

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care

DEEWR Question No. EW0865_12

Senator Back asked on 20 October 2011 , Hansard page 110

Question

Child Care Rebate

Senator BACK: Do you have any indicator at all of how many families you believe are eligible to claim but have not done so? How would you arrive at that sort of conclusion? Ms Taylor: Exactly. Ms Paul: How would you know? Senator BACK: I suppose you would have some understanding of the number of families with children of an eligible age. Ms Taylor: We do, and that was the reason for part of the childcare campaign that took place earlier in several stages. One was to make sure that people were aware of their entitlement. The second part of that campaign of course was around the fortnightly payments and making sure people were aware of the option of moving to fortnightly payments. The earlier part of the campaign was to make sure that people were aware. It was a fairly comprehensive campaign. It is a bit early to say whether that has produced the rise that we would expect. I recall that around that time it was thought that up to 100,000 families may not be claiming, but I will have to take on notice as to what that is based on.

Answer

It is estimated that, at any point in time, up to 100,000 families currently using approved child care may not be claiming or are in the process of testing their eligibility for Child Care Benefit (CCB) and/or Child Care Rebate (CCR). This is based on informal enrolment information contained in the Child Care Management System.