

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: 222

Topic: Baby Bonus

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

How many parents have claimed the Parental Leave Pay in the financial year 2012-2013? What is the average take up rate? How many parents are projected to claim the Parental Leave Pay over the period 1 July 2013 - 28 February 2014? What is the projected average take up rate? How many parents are projected to claim the Parental Leave Pay post 1 March 2014 - 30 June 2014 and for the next 4 quarterly intervals up until 1 July 2015? What is the projected average take-up rate?

Answer:

The number of Parental Leave Pay recipients who started receiving payment in the 2012-13 financial year to 31 May 2013 is 122,492.

For children born or adopted before 1 March 2014, it is expected that over 85 per cent of families eligible for Parental Leave Pay will take up the payment. This is because around 15 per cent of families eligible for both Parental Leave Pay and Baby Bonus are expected to choose Baby Bonus.

For children born or adopted from 1 March 2014, it is estimated that all families eligible for Parental Leave Pay will take up the payment.

It is estimated that 140,277 families will receive Parental Leave Pay in the 2013-14 financial year and 155,267 families in the 2014-15 financial year.

The administration data does not show much difference in the number of Parental Leave Pay recipients across the four quarters in the financial year. In 2011-12, the proportion of Parental Leave Pay recipients across the four quarters is: 25 per cent (July – September), 24 per cent (October – December), 27 per cent (January- March) and 24 per cent (April – June).