

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

Outcome Number: 2.2 Paid Parental Leave

Question No: SQ15-000809

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Hansard page: CA46, 4 June 2015

Senator Moore, Claire asked:

Can the Department provide the Committee with a summary of key PPL data including the impact on families with regard to the PPL budget measure?

Answer:

Each year there are around 308,000 babies born in Australia to around 304,000 mothers. Around 47 per cent of new mothers are eligible for Paid Parental Leave (PPL). To be eligible for PPL, an individual has to meet a work test (worked at least 330 hours in 10 of the 13 months prior to the birth), a residency test and an income test with an individual income limit of \$150,000 per annum. In 2013-14, 144,966 families started receiving PPL payments.

Around 47 per cent of PPL-eligible mothers (around 79,000) are estimated to have access to employer-provided paid maternity leave.

- Of these mothers, around 20 per cent (or 34,000) have access to employer-provided paid maternity leave valued greater than the full PPL entitlement (18 weeks at national minimum wage). Around 61 per cent work in the public sector and 39 per cent work in the private sector, and their median income is around \$73,011 per year.
- Of these mothers, around 27 per cent (or 45,000) have access to employer-provided paid maternity leave valued less than the full PPL entitlement (18 weeks at national minimum wage). Around 38 per cent work in the public sector and 62 per cent work in the private sector, and their median income is around \$43,000 per year.
- The remaining 53 per cent (or 90,000) do not have access to employer-provided paid maternity leave and will not be affected by the Budget measure. Around 8 per cent work in the public sector and 92 per cent work in the private sector, and their median income is around \$39,000 per year.