

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 1

**Question No:** 96

**Topic:** Paid Parental Leave

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Cash** asked:

Does the Department have any details as to how many of the parents who take PPL are taking home less than they would have, were they working?

**Answer:**

Paid Parental Leave (PPL) is paid at the rate of the National Minimum Wage (NMW). The NMW equivalent for one year is currently around \$30,644.

At 30 December 2011, of the 104,737 recipients of Parental Leave Pay, 71.5 per cent had a yearly total Adjusted Taxable Income (ATI) of more than the NMW equivalent in the financial year before the baby was born.

For the purposes of Family Assistance, an individual's Adjusted Taxable Income (ATI) for the tax year is the sum of the individual's taxable income, the value of any adjusted fringe benefits, target foreign income (including tax exempt foreign employment income), total net investment loss, tax free pension or benefit, and reportable superannuation contributions minus the individual's child maintenance expenditure.