



**Australian Government**

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

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Statistical Paper No. 10

**Income support customers:  
a statistical overview 2011**

**Improving the lives of Australians**

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#### **Acknowledgments**

FaHCSIA gratefully acknowledges the efforts and contribution of the staff of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) 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 (DEEWR).

#### **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 key priorities of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) are to:

- ▶ increase social and economic participation
- ▶ improve social cohesion
- ▶ close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage
- ▶ support basic living standards, and
- ▶ support individuals, families and communities to build their capacity.

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 2011. 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 Department of Human Services websites:

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

<<http://www.humanservices.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, 2001 to 2011

Payment type	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Age Pension (incl. Dept of Veterans' Affairs Age Pensions) <sup>(a)</sup>	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	2,225,127
Disability Support Pension	623,926	658,915	673,334	696,742	706,782	712,163	714,156	732,367	757,118	792,581	818,850
Sickness Allowance	11,058	9,540	8,755	8,478	8,367	7,573	7,624	7,437	6,968	6,703	6,705
Widow B Pension	6,456	5,130	2,986	1,879	839	775	732	683	637	600	566
Wife Pension (partner receives Age Pension) <sup>(a)</sup>	26,476	23,730	20,230	19,646	16,946	16,254	14,045	13,395	11,590	10,873	9,333
Wife Pension (partner receives Disability Support Pension)	51,225	44,238	37,880	33,183	28,144	24,627	21,228	18,555	15,847	13,782	11,882
Carer Payment	57,190	67,260	75,937	84,082	95,446	105,058	116,614	130,657	146,870	168,913	186,065
Austudy Payment	41,992	41,187	38,779	35,026	31,174	27,728	27,869	28,776	34,175	37,342	39,213
ABSTUDY	44,627	46,255	47,028	46,555	45,629	35,045	34,489	33,776	34,612	36,308	37,107
Youth Allowance (full-time students and apprentices)	308,663	313,068	304,946	297,140	285,383	271,408	264,008	256,634	278,664	297,023	325,224
Youth Allowance (other)	84,542	90,339	87,486	84,665	79,573	76,276	68,698	64,907	82,907	88,459	85,972
Newstart Allowance	541,004	554,821	512,332	483,093	453,614	437,667	417,793	399,401	520,194	553,893	527,480
Partner Allowance	90,416	102,330	102,811	90,936	71,615	59,800	45,988	38,456	29,369	24,054	17,147
Mature Age Allowance <sup>(b)</sup>	38,919	40,132	41,078	32,912	20,877	11,697	5,032	754	-	-	-
Widow Allowance	36,416	41,277	43,209	45,328	44,329	44,385	40,247	39,131	36,086	33,886	29,341
Parenting Payment (Single)	416,661	427,846	436,958	449,312	450,811	432,958	395,495	360,633	344,096	333,512	326,248
Parenting Payment (Partnered)	204,576	191,576	184,405	177,157	167,272	158,814	144,427	125,922	129,365	124,910	117,754
Special Benefit	12,712	13,091	12,228	11,216	9,408	6,841	6,244	6,003	5,809	6,307	6,385
DVA service pension and income support supplement	378,058	370,721	368,572	341,020	344,311	312,571	295,033	285,089	271,546	256,826	241,338
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,768,343</b>	<b>4,859,661</b>	<b>4,857,009</b>	<b>4,814,620</b>	<b>4,775,556</b>	<b>4,663,769</b>	<b>4,572,408</b>	<b>4,581,881</b>	<b>4,823,383</b>	<b>4,944,275</b>	<b>5,011,737</b>

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

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

Notes: This is not a complete list of social security income support payments. Numbers represent the recipients 'current' at a point in time (excludes suspended recipients). '-' = not applicable.

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 a 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.

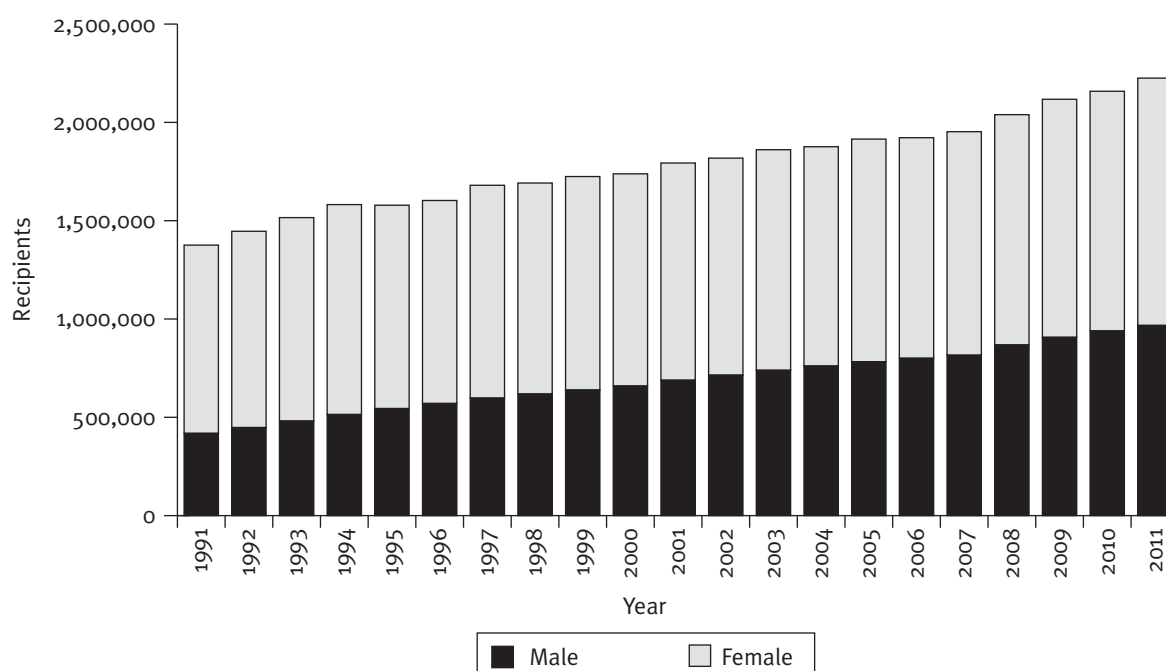
Table 3: Age Pension recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Male		Female		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
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
2011	967,291	43.5	1,257,836	56.5	2,225,127

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 recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011



Note: Includes Age Pension payments administered by Centrelink and DVA.

Source: Centrelink and DVA administrative data.

Table 4: Age Pension recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>964,744</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>1,255,640</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>2,220,384</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<65	0	0.0	61,593	4.9	61,593	2.8
65–69	259,804	26.9	313,954	25.0	573,758	25.8
70–74	265,294	27.5	296,707	23.6	562,001	25.3
75–79	210,497	21.8	240,396	19.1	450,893	20.3
80–84	155,857	16.2	180,183	14.3	336,040	15.1
85–89	55,021	5.7	101,600	8.1	156,621	7.1
90–94	14,601	1.5	45,496	3.6	60,097	2.7
95–99	3,348	0.3	13,776	1.1	17,124	0.8
≥100	322	0.0	1,935	0.2	2,257	0.1
Marital status <sup>(a)</sup>						
Married/de facto	682,341	70.7	582,662	46.4	1,265,003	57.0
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	282,403	29.3	672,978	53.6	955,381	43.0
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	557,799	57.8	785,167	62.5	1,342,966	60.5
United Kingdom	112,017	11.6	134,055	10.7	246,072	11.1
Italy	55,514	5.8	54,891	4.4	110,405	5.0
Greece	32,225	3.3	36,479	2.9	68,704	3.1
Germany	16,198	1.7	19,810	1.6	36,008	1.6
Other	190,991	19.8	225,238	17.9	416,229	18.7
Home ownership						
Home owner	737,882	76.5	912,677	72.7	1,650,559	74.3
Non-home owner	226,862	23.5	342,963	27.3	569,825	25.7
Payment status						
Current—automatically assessed						
Maximum rate	557,059	57.7	768,278	61.2	1,325,337	59.7
Reduced rate	406,243	42.1	485,909	38.7	892,152	40.2
Total	963,302	99.9	1,254,187	99.9	2,217,489	99.9
Current—manually assessed	412	0.0	494	0.0	906	0.0
Current total	963,714	99.9	1,254,681	99.9	2,218,395	99.9
Suspended	1,030	0.1	959	0.1	1,989	0.1
Paid under income test <sup>(b)</sup>						
Single	277,836	28.8	647,249	51.5	925,085	41.7
Partnered	560,630	58.1	471,385	37.5	1,032,015	46.5
Home owner paid under assets test						
Single	21,296	2.2	40,269	3.2	61,565	2.8
Partnered	100,899	10.5	91,464	7.3	192,363	8.7
Non-home owner paid under assets test						
Single	1,908	0.2	3,422	0.3	5,330	0.2
Partnered	1,323	0.1	1,130	0.1	2,453	0.1
Income/assets test not coded <sup>(c)</sup>	852	0.1	721	0.1	1,573	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 4,743 Age Pension payments administered by DVA.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 5: Age Pension recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	309,775	43.0	410,568	57.0	720,343	32.4
Victoria	234,696	42.5	317,032	57.5	551,728	24.8
Queensland	176,780	44.1	224,402	55.9	401,182	18.1
Western Australia	80,212	42.8	107,305	57.2	187,517	8.4
South Australia	82,081	42.3	112,100	57.7	194,181	8.7
Tasmania	26,958	43.8	34,567	56.2	61,525	2.8
Australian Capital Territory	8,343	39.8	12,631	60.2	20,974	0.9
Northern Territory	3,671	48.0	3,970	52.0	7,641	0.3
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	42,228	56.1	33,065	43.9	75,293	3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>964,744</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>1,255,640</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>2,220,384</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Note: Table excludes 4,743 Age Pension payments administered by DVA.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

## 2.2 Disability Support Pension

Disability Support Pension is intended to ensure an adequate income for people who have a reduced capacity for work because of impairment.

As at June 2011, 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 more 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.

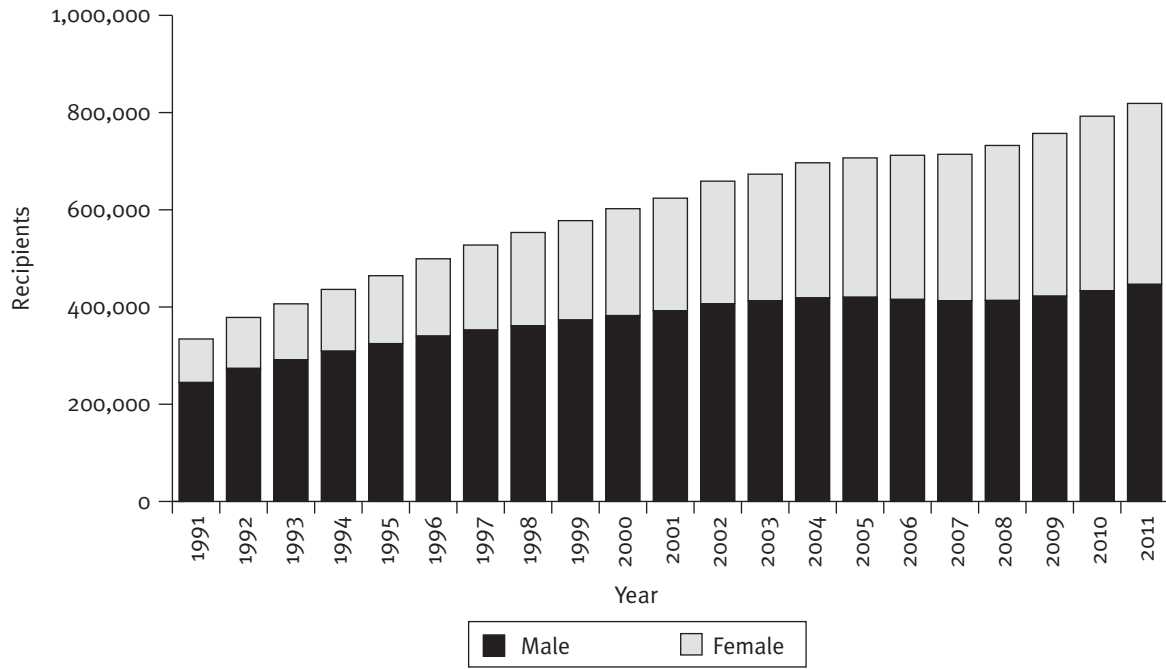
Table 6: Disability Support Pension recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Male		Female		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
1991 <sup>(a)</sup>	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
2011	446,600	54.5	372,250	45.5	818,850

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

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 2: Disability Support Pension recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011



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

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 7: Disability Support Pension recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>446,600</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>372,250</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>818,850</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<20	12,962	2.9	7,742	2.1	20,704	2.5
20–29	40,935	9.2	29,422	7.9	70,357	8.6
30–39	57,556	12.9	42,092	11.3	99,648	12.2
40–49	92,883	20.8	77,248	20.8	170,131	20.8
50–59	130,294	29.2	128,778	34.6	259,072	31.6
60–64	98,485	22.1	79,872	21.5	178,357	21.8
≥65	13,485	3.0	7,096	1.9	20,581	2.5
Marital status						
Married/de facto	137,333	30.8	112,262	30.2	249,595	30.5
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	309,267	69.2	259,988	69.8	569,255	69.5
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	340,469	76.2	275,059	73.9	615,528	75.2
United Kingdom/Ireland/Eire	22,629	5.1	18,137	4.9	40,766	5.0
New Zealand	7,998	1.8	6,946	1.9	14,944	1.8
Lebanon	6,363	1.4	5,541	1.5	11,904	1.5
Vietnam	5,137	1.2	4,755	1.3	9,892	1.2
Other	64,004	14.3	61,812	16.6	125,816	15.4
Home ownership						
Home owner	123,867	27.7	122,084	32.8	245,951	30.0
Non-home owner	322,733	72.3	250,166	67.2	572,899	70.0
Rate						
Full	362,237	81.1	296,666	79.7	658,903	80.5
Part	84,363	18.9	75,584	20.3	159,947	19.5
Paid under income test						
Single	307,346	68.8	258,185	69.4	565,531	69.1
Partnered	133,430	29.9	108,216	29.1	241,646	29.5
Home owner paid under assets test						
Single	1,481	0.3	1,468	0.4	2,949	0.4
Partnered	3,773	0.8	3,941	1.1	7,714	0.9
Non-home owner paid under assets test						
Single	440	0.1	335	0.1	775	0.1
Partnered	130	0.0	105	0.0	235	0.0
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<1 year	27,383	6.1	18,546	5.0	45,929	5.6
1 to <2 years	25,253	5.7	19,840	5.3	45,093	5.5
2 to <3 years	27,927	6.3	21,292	5.7	49,219	6.0
3 to <4 years	22,175	5.0	17,320	4.7	39,495	4.8
4 to <5 years	19,371	4.3	15,356	4.1	34,727	4.2
5 to <10 years	91,755	20.5	73,649	19.8	165,404	20.2
≥10 years	232,736	52.1	206,247	55.4	438,983	53.6
Mean (weeks)	616.5		639.7		627.1	
Median (weeks)	560.0		600.0		577.0	

(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 recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	146,200	55.0	119,559	45.0	265,759	32.5
Victoria	103,928	52.5	93,845	47.5	197,773	24.2
Queensland	89,152	55.7	70,808	44.3	159,960	19.5
Western Australia	34,502	54.0	29,399	46.0	63,901	7.8
South Australia	41,605	54.6	34,611	45.4	76,216	9.3
Tasmania	15,253	54.9	12,506	45.1	27,759	3.4
Australian Capital Territory	4,206	51.9	3,894	48.1	8,100	1.0
Northern Territory	5,900	56.8	4,488	43.2	10,388	1.3
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	5,854	65.1	3,140	34.9	8,994	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>446,600</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>372,250</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>818,850</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(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 recipient 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 recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June <sup>(a)</sup>	Male		Female		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
1991 <sup>(b)</sup>	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 <sup>(c)</sup>	22,254	67.0	10,961	33.0	33,215
1997	10,721	68.0	5,038	32.0	15,759
1998 <sup>(d)</sup>	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
2011	3,812	56.9	2,893	43.1	6,705

(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 at a point in time in the relevant quarter.

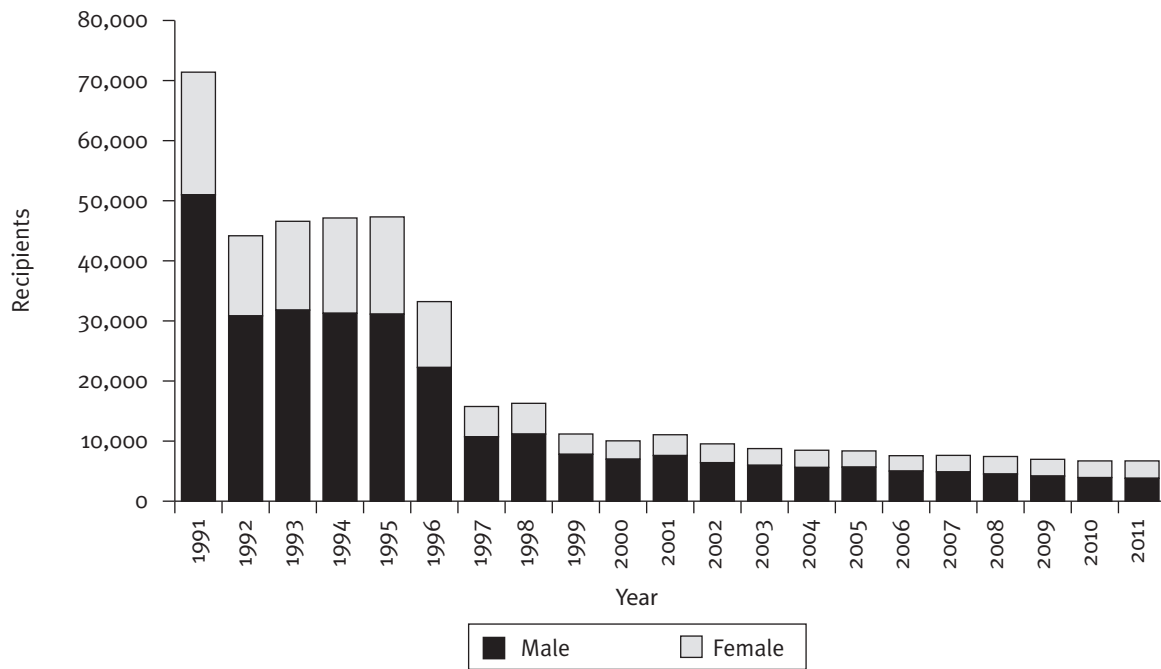
(b) Sickness Allowance replaced Sickness Benefit from November 1991 as part of the Disability Reform Package. This resulted in some recipients transferring to the Disability Support Pension.

(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 at a point in time in June of the relevant year.

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

Figure 3: Sickness Allowance recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011



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 at a point in time in the relevant quarter. Data from 1998 onward are derived at 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 recipients 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 (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Table 10: Sickness Allowance recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,812</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>2,893</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>6,705</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
21–24	410	10.8	242	8.4	652	9.7
25–34	916	24.0	498	17.2	1,414	21.1
35–44	838	22.0	630	21.8	1,468	21.9
45–54	915	24.0	946	32.7	1,861	27.8
55–59	344	9.0	352	12.2	696	10.4
60–64	389	10.2	225	7.8	614	9.2
Marital status						
Married/de facto	1,347	35.3	612	21.2	1,959	29.2
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	2,465	64.7	2,281	78.8	4,746	70.8
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	3,035	79.6	2,244	77.6	5,279	78.7
United Kingdom	161	4.2	145	5.0	306	4.6
New Zealand	93	2.4	91	3.1	184	2.7
Vietnam	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	62	0.9
Philippines	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	55	0.8
Other	473	12.4	346	12.0	819	12.2
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<1 year—total	3,269	85.8	2,319	80.2	5,588	83.3
<7 weeks	718	18.8	500	17.3	1,218	18.2
7 weeks to <3 months	832	21.8	552	19.1	1,384	20.6
3 to <6 months	1,013	26.6	687	23.7	1,700	25.4
6 months to <1 year	706	18.5	580	20.0	1,286	19.2
≥1 year—total	543	14.2	574	19.8	1,117	16.7
1 to <2 years	388	10.2	397	13.7	785	11.7
2 to <3 years	102	2.7	74	2.6	176	2.6
≥3 years	53	1.4	103	3.6	156	2.3
Mean (weeks)	29.3		42.2		34.9	
Median (weeks)	16.0		19.0		17.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	3,601	94.5	2,521	87.1	6,122	91.3
≥0.01	211	5.5	372	12.9	583	8.7

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Notes: The table figures exclude 161 people who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or their partner's income. 'n.p.'=not published. See 'Confidentiality' on page 1.

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

Table 11: Sickness Allowance recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	1,044	56.9	791	43.1	1,835	27.4
Victoria	1,093	55.7	871	44.3	1,964	29.3
Queensland	884	57.0	667	43.0	1,551	23.1
Western Australia	274	55.5	220	44.5	494	7.4
South Australia	329	62.3	199	37.7	528	7.9
Tasmania	114	57.6	84	42.4	198	3.0
Australian Capital Territory	39	50.6	38	49.4	77	1.1
Northern Territory	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,812</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>2,893</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>6,705</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Notes: The table figures exclude 161 people who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or their partner's income. 'n.p.'=not published. See 'Confidentiality' on page 1.

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

## 2.4 Mobility Allowance

The purpose of Mobility Allowance is to assist with transport costs for people with disability who are undertaking approved activities and who are unable to 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 for the standard rate of Mobility Allowance 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 tests for these payments, or
- ▶ participating in a Disability Employment Services—Disability Management Service.

A higher rate of Mobility Allowance may be paid to certain recipients who are undertaking or looking for work of 15 hours or more in the open labour market.

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

A person must be an Australian resident and be in Australia when claiming and receiving Mobility Allowance. Reviews of Mobility Allowance are conducted annually. Recipients 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.

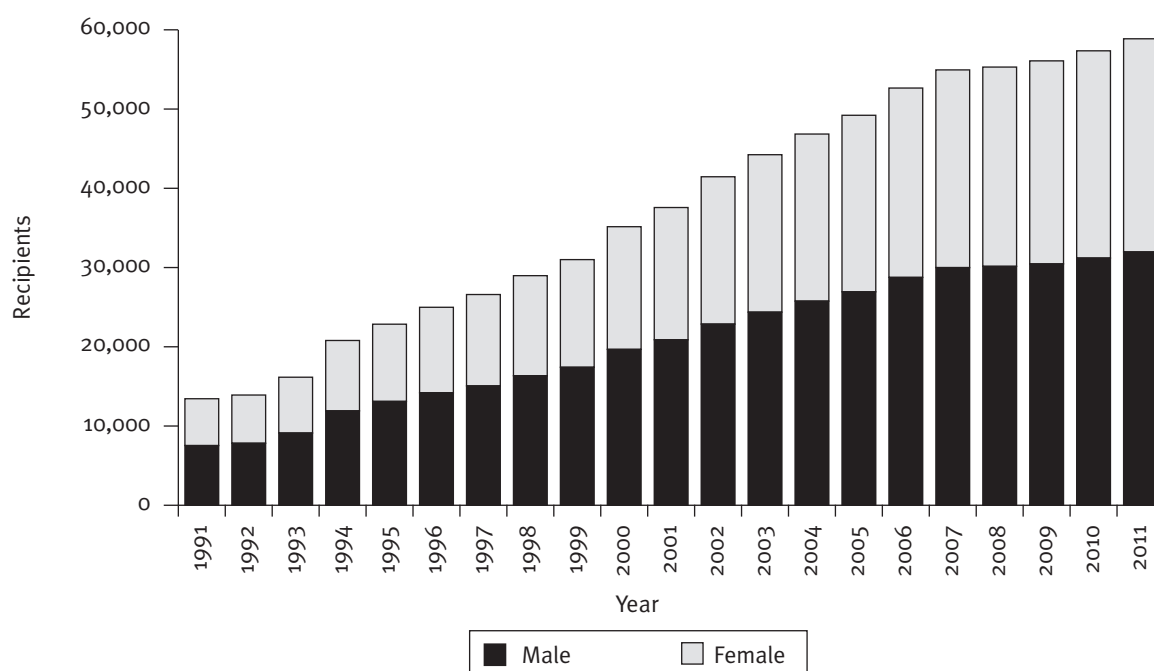
Table 12: Mobility Allowance recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Male		Female		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
1991	7,535	56.0	5,909	44.0	13,444
1992	7,826	56.3	6,085	43.7	13,911
1993 <sup>(a)</sup>	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
2011	31,975	54.3	26,893	45.7	58,868

(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 Pension and Sickness Allowance recipients who have job searching incorporated in their activity plan.

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

Figure 4: Mobility Allowance recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011



Note: 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 searching incorporated in their activity plan.

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

Table 13: Mobility Allowance recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	9,487	55.4	7,648	44.6	17,135	29.1
Victoria	8,635	53.6	7,467	46.4	16,102	27.4
Queensland	6,346	56.5	4,877	43.5	11,223	19.1
Western Australia	2,590	55.8	2,054	44.2	4,644	7.9
South Australia	3,474	49.6	3,529	50.4	7,003	11.9
Tasmania	994	51.7	930	48.3	1,924	3.3
Australian Capital Territory	304	53.9	260	46.1	564	1.0
Northern Territory	105	49.5	107	50.5	212	0.4
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	40	65.6	21	34.4	61	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,975</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>26,893</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>58,868</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

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

## 2.5 Wife Pension

Wife Pension is gradually being phased out. No new grants have been made since 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 Pension recipient and not receiving a pension in her own right.

Partners of new applicants for Age or Disability Support Pension 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 recipients by partner pension type, June 1991 to June 2011**

As at June	Age Pension <sup>(a)</sup>		Disability Support Pension		Rehabilitation Allowance <sup>(b)</sup>		Sheltered Employment Allowance <sup>(c)</sup>		Total <sup>(d)</sup>
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
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
2011	9,333	44.0	11,882	56.0	–	–	–	–	21,215

(a) Includes Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by 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 recipients were transferred to Disability Support Pension in November 1991.

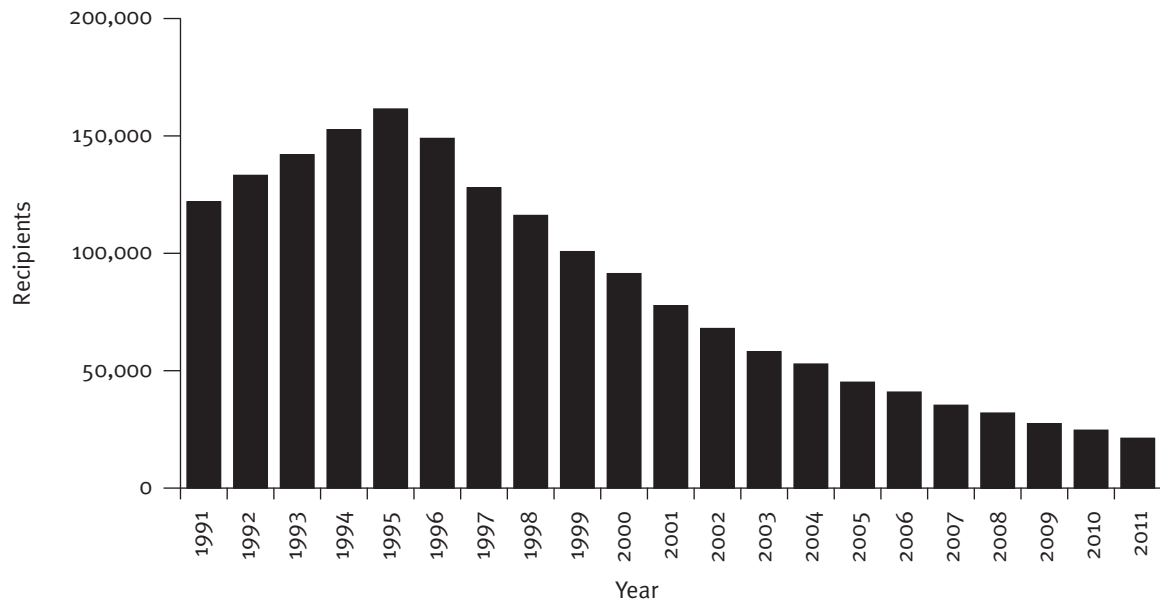
(d) Excludes Wife Disability Wage Supplement. From 1 January 1998, there were no further grants of Disability Wage Supplement.

Note: ‘–’ = not applicable.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.



Figure 5: Wife Pension recipients, June 1991 to June 2011



Note: Includes Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by 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 recipients, characteristics by pension type, June 2011

Characteristics	Age Pension <sup>(a)</sup>		Disability Support Pension		Total <sup>(b)</sup>	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,297</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>11,882</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>21,179</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<40	6	0.1	138	1.2	144	0.7
40–49	289	3.1	1,964	16.5	2,253	10.6
50–59	2,950	31.7	6,614	55.7	9,564	45.2
60–64	5,294	56.9	3,006	25.3	8,300	39.2
≥65	758	8.2	160	1.3	918	4.3
Marital status <sup>(c)</sup>						
Married/de facto	9,197	98.9	11,836	99.6	21,033	99.3
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	100	1.1	46	0.4	146	0.7
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	4,092	44.0	7,662	64.5	11,754	55.5
Lebanon	597	6.4	594	5.0	1,191	5.6
United Kingdom	393	4.2	602	5.1	995	4.7
Italy	690	7.4	288	2.4	978	4.6
Greece	529	5.7	403	3.4	932	4.4
Other	2,996	32.2	2,333	19.6	5,329	25.2
Home ownership						
Home owner	6,804	73.2	7,658	64.5	14,462	68.3
Non-home owner	2,493	26.8	4,224	35.5	6,717	31.7
Rate						
Full rate	7,295	78.5	8,328	70.1	15,623	73.8
Part rate	2,002	21.5	3,554	29.9	5,556	26.2
Paid under income test <sup>(d)</sup>						
Single	228	2.5	46	0.4	274	1.3
Partnered	8,863	95.3	11,598	97.6	20,461	96.6
Paid under assets test <sup>(d)</sup>						
Home owners	198	2.1	222	1.9	420	2.0
Non-home owners	7	0.1	16	0.1	23	0.1
Not coded <sup>(e)</sup>	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0

(a) Excludes 36 Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by 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 recipient'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 recipients by state/territory and pension type, June 2011

State/territory	Age Pension <sup>(a)</sup>		Disability Support Pension		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	3,063	44.8	3,774	55.2	6,837	32.3
Victoria	2,195	46.2	2,551	53.8	4,746	22.4
Queensland	1,616	41.2	2,308	58.8	3,924	18.5
Western Australia	732	41.0	1,053	59.0	1,785	8.4
South Australia	847	43.7	1,093	56.3	1,940	9.2
Tasmania	311	38.3	501	61.7	812	3.8
Australian Capital Territory	56	55.4	45	44.6	101	0.5
Northern Territory	32	50.8	31	49.2	63	0.3
Other <sup>(b)</sup>	445	45.8	526	54.2	971	4.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,297</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>11,882</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>21,179</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Excludes 36 Wife (Age) Pension payments administered by 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
- 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 using the Adult Disability Assessment Tool (ADAT), or
- have been assessed, rated and given a score of at least 20 using 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.

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 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 (prior to 1 July 2009)).

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

Table 17: Carer Payment recipients by payment type of care receiver, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Age Pension		Disability Support Pension		Other <sup>(a)</sup>		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
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 <sup>(b)</sup>	–	–	–	–	–	–	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
2011	–	–	–	–	–	–	186,065

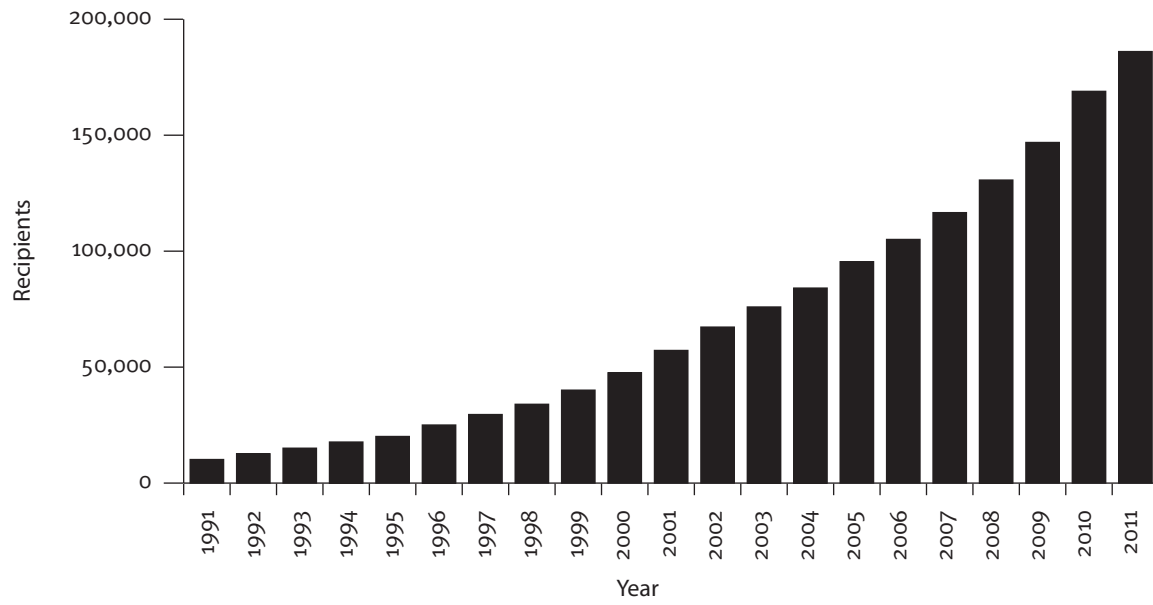
(a) Includes those caring for a person on a FaHCSIA payment other than Age Pension or Disability Support Pension. It also includes those caring for a person not on a FaHCSIA payment.

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

Note: '–' = not applicable.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 6: Carer Payment recipients, June 1991 to June 2011



Note: Includes those caring for a person on a 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 recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,491</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>128,574</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>186,065</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<20	814	1.4	1,179	0.9	1,993	1.1
20–29	4,424	7.7	7,962	6.2	12,386	6.7
30–39	6,974	12.1	17,311	13.5	24,285	13.1
40–49	12,010	20.9	30,408	23.7	42,418	22.8
50–59	14,790	25.7	38,484	29.9	53,274	28.6
60–64	9,785	17.0	22,021	17.1	31,806	17.1
≥65	8,694	15.1	11,209	8.7	19,903	10.7
Marital status						
Married/de facto	34,643	60.3	80,657	62.7	115,300	62.0
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	22,848	39.7	47,917	37.3	70,765	38.0
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	36,945	64.3	81,242	63.2	118,187	63.5
United Kingdom	3,355	5.8	5,804	4.5	9,159	4.9
Lebanon	1,526	2.7	4,676	3.6	6,202	3.3
Iraq	2,387	4.2	3,328	2.6	5,715	3.1
Vietnam	1,258	2.2	3,864	3.0	5,122	2.8
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	12,020	20.9	29,660	23.1	41,680	22.4
Home ownership						
Home owner	22,665	39.4	63,123	49.1	85,788	46.1
Non-home owner	34,826	60.6	65,451	50.9	100,277	53.9
Rate <sup>(b)</sup>						
Full rate	–	–	–	–	138,148	74.2
Part rate	–	–	–	–	47,917	25.8
Paid under income test						
Single	22,447	39.0	47,127	36.7	69,574	37.4
Partnered	33,194	57.7	76,774	59.7	109,968	59.1
Home owner paid under assets test						
Single	225	0.4	586	0.5	811	0.4
Partnered	1,436	2.5	3,689	2.9	5,125	2.8
Non-home owner paid under assets test	132	0.2	272	0.2	404	0.2
Income/assets test not coded <sup>(c)</sup>	57	0.1	126	0.1	183	0.1
Duration <sup>(d)</sup>						
<1 year	10,809	18.8	22,925	17.8	33,734	18.1
1 to <2 years	9,785	17.0	22,239	17.3	32,024	17.2
2 to <3 years	7,269	12.6	16,035	12.5	23,304	12.5
3 to <4 years	5,165	9.0	13,673	10.6	18,838	10.1
4 to <5 years	4,230	7.4	10,803	8.4	15,033	8.1
5 to <10 years	13,604	23.7	31,150	24.2	44,754	24.1
≥10 years	6,629	11.5	11,749	9.1	18,378	9.9
Mean (weeks)	236.6		222.5		226.8	
Median (weeks)	160.3		164.7		160.3	

(a) Includes any unknown country of birth.

(b) Full/part-rate recipient counts unavailable due to data integrity issues with the data source. Overall percentage breakdown for 'Total' derived from the FaHCSIA 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.

Note: '–' = not applicable.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 19: Carer Payment recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	22,474	31.3	49,362	68.7	71,836	38.6
Victoria	14,171	30.1	32,891	69.9	47,062	25.3
Queensland	9,975	29.9	23,382	70.1	33,357	17.9
Western Australia	3,265	29.9	7,665	70.1	10,930	5.9
South Australia	4,679	33.6	9,246	66.4	13,925	7.5
Tasmania	2,275	33.9	4,436	66.1	6,711	3.6
Australian Capital Territory	325	32.4	679	67.6	1,004	0.5
Northern Territory	277	25.7	802	74.3	1,079	0.6
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	50	31.1	111	68.9	161	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,491</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>128,574</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>186,065</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unknown postcodes and overseas recipients.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

## 2.7 Carer Allowance

Carer Allowance is a supplementary payment available to people who provide daily care and attention for adults or children with a disability or severe 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).

From 1 July 2010 the Carer Allowance (child) assessment, applicable to children under 16 years, changed to assessment under the Disability Care Load Assessment (DCLA). The DCLA, introduced for Carer Payment (child) from 1 July 2009, recognises and assesses the level of care provided by the carer and required by the child.

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 severe medical condition. The carer or parent may be eligible to receive a fortnightly payment of Carer Allowance for each eligible person in their care.

People caring for two children with disabilities, who individually fall just below the qualification for Carer Allowance but whose combined assessment using the DCLA meets the threshold for payment, will receive a single rate of Carer Allowance.

People 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 recipients 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 using 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 using the DCLA 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 recipients by carer type, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Child	Adult <sup>(a)</sup>	Adult and child	Total
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 <sup>(b)</sup>	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 <sup>(c)</sup>	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
2011	127,698	385,354	7,981	521,033

(a) From 2002, includes recipients 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.

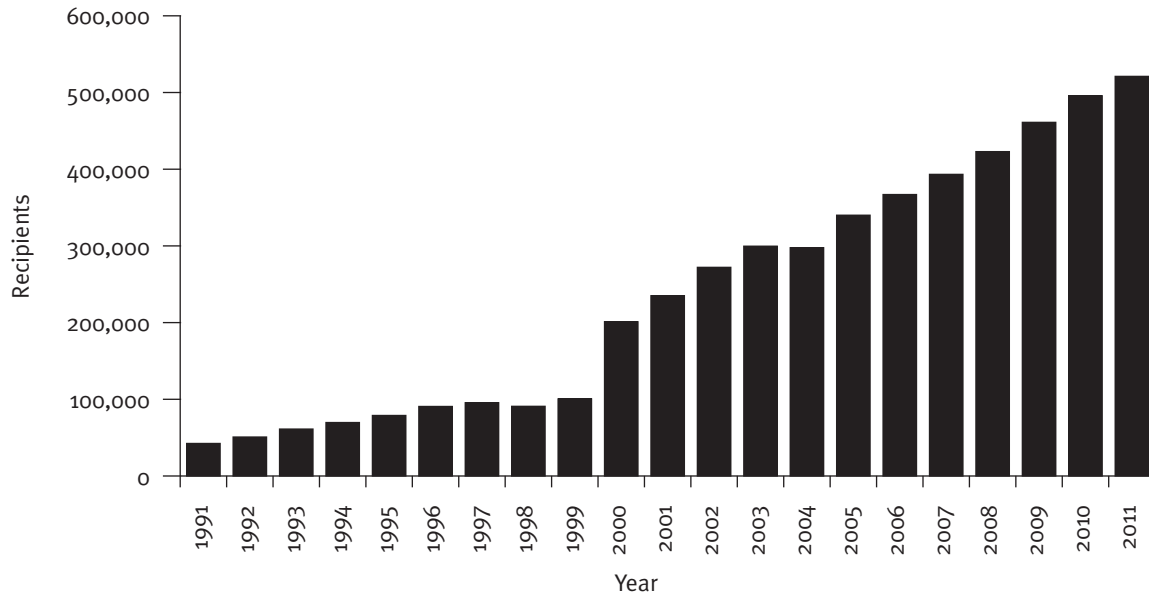
(c) 2004 reduction was due to cessation of saved (grandfathered) ex Child Disability Allowance recipients.

Notes: 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.

‘–’ = not applicable.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 7: Carer Allowance recipients, June 1991 to June 2011



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. 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.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 21: Carer Allowance recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>134,151</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>386,882</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>521,033</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<20	1,133	0.8	1,768	0.5	2,901	0.6
20–29	5,649	4.2	18,778	4.9	24,427	4.7
30–39	11,226	8.4	69,734	18.0	80,960	15.5
40–49	20,569	15.3	94,234	24.4	114,803	22.0
50–59	24,689	18.4	78,279	20.2	102,968	19.8
60–69	29,830	22.2	72,816	18.8	102,646	19.7
70–79	25,830	19.3	37,953	9.8	63,783	12.2
≥80	15,225	11.3	13,320	3.4	28,545	5.5
Marital status						
Married/de facto	96,015	71.6	273,005	70.6	369,020	70.8
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	38,136	28.4	113,877	29.4	152,013	29.2
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	83,908	62.5	269,747	69.7	353,655	67.9
United Kingdom	9,709	7.2	20,152	5.2	29,861	5.7
Italy	5,212	3.9	8,700	2.2	13,912	2.7
Greece	4,107	3.1	6,532	1.7	10,639	2.0
Lebanon	2,189	1.6	7,373	1.9	9,562	1.8
Other	29,026	21.6	74,378	19.2	103,404	19.8
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<1 year	23,745	17.7	51,220	13.2	74,965	14.4
1 to <2 years	22,509	16.8	56,466	14.6	78,975	15.2
2 to <3 years	18,722	14.0	49,706	12.8	68,428	13.1
3 to <4 years	13,174	9.8	38,186	9.9	51,360	9.9
4 to <5 years	11,063	8.2	32,181	8.3	43,244	8.3
5 to <10 years	34,681	25.9	110,590	28.6	145,271	27.9
≥10 years	10,257	7.6	48,533	12.5	58,790	11.3
Mean (weeks)	212.3		252.6		242.2	
Median (weeks)	160.3		199.3		190.7	

(a) Duration is measured from the allowance start date.  
 Note: Excludes 18,593 customers who receive a Health Care Card only.  
 Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 22: Carer Allowance recipients by state/territory and carer type, June 2011

State/territory	Child <sup>(a)</sup>		Adult <sup>(b)</sup>		Adult and child		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	42,530	33.3	137,986	35.8	2,969	37.2	183,485	35.2
Victoria	34,013	26.6	103,385	26.8	2,082	26.1	139,480	26.8
Queensland	24,601	19.3	70,443	18.3	1,432	17.9	96,476	18.5
Western Australia	9,963	7.8	25,927	6.7	437	5.5	36,327	7.0
South Australia	11,030	8.6	31,071	8.1	716	9.0	42,817	8.2
Tasmania	3,070	2.4	11,629	3.0	262	3.3	14,961	2.9
Australian Capital Territory	1,673	1.3	3,093	0.8	63	0.8	4,829	0.9
Northern Territory	759	0.6	1,731	0.4	20	0.3	2,510	0.5
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	59	0.0	89	0.0	0	0.0	148	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>127,698</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>385,354</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7,981</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>521,033</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Excludes 18,593 customers who receive a Health Care Card only.

(b) Includes 72 recipients 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 undertaking qualifying study in an approved course at an approved educational institution. Approved courses generally include secondary education courses, Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses, associate diploma and diploma courses, bachelor degree courses, graduate diploma and graduate certificate courses, and some masters 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, and is subject to residence requirements.

Table 23: Austudy Payment recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,294</b>	<b>49.2</b>	<b>19,919</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>39,213</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
25–29	8,769	45.4	8,580	43.1	17,349	44.2
30–34	4,365	22.6	3,586	18.0	7,951	20.3
35–39	2,638	13.7	2,357	11.8	4,995	12.7
40–44	1,534	8.0	1,948	9.8	3,482	8.9
45–49	953	4.9	1,627	8.2	2,580	6.6
50–54	554	2.9	1,148	5.8	1,702	4.3
55–59	340	1.8	549	2.8	889	2.3
≥60	141	0.7	124	0.6	265	0.7
Marital status						
Single or partnered (no child)	15,227	78.9	15,982	80.2	31,209	79.6
Single with children	339	1.8	1,899	9.5	2,238	5.7
Partnered with children	3,728	19.3	2,038	10.2	5,766	14.7
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<3 months	1,345	7.0	1,412	7.1	2,757	7.0
3 to <6 months	4,000	20.7	4,427	22.2	8,427	21.5
6 to <9 months	997	5.2	1,056	5.3	2,053	5.2
9 months to <1 year	1,304	6.8	1,406	7.1	2,710	6.9
1 to <2 years	4,916	25.5	4,842	24.3	9,758	24.9
2 to <3 years	3,268	16.9	2,780	14.0	6,048	15.4
≥3 years	3,464	18.0	3,996	20.1	7,460	19.0
Mean (weeks)	103.6		122.9		113.4	
Median (weeks)	69.0		68.0		68.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	14,457	74.9	13,351	67.0	27,808	70.9
0.01–118.00	1,232	6.4	1,697	8.5	2,929	7.5
>118.00	3,605	18.7	4,871	24.5	8,476	21.6
Study level						
Secondary	357	1.9	256	1.3	613	1.6
Tertiary Group A	935	4.8	1,050	5.3	1,985	5.1
Tertiary Group B	10,930	56.6	10,449	52.5	21,379	54.5
Tertiary Group C	2,614	13.5	2,952	14.8	5,566	14.2
Tertiary Group D	2,629	13.6	3,384	17.0	6,013	15.3
Other	1,400	7.3	1,628	8.2	3,028	7.7
Not recorded	429	2.2	200	1.0	629	1.6

(a) Duration is measured from the income support start date. For recipients 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 1,251 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 in this table are not comparable to the DEEWR Annual Report published figures due to different attributions of student income support recipient data.

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

Table 24: Austudy Payment recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	6,180	49.0	6,439	51.0	12,619	32.2
Victoria	5,535	49.2	5,723	50.8	11,258	28.7
Queensland	3,357	47.0	3,790	53.0	7,147	18.2
Western Australia	1,599	49.9	1,607	50.1	3,206	8.2
South Australia	1,715	53.7	1,481	46.3	3,196	8.2
Tasmania	523	49.2	541	50.8	1,064	2.7
Australian Capital Territory	301	55.0	246	45.0	547	1.4
Northern Territory	55	46.6	63	53.4	118	0.3
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	29	50.0	29	50.0	58	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,294</b>	<b>49.2</b>	<b>19,919</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>39,213</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: Customer numbers include 1,251 people who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. Figures in this table are not comparable to the DEEWR Annual Report published figures due to different attributions 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.

The recipient must be enrolled in an approved course or apprenticeship, and not receive any other government assistance to study. ABSTUDY is subject to residence requirements, and income and assets tests. 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 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,629</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>19,478</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>37,107</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
≤12	1,267	7.2	1,413	7.3	2,680	7.2
13	2,821	16.0	2,790	14.3	5,611	15.1
14	2,991	17.0	2,896	14.9	5,887	15.9
15	2,840	16.1	2,707	13.9	5,547	14.9
16	2,310	13.1	2,286	11.7	4,596	12.4
17	1,626	9.2	1,596	8.2	3,222	8.7
18	714	4.1	815	4.2	1,529	4.1
19	361	2.0	506	2.6	867	2.3
20	271	1.5	382	2.0	653	1.8
≥21	2,428	13.8	4,087	21.0	6,515	17.6
Marital status						
Married/de facto	703	4.0	1,401	7.2	2,104	5.7
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	16,926	96.0	18,077	92.8	35,003	94.3
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<3 months	1,211	6.9	1,437	7.4	2,648	7.1
3 to <6 months	6,240	35.4	7,188	36.9	13,428	36.2
6 to <9 months	735	4.2	776	4.0	1,511	4.1
9 months to <1 year	927	5.3	989	5.1	1,916	5.2
1 to <2 years	5,078	28.8	5,490	28.2	10,568	28.5
2 to <3 years	2,307	13.1	2,401	12.3	4,708	12.7
≥3 years	1,131	6.4	1,197	6.1	2,328	6.3
Mean (weeks)	63.3		61.0		62.1	
Median (weeks)	48.0		44.0		46.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	16,880	95.8	18,090	92.9	34,970	94.2
0.01–118.00	235	1.3	438	2.2	673	1.8
>118.00	514	2.9	950	4.9	1,464	3.9
Study level						
Secondary	14,126	80.1	13,948	71.6	28,074	75.7
Tertiary	2,955	16.8	5,254	27.0	8,209	22.1
Other	548	3.1	276	1.4	824	2.2
Student status						
Full-time	16,583	94.1	17,904	91.9	34,487	92.9
Part-time <sup>(c)</sup>	1,046	5.9	1,574	8.1	2,620	7.1

(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 in this table are not comparable to the DEEWR Annual Report published figures due to a different 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 2011

State/territory <sup>(a)</sup>	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	6,665	47.9	7,259	52.1	13,924	37.5
Victoria	1,114	44.8	1,373	55.2	2,487	6.7
Queensland	4,847	47.6	5,342	52.4	10,189	27.5
Western Australia	1,914	49.4	1,958	50.6	3,872	10.4
South Australia	1,065	44.9	1,306	55.1	2,371	6.4
Tasmania	462	48.3	495	51.7	957	2.6
Australian Capital Territory	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	295	0.8
Northern Territory	1,415	47.4	1,572	52.6	2,987	8.0
Other <sup>(b)</sup>	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	25	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,629</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>19,478</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>37,107</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(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.

Notes: Figures in this table are not comparable to the DEEWR Annual Report published figures due to a different attribution of student income support recipient data.

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

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 income test applies unless the recipient is assessed as independent. Independence for Youth Allowance can be obtained in a number of ways, including through minimum levels of prior workforce participation; marital status; or determination by a Centrelink social worker that it is 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 and activity test requirements apply.

Table 27: Youth Allowance (full-time student and apprentice) recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>148,561</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>176,663</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>325,224</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
15	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
16	31,680	21.3	32,434	18.4	64,114	19.7
17	27,493	18.5	30,079	17.0	57,572	17.7
18	18,528	12.5	22,781	12.9	41,309	12.7
19	14,533	9.8	19,318	10.9	33,851	10.4
20	14,751	9.9	19,782	11.2	34,533	10.6
21	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
22	10,198	6.9	13,172	7.5	23,370	7.2
23	8,084	5.4	9,757	5.5	17,841	5.5
24	5,709	3.8	6,563	3.7	12,272	3.8
≥25	4,302	2.9	4,534	2.6	8,836	2.7
Rate						
At home	91,700	61.7	98,398	55.7	190,098	58.5
Away from home or couple	56,861	38.3	78,265	44.3	135,126	41.5
Independent	44,395	29.9	59,765	33.8	104,160	32.0
Dependent	104,166	70.1	116,898	66.2	221,064	68.0
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<3 months	11,848	8.0	12,781	7.2	24,629	7.6
3 to <6 months	25,699	17.3	31,048	17.6	56,747	17.4
6 to <9 months	12,401	8.3	13,561	7.7	25,962	8.0
9 months to <1 year	15,042	10.1	16,553	9.4	31,595	9.7
1 to <2 years	41,088	27.7	49,145	27.8	90,233	27.7
2 to <3 years	21,739	14.6	27,249	15.4	48,988	15.1
≥3 years	20,744	14.0	26,326	14.9	47,070	14.5
Mean (weeks)	80.8		83.1		82.0	
Median (weeks)	60.0		63.0		62.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	110,776	74.6	113,584	64.3	224,360	69.0
0.01–118.00	14,413	9.7	24,485	13.9	38,898	12.0
>118.00	23,372	15.7	38,594	21.8	61,966	19.1
Study level						
Secondary	64,779	43.6	66,917	37.9	131,696	40.5
Tertiary Group A	1,274	0.9	2,040	1.2	3,314	1.0
Tertiary Group B	61,028	41.1	83,183	47.1	144,211	44.3
Tertiary Group C	6,690	4.5	8,361	4.7	15,051	4.6
Tertiary Group D	8,796	5.9	11,336	6.4	20,132	6.2
Apprentices/other	5,548	3.7	4,309	2.4	9,857	3.0
Not recorded	446	0.3	517	0.3	963	0.3

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Notes: Data include 6,443 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 4,908 apprentices. Figures in this table are not comparable to DEEWR Annual Report published figures due to a different 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.

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

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

Table 28: Youth Allowance (other) recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,014</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>40,958</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>85,972</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
15	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
16	2,306	5.1	2,515	6.1	4,821	5.6
17	6,309	14.0	6,146	15.0	12,455	14.5
18	12,214	27.1	11,674	28.5	23,888	27.8
19	12,621	28.0	11,128	27.2	23,749	27.6
20	11,553	25.7	9,470	23.1	21,023	24.5
≥21	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Rate						
At home	23,184	51.5	18,961	46.3	42,145	49.0
Away from home or couple	21,830	48.5	21,997	53.7	43,827	51.0
Independent	18,399	40.9	18,070	44.1	36,469	42.4
Dependent	26,615	59.1	22,888	55.9	49,503	57.6
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<3 months	6,947	15.4	5,110	12.5	12,057	14.0
3 to <6 months	6,324	14.0	5,432	13.3	11,756	13.7
6 to <9 months	3,944	8.8	3,263	8.0	7,207	8.4
9 months to <1 year	3,322	7.4	3,023	7.4	6,345	7.4
1 to <2 years	9,576	21.3	9,248	22.6	18,824	21.9
2 to <3 years	7,990	17.8	7,796	19.0	15,786	18.4
≥3 years	6,911	15.4	7,086	17.3	13,997	16.3
Mean (weeks)	79.0		85.2		82.0	
Median (weeks)	61.0		71.0		67.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	39,166	87.0	32,692	79.8	71,858	83.6
0.01–31.00	266	0.6	402	1.0	668	0.8
31.01–118.00	1,748	3.9	2,455	6.0	4,203	4.9
>118.00	3,834	8.5	5,409	13.2	9,243	10.8
Main activity type						
Jobsearch	12,702	28.2	13,430	32.8	26,132	30.4
Incapacitated	1,121	2.5	1,265	3.1	2,386	2.8
Work for dole	436	1.0	213	0.5	649	0.8
CDEP participant	231	0.5	107	0.3	338	0.4
Other	30,524	67.8	25,943	63.3	56,467	65.7

(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.

Notes: Data include 2,634 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income. The figures also include 334 Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants who received a nil rate of basic Youth Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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

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

Table 29: Total Youth Allowance recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>193,575</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>217,621</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>411,196</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
15	35	0.0	59	0.0	94	0.0
16	33,986	17.6	34,949	16.1	68,935	16.8
17	33,802	17.5	36,225	16.6	70,027	17.0
18	30,742	15.9	34,455	15.8	65,197	15.9
19	27,154	14.0	30,446	14.0	57,600	14.0
20	26,304	13.6	29,252	13.4	55,556	13.5
21	13,259	6.8	18,209	8.4	31,468	7.7
22	10,198	5.3	13,172	6.1	23,370	5.7
23	8,084	4.2	9,757	4.5	17,841	4.3
24	5,709	2.9	6,563	3.0	12,272	3.0
≥25	4,302	2.2	4,534	2.1	8,836	2.1
Rate						
At home	114,884	59.3	117,359	53.9	232,243	56.5
Away from home or couple	78,691	40.7	100,262	46.1	178,953	43.5
Independent	62,794	32.4	77,835	35.8	140,629	34.2
Dependent	130,781	67.6	139,786	64.2	270,567	65.8
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<3 months	18,795	9.7	17,891	8.2	36,686	8.9
3 to <6 months	32,023	16.5	36,480	16.8	68,503	16.7
6 to <9 months	16,345	8.4	16,824	7.7	33,169	8.1
9 months to <1 year	18,364	9.5	19,576	9.0	37,940	9.2
1 to <2 years	50,664	26.2	58,393	26.8	109,057	26.5
2 to <3 years	29,729	15.4	35,045	16.1	64,774	15.8
≥3 years	27,655	14.3	33,412	15.4	61,067	14.9
Mean (weeks)	80.4		83.5		82.0	
Median (weeks)	60.0		64.0		62.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	149,942	77.5	146,276	67.2	296,218	72.0
0.01–31.00	1,742	0.9	2,705	1.2	4,447	1.1
31.01–118.00	14,685	7.6	24,637	11.3	39,322	9.6
>118.00	27,206	14.1	44,003	20.2	71,209	17.3
Student status						
Apprentice	3,596	1.9	1,312	0.6	4,908	1.2
Full-time	144,965	74.9	175,351	80.6	320,316	77.9
Part-time	315	0.2	515	0.2	830	0.2
Not a student	44,699	23.1	40,443	18.6	85,142	20.7

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: Figures in this table are not comparable to DEEWR Annual Report published figures due to a different attribution of income support recipient data.

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

## 3.4 Newstart Allowance

Newstart Allowance is available to people aged between 21 years and Age Pension age who are unemployed, or treated as unemployed, and are:

- ▶ looking for work, or
- ▶ participating in approved activities designed to facilitate entry into employment, or
- ▶ exempt from activity requirements, or
- ▶ undertaking sufficient work for their circumstances.

In most circumstances, eligibility to receive Newstart Allowance requires a person to enter into an Employment Pathway Plan with their Job Services Australia provider. An Employment Pathway Plan is an individual plan setting out the activities a person will undertake to assist their entry into employment. The terms of an Employment Pathway Plan must be adhered to in order for a person to satisfy their activity test requirements and continue to receive payment.

Newstart Allowance is subject to residence requirements and income and assets tests. 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).

### Activity type

The jobseeker population, for both Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) payments, is derived by excluding all people who did not receive a payment and those known not to have been required to search for work. People receiving assistance under Job Services Australia arrangements are classified as jobseekers. '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.

Table 30: Short-term Newstart Allowance recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,824</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>71,179</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>197,003</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
21–24	22,806	18.1	12,993	18.3	35,799	18.2
25–29	21,019	16.7	8,663	12.2	29,682	15.1
30–34	16,708	13.3	6,220	8.7	22,928	11.6
35–39	15,624	12.4	6,989	9.8	22,613	11.5
40–44	13,481	10.7	8,211	11.5	21,692	11.0
45–49	11,084	8.8	8,387	11.8	19,471	9.9
50–59	17,300	13.7	14,439	20.3	31,739	16.1
≥60	7,802	6.2	5,277	7.4	13,079	6.6
Marital status						
Married/de facto	31,101	24.7	18,867	26.5	49,968	25.4
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	94,723	75.3	52,312	73.5	147,035	74.6
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	92,201	73.3	50,418	70.8	142,619	72.4
United Kingdom	4,653	3.7	2,844	4.0	7,497	3.8
New Zealand	3,319	2.6	1,893	2.7	5,212	2.6
Vietnam	2,060	1.6	1,391	2.0	3,451	1.8
China	1,370	1.1	1,667	2.3	3,037	1.5
Other	22,221	17.7	12,966	18.2	35,187	17.9
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<7 weeks	25,523	20.3	13,010	18.3	38,533	19.6
7 weeks to <3 months	20,177	16.0	10,666	15.0	30,843	15.7
3 to <6 months	35,959	28.6	20,966	29.5	56,925	28.9
6 to <9 months	25,154	20.0	14,786	20.8	39,940	20.3
9 months to <1 year	19,011	15.1	11,751	16.5	30,762	15.6
Mean (weeks)	20.5		21.5		20.9	
Median (weeks)	18.0		19.0		18.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	109,911	87.4	55,381	77.8	165,292	83.9
0.01–31.00	538	0.4	470	0.7	1,008	0.5
>31.00	15,375	12.2	15,328	21.5	30,703	15.6
Activity type						
Jobseekers	77,307	61.4	37,857	53.2	115,164	58.5
Incapacitated	8,915	7.1	6,422	9.0	15,337	7.8
Other	39,602	31.5	26,900	37.8	66,502	33.8

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

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 2011. The table figures exclude 13,210 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 601 CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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

Table 31: Long-term Newstart Allowance recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>188,156</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>142,321</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>330,477</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
21–24	27,097	14.4	19,070	13.4	46,167	14.0
25–29	26,969	14.3	13,452	9.5	40,421	12.2
30–34	23,301	12.4	11,527	8.1	34,828	10.5
35–39	22,522	12.0	15,050	10.6	37,572	11.4
40–44	20,788	11.0	18,407	12.9	39,195	11.9
45–49	18,495	9.8	19,551	13.7	38,046	11.5
50–59	30,567	16.2	32,478	22.8	63,045	19.1
≥60	18,417	9.8	12,786	9.0	31,203	9.4
Marital status						
Married/de facto	44,808	23.8	35,540	25.0	80,348	24.3
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	143,348	76.2	106,781	75.0	250,129	75.7
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	140,305	74.6	100,932	70.9	241,237	73.0
United Kingdom	6,885	3.7	5,247	3.7	12,132	3.7
Vietnam	4,053	2.2	4,824	3.4	8,877	2.7
New Zealand	3,764	2.0	3,188	2.2	6,952	2.1
China	1,944	1.0	3,211	2.3	5,155	1.6
Other	31,205	16.6	24,919	17.5	56,124	17.0
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
1 to <2 years	55,654	29.6	36,290	25.5	91,944	27.8
2 to <3 years	46,316	24.6	26,774	18.8	73,090	22.1
3 to <4 years	21,685	11.5	14,541	10.2	36,226	11.0
4 to <5 years	12,595	6.7	10,131	7.1	22,726	6.9
≥5 years	51,906	27.6	54,585	38.4	106,491	32.2
Mean (weeks)	232.3		314.3		267.6	
Median (weeks)	143.0		180.0		156.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	160,155	85.1	105,460	74.1	265,615	80.4
0.01–31.00	949	0.5	902	0.6	1,851	0.6
>31.00	27,052	14.4	35,959	25.3	63,011	19.1
Activity type						
Jobseekers	78,811	41.9	47,539	33.4	126,350	38.2
Incapacitated	10,416	5.5	9,225	6.5	19,641	5.9
Other	98,929	52.6	85,557	60.1	184,486	55.8

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: The figures in this table are not comparable to the 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 2011. The table figures exclude 15,306 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 3,200 CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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



Table 32: Total Newstart Allowance recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>313,980</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>213,500</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>527,480</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
21–24	49,903	15.9	32,063	15.0	81,966	15.5
25–29	47,988	15.3	22,115	10.4	70,103	13.3
30–34	40,009	12.7	17,747	8.3	57,756	10.9
35–39	38,146	12.1	22,039	10.3	60,185	11.4
40–44	34,269	10.9	26,618	12.5	60,887	11.5
45–49	29,579	9.4	27,938	13.1	57,517	10.9
50–59	47,867	15.2	46,917	22.0	94,784	18.0
≥60	26,219	8.4	18,063	8.5	44,282	8.4
Marital status						
Married/de facto	75,909	24.2	54,407	25.5	130,316	24.7
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	238,071	75.8	159,093	74.5	397,164	75.3
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	232,506	74.1	151,350	70.9	383,856	72.8
United Kingdom	11,538	3.7	8,091	3.8	19,629	3.7
Vietnam	6,113	1.9	6,215	2.9	12,328	2.3
New Zealand	7,083	2.3	5,081	2.4	12,164	2.3
China	3,314	1.1	4,878	2.3	8,192	1.6
Other	53,426	17.0	37,885	17.7	91,311	17.3
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<1 year	125,824	40.1	71,179	33.3	197,003	37.3
1 to <2 years	55,654	17.7	36,290	17.0	91,944	17.4
2 to <3 years	46,316	14.8	26,774	12.5	73,090	13.9
3 to <4 years	21,685	6.9	14,541	6.8	36,226	6.9
4 to <5 years	12,595	4.0	10,131	4.7	22,726	4.3
≥5 years	51,906	16.5	54,585	25.6	106,491	20.2
Mean (weeks)	147.4		216.7		175.4	
Median (weeks)	79.0		103.0		88.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	270,066	86.0	160,841	75.3	430,907	81.7
0.01–31.00	1,487	0.5	1,372	0.6	2,859	0.5
>31.00	42,427	13.5	51,287	24.0	93,714	17.8
Activity type						
Jobseekers	156,118	49.7	85,396	40.0	241,514	45.8
Incapacitated	19,331	6.2	15,647	7.3	34,978	6.6
Other	138,531	44.1	112,457	52.7	250,988	47.6

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: The figures in this table are not comparable to the 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 2011. The table figures exclude 28,516 customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 3,801 CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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

Table 33: Short-term unemployed customers, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>146,361</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>88,007</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>234,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<18	5,312	3.6	5,117	5.8	10,429	4.4
18–24	38,031	26.0	24,704	28.1	62,735	26.8
25–29	21,019	14.4	8,663	9.8	29,682	12.7
30–34	16,708	11.4	6,220	7.1	22,928	9.8
35–39	15,624	10.7	6,989	7.9	22,613	9.6
40–44	13,481	9.2	8,211	9.3	21,692	9.3
45–49	11,084	7.6	8,387	9.5	19,471	8.3
50–59	17,300	11.8	14,439	16.4	31,739	13.5
≥60	7,802	5.3	5,277	6.0	13,079	5.6
Marital status						
Married/de facto	32,338	22.1	20,390	23.2	52,728	22.5
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	114,023	77.9	67,617	76.8	181,640	77.5
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	111,016	75.9	66,116	75.1	177,132	75.6
United Kingdom	4,789	3.3	2,974	3.4	7,763	3.3
New Zealand	3,646	2.5	2,179	2.5	5,825	2.5
Vietnam	2,073	1.4	1,398	1.6	3,471	1.5
China	1,400	1.0	1,683	1.9	3,083	1.3
Other	23,437	16.0	13,657	15.5	37,094	15.8
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<7 weeks	29,224	20.0	15,619	17.7	44,843	19.1
7 weeks to <3 months	23,423	16.0	13,167	15.0	36,590	15.6
3 to <6 months	42,283	28.9	26,398	30.0	68,681	29.3
6 to <9 months	29,098	19.9	18,049	20.5	47,147	20.1
9 months to <1 year	22,333	15.3	14,774	16.8	37,107	15.8
Mean (weeks)	20.6		21.6		21.0	
Median (weeks)	18.0		19.0		18.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	128,204	87.6	69,170	78.6	197,374	84.2
0.01–31.00	641	0.4	640	0.7	1,281	0.5
>31.00	17,516	12.0	18,197	20.7	35,713	15.2
Activity type						
Jobseekers	82,873	56.6	43,576	49.5	126,449	54.0
Incapacitated	9,526	6.5	6,959	7.9	16,485	7.0
Other	53,962	36.9	37,472	42.6	91,434	39.0

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: 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 figures in this table are not comparable to the 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 2011. The table figures exclude 13,210 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 601 CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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

Table 34: Long-term unemployed customers, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>212,633</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>166,451</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>379,084</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<18	3,314	1.6	3,568	2.1	6,882	1.8
18–24	48,260	22.7	39,632	23.8	87,892	23.2
25–29	26,969	12.7	13,452	8.1	40,421	10.7
30–34	23,301	11.0	11,527	6.9	34,828	9.2
35–39	22,522	10.6	15,050	9.0	37,572	9.9
40–44	20,788	9.8	18,407	11.1	39,195	10.3
45–49	18,495	8.7	19,551	11.7	38,046	10.0
50–59	30,567	14.4	32,478	19.5	63,045	16.6
≥60	18,417	8.7	12,786	7.7	31,203	8.2
Marital status						
Married/de facto	46,378	21.8	37,626	22.6	84,004	22.2
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	166,255	78.2	128,825	77.4	295,080	77.8
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	162,722	76.5	123,314	74.1	286,036	75.5
United Kingdom	6,992	3.3	5,353	3.2	12,345	3.3
Vietnam	4,087	1.9	4,856	2.9	8,943	2.4
New Zealand	4,067	1.9	3,547	2.1	7,614	2.0
China	1,978	0.9	3,235	1.9	5,213	1.4
Other	32,787	15.4	26,146	15.7	58,933	15.5
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
1 to <2 years	65,230	30.7	45,538	27.4	110,768	29.2
2 to <3 years	54,306	25.5	34,570	20.8	88,876	23.4
3 to <4 years	26,153	12.3	19,066	11.5	45,219	11.9
4 to <5 years	14,967	7.0	12,598	7.6	27,565	7.3
≥5 years	51,977	24.4	54,679	32.8	106,656	28.1
Mean (weeks)	220.2		287.4		249.7	
Median (weeks)	139.0		163.0		148.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	181,028	85.1	124,363	74.7	305,391	80.6
0.01–31.00	1,112	0.5	1,134	0.7	2,246	0.6
>31.00	30,493	14.3	40,954	24.6	71,447	18.8
Activity type						
Jobseekers	85,947	40.4	55,250	33.2	141,197	37.2
Incapacitated	10,926	5.1	9,953	6.0	20,879	5.5
Other	115,760	54.4	101,248	60.8	217,008	57.2

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: 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 figures are not comparable to the 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 2011. The table figures exclude 15,306 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 3,200 CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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

Table 35: Total unemployed customers, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>358,994</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>254,458</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>613,452</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<18	8,626	2.4	8,685	3.4	17,311	2.8
18–24	86,291	24.0	64,336	25.3	150,627	24.6
25–29	47,988	13.4	22,115	8.7	70,103	11.4
30–34	40,009	11.1	17,747	7.0	57,756	9.4
35–39	38,146	10.6	22,039	8.7	60,185	9.8
40–44	34,269	9.5	26,618	10.5	60,887	9.9
45–49	29,579	8.2	27,938	11.0	57,517	9.4
50–59	47,867	13.3	46,917	18.4	94,784	15.5
≥60	26,219	7.3	18,063	7.1	44,282	7.2
Marital status						
Married/de facto	78,716	21.9	58,016	22.8	136,732	22.3
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	280,278	78.1	196,442	77.2	476,720	77.7
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	273,738	76.3	189,430	74.4	463,168	75.5
United Kingdom	11,781	3.3	8,327	3.3	20,108	3.3
New Zealand	7,713	2.1	5,726	2.3	13,439	2.2
Vietnam	6,160	1.7	6,254	2.5	12,414	2.0
China	3,378	0.9	4,918	1.9	8,296	1.4
Other	56,224	15.7	39,803	15.6	96,027	15.7
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<1 year	146,361	40.8	88,007	34.6	234,368	38.2
1 to <2 years	65,230	18.2	45,538	17.9	110,768	18.1
2 to <3 years	54,306	15.1	34,570	13.6	88,876	14.5
3 to <4 years	26,153	7.3	19,066	7.5	45,219	7.4
4 to <5 years	14,967	4.2	12,598	5.0	27,565	4.5
≥5 years	51,977	14.5	54,679	21.5	106,656	17.4
Mean (weeks)	138.8		195.5		162.3	
Median (weeks)	76.0		96.0		84.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	309,232	86.1	193,533	76.1	502,765	82.0
0.01–31.00	1,753	0.5	1,774	0.7	3,527	0.6
>31.00	48,009	13.4	59,151	23.2	107,160	17.5
Activity type						
Jobseekers	168,820	47.0	98,826	38.8	267,646	43.6
Incapacitated	20,452	5.7	16,912	6.6	37,364	6.1
Other	169,722	47.3	138,720	54.5	308,442	50.3

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: 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 figures are not comparable to the 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 2011. The table figures exclude 28,516 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 3,801 CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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

Table 36: Total unemployed customers by state/territory, June 2011

State/territory	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance (other)		Total	
	Short-term	Long-term	Short-term	Long-term	Short-term	Long-term
New South Wales	60,899	110,916	10,493	15,012	71,392	125,928
Victoria	45,231	78,049	6,271	9,979	51,502	88,028
Queensland	47,612	67,287	11,339	12,574	58,951	79,861
Western Australia	17,306	24,891	3,829	3,340	21,135	28,231
South Australia	15,862	29,505	2,944	4,564	18,806	34,069
Tasmania	5,404	11,191	1,060	1,814	6,464	13,005
Australian Capital Territory	1,655	2,345	299	398	1,954	2,743
Northern Territory	2,981	6,212	1,092	893	4,073	7,105
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	53	81	38	33	91	114
<b>Total</b>	<b>197,003</b>	<b>330,477</b>	<b>37,365</b>	<b>48,607</b>	<b>234,368</b>	<b>379,084</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: 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 figures are not comparable to the 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 2011. The table figures exclude 28,516 Newstart Allowance customers who received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income and 3,801 CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Newstart Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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

### 3.5 Partner Allowance

Prior to the introduction of Partner Allowance, allowance recipients 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 DVA Service Pension.

Partner Allowance is a payment subject to residence requirements, and income and assets tests, but is not activity tested. 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 recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>15,903</b>	<b>92.7</b>	<b>17,147</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
55–59	296	23.8	4,929	31.0	5,225	30.5
60–64	907	72.9	10,923	68.7	11,830	69.0
≥65	41	3.3	51	0.3	92	0.5
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	704	56.6	9,482	59.6	10,186	59.4
United Kingdom	141	11.3	1,035	6.5	1,176	6.9
Vietnam	41	3.3	532	3.3	573	3.3
Italy	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	559	3.3
Greece	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	433	2.5
Other	314	25.2	3,906	24.6	4,220	24.6
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<3 years	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
3 to <4 years	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
4 to <5 years	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
≥5 years	1,241	99.8	15,881	99.9	17,122	99.9
Mean (weeks)	651.1		648.8		648.9	
Median (weeks)	625.0		630.0		630.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	1,165	93.6	14,812	93.1	15,977	93.2
0.01–31.00	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	113	0.7
>31.00	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,057	6.2

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Notes: The table figures exclude 42 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 (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Table 38: Partner Allowance recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	420	7.7	5,058	92.3	5,478	31.9
Victoria	276	6.4	4,047	93.6	4,323	25.2
Queensland	232	7.3	2,960	92.7	3,192	18.6
Western Australia	67	5.0	1,277	95.0	1,344	7.8
South Australia	143	8.1	1,627	91.9	1,770	10.3
Tasmania	90	10.6	761	89.4	851	5.0
Australian Capital Territory	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	65	0.4
Northern Territory	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	56	0.3
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	68	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>15,903</b>	<b>92.7</b>	<b>17,147</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Notes: The table figures exclude 42 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 (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

### 3.6 Widow Allowance

Widow Allowance is an income support payment that is not activity tested. 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 2005 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
  - entered Australia on or after 1 April 1996 and have at any time been an Australian resident for a continuous period of at least two years, or
  - have 10 years' qualifying Australian residence (an Australian resident for 10 years continuously or for a total of 10 years including one period of at least five continuous 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 requirements 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 recipients, characteristics, June 2011**

Characteristics	Female	
	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,341</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)		
55–59	9,753	33.2
60–64	17,324	59.0
≥65	2,264	7.7
Country of birth (top five countries)		
Australia	15,705	53.5
United Kingdom	1,855	6.3
China	1,293	4.4
Vietnam	1,104	3.8
Philippines	907	3.1
Other	8,477	28.9
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>		
<1 year—total	2,197	7.5
<7 weeks	162	0.6
7 weeks to <3 months	238	0.8
3 to <6 months	591	2.0
6 to <9 months	612	2.1
9 months to <1 year	594	2.0
≥1 year—total	27,144	92.5
1 to <2 years	2,327	7.9
2 to <3 years	2,282	7.8
3 to <4 years	1,886	6.4
4 to <5 years	1,792	6.1
≥5 years	18,857	64.3
Mean (weeks)	460.9	
Median (weeks)	396.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>		
Nil	26,406	90.0
0.01–31.00	225	0.8
>31.00	2,710	9.2

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

(b) Income is defined as earned income.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 325 customers who either received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income or were CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Widow Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

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



Table 40: Widow Allowance recipients by state/territory, June 2011

State/territory	No.	%
New South Wales	10,215	34.8
Victoria	7,563	25.8
Queensland	5,842	19.9
Western Australia	2,311	7.9
South Australia	2,037	6.9
Tasmania	922	3.1
Australian Capital Territory	173	0.6
Northern Territory	139	0.5
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	139	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,341</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Note: Figures in this table exclude 325 customers who either received a nil rate of payment due to their own or partner's income or were CDEP participants who received a nil rate of basic Widow Allowance but received CDEP Supplement.

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR 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 people with sole or primary responsibility for the care of a child and is payable 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)

From 1 July 2006, to qualify for Parenting Payment (Single), single parents must have principal care 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 Employment Pathway Plan and satisfy part-time participation requirements.

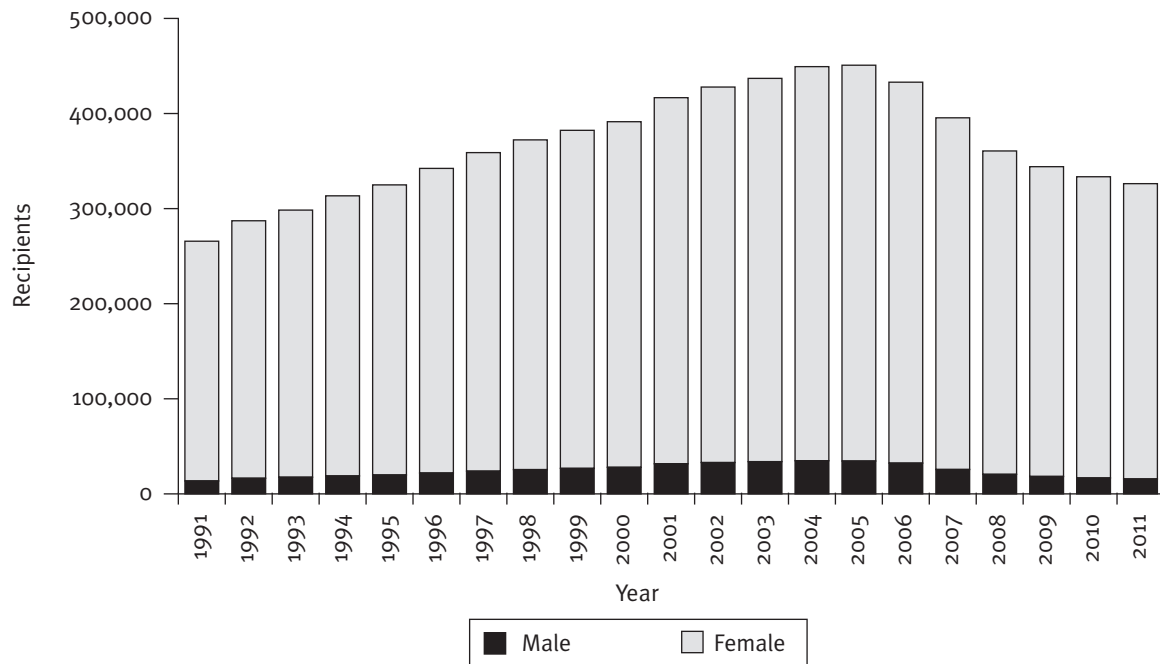
Parents in receipt of Parenting Payment (Single) prior to 1 July 2006 may continue to receive this payment until their youngest child turns 16 years old, as long as they remain eligible. This reflects the eligibility criteria that were in place before 1 July 2006. These parents will have participation requirements when their youngest child turns 7 years old.

Table 41: Parenting Payment (Single) recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Male		Female		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
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 <sup>(a)</sup>	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
2011	15,749	4.8	310,499	95.2	326,248

(a) In March 1998, Parenting Payment was introduced. It replaced Sole Parent Pension and Parenting Allowance.  
 Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Figure 8: Parenting Payment (Single) recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011



Note: In March 1998, Parenting Payment was introduced. It replaced Sole Parent Pension and Parenting Allowance.  
Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Table 42: Parenting Payment (Single) recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,749</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>310,499</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>326,248</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<20	52	0.3	8,346	2.7	8,398	2.6
20–29	3,560	22.6	102,459	33.0	106,019	32.5
30–39	6,124	38.9	118,793	38.3	124,917	38.3
40–49	4,434	28.2	69,768	22.5	74,202	22.7
50–59	1,412	9.0	10,601	3.4	12,013	3.7
≥60	167	1.1	532	0.2	699	0.2
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	13,037	82.8	252,556	81.3	265,593	81.4
New Zealand	489	3.1	8,984	2.9	9,473	2.9
Vietnam	310	2.0	7,782	2.5	8,092	2.5
United Kingdom	465	3.0	7,350	2.4	7,815	2.4
Philippines	57	0.4	2,536	0.8	2,593	0.8
Other	1,391	8.8	31,291	10.1	32,682	10.0
Home ownership						
Home owner	2,070	13.1	48,966	15.8	51,036	15.6
Non-home owner	13,679	86.9	261,533	84.2	275,212	84.4
Rate						
Full	11,549	73.3	206,579	66.5	218,128	66.9
Part	3,886	24.7	98,634	31.8	102,520	31.4
Zero	291	1.8	4,887	1.6	5,178	1.6
Undetermined	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	312	0.1
Manual	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	110	0.0
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<6 months	1,197	7.6	16,267	5.2	17,464	5.4
6 months to <1 year	1,184	7.5	16,485	5.3	17,669	5.4
1 to <2 years	2,097	13.3	32,473	10.5	34,570	10.6
2 to <3 years	1,889	12.0	29,930	9.6	31,819	9.8
3 to <4 years	1,228	7.8	23,752	7.6	24,980	7.7
4 to <5 years	879	5.6	19,699	6.3	20,578	6.3
≥5 years	7,275	46.2	171,893	55.4	179,168	54.9
Mean (weeks)	291.0		361.4		358.0	
Median (weeks)	224.0		300.0		296.0	

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

Notes: Figures in this table exclude 4,104 suspended clients.

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

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

**Table 43: Parenting Payment (Single) recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011**

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	5,248	5.0	100,457	95.0	105,705	32.4
Victoria	2,958	4.1	69,834	95.9	72,792	22.3
Queensland	3,891	5.3	69,486	94.7	73,377	22.5
Western Australia	1,326	4.2	30,580	95.8	31,906	9.8
South Australia	1,486	5.8	24,119	94.2	25,605	7.8
Tasmania	534	5.6	8,962	94.4	9,496	2.9
Australian Capital Territory	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,282	1.0
Northern Territory	162	4.1	3,803	95.9	3,965	1.2
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	120	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,749</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>310,499</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>326,248</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Notes: Figures in this table exclude 4,104 suspended clients.

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

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

### Parenting Payment (Partnered)

Parenting Payment (Partnered) is payable to only one member of a couple.

From 1 July 2006, to qualify for Parenting Payment (Partnered), partnered parents must have principal care of a child or children under the age of 6 years.

Parents in receipt of Parenting Payment (Partnered) prior 1 July 2006 may continue to receive this payment until their youngest child turns 16 years old, as long as they remain eligible. This reflects the eligibility criteria that were in place before 1 July 2006. These parents will have participation requirements from when their youngest child turns 7 years old.

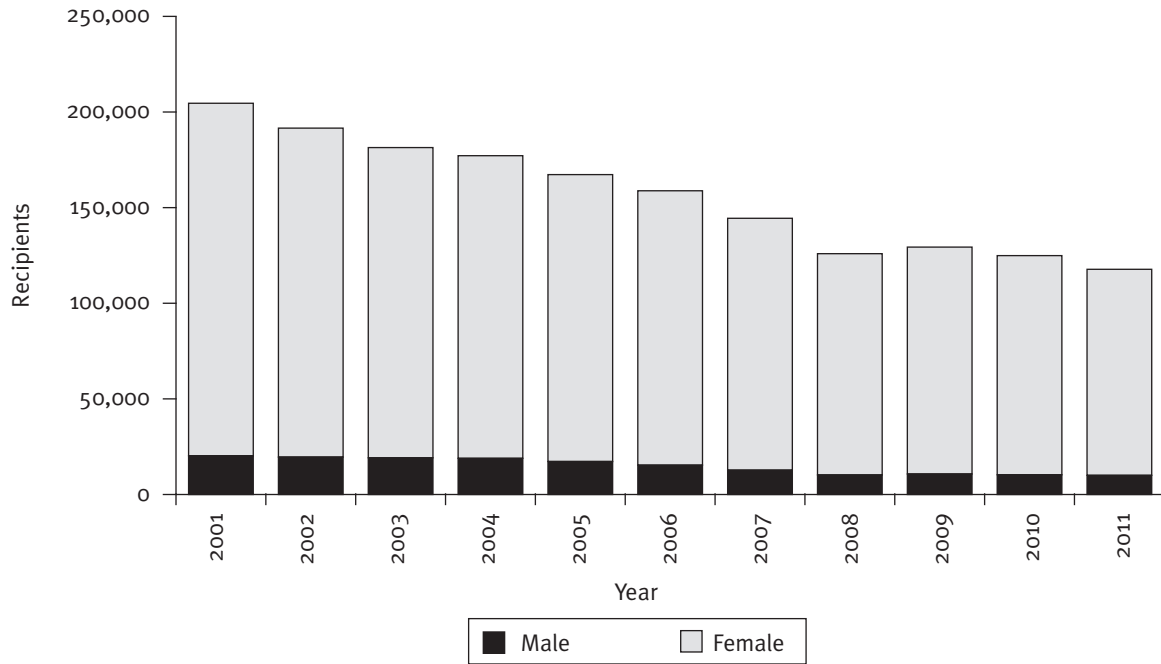
**Table 44: Parenting Payment (Partnered) recipients by sex, June 2001 to June 2011**

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
2011	10,025	8.5	107,729	91.5	117,754

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 (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Figure 9: Parenting Payment (Partnered) recipients by sex, June 2001 to June 2011



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 (DEEWR Blue Book dataset).

Table 45: Parenting Payment (Partnered) recipients by payment category of partner, June 2001 to June 2011

As at June	Partner's payment				Total
	Youth Allowance	Low income	Newstart Allowance <sup>(a)</sup>	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
2011	213	65,175	37,577	14,789	117,754

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

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

Table 46: Parenting Payment (Partnered) recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,025</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>107,729</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>117,754</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<20	29	0.3	2,768	2.6	2,797	2.4
20–29	1,871	18.7	38,431	35.7	40,302	34.2
30–39	4,375	43.6	46,256	42.9	50,631	43.0
40–49	2,791	27.8	17,983	16.7	20,774	17.6
50–59	822	8.2	2,156	2.0	2,978	2.5
≥60	137	1.4	135	0.1	272	0.2
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	6,296	62.8	64,944	60.3	71,240	60.5
Vietnam	486	4.8	4,343	4.0	4,829	4.1
China	364	3.6	4,288	4.0	4,652	4.0
Iraq	211	2.1	3,396	3.2	3,607	3.1
Lebanon	236	2.4	3,315	3.1	3,551	3.0
Other	2,432	24.3	27,443	25.5	29,875	25.4
Home ownership						
Home owner	3,085	30.8	34,385	31.9	37,470	31.8
Non-home owner	6,940	69.2	73,344	68.1	80,284	68.2
Rate						
Full	5,851	58.4	66,179	61.4	72,030	61.2
Part	3,302	32.9	32,928	30.6	36,230	30.8
Zero	809	8.1	7,982	7.4	8,791	7.5
Undetermined	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	670	0.6
Manual	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	33	0.0
Duration <sup>(a)</sup>						
<6 months	1,825	18.2	10,872	10.1	12,697	10.8
6 months to <1 year	1,447	14.4	10,025	9.3	11,472	9.7
1 to <2 years	1,922	19.2	15,819	14.7	17,741	15.1
2 to <3 years	1,414	14.1	13,132	12.2	14,546	12.4
3 to <4 years	675	6.7	8,696	8.1	9,371	8.0
4 to <5 years	450	4.5	6,921	6.4	7,371	6.3
≥5 years	2,292	22.9	42,264	39.2	44,556	37.8
Mean (weeks)	175.6		267.6		259.7	
Median (weeks)	99.0		177.0		168.0	

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

Notes: Figures in this table exclude 1,545 suspended customers.

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

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

Table 47: Parenting Payment (Partnered) recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	3,391	8.3	37,676	91.7	41,067	34.9
Victoria	2,403	8.5	25,961	91.5	28,364	24.1
Queensland	2,324	9.9	21,084	90.1	23,408	19.9
Western Australia	634	7.1	8,266	92.9	8,900	7.6
South Australia	760	8.9	7,772	91.1	8,532	7.2
Tasmania	377	10.3	3,291	89.7	3,668	3.1
Australian Capital Territory	64	9.5	608	90.5	672	0.6
Northern Territory	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,905	2.5
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	238	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,025</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>107,729</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>117,754</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Notes: Figures in this table exclude 1,545 suspended customers.

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

Source: Centrelink administrative data (DEEWR 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.

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
- ▶ ineligible 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.



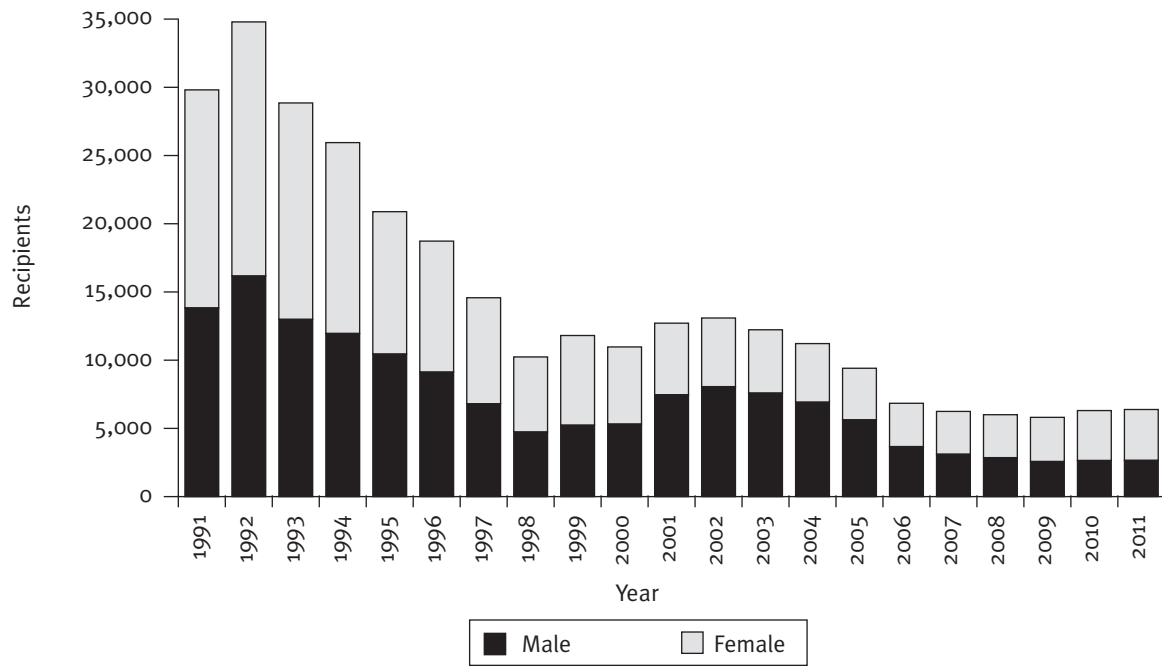
Table 48: Special Benefit recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Male		Female		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
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
2011	2,654	41.6	3,731	58.4	6,385

Note: Until 1997, the figures are averages of the numbers of weekly payments during June. From 1998, the figures are recipient 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 recipients by sex, June 1991 to June 2011



Note: Until 1997, the figures are averages of the numbers of weekly payments during June. From 1998, the figures are recipient 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 recipients, Special Benefit category by sex, June 2011

Category	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Assurance of support	22	0.8	39	1.0	61	1.0
Australian citizen child in custody of non-permanent resident	64	2.4	68	1.8	132	2.1
Caring for child	1	0.0	5	0.1	6	0.1
Caring for incapacitated person	0	0.0	4	0.1	4	0.1
Newly arrived refugees in two-year waiting period for Newstart Allowance/Sickness Allowance	69	2.6	73	2.0	142	2.2
Newly arrived migrant (NAM) in waiting period for Special Benefit	30	1.1	24	0.6	54	0.8
NAM in two-year waiting period for Widow Allowance/Parenting Payment/Mature Age Allowance/Carer Payment	4	0.2	29	0.8	33	0.5
Not residentially qualified for Age Pension	1,642	61.9	1,685	45.2	3,327	52.1
Not residentially qualified for Disability Support Pension (pre-10 December 2000)	94	3.5	103	2.8	197	3.1
Other cases (long-term)	51	1.9	44	1.2	95	1.5
Other cases (short-term)	3	0.1	4	0.1	7	0.1
Socially marginalised	10	0.4	0	0.0	10	0.2
Spouse provisional visa (previously Special entry visa) (post-10 December 2000)	477	18.0	1,385	37.1	1,862	29.2
Temporary protection visa from 1 January 2003	13	0.5	3	0.1	16	0.3
Temporary protection visa ineligible for Disability Support Pension	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
Temporary protection visa (not of workforce age)	1	0.0	1	0.0	2	0.0
Under 16 years	172	6.5	264	7.1	436	6.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>3,731</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>6,385</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 50: Special Benefit recipients, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>3,731</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>6,385</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age (years)						
<16	246	9.3	324	8.7	570	8.9
16–17	29	1.1	49	1.3	78	1.2
18–20	44	1.7	106	2.8	150	2.3
21–24	65	2.4	327	8.8	392	6.1
25–34	284	10.7	610	16.3	894	14.0
35–44	138	5.2	297	8.0	435	6.8
45–54	94	3.5	187	5.0	281	4.4
55–59	23	0.9	51	1.4	74	1.2
60–64	26	1.0	109	2.9	135	2.1
≥65	1,705	64.2	1,671	44.8	3,376	52.9
Marital status						
Married/de facto <sup>(a)</sup>	1,775	66.9	2,410	64.6	4,185	65.5
Single/separated/divorced/widowed	879	33.1	1,321	35.4	2,200	34.5
Country of birth (top five countries)						
China	779	29.4	767	20.6	1,546	24.2
Australia	217	8.2	312	8.4	529	8.3
Philippines	87	3.3	300	8.0	387	6.1
India	158	6.0	210	5.6	368	5.8
Vietnam	121	4.6	212	5.7	333	5.2
Other	1,292	48.7	1,930	51.7	3,222	50.5
Duration						
<1 year—total	1,057	39.8	1,855	49.7	2,912	45.6
<7 weeks	136	5.1	302	8.1	438	6.9
7 weeks to <3 months	158	6.0	279	7.5	437	6.8
3 to <6 months	341	12.8	529	14.2	870	13.6
6 to <9 months	232	8.7	413	11.1	645	10.1
9 months to <1 year	190	7.2	332	8.9	522	8.2
≥1 year—total	1,597	60.2	1,876	50.3	3,473	54.4
1 to <2 years	414	15.6	678	18.2	1,092	17.1
2 to <3 years	303	11.4	313	8.4	616	9.6
3 to <4 years	212	8.0	230	6.2	442	6.9
4 to <5 years	227	8.6	238	6.4	465	7.3
≥5 years	441	16.6	417	11.2	858	13.4
Mean (weeks)	127.3		99.6		111.1	
Median (weeks)	83.0		53.0		63.0	
Income (\$ per week) <sup>(b)</sup>						
Nil	2,606	98.2	3,662	98.2	6,268	98.2
≥0.01	48	1.8	69	1.8	117	1.8

(a) Includes any 'not required' counts.

(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 recipients by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	1,391	45.6	1,659	54.4	3,050	47.8
Victoria	733	41.3	1,043	58.7	1,776	27.8
Queensland	225	35.8	403	64.2	628	9.8
Western Australia	107	30.1	248	69.9	355	5.6
South Australia	147	36.1	260	63.9	407	6.4
Tasmania	19	28.4	48	71.6	67	1.0
Australian Capital Territory	22	30.6	50	69.4	72	1.1
Northern Territory	10	33.3	20	66.7	30	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>3,731</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>6,385</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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 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
- ▶ Paid Parental Leave
- ▶ 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.

Table 52 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 2009–10 entitlement years post-reconciliation, as at June 2011**

	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10 <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Lump sums</b>							
Entitled	203,813	200,992	210,547	223,121	248,289	156,442	114,468
Not entitled (post) <sup>(b)</sup>	1,578	844	1,166	1,235	1,378	658	3,768
All lump sums	205,391	201,836	211,713	224,356	249,667	157,100	118,236
<b>Instalments</b>							
Entitled	1,912,091	1,932,463	1,923,531	1,908,814	1,882,947	1,886,891	1,710,941
Not entitled (post) <sup>(b)</sup>	64,725	68,450	88,406	95,874	94,384	88,421	57,788
All instalments	1,976,816	2,000,913	2,011,937	2,004,688	1,977,331	1,975,312	1,768,729
Not yet reconciled	14,526	16,376	18,949	21,744	20,233	44,503	240,571
All customers	2,196,733	2,219,125	2,242,599	2,250,788	2,247,231	2,176,915	2,127,536
All entitled	2,115,904	2,133,455	2,134,078	2,131,935	2,131,236	2,043,333	1,825,409

(a) Preliminary figures as at 30 June 2011. The number of lump-sum customers is not yet final because the claim period for 2009–10 lump-sum payments extends until June 2012; the number of 'not yet reconciled' customers will decrease by the end of June 2012 and the number of customers in the 'all entitled' category will increase.

(b) Granted, but subsequently found not to be entitled.

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, back to 2004–05.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

### Instalments

The following tables relate to customers eligible to receive fortnightly payments of FTB as at June 2011.

**Table 53: Family Tax Benefit, instalment customers and children, June 2011**

	Customers	Children
	No.	No.
Family Tax Benefit, both Part A and Part B	1,271,016	2,441,857
Family Tax Benefit, Part A only	366,753	704,141
Total Part A	1,637,769	3,145,998
Family Tax Benefit, Part B only	85,490	153,461 <sup>(a)</sup>
Total Part B	1,356,506	2,595,318 <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Total<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>1,723,259</b>	<b>3,299,459</b>

(a) The number of children shown for 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, instalment customers and children by rate type, June 2011

Family Tax Benefit rate type	Customers		Children	
	No.	%	No.	%
Maximum FTB (A) rate with ISP <sup>(a)</sup>	407,730	24.9	770,841	24.5
Maximum FTB (A) rate without ISP <sup>(a)</sup>	175,318	10.7	309,418	9.8
Part rate <sup>(b)</sup>	528,553	32.3	1,132,259	36.0
Base rate	409,106	25.0	684,836	21.8
Tapered base rate	114,597	7.0	239,003	7.6
Invalid code	2,465	0.2	9,641	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,637,769</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,145,998</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(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, instalment customers and dependent children by age of child, June 2011

Age of child (years)	Customers <sup>(a)</sup>		Children	
	No.	%	No.	%
<13	1,362,491	83.2	2,439,184	77.5
13–15	458,134	28.0	522,507	16.6
16–17	103,642	6.3	107,688	3.4
18–20	60,581	3.7	65,001	2.1
21–24	10,872	0.7	11,606	0.4
<b>Total<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>1,637,769</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,145,998</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(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, instalment customers by rate type and age of youngest child, June 2011

Rate type and age of child	Customers	
	No.	%
Maximum Rate Family Tax Benefit Part B		
Child <5 years	409,666	30.2
Child ≥5 years	506,425	37.3
Total	916,091	67.5
Part Rate Family Tax Benefit Part B		
Child <5 years	266,962	19.7
Child ≥5 years	173,453	12.8
Total	440,415	32.5
Total Family Tax Benefit Part B		
Child <5 years	676,628	49.9
Child ≥5 years	679,878	50.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,356,506</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 57: Family Tax Benefit instalment customers, characteristics by payment type, June 2011

Characteristics	Family Tax Benefit Part A		Family Tax Benefit Part B		Family Tax Benefit	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,637,769</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,356,506</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,723,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age of customer (years)						
<18	2,473	0.2	2,462	0.2	2,474	0.1
18–20	21,078	1.3	20,719	1.5	21,164	1.2
21–24	78,541	4.8	74,676	5.5	79,913	4.6
25–34	485,519	29.6	430,788	31.8	512,134	29.7
35–44	697,312	42.6	565,749	41.7	739,453	42.9
45–54	310,613	19.0	229,626	16.9	324,749	18.8
55–59	27,114	1.7	19,666	1.4	28,049	1.6
60–64	9,042	0.6	7,402	0.5	9,203	0.5
≥65	6,002	0.4	5,418	0.4	6,045	0.4
Invalid code	75	0.0	0	0.0	75	0.0
Family type						
Partnered	1,036,100	63.3	757,570	55.8	1,115,248	64.7
Single parents—total	601,006	36.7	598,380	44.1	607,323	35.2
Female	530,727	32.4	527,454	38.9	535,000	31.0
Male	70,279	4.3	70,926	5.2	72,323	4.2
Not specified	663	0.0	556	0.0	688	0.0
Number of children in the family						
One	655,635	40.0	558,019	41.1	688,039	39.9
Two	612,178	37.4	493,374	36.4	651,771	37.8
Three	259,426	15.8	210,810	15.5	271,563	15.8
Four	79,411	4.8	66,563	4.9	80,734	4.7
Five or more	31,119	1.9	27,740	2.0	31,152	1.8
Country of birth (top five countries)						
Australia	1,174,204	71.7	973,883	71.8	1,238,443	71.9
United Kingdom	59,241	3.6	47,925	3.5	64,149	3.7
New Zealand	56,080	3.4	47,016	3.5	58,623	3.4
Vietnam	34,911	2.1	29,693	2.2	35,460	2.1
China	34,247	2.1	26,778	2.0	35,095	2.0
Other	279,086	17.0	231,211	17.0	291,489	16.9

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 58: Family Tax Benefit, instalment customers and children by state/territory, June 2011

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	519,394	31.7	998,630	31.7	431,528	31.8	825,902	31.8	544,879	31.6	1,043,931	31.6
Victoria	405,090	24.7	769,847	24.5	329,640	24.3	623,976	24.0	425,348	24.7	806,229	24.4
Queensland	351,136	21.4	686,146	21.8	290,780	21.4	566,983	21.8	368,917	21.4	718,604	21.8
Western Australia	152,143	9.3	294,546	9.4	136,142	10.0	261,823	10.1	166,373	9.7	320,256	9.7
South Australia	128,001	7.8	238,997	7.6	100,603	7.4	187,091	7.2	132,402	7.7	246,732	7.5
Tasmania	44,709	2.7	85,229	2.7	35,335	2.6	67,458	2.6	45,808	2.7	87,173	2.6
Australian Capital Territory	18,020	1.1	34,206	1.1	15,676	1.2	29,295	1.1	19,573	1.1	36,910	1.1
Northern Territory	18,980	1.2	37,528	1.2	16,773	1.2	32,737	1.3	19,659	1.1	38,747	1.2
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	296	0.0	869	0.0	29	0.0	53	0.0	300	0.0	877	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,637,769</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,145,998</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,356,506</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,595,318</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,723,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,299,459</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes invalid state/territory codes.

Note: The 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, Paid Parental Leave 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.

The Paid Parental Leave (PPL) scheme is a new entitlement for working parents of children born or adopted from 1 January 2011. Paid Parental Leave allows parents to spend time at home with their new baby or recently adopted child and helps employers retain valuable and skilled staff.

The PPL scheme provides Parental Leave Pay at the rate of the National Minimum Wage for a maximum period of 18 weeks. Parental Leave Pay is taxable.

To be eligible for PPL, the claimant (usually the birth mother or initial primary carer of an adopted child) must be the primary carer of their child and meet the residency, work and income requirements. The claimant must also be on leave or not working from the time they become the child's primary carer until the end of their PPL period. Full-time, part-time, casual, seasonal, contract and self-employed workers may be eligible.

Parental Leave Pay must be paid in one continuous 18-week period. It can start from the day a child is born or adopted, or a later date. It must be fully paid within 52 weeks from the date of birth or adoption.

Parental Leave Pay and the Baby Bonus cannot be paid for the same child. For multiple births, Parental Leave Pay may be paid for the first child (if eligible) and Baby Bonus for the other child(ren).

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, Paid Parental Leave and Maternity Immunisation Allowance customers, 2010–11 financial year**

	Families	Children
Baby Bonus	219,212	223,218
Paid Parental Leave	54,478	54,478
Maternity Immunisation Allowance	267,386	273,855

Note: The Paid Parental Leave scheme became available on 1 January 2011.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

## Baby Bonus

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

**Table 60: Baby Bonus customers and children by age and sex of customer, 2010–11 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.	%		
<18	8	0.3	2,786	99.7	2,794	1.3	2,815	1.3
18–19	54	0.8	7,054	99.2	7,108	3.2	7,178	3.2
20–24	937	2.9	30,908	97.1	31,845	14.5	32,225	14.4
25–29	5,535	9.8	51,056	90.2	56,591	25.8	57,487	25.8
30–34	10,594	16.2	54,639	83.8	65,233	29.8	66,521	29.8
35–39	8,037	19.4	33,306	80.6	41,343	18.9	42,278	18.9
40–44	3,344	29.9	7,836	70.1	11,180	5.1	11,444	5.1
≥45	2,249	71.3	905	28.7	3,154	1.4	3,270	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,756</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>188,456</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>219,212</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>223,218</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: 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, so the total figure may not equal the sum of the column.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

**Table 61: Baby Bonus customers and children by family type, 2010–11 financial year**

Age of customer at date of payment (years)	Customers			Children		
	Partnered	Single parent	Total	Partnered	Single parent	Total
<18	729	2,060	2,789	737	2,073	2,810
18–19	3,026	4,078	7,104	3,059	4,115	7,174
20–24	19,413	12,427	31,840	19,635	12,585	32,220
25–29	46,642	9,939	56,581	47,359	10,118	57,477
30–34	58,541	6,689	65,230	59,693	6,825	66,518
35–39	37,133	4,204	41,337	37,968	4,304	42,272
40–44	9,739	1,438	11,177	9,962	1,479	11,441
≥45	2,778	374	3,152	2,873	395	3,268
<b>Total<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>177,977</b>	<b>41,197</b>	<b>219,174</b>	<b>181,286</b>	<b>41,894</b>	<b>223,180</b>

(a) 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, so the total figure may not equal the sum of the column.

Note: The table figures exclude 38 customers and 38 children whose family type was not specified.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

**Table 62: Baby Bonus customers by payment type, 2010–11 financial year**

Age of customer at date of payment (years)	Payment type		Total
	Instalment	Lump-sum	
<18	2,743	51	2,794
18–19	7,006	106	7,108
20–24	31,484	387	31,845
25–29	56,021	604	56,591
≥30	119,665	1,303	120,901
<b>Total</b>	<b>216,893</b>	<b>2,451</b>	<b>219,212</b>

Note: 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, so the total figure may not equal the sum of the column.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

**Table 63: Baby Bonus customers by state/territory, 2010–11 financial year**

State/territory	Customers	
	No.	%
New South Wales	71,162	32.5
Victoria	52,457	23.9
Queensland	46,675	21.3
Western Australia	22,481	10.3
South Australia	14,836	6.8
Tasmania	4,873	2.2
Australian Capital Territory	3,354	1.5
Northern Territory	3,049	1.4
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	325	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>219,212</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes unspecified state/territory.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

### **Paid Parental Leave**

Parental Leave Pay recipients are counted in the financial year in which the associated child was born. That is, recipient numbers for the 2010–11 financial year comprise recipients receiving Parental Leave Pay at 30 June 2011, recipients who completed their PPL period in the 2010–11 financial year and recipients who will receive Parental Leave Pay in 2011–12 financial year for a birth that occurred during the 2010–11 financial year.

Table 64: Parental Leave Pay recipients by age and sex, 2010–11 financial year

Age of recipient at date of payment (years)	Recipients					
	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	% of age group	No.	% of age group	No.	%
<18	0	0.0	19	100.0	19	0.0
18–19	0	0.0	290	100.0	290	0.6
20–24	4	0.1	4,315	99.9	4,319	8.4
25–29	32	0.2	14,343	99.8	14,375	28.1
30–34	57	0.3	19,098	99.7	19,155	37.4
35–39	53	0.5	10,573	99.5	10,626	20.7
40–44	22	1.0	2,276	99.0	2,298	4.5
≥45	14	10.5	119	89.5	133	0.3
<b>Total<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>182</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>51,033</b>	<b>99.6</b>	<b>51,215</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Overall total includes an additional 3,263 recipients associated with births that occurred during 2010–11. Claimant details are not yet known for these recipients.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 65: Parental Leave Pay recipients by family type, 2010–11 financial year

Age of recipient at date of payment (years)	Recipients		
	Partnered	Single parent	Total
<18	13	6	19
18–19	210	80	290
20–24	3,754	565	4,319
25–29	13,797	578	14,375
30–34	18,684	471	19,155
35–39	10,290	336	10,626
40–44	2,159	139	2,298
≥45	119	14	133
<b>Total<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>49,026</b>	<b>2,189</b>	<b>54,478</b>

(a) Overall total includes an additional 3,263 recipients associated with births that occurred during 2010–11. Claimant details are not yet known for these recipients.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

**Table 66: Parental Leave Pay recipients by state/territory, 2010–11 financial year**

State/territory	Recipients	
	No.	%
New South Wales	16,955	31.1
Victoria	12,485	22.9
Queensland	10,431	19.1
Western Australia	5,110	9.4
South Australia	3,561	6.5
Tasmania	1,028	1.9
Australian Capital Territory	1,165	2.1
Northern Territory	478	0.9
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	3,265	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,478</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes all recipients whose state/territory is unknown.

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 by providing support for child care.

Child Care Benefit (CCB) helps families with the cost of approved child care, with proportionally more financial assistance 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 67: Customers using approved Child Care Benefit services by state/territory, 2010–11 financial year**

State/territory <sup>(a)</sup>	No.
New South Wales	286,780
Victoria	196,720
Queensland	212,530
Western Australia	68,910
South Australia	63,550
Tasmania	20,110
Australian Capital Territory	17,650
Northern Territory	7,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>865,070</b>

(a) Based on location of child care service.

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest 10. As customers may use services in more than one state and due to rounding, the sum of the component parts does not equal the Total.

Source: DEEWR administrative data.



**Table 68: Customers using approved Child Care Benefit services by service type, 2010–11 financial year**

Service type	No.
Long day care	613,620
Family day care <sup>(a)</sup>	106,710
Occasional care	10,510
Before school hours care	106,570
After school hours care	226,890
Vacation care	164,120
<b>Total</b>	<b>865,070</b>

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

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest 10. As customers may use more than one type of service during the period and due to rounding, the sum of the component parts does not equal the Total.

Source: DEEWR administrative data.

**Table 69: Families and children using approved Child Care Benefit services by region, 2010–11 financial year**

Region <sup>(a)</sup>	Families	Children
Major cities	637,850	912,080
Inner regional	169,850	250,520
Outer regional	68,490	101,060
Remote and very remote	9,260	13,320
<b>Total</b>	<b>865,070</b>	<b>1,250,770</b>

(a) Region is classified according to the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) classification.

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest 10. As families and children may use services in more than one region and due to rounding, the sum of the component parts does not equal the Total.

Source: DEEWR administrative data.

## 4.4 Double Orphan Pension

Double Orphan Pension was first introduced in September 1973. It is 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. It is not means-tested.

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.

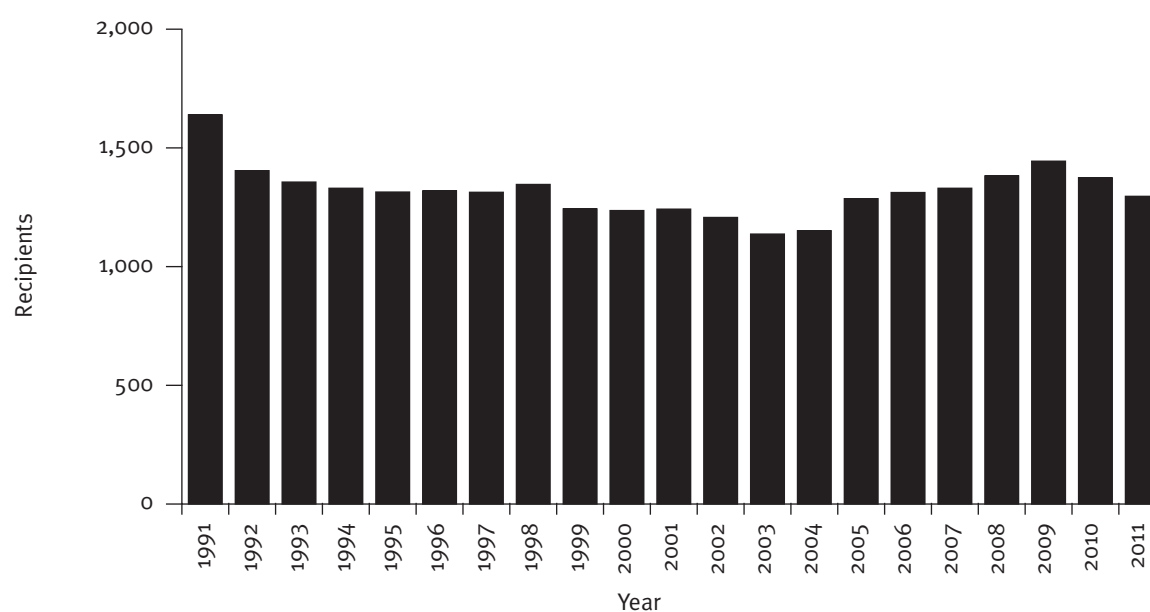
To qualify for the Double Orphan Pension a person must have care of a double orphan and be eligible for FTB for the child, or would be eligible for FTB but for the income test. There are also residence and citizenship or visa requirements.

Table 70: Double Orphan Pension, customers and children, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June	Customers		Children <sup>(a)</sup>			Total No.
	No.	Under 16		16 to 21		
		No.	%	No.	%	
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
2011	1,296	1,664	89.6	194	10.4	1,858

(a) Total number of children attracting a Double Orphan Pension.  
 Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 11: Double Orphan Pension customers, June 1991 to June 2011



Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 71: Double Orphan Pension, customers and children by state/territory, June 2011

State/territory	Customers		Children <sup>(a)</sup>	
	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	319	24.6	460	24.8
Victoria	349	26.9	520	28.0
Queensland	226	17.5	317	17.1
Western Australia	170	13.1	248	13.4
South Australia	171	13.2	231	12.4
Tasmania	42	3.2	58	3.1
Australian Capital Territory	9	0.7	13	0.7
Northern Territory	9	0.7	10	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,857</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Note: Figures exclude one customer and one child whose geographic state is unknown.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

## 5 Other payments and services

### 5.1 Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

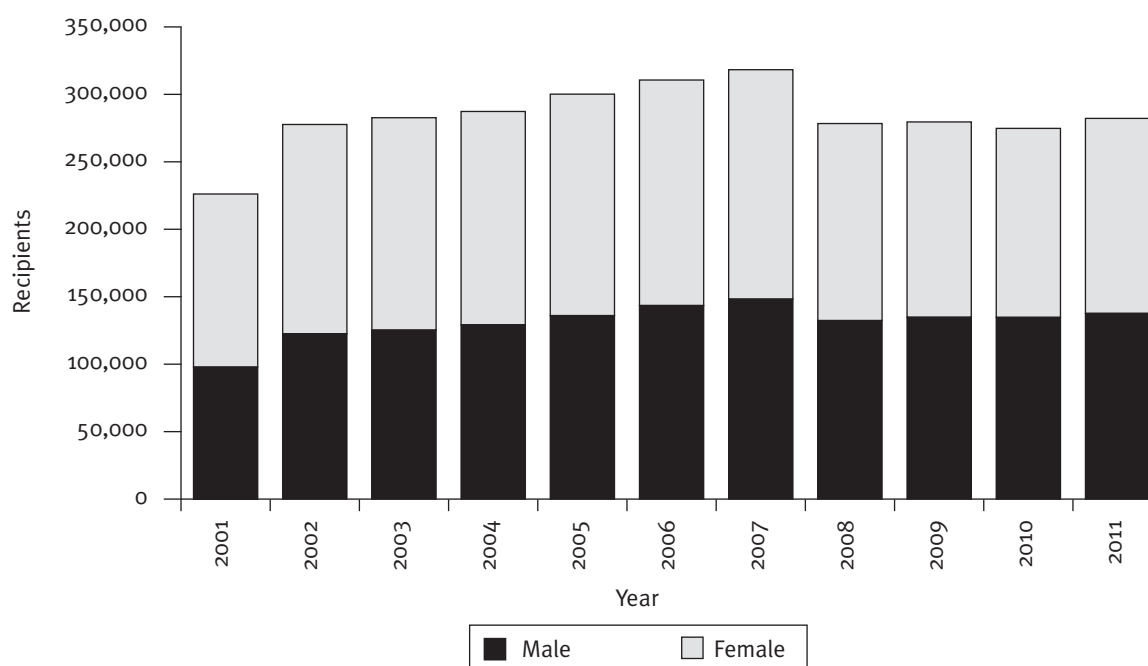
The Commonwealth Seniors Health Card (CSHC) may be issued to people who have reached the qualifying age for Age Pension but who do not qualify for the pension. To qualify for the CSHC, a person must also be an Australian resident, living in Australia and meet the adjusted taxable income test. There is no assets test. The CSHC 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 72: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders by sex, June 2001 to June 2011

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
2011	137,641	48.8	144,545	51.2	282,186

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 12: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders by sex, June 2001 to June 2011



Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 73: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders, characteristics by sex, June 2011

Characteristics	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>137,641</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>144,545</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>282,186</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age of customer (years)						
60–64	0	0.0	5,860	4.1	5,860	2.1
65–69	47,423	34.5	52,330	36.2	99,753	35.4
70–74	40,423	29.4	36,514	25.3	76,937	27.3
75–79	25,223	18.3	22,310	15.4	47,533	16.8
80–84	16,414	11.9	15,321	10.6	31,735	11.2
85–89	6,288	4.6	8,330	5.8	14,618	5.2
90–94	1,534	1.1	2,999	2.1	4,533	1.6
≥95	336	0.2	881	0.6	1,217	0.4
Status						
Partnered	112,721	81.9	94,377	65.3	207,098	73.4
Single	24,920	18.1	50,164	34.7	75,084	26.6
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	0	0.0	4	0.0	4	0.0

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

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 74: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders by state/territory and sex, June 2011

State/territory	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New South Wales	47,702	48.2	51,264	51.8	98,966	35.1
Victoria	35,063	48.7	36,945	51.3	72,008	25.5
Queensland	25,492	49.6	25,934	50.4	51,426	18.2
Western Australia	13,986	49.2	14,451	50.8	28,437	10.1
South Australia	9,541	49.5	9,749	50.5	19,290	6.8
Tasmania	2,729	50.1	2,716	49.9	5,445	1.9
Australian Capital Territory	2,325	46.2	2,711	53.8	5,036	1.8
Northern Territory	452	52.6	408	47.4	860	0.3
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	351	48.9	367	51.1	718	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>137,641</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>144,545</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>282,186</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes overseas customers.  
Source: Centrelink administrative data.

## 5.2 Rent Assistance

Rent Assistance is a non-taxable income support supplement paid to individuals and families who rent in the private rental market. Pensioners, allowance recipients and those receiving more than the base rate of Family Tax Benefit (FTB) 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-Australian Government funded beds in an aged care facility such as a hostel or nursing home.

To qualify for Rent Assistance, a person must:

- ▶ qualify for a social security pension, benefit or allowance, and/or qualify to receive more than the base rate of FTB Part A
- ▶ 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 FTB Part A
- ▶ if an allowance recipient, 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 subtenants 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, who are living with their parents

- ▶ other single people aged less than 25 years, without dependent children, who are living with their parents.

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

**Table 75: Rent Assistance income units, average rent and Rent Assistance by primary payment type, June 2011**

Primary payment type <sup>(a)</sup>	Income units	Average rent	Average Rent Assistance
	No. <sup>(b)</sup>	\$ per fortnight <sup>(c)</sup>	\$ per fortnight <sup>(c)</sup>
Age Pension	203,139	336	95
Disability Support Pension	239,500	350	104
Newstart Allowance	204,814	376	97
Parenting Payment (Single)	166,405	478	116
Parenting Payment (Partnered) <sup>(d)</sup>	28,275	582	131
Youth Allowance	87,073	301	83
Family Tax Benefit, Part A only	145,776	618	96
Other payments	63,018	396	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,138,000</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>101</b>

- (a) Members of an income unit may receive more than one type of social security payment and/or FTB. The primary payment type is based on the following hierarchy: pensions, followed by 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 3 June 2011 (Housing dataset June 2011).
- (c) Rent refers to the combined rent for a couple. Where a recipient 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 recipients who were paid a daily rate of Rent Assistance at 3 June 2011 (Housing dataset June 2011).
- (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 76: Rent Assistance income units by primary payment type and sex, June 2011

Primary payment type <sup>(a)</sup>	Income units		Both in receipt of Rent Assistance	Female in receipt of Rent Assistance	Male in receipt of Rent Assistance
	No. <sup>(b)</sup>	%			
Age Pension	203,139	17.9	39,842	101,458	61,839
Disability Support Pension	239,500	21.0	18,660	105,613	115,227
Newstart Allowance	204,814	18.0	6,617	94,202	103,995
Parenting Payment (Single)	166,405	14.6	–	159,048	7,357
Parenting Payment (Partnered) <sup>(c)</sup>	28,275	2.5	185	24,621	3,469
Youth Allowance	87,073	7.7	1,508	50,112	35,453
Family Tax Benefit, Part A only	145,776	12.8	548	116,506	28,722
Other payments	63,018	5.5	4,380	41,488	17,150
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,138,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>71,740</b>	<b>693,048</b>	<b>373,212</b>

(a) Members of an income unit may receive more than one type of social security payment and/or FTB. The primary payment type is based on the following hierarchy: pensions, followed by 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 3 June 2011 (Housing dataset June 2011).

(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, 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. Generally the rate of pension paid outside Australia on a long-term basis is proportionalised according to the person's Australian residence. 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 2011

Australia has social security agreements with 25 countries—Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea (South), Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and the United States of America.

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

- ▶ facilitating access to Australian pensions for former residents living in agreement countries and in Australia
- ▶ helping Australian residents claim their entitlements to social security from other countries
- ▶ guaranteeing payment of relevant social security benefits to people moving between agreement countries.

Table 77: Persons paid overseas by Australia by payment type, June 1991 to June 2011

As at June <sup>(a)</sup>	Age Pension	Disability Support Pension	Wife Pension	Widow B Pension	Carer Payment	Parenting Payment <sup>(b)</sup>	Total
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
2011	68,947	7,504	898	549	123	4	78,025

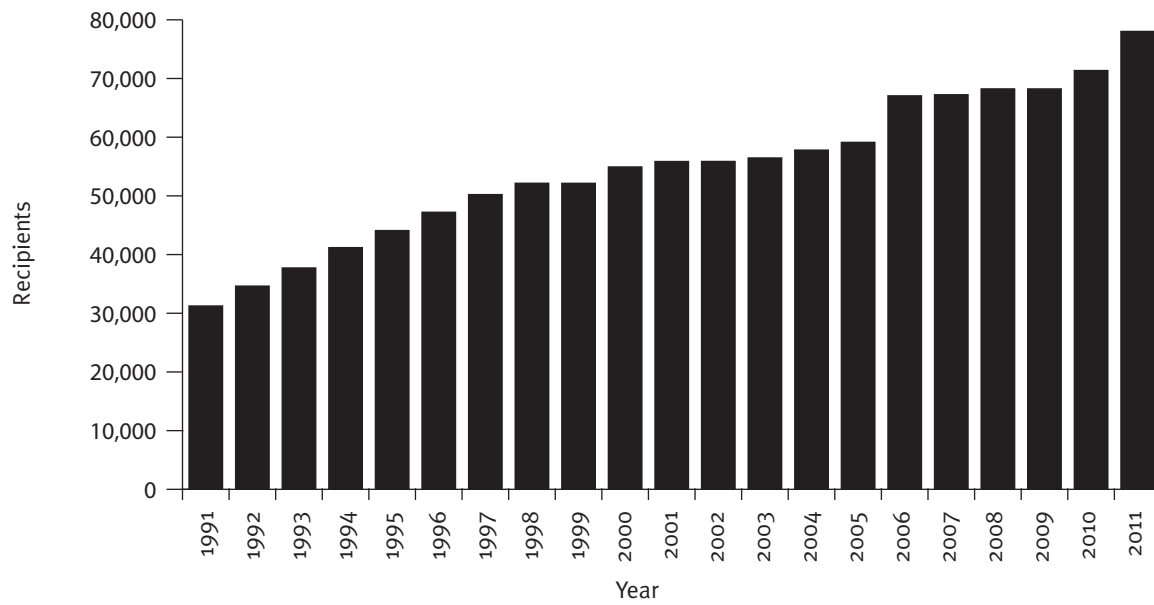
(a) All payments where person is outside Australia long term (currently defined as more than six months—prior to 2006 the cut-off was 12 months).

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

Note: '–' = not applicable.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Figure 13: Total persons paid overseas by Australia, June 1991 to June 2011



Notes: All payments where person is outside Australia long term (currently defined as more than six months—prior to 2006 the cut-off was 12 months).

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

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 78: Persons paid overseas by Australia, country of residence by payment type, June 2011

Zone	Country of residence	Age Pension	Disability Support Pension	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	Total
Europe	Austria	999	48	7	1,054
	Belgium	65	7	0	72
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	177	81	2	260
	Bulgaria	26	6	1	33
	Croatia	2,059	500	31	2,590
	Cyprus	746	221	47	1,014
	Czech Republic	117	26	0	143
	Denmark	149	13	0	162
	Finland	194	7	1	202
	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	643	227	26	896
	France	125	19	2	146
	Germany	1,681	105	11	1,797
	Greece	10,731	1,324	311	12,366
	Hungary	326	39	5	370
	Ireland	444	25	5	474
	Italy	17,511	434	394	18,339
	Latvia	20	0	0	20
	Malta	3,152	821	174	4,147
	Montenegro	34	24	3	61
	Netherlands	3,968	31	8	4,007
	Norway	38	10	0	48
	Poland	337	102	4	443
	Portugal	1,096	215	45	1,356
	Romania	48	18	0	66
	Serbia	736	269	31	1,036
	Slovakia	21	11	0	32
	Slovenia	268	27	0	295
	Spain	3,907	270	90	4,267
	Sweden	22	5	0	27
	Switzerland	50	13	0	63
United Kingdom	2,043	148	51	2,242	
Other Europe <sup>(b)</sup>	64	9	0	73	
	<b>Total Europe</b>	<b>51,797</b>	<b>5,055</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>58,101</b>
Americas	Argentina	159	27	6	192
	Brazil	38	10	2	50
	Canada	1,306	58	10	1,374
	Chile	459	101	14	574
	Colombia	29	16	3	48
	Ecuador	22	6	2	30
	El Salvador	27	4	1	32
	Peru	34	7	0	41
	United States of America	1,002	145	12	1,159
	Uruguay	222	31	8	261
	Other Americas <sup>(c)</sup>	39	6	1	46
		<b>Total Americas</b>	<b>3,337</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>59</b>

Table 78: Persons paid overseas by Australia, country of residence by payment type, June 2011 (continued)

Zone	Country of residence	Age Pension	Disability Support Pension	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	Total
Asia	Cambodia	25	1	0	26
	China	118	5	0	123
	Hong Kong	55	1	0	56
	India	85	20	0	105
	Indonesia	67	12	1	80
	Japan	29	3	1	33
	Korea (North)	25	1	0	26
	Malaysia	58	5	2	65
	Philippines	410	55	4	469
	Singapore	31	0	1	32
	Sri Lanka	40	4	1	45
	Thailand	319	38	1	358
	Vietnam	77	7	0	84
	Other Asia <sup>(d)</sup>	45	10	1	56
<b>Total Asia</b>		<b>1,384</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1,558</b>
Africa/Middle East	Egypt	69	36	6	111
	Israel	86	9	3	98
	Jordan	17	7	0	24
	Lebanon	511	124	33	668
	South Africa	39	2	0	41
	Syria	52	26	4	82
	Turkey	874	415	89	1,378
	Other Africa/Middle East <sup>(e)</sup>	86	26	3	115
<b>Total Africa/Middle East</b>		<b>1,734</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>2,517</b>
Oceania	Fiji	24	2	0	26
	New Zealand	7,069	831	46	7,946
	Other Oceania <sup>(f)</sup>	51	5	2	58
	<b>Total Oceania</b>		<b>7,144</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Total<sup>(g)</sup></b>		<b>68,947</b>	<b>7,504</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>78,025</b>

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

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

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

(d) Comprised of Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), Georgia, Kazakhstan, Laos, Nepal, Pakistan, Taiwan and Timor-Leste.

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

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

(g) Includes additional 4,012 recipients from unknown or unspecified countries.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.

Table 79: Persons paid by Australia under a social security agreement by payment type, June 2011

Agreement country	Age Pension	Disability Support Pension	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	Total
Austria	956	42	5	1,003
Belgium	43	4	0	47
Canada	1,311	53	3	1,367
Chile	216	57	0	273
Croatia	1,124	266	0	1,390
Cyprus	434	117	24	575
Denmark	123	14	0	137
Finland	136	0	0	136
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	5	0	0	5
Germany	1,665	103	5	1,773
Greece	5,691	0	0	5,691
Ireland	280	18	2	300
Italy	16,453	219	337	17,009
Japan	15	0	0	15
Korea, South	7	0	0	7
Malta	2,909	655	142	3,706
Netherlands	4,032	21	8	4,061
New Zealand	11,234	1,950	200	13,384
Norway	27	5	0	32
Poland	66	0	0	66
Portugal	787	103	24	914
Slovenia	169	10	0	179
Spain	3,411	174	74	3,659
Switzerland	47	10	0	57
United States of America	903	141	4	1,048
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,044</b>	<b>3,962</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>56,834</b>

(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 are generally 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

Expenditure for the financial year, as at June 2011, on Australia's pension payments to people living overseas was A\$653.7 million. At April 2011, pensions from overseas countries being paid to Centrelink pensioners residing in Australia totalled A\$1.2 billion, representing a significant inflow of funds into Australia, an increase in the disposable income for pensioners, and a saving for Australian taxpayers.

## List of shortened forms

ADAT	Adult Disability Assessment Tool
ARIA	Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia
CCB	Child Care Benefit
CCR	Child Care Rebate
CDAT	Child Disability Assessment Tool
CDEP	Community Development Employment Project
CSHC	Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
DCLA	Disability Care Load Assessment
DEEWR	Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
DVA	Department of Veterans' Affairs
FaHCSIA	Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
FTB	Family Tax Benefit
LMRP	Labour Market and Related Payments
MIA	Maternity Immunisation Allowance
NAM	newly arrived migrant
n.p.	not published
PPL	Paid Parental Leave



# 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)
9. *Income support customers: a statistical overview 2010*  
(2011)

