

Mature age jobseekers

247,802

ON NEWSTART

Australians aged 45+ yrs were on Newstart in June 2015, an increase of over 93,000 since 2008 ¹

483 days

The average duration that mature age jobseekers spend unemployed compared with 294 days for all jobseekers ³

Mature age jobseekers spend longer unemployed and on income support than younger jobseekers

 **2+ yrs**

5 in 10 mature age Australians registered with Centrelink in June 2015 had been registered for two years or more

 **1+ yrs**

7 in 10 had been registered with Centrelink for a year or more ²

JOB SERVICES

Employment services have an important role in supporting mature age jobseekers
However service delivery needs to take account of their distinct skills sets and experience

WHITE COLLAR SUPPORT GAP



Mature age jobseekers are twice as likely to be managers, professionals, clerical or administrative workers

“ Basically they'd say to me, we've got blue collar jobs here. We have [tonnes] of dishwashers and supermarket packers. We don't have anything for you. ”
Sharon, 50, office manager

AGE AND EXPERIENCE OF FRONTLINE STAFF

- 1 in 4 frontline workers had no post-school qualifications in 2012
- Only 1 in 5 had a degree level qualification ⁵



43%
UNDER 35 YRS



25%
NO TERTIARY EDUCATION

“ With a lot of these agencies, I'm talking about people who are 20 years or 30 years younger than me. I just can't get through to them what it's like, especially when you're in your 50s, because they're so young, they think they've got it all ... ”

Kevin, 51

1. Department of Employment (2015) Labour market interactive portal - Job Services Australia data June 2015 (Newstart population by age group); Department of Social Services (2009) Income support customers: A statistical overview 2008.
2. Department of Employment (2015) Labour market interactive portal - Job Services Australia data June 2015 (Mature age population by duration of registration).
3. Reported in Department of Employment (2015) Improving the employment prospects of mature age job seekers.
4. Source: data on Newstart population extracted from Household Income and Labour Force Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey 2013. Courtesy of Rachel Ong, Curtin University.
5. Considine et al. (2013) Increasing innovation and flexibility in social service delivery: Australian report back to industry partners. School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Melbourne; Considine and Lewis (2010) Frontline work in employment services after ten years of new public management reform. European Journal of Social Security, Volume 12, no. 4, pp.357-70.

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