

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments**

**Question No: SQ16-000247**

**Topic: Income Support**

**Hansard page: 78**

**Senator Claire Moore** asked:

With income support, can you provide any information on the annual income of these people? Can you outline how much these people are likely to be worse off as a result of the measure and by what average?

**Answer:**

There were 2,468 people receiving Parental Leave Pay (PLP) at 30 June 2015 who were also receiving an income support payment.

The number and income breakdown of these PLP recipients are in the table below.

It is not possible to separately identify average losses for recipients of PLP who are also in receipt of an income support payment. The MYEFO measure, *Parental Leave Pay – revised arrangements*, reduces the amount of PLP an individual is eligible for if they have access to employer provided paid parental leave. It is unlikely that PLP recipients who are also in receipt of income support will have access to employer provided Paid Parental Leave (PPL) since the income from the employer provided PPL would, in most cases, exclude them from receipt of income support. This group are therefore more likely to be in the 90,000 unaffected group and to experience no loss from the measure.

The table shows the breakdown of annual income for this group. The income measure, Adjusted Taxable Income (ATI), is the measure used to determine eligibility for PLP and is provided by the customer during the claim process. The customer's ATI includes taxable income such as wages, income from a business and any taxable pensions or benefits such as Parenting Payment and Newstart Allowance. An individual's ATI may also include additional components such as foreign income, reportable fringe benefits and superannuation income streams. Eligibility for PLP is based on the ATI of the individual in the year prior to the PLP claim or the birth of the child and will include income support received in that year but not the income support in the current year since the PLP income test is based on a previous year's income.

<b>Adjusted Taxable Income Range</b>	<b>Customers</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
\$0 - \$10,000	152	6%
\$10,001 - \$20,000	411	17%
\$20,001 - \$30,000	557	23%
\$30,001 - \$40,000	551	22%
\$40,001 - \$50,000	391	16%
\$50,001 - \$60,000	200	8%
\$60,001 - \$70,000	104	4%
\$70,001 - \$80,000	58	2%
\$80,001 and over	44	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2468</b>	<b>100%</b>