



**Australian Government**

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

# Characteristics of Disability Support Pension Recipients

**June 2010**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This report has been published annually since 2001 and provides the characteristics of the population of Disability Support Pension (DSP) recipients.

### **Who is the Disability Support Pension for?**

DSP is designed to give people an adequate means of support if they are unable to work for at least 15 hours per week at or above the relevant minimum wage, independent of a program of support, due to a permanent physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

To qualify for DSP a person must be 16 years or over and be under age pension age at the time of claim (as at June 2010 - 64 for women and 65 for men) and:

- be permanently blind; or
- have a physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment (assessed at 20 points or more under the Impairment Tables);
- be unable to do any work of at least 15 hours a week, or be re-skilled for any work, for a period of at least two years; and
- have become unable to work while in Australia, or have 10 years qualifying Australian residence.

### **Notes**

- The information contained in this report has been sourced from Centrelink Administrative Data as at 25 June 2010 and previous editions of this report. If an alternative source of data has been used it has been noted.
- Where items have been grouped in this report resulting percentages may not be equal to the sum of the constituent figures due to rounding.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

### **DSP population**

At June 2010, the DSP population was 792,581, an increase of 4.7 percent over the June 2009 population of 757,118.

### **DSP by sex**

As at June 2010 there were 433,456 male and 359,125 female DSP recipients. Between June 2009 and June 2010, females showed a greater percentage growth than males. Female recipient numbers increased by 7.3 percent over that year, while the number of men receiving DSP rose by 2.6 percent.

The trend for the population of women receiving DSP to grow at a faster rate than men has emerged over the last fifteen years. Since the 1990s there have been a number of policy changes that have affected women including:

- a gradual increase in the qualifying age for Age Pension;
- the closure to new entrants of alternative payments received primarily or solely by women (for example, Wife Pension, Widow B Pension and Partner Allowance); and
- a tightening of the eligibility criteria for Parenting Payment as part of the Welfare to Work changes.

### **DSP by medical condition**

The primary medical conditions of the DSP population are primarily represented by three main categories:

- *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* – 29.2 percent;
- *Psychological/psychiatric* – 28.7 percent; and
- *Intellectual/learning* - 11.6 percent.

Since 2004 the proportion of recipients reporting against the *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* category has been falling while the proportions for *Psychological/psychiatric* and *Intellectual/learning* have been rising since 2001.

### **Claims processed**

There were 142,709 DSP claims processed between 27 June 2009 and 25 June 2010, with 91,131 grants (63.9 percent) and 51,578 rejections (36.1 percent). The overall grant rate<sup>1</sup> rose from 63.0 percent in 2006-07 to 64.5 percent in 2008-09, but has fallen to 63.9 percent in 2009-10.

From age twenty the grant rate rises as the age of the claimant increases. From the age of 30 females have a higher grant rate in all age ranges.

In 2009-10 rejections on medical grounds accounted for 71.4 percent of rejections and rejections for non-medical reasons were 28.6 percent of rejections.

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<sup>1</sup> Grant rate (%) = Grants/(Grants + Rejections) x 100

The main reason for rejection (53.6 percent) was that the claimant was allocated less than 20 points under the Impairment Tables.

There has been change in the reason claims were rejected in the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10. The proportion of rejections because the claimant's impairment was less than 20 points against the Impairment Tables was the reason for 27.7 percent of rejections in 2006-07. In 2009-10 that proportion had risen to 53.6 percent.

Over the same period the proportion of rejections because the claimant's disability was of a short-term nature fell from 28.6 percent to 8.2 percent.

### **Entrants to DSP**

At June 2010, there were 85,023 DSP recipients who were not receiving DSP in June 2009. Of these 'new entrants'<sup>2</sup> to DSP, 45.8 percent were not in receipt of another income support payment in June 2009 and 54.2 percent were income support recipients, with 37.7 percent on Newstart Allowance at June 2009.

### **Exits from DSP**

At June 2010, there were 49,560 'exits' from DSP (ie people who were receiving DSP in June 2009 but were no longer receiving DSP as at June 2010). Of these exits, transfers to Age Pension accounted for 55.4 percent and movement off income support payments (including deceased recipients) accounted for 41.5 percent.

From 2001 to 2008 the proportion of exits from DSP to Age Pension fell from 55.5 percent to 50.8 percent. That figure rose to 58.2 percent in 2010.

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<sup>2</sup> Note that the number of 'new entrants' is not the same as the number of grants. This is because 'new entrants' are people on DSP in June 2010 who were not receiving DSP in June 2009, while the number of grants is a count of claims granted during a period and some clients may be granted more than once in the period, ie they may be granted, cancelled and re-granted or no longer be receiving DSP as at June 2010.

# 1 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

## 1.1 Population and growth

Table 1 details the DSP number and annual growth for the years from 1972 to 2010 by sex.

**Table 1 – DSP population and growth by sex – June 1972 to June 2010**

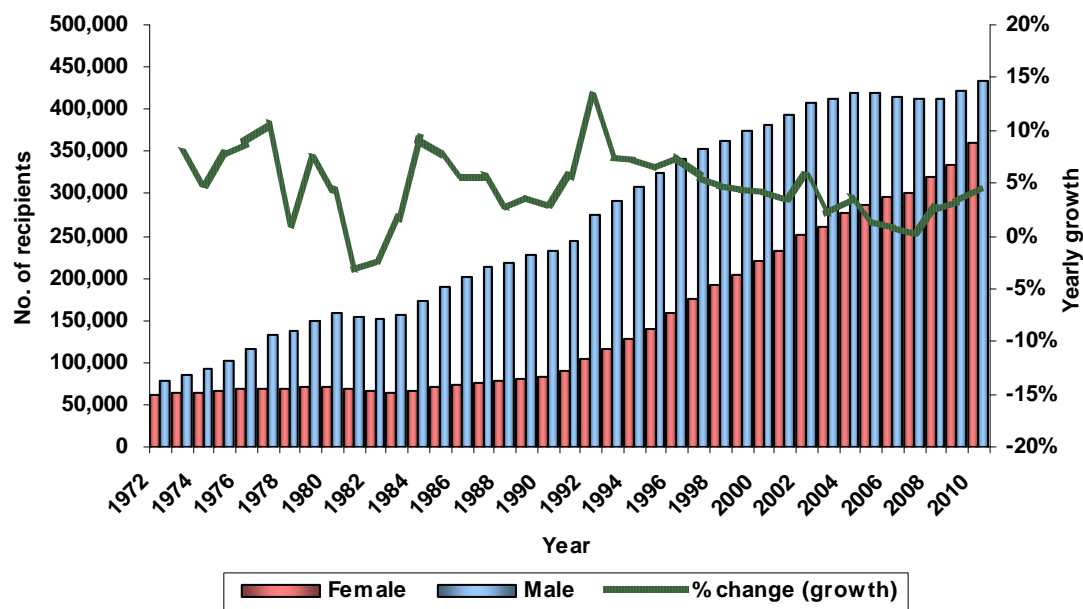
Year	SEX						Total		
	Female			Male			No.	Change	Annual growth (%)
	No.	Change	% of total	No.	Change	% of total			
1972	61,685		44.4	77,133		55.6	138,818		
1973	64,304	2,619	43.0	85,305	8,172	57.0	149,609	10,791	7.8
1974	64,643	339	41.2	92,140	6,835	58.8	156,783	7,174	4.8
1975	65,967	1,324	39.1	102,817	10,677	60.9	168,784	12,001	7.7
1976	67,669	1,702	36.8	116,118	13,301	63.2	183,787	15,003	8.9
1977	69,754	2,085	34.4	133,209	17,091	65.6	202,963	19,176	10.4
1978	67,699	-2,055	33.0	137,245	4,036	67.0	204,944	1,981	1.0
1979	70,084	2,385	31.9	149,759	12,514	68.1	219,843	14,899	7.3
1980	70,892	808	30.9	158,327	8,568	69.1	229,219	9,376	4.3
1981	68,062	-2,830	30.7	153,889	-4,438	69.3	221,951	-7,268	-3.2
1982	65,503	-2,559	30.2	151,146	-2,743	69.8	216,649	-5,302	-2.4
1983	64,617	-886	29.3	155,672	4,526	70.7	220,289	3,640	1.7
1984	67,511	2,894	28.1	173,063	17,391	71.9	240,574	20,285	9.2
1985	70,449	2,938	27.2	188,713	15,650	72.8	259,162	18,588	7.7
1986	72,912	2,463	26.6	200,898	12,185	73.4	273,810	14,648	5.7
1987	75,760	2,848	26.2	213,290	12,392	73.8	289,050	15,240	5.6
1988	77,745	1,985	26.2	219,168	5,878	73.8	296,913	7,863	2.7
1989	80,510	2,765	26.2	227,285	8,117	73.8	307,795	10,882	3.7
1990	83,462	2,952	26.4	233,251	5,966	73.6	316,713	8,918	2.9
1991	89,535	6,073	26.8	244,699	11,448	73.2	334,234	17,521	5.5
1992	104,861	15,326	27.7	273,697	28,998	72.3	378,558	44,324	13.3
1993	115,101	10,240	28.3	291,471	17,774	71.7	406,572	28,014	7.4
1994	127,111	12,010	29.1	309,123	17,652	70.9	436,234	29,662	7.3
1995	139,758	12,647	30.1	324,672	15,549	69.9	464,430	28,196	6.5
1996	158,979	19,221	31.8	340,256	15,584	68.2	499,235	34,805	7.5
1997	174,907	15,928	33.2	352,607	12,351	66.8	527,514	28,279	5.7
1998	191,797	16,890	34.7	361,539	8,932	65.3	553,336	25,822	4.9
1999	204,342	12,545	35.4	373,340	11,801	64.6	577,682	24,346	4.4
2000	219,929	15,587	36.5	382,351	9,011	63.5	602,280	24,598	4.3
2001	231,572	11,643	37.1	392,354	10,003	62.9	623,926	21,646	3.6
2002	252,022	20,450	38.2	406,893	14,539	61.8	658,915	34,989	5.6
2003	260,557	8,535	38.7	412,777	5,884	61.3	673,334	14,419	2.2
2004	277,913	17,356	39.9	418,829	6,052	60.1	696,742	23,408	3.5
2005	286,709	8,796	40.6	420,073	1,244	59.4	706,782	10,040	1.4
2006	296,545	9,836	41.6	415,618	-4,455	58.4	712,163	5,381	0.8
2007	301,123	4,578	42.2	413,033	-2,585	57.8	714,156	1,993	0.3
2008	318,883	17,760	43.5	413,484	451	56.5	732,367	18,211	2.6
2009	334,828	15,945	44.2	422,290	8,806	55.8	757,118	24,751	3.4
2010	359,125	24,297	45.3	433,456	11,166	54.7	792,581	35,463	4.7

As at June 2010, the number of people receiving DSP was 792,581. The number of DSP recipients grew by 35,463 (4.7 percent) between June 2009 and June 2010.

At June 2010 males represented 54.7 percent of the DSP population and females 45.3 percent. The female population increased by 7.3 percent between June 2009 and June 2010, while the male population increased by 2.6 percent.

Figure 1 shows overall trends in population by sex and growth in the years from June 1972 to June 2010.

**Figure 1 – DSP population and growth – June 1972 to June 2010**



The rate of growth in the DSP population fell from over 13 percent in the mid 1990s to a low of 0.3 percent in 2006-2007 and has since been rising. The most recent yearly growth rate from 2009 to 2010 is 4.7 percent.

Much of the recent increase in the DSP population has been in the growth in the number of female recipients who account for 68.5 percent of the 35,463 additional recipients from 2009 to 2010.

## 1.2 Age

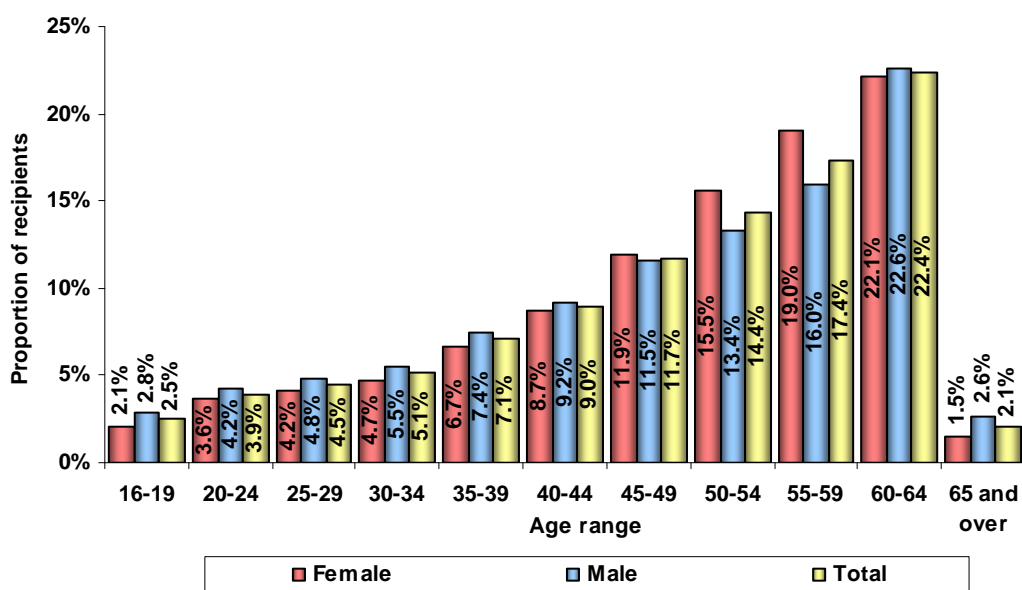
Table 2 details the DSP recipient population as at June 2010 by gender and age range.

**Table 2 – Recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**

Age range (years)	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
16-19	7,551	2.1	12,263	2.8	19,814	2.5
20-24	13,066	3.6	18,207	4.2	31,273	3.9
25-29	14,989	4.2	20,670	4.8	35,659	4.5
30-34	16,861	4.7	23,917	5.5	40,778	5.1
35-39	23,951	6.7	32,133	7.4	56,084	7.1
40-44	31,202	8.7	39,831	9.2	71,033	9.0
45-49	42,830	11.9	50,018	11.5	92,848	11.7
50-54	55,825	15.5	57,921	13.4	113,746	14.4
55-59	68,322	19.0	69,251	16.0	137,573	17.4
60-64	79,313	22.1	97,946	22.6	177,259	22.4
65 and over	5,215	1.5	11,299	2.6	16,514	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 2 shows the proportion of DSP recipients by age range and sex as at June 2010.

**Figure 2 – Recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**



The number of DSP recipients in each age range increases up to Age Pension age. In the 50 to 59 age range the proportion of recipients by sex is nearly even with females accounting for 49.4 percent of the total. For the 16 to 49 age range only 43.3 percent are female.

As at June 2010, over half (56.3 percent) of all DSP recipients were over 50 years old and 2.1 percent aged over 65.

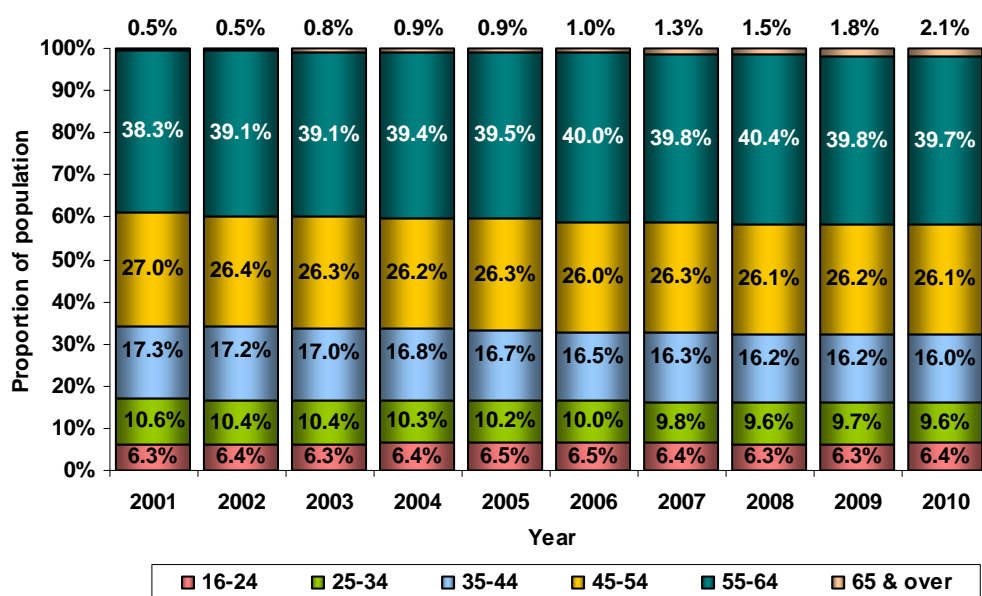
Table 3 details the number and proportion of DSP recipients by age range for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Table 3 – Recipients by age range – June 2001 to June 2010**

Year	AGE RANGE (YEARS)												Total
	16-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65 & over		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2001	39,368	6.3	66,057	10.6	108,102	17.3	168,654	27.0	238,740	38.3	3,005	0.5	623,926
2002	41,976	6.4	68,679	10.4	113,055	17.2	174,195	26.4	257,552	39.1	3,458	0.5	658,915
2003	42,748	6.3	70,132	10.4	114,719	17.0	177,055	26.3	263,525	39.1	5,155	0.8	673,334
2004	44,761	6.4	71,541	10.3	117,134	16.8	182,500	26.2	274,768	39.4	6,038	0.9	696,742
2005	46,017	6.5	71,891	10.2	117,819	16.7	185,823	26.3	278,862	39.5	6,370	0.9	706,782
2006	46,222	6.5	70,889	10.0	117,256	16.5	185,514	26.0	285,098	40.0	7,184	1.0	712,163
2007	46,013	6.4	70,198	9.8	116,629	16.3	187,529	26.3	284,539	39.8	9,248	1.3	714,156
2008	46,144	6.3	70,443	9.6	118,298	16.2	191,241	26.1	295,570	40.4	10,671	1.5	732,367
2009	48,074	6.3	73,093	9.7	122,293	16.2	198,736	26.2	301,300	39.8	13,622	1.8	757,118
2010	51,087	6.4	76,437	9.6	127,117	16.0	206,594	26.1	314,832	39.7	16,514	2.1	792,581

Figure 3 shows the proportion of DSP recipients in each age range for the years 2001 to 2010.

**Figure 3 – Recipients by age range – June 2001 to June 2010**



From June 2001 to June 2010 the age profile of DSP recipients has changed. With the exception of the 16 to 24 age range, which has remained steady at around 6.4 percent, the proportion of DSP recipients aged under 55 has consistently fallen while the proportion over 55 has risen.

As at June 2001, 38.7 percent of recipients were aged 55 and over by June 2010 that proportion had risen to 41.8 percent.

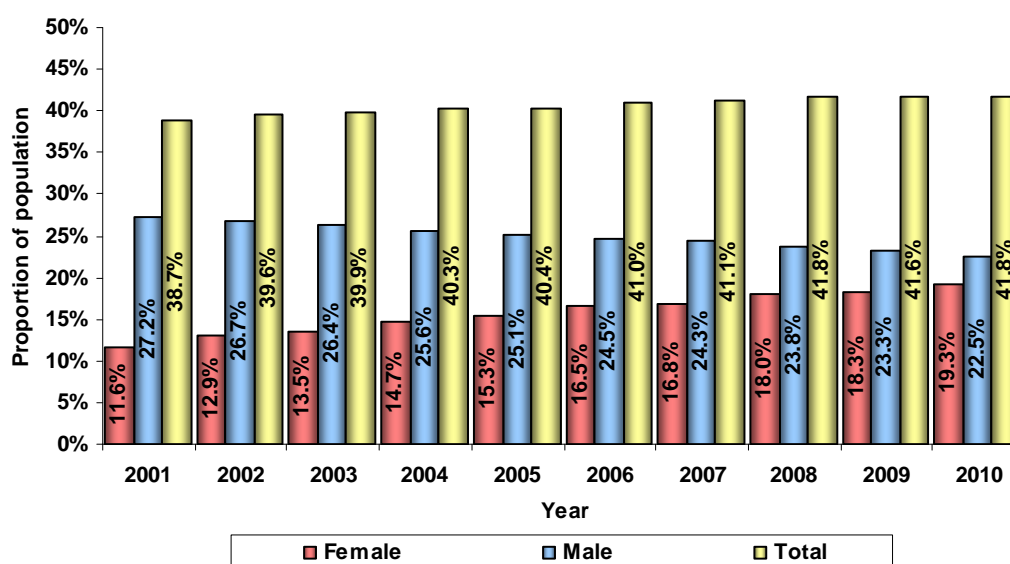
Table 4 details the number and proportion of DSP recipients by sex and whether they were under or over 55 years old for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Table 4 – Recipients aged over/under 55 by sex – June 2001 to June 2010**

Year	UNDER 55						55 & OVER						Total
	Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2001	159,233	25.5	222,948	35.7	382,181	61.3	72,339	11.6	169,406	27.2	241,745	38.7	623,926
2002	166,867	25.3	231,038	35.1	397,905	60.4	85,155	12.9	175,855	26.7	261,010	39.6	658,915
2003	169,770	25.2	234,884	34.9	404,654	60.1	90,787	13.5	177,893	26.4	268,680	39.9	673,334
2004	175,243	25.2	240,693	34.5	415,936	59.7	102,670	14.7	178,136	25.6	280,806	40.3	696,742
2005	178,667	25.3	242,883	34.4	421,550	59.6	108,042	15.3	177,190	25.1	285,232	40.4	706,782
2006	179,037	25.1	240,844	33.8	419,881	59.0	117,508	16.5	174,774	24.5	292,282	41.0	712,163
2007	180,813	25.3	239,556	33.5	420,369	58.9	120,310	16.8	173,477	24.3	293,787	41.1	714,156
2008	186,768	25.5	239,358	32.7	426,126	58.2	132,115	18.0	174,126	23.8	306,241	41.8	732,367
2009	196,195	25.9	246,001	32.5	442,196	58.4	138,633	18.3	176,289	23.3	314,922	41.6	757,118
2010	206,275	26.0	254,960	32.2	461,235	58.2	152,850	19.3	178,496	22.5	331,346	41.8	792,581

Figure 4 shows the change in the proportion of DSP recipients aged 55 and over by sex for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Figure 4 – Recipients aged 55 and over by sex – June 2001 to June 2010**



The overall proportion of DSP recipients who were age 55 and over at the date of data extraction rose slightly between June 2001 and June 2010. However, the gender mix of that cohort has changed. The proportion of male DSP recipients 55 and over was 27.2 percent of the total DSP population in June 2001 but by June 2010 that proportion had fallen to 22.5 percent. Conversely, the proportion of female DSP recipients aged 55 and over was 11.6 percent of the total DSP population in June 2001 but this had increased to 19.3 percent in June 2010.

The male DSP population aged 55 and over fell from June 2004 (178,136) to June 2007 (173,477). However it has since increased to 178,496 as at June 2010.

### 1.3 State/Territory

Table 5 details the number and proportion of DSP recipients by State or Territory of residence as at June 2010.

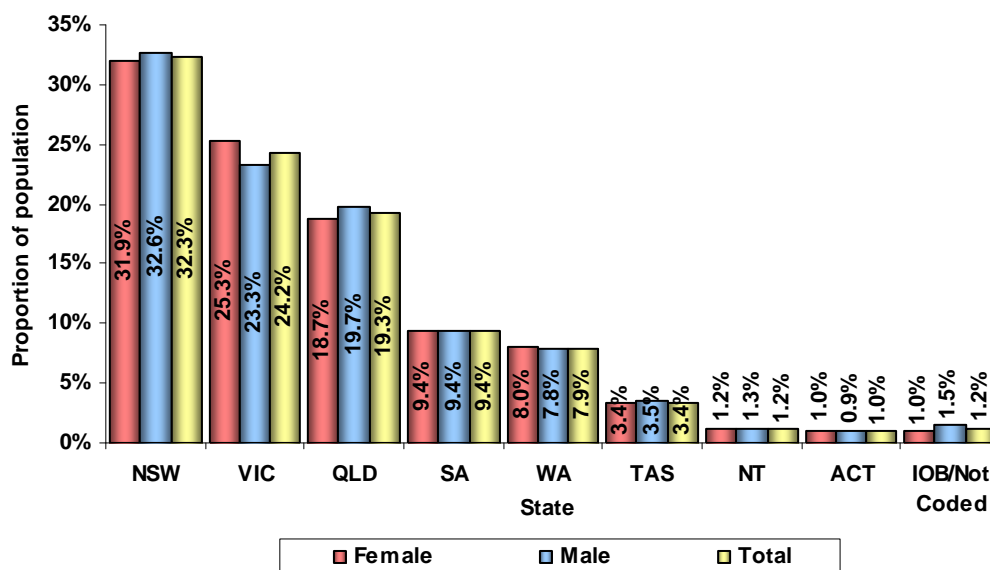
**Table 5 – Recipients by State/Territory - June 2010**

State / Territory	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
New South Wales	114,661	31.9	141,504	32.6	256,165	32.3
Victoria	90,979	25.3	101,194	23.3	192,173	24.2
Queensland	67,314	18.7	85,537	19.7	152,851	19.3
South Australia	33,885	9.4	40,563	9.4	74,448	9.4
Western Australia	28,694	8.0	33,817	7.8	62,511	7.9
Tasmania	12,199	3.4	14,978	3.5	27,177	3.4
Northern Territory	4,163	1.2	5,441	1.3	9,604	1.2
ACT	3,750	1.0	4,005	0.9	7,755	1.0
Not Coded/IOB	3,480	1.0	6,417	1.5	9,897	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

IOB is the Centrelink International Operations Branch which manages the administration of payments to Centrelink customers who are overseas.

Figure 5 shows the proportion of DSP recipients by State or Territory of residence and sex as at June 2010.

**Figure 5 – Recipients by State / Territory – June 2010**



As expected, the majority of DSP recipients resided in the more populous Australian states. New South Wales was the largest with 32.3 percent of the DSP population, while the Australian Capital Territory was the smallest with 1.0 percent.

## 1.4 Country of birth

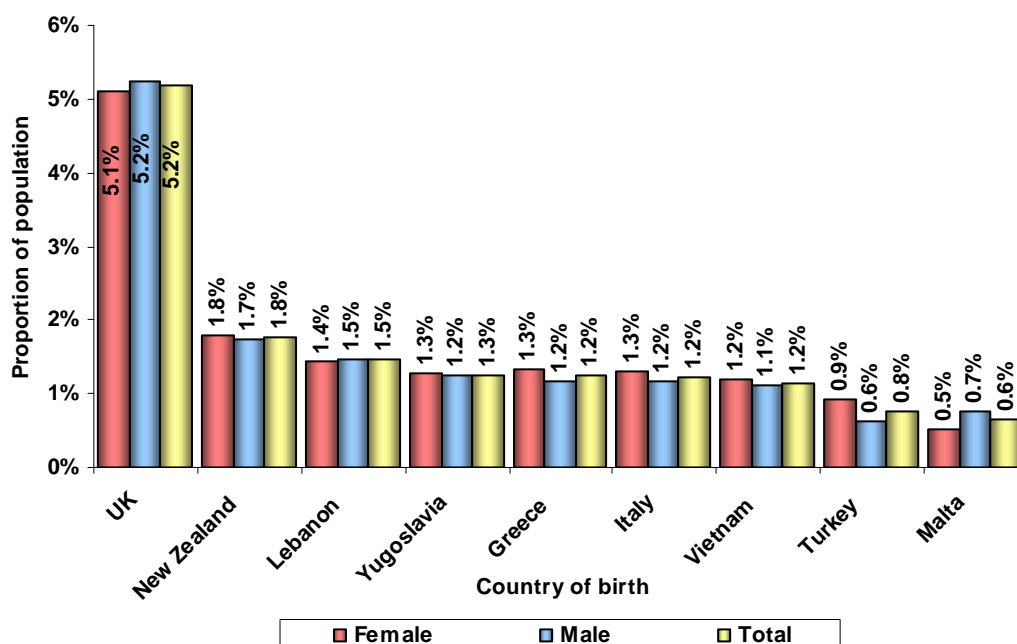
Table 6 details the top 10 countries of birth of DSP recipients as at June 2010 by sex.

**Table 6 – Recipients by top 10 countries of birth – June 2010**

Country of birth	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Australia	263,994	73.5	327,671	75.6	591,665	74.7
UK (incl Ireland/Eire)	18,326	5.1	22,696	5.2	41,022	5.2
New Zealand	6,438	1.8	7,522	1.7	13,960	1.8
Lebanon	5,175	1.4	6,340	1.5	11,515	1.5
Yugoslavia	4,568	1.3	5,376	1.2	9,944	1.3
Greece	4,775	1.3	5,047	1.2	9,822	1.2
Italy	4,672	1.3	5,037	1.2	9,709	1.2
Vietnam	4,300	1.2	4,829	1.1	9,129	1.2
Turkey	3,316	0.9	2,712	0.6	6,028	0.8
Malta	1,822	0.5	3,237	0.7	5,059	0.6
Other	41,739	11.6	42,989	9.9	84,728	10.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 6 shows the proportion of DSP recipients born outside Australia as at June 2010 by country of birth and sex.

**Figure 6 – Recipients by top 10 countries of birth (excl. Australia) – June 2010**



Over 74 percent of DSP recipients were born in Australia, 73.5 percent of females and 75.6 percent of males. The second largest group was born in the United Kingdom (5.2 percent).

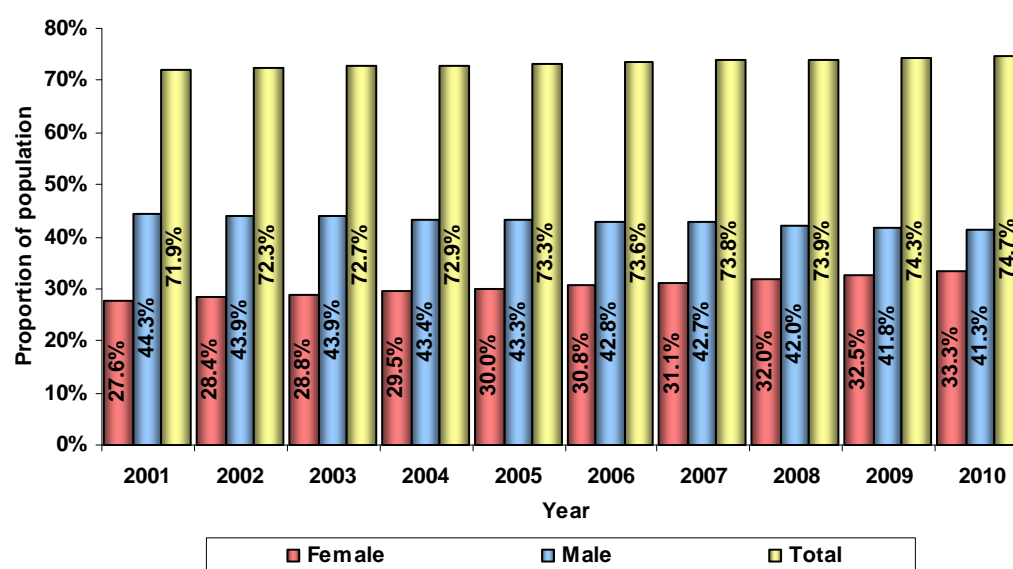
Table 7 details the number and proportion of DSP recipients by whether they were born in Australia or overseas for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Table 7 – Recipients by country of birth – Australia/other – June 2001 to June 2010**

Year	AUSTRALIAN BORN						BORN OVERSEAS						Total
	Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2001	171,941	27.6	276,527	44.3	448,468	71.9	59,631	9.6	115,827	18.6	175,458	28.1	623,926
2002	187,296	28.4	289,169	43.9	476,465	72.3	64,726	9.8	117,724	17.9	182,450	27.7	658,915
2003	193,877	28.8	295,432	43.9	489,309	72.7	66,680	9.9	117,345	17.4	184,025	27.3	673,334
2004	205,852	29.5	302,417	43.4	508,269	72.9	72,061	10.3	116,412	16.7	188,473	27.1	696,742
2005	212,093	30.0	305,951	43.3	518,044	73.3	74,616	10.6	114,122	16.1	188,738	26.7	706,782
2006	219,102	30.8	304,828	42.8	523,930	73.6	77,443	10.9	110,790	15.6	188,233	26.4	712,163
2007	222,369	31.1	304,696	42.7	527,065	73.8	78,754	11.0	108,337	15.2	187,091	26.2	714,156
2008	234,264	32.0	307,248	42.0	541,512	73.9	84,619	11.6	106,236	14.5	190,855	26.1	732,367
2009	246,074	32.5	316,289	41.8	562,363	74.3	88,754	11.7	106,001	14.0	194,755	25.7	757,118
2010	263,994	33.3	327,671	41.3	591,665	74.7	95,131	12.0	105,785	13.3	200,916	25.3	792,581

Figure 7 shows the proportion of Australian born DSP recipients between June 2001 and June 2010 by sex.

**Figure 7 – Australian born by sex – June 2001 to June 2010**



In June 2001, the majority of DSP recipients (71.9 percent – 27.6 percent females and 44.3 percent males) were Australian-born. By June 2010, the percentage of DSP recipients who were Australian born had risen to 74.7 percent – 33.3 percent female and 41.3 percent male.

Although the number of male DSP recipients has risen by 10.5 percent from 2001 to 2010 (see Table 1), the number and proportion of male recipients born overseas has fallen from 115,827 (18.6 percent) as at June 2001 to 105,785 (13.3 percent) as at June 2010.

## 1.5 Relationship status

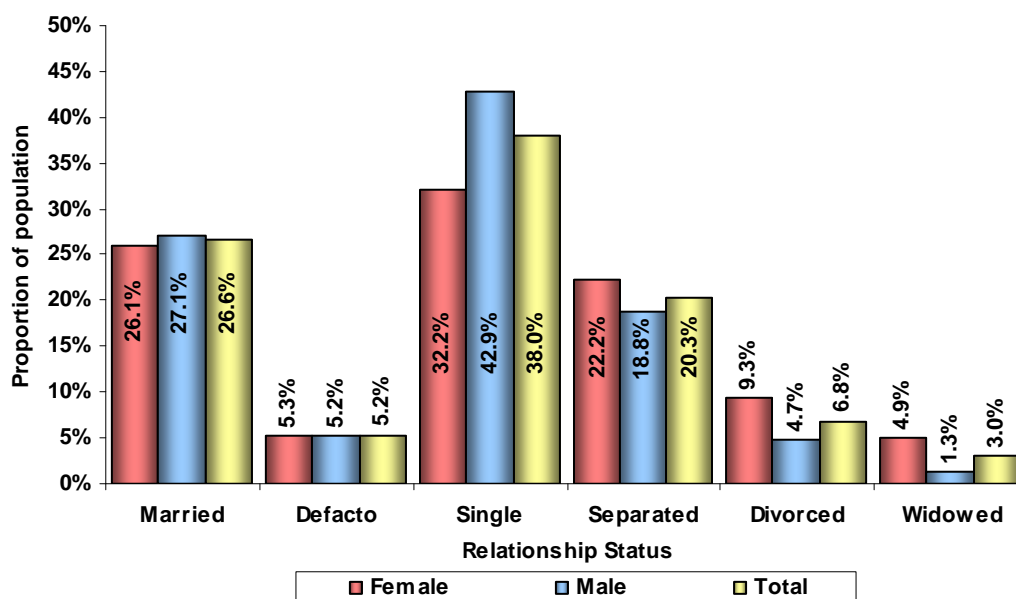
Table 8 details the DSP recipient population as at June 2010 by relationship status and sex.

**Table 8 – Recipients by relationship status and sex – June 2010**

Relationship status	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Married	93,651	26.1	117,384	27.1	211,035	26.6
Defacto	18,938	5.3	22,669	5.2	41,607	5.2
Single	115,459	32.2	185,859	42.9	301,318	38.0
Separated	79,883	22.2	81,382	18.8	161,265	20.3
Divorced	33,444	9.3	20,514	4.7	53,958	6.8
Widowed	17,750	4.9	5,648	1.3	23,398	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 8 shows the DSP recipient number as at June 2010 by relationship status and sex.

**Figure 8 – Recipients by relationship status and sex – June 2010**



As at June 2010, the majority of DSP recipients (68.1 percent), were non-partnered and 31.9 percent were partnered either in married or de facto relationships.

Males are over ten percent more likely to be single (42.9 percent) than females (32.2 percent); while females are more heavily represented in the divorced, separated or widowed categories.

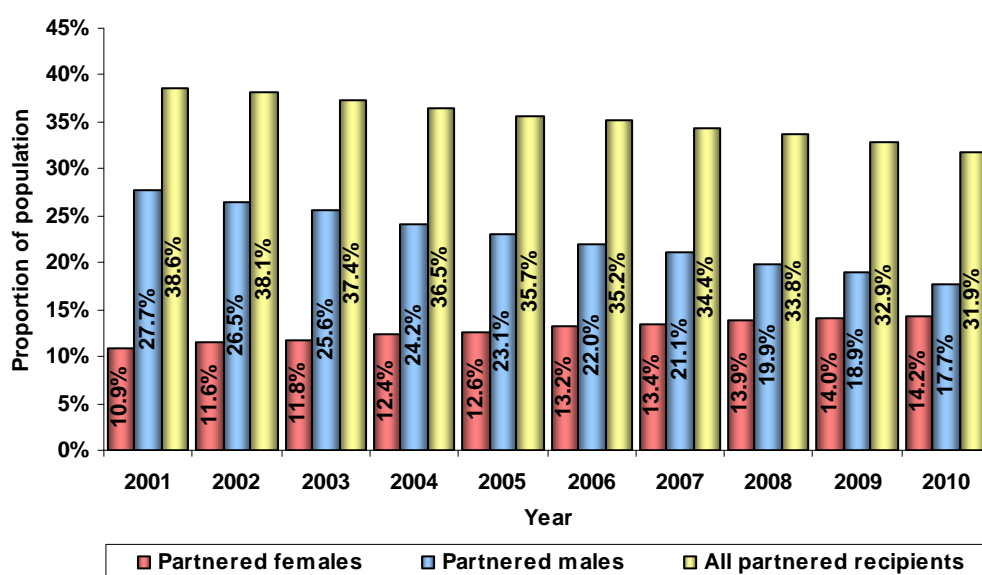
Table 9 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients who were partnered and non-partnered by sex for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Table 9 – Recipients by relationship status – June 2001 to June 2010**

Year	PARTNERED						NOT PARTNERED						Total
	Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2001	68,295	10.9	172,666	27.7	240,961	38.6	163,277	26.2	219,688	35.2	382,965	61.4	623,926
2002	76,446	11.6	174,574	26.5	251,020	38.1	175,576	26.6	232,319	35.3	407,895	61.9	658,915
2003	79,555	11.8	172,098	25.6	251,653	37.4	181,002	26.9	240,679	35.7	421,681	62.6	673,334
2004	86,203	12.4	168,389	24.2	254,592	36.5	191,710	27.5	250,440	35.9	442,150	63.5	696,742
2005	89,363	12.6	162,936	23.1	252,299	35.7	197,346	27.9	257,137	36.4	454,483	64.3	706,782
2006	93,861	13.2	156,793	22.0	250,654	35.2	202,684	28.5	258,825	36.3	461,509	64.8	712,163
2007	95,458	13.4	150,408	21.1	245,866	34.4	205,665	28.8	262,625	36.8	468,290	65.6	714,156
2008	101,594	13.9	145,861	19.9	247,455	33.8	217,289	29.7	267,623	36.5	484,912	66.2	732,367
2009	106,200	14.0	143,267	18.9	249,467	32.9	228,628	30.2	279,023	36.9	507,651	67.1	757,118
2010	112,589	14.2	140,053	17.7	252,642	31.9	246,536	31.1	293,403	37.0	539,939	68.1	792,581

Figure 9 shows the percentage of partnered recipients by sex for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Figure 9 – Recipients by relationship status – June 2001 to June 2010**



In June 2001, partnered recipients accounted for 38.6 percent of the DSP recipient population (with 10.9 percent female and 27.7 percent male). Over the years to June 2010, that figure fell to 31.9 percent (with 14.2 percent female and 17.7 percent male).

Although the number of male DSP recipients has risen by 10.5 percent from 2001 to 2010 (see Table 1), the number of male recipients who are partnered has fallen from 172,666 as at June 2001 to 140,053 as at June 2010, a fall of 18.9 percent.

At the same time the number of partnered females has risen by 64.9 percent while the number of females overall has risen by 55.1 percent.

## 1.6 Home ownership

Table 10 details the June 2010 DSP recipient population by homeownership status and sex. Homeowners are recipients who own or are buying a home.

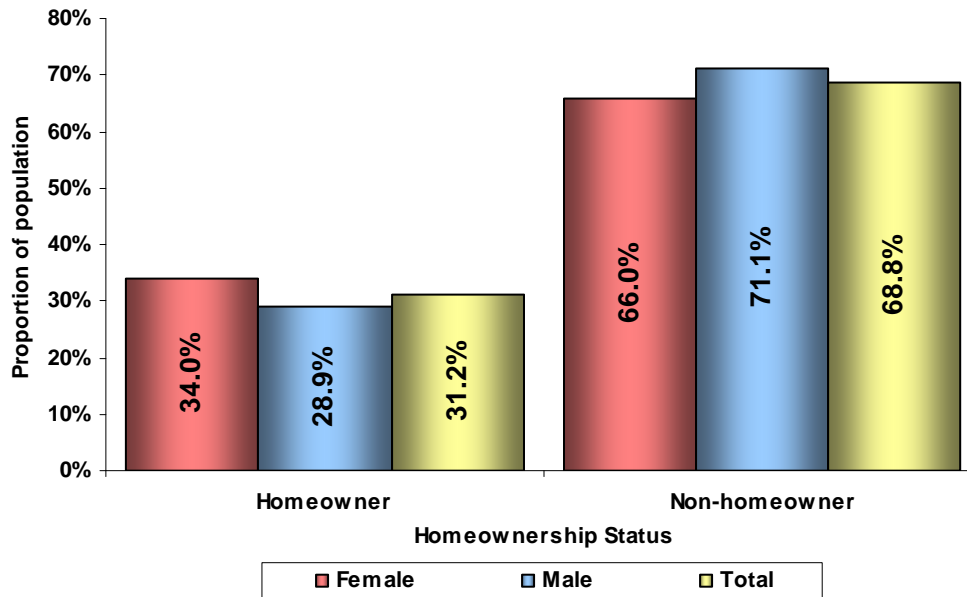
**Table 10 – Recipients by homeownership status and sex – June 2010**

Homeownership status	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Homeowner	122,104	34.0	125,399	28.9	247,503	31.2
Non-homeowner*	237,021	66.0	308,057	71.1	545,078	68.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Includes unknown status

Figure 10 shows the proportion of DSP recipients by homeownership status and sex as at June 2010.

**Figure 10 – Recipients by homeownership status and sex – June 2010**



As at June 2010, the majority of DSP recipients (68.8 percent) were non-homeowners. A higher proportion of females receiving DSP own a home, than males (34.0 percent compared to 28.9 percent).

Table 11 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients who were homeowners by sex for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Table 11 – Recipients by home ownership status and sex – June 2001 to June 2010**

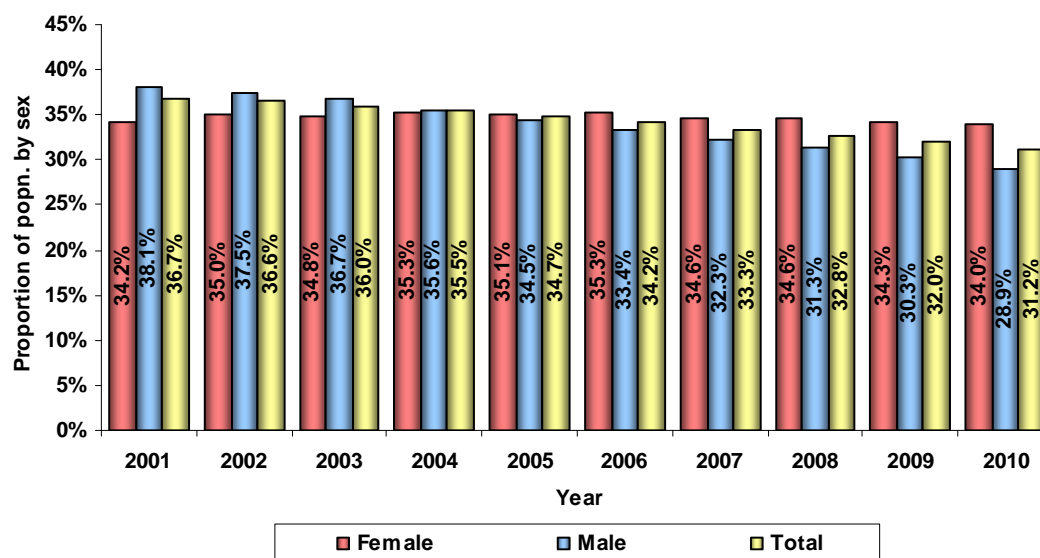
Year	FEMALE				MALE				TOTAL			
	Homeowner		Non Home-owner*		Homeowner		Non Home-owner*		Homeowner		Non Home-owner*	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2001	79,239	34.2	152,333	65.8	149,444	38.1	242,910	61.9	228,683	36.7	395,243	63.3
2002	88,228	35.0	163,794	65.0	152,650	37.5	254,243	62.5	240,878	36.6	418,037	63.4
2003	90,753	34.8	169,804	65.2	151,369	36.7	261,408	63.3	242,122	36.0	431,212	64.0
2004	98,136	35.3	179,777	64.7	149,014	35.6	269,815	64.4	247,150	35.5	449,592	64.5
2005	100,733	35.1	185,976	64.9	144,802	34.5	275,271	65.5	245,535	34.7	461,247	65.3
2006	104,623	35.3	191,922	64.7	138,626	33.4	276,992	66.6	243,249	34.2	468,914	65.8
2007	104,088	34.6	197,035	65.4	133,437	32.3	279,596	67.7	237,525	33.3	476,631	66.7
2008	110,474	34.6	208,409	65.4	129,443	31.3	284,041	68.7	239,917	32.8	492,450	67.2
2009	114,761	34.3	220,067	65.7	127,767	30.3	294,523	69.7	242,528	32.0	514,590	68.0
2010	122,104	34.0	237,021	66.0	125,399	28.9	308,057	71.1	247,503	31.2	545,078	68.8

\* Includes unknown status

2001 data source: Pensions SuperCross database 1/6/01 – Centrelink administrative data

Figure 11 shows the homeownership rate of DSP recipients by sex for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Figure 11 – Homeownership rate by sex - 2001 to 2010**



In the years from June 2001 to June 2010 the homeownership rate for DSP recipients has fallen from 36.7 percent to 31.2 percent. While the female homeownership rate has remained at around 34 to 35 percent, the male homeownership rate has fallen from 38.1 percent in June 2001 to 28.9 percent in June 2010.

In June 2001 there were 149,444 male DSP recipients who were homeowners – 24.0 percent of the total DSP population. By June 2010 this figure had fallen to 125,399 – 15.8 percent of the DSP recipient population.

## 1.7 Age and home ownership

Table 12 details the number and percentage of DSP recipient homeowners by age range as at June 2010.

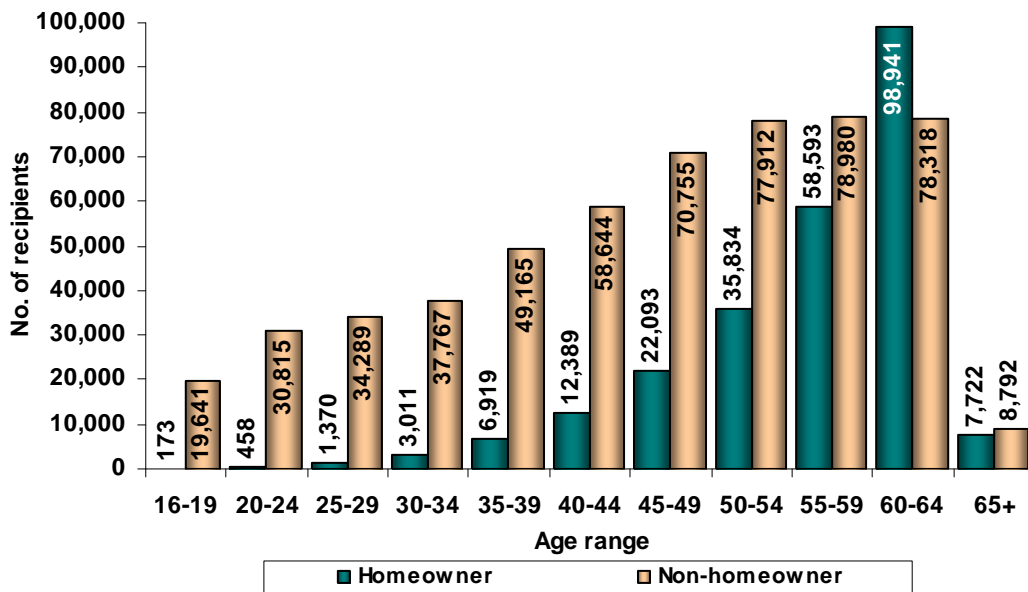
**Table 12 – Recipients by homeownership status and age – June 2010**

Age range (years)	HOMEOWNERSHIP STATUS				Total	
	Homeowner		Non-homeowner*			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
16-19	173	0.1	19,641	3.6	19,814	2.5
20-24	458	0.2	30,815	5.7	31,273	3.9
25-29	1,370	0.6	34,289	6.3	35,659	4.5
30-34	3,011	1.2	37,767	6.9	40,778	5.1
35-39	6,919	2.8	49,165	9.0	56,084	7.1
40-44	12,389	5.0	58,644	10.8	71,033	9.0
45-49	22,093	8.9	70,755	13.0	92,848	11.7
50-54	35,834	14.5	77,912	14.3	113,746	14.4
55-59	58,593	23.7	78,980	14.5	137,573	17.4
60-64	98,941	40.0	78,318	14.4	177,259	22.4
65 & over	7,722	3.1	8,792	1.6	16,514	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>247,503</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>545,078</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Includes unknown status.

Figure 12 shows the number of homeowners and non homeowners by age range as at June 2010.

**Figure 12 - Recipients by homeownership status and age – June 2010**



Over half the DSP recipients who own their own home are over 50 years of age. In the 60 to 64 age range there are more homeowners than non-homeowners.

## 2 PRIMARY MEDICAL CONDITION

### 2.1 Medical condition

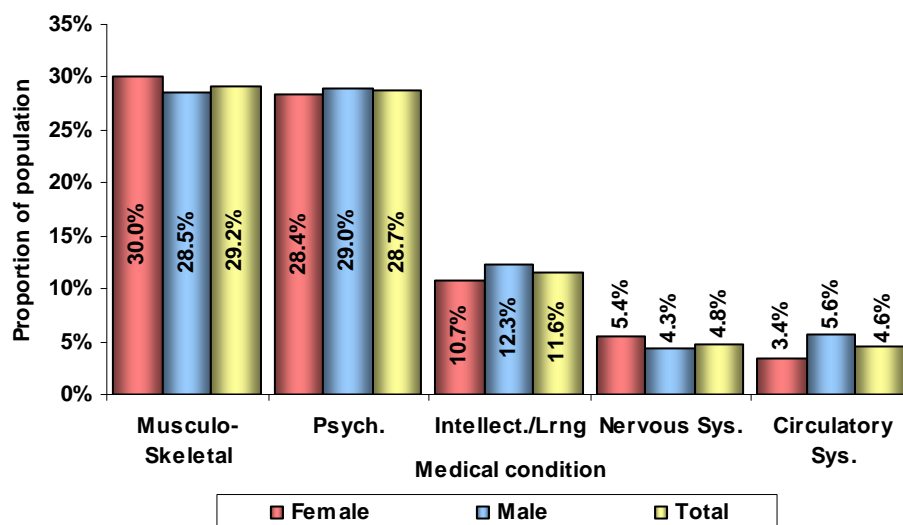
Table 13 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients by sex and primary medical condition.

**Table 13 – Recipients by sex and primary medical condition – June 2010**

Primary medical condition	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Musculo-Skeletal & Connective Tissue	107,841	30.0	123,571	28.5	231,412	29.2
Psychological/Psychiatric	101,872	28.4	125,548	29.0	227,420	28.7
Intellectual/Learning	38,472	10.7	53,352	12.3	91,824	11.6
Nervous System	19,504	5.4	18,643	4.3	38,147	4.8
Circulatory System	12,232	3.4	24,326	5.6	36,558	4.6
Respiratory System	11,063	3.1	11,066	2.6	22,129	2.8
Sense Organs	9,826	2.7	11,326	2.6	21,152	2.7
Acquired Brain Impairment	5,810	1.6	13,350	3.1	19,160	2.4
Endocrine & Immune System	8,419	2.3	9,493	2.2	17,912	2.3
Cancer/Tumour	7,297	2.0	7,176	1.7	14,473	1.8
Granted Prior To 12/11/91	5,634	1.6	8,701	2.0	14,335	1.8
Chronic Pain	6,750	1.9	5,904	1.4	12,654	1.6
Congenital Anomalies	5,767	1.6	6,305	1.5	12,072	1.5
Poorly Defined Cause	8,177	2.3	3,113	0.7	11,290	1.4
Visceral Disorder	2,725	0.8	3,688	0.9	6,413	0.8
Gastro-Intestinal System	3,435	1.0	2,344	0.5	5,779	0.7
Urogenital System	2,107	0.6	2,187	0.5	4,294	0.5
Infectious Diseases	809	0.2	1,444	0.3	2,253	0.3
Amputation	292	0.1	1,170	0.3	1,462	0.2
Skin Disorder & Burns	318	0.1	389	0.1	707	0.1
Inherited Disorders	322	0.1	318	0.1	640	0.1
Reproductive System	433	0.1	16	0.0	449	0.1
Unknown	20	0.0	26	0.0	46	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 13 shows the percentage of DSP recipients of each sex and total for the top five primary medical conditions.

**Figure 13 – Recipients - top 5 primary medical conditions by sex – June 2010**



For both males and females, the most common medical categories were *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* and *Psychological/psychiatric*, followed by *Intellectual/learning*.

The distribution of primary medical conditions is very similar for both sexes. The conditions with the largest differences are *Circulatory system* (almost twice as many males as females – a 2.2 percentage point difference); *Poorly defined cause* (over two and a half times as many females as males - 1.6 percentage point difference); and *Acquired brain impairment* (over twice as many males as females - 1.5 percentage point difference).

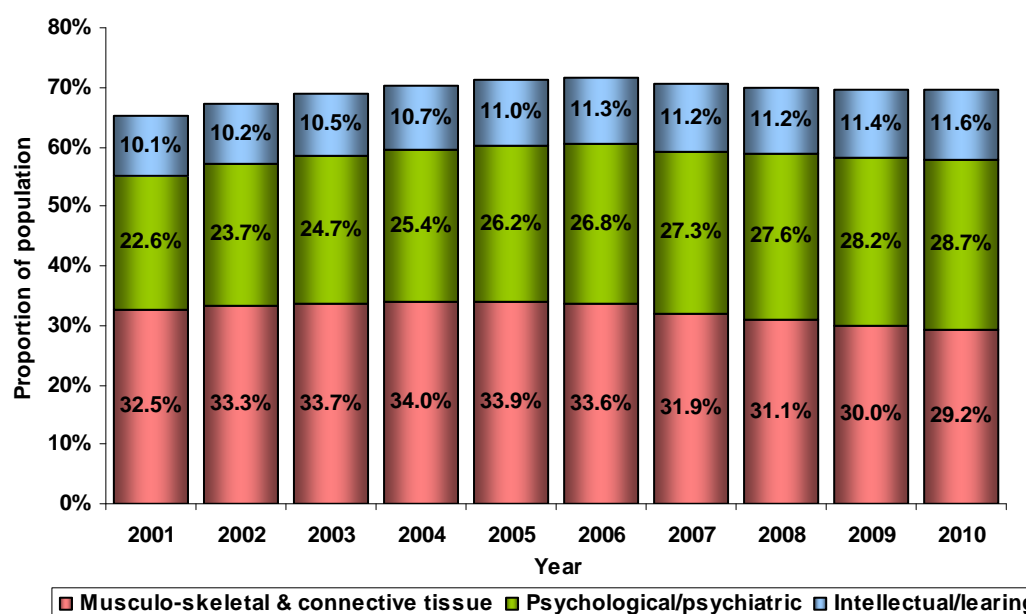
Table 14 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients reported against the top five medical conditions and others for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Table 14 – Recipients by primary medical condition – top 5/other – June 2001 to June 2010**

Year	MEDICAL CONDITION												Total
	Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue		Psychological / psychiatric		Intellectual / learning		Nervous system		Circulatory system		Other		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2001	202,732	32.5	140,965	22.6	63,168	10.1	19,270	3.1	33,742	5.4	164,049	26.3	623,926
2002	219,740	33.3	155,998	23.7	67,090	10.2	20,505	3.1	35,485	5.4	160,097	24.3	658,915
2003	226,989	33.7	166,040	24.7	70,747	10.5	21,538	3.2	35,654	5.3	152,366	22.6	673,334
2004	237,103	34.0	177,048	25.4	74,453	10.7	22,650	3.3	36,507	5.2	148,981	21.4	696,742
2005	239,723	33.9	185,351	26.2	77,854	11.0	23,266	3.3	36,313	5.1	144,275	20.4	706,782
2006	239,309	33.6	190,793	26.8	80,742	11.3	24,203	3.4	36,101	5.1	141,015	19.8	712,163
2007	228,134	31.9	195,059	27.3	80,260	11.2	30,927	4.3	35,461	5.0	144,315	20.2	714,156
2008	227,641	31.1	202,421	27.6	82,368	11.2	33,368	4.6	35,627	4.9	150,942	20.6	732,367
2009	227,271	30.0	213,672	28.2	86,403	11.4	35,809	4.7	35,873	4.7	158,090	20.9	757,118
2010	231,412	29.2	227,420	28.7	91,824	11.6	38,147	4.8	36,558	4.6	167,220	21.1	792,581

Figure 14 shows the percentage of DSP recipients reported against the top three medical conditions for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Figure 14 – Recipients by top 3 primary medical conditions – June 2001 to June 2010**



As at June 2001, nearly two thirds (65.2 percent) of DSP recipients had *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue*, *Psychological/psychiatric* or *Intellectual/learning* as their primary medical condition. By June 2010 that figure was 69.5 percent. Of the three most common primary medical conditions, *Psychological/psychiatric* and *Intellectual/learning* have been increasing in incidence while *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* peaked at 34.0 percent of the recipient population in 2004 and has since had a decreasing representation.

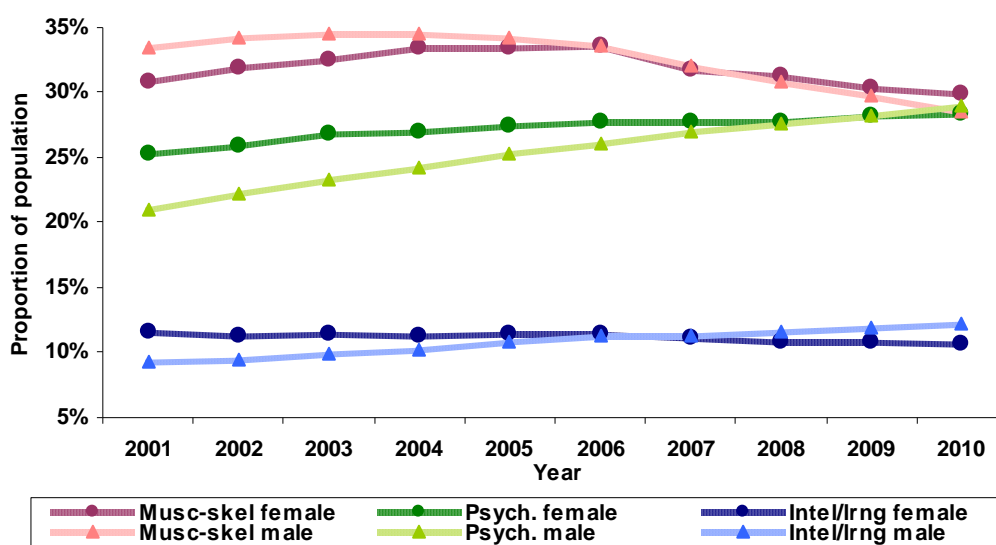
Table 15 details the percentage of DSP recipients of each sex reported against the top five primary medical conditions (and others) for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Table 15 – Recipients by primary medical condition – top 5 and sex – June 2001 to June 2010**

Year	MEDICAL CONDITION											
	Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue		Psychological / psychiatric		Intellectual / learning		Nervous system		Circulatory system		Other	
	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male
2001	30.8	33.5	25.3	21.0	11.5	9.3	3.8	2.7	3.3	6.7	25.2	26.9
2002	32.0	34.2	26.0	22.3	11.3	9.5	3.8	2.7	3.4	6.6	23.7	24.7
2003	32.5	34.5	26.8	23.3	11.5	9.9	3.9	2.8	3.4	6.5	21.9	23.0
2004	33.4	34.5	27.0	24.3	11.3	10.3	3.9	2.8	3.5	6.4	20.9	21.7
2005	33.5	34.2	27.5	25.3	11.4	10.8	3.9	2.9	3.5	6.3	20.2	20.5
2006	33.6	33.6	27.7	26.1	11.4	11.3	4.0	3.0	3.6	6.1	19.7	19.9
2007	31.7	32.1	27.8	27.0	11.2	11.3	5.0	3.8	3.5	6.1	20.8	19.7
2008	31.3	30.9	27.8	27.5	10.9	11.5	5.2	4.1	3.5	5.9	21.4	20.0
2009	30.4	29.7	28.2	28.3	10.8	11.9	5.4	4.2	3.4	5.8	21.8	20.2
2010	30.0	28.5	28.4	29.0	10.7	12.3	5.4	5.3	3.4	5.6	22.1	19.3

Figure 15 shows the percentage of DSP recipients of each sex for the top three primary medical conditions for the years from June 2001 to June 2010.

**Figure 15 – Recipients sex by top 3 primary medical conditions – June 2001 to June 2010**



In the years from June 2001 to June 2010 there has been a change in the proportion of each sex with the top three medical conditions as their primary medical condition. While the proportion of recipients with *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* recorded as their primary medical condition has been decreasing generally, that trend is more pronounced in the male population than the female. Similarly, *Psychological/psychiatric* has been increasing in proportion since 2001 and that trend is also occurring with male recipients.

The proportion of females with *Intellectual/learning* recorded as their primary medical condition has fallen from 11.5 percent in June 2001 to 10.7 percent in June 2010 – this is the opposite of the male recipient population where the proportion of males reporting against the category has risen from 9.3 percent in 2001 to 12.3 percent in 2010.

## 2.2 Top three primary medical conditions by age range and sex

### *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue*

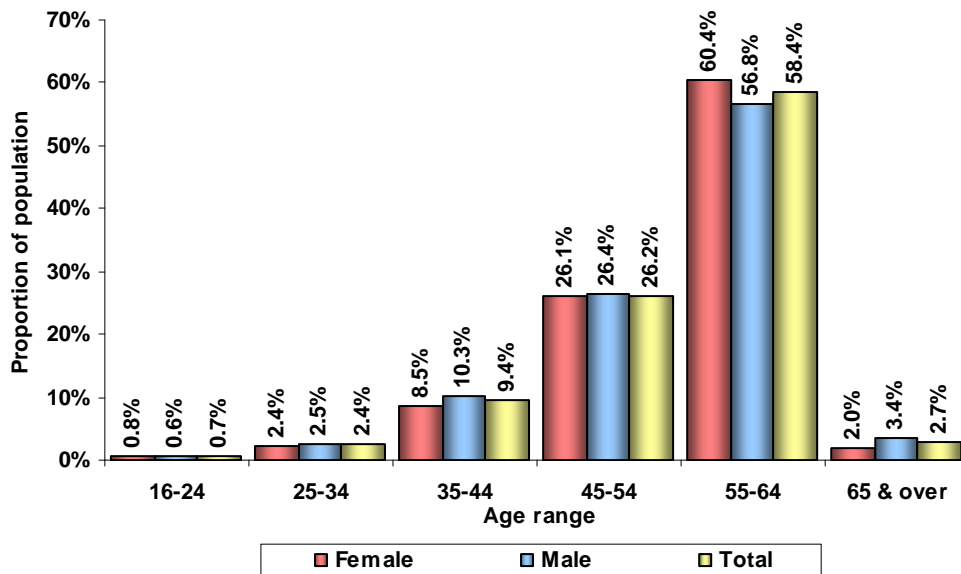
Table 16 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients with *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* as their primary medical condition by age range and sex.

**Table 16 – Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**

Age range (years)	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
16-24	833	0.8	797	0.6	1,630	0.7
25-34	2,546	2.4	3,092	2.5	5,638	2.4
35-44	9,123	8.5	12,723	10.3	21,846	9.4
45-54	28,101	26.1	32,630	26.4	60,731	26.2
55-64	65,122	60.4	70,132	56.8	135,254	58.4
65 & over	2,116	2.0	4,197	3.4	6,313	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,841</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>123,571</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>231,412</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 16 shows the percentage of DSP recipients with *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* recorded as their primary medical condition by age range and sex.

**Figure 16 – Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**



The age distribution for recipients with a primary medical condition of *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* is skewed strongly towards the older age ranges.

*Psychological/psychiatric*

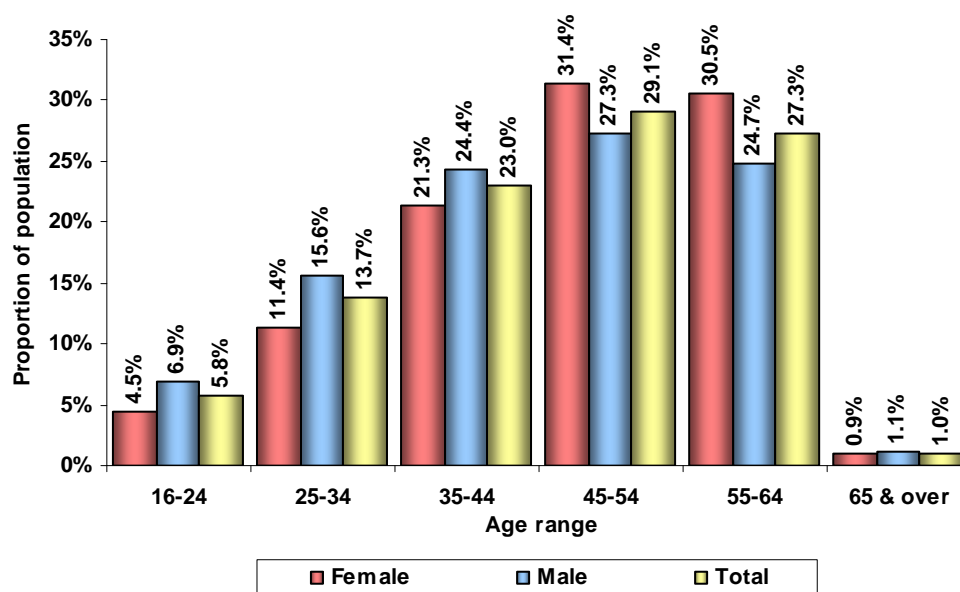
Table 17 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients with *Psychological/psychiatric* as their primary medical condition by age range and sex.

**Table 17 – Psychological/psychiatric recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**

Age range (years)	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
16-24	4,541	4.5	8,637	6.9	13,178	5.8
25-34	11,606	11.4	19,643	15.6	31,249	13.7
35-44	21,745	21.3	30,605	24.4	52,350	23.0
45-54	31,978	31.4	34,250	27.3	66,228	29.1
55-64	31,075	30.5	31,066	24.7	62,141	27.3
65 & over	927	0.9	1,347	1.1	2,274	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,872</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125,548</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>227,420</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 17 shows the percentage of DSP recipients with *Psychological/psychiatric* medical condition by age range and sex.

**Figure 17 – Psychological/psychiatric recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**



*Psychological/psychiatric* condition is the second most common primary medical condition recorded and, while more evenly distributed across age ranges than *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* conditions, also shows a high representation in the 45 to 54 and 55 to 64 age ranges.

There is a difference in the proportion of DSP recipients with a *Psychological/psychiatric* condition according to gender and whether they are aged over 45 years. Females under 45 account for only 37.2 percent of all females with the condition; while for males with *Psychological/psychiatric* condition, 46.9 percent are under 45 years old.

## Intellectual/learning

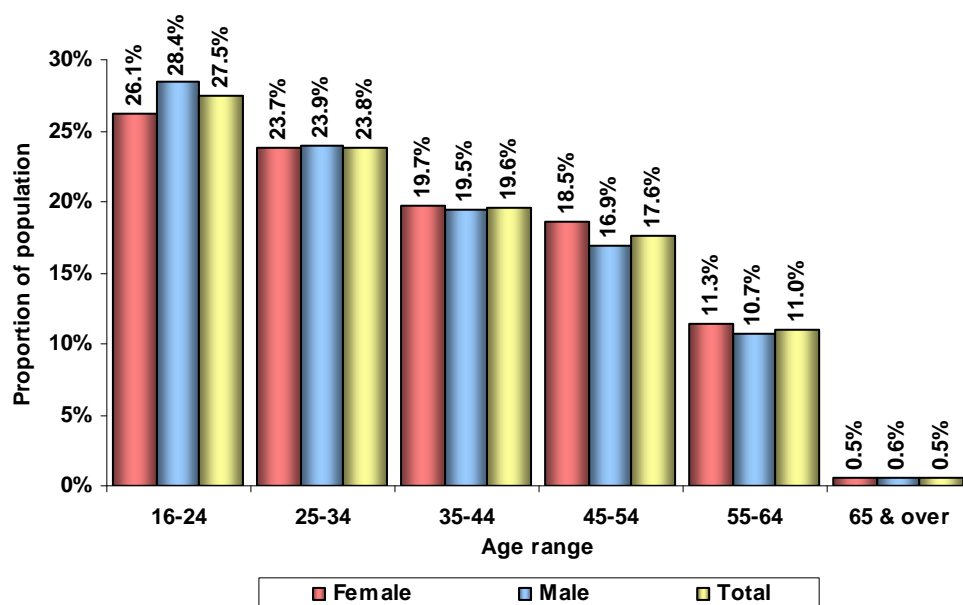
Table 18 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients with *Intellectual/learning* as their primary medical condition by age range and sex.

**Table 18 – Intellectual/learning recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**

Age range (years)	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
16-24	10,059	26.1	15,152	28.4	25,211	27.5
25-34	9,131	23.7	12,763	23.9	21,894	23.8
35-44	7,588	19.7	10,382	19.5	17,970	19.6
45-54	7,135	18.5	9,014	16.9	16,149	17.6
55-64	4,365	11.3	5,735	10.7	10,100	11.0
65 & over	194	0.5	306	0.6	500	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,472</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>53,352</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>91,824</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 18 shows the percentage of DSP recipients with *Intellectual/learning* as their primary medical condition by age range and sex.

**Figure 18 – Intellectual/learning recipients by age range and sex – June 2010**



Recipients with *Intellectual/learning* conditions are predominantly in the younger age ranges.

There are only slight differences in the age distribution by sex for recipients with a slightly higher proportion of males in the under 35 age ranges.

### 3 EARNINGS AND INCOME SUPPORT DURATION

#### 3.1 Earnings

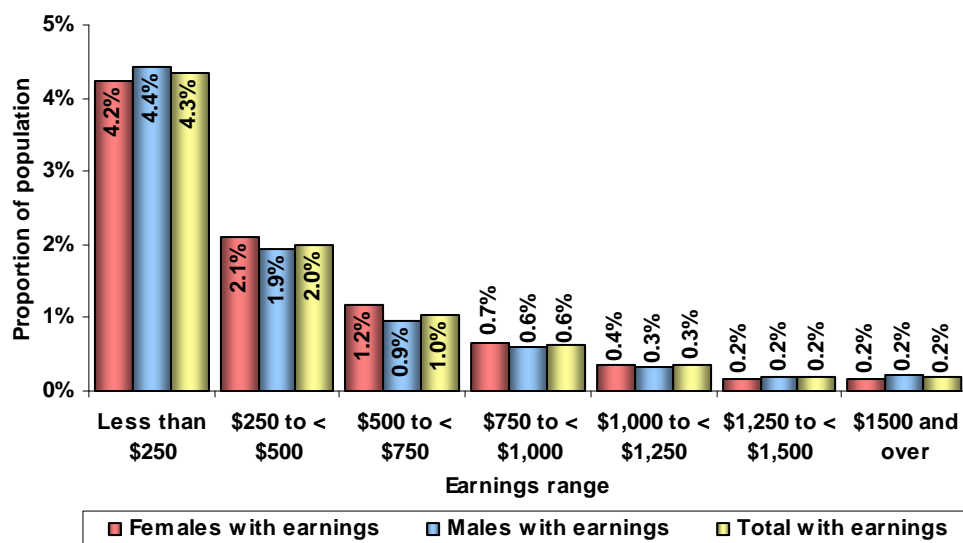
Table 19 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients by their earnings declared in the fortnight prior to 25 June 2010 (the date of data extraction) and sex.

**Table 19 – Recipients by earnings range and sex – fortnight to 25 June 2010**

Earnings range	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Nil earnings	327,269	91.1	396,120	91.4	723,389	91.3
Less than \$250	15,194	4.2	19,135	4.4	34,329	4.3
\$250 to < \$500	7,524	2.1	8,355	1.9	15,879	2.0
\$500 to < \$750	4,214	1.2	4,102	0.9	8,316	1.0
\$750 to < \$1,000	2,368	0.7	2,556	0.6	4,924	0.6
\$1,000 to < \$1,250	1,321	0.4	1,422	0.3	2,743	0.3
\$1,250 to < \$1,500	615	0.2	809	0.2	1,424	0.2
\$1500 and over	620	0.2	957	0.2	1,577	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 19 shows the percentage of DSP recipients of each sex by their earnings declared in the fortnight to 25 June 2010.

**Figure 19 – Recipients by earnings range and sex - fortnight to 25 June 2010**



There were 69,192 DSP recipients (8.7 percent of all recipients) who declared earnings in the fortnight ending 25 June 2010.

Of those recipients who reported earnings, 49.6 percent reported earnings of less than \$250.00 in the fortnight. This is below the income free area for a couple.

A higher proportion of females declared earnings between \$250 and \$1250 in the fortnight than males (4.3 percent for females compared to 3.8 percent for males).

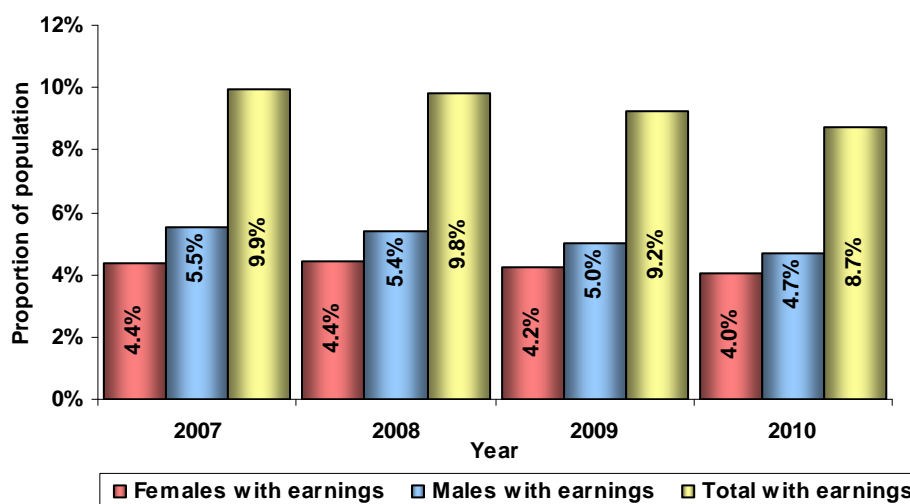
Table 20 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients who reported earnings in the fortnight before the data extraction date, and those with no reported earnings, by sex for the years from June 2007 to June 2010.

**Table 20 – Recipients with earnings/no earnings by sex - 2007 to 2010**

Year	WITH EARNINGS						NO EARNINGS						Total
	Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2007	31,238	4.4	39,615	5.5	70,853	9.9	269,885	37.8	373,418	52.3	643,303	90.1	714,156
2008	32,585	4.4	39,322	5.4	71,907	9.8	286,298	39.1	374,162	51.1	660,460	90.2	732,367
2009	31,891	4.2	37,850	5.0	69,741	9.2	302,937	40.0	384,440	50.8	687,377	90.8	757,118
2010	31,856	4.0	37,336	4.7	69,192	8.7	327,269	41.3	396,120	50.0	723,389	91.3	792,581

Figure 20 shows the percentage of DSP recipients who reported earnings in the fortnight before the data extraction date, by sex for the years from 2007 to 2010.

**Figure 20 – Recipients with earnings by sex - 2007 to 2010**



The proportion of DSP recipients with earnings in the fortnight before the data extraction date has fallen from 9.9 percent in 2007 to 8.7 percent in 2010, with male recipients responsible for most of the fall.

In the years from 2007 to 2010 the number of male DSP recipients reporting earnings in the fortnight before the data extraction date fell by 2,279 – a fall of 5.8 percent - despite the total male recipient population rising by 20,423 (4.9 percent).

Over the same years, the female DSP recipient population rose by 19.26 percent and the population who reported earnings rose by 2.0 percent.

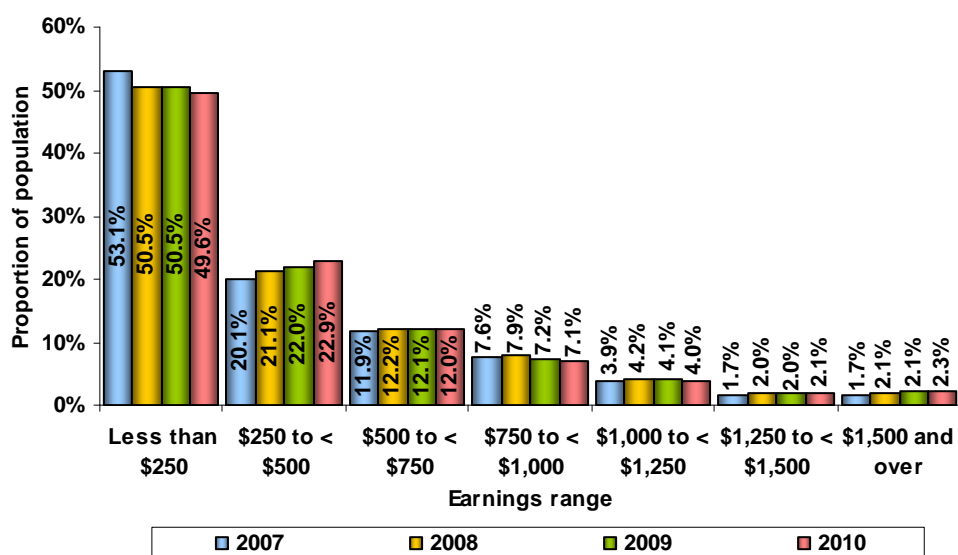
Table 21 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients who declared earnings by the earnings range for the years from 2007 to 2010.

**Table 21 – Recipients with earnings by earnings range - 2007 to 2010**

Year	EARNINGS RANGE														Total
	Less than \$250		\$250 to < \$500		\$500 to < \$750		\$750 to < \$1,000		\$1,000 to < \$1,250		\$1,250 to < \$1,500		\$1,500 and over		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2007	37,617	53.1	14,208	20.1	8,429	11.9	5,356	7.6	2,780	3.9	1,236	1.7	1,227	1.7	70,853
2008	36,348	50.5	15,188	21.1	8,777	12.2	5,680	7.9	3,020	4.2	1,418	2.0	1,476	2.1	71,907
2009	35,211	50.5	15,339	22.0	8,454	12.1	5,045	7.2	2,852	4.1	1,377	2.0	1,463	2.1	69,741
2010	34,329	49.6	15,879	22.9	8,316	12.0	4,924	7.1	2,743	4.0	1,424	2.1	1,577	2.3	69,192

Figure 21 shows the percentage of DSP recipients who declared earnings by the earnings range for the years from 2007 to 2010.

**Figure 21 – Recipients with earnings by earnings range - 2007 to 2010**



In the years from 2007 to 2010, the distribution of DSP recipients with earnings by the amount earned has remained relatively steady.

There has been a slight decrease in those earning less than \$250 and an increase in most other categories. In particular the proportion of earnings in the \$250 to less than \$500 range has increased from 20.1 percent in June 2007 to 22.9 percent in June 2010.

### 3.2 Income support duration

**Note:** Duration on income support includes the period of time a person has been in receipt of DSP together with the period of time the person may have been in receipt of any other income support payment(s).

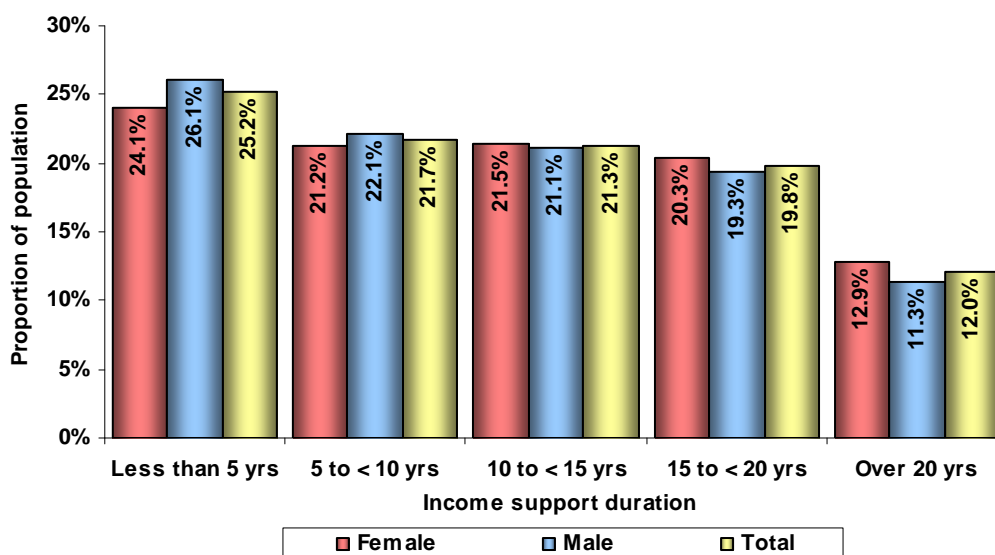
Table 22 details the number and percentage of DSP recipients by the duration of income support and sex as at June 2010.

**Table 22 – Recipients by income support duration and sex – June 2010**

Duration	SEX				Total	
	Female		Male			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 1 yr	19,412	5.4	27,777	6.4	47,189	6.0
1 to < 2 yrs	20,055	5.6	25,646	5.9	45,701	5.8
2 to < 3 yrs	17,082	4.8	21,547	5.0	38,629	4.9
3 to < 4 yrs	15,411	4.3	19,324	4.5	34,735	4.4
4 to < 5 yrs	14,541	4.0	18,805	4.3	33,346	4.2
5 to < 6 yrs	15,074	4.2	18,861	4.4	33,935	4.3
6 to < 7 yrs	15,497	4.3	18,735	4.3	34,232	4.3
7 to < 8 yrs	14,883	4.1	19,188	4.4	34,071	4.3
8 to < 9 yrs	15,479	4.3	19,324	4.5	34,803	4.4
9 to < 10 yrs	15,281	4.3	19,647	4.5	34,928	4.4
10 to < 15 yrs	77,114	21.5	91,581	21.1	168,695	21.3
15 to < 20 yrs	73,077	20.3	83,863	19.3	156,940	19.8
Over 20 yrs	46,219	12.9	49,158	11.3	95,377	12.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>433,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>792,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 22 shows the percentage of DSP recipients by the duration of income support and sex as at June 2010.

**Figure 22 – Recipients by income support duration and sex– June 2010**



Nearly a third of DSP recipients (31.8 percent) have been in receipt of either DSP or another income support payment for more than fifteen years (33.2 percent of females and 30.7 percent of males). Proportionally, more males have been in receipt of income support for less than 10 years (48.2 percent) than females (45.3 percent).

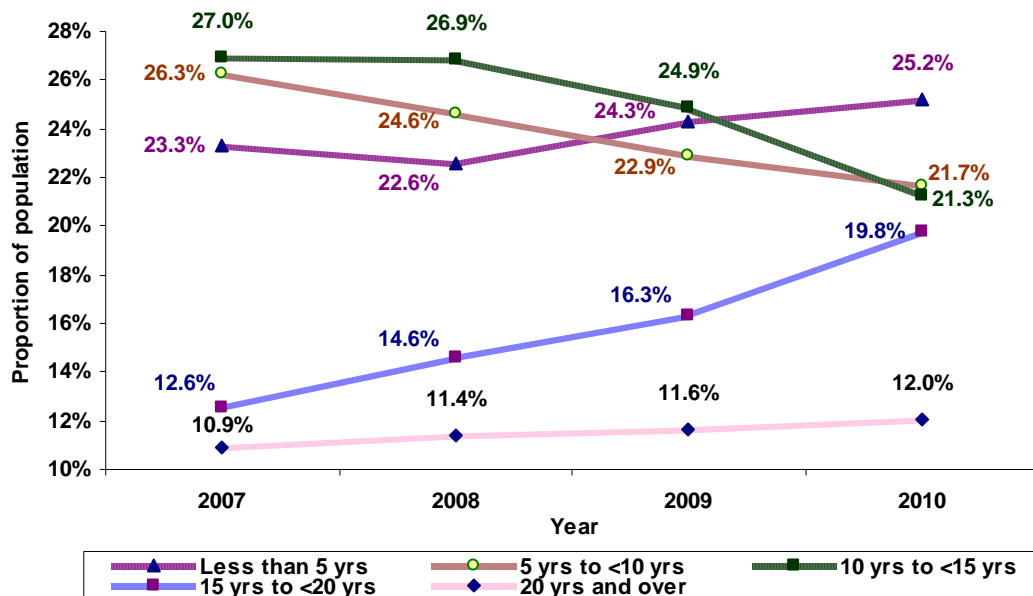
Table 23 details the DSP recipient population by their duration on income support for the years June 2007 to June 2010.

**Table 23 – Recipients by income support duration – June 2007 to June 2010**

Year	INCOME SUPPORT DURATION (RANGE)										Total
	Less than 5 years		5 years to <10 years		10 years to <15 years		15 years to <20 years		20 years and over		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2007	166,330	23.3	187,734	26.3	192,530	27.0	89,705	12.6	77,857	10.9	714,156
2008	165,434	22.6	180,155	24.6	196,656	26.9	106,831	14.6	83,291	11.4	732,367
2009	184,056	24.3	173,288	22.9	188,238	24.9	123,404	16.3	88,132	11.6	757,118
2010	199,600	25.2	171,969	21.7	168,695	21.3	156,940	19.8	95,377	12.0	792,581

Figure 23 shows the percentage of DSP recipients in each of the income support duration ranges for the years from June 2007 to June 2010.

**Figure 23 – Recipients by income support duration – June 2007 to June 2010**



As at June 2007 over three quarters (76.5 percent) of DSP recipients had been in receipt of income support for less than fifteen years. By June 2010 that figure had fallen to 68.2 percent and 31.8 percent of recipients had been receiving income support for fifteen years or more.

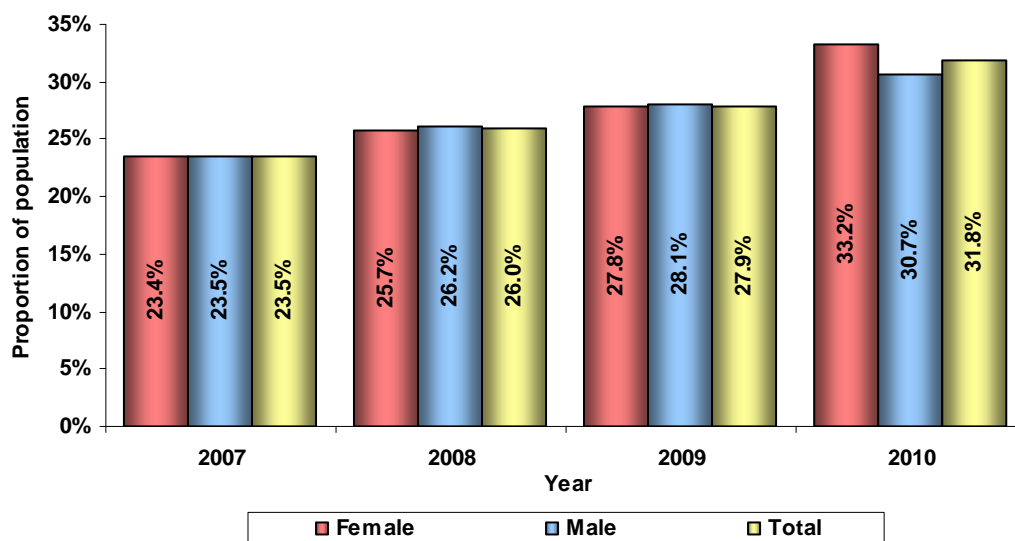
Table 24 details the number and proportion of each sex of DSP recipients by whether they have been in receipt of income support for under or over fifteen years for the years from June 2007 to June 2010.

**Table 24 – Recipients income support duration under/over 15 yrs – June 2007 to June 2010**

Year	Female				Male				Total			
	Under 15 yrs		15 yrs & over		Under 15 yrs		15 yrs & over		Under 15 yrs		15 yrs & over	
	No.	% of Sex	No.	% of Sex	No.	% of Sex	No.	% of Sex	No.	%	No.	%
2007	230,535	76.6	70,588	23.4	316,059	76.5	96,974	23.5	546,594	76.5	167,562	23.5
2008	236,911	74.3	81,972	25.7	305,334	73.8	108,150	26.2	542,245	74.0	190,122	26.0
2009	241,757	72.2	93,071	27.8	303,825	71.9	118,465	28.1	545,582	72.1	211,536	27.9
2010	239,829	66.8	119,296	33.2	300,435	69.3	133,021	30.7	540,264	68.2	252,317	31.8

Figure 24 shows the proportion of each sex of DSP recipients with a total income support duration of fifteen years and over for the years from June 2007 to June 2010.

**Figure 24 – Recipients on income support for over 15 yrs duration by sex – June 2007 to June 2010**



For the years from June 2007 to June 2009 the gender balance of recipients who had been in receipt of income support for more than fifteen years had remained steady and the proportion for both sexes had been growing at around 2 percent per year.

For June 2010 that situation has changed. Nearly one third of female DSP recipients (33.2% - an increase of 5.4 percentage points over the previous year) have been in receipt of income support for fifteen years and over; whereas only 30.7 percent of males (an increase of 2.6 percentage points over the previous year) are in that cohort.

## 4 FINALISED CLAIMS

### 4.1 Finalised claims by age and sex

Table 25 details the volume and proportion of finalised claims by age range and sex for the period from June 2009 to June 2010.

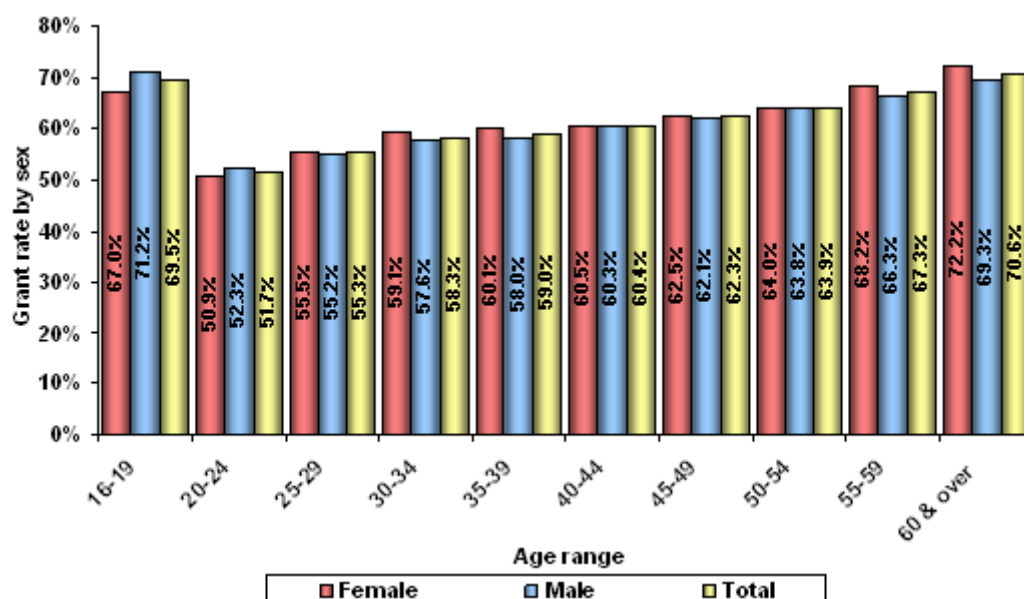
**Table 25 – Finalised claims by age and sex – 2009-10**

Age	GRANTS					Grant Rate (%)	REJECTIONS		TOTAL CLAIMS		
	Female		Male		Total Grants		Female	Male	Female	Male	Total
	No.	% GR*	No.	% GR*							
16-19	2,923	67.0	4,774	71.2	7,697	69.5	1,438	1,934	4,361	6,708	11,069
20-24	1,384	50.9	1,749	52.3	3,133	51.7	1,335	1,594	2,719	3,343	6,062
25-29	1,554	55.5	2,084	55.2	3,638	55.3	1,248	1,694	2,802	3,778	6,580
30-34	2,031	59.1	2,736	57.6	4,767	58.3	1,403	2,010	3,434	4,746	8,180
35-39	3,306	60.1	3,581	58.0	6,887	59.0	2,194	2,589	5,500	6,170	11,670
40-44	4,494	60.5	4,211	60.3	8,705	60.4	2,940	2,773	7,434	6,984	14,418
45-49	5,793	62.5	5,013	62.1	10,806	62.3	3,482	3,061	9,275	8,074	17,349
50-54	6,779	64.0	5,735	63.8	12,514	63.9	3,809	3,251	10,588	8,986	19,574
55-59	8,043	68.2	7,307	66.3	15,350	67.3	3,753	3,713	11,796	11,020	22,816
60 & over	7,681	72.2	9,953	69.3	17,634	70.6	2,955	4,402	10,636	14,355	24,991
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,988</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>47,143</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>91,131</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>24,557</b>	<b>27,021</b>	<b>68,545</b>	<b>74,164</b>	<b>142,709</b>

\* GR= Grant rate

Figure 25 shows the proportion of each sex granted DSP and the overall grant rate<sup>3</sup> for each age range in the period from June 2009 to June 2010.

**Figure 25 – Grant rate by age range and sex – 2009-10**



From June 2009 to June 2010, there were 142,709 new claims for DSP processed. Of these, 91,131 (63.9 percent) were granted DSP and 51,578 (36.1 percent) were rejected.

Excluding the 16 to 19 age range, the number of grants in each age range increases as the age of the claimant rises from 3,133 for 20 to 24 year olds to 17,634 for those claimants 60 years old and over.

<sup>3</sup> See footnote 1 (page 6).

Just over half (51.7 percent) of DSP grants were to males, and 48.3 percent were to females. The majority of grants to claimants aged under 40 and over 60 were to males. The majority of grants in the 40 to 60 age range were to females.

The 16 to 19 year old range has a grant rate of 69.5 percent. For the other age ranges, the grant rate rises with each age increment from 51.7% for 20 to 24 year olds to 70.6% for those aged 60 and over.

The grant rate for females is slightly higher than that for males. With the exception of the under 25 age range – a higher proportion of females than males are granted in each age range.

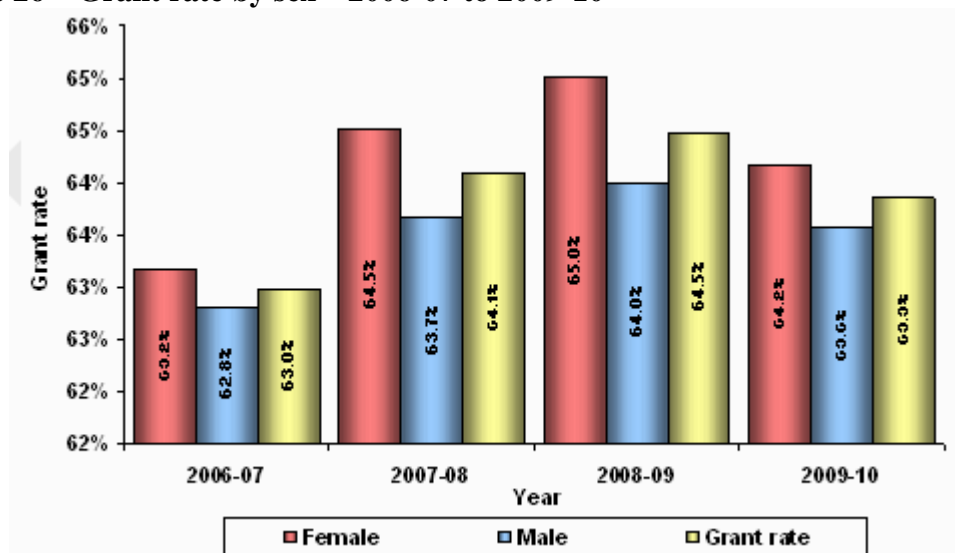
Table 26 details the number and proportion of each sex granted DSP, DSP rejections and total claims for each year for the years ending from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Table 26 – Finalised claims and grant rate – 2006-07 to 2009-10**

Age	Grants				Grant Rate (%)	Rejections		Total Claims			
	Female		Male			Female	Male	Female	Male	Total	
	No.	% Gr	No.	% Gr							
2006-07	28,669	63.2	33,939	62.8	62,608	63.0	16,723	20,087	45,392	54,026	99,418
2007-08	36,901	64.5	37,778	63.7	74,679	64.1	20,296	21,555	57,197	59,333	116,530
2008-09	41,830	65.0	45,000	64.0	86,830	64.5	22,509	25,315	64,339	70,315	134,654
2009-10	43,988	64.2	47,143	63.6	91,131	63.9	24,557	27,021	68,545	74,164	142,709

Figure 26 shows the proportion of grants for each sex for the years from 2006 -07 to 2009-10.

**Figure 26 – Grant rate by sex – 2006-07 to 2009-10**



The number of DSP claims finalised rose from 99,418 in 2006-07 to 142,709 in 2009-10. In 2006-07 females accounted for 45.7 percent of claims finalised and by 2009-10 that figure was 48.0 percent. The grant rate rose from 63.0 percent in 2006-07 to 64.5 percent in 2008-09. Since then it has fallen to 63.9 percent.

The grant rate for females is consistently above the rate for males. In 2006-07 female DSP claimants were 0.4 percent more likely than male claimants to be granted. In 2008-09 that gap had expanded to 1.0 percentage point but has contracted to 0.6 percentage points in 2009-10.

## 4.2 Grants by primary medical condition

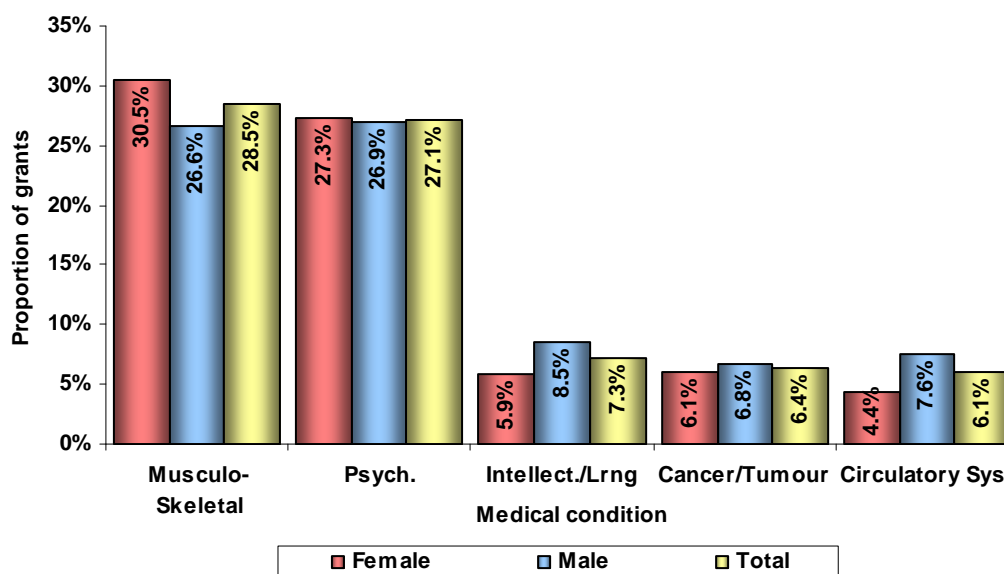
Table 27 details the number and percentage of DSP grants between June 2009 and June 2010 by the primary medical condition of the claimant.

**Table 27 – Grants by medical condition – 2009-10**

Primary medical condition	SEX				Total grants	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Musculo-Skeletal & Connective Tissue	13,422	30.5	12,543	26.6	25,965	28.5
Psychological/Psychiatric	12,006	27.3	12,701	26.9	24,707	27.1
Intellectual/Learning	2,601	5.9	4,014	8.5	6,615	7.3
Cancer/Tumour	2,678	6.1	3,187	6.8	5,865	6.4
Circulatory System	1,952	4.4	3,592	7.6	5,544	6.1
Nervous System	2,245	5.1	2,085	4.4	4,330	4.8
Respiratory System	1,574	3.6	1,682	3.6	3,256	3.6
Endocrine & Immune System	1,195	2.7	1,111	2.4	2,306	2.5
Acquired Brain Impairment	734	1.7	1,413	3.0	2,147	2.4
Chronic Pain	1,136	2.6	982	2.1	2,118	2.3
Sense Organs	952	2.2	1,067	2.3	2,019	2.2
Poorly Defined Cause	1,336	3.0	438	0.9	1,774	1.9
Gastro-Intestinal System	719	1.6	467	1.0	1,186	1.3
Urogenital System	428	1.0	447	0.9	875	1.0
Congenital Anomalies	373	0.8	439	0.9	812	0.9
Visceral Disorder	210	0.5	384	0.8	594	0.7
Infectious Diseases	154	0.4	267	0.6	421	0.5
Other	273	0.6	324	0.7	597	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,988</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>47,143</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>91,131</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 27 shows the percentage of grants in the period from June 2009 to June 2010 by the top five primary medical conditions and sex.

**Figure 27 – Grants by top 5 primary medical conditions – 2009-10**



*Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue* and *Psychological/psychiatric* are the largest categories granted accounting for 55.6 percent of grants. This is similar to the proportion in the recipient population (see Table 14) where these two primary medical conditions account for 57.9 percent of the population.

*Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue* and *Psychological/psychiatric* are the primary medical conditions for 57.8 percent of all grants to females and 53.5 percent of all grants to males.

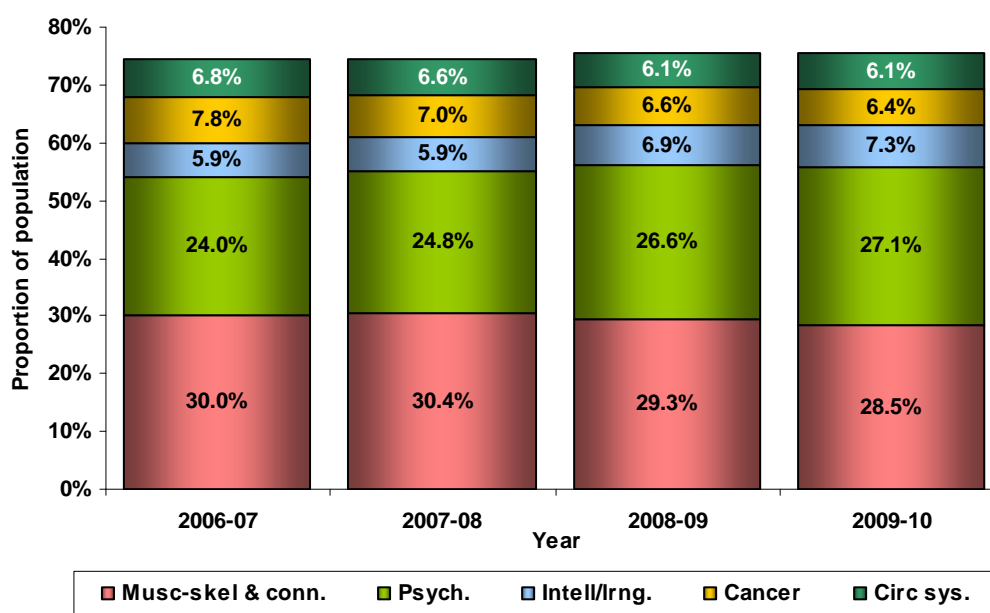
Table 28 details the count and proportion of DSP grants by medical condition (top five and others) for the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Table 28 – Grants by top 5 primary medical conditions - 2006-07 to 2009-10**

Year	MEDICAL CONDITION												Total
	Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue		Psychological / psychiatric		Intellectual / learning		Cancer / Tumour		Circulatory system		Other		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2006-07	18,807	30.0	15,020	24.0	3,674	5.9	4,889	7.8	4,248	6.8	15,970	25.5	62,608
2007-08	22,728	30.4	18,500	24.8	4,404	5.9	5,200	7.0	4,901	6.6	18,946	25.4	74,679
2008-09	25,479	29.3	23,134	26.6	5,971	6.9	5,713	6.6	5,334	6.1	21,199	24.4	86,830
2009-10	25,965	28.5	24,707	27.1	6,615	7.3	5,865	6.4	5,544	6.1	22,435	24.6	91,131

Figure 28 shows the proportion of DSP grants by the top five primary medical conditions for the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Figure 28 – Grants by top 5 primary medical conditions – 2006-07 to 2009-10**



In the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10, the proportion of new grants in the *Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue*, *Cancer/tumour* and *Circulatory system* categories have fallen from 44.6 percent to 41.0 percent. In the same period, *Psychological/psychiatric* and *Intellectual/learning* have risen in proportion from 29.9 percent to 34.4 percent of grants.

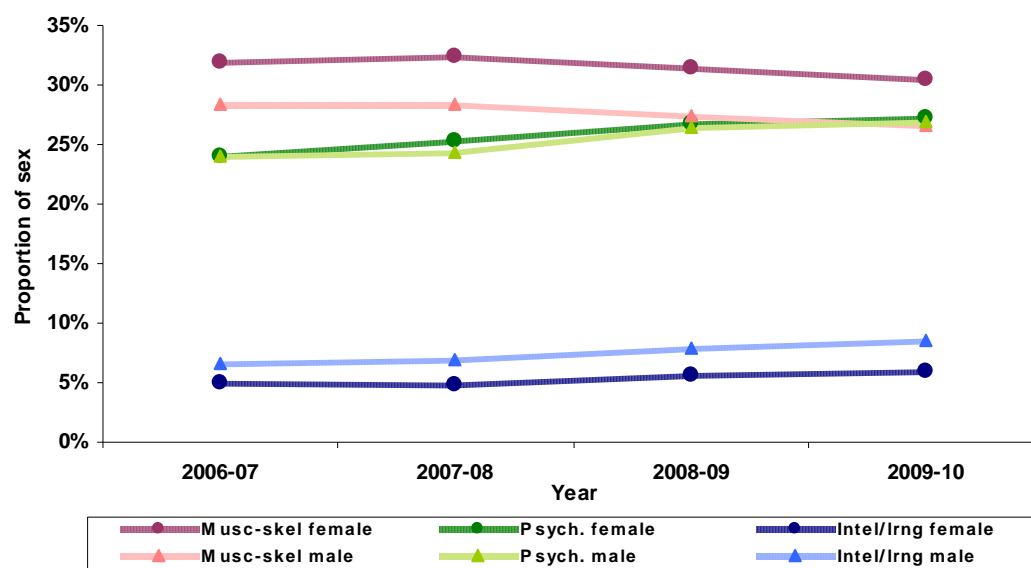
Table 29 details the proportion of new claims granted for each sex for the top five primary medical conditions for the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Table 29 – Grants by sex by primary medical condition – 2006-07 to 2009-10**

Year	MEDICAL CONDITION											
	Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue		Psychological / psychiatric		Intellectual / learning		Cancer / Tumour		Circulatory system		Other	
	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male
2006-07	32.0	28.4	24.0	24.0	5.0	6.6	7.3	8.2	4.6	8.7	27.1	24.1
2007-08	32.5	28.4	25.3	24.3	4.8	6.9	6.2	7.7	4.4	8.6	26.8	24.1
2008-09	31.4	27.4	26.8	26.5	5.7	7.9	6.2	6.9	4.2	7.9	25.7	23.4
2009-10	30.5	26.6	27.3	26.9	5.9	8.5	6.1	6.8	4.4	7.6	25.8	23.6

Figure 29 shows the proportion of each sex granted DSP for the top three primary medical conditions for the years 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Figure 29 – Grants by sex by primary medical condition – 2006-07 to 2009-10**



The higher proportion of females granted with *Musculo-skeletal & connective tissue* conditions than males has been consistent throughout the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10, as has the lower proportion of females granted with *Intellectual/learning* conditions.

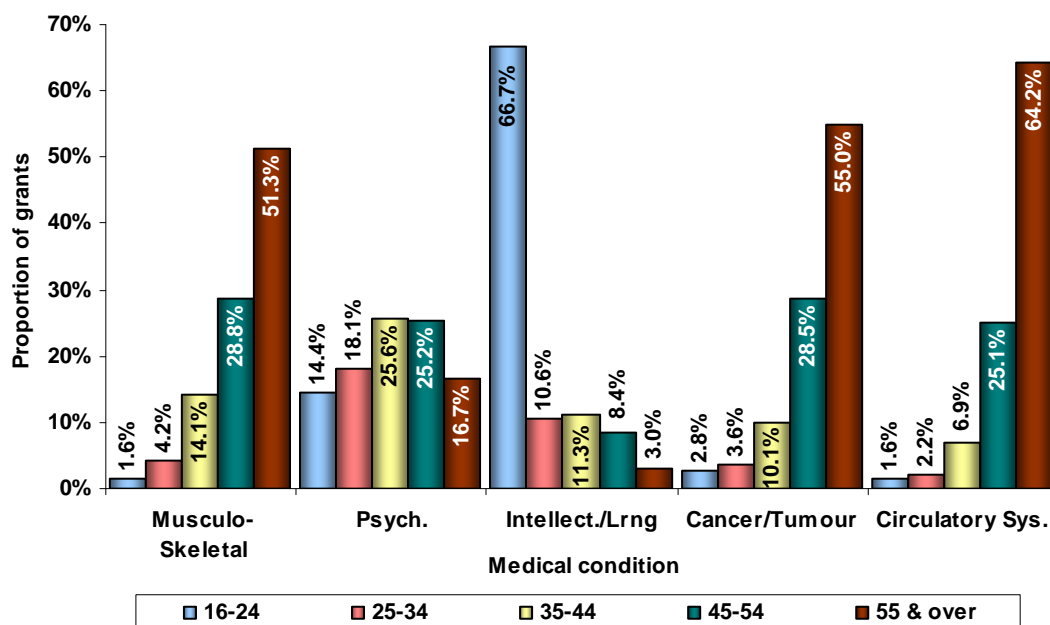
Table 30 details the DSP grants made from June 2009 to June 2010 by the top five primary medical conditions and age range.

**Table 30 – Grants by top 5 primary medical conditions and age range - 2009-10**

Age range (years)	PRIMARY MEDICAL CONDITION									
	Musculo-Skeletal & Connective Tissue		Psychological / Psychiatric		Intellectual / Learning		Cancer / Tumour		Circulatory System	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
16-24	425	1.6	3,564	14.4	4,410	66.7	166	2.8	86	1.6
25-34	1,083	4.2	4,479	18.1	704	10.6	211	3.6	123	2.2
35-44	3,659	14.1	6,321	25.6	745	11.3	590	10.1	383	6.9
45-54	7,469	28.8	6,229	25.2	556	8.4	1,673	28.5	1,391	25.1
55 & over	13,329	51.3	4,114	16.7	200	3.0	3,225	55.0	3,561	64.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,965</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,707</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,615</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,865</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,544</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 30 shows the proportion of the 2009-10 grants for each of the top five primary medical conditions by age range.

**Figure 30 – Grants for top 5 medical conditions by age range – 2008-09**



Where *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* was recorded as the primary medical condition, the majority of granted claims (51.3 percent) were to people aged 55 years and above. The number of claims granted rises as the age of the claimant increases.

Granted claims for people with *Psychological/psychiatric* as the primary medical condition are fairly evenly spread across all of the age ranges. The incidence increases in the 35 to 54 year range and then drops off in the 55 years and over.

Over two thirds (66.7 percent) of claims granted where *Intellectual/learning* was recorded as the primary medical condition, were to claimants in the 16 to 24 year age range.

The distribution of claims granted across age ranges for applicants with *Cancer/tumour* and *Circulatory system* recorded as their primary medical condition is a similar pattern to that of the *Musculo-skeletal and connective tissue* category with the number of claims granted rising as the age of the claimant increases.

### 4.3 Rejections

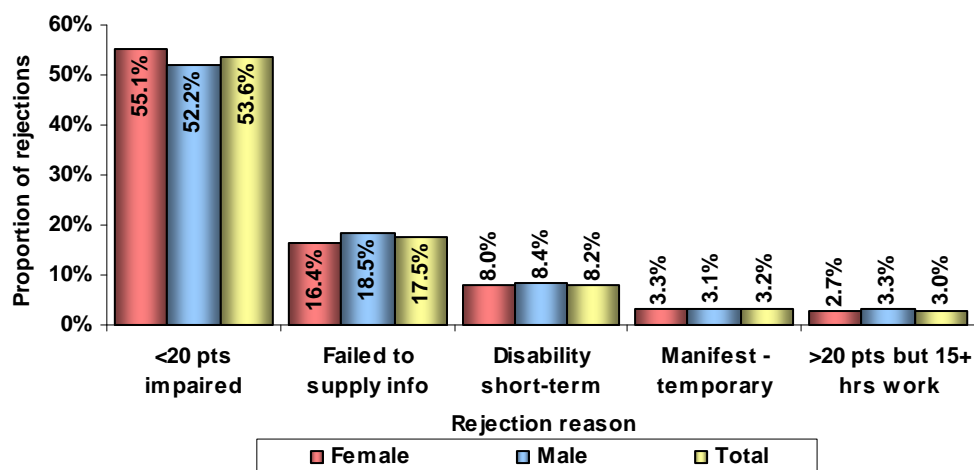
Table 31 details the number and proportion of claims rejected in the period from June 2009 to June 2010 by rejection reason and sex.

**Table 31 – Rejections by reason and sex – 2009-10**

Rejection reason	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Medical rejection reasons</b>						
Less than 20 points impaired	13,533	55.1	14,095	52.2	27,628	53.6
Disability is short-term	1,955	8.0	2,266	8.4	4,221	8.2
Manifest - temporary	805	3.3	851	3.1	1,656	3.2
>20 pts impaired / can work 15+ hrs p/w	653	2.7	887	3.3	1,540	3.0
>20 pts Impaired / reskill 15+ hrs p/w	609	2.5	661	2.4	1,270	2.5
Manifest - can work 15 hrs p/w	148	0.6	137	0.5	285	0.6
Manifest - not sufficient impairment	86	0.4	95	0.4	181	0.4
Manifest - can work 30 hrs p/w	15	0.1	20	0.1	35	0.1
>20 pts impaired / can work full-time	5	0.0	10	0.0	15	0.0
>20 pts impaired / can be re-skilled	2	0.0	5	0.0	7	0.0
Not permanently blind	5	0.0	4	0.0	9	0.0
<b>Total medical rejections</b>	<b>17,816</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>19,031</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>36,847</b>	<b>71.4</b>
<b>Non-medical rejection reasons</b>						
Failed to supply requested information	4,022	16.4	4,999	18.5	9,021	17.5
Excess income	793	3.2	617	2.3	1,410	2.7
Fail to attend assessment/med exam	387	1.6	428	1.6	815	1.6
Compensation related	435	1.8	825	3.1	1,260	2.4
Residence related	424	1.7	342	1.3	766	1.5
Failed agreement specific rules	192	0.8	187	0.7	379	0.7
Assets over limit	111	0.5	130	0.5	241	0.5
Withdrawn / voluntary surrender	94	0.4	110	0.4	204	0.4
Doesn't meet age requirements	41	0.2	44	0.2	85	0.2
Proof of identity not provided	31	0.1	37	0.1	68	0.1
Other	211	0.9	271	1.0	482	0.9
<b>Total non-medical rejection reasons</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>7,990</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>14,731</b>	<b>28.6</b>
<b>Total Rejections</b>	<b>24,557</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>27,021</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>51,578</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 31 shows the proportion of claims rejected for each sex in the period from June 2009 to June 2010, by the top five rejection reasons.

**Figure 31 – Rejections by top 5 reasons and sex – 2009-10**



During the year June 2009 to June 2010 there were 142,709 claims for DSP finalised. Of these, 51,578 were rejected (36.1 percent). Medical rejections comprised 71.4 percent of all rejections, while non medical rejections comprised 28.6 percent.

The main reason for rejection of DSP claims was that claimants' impairments were assessed at less than twenty points under the Impairment Tables (53.6 percent of all rejections), followed by failure to supply requested information (17.5 percent).

Males accounted for 52.4 percent of total rejections and females for 47.6 percent. Medical rejections comprised 72.5 percent of female rejections and 70.4 percent of male rejections.

For females, 55.1 percent of all rejections were because their impairment was assessed as less than twenty points under the impairment tables, for males this figure was 52.2 percent. Conversely, 18.5 percent of males and 16.4 percent of females were rejected for failing to provide requested information.

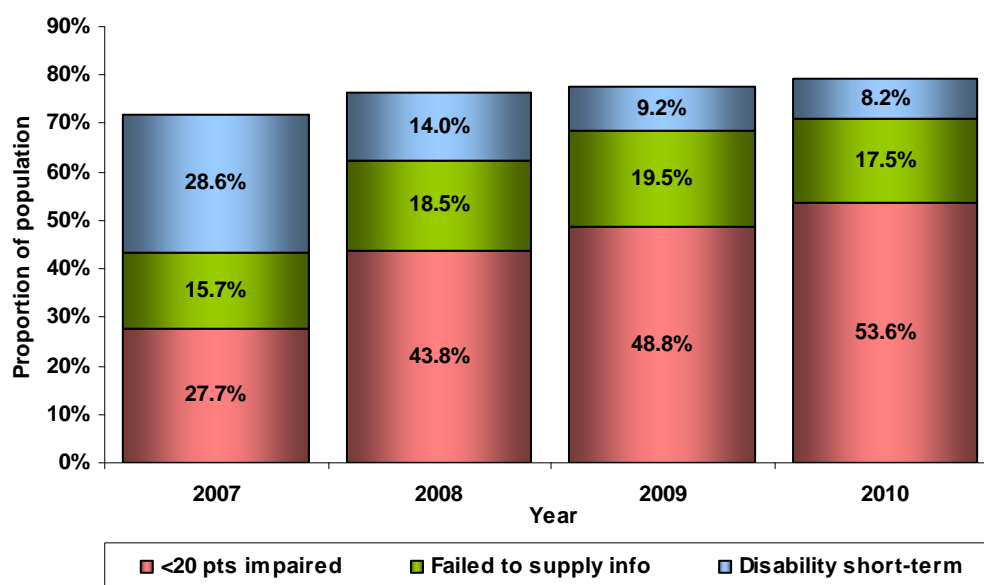
Table 32 details the number and proportion of DSP rejections by top five rejection reasons and others for the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Table 32 – Rejections by top 5 reasons – 2006-07 to 2009-10**

Year	REJECTION REASON											Total	
	<20 points impaired		Failed to supply info		Disability short term		Manifest - temporary		>20 pts but 15+ hrs work		Other		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.		%
2006-07	10,178	27.7	5,765	15.7	10,517	28.6	1,071	2.9	1,678	4.6	7,601	20.6	36,810
2007-08	18,338	43.8	7,760	18.5	5,876	14.0	937	2.2	1,717	4.1	7,223	17.3	41,851
2008-09	23,341	48.8	9,338	19.5	4,388	9.2	1,644	3.4	1,464	3.1	7,649	16.0	47,824
2009-10	27,628	53.6	9,021	17.5	4,221	8.2	1,656	3.2	1,540	3.0	7,512	14.6	51,578

Figure 32 shows the proportion of DSP rejections for the top three reasons for rejections for the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Figure 32 – Rejections by top 3 reasons – 2006-07 to 2009-10**



There has been a change in the reason for claims being rejected in the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10. In 2006-07 the proportion of rejections due to the claimant's impairment being assessed as less than twenty points (against the Impairment Tables) was 27.7 percent. In 2009-10 that proportion had risen to 53.6 percent.

Over the same years the proportion of rejections because the claimant's disability was of a short-term nature fell from 28.6 percent to 8.2 percent.

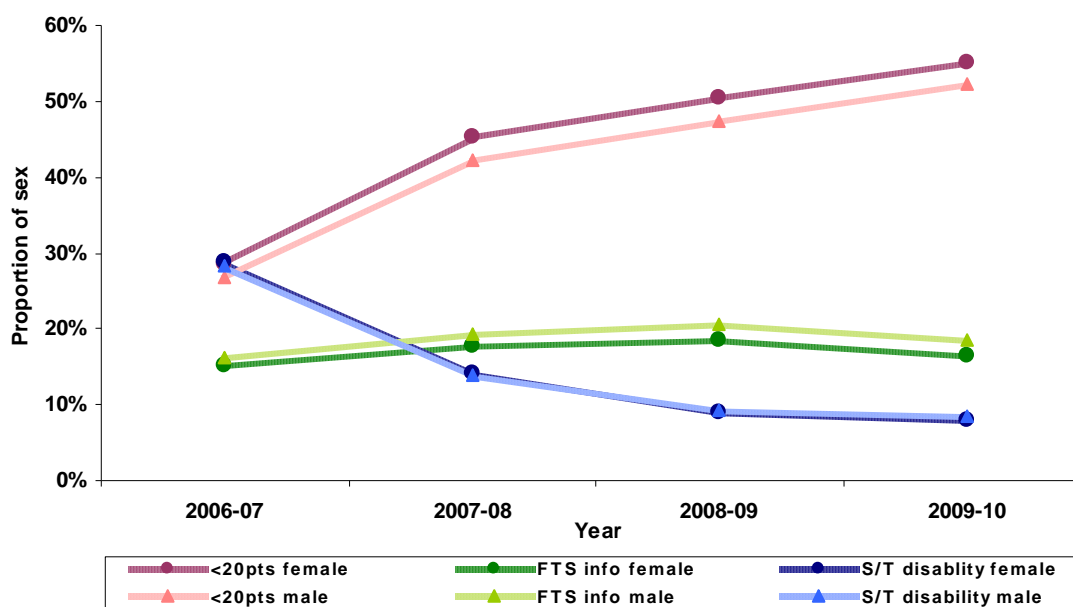
Table 33 details the number and percentage of clients of each sex with rejected DSP applications by the top five rejection reasons for the years 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Table 33 – Rejections by sex by top 5 rejection reasons – 2006-07 to 2009-10**

Year	REJECTION REASON											
	<20 points impaired		Failed to supply info		Disability short - term		Manifest - temporary		>20 pts but 15+ hrs work		Other	
	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male
2006-07	28.5	26.9	15.2	16.1	28.8	28.4	3.2	2.7	4.2	4.9	20.1	21.0
2007-08	45.4	42.3	17.7	19.3	14.2	13.9	2.2	2.3	3.8	4.4	16.7	17.8
2008-09	50.4	47.4	18.5	20.5	9.1	9.3	3.4	3.5	2.8	3.3	15.8	16.0
2009-10	55.1	52.2	16.4	18.5	8.0	8.4	3.3	3.1	2.7	3.3	14.5	14.5

Figure 33 shows the percentage of each sex with rejected DSP applications by the top three rejection reasons for the years 2006-07 to 2009-10.

**Figure 33 – Rejections by sex by top 3 rejection reasons – 2006-07 to 2009-10**



For the years from 2006-07 to 2009-10, a higher proportion of females than males were rejected on the basis that their impairment was assessed at less than twenty points against the Impairment Tables. A higher proportion of males than females were rejected for failing to supply requested information. Rejections because the claimant's disability is short-term have remained gender-balanced

## 5 WHERE DSP RECIPIENTS ARE COMING FROM AND GOING TO

### 5.1 Where DSP recipients are coming from

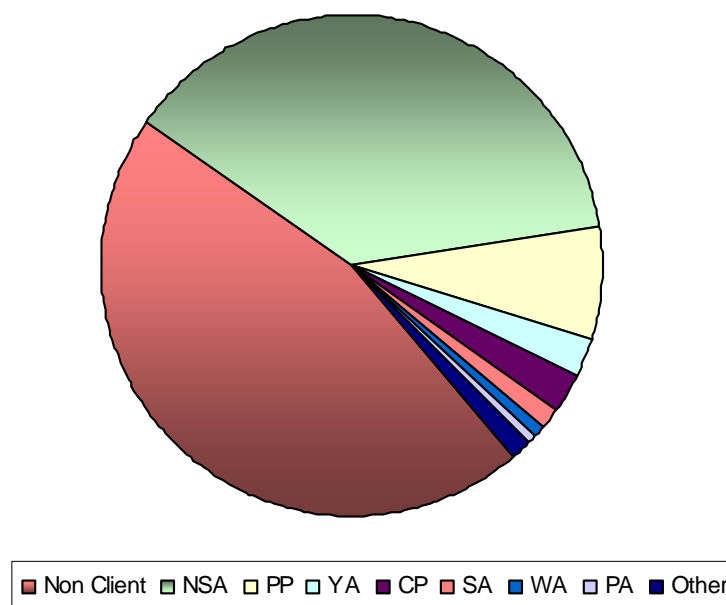
Table 34 details the number and proportion of ‘new entrants’<sup>4</sup> between June 2009 and June 2010 by their previous income support payment.

**Table 34 – New entrants by previous income support type - 2010**

Previous status / income support payment	No.	%
Non Client	38,972	45.8
Newstart Allowance (NSA)	32,065	37.7
Parenting Payments (PP)	6,142	7.2
Youth Allowance (YA)	2,137	2.5
Carer Payment (CP)	2,204	2.6
Sickness Allowance (SA)	1,068	1.3
Widow Allowance (WA)	820	1.0
Partner Allowance (PA)	490	0.6
Other Income Support Payments	1,125	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,023</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 34 shows the proportion of new entrants between June 2009 and June 2010 by their previous income support payment.

**Figure 34 – New entrants by previous income support type - 2010**



There were 85,023 DSP recipients in June 2010 who were not receiving DSP in June 2009. Of these ‘new entrants’, 45.8 percent were not receiving an income support payment in June 2009, while 54.2 percent were in receipt of another income support payment with Newstart Allowance being the most common accounting for 37.7 percent.

The remaining 16.4 percent of ‘new entrants’ to DSP were receiving a range of other payments, including Parenting Payment (Single & Partnered), Youth Allowance, Sickness Allowance and Partner Allowance.

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 2 (page 7)

Table 35 details the number and proportion of ‘new entrants’ for each reporting year by their previous income support type for the reporting years from 2001 to 2010.

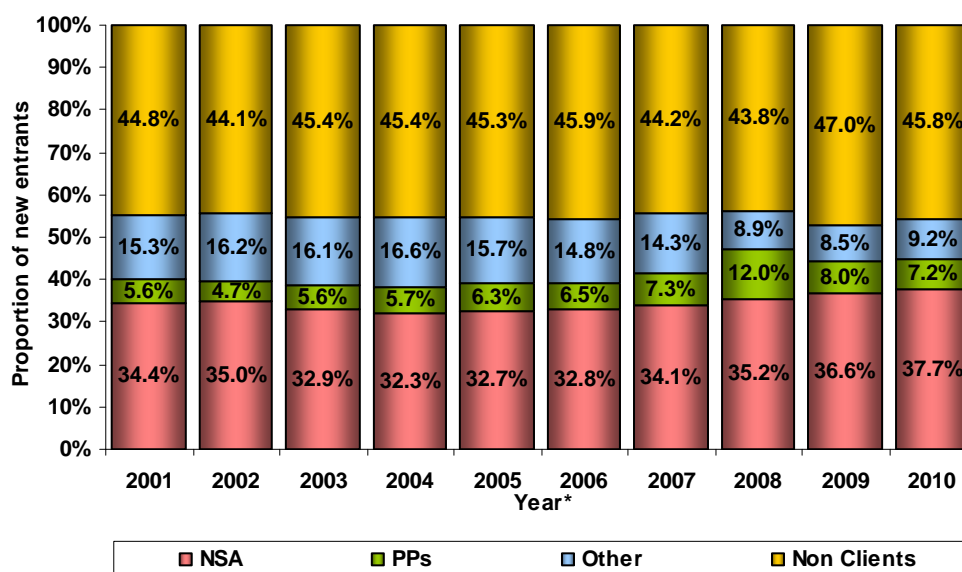
**Table 35 – New entrants by prior income support type –2001 to 2010**

Year*	INCOME SUPPORT TYPE						Total Income Support		Non Client		Total new entrants
	Newstart Allowance		Parenting Payments		Other		No.	%	No.	%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%					
2001	26,543	34.4	4,314	5.6	11,788	15.3	42,645	55.2	34,554	44.8	77,199
2002	27,787	35.0	3,754	4.7	12,839	16.2	44,380	55.9	35,070	44.1	79,450
2003	22,180	32.9	3,745	5.6	10,862	16.1	36,787	54.6	30,622	45.4	67,409
2004	22,739	32.3	4,045	5.7	11,698	16.6	38,482	54.6	32,024	45.4	70,506
2005	21,238	32.7	4,108	6.3	10,198	15.7	35,544	54.7	29,410	45.3	64,954
2006	18,954	32.8	3,751	6.5	8,546	14.8	31,251	54.1	26,547	45.9	57,798
2007	20,839	34.1	4,471	7.3	8,745	14.3	34,055	55.8	27,008	44.2	61,063
2008	24,398	35.2	8,326	12.0	6,172	8.9	38,896	56.2	30,355	43.8	69,251
2009	29,584	36.6	6,453	8.0	6,862	8.5	42,899	53.0	38,010	47.0	80,909
2010	32,065	37.7	6,142	7.2	7,844	9.2	46,051	54.2	38,972	45.8	85,023

\* Denotes year of report – ie clients counted were in receipt of DSP as at June of that year but not June of the year before.

Figure 35 shows the proportion of ‘new entrants’ for each reporting year by their previous income support payment type for the reporting years from 2001 to 2010.

**Figure 35 – New entrants by prior income support type – 2001 to 2010**



\* Denotes year of report – ie clients counted were in receipt of DSP as at June of that year but not June of the year before.

In the 2001 reporting year, the proportion of ‘new entrants’ to DSP whose previous income support payment type was Newstart Allowance was 34.4 percent. That figure fell to 32.3 percent in 2004, and since then has risen to 37.7 percent in 2010.

In the 2008 reporting year, there was a sharp increase in proportion of new entrants whose previous income support payment type was Parenting Payment.

The proportion of ‘new entrants’ who were not in receipt of another income support payment a year before the report date has been reasonably steady at around 45 percent in the reporting years from 2001 to 2010, having risen to 47.0 percent in the 2009 reporting year before falling to the current level of 45.8 percent.

## 5.2 Where DSP recipients are exiting to

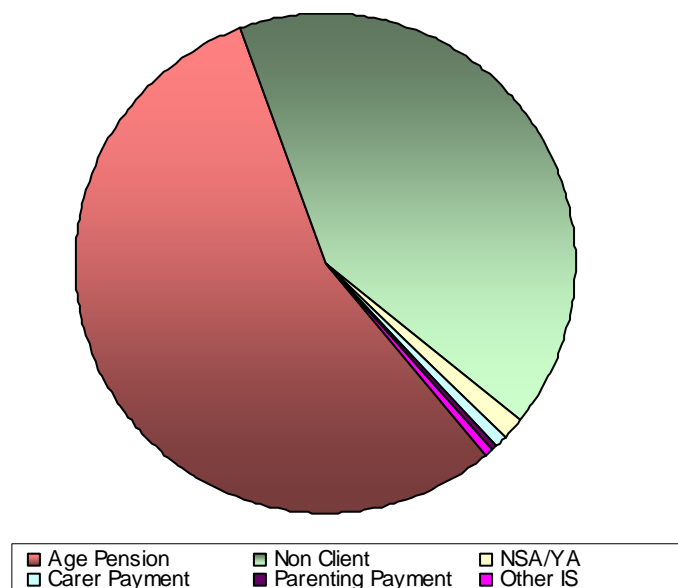
Table 36 details the number and proportion of clients who were DSP recipients as at June 2009 but no longer in receipt as at June 2010 ('exits from DSP') by their subsequent status or income support payment type.

**Table 36 – Exits by subsequent status/income support payment type - 2010**

Subsequent status / income support type	No.	%
Age Pension	27,478	55.4
Non Client	20,580	41.5
Newstart/Youth Allowance	620	1.3
Carer Payment	522	1.1
Parenting Payment	84	0.2
Other Income Support Payments	276	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,560</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 36 shows the proportion of 'exits from DSP' by subsequent status or income support payment type as at June 2010.

**Figure 36 – Exits by subsequent status/income support payment type - 2010**



There were 49,560 clients who were in receipt of DSP as at June 2009 who were no longer receiving that pension in June 2010. Of these, 27,478 (55.4 percent) exited to Age Pension and 20,580 (41.5 percent) were no longer in receipt of income support or were deceased.

Table 37 details the number and proportion of ‘exits from DSP’ by their subsequent status or income support payment type for the reporting years from 2001 to 2010.

**Table 37 – Exits by subsequent income support type –2001 to 2010**

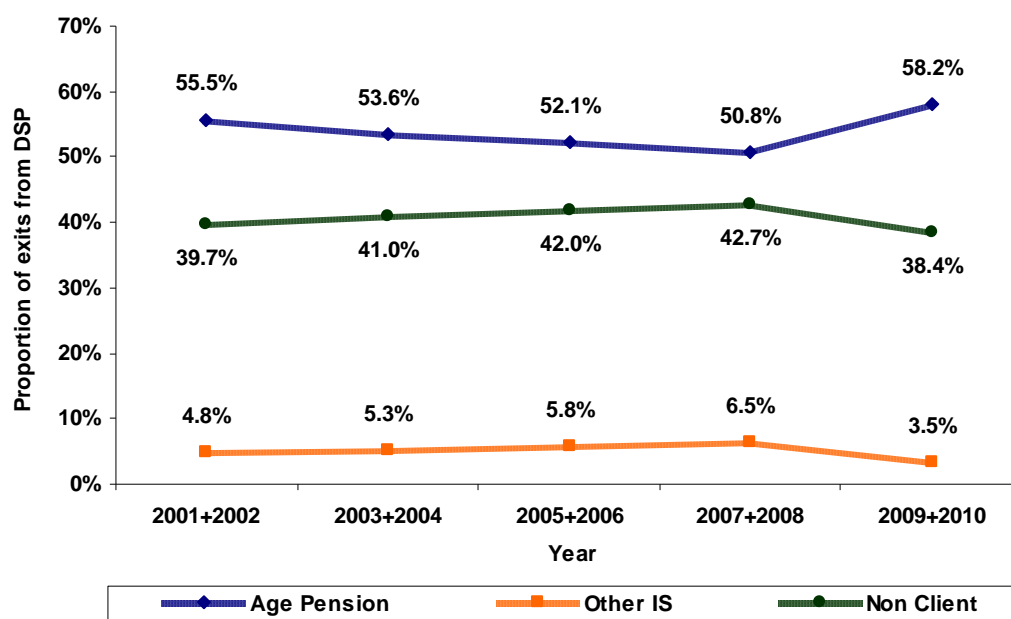
Year*	Income support type				Total Income Support		Non Client (includes deceased)		Total exits
	Age Pension		Other		No.	%	No.	%	
	No.	%	No.	%					
2001	30,028	58.3	2,268	4.4	32,296	62.7	19,211	37.3	51,507
2002	25,315	52.5	2,511	5.2	27,826	57.8	20,354	42.2	48,180
2003	31,146	56.7	2,681	4.9	33,827	61.6	21,112	38.4	54,939
2004	24,246	50.2	2,828	5.9	27,074	56.0	21,260	44.0	48,334
2005	32,521	55.6	2,898	5.0	35,419	60.5	23,085	39.5	58,504
2006	26,224	48.4	3,692	6.8	29,916	55.2	24,245	44.8	54,161
2007	32,160	53.3	3,641	6.0	35,801	59.4	24,494	40.6	60,295
2008	24,431	47.8	3,652	7.1	28,083	54.9	23,047	45.1	51,130
2009	34,018	60.6	2,157	3.8	36,175	64.4	19,983	35.6	56,158
2010	27,478	55.4	1,502	3.0	28,980	58.5	20,580	41.5	49,560

\* Denotes the reporting year – ie the clients counted were not receiving DSP in June of that year but were DSP recipients in June of the previous year.

In the reporting years from 2001 to 2010 there is a fluctuation in the number of recipients exiting to Age Pension with odd numbered years having a higher value and even numbered years a lower value. This pattern coincides with the changing Age Pension qualification age for women, which has been rising by six months every two years.

Figure 37 shows the proportion of ‘exits from DSP’ by the subsequent status or income support type for the reporting years from 2001 to 2010. Reporting years have been paired to eliminate the fluctuation mentioned above.

**Figure 37 – Exits by subsequent income support type - 2001 to 2010**



In the years from 2001 to 2008 the proportion of exits from DSP to Age Pension fell from 55.5 percent to 50.8 percent. In 2009-2010 it increased to 58.2 percent.