

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 5

**Question No:** 375

**Topic:** Early Intervention Services for Children with Disability

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Fifield** asked:

What was the Department's forecast registration and application numbers in 2010-2011, and 2011-2012?

**Answer:**

Forecast registration numbers for Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) for 2010-2011 were not published. The Department used the expert advised prevalence rate of 1:160 births to forecast expenditure. In 2010-2011, there were 5,364 registrations.

Better Start was implemented in July 2011.

The Department's forecast for the number of children with disability, including children with Autism, likely to be receiving support services in 2011-2012 was 12,400 (The Department's Portfolio Budget Statement 2011-2012).