

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 221

Topic: Baby Bonus

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

How many parents have claimed the baby bonus in the financial year 2012-2013? How many parents are projected to claim the baby bonus over the period 1 July 2013 - 28 February 2014? How many parents are projected to claim the baby bonus post 1 March 2014 - 30 June 2014 and for the next 4 quarterly intervals up until 1 July 2015?

Answer:

In the 2012-13 financial year to 31 May 2013, 144,778 families have received Baby Bonus.

It is estimated that 106,653 families will receive Baby Bonus in 2013-14 financial year.

From 1 March 2014, Baby Bonus will be replaced by a loading on Family Tax Benefit Part A payments when eligible families have a new baby. For children born before 1 March 2014, parents continue to have up to 12 months from the date of birth of their child to claim Baby Bonus. The Department will closely monitor the number of Baby Bonus claimants close to 1 March 2014 and in the 12 months period after that date.

The Baby Bonus administration data shows that number of Baby Bonus recipients across the four quarters in the financial year is quite stable, with a slight higher percentage in the end-of-financial-year quarter. In 2011-12, the proportion of Baby Bonus recipients across the four quarters is: 23 per cent (July – September), 24 per cent (October – December), 24 per cent (January- March) and 29 per cent (April – June).