Youth Allowance (Student and Apprentice) (YA(s)) June 2015

About YA(s)

Youth Allowance (student and apprentice) is the major payment for full-time students and apprentices aged 16-24 years.

The total YA(s) population decreased 4.4% compared to June 2014. Changes to make Family Tax Benefit the primary payment for secondary students were introduced on 1 January 2012, causing a decrease in recipient numbers over time. Student payments are seasonal.

Student payment numbers fluctuate with the educational semesters. As at June 2015, 51.2% of recipients were classified as dependent, the number has decreased by 4.8% from June 2014.

There are more females than males on YA(s), with 44.1% male and 55.9% female.

The proportion of recipients reporting earnings has remained relatively stable over time. 36.1% of YA(s) recipients had earnings as at June 2015, up from 35.7% at June 2014.

There are more females than males on YA(s), with 44.1% male and 55.9% female.

As at June 2015, 96% of YA(s) recipients were single, the proportion has remained stable over the reporting periods.

At June 2015 the indigenous proportion was 1.1%, the small proportion is due to the majority of indigenous students being on ABSTUDY, rather than YA(s).

Indigenous recipients include only those who have voluntarily identified as indigenous.

The highest proportion of recipients were located in Victoria at 31.4% followed by New South Wales at 31.3% and 18% in Queensland, these proportions are expected due to the higher proportion of students in these states.

At June 2015 the proportion of recipients on full-rate at June 2015 is comparable with 77.1% of recipients. A further 24.8% of YA(s) recipients are aged 15-19 years, while 5.3% are aged 25 and over. The majority of recipients are aged between 20 and 24, making up 59.3% of the total population. Recipients who were receiving YA(s) immediately prior to turning 25 remain on YA(s) until the end of their course.

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The majority of recipients leaving YA(s) transferred off payments altogether. Recipients who transferred generally transferred to Youth Allowance (other) (13.2%) and Newstart Allowance (8.6%). Recipients moving onto YA(s) generally came onto the payment from outside of Income Support.
Youth Allowance (student and apprentice) is the major payment for full-time students and apprentices aged under 25 years.

Recipient Numbers: Recipients of Youth Allowance (student and apprentice) who are determined to be current (i.e. entitled to be paid) on the Centrelink payment system.

Report Details: Payment trends and profiles report - June 2015 - Produced by the Department of Social Services

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Source: Department of Human Services Administrative data (DSS Extracts)

Data Date: Data as at the 26th of June 2015.

Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product: Table 34 Time Series Spreadsheets (cat. no. 5206.0).


Glossary:

Age Group: The age group of the recipient.

Circumstances after YA(s)/YA(a): This data compares two points in time, one year apart. ‘Not Receiving Income Support’ describes those who were in receipt of YA(s)/YA(a) at the first point in time, who were not receiving an income support payment at the second point in time. This data does not take into account Family Tax Benefit.

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Dependent: Recipients are classified as dependent for the purposes of the Social Security Act if they do not meet independence reasons.

Duration: Duration refers to duration on Income Support and may not reflect duration on current payment type.

Earnings: Earnings refers to employment earnings reported in the last fortnight of the reported period.

Expenditure: Expenditure amount, as reported in the Department's Annual Report. % of GDP is the expenditure on the payment as a percentage of Australia’s Gross Domestic Product (ABS data - see data source above).

Indigenous: Indigenous recipients include only those who have voluntarily identified as indigenous. This data may therefore represent an undercount.

Independent: Recipients who are classified as independent for the purposes of the Social Security Act, reasons include evidence of self-support through employment, member of a couple, have a dependent child, unable to live at home or be supported by parents/guardians, over 18 and educationally disadvantaged, or have a partial capacity to work.

Remoteness Area: Remoteness Areas are based on the recipient’s geo-coded address against the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2011.

Rate: The rate of the recipients payment (‘other’ include those recipients who, as at the data date, were yet to be paid).

Relationship Status: Partnered includes recipients who are married, defacto or registered.

Sector: The type of educational institution the student is enrolled in. Unspecified occurs where there is no current educational institution recorded, these figures are generally higher between semesters of study.

State: The State or Territory recorded in the recipient's address.