

1. Did the department undertake data mapping and analysis to determine the income levels and geographic dispersion of those who would be affected by the Bill?

No. The Department did not have access to sufficient data which would have allowed meaningful analysis to be undertaken. Currently, we can only identify whether one, two and five year old children have not met the existing immunisation requirement. Under current rules children with vaccination objections are considered to meet this requirement and cannot be identified within the data.

2. Please provide to the committee data on the income levels and geographic dispersion of those who would be affected by the Bill, broken down by those who may lose child care payments and those who may lose the FTB-A supplement. If possible, please provide the geographic dispersion broken down by SEIFA.

Currently, Family Assistance data only allows the Department to identify those children who do not meet the existing immunisation requirement which applies in years a child turns one, two and five. Income level data for this group has been provided to the committee in response to another question on notice. Geographic analysis had not been previously undertaken for this sub-group and could not be completed and provided to the committee in the time available. Updates are being made to the relevant computer systems and data links to allow FTB Part A children of all ages who will not meet the new immunisation requirement to be identified at the end of the entitlement year in which the policy commences. Consequently, as the Department could not identify the specific individuals who would be affected by the Bill but are not affected by the existing immunisation requirement it was not possible to examine their geographical locations or incomes.

In 2014 the National Health Performance Authority published a report entitled "Immunisation rates for children in 2012-13" which includes geographic information about immunisation rates for Australian children -

<http://www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications/redirecttoreport?reportCode=hc09>.