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 168,292 | 76.6 | 119,403 | 74.7 | 287,695 | 75.8 |
| United Kingdom | 7,651 | 3.5 | 5,275 | 3.3 | 12,926 | 3.4 |
| Vietnam | 4,523 | 2.1 | 4,552 | 2.8 | 9,075 | 2.4 |
| New Zealand | 4,371 | 2.0 | 3,406 | 2.1 | 7,777 | 2.0 |
| China | 1,871 | 0.9 | 2,742 | 1.7 | 4,613 | 1.2 |
| Other | 33,004 | 15.0 | 24,496 | 15.3 | 57,500 | 15.1 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| 1 to <2 years | 89,990 | 41.0 | 50,797 | 31.8 | 140,787 | 37.1 |
| 2 to <3 years | 39,042 | 17.8 | 27,158 | 17.0 | 66,200 | 17.4 |
| 3 to <4 years | 21,668 | 9.9 | 17,313 | 10.8 | 38,981 | 10.3 |
| 4 to <5 years | 14,284 | 6.5 | 9,880 | 6.2 | 24,164 | 6.4 |
| 5 years or more | 54,728 | 24.9 | 54,726 | 34.2 | 109,454 | 28.8 |
| Mean (weeks) | 213.8 | | 286.3 | | 244.3 | |
| Median (weeks) | 125.0 | | 161.0 | | 138.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 190,182 | 86.6 | 121,491 | 76.0 | 311,673 | 82.1 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 994 | 0.5 | 1,107 | 0.7 | 2,101 | 0.6 |
| Over 31.00 | 28,536 | 13.0 | 37,276 | 23.3 | 65,812 | 17.3 |
| Activity type | | | | | | |
| Jobseekers | 92,314 | 42.0 | 54,805 | 34.3 | 147,119 | 38.8 |
| Incapacitated | 8,262 | 3.8 | 7,564 | 4.7 | 15,826 | 4.2 |
| Other ^(c) | 119,136 | 54.2 | 97,505 | 61.0 | 216,641 | 57.1 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

(c) 'Other' activity types include customers involved in paid employment, full-time and part-time voluntary work, part-time study, self-employment development, training, or otherwise exempt from job search for reasons such as major personal crisis, remote location or jury duty.

Note: The figures are not comparable to the Labour Market and Related Payments (LMRP) publication due to different extract rules. The LMRP reports average numbers over the reporting period and this table is reporting point-in-time numbers as at June 2010. Unemployed customers are those who are in receipt of either Youth Allowance with a student status other than full-time student (generally referred to as Youth Allowance (other)) or Newstart Allowance. The table figures exclude 13,859 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 3,733 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 35: Total unemployed customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 385,819 | 60.1 | 256,533 | 39.9 | 642,352 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 18 | 8,853 | 2.3 | 8,522 | 3.3 | 17,375 | 2.7 |
| 18–24 | 92,219 | 23.9 | 66,161 | 25.8 | 158,380 | 24.7 |
| 25–29 | 53,133 | 13.8 | 22,978 | 9.0 | 76,111 | 11.8 |
| 30–34 | 44,127 | 11.4 | 18,221 | 7.1 | 62,348 | 9.7 |
| 35–39 | 42,587 | 11.0 | 22,755 | 8.9 | 65,342 | 10.2 |
| 40–44 | 36,187 | 9.4 | 25,718 | 10.0 | 61,905 | 9.6 |
| 45–49 | 31,839 | 8.3 | 28,302 | 11.0 | 60,141 | 9.4 |
| 50–59 | 50,082 | 13.0 | 45,620 | 17.8 | 95,702 | 14.9 |
| 60 and over | 26,792 | 6.9 | 18,256 | 7.1 | 45,048 | 7.0 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 85,775 | 22.2 | 59,178 | 23.1 | 144,953 | 22.6 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 300,044 | 77.8 | 197,355 | 76.9 | 497,399 | 77.4 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 294,231 | 76.3 | 191,886 | 74.8 | 486,117 | 75.7 |
| United Kingdom | 13,101 | 3.4 | 8,685 | 3.4 | 21,786 | 3.4 |
| New Zealand | 8,670 | 2.2 | 5,993 | 2.3 | 14,663 | 2.3 |
| Vietnam | 6,923 | 1.8 | 5,989 | 2.3 | 12,912 | 2.0 |
| China | 3,498 | 0.9 | 4,494 | 1.8 | 7,992 | 1.2 |
| Other | 59,396 | 15.4 | 39,486 | 15.4 | 98,882 | 15.4 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <1 year | 166,107 | 43.1 | 96,659 | 37.7 | 262,766 | 40.9 |
| 1 to <2 years | 89,990 | 23.3 | 50,797 | 19.8 | 140,787 | 21.9 |
| 2 to <3 years | 39,042 | 10.1 | 27,158 | 10.6 | 66,200 | 10.3 |
| 3 to <4 years | 21,668 | 5.6 | 17,313 | 6.7 | 38,981 | 6.1 |
| 4 to <5 years | 14,284 | 3.7 | 9,880 | 3.9 | 24,164 | 3.8 |
| 5 years or more | 54,728 | 14.2 | 54,726 | 21.3 | 109,454 | 17.0 |
| Mean (weeks) | 131.0 | | 186.7 | | 153.2 | |
| Median (weeks) | 65.0 | | 79.0 | | 69.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 335,519 | 87.0 | 197,559 | 77.0 | 533,078 | 83.0 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 1,670 | 0.4 | 1,803 | 0.7 | 3,473 | 0.5 |
| Over 31.00 | 48,630 | 12.6 | 57,171 | 22.3 | 105,801 | 16.5 |
| Activity type | | | | | | |
| Jobseekers | 188,352 | 48.8 | 101,990 | 39.8 | 290,342 | 45.2 |
| Incapacitated | 16,435 | 4.3 | 13,764 | 5.4 | 30,199 | 4.7 |
| Other ^(c) | 181,032 | 46.9 | 140,779 | 54.9 | 321,811 | 50.1 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

(c) 'Other' activity types include customers involved in paid employment, full-time and part-time voluntary work, part-time study, self-employment development, training, or otherwise exempt from job search for reasons such as major personal crisis, remote location or jury duty.

Note: The figures are not comparable to the Labour Market and Related Payments (LMRP) publication due to different extract rules. The LMRP reports average numbers over the reporting period and this table is reporting point-in-time numbers as at June 2010. Unemployed customers are those who are in receipt of either Youth Allowance with a student status other than full-time student (generally referred to as Youth Allowance (other)) or Newstart Allowance. The table figures exclude 28,735 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 4,911 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 36: Total unemployed customers by state/territory, June 2010

| State/territory | Newstart Allowance | | Youth Allowance (other) | | Total | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Short-term | Long-term | Short-term | Long-term | Short-term | Long-term |
| New South Wales | 69,857 | 114,013 | 11,663 | 15,423 | 81,520 | 129,436 |
| Victoria | 50,807 | 79,244 | 6,656 | 10,265 | 57,463 | 89,509 |
| Queensland | 54,408 | 64,864 | 12,419 | 11,625 | 66,827 | 76,489 |
| Western Australia | 20,164 | 24,985 | 4,165 | 3,366 | 24,329 | 28,351 |
| South Australia | 16,314 | 28,409 | 2,930 | 4,302 | 19,244 | 32,711 |
| Tasmania | 5,598 | 11,117 | 997 | 1,821 | 6,595 | 12,938 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 1,798 | 2,522 | 312 | 372 | 2,110 | 2,894 |
| Northern Territory | 3,372 | 6,205 | 1,230 | 871 | 4,602 | 7,076 |
| Other ^(a) | 59 | 157 | 17 | 25 | 76 | 182 |
| Total | 222,377 | 331,516 | 40,389 | 48,070 | 262,766 | 379,586 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: The figures are not comparable to the Labour Market and Related Payments (LMRP) publication due to different extract rules. The LMRP reports average numbers over the reporting period and this table is reporting point-in-time numbers as at June 2010. Unemployed customers are those who are in receipt of either Youth Allowance with a student status other than full-time student (generally referred to as Youth Allowance (other)) or Newstart Allowance. The table figures exclude 28,735 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 4,911 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

3.5 Partner Allowance

Prior to the introduction of Partner Allowance, allowees with a partner received a married rate of allowance, which included an amount for the support of a dependent spouse. In September 1994, this combined married rate of payment was abolished and half the former married rate was paid directly to the dependent partner as Partner Allowance.

Since 1 July 1995, the payment was only granted to persons born on or before 1 July 1955 who had no dependent children under the age of 16 years and no recent workforce experience defined as at least 20 hours a week for a total of 13 weeks or more in the previous 12 months. It was payable to partners of people aged over 21 years and receiving Youth Allowance, Austudy Payment, Sickness Allowance, ABSTUDY, Student Financial Supplement Scheme, Newstart Allowance, Special Benefit, Age Pension, Disability Support Pension, Mature Age Allowance or a Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Service Pension.

Partner Allowance is a non-activity tested payment subject to residence requirements, and income and assets tests. Partners who do not qualify for Partner Allowance need to qualify for another income support payment in their own right, such as Parenting Payment or Newstart Allowance.

Partner Allowance recipients aged over 60 years who have been receiving income support continuously for nine months or more may be eligible for a Pensioner Concession Card.

Partner Allowance was closed to new claimants on 20 September 2003. People already receiving Partner Allowance will continue to receive it while they remain eligible.

Table 37: Partner Allowance customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 1,783 | 7.4 | 22,271 | 92.6 | 24,054 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 50–54 | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 23 | 0.1 |
| 55–59 | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 7,673 | 31.9 |
| 60–64 | 1,230 | 69.0 | 14,850 | 66.7 | 16,080 | 66.8 |
| 65 and over | 125 | 7.0 | 153 | 0.7 | 278 | 1.2 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 977 | 54.8 | 13,394 | 60.1 | 14,371 | 59.7 |
| United Kingdom | 205 | 11.5 | 1,564 | 7.0 | 1,769 | 7.4 |
| Italy | 20 | 1.1 | 761 | 3.4 | 781 | 3.2 |
| Vietnam | 51 | 2.9 | 637 | 2.9 | 688 | 2.9 |
| Greece | 42 | 2.4 | 580 | 2.6 | 622 | 2.6 |
| Other | 488 | 27.4 | 5,335 | 24.0 | 5,823 | 24.2 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <3 years | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 23 | 0.1 |
| 3 to <4 years | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. |
| 4 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. |
| 5 years or more | 1,778 | 99.7 | 22,237 | 99.8 | 24,015 | 99.8 |
| Mean (weeks) | 580.0 | | 590.4 | | 589.6 | |
| Median (weeks) | 538.0 | | 570.0 | | 568.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 1,659 | 93.0 | 20,770 | 93.3 | 22,429 | 93.2 |
| 0.01–31.00 | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 153 | 0.6 |
| Over 31.00 | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 1,472 | 6.1 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Notes: The table figures exclude 54 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. 'n.p.'=not published. See 'Confidentiality' on page 1.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 38: Partner Allowance customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 602 | 7.9 | 7,047 | 92.1 | 7,649 | 31.8 |
| Victoria | 393 | 6.5 | 5,616 | 93.5 | 6,009 | 25.0 |
| Queensland | 320 | 7.1 | 4,167 | 92.9 | 4,487 | 18.7 |
| Western Australia | 104 | 5.4 | 1,831 | 94.6 | 1,935 | 8.0 |
| South Australia | 212 | 8.4 | 2,313 | 91.6 | 2,525 | 10.5 |
| Tasmania | 134 | 11.5 | 1,034 | 88.5 | 1,168 | 4.9 |
| Australian Capital Territory | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 91 | 0.4 |
| Northern Territory | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | n.p. | 76 | 0.3 |
| Other ^(a) | 8 | 7.0 | 106 | 93.0 | 114 | 0.5 |
| Total | 1,783 | 7.4 | 22,271 | 92.6 | 24,054 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Notes: The table figures exclude 54 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. 'n.p.'=not published. See 'Confidentiality' on page 1.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

3.6 Widow Allowance

Widow Allowance is a non-activity tested income support payment. It recognises the labour market difficulties faced by single older women who may have depended on the support of their partner.

Widow Allowance was closed to new claimants from 1 July 2006 unless the woman was born on or before 1 July 1955.

Widow Allowance is available to women over 50 years of age who were widowed, divorced or separated (including separated de facto) after the age of 40 years. To qualify for Widow Allowance, women must:

- ▶ have no recent workforce experience (defined as at least 20 hours a week for a total of 13 weeks or more in the previous 12 months)
- ▶ currently be in Australia and not be subject to an assurance of support
- ▶ and either:
 - have been an Australian resident for a continuous period of at least 26 weeks immediately before claiming, or
 - have at any time been an Australian resident for a continuous period of at least two years, or
 - have a qualifying residence exemption, or
 - along with her former partner, have been an Australian resident at the time when she became widowed, divorced or separated.

Widow Allowance is subject to residence requirement and income and assets tests.

Widow Allowance recipients are eligible to receive a Health Care Card. Recipients aged over 60 years who have been receiving income support continuously for nine months or more may be eligible to receive a Pension Concession Card.

Table 39: Widow Allowance customers, characteristics, June 2010

| Characteristics | Female | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % |
| Total | 33,886 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | |
| 50–54 | 34 | 0.1 |
| 55–59 | 12,263 | 36.2 |
| 60–64 | 19,335 | 57.1 |
| 65 and over | 2,254 | 6.7 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | |
| Australia | 18,603 | 54.9 |
| United Kingdom | 2,376 | 7.0 |
| China | 1,286 | 3.8 |
| Vietnam | 1,160 | 3.4 |
| Philippines | 945 | 2.8 |
| Other | 9,516 | 28.1 |
| Duration ^(a) | | |
| <1 year—total | 2,361 | 7.0 |
| <7 weeks | 214 | 0.6 |
| 7 weeks to <3 months | 284 | 0.8 |
| 3 to <6 months | 654 | 1.9 |
| 6 to <9 months | 566 | 1.7 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 643 | 1.9 |
| 1 year and longer—total | 31,525 | 93.0 |
| 1 to <2 years | 2,678 | 7.9 |
| 2 to <3 years | 2,256 | 6.7 |
| 3 to <4 years | 2,152 | 6.4 |
| 4 to <5 years | 2,033 | 6.0 |
| 5 years or more | 22,406 | 66.1 |
| Mean (weeks) | 461.3 | |
| Median (weeks) | 405.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | |
| Nil | 30,439 | 89.8 |
| 0.01–31.00 | 295 | 0.9 |
| Over 31.00 | 3,152 | 9.3 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 342 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and one Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participant who received a nil rate of basic Widow Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 40: Widow Allowance customers by state/territory, June 2010

| State/territory | Female | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 11,556 | 34.1 |
| Victoria | 8,726 | 25.8 |
| Queensland | 6,855 | 20.2 |
| Western Australia | 2,673 | 7.9 |
| South Australia | 2,407 | 7.1 |
| Tasmania | 1,070 | 3.2 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 215 | 0.6 |
| Northern Territory | 176 | 0.5 |
| Other ^(a) | 208 | 0.6 |
| Total | 33,886 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 342 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and one Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participant who received a nil rate of basic Widow Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

3.7 Parenting Payment

Parenting Payment was introduced to help people with children, particularly low-income families, by providing an independent income.

Parenting Payment is available to the primary carer of children and is paid to both single and partnered parents—although to only one member of a couple.

Parenting Payment is subject to residence requirements and income and assets tests.

Parenting Payment (Single)

Until 30 June 2006, Parenting Payment (Single) was contingent upon the parent having a qualifying child aged under 16 years and, when the youngest qualifying child was aged 13 years or over, the parent was required to enter into a participation agreement.

From 1 July 2006, Parenting Payment (Single) is an income support payment to a single parent who is the principal carer of a child or children under the age of 8 years. When the youngest qualifying child is aged 6 years or over, the parent must enter into an Activity Agreement. Parents on Parenting Payment (Single) before 1 July 2006 will continue to receive this payment until their youngest child turns 16 years old, as long as they remain eligible, and will have participation requirements from 1 July 2007, or when their youngest child turns 7 years old, whichever is the later.

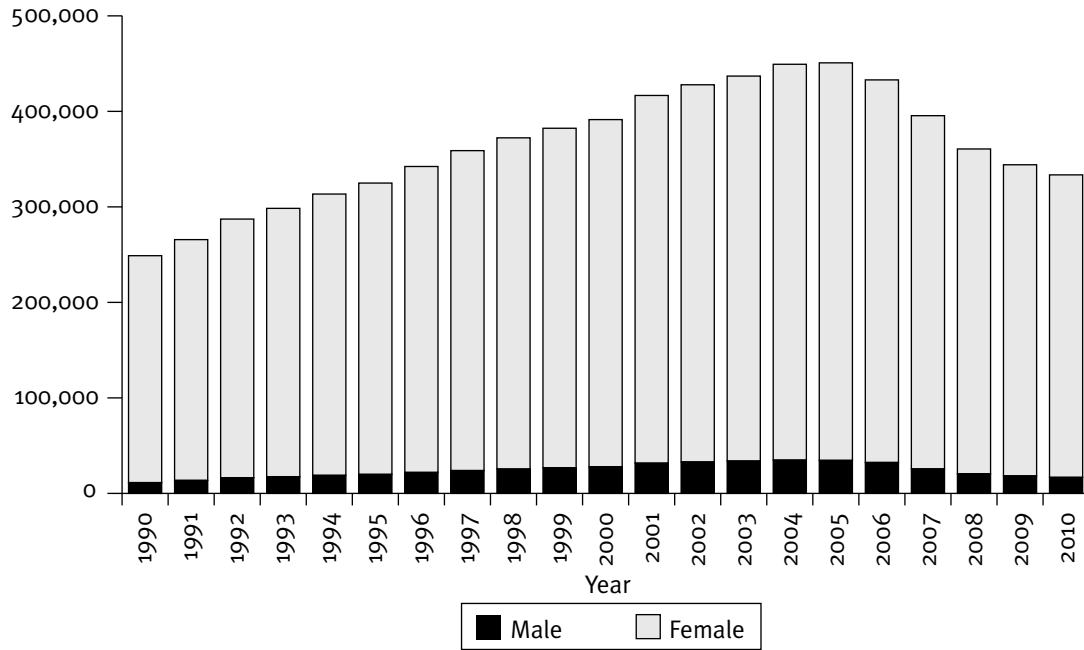
Table 41: Parenting Payment (Single) customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Male | | Female | | Total |
|---------------------|--------|-----|---------|------|---------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 11,305 | 4.5 | 237,581 | 95.5 | 248,886 |
| 1991 | 13,616 | 5.1 | 252,104 | 94.9 | 265,720 |
| 1992 | 16,444 | 5.7 | 270,784 | 94.3 | 287,228 |
| 1993 | 17,529 | 5.9 | 280,915 | 94.1 | 298,444 |
| 1994 | 18,897 | 6.0 | 294,540 | 94.0 | 313,437 |
| 1995 | 19,913 | 6.1 | 305,028 | 93.9 | 324,941 |
| 1996 | 21,964 | 6.4 | 320,326 | 93.6 | 342,290 |
| 1997 | 23,920 | 6.7 | 334,973 | 93.3 | 358,893 |
| 1998 ^(a) | 25,546 | 6.9 | 346,740 | 93.1 | 372,286 |
| 1999 | 26,830 | 7.0 | 355,493 | 93.0 | 382,323 |
| 2000 | 27,951 | 7.1 | 363,442 | 92.9 | 391,393 |
| 2001 | 31,661 | 7.6 | 385,000 | 92.4 | 416,661 |
| 2002 | 32,966 | 7.7 | 394,880 | 92.3 | 427,846 |
| 2003 | 33,909 | 7.8 | 403,049 | 92.2 | 436,958 |
| 2004 | 34,866 | 7.8 | 414,446 | 92.2 | 449,312 |
| 2005 | 34,565 | 7.7 | 416,246 | 92.3 | 450,811 |
| 2006 | 32,368 | 7.5 | 400,590 | 92.5 | 432,958 |
| 2007 | 25,677 | 6.5 | 369,818 | 93.5 | 395,495 |
| 2008 | 20,559 | 5.7 | 340,074 | 94.3 | 360,633 |
| 2009 | 18,348 | 5.3 | 325,748 | 94.7 | 344,096 |
| 2010 | 16,793 | 5.0 | 316,719 | 95.0 | 333,512 |

(a) In March 1998, Parenting Payment was introduced. It replaced Sole Parent Pension and Parenting Allowance.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Figure 8: Parenting Payment (Single) customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010



Note: In March 1998, Parenting Payment was introduced. It replaced Sole Parent Pension and Parenting Allowance.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 42: Parenting Payment (Single) customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 16,793 | 5.0 | 316,719 | 95.0 | 333,512 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 20 | 60 | 0.4 | 8,454 | 2.7 | 8,514 | 2.6 |
| 20–29 | 3,561 | 21.2 | 101,112 | 31.9 | 104,673 | 31.4 |
| 30–39 | 6,383 | 38.0 | 122,251 | 38.6 | 128,634 | 38.6 |
| 40–49 | 5,006 | 29.8 | 73,069 | 23.1 | 78,075 | 23.4 |
| 50–59 | 1,597 | 9.5 | 11,248 | 3.6 | 12,845 | 3.9 |
| 60 and over | 186 | 1.1 | 585 | 0.2 | 771 | 0.2 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 13,778 | 82.0 | 256,612 | 81.0 | 270,390 | 81.1 |
| New Zealand | 516 | 3.1 | 9,373 | 3.0 | 9,889 | 3.0 |
| United Kingdom | 551 | 3.3 | 8,087 | 2.6 | 8,638 | 2.6 |
| Vietnam | 349 | 2.1 | 8,276 | 2.6 | 8,625 | 2.6 |
| Philippines | 59 | 0.4 | 2,636 | 0.8 | 2,695 | 0.8 |
| Other | 1,540 | 9.2 | 31,735 | 10.0 | 33,275 | 10.0 |
| Home ownership | | | | | | |
| Home owner | 2,407 | 14.3 | 53,034 | 16.7 | 55,441 | 16.6 |
| Non-home owner | 14,386 | 85.7 | 263,685 | 83.3 | 278,071 | 83.4 |
| Rate | | | | | | |
| Full | 12,010 | 71.5 | 208,124 | 65.7 | 220,134 | 66.0 |
| Part | 4,445 | 26.5 | 103,167 | 32.6 | 107,612 | 32.3 |
| Zero | 304 | 1.8 | 4,993 | 1.6 | 5,297 | 1.6 |
| Undetermined | 26 | 0.2 | 324 | 0.1 | 350 | 0.1 |
| Manual | 8 | 0.0 | 111 | 0.0 | 119 | 0.0 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <6 months | 1,210 | 7.2 | 17,382 | 5.5 | 18,592 | 5.6 |
| 6 months to <1 year | 1,266 | 7.5 | 17,345 | 5.5 | 18,611 | 5.6 |
| 1 to <2 years | 2,321 | 13.8 | 32,980 | 10.4 | 35,301 | 10.6 |
| 2 to <3 years | 1,500 | 8.9 | 26,336 | 8.3 | 27,836 | 8.3 |
| 3 to <4 years | 1,126 | 6.7 | 22,256 | 7.0 | 23,382 | 7.0 |
| 4 to <5 years | 1,443 | 8.6 | 24,427 | 7.7 | 25,870 | 7.8 |
| 5 years and over | 7,927 | 47.2 | 175,993 | 55.6 | 183,920 | 55.1 |
| Mean (weeks) | 295.1 | | 359.1 | | 355.9 | |
| Median (weeks) | 242.0 | | 302.0 | | 298.0 | |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 4,875 suspended clients.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 43: Parenting Payment (Single) customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 5,625 | 5.2 | 103,080 | 94.8 | 108,705 | 32.6 |
| Victoria | 3,251 | 4.3 | 72,025 | 95.7 | 75,276 | 22.6 |
| Queensland | 4,107 | 5.6 | 69,722 | 94.4 | 73,829 | 22.1 |
| Western Australia | 1,374 | 4.3 | 30,862 | 95.7 | 32,236 | 9.7 |
| South Australia | 1,531 | 5.8 | 24,640 | 94.2 | 26,171 | 7.8 |
| Tasmania | 566 | 5.9 | 9,001 | 94.1 | 9,567 | 2.9 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 160 | 4.8 | 3,152 | 95.2 | 3,312 | 1.0 |
| Northern Territory | 174 | 4.2 | 4,014 | 95.8 | 4,188 | 1.3 |
| Other ^(a) | 5 | 2.2 | 223 | 97.8 | 228 | 0.1 |
| Total | 16,793 | 5.0 | 316,719 | 95.0 | 333,512 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 4,875 suspended clients.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Parenting Payment (Partnered)

Parenting Payment (Partnered) is payable to only one member of a couple. Until 30 June 2006, Parenting Payment (Partnered) was paid to a parent with a qualifying child aged under 16 years and, when the youngest qualifying child was 13 years or over, the parent was required to enter into a participation agreement.

From 1 July 2006, Parenting Payment (Partnered) is an income support payment to a partnered parent who is the principal carer of a child or children under the age of 6 years. When the youngest qualifying child is aged 6 years or over, the parent must enter into an Activity Agreement. Parents on Parenting Payment (Partnered) before 1 July 2006 will continue to receive this payment until their youngest child turns 16 years old, as long as they remain eligible, and will have participation requirements from 1 July 2007, or when their youngest child turns 7 years old, whichever is the later.

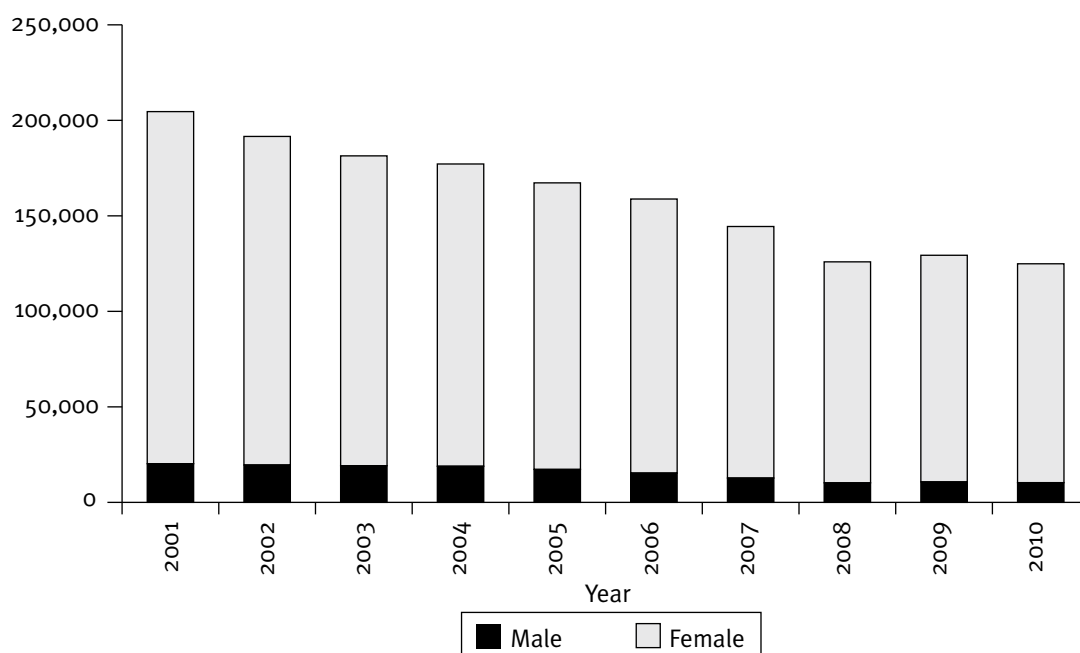
Table 44: Parenting Payment (Partnered) customers by sex, June 2001 to June 2010

| As at June | Male | | Female | | Total |
|------------|--------|------|---------|------|---------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 2001 | 20,263 | 9.9 | 184,313 | 90.1 | 204,576 |
| 2002 | 19,576 | 10.2 | 172,000 | 89.8 | 191,576 |
| 2003 | 19,196 | 10.6 | 162,209 | 89.4 | 181,405 |
| 2004 | 18,917 | 10.7 | 158,240 | 89.3 | 177,157 |
| 2005 | 17,255 | 10.3 | 150,017 | 89.7 | 167,272 |
| 2006 | 15,353 | 9.7 | 143,461 | 90.3 | 158,814 |
| 2007 | 12,742 | 8.8 | 131,685 | 91.2 | 144,427 |
| 2008 | 10,246 | 8.1 | 115,676 | 91.9 | 125,922 |
| 2009 | 10,735 | 8.3 | 118,630 | 91.7 | 129,365 |
| 2010 | 10,329 | 8.3 | 114,581 | 91.7 | 124,910 |

Note: Parenting Payment (Partnered) replaced Parenting Allowance in March 1998. From July 2000, the basic rate of Parenting Payment (Partnered) became part of Family Tax Benefit.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Figure 9: Parenting Payment (Partnered) customers by sex, June 2001 to June 2010



Note: Parenting Payment (Partnered) replaced Parenting Allowance in March 1998. From July 2000, the basic rate of Parenting Payment (Partnered) became part of Family Tax Benefit.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 45: Parenting Payment (Partnered) customers by payment category of partner, June 2001 to June 2010

| As at June | Partner's payment | | | | Total |
|------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | Youth Allowance | Low income | Newstart Allowance ^(a) | Pension | |
| 2001 | 193 | 86,329 | 95,812 | 22,242 | 204,576 |
| 2002 | 204 | 81,078 | 85,424 | 24,870 | 191,576 |
| 2003 | 195 | 81,792 | 74,268 | 25,150 | 181,405 |
| 2004 | 144 | 87,945 | 63,571 | 25,497 | 177,157 |
| 2005 | 164 | 86,184 | 56,087 | 24,837 | 167,272 |
| 2006 | 220 | 82,292 | 52,891 | 23,411 | 158,814 |
| 2007 | 195 | 82,251 | 41,181 | 20,080 | 143,707 |
| 2008 | 152 | 73,904 | 34,575 | 17,291 | 125,922 |
| 2009 | 200 | 71,457 | 41,483 | 16,225 | 129,365 |
| 2010 | 236 | 67,867 | 41,307 | 15,500 | 124,910 |

(a) Includes persons whose partner received Newstart Allowance, Sickness Allowance, Special Benefit or other payments.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 46: Parenting Payment (Partnered) customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 10,329 | 8.3 | 114,581 | 91.7 | 124,910 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 20 | 39 | 0.4 | 3,005 | 2.6 | 3,044 | 2.4 |
| 20–29 | 1,935 | 18.7 | 40,234 | 35.1 | 42,169 | 33.8 |
| 30–39 | 4,472 | 43.3 | 49,153 | 42.9 | 53,625 | 42.9 |
| 40–49 | 2,881 | 27.9 | 19,536 | 17.0 | 22,417 | 17.9 |
| 50–59 | 851 | 8.2 | 2,501 | 2.2 | 3,352 | 2.7 |
| 60 and over | 151 | 1.5 | 152 | 0.1 | 303 | 0.2 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 6,543 | 63.3 | 69,941 | 61.0 | 76,484 | 61.2 |
| Vietnam | 498 | 4.8 | 4,769 | 4.2 | 5,267 | 4.2 |
| China | 369 | 3.6 | 4,362 | 3.8 | 4,731 | 3.8 |
| Lebanon | 196 | 1.9 | 3,656 | 3.2 | 3,852 | 3.1 |
| Iraq | 193 | 1.9 | 3,487 | 3.0 | 3,680 | 2.9 |
| Other | 2,530 | 24.5 | 28,366 | 24.8 | 30,896 | 24.7 |
| Home ownership | | | | | | |
| Home owner | 3,397 | 32.9 | 38,724 | 33.8 | 42,121 | 33.7 |
| Non-home owner | 6,932 | 67.1 | 75,857 | 66.2 | 82,789 | 66.3 |
| Rate | | | | | | |
| Full | 5,852 | 56.7 | 69,337 | 60.5 | 75,189 | 60.2 |
| Part | 3,585 | 34.7 | 35,707 | 31.2 | 39,292 | 31.5 |
| Zero | 833 | 8.1 | 8,912 | 7.8 | 9,745 | 7.8 |
| Undetermined | 59 | 0.6 | 606 | 0.5 | 665 | 0.5 |
| Manual | 0 | 0.0 | 19 | 0.0 | 19 | 0.0 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| <6 months | 2,060 | 19.9 | 12,729 | 11.1 | 14,789 | 11.8 |
| 6 months to <1 year | 1,478 | 14.3 | 11,177 | 9.8 | 12,655 | 10.1 |
| 1 to <2 years | 2,117 | 20.5 | 17,715 | 15.5 | 19,832 | 15.9 |
| 2 to <3 years | 997 | 9.7 | 11,219 | 9.8 | 12,216 | 9.8 |
| 3 to <4 years | 605 | 5.9 | 8,695 | 7.6 | 9,300 | 7.4 |
| 4 to <5 years | 604 | 5.8 | 8,129 | 7.1 | 8,733 | 7.0 |
| 5 years and over | 2,468 | 23.9 | 44,917 | 39.2 | 47,385 | 37.9 |
| Mean (weeks) | 177.3 | | 263.5 | | 256.3 | |
| Median (weeks) | 88.0 | | 181.0 | | 172.0 | |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 2,106 suspended customers.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

Table 47: Parenting Payment (Partnered) customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 3,486 | 8.0 | 40,207 | 92.0 | 43,693 | 35.0 |
| Victoria | 2,447 | 8.1 | 27,847 | 91.9 | 30,294 | 24.3 |
| Queensland | 2,353 | 9.7 | 21,974 | 90.3 | 24,327 | 19.5 |
| Western Australia | 676 | 7.1 | 8,803 | 92.9 | 9,479 | 7.6 |
| South Australia | 828 | 9.2 | 8,194 | 90.8 | 9,022 | 7.2 |
| Tasmania | 379 | 9.6 | 3,569 | 90.4 | 3,948 | 3.2 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 65 | 8.8 | 671 | 91.2 | 736 | 0.6 |
| Northern Territory | 75 | 2.4 | 2,996 | 97.6 | 3,071 | 2.5 |
| Other ^(a) | 20 | 5.9 | 320 | 94.1 | 340 | 0.3 |
| Total | 10,329 | 8.3 | 114,581 | 91.7 | 124,910 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 2,106 suspended customers.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Blue Book dataset).

3.8 Special Benefit

Special Benefit is an income support payment for people in severe financial hardship due to circumstances beyond their control. Special Benefit is a discretionary payment. The circumstances under which it is granted are determined by the Secretary of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

To qualify for Special Benefit a person must be:

- in severe financial hardship
- unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for themselves and their dependants by reason of age, physical or mental disability or domestic circumstances or for any other reason over which the person has no control
- unable to receive any other income support payment
- residing in Australia throughout the period for which payment is sought, except under certain rare circumstances, and
- a permanent Australian resident or the holder of an approved visa.

Special Benefit is subject to income and assets tests.

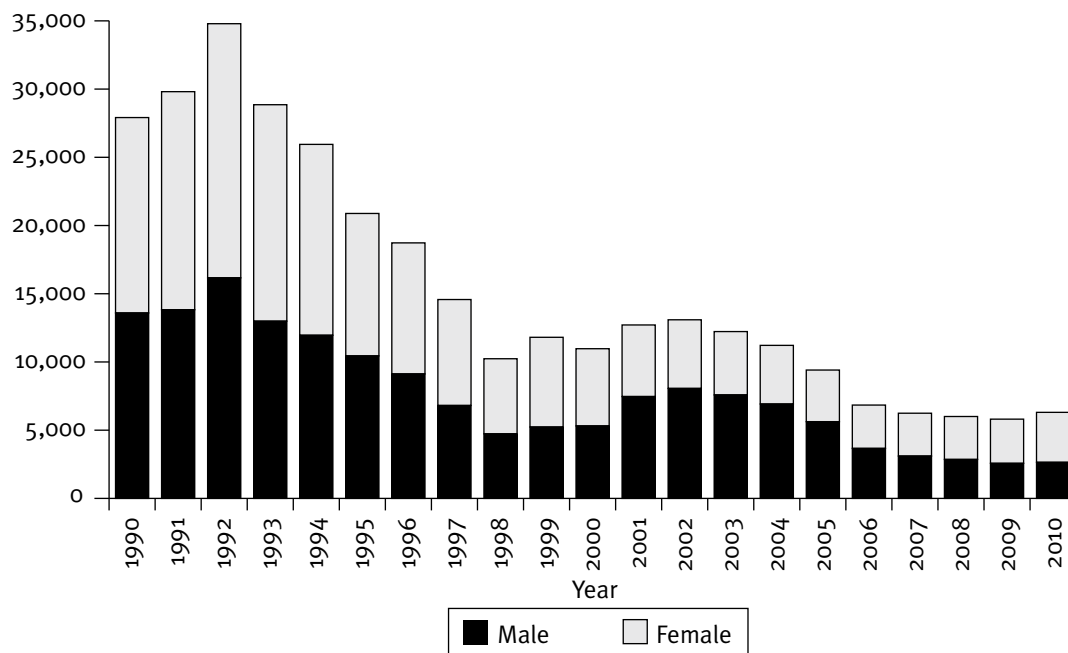
Table 48: Special Benefit customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Male | | Female | | Total |
|------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 13,592 | 48.7 | 14,321 | 51.3 | 27,913 |
| 1991 | 13,830 | 46.4 | 15,981 | 53.6 | 29,811 |
| 1992 | 16,168 | 46.5 | 18,624 | 53.5 | 34,792 |
| 1993 | 12,989 | 45.0 | 15,865 | 55.0 | 28,854 |
| 1994 | 11,957 | 46.1 | 13,990 | 53.9 | 25,947 |
| 1995 | 10,446 | 50.0 | 10,438 | 50.0 | 20,884 |
| 1996 | 9,125 | 48.7 | 9,602 | 51.3 | 18,727 |
| 1997 | 6,811 | 46.7 | 7,765 | 53.3 | 14,576 |
| 1998 | 4,733 | 46.2 | 5,503 | 53.8 | 10,236 |
| 1999 | 5,232 | 44.3 | 6,576 | 55.7 | 11,808 |
| 2000 | 5,313 | 48.4 | 5,658 | 51.6 | 10,971 |
| 2001 | 7,466 | 58.7 | 5,246 | 41.3 | 12,712 |
| 2002 | 8,060 | 61.6 | 5,031 | 38.4 | 13,091 |
| 2003 | 7,585 | 62.0 | 4,643 | 38.0 | 12,228 |
| 2004 | 6,918 | 61.7 | 4,298 | 38.3 | 11,216 |
| 2005 | 5,625 | 59.8 | 3,783 | 40.2 | 9,408 |
| 2006 | 3,665 | 53.6 | 3,176 | 46.4 | 6,841 |
| 2007 | 3,104 | 49.7 | 3,140 | 50.3 | 6,244 |
| 2008 | 2,856 | 47.6 | 3,147 | 52.4 | 6,003 |
| 2009 | 2,571 | 44.3 | 3,238 | 55.7 | 5,809 |
| 2010 | 2,645 | 41.9 | 3,662 | 58.1 | 6,307 |

Note: Until 1997, the figures are an average of the number of weekly payments during June. From 1998, the figures are customer numbers at a point-in-time. The figures exclude customers who received a nil rate of payment.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 10: Special Benefit customers by sex, June 1990 to June 2010



Note: Until 1997, the figures are an average of the number of weekly payments during June. From 1998, the figures are customer numbers at a point-in-time. The figures exclude customers who received a nil rate of payment.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 49: Special Benefit customers, Special Benefit category by sex, June 2010

| Category | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Assurance of support | 24 | 0.9 | 47 | 1.3 | 71 | 1.1 |
| Australian citizen child in custody of non-permanent resident | 58 | 2.2 | 62 | 1.7 | 120 | 1.9 |
| Caring for child | 1 | 0.0 | 13 | 0.4 | 14 | 0.2 |
| Caring for incapacitated person | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Newly arrived refugees in two-year waiting period for Newstart Allowance/Sickness Allowance | 95 | 3.6 | 89 | 2.4 | 184 | 2.9 |
| Newly arrived migrants (NAM) in waiting period for Special Benefit | 27 | 1.0 | 23 | 0.6 | 50 | 0.8 |
| NAM in two-year waiting period for: | | | | | | |
| Widow Allowance/Parenting Payment/Mature Age Allowance/Carer Payment | 2 | 0.1 | 42 | 1.1 | 44 | 0.7 |
| Not residentially qualified for Age Pension | 1,645 | 62.2 | 1,565 | 42.7 | 3,210 | 50.9 |
| Not residentially qualified for Disability Support Pension (pre-10 December 2000) | 110 | 4.2 | 115 | 3.1 | 225 | 3.6 |
| Other cases (long-term) | 18 | 0.7 | 38 | 1.0 | 56 | 0.9 |
| Other cases (short-term) | 1 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.0 |
| Socially marginalised | 10 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.0 | 11 | 0.2 |
| Spouse provisional visa (previously Special entry visa) (post-10 December 2000) | 468 | 17.7 | 1,369 | 37.4 | 1,837 | 29.1 |
| Temporary protection visa from 1 January 2003 | 29 | 1.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 33 | 0.5 |
| Temporary protection visa (not of workforce age) | 1 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Under 16 years | 156 | 5.9 | 292 | 8.0 | 448 | 7.1 |
| Total | 2,645 | 41.9 | 3,662 | 58.1 | 6,307 | 100.0 |

Note: The table figures exclude customers who received a nil rate of payment.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 50: Special Benefit customers, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 2,645 | 41.9 | 3,662 | 58.1 | 6,307 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 214 | 8.1 | 349 | 9.5 | 563 | 8.9 |
| 16–17 | 22 | 0.8 | 32 | 0.9 | 54 | 0.9 |
| 18–20 | 50 | 1.9 | 86 | 2.3 | 136 | 2.2 |
| 21–24 | 73 | 2.8 | 328 | 9.0 | 401 | 6.4 |
| 25–34 | 289 | 10.9 | 683 | 18.7 | 972 | 15.4 |
| 35–44 | 153 | 5.8 | 287 | 7.8 | 440 | 7.0 |
| 45–54 | 89 | 3.4 | 189 | 5.2 | 278 | 4.4 |
| 55–59 | 29 | 1.1 | 48 | 1.3 | 77 | 1.2 |
| 60–64 | 29 | 1.1 | 100 | 2.7 | 129 | 2.0 |
| 65 and over | 1,697 | 64.2 | 1,560 | 42.6 | 3,257 | 51.6 |
| Marital status | | | | | | |
| Married/de facto | 1,783 | 67.4 | 2,310 | 63.1 | 4,093 | 64.9 |
| Single/separated/divorced/widowed | 862 | 32.6 | 1,352 | 36.9 | 2,214 | 35.1 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| China | 783 | 29.6 | 720 | 19.7 | 1,503 | 23.8 |
| Australia | 202 | 7.6 | 333 | 9.1 | 535 | 8.5 |
| Philippines | 91 | 3.4 | 298 | 8.1 | 389 | 6.2 |
| India | 151 | 5.7 | 195 | 5.3 | 346 | 5.5 |
| Vietnam | 119 | 4.5 | 207 | 5.7 | 326 | 5.2 |
| Other | 1,299 | 49.1 | 1,909 | 52.1 | 3,208 | 50.9 |
| Duration ^(a) | | | | | | |
| Less than one year—total | 995 | 37.6 | 1,847 | 50.4 | 2,842 | 45.1 |
| <7 weeks | 179 | 6.8 | 331 | 9.0 | 510 | 8.1 |
| 7 weeks to <3 months | 172 | 6.5 | 343 | 9.4 | 515 | 8.2 |
| 3 to <6 months | 253 | 9.6 | 540 | 14.7 | 793 | 12.6 |
| 6 to <9 months | 225 | 8.5 | 373 | 10.2 | 598 | 9.5 |
| 9 months to <1 year | 166 | 6.3 | 260 | 7.1 | 426 | 6.8 |
| One year and longer—total | 1,650 | 62.4 | 1,815 | 49.6 | 3,465 | 54.9 |
| 1 to <2 years | 458 | 17.3 | 656 | 17.9 | 1,114 | 17.7 |
| 2 to <3 years | 256 | 9.7 | 313 | 8.5 | 569 | 9.0 |
| 3 to <4 years | 266 | 10.1 | 264 | 7.2 | 530 | 8.4 |
| 4 to <5 years | 199 | 7.5 | 217 | 5.9 | 416 | 6.6 |
| 5 years or more | 471 | 17.8 | 365 | 10.0 | 836 | 13.3 |
| Mean (weeks) | 133.0 | | 96.0 | | 111.5 | |
| Median (weeks) | 84.0 | | 50.9 | | 64.0 | |
| Income (\$ per week) ^(b) | | | | | | |
| Nil | 2,604 | 98.4 | 3,599 | 98.3 | 6,203 | 98.4 |
| 0.01 and over | 41 | 1.6 | 63 | 1.7 | 104 | 1.6 |

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date.

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: The table figures exclude customers who received a nil rate of payment.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 51: Special Benefit customers by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 1,406 | 46.5 | 1,620 | 53.5 | 3,026 | 48.0 |
| Victoria | 757 | 42.4 | 1,030 | 57.6 | 1,787 | 28.3 |
| Queensland | 191 | 32.1 | 404 | 67.9 | 595 | 9.4 |
| Western Australia | 112 | 33.6 | 221 | 66.4 | 333 | 5.3 |
| South Australia | 129 | 32.1 | 273 | 67.9 | 402 | 6.4 |
| Tasmania | 23 | 31.1 | 51 | 68.9 | 74 | 1.2 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 22 | 31.0 | 49 | 69.0 | 71 | 1.1 |
| Northern Territory | 5 | 26.3 | 14 | 73.7 | 19 | 0.3 |
| Total | 2,645 | 41.9 | 3,662 | 58.1 | 6,307 | 100.0 |

Note: The table figures exclude customers who received a nil rate of payment.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

4 Family assistance

The Australian Government offers a range of payments through the Family Assistance Office to support families with their work and family responsibilities.

Each payment is different, depending on the needs of each family.

The main payments are:

- Family Tax Benefit Part A
- Family Tax Benefit Part B
- Child Care Benefit
- Child Care Rebate
- Baby Bonus
- Maternity Immunisation Allowance
- Double Orphan Pension.

4.1 Family Tax Benefit

Family Tax Benefit (FTB) was introduced to help with the cost of raising children.

Residence requirements apply.

Part A

This is the most common payment to help with the cost of raising children and is paid per child. It includes a supplement per child that becomes payable after the end of the financial year.

Part A is income tested on family income.

Part B

This payment gives extra assistance to single-parent families and to couple families where one income is low. It is paid on a per family basis and includes a supplement that becomes payable after the end of the financial year.

Part B is income tested for single parents, and is income tested on both the lower income earner and the main income earner for two-parent families.

Reconciliation

After the end of each financial year, when an FTB customer and their partner (if applicable) have lodged their tax returns (if required), a reconciliation process occurs that compares the customer's FTB entitlement calculated on their actual income, with the amount they were paid during the year based on their estimated income.

The following table shows 'entitled' customers who, after reconciliation processes, have been found to have at least one day of entitlement to FTB. Note that, for a range of reasons, FTB may be claimed during an entitlement year but there may be no entitlement following reconciliation.

Table 52: Family Tax Benefit, customers by category, 2003–04 to 2008–09 entitlement year, as at June 2010

| | 2003–04 | 2004–05 | 2005–06 | 2006–07 | 2007–08 | 2008–09 ^(a) |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|
| Lump sums | | | | | | |
| Entitled | 203,813 | 200,462 | 210,256 | 222,628 | 246,097 | 129,019 |
| Not entitled (post) | 1,578 | 1,357 | 1,416 | 1,648 | 2,171 | 3,787 |
| All lump sums | 205,391 | 201,819 | 211,672 | 224,276 | 248,268 | 132,806 |
| Instalments | | | | | | |
| Entitled | 1,912,091 | 1,926,745 | 1,918,874 | 1,899,852 | 1,872,433 | 1,774,071 |
| Not entitled (post) | 64,725 | 72,300 | 90,088 | 100,162 | 97,144 | 81,988 |
| All instalments | 1,976,816 | 1,999,045 | 2,008,962 | 2,000,014 | 1,969,577 | 1,856,059 |
| Not yet reconciled | 14,526 | 18,253 | 21,947 | 26,464 | 28,142 | 163,035 |
| All customers | 2,196,733 | 2,219,117 | 2,242,581 | 2,250,754 | 2,245,987 | 2,151,900 |
| All entitled | 2,115,904 | 2,127,207 | 2,129,130 | 2,122,480 | 2,118,530 | 1,903,090 |

(a) Preliminary figures. The number of lump-sum customers is not yet final because the claim period for 2008–09 lump-sum payments extends until June 2011; the number of 'not yet reconciled' customers will decrease by the end of June 2011 and the number of customers in the 'all entitled' category will increase.

Note: On 1 March 2011, the major repository of management information relating to FTB Reconciliation and Lump Sum Claim formally moved to a new reporting product. As a part of this change, the quality and breadth of information was improved, with a number of corrections being made to historical data.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Instalments

The following tables relate to fortnightly payments of Family Tax Benefit as at June 2010.

Table 53: Family Tax Benefit, customers and children, June 2010

| | Customer | Children |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| | No. | No. |
| Family Tax Benefit, both Part A and B | 1,309,167 | 2,538,527 |
| Family Tax Benefit, Part A only | 428,353 | 826,325 |
| Total Part A | 1,737,520 | 3,364,852 |
| Family Tax Benefit, Part B only | 72,083 | 130,624 ^(a) |
| Total Part B | 1,381,250 | 2,669,151 ^(a) |
| Total^(b) | 1,809,603 | 3,495,476 |

(a) The number of children shown for Family Tax Benefit (FTB) Part B is the number of children in the families of FTB Part B customers.

(b) The FTB total of customers and children is the total number who received FTB Part A and/or FTB Part B. It is not the arithmetic total of FTB Part A and FTB Part B customers and children as most customers receive both FTB Part A and FTB Part B.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 54: Family Tax Benefit Part A, customers and children by rate type, June 2010

| Family Tax Benefit rate type | Customers | | Children | |
|---|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % |
| Maximum FTB (A) rate with ISP ^(a) | 415,357 | 23.9 | 784,852 | 23.3 |
| Maximum FTB (A) rate without ISP ^(a) | 196,491 | 11.3 | 344,404 | 10.2 |
| Part rate ^(b) | 544,924 | 31.4 | 1,186,209 | 35.3 |
| Base rate | 460,916 | 26.5 | 791,495 | 23.5 |
| Tapered base rate | 118,177 | 6.8 | 251,470 | 7.5 |
| Invalid code | 1,655 | 0.1 | 6,422 | 0.2 |
| Total | 1,737,520 | 100.0 | 3,364,852 | 100.0 |

(a) ISP=Income Support Payment (for example, Newstart Allowance, Disability Support Pension).

(b) Customers receiving less than maximum rate but more than base rate.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 55: Family Tax Benefit Part A, customers and dependent children by age of child, June 2010

| Age of child (years) | Customers ^(a) | | Children | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % |
| Under 13 | 1,413,472 | 81.3 | 2,522,512 | 75.0 |
| 13–15 | 481,425 | 27.7 | 549,009 | 16.3 |
| 16–17 | 160,838 | 9.3 | 167,888 | 5.0 |
| 18–20 | 104,356 | 6.0 | 112,614 | 3.3 |
| 21–24 | 12,077 | 0.7 | 12,824 | 0.4 |
| Total^(b) | 1,737,520 | 100.0 | 3,364,852 | 100.0 |

(a) The customer count is the number of customers with at least one dependent child in the age group—hence a particular customer may be counted in more than one category. The total, however, counts each customer once only and is therefore less than the sum of the categories.

(b) Includes 'Invalid code'.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 56: Family Tax Benefit Part B, customers by rate type and age of youngest child, June 2010

| Rate type and age of child (years) | Customers | |
|--|------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % |
| Maximum Rate Family Tax Benefit Part B | | |
| Child under 5 years | 409,428 | 29.6 |
| Child 5 years and over | 516,414 | 37.4 |
| Total | 925,842 | 67.0 |
| Part Rate Family Tax Benefit Part B | | |
| Child under 5 years | 275,857 | 20.0 |
| Child 5 years and over | 179,551 | 13.0 |
| Total | 455,408 | 33.0 |
| Total Family Tax Benefit Part B | | |
| Child under 5 years | 685,285 | 49.6 |
| Child 5 years and over | 695,965 | 50.4 |
| Total | 1,381,250 | 100.0 |

Note: 'Child 5 years and over' includes any counts where customer records have an 'Invalid' code.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 57: Family Tax Benefit customers, characteristics by payment type, June 2010

| Characteristics | Family Tax Benefit Part A | | Family Tax Benefit Part B | | Family Tax Benefit | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 1,737,520 | 100.0 | 1,381,250 | 100.0 | 1,809,603 | 100.0 |
| Age of customer (years) | | | | | | |
| Under 18 | 2,575 | 0.1 | 2,565 | 0.2 | 2,576 | 0.1 |
| 18–20 | 21,824 | 1.3 | 21,470 | 1.6 | 21,896 | 1.2 |
| 21–24 | 80,463 | 4.6 | 76,191 | 5.5 | 81,622 | 4.5 |
| 25–34 | 502,236 | 28.9 | 437,944 | 31.7 | 525,136 | 29.0 |
| 35–44 | 741,138 | 42.7 | 576,623 | 41.7 | 777,017 | 42.9 |
| 45–54 | 344,071 | 19.8 | 234,108 | 16.9 | 355,290 | 19.6 |
| 55–59 | 30,008 | 1.7 | 19,926 | 1.4 | 30,716 | 1.7 |
| 60–64 | 9,200 | 0.5 | 7,149 | 0.5 | 9,310 | 0.5 |
| 65 and over | 5,905 | 0.3 | 5,274 | 0.4 | 5,940 | 0.3 |
| Invalid code | 100 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 100 | 0.0 |
| Family type | | | | | | |
| Partnered | 1,127,551 | 64.9 | 781,570 | 56.6 | 1,194,928 | 66.0 |
| Single parents—total | 609,177 | 35.1 | 599,029 | 43.4 | 613,859 | 33.9 |
| Female | 536,127 | 30.9 | 527,064 | 38.2 | 539,251 | 29.8 |
| Male | 73,050 | 4.2 | 71,965 | 5.2 | 74,608 | 4.1 |
| Not specified | 792 | 0.0 | 651 | 0.0 | 816 | 0.0 |
| Number of children in the family | | | | | | |
| One | 675,494 | 38.9 | 552,627 | 40.0 | 701,979 | 38.8 |
| Two | 662,791 | 38.1 | 510,657 | 37.0 | 696,770 | 38.5 |
| Three | 281,734 | 16.2 | 219,774 | 15.9 | 292,071 | 16.1 |
| Four | 84,653 | 4.9 | 69,273 | 5.0 | 85,895 | 4.7 |
| Five or more | 32,848 | 1.9 | 28,919 | 2.1 | 32,888 | 1.8 |
| Country of birth (top five countries) | | | | | | |
| Australia | 1,255,243 | 72.2 | 997,366 | 72.2 | 1,309,961 | 72.4 |
| United Kingdom | 67,556 | 3.9 | 51,505 | 3.7 | 71,696 | 4.0 |
| New Zealand | 57,852 | 3.3 | 46,799 | 3.4 | 59,923 | 3.3 |
| Vietnam | 36,494 | 2.1 | 30,657 | 2.2 | 36,940 | 2.0 |
| China | 33,933 | 2.0 | 26,077 | 1.9 | 34,545 | 1.9 |
| Other | 286,442 | 16.5 | 228,846 | 16.6 | 296,538 | 16.4 |

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 58: Family Tax Benefit, customers and children by state/territory, June 2010

| State/territory | Family Tax Benefit Part A | | | | Family Tax Benefit Part B | | | | Total Family Tax Benefit | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Customers | | Children | | Customers | | Children | | Customers | | Children | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 550,226 | 31.7 | 1,066,705 | 31.7 | 441,008 | 31.9 | 852,545 | 31.9 | 571,912 | 31.6 | 1,105,600 | 31.6 |
| Victoria | 430,301 | 24.8 | 825,154 | 24.5 | 335,754 | 24.3 | 641,787 | 24.0 | 447,131 | 24.7 | 855,598 | 24.5 |
| Queensland | 370,779 | 21.3 | 729,657 | 21.7 | 293,780 | 21.3 | 578,649 | 21.7 | 385,851 | 21.3 | 757,495 | 21.7 |
| Western Australia | 162,433 | 9.3 | 317,610 | 9.4 | 138,277 | 10.0 | 269,425 | 10.1 | 174,383 | 9.6 | 339,345 | 9.7 |
| South Australia | 135,964 | 7.8 | 255,818 | 7.6 | 102,545 | 7.4 | 192,305 | 7.2 | 139,685 | 7.7 | 262,494 | 7.5 |
| Tasmania | 47,667 | 2.7 | 91,368 | 2.7 | 36,378 | 2.6 | 70,022 | 2.6 | 48,562 | 2.7 | 92,958 | 2.7 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 19,432 | 1.1 | 37,151 | 1.1 | 15,976 | 1.2 | 30,070 | 1.1 | 20,751 | 1.1 | 39,478 | 1.1 |
| Northern Territory | 20,329 | 1.2 | 40,297 | 1.2 | 17,501 | 1.3 | 34,299 | 1.3 | 20,936 | 1.2 | 41,411 | 1.2 |
| Other ^(a) | 389 | 0.0 | 1,092 | 0.0 | 31 | 0.0 | 49 | 0.0 | 392 | 0.0 | 1,097 | 0.0 |
| Total | 1,737,520 | 100.0 | 3,364,852 | 100.0 | 1,381,250 | 100.0 | 2,669,151 | 100.0 | 1,809,603 | 100.0 | 3,495,476 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes invalid state/territory codes.

Note: The Family Tax Benefit (FTB) total of customers is the total number who received FTB Part A and/or FTB Part B. It is not the arithmetic total of FTB Part A and FTB Part B as most customers receive both FTB Part A and FTB Part B.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

4.2 Baby Bonus and Maternity Immunisation Allowance

Baby Bonus (previously Maternity Payment) was introduced on 1 July 2007 to replace the previous Maternity Allowance and the Baby Bonus Tax Offset. Baby Bonus assists families with the extra costs associated with newborn or adopted children and is available to eligible families who apply within 52 weeks of the baby's birth (including stillbirths) or the date an adopted child came into care.

Baby Bonus is income tested against the families' estimated adjusted taxable income for the six months following the birth of the child. Baby Bonus may also be paid to foster carers or adoptive parents who take on the care of a child shortly after the child's birth, if payment has not already been made to another person for the baby. Baby Bonus payments are available only as 13 fortnightly instalments.

Prior to 1 January 2009, Baby Bonus was available to families who applied within 26 weeks of the birth or adoption, there was no income test and a proportion of payments were made as a lump sum.

Maternity Immunisation Allowance (MIA) is designed to increase immunisation levels in children and to improve the timeliness of immunisation. From 1 January 2009, MIA is paid in two payments. The first payment is paid if a child is fully immunised between 18 and 24 months of age. The second amount is paid if a child is fully immunised between 4 and 5 years of age. Before 2009, MIA was paid in a single payment when the child was between 18 and 24 months of age. Eligibility is subject to the child being immunised in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's Standard Vaccination Schedule, or having a valid exemption. There is no means test for MIA.

Table 59: Baby Bonus and Maternity Immunisation Allowance customers, 2009–10 financial year

| | Families | Children |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Baby Bonus | 267,793 | 272,558 |
| Maternity Immunisation Allowance | 270,282 | 276,284 |

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Baby Bonus

Table notes

The following Baby Bonus tables provide information by age of customer at date of payment.

Customers may be granted more than one payment during a 12-month period (for two different births at two different ages); however, each customer will be counted once only in the total.

Table 60: Baby Bonus customers and children by age and sex of customer, 2009–10 financial year

| Age of customer at date of payment (years) | Customers | | | | | | Children | |
|--|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Male | | Female | | Total | | No. | % |
| | No. | % of age group | No. | % of age group | No. | % | | |
| Under 18 | 6 | 0.2 | 2,892 | 99.8 | 2,898 | 1.1 | 2,918 | 1.1 |
| 18–19 | 82 | 1.1 | 7,516 | 98.9 | 7,598 | 2.8 | 7,681 | 2.8 |
| 20–24 | 1,234 | 3.3 | 35,883 | 96.7 | 37,117 | 13.9 | 37,600 | 13.8 |
| 25–29 | 7,220 | 10.2 | 63,640 | 89.8 | 70,860 | 26.5 | 71,920 | 26.4 |
| 30–34 | 13,332 | 16.2 | 69,194 | 83.8 | 82,526 | 30.8 | 84,053 | 30.8 |
| 35–39 | 9,752 | 19.2 | 40,958 | 80.8 | 50,710 | 18.9 | 51,850 | 19.0 |
| 40–44 | 3,895 | 30.3 | 8,974 | 69.7 | 12,869 | 4.8 | 13,168 | 4.8 |
| 45 and over | 2,312 | 71.1 | 942 | 28.9 | 3,254 | 1.2 | 3,368 | 1.2 |
| Total | 37,827 | 14.1 | 229,966 | 85.9 | 267,793 | 100.0 | 272,558 | 100.0 |

Note: The total figure may not equal the sum of the column—for explanation, please refer to the notes prior to Baby Bonus tables.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 61: Baby Bonus customers and children by family type, 2009–10 financial year

| Age of customer at date of payment (years) | Customers | | | Children | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Partnered | Single parent | Total | Partnered | Single parent | Total |
| Under 18 | 884 | 2,011 | 2,895 | 889 | 2,026 | 2,915 |
| 18–19 | 3,455 | 4,140 | 7,595 | 3,495 | 4,183 | 7,678 |
| 20–24 | 24,113 | 12,986 | 37,099 | 24,440 | 13,142 | 37,582 |
| 25–29 | 60,388 | 10,460 | 70,848 | 61,268 | 10,640 | 71,908 |
| 30–34 | 75,397 | 7,121 | 82,518 | 76,786 | 7,258 | 84,044 |
| 35–39 | 46,166 | 4,538 | 50,704 | 47,191 | 4,653 | 51,844 |
| 40–44 | 11,350 | 1,513 | 12,863 | 11,624 | 1,538 | 13,162 |
| 45 and over | 2,858 | 393 | 3,251 | 2,953 | 412 | 3,365 |
| Total^(a) | 224,585 | 43,149 | 267,734 | 228,646 | 43,852 | 272,498 |

(a) The total figure may not equal the sum of the column—for explanation, please refer to the notes prior to Baby Bonus tables.

Note: The table figures exclude 59 customers and 60 children whose family type was not specified.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 62: Baby Bonus customers by payment type, 2009–10 financial year

| Age of customer at date of payment (years) | Payment type | | Total |
|--|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| | Instalment | Lump-sum | |
| Under 18 | 2,848 | 52 | 2,898 |
| 18–19 | 7,475 | 129 | 7,598 |
| 20–24 | 36,667 | 478 | 37,117 |
| 25–29 | 70,248 | 656 | 70,860 |
| 30 and over | 147,891 | 1,552 | 149,344 |
| Total | 265,110 | 2,866 | 267,793 |

Note: The total figure may not equal the sum of the column—for explanation, please refer to the notes prior to Baby Bonus tables.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 63: Baby Bonus customers by state/territory, 2009–10 financial year

| State/territory | Customers | |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 86,138 | 32.2 |
| Victoria | 64,648 | 24.1 |
| Queensland | 57,017 | 21.3 |
| Western Australia | 27,050 | 10.1 |
| South Australia | 18,532 | 6.9 |
| Tasmania | 6,153 | 2.3 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 4,266 | 1.6 |
| Northern Territory | 3,626 | 1.4 |
| Other ^(a) | 363 | 0.1 |
| Total | 267,793 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

4.3 Child care support

Child care support policies have been developed to help families participate in the economic and social life of the community through providing support for child care.

Child Care Benefit (CCB) helps families with the cost of approved child care, with financial assistance proportionally higher for lower-income families. Eligible families can have the benefit paid directly to the child care service to reduce their ongoing fees. Alternatively, they can receive the benefit as a lump sum after the end of the financial year. In addition to CCB, families may also receive the Child Care Rebate (CCR) (formerly known as the Child Care Tax Rebate) that pays up to 50 per cent (up from 30 per cent previously) of out-of-pocket costs. CCR is available quarterly to better align with when child care costs are incurred. Final CCR assessments are subject to CCB reconciliation based on taxable income as assessed by the Australian Taxation Office. Families using registered care (that is, informal care provided by a friend or neighbour registered with the Family Assistance Office), rather than care in an approved service, are eligible for the registered care rate of CCB. This is paid for up to 50 hours per week of work-related child care.

Table 64: Customers using approved Child Care Benefit services by state/territory, 2009–10 financial year

| State/territory ^(a) | No. |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| New South Wales | 266,270 |
| Victoria | 181,080 |
| Queensland | 201,790 |
| Western Australia | 63,530 |
| South Australia | 60,370 |
| Tasmania | 19,230 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 15,480 |
| Northern Territory | 7,140 |
| Total^(b) | 806,550 |

(a) Based on location of child care service.

(b) Total count does not represent an aggregation of state and territory data as some customers may have used services in more than one state/territory during the period.

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.

Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) administrative data.

Table 65: Customers using approved Child Care Benefit services by service type, 2009–10 financial year

| Service type | No. |
|--|----------------|
| Long day care | 569,180 |
| Family day care ^(a) | 101,820 |
| Occasional care | 10,540 |
| Outside school hours care ^(b) | 215,770 |
| Vacation care | 150,930 |
| Total^(c) | 806,550 |

(a) Family day care includes in-home care.

(b) Includes before and after school hours care.

(c) Total count does not represent an aggregation of different service types as some customers may have used more than one type of service during the period.

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.

Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) administrative data.

Table 66: Customers using approved Child Care Benefit services by rate type, 2009–10 financial year

| Rate type ^(a) | No. | % |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Maximum rate | 230,190 | 28.5 |
| Partial rate ^(b) | 394,980 | 49.0 |
| Minimum rate | 181,380 | 22.5 |
| Total | 806,550 | 100.0 |

(a) Customers can be on more than one rate type within a single year. Where a customer received some CCB during the year, the rate type here represents the last recorded rate type in the year.

(b) Customers receiving some Child Care Benefit (CCB) but less than maximum rate.

Notes: Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.

In the 2008–09 Budget the minimum rate of CCB was replaced with a rate that tapers down to zero. This change resulted in a reduction in the actual percentage of families who appear as receiving CCB as a fee reduction. However, those families affected by this change (by either electing to or having their CCB payment entitlement reduced to zero) still met the other CCB eligibility requirements apart from the income test and could receive the increased Child Care Rebate (CCR) entitlement in this and future years.

Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) administrative data.

4.4 Double Orphan Pension

Double Orphan Pension was first introduced in September 1973. It is a non-means tested payment paid for children under 16 years of age in the care of a guardian, and for full-time dependent students aged between 16 and 21 years who do not receive Youth Allowance.

A double orphan is a child whose parents or adoptive parents have both died, or a child who has one deceased parent and:

- ▶ the whereabouts of the other parent are unknown
- ▶ the other parent is imprisoned for at least 10 years or is being held in custody on a charge for an offence punishable by imprisonment for at least 10 years, or
- ▶ the other parent is residing indefinitely in a mental hospital, nursing home or similar institution.

Refugee children may qualify as double orphans in some circumstances.

To qualify for the Double Orphan Pension a person must have care of a double orphan and be eligible for Family Tax Benefit (FTB) for the child, or would be eligible for FTB but for the income test. There are also residence and citizenship or visa requirements.

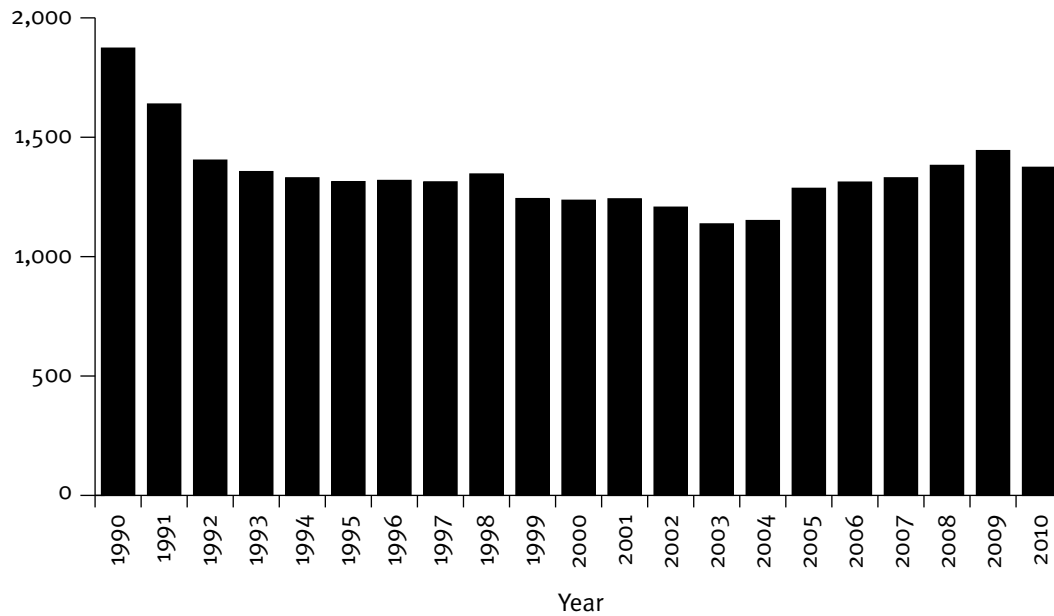
Table 67: Double Orphan Pension, customers and children, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June | Customers | Children ^(a) | | | | Total |
|------------|-----------|-------------------------|------|----------------|------|-------|
| | | Under 16 years | | 16 to 21 years | | |
| | No. | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 1990 | 1,873 | 2,170 | 93.6 | 149 | 6.4 | 2,319 |
| 1991 | 1,639 | 1,908 | 93.9 | 124 | 6.1 | 2,032 |
| 1992 | 1,404 | 1,666 | 95.0 | 87 | 5.0 | 1,753 |
| 1993 | 1,356 | 1,605 | 95.3 | 79 | 4.7 | 1,684 |
| 1994 | 1,330 | 1,599 | 95.2 | 81 | 4.8 | 1,680 |
| 1995 | 1,314 | 1,616 | 95.0 | 85 | 5.0 | 1,701 |
| 1996 | 1,319 | 1,569 | 92.1 | 134 | 7.9 | 1,703 |
| 1997 | 1,313 | 1,537 | 91.2 | 149 | 8.8 | 1,686 |
| 1998 | 1,346 | 1,567 | 89.8 | 178 | 10.2 | 1,745 |
| 1999 | 1,243 | 1,490 | 92.4 | 122 | 7.6 | 1,612 |
| 2000 | 1,236 | 1,447 | 87.9 | 200 | 12.1 | 1,647 |
| 2001 | 1,242 | 1,503 | 92.2 | 127 | 7.8 | 1,630 |
| 2002 | 1,207 | 1,494 | 94.1 | 93 | 5.9 | 1,587 |
| 2003 | 1,137 | 1,391 | 93.9 | 91 | 6.1 | 1,482 |
| 2004 | 1,151 | 1,411 | 93.6 | 97 | 6.4 | 1,508 |
| 2005 | 1,286 | 1,635 | 94.3 | 99 | 5.7 | 1,734 |
| 2006 | 1,312 | 1,667 | 94.2 | 102 | 5.8 | 1,769 |
| 2007 | 1,330 | 1,728 | 93.9 | 112 | 6.1 | 1,840 |
| 2008 | 1,382 | 1,806 | 93.6 | 123 | 6.4 | 1,929 |
| 2009 | 1,444 | 1,829 | 91.4 | 173 | 8.6 | 2,002 |
| 2010 | 1,374 | 1,739 | 90.1 | 192 | 9.9 | 1,931 |

(a) Total number of children attracting a Double Orphan Pension.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 11: Double Orphan Pension customers, June 1990 to June 2010



Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 68: Double Orphan Pension, customers and children by state/territory, June 2010

| State/territory | Customers | | Children ^(a) | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 329 | 23.9 | 481 | 24.9 |
| Victoria | 373 | 27.1 | 533 | 27.6 |
| Queensland | 256 | 18.6 | 349 | 18.1 |
| Western Australia | 176 | 12.8 | 257 | 13.3 |
| South Australia | 176 | 12.8 | 231 | 12.0 |
| Tasmania | 43 | 3.1 | 55 | 2.8 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 9 | 0.7 | 11 | 0.6 |
| Northern Territory | 12 | 0.9 | 14 | 0.7 |
| Total | 1,374 | 100.0 | 1,931 | 100.0 |

(a) Total number of children attracting a Double Orphan Pension.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

5 Other payments and services

5.1 Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

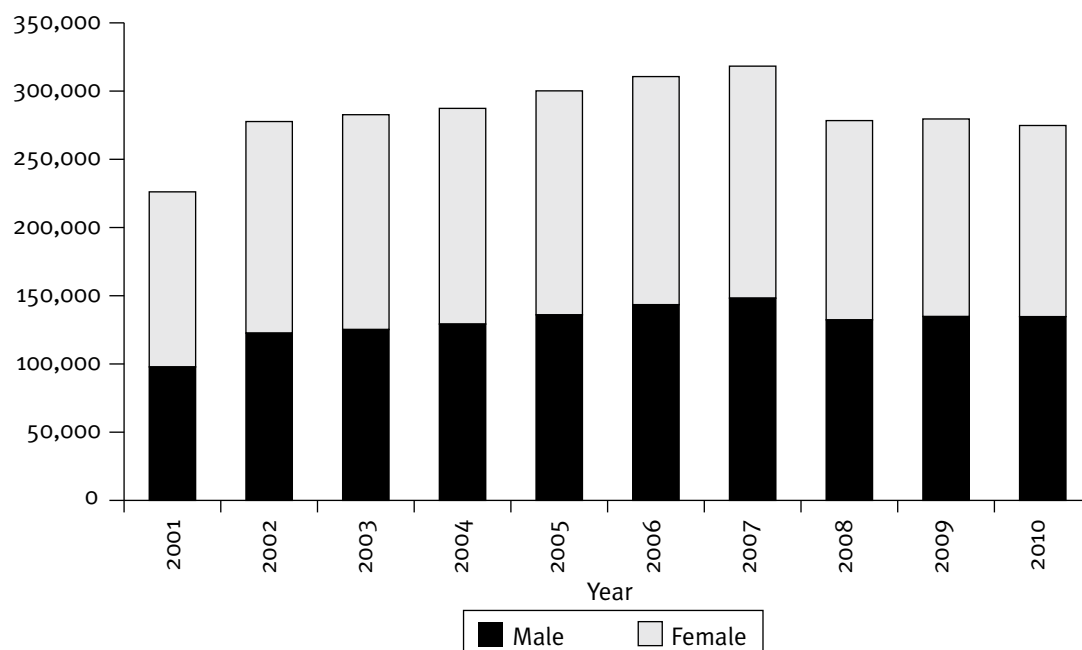
The Commonwealth Seniors Health Card (CSHC) may be issued to people who have reached the qualifying age for Age Pension but who do not qualify for the pension. To qualify for the CSHC, a person must also be an Australian resident, living in Australia and meet the adjusted taxable income test. There is no assets test. The Commonwealth Seniors Health Card provides access to Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme prescription items at a cheaper rate and a lower Extended Medical Safety Net threshold. Cardholders receive the Seniors Supplement and concessional travel on Great Southern Rail services.

Table 69: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders by sex, June 2001 to June 2010

| As at June | Male | | Female | | Total |
|------------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. |
| 2001 | 97,848 | 43.3 | 128,292 | 56.7 | 226,140 |
| 2002 | 122,613 | 44.2 | 155,068 | 55.8 | 277,681 |
| 2003 | 125,261 | 44.3 | 157,430 | 55.7 | 282,691 |
| 2004 | 129,241 | 45.0 | 158,085 | 55.0 | 287,326 |
| 2005 | 136,012 | 45.3 | 164,153 | 54.7 | 300,165 |
| 2006 | 143,476 | 46.2 | 167,157 | 53.8 | 310,633 |
| 2007 | 148,233 | 46.6 | 170,045 | 53.4 | 318,278 |
| 2008 | 132,336 | 47.5 | 146,042 | 52.5 | 278,378 |
| 2009 | 134,774 | 48.2 | 144,790 | 51.8 | 279,564 |
| 2010 | 134,689 | 49.0 | 140,091 | 51.0 | 274,780 |

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 12: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders by sex, June 2001 to June 2010



Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 70: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders, characteristics by sex, June 2010

| Characteristics | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Total | 134,689 | 49.0 | 140,091 | 51.0 | 274,780 | 100.0 |
| Age of customer (years) | | | | | | |
| 60-64 | 0 | 0.0 | 7,361 | 5.3 | 7,361 | 2.7 |
| 65-69 | 50,774 | 37.7 | 52,343 | 37.4 | 103,117 | 37.5 |
| 70-74 | 38,175 | 28.3 | 33,962 | 24.2 | 72,137 | 26.3 |
| 75-79 | 23,602 | 17.5 | 20,787 | 14.8 | 44,389 | 16.2 |
| 80-84 | 15,117 | 11.2 | 14,409 | 10.3 | 29,526 | 10.7 |
| 85-89 | 5,393 | 4.0 | 7,671 | 5.5 | 13,064 | 4.8 |
| 90-94 | 1,330 | 1.0 | 2,777 | 2.0 | 4,107 | 1.5 |
| 95 and over | 298 | 0.2 | 781 | 0.6 | 1,079 | 0.4 |
| Status | | | | | | |
| Partnered | 110,117 | 81.8 | 90,892 | 64.9 | 201,009 | 73.2 |
| Single | 24,557 | 18.2 | 49,188 | 35.1 | 73,745 | 26.8 |
| Other ^(a) | 15 | 0.0 | 11 | 0.0 | 26 | 0.0 |

(a) Includes customers whose marital status was not specified.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 71: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders by state/territory and sex, June 2010

| State/territory | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| New South Wales | 46,831 | 48.4 | 49,955 | 51.6 | 96,786 | 35.2 |
| Victoria | 34,177 | 48.9 | 35,655 | 51.1 | 69,832 | 25.4 |
| Queensland | 25,079 | 49.9 | 25,130 | 50.1 | 50,209 | 18.3 |
| Western Australia | 13,559 | 49.4 | 13,872 | 50.6 | 27,431 | 10.0 |
| South Australia | 9,406 | 49.7 | 9,518 | 50.3 | 18,924 | 6.9 |
| Tasmania | 2,649 | 50.3 | 2,620 | 49.7 | 5,269 | 1.9 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 2,198 | 46.0 | 2,577 | 54.0 | 4,775 | 1.7 |
| Northern Territory | 460 | 53.0 | 408 | 47.0 | 868 | 0.3 |
| Other ^(a) | 330 | 48.1 | 356 | 51.9 | 686 | 0.2 |
| Total | 134,689 | 49.0 | 140,091 | 51.0 | 274,780 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes overseas customers.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

5.2 Rent Assistance

Rent Assistance is a non-taxable income supplement paid to individuals and families who rent in the private rental market. Pensioners, allowees and those receiving more than the base rate of Family Tax Benefit Part A may be eligible for Rent Assistance.

Rent Assistance can be a payment for site fees in caravan parks and residential parks, mooring fees at a marina, board and lodgings, some retirement village fees and fees paid to occupy non-Commonwealth funded beds in an aged care facility such as a hostel or nursing home.

To qualify for Rent Assistance, a person must:

- pay or be liable to pay private rent above the applicable minimum rent threshold for their principal home
- be an Australian resident in Australia (except for temporary absence of up to 26 weeks)
- not be a home owner (except for mobile homes or people in care situations)
- not have a partner receiving more than the base rate of Family Tax Benefit Part A
- not have a partner who receives Rent Assistance with their pension.

Rent Assistance is not paid to:

- people paying rent to a government housing authority, although in some situations sub-tenants may qualify for Rent Assistance
- a person who lives in a care facility in an approved Australian Government funded bed
- single Disability Support Pension recipients aged under 21 years, without dependants, living with parents
- other single people aged under 25 years, living with parents.

Special rules apply to single sharers and people who pay board and lodging.

Table 72: Rent Assistance income units, average rent and Rent Assistance by primary payment type, June 2010

| Primary payment type ^(a) | Income units | Average rent | Average Rent Assistance |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | No. ^(b) | \$ per fortnight ^(c) | \$ per fortnight ^(c) |
| Age Pension | 193,164 | 322 | 91 |
| Disability Support Pension | 219,915 | 335 | 101 |
| Newstart Allowance | 216,691 | 359 | 94 |
| Parenting Payment (Single) | 165,773 | 460 | 113 |
| Parenting Payment (Partnered) ^(d) | 28,365 | 555 | 127 |
| Youth Allowance | 86,109 | 287 | 80 |
| Family Tax Benefit, Part A only | 137,324 | 592 | 96 |
| Other payments | 57,813 | 374 | 97 |
| Total | 1,105,154 | 392 | 98 |

- (a) Members of an income unit may receive more than one type of social security payment and/or Family Tax Benefit (FTB). The primary payment type is based on a hierarchy of pensions first, allowances, Parenting Payment (Partnered) and then FTB Part A. Most families with children are paid Rent Assistance with FTB, but use of primary payments helps to understand the extent of reliance on social security payments.
- (b) Income unit numbers relate to those with an ongoing entitlement to a social security or FTB Part A payment at more than the base rate at 4 June 2010 (Housing dataset June 2010).
- (c) Rents refer to the combined rent for a couple. Where a customer pays for both accommodation and meals, and cannot separately identify an accommodation charge, two-thirds of the payment is treated as rent. Average rent and Rent Assistance relate only to customers who were paid a daily rate of Rent Assistance at 4 June 2010 (Housing dataset June 2010).
- (d) Where a member of a couple receiving Parenting Payment (Partnered) has a partner receiving a social security income support payment, the partner's income support payment will become the primary payment type. Parenting Payment (Partnered) will be the primary payment type only if the partner does not receive an income support payment.

Note: Income units consist of a single person or a couple, with or without dependent children. Eligibility for Rent Assistance depends upon family circumstances including the combined rent paid by members of a couple. Where both members of a couple living together qualify for Rent Assistance, the maximum payment is halved.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 73: Rent Assistance income units by primary payment type and sex, June 2010

| Primary payment type ^(a) | Income units | | Both in receipt of Rent Assistance | Female in receipt of Rent Assistance | Male in receipt of Rent Assistance |
|--|--------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | No. ^(b) | % | | | |
| Age Pension | 193,164 | 17.5 | 38,309 | 96,495 | 58,360 |
| Disability Support Pension | 219,915 | 19.9 | 17,558 | 96,801 | 105,556 |
| Newstart Allowance | 216,691 | 19.6 | 6,967 | 97,121 | 112,603 |
| Parenting Payment (Single) | 165,773 | 15.0 | – | 158,097 | 7,676 |
| Parenting Payment (Partnered) ^(c) | 28,365 | 2.6 | 189 | 24,976 | 3,200 |
| Youth Allowance | 86,109 | 7.8 | 1,395 | 49,495 | 35,219 |
| Family Tax Benefit, Part A only | 137,324 | 12.4 | 504 | 108,639 | 28,181 |
| Other payments | 57,813 | 5.2 | 3,839 | 38,261 | 15,713 |
| Total | 1,105,154 | 100.0 | 68,761 | 669,885 | 366,508 |

- (a) Members of an income unit may receive more than one type of social security payment and/or Family Tax Benefit (FTB). The primary payment type is based on a hierarchy of pensions first, allowances, Parenting Payment (Partnered) and then FTB Part A. Most families with children are paid Rent Assistance with FTB, but use of primary payments helps to understand the extent of reliance on social security payments.
- (b) Income unit numbers relate to those with an ongoing entitlement to a social security or FTB Part A payment at more than the base rate at 4 June 2010 (Housing dataset June 2010).
- (c) Where a member of a couple receiving Parenting Payment (Partnered) has a partner receiving a social security income support payment, the partner's income support payment will become the primary payment type. Parenting Payment (Partnered) will be the primary payment only if the partner does not receive another income support payment.

Notes: Income units consist of a single person or a couple, with or without dependent children. Eligibility for Rent Assistance depends upon family circumstances including the combined rent paid by members of a couple. Where both members of a couple living together qualify for Rent Assistance, the maximum payment is halved.
 '–' = not applicable.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

6 Pensioners paid overseas

6.1 Payment rules

Generally there are two standard portability periods:

- unlimited portability period, and
- limited 13 weeks portability.

Age pensioners and some Widow B and wife pensioners are entitled to be paid overseas indefinitely if they leave Australia permanently. In special circumstances recipients of Disability Support Pension who have a terminal illness may be granted unlimited portability if they are severely disabled and the purpose of the absence is to be near or with a family member, or to return to their country of origin.

All other payments generally have a maximum portability period of 13 weeks. Ancillary payments such as Rent Assistance and Pharmaceutical Allowance are also generally portable for temporary overseas absences.

6.2 Australia's agreements as at June 2010

Australia has social security agreements with 23 countries—Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea (South), Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and the United States.

Australia's international social security agreements are designed to share social security costs between countries by:

- facilitating access to Australian pensions in Australia for people who have had periods of social security coverage in an agreement country
- helping Australian residents claim their entitlements to social security from other countries
- regulating payment of social security benefits to people moving between agreement countries.

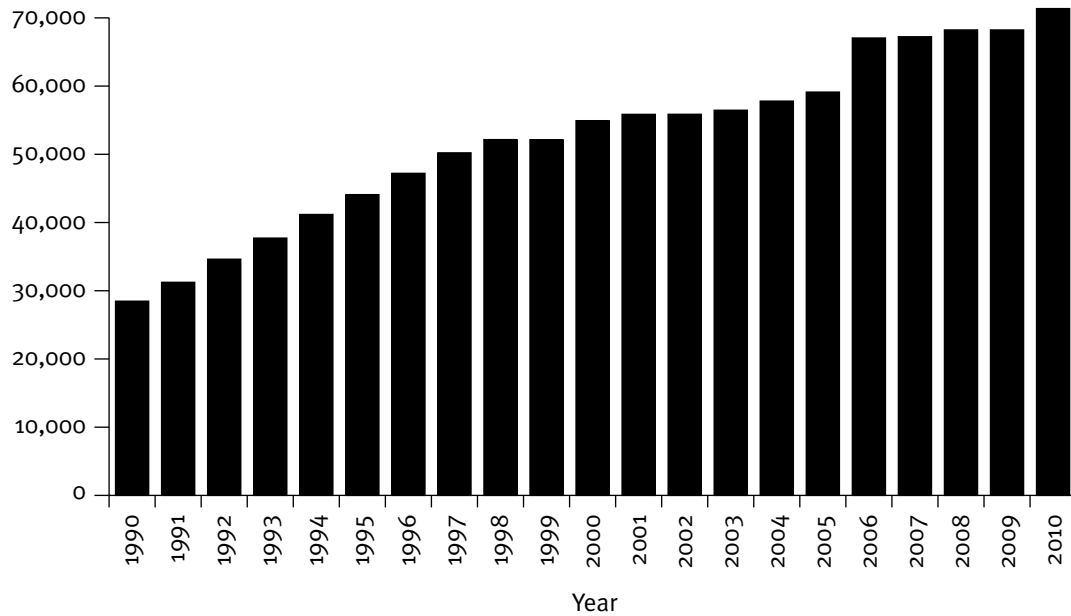
Table 74: Persons paid overseas by Australia by payment type, June 1990 to June 2010

| As at June ^(a) | Age Pension | Disability Support Pension | Wife Pension | Widow B Pension | Carer Payment | Parenting Payment ^(b) | Total |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1990 | 13,996 | 7,504 | 4,385 | 2,385 | | 199 | 28,469 |
| 1991 | 16,658 | 7,814 | 4,755 | 1,845 | | 167 | 31,239 |
| 1992 | 19,846 | 8,148 | 4,682 | 1,790 | | 159 | 34,625 |
| 1993 | 23,948 | 8,455 | 3,478 | 1,683 | | 154 | 37,718 |
| 1994 | 27,287 | 8,493 | 3,594 | 1,665 | 5 | 136 | 41,180 |
| 1995 | 29,712 | 8,780 | 3,807 | 1,658 | 9 | 121 | 44,087 |
| 1996 | 32,288 | 9,074 | 4,045 | 1,684 | 9 | 110 | 47,210 |
| 1997 | 35,662 | 9,061 | 3,867 | 1,526 | 13 | 89 | 50,218 |
| 1998 | 38,136 | 8,964 | 3,572 | 1,391 | 16 | 76 | 52,155 |
| 1999 | 38,136 | 8,964 | 3,718 | 1,251 | 19 | 55 | 52,143 |
| 2000 | 42,066 | 8,707 | 2,943 | 1,156 | 17 | 43 | 54,932 |
| 2001 | 43,280 | 8,686 | 2,689 | 1,141 | 18 | 42 | 55,856 |
| 2002 | 44,150 | 8,485 | 2,098 | 1,082 | 16 | 38 | 55,869 |
| 2003 | 45,399 | 8,129 | 998 | 1,875 | 37 | 23 | 56,461 |
| 2004 | 47,259 | 7,867 | 1,773 | 859 | 42 | 0 | 57,800 |
| 2005 | 48,871 | 7,816 | 1,570 | 799 | 54 | 10 | 59,120 |
| 2006 | 54,966 | 9,459 | 1,602 | 740 | 103 | 178 | 67,048 |
| 2007 | 56,165 | 8,849 | 1,431 | 658 | 88 | 44 | 67,235 |
| 2008 | 57,811 | 8,365 | 1,305 | 657 | 78 | 18 | 68,234 |
| 2009 | 58,012 | 8,174 | 1,136 | 610 | 187 | 111 | 68,230 |
| 2010 | 62,148 | 7,572 | 969 | 575 | 93 | 3 | 71,360 |

(a) All payments where person is outside Australia long-term (since 2006 defined as more than 6 months).

(b) Parenting Payment (Single) replaced Sole Parent Pension on 20 March 1998.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 13: Total persons paid overseas by Australia, June 1990 to June 2010

Notes: All payments where person is outside Australia long-term (since 2006 defined as more than 6 months).
Parenting Payment (Single) replaced Sole Parent Pension on 20 March 1998.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 75: Persons paid overseas by Australia, country of residence by payment type, June 2010

| Zone | Country of residence | Age Pension | Disability Support Pension | Other ^(a) | Total |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Europe | Austria | 1,013 | 46 | 7 | 1,066 |
| | Belgium | 65 | 9 | 0 | 74 |
| | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 158 | 80 | 4 | 242 |
| | Bulgaria | 28 | 8 | 1 | 37 |
| | Croatia | 2,000 | 487 | 39 | 2,526 |
| | Cyprus | 715 | 215 | 44 | 974 |
| | Czech Republic | 115 | 28 | 0 | 143 |
| | Denmark | 127 | 9 | 0 | 136 |
| | Finland | 144 | 10 | 1 | 155 |
| | Former Serbia and Montenegro | 20 | 10 | 1 | 31 |
| | Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 635 | 246 | 32 | 913 |
| | France | 133 | 18 | 2 | 153 |
| | Germany | 1,677 | 104 | 9 | 1,790 |
| | Greece | 8,203 | 1,423 | 361 | 9,987 |
| | Hungary | 317 | 42 | 5 | 364 |
| | Ireland | 425 | 28 | 6 | 459 |
| | Italy | 18,051 | 470 | 421 | 18,942 |
| | Latvia | 26 | 1 | 0 | 27 |
| | Malta | 2,959 | 948 | 191 | 4,098 |
| | Montenegro | 34 | 24 | 4 | 62 |
| | Netherlands | 4,128 | 28 | 10 | 4,166 |
| | Norway | 34 | 11 | 0 | 45 |
| | Poland | 286 | 112 | 4 | 402 |
| | Portugal | 1,071 | 228 | 44 | 1,343 |
| | Romania | 50 | 21 | 0 | 71 |
| | Serbia | 680 | 287 | 32 | 999 |
| | Slovakia | 22 | 12 | 0 | 34 |
| | Slovenia | 259 | 29 | 0 | 288 |
| | Spain | 3,826 | 292 | 102 | 4,220 |
| | Sweden | 26 | 7 | 0 | 33 |
| | Switzerland | 42 | 14 | 0 | 56 |
| | United Kingdom | 2,032 | 179 | 52 | 2,263 |
| Other Europe ^(b) | 55 | 6 | 0 | 61 | |
| | Total Europe | 49,356 | 5,432 | 1,372 | 56,160 |
| Americas | Argentina | 158 | 31 | 7 | 196 |
| | Brazil | 28 | 11 | 2 | 41 |
| | Canada | 1,362 | 62 | 11 | 1,435 |
| | Chile | 437 | 101 | 14 | 552 |
| | Colombia | 27 | 16 | 3 | 46 |
| | Ecuador | 22 | 6 | 2 | 30 |
| | El Salvador | 28 | 4 | 1 | 33 |
| | Peru | 27 | 7 | 0 | 34 |
| | United States of America | 1,029 | 145 | 11 | 1,185 |
| | Uruguay | 220 | 35 | 11 | 266 |
| | Other Americas ^(c) | 40 | 5 | 1 | 46 |
| | Total Americas | 3,378 | 423 | 63 | 3,864 |

Table 75: Persons paid overseas by Australia, country of residence by payment type, June 2010 (continued)

| Zone | Country of residence | Age Pension | Disability Support Pension | Other ^(a) | Total |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Asia | China | 129 | 8 | 0 | 137 |
| | Hong Kong | 68 | 1 | 0 | 69 |
| | India | 88 | 21 | 0 | 109 |
| | Indonesia | 60 | 12 | 1 | 73 |
| | Japan | 25 | 4 | 1 | 30 |
| | Malaysia | 52 | 5 | 2 | 59 |
| | Philippines | 373 | 60 | 3 | 436 |
| | Singapore | 30 | 0 | 1 | 31 |
| | Sri Lanka | 34 | 4 | 1 | 39 |
| | Thailand | 280 | 39 | 1 | 320 |
| | Vietnam | 84 | 7 | 0 | 91 |
| | Other Asia ^(d) | 75 | 9 | 0 | 84 |
| | Total Asia | 1,298 | 170 | 10 | 1,478 |
| Africa/Middle East | Egypt | 64 | 37 | 6 | 107 |
| | Israel | 107 | 9 | 3 | 119 |
| | Jordan | 17 | 7 | 0 | 24 |
| | Lebanon | 509 | 137 | 32 | 678 |
| | South Africa | 42 | 2 | 0 | 44 |
| | Syria | 51 | 30 | 4 | 85 |
| | Turkey | 860 | 487 | 96 | 1,443 |
| | Other Africa/Middle East ^(e) | 79 | 33 | 3 | 115 |
| | Total Africa/Middle East | 1,729 | 742 | 144 | 2,615 |
| Oceania | Fiji | 23 | 1 | 0 | 24 |
| | New Zealand | 5,483 | 732 | 37 | 6,252 |
| | Other Oceania ^(f) | 75 | 4 | 1 | 80 |
| | Total Oceania | 5,581 | 737 | 38 | 6,356 |
| Total^(g) | | 62,148 | 7,572 | 1,640 | 71,360 |

(a) Includes Wife Pension, Widow B Pension, Carer Payment and Parenting Payment (Single).

(b) Comprised of Albania, Belarus, Estonia, Iceland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Monaco, Russian Federation and Ukraine.

(c) Comprised of Aruba, Barbados, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Grenada, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, St Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.

(d) Comprised of Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, East Timor, Kazakhstan, Korea (North), Korea (South), Laos, Nepal, Pakistan and Taiwan.

(e) Comprised of Algeria, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates.

(f) Comprised of Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga and Vanuatu.

(g) Includes additional 887 customers from unknown or unspecified countries.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 76: Persons paid by Australia under a social security agreement by payment type, June 2010

| Agreement country | Age Pension | Disability Support Pension | Other ^(a) | Total |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Austria | 931 | 42 | 5 | 978 |
| Belgium | 40 | 4 | 0 | 44 |
| Canada | 1,277 | 53 | 3 | 1,333 |
| Chile | 191 | 50 | 0 | 241 |
| Croatia | 1,061 | 236 | 0 | 1,297 |
| Cyprus | 380 | 107 | 21 | 508 |
| Denmark | 105 | 9 | 0 | 114 |
| Finland | 84 | 0 | 0 | 84 |
| Germany | 1,558 | 97 | 4 | 1,659 |
| Greece | 3,011 | 0 | 0 | 3,011 |
| Ireland | 236 | 19 | 3 | 258 |
| Italy | 16,595 | 230 | 353 | 17,178 |
| Japan | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Korea, South | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Malta | 2,688 | 746 | 156 | 3,590 |
| Netherlands | 4,072 | 18 | 9 | 4,099 |
| New Zealand | 10,644 | 1,832 | 185 | 12,661 |
| Norway | 25 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| Portugal | 718 | 117 | 24 | 859 |
| Slovenia | 160 | 11 | 0 | 171 |
| Spain | 3,263 | 180 | 82 | 3,525 |
| Switzerland | 32 | 10 | 0 | 42 |
| United States of America | 777 | 131 | 2 | 910 |
| Total | 47,860 | 3,897 | 847 | 52,604 |

(a) Includes Wife Pension, Widow B Pension, Carer Payment and Parenting Payment (Single).

Note: Includes payments made in Australia, the agreement country and in third countries.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

6.3 Overseas pensions

Many Centrelink customers have lived and worked overseas and are eligible to receive overseas pensions, known as comparable foreign payments.

Under the comparable foreign payments legislation, customers may be required to claim their overseas pension if they are entitled.

Requiring customers who are likely to be eligible for a foreign payment to claim ensures a fairer social security system. It reinforces the objective of directing income support towards those in need while at the same time avoiding any unnecessary costs to Australian taxpayers. It also recognises that many Australians are part of the new global labour market.

6.4 Total balance of payments

Yearly expenditure as at June 2010 on Australia's pension payments to people living overseas was A\$571.3 million. At the same time, pensions from overseas countries being paid to people residing in Australia totalled A\$1.2 billion to Centrelink pensioners, representing a significant inflow of funds into Australia, an increase in the disposable income for pensioners, and a saving for Australian taxpayers.

Statistical Papers

1. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2002*
(2006)
2. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2003*
(2006)
3. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2004*
(2006)
4. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2005*
(2009)
5. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2006*
(2010)
6. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2007*
(2010)
7. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2008*
(2010)
8. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2009*
(2010)