Youth Allowance (other) is the primary income support payment for young people aged under 22 years who are looking for paid work, undertaking other activities to improve their employment prospects (such as study or training) or temporarily incapacitated for work or study.

There are slightly more males than females on YA(o), with 53.9% male and 46.1% female. The number of recipients with a partial capacity to work increased by 7.6% from June 2014, and by 26.6% from June 2013. While principal care numbers have increased by 43 recipients or 53.8%, the proportion has remained stable at 0.1% of YA(o).

The total YA(o) population decreased by 1.2% compared to June 2014. On 1 July 2012 the age of eligibility for YA(o) was increased to 21 years and therefore data prior to this date is not directly comparable to recent years.

Expenditure on YA(o) has grown over time, particularly between 2011-12 and 2013-14. This can be largely attributed to increased payment rates due to regular indexing and higher recipient numbers as a result of changes to the program, such as increasing the age of eligibility from 20 to 21 years from 1 July 2012. The 2014-15 expenditure on YA(o) was $1.087 billion. Expenditure on YA(o) makes up 0.07% of Gross Domestic Product (ABS National Accounts).

As at June 2015, 58.4% of recipients were classified as long-term, the proportion has remained relatively stable over time. 18.4% of YA(o) recipients had earnings as at June 2015, slightly down from 18.5% at June 2014.

In June 2015, 94% of YA(o) recipients were single, the proportion has remained stable over time. The majority of recipients were aged 18 years and over (91.1%).

The majority of YA(o) recipients reside in major cities (56.8%). A further 38.4% live in regional areas (outer and inner), while the remaining recipients are in remote or very remote locations.

The highest proportion of recipients were located in New South Wales at 28.5%, followed by Queensland and 20.7% in Victoria.
Data Descriptions

Youth Allowance (other): Youth Allowance (other) is the primary income support payment for young people aged under 22 years who are seeking or preparing for paid employment.

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

Note: Recipient numbers are point-in-time as at the end of the month, using the definition above, these numbers differ from the data in the Labour Market and Related Payments publication, which is averaged over the month.

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).


Please note: Percentages in pie charts may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Glossary:

Activity: The main activity undertaken by a recipient with participation requirements.

Age Group: The age group of the recipient.

Circumstances after YA(o): This data compares two points in time, one year apart. 'Not Receiving Income Support' describes those who were in receipt of YA(o) 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.

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

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.

Partial Capacity to Work: Activity tested recipients who have been assessed in the last two years as having a capacity to work of under 30 hours per week, due to an ongoing physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment.

Principal carer: Recipients who have principal caring responsibilities for a dependent child(ren).

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.

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