

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: 380

Topic: Early Intervention Services for Children with Disability

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Fifield asked:

Please provide numbers for:

- a) Total Better Start registrations since the program commenced.
- b) Total services provided through the related Medicare items so far in 2011-2012

Answer:

- a) As at 31 May 2012, 4,290 children have registered for Better Start since the program commenced in July 2011.
- b) Total uptake of Medicare Services from 1 July 2011 – 31 May 2012 is 179,088.

This figure is for both Helping Children with Autism and Better Start clients as Medicare does not separate the two initiatives. This data is available from the Medicare Website:

https://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/statistics/mbs_item.shtml