

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

**Outcome Number: 2.4 Support for Child Care System      Question No: SQ15-000459**

**Topic: Increased workforce participation - research**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Lines, Sue** asked:

With reference to the Minister's media release of 10 May 2015, which states:

“Quantitative Research undertaken for the Department of Social Services to investigate potential impacts on workforce participation found that 24% of families with children under twelve, both in work and out of work, indicated they would be encouraged to work more as a result of these measures.”

- 1 - Can the Department provide a copy of that research?
- 2 - Can the Department outline the findings of this research?
- 3 - Who did it?
- 4 - What methodology did they use?
- 5 - When did they do it?
- 6 - How much did they get paid? Which contract did this relate to?
- 7 - What parameters/guidelines did the Department set for this research?
- 8 - What was the sample size? How were participants selected? What was the gender breakdown? Please provide a detailed breakdown of the population surveyed in this research including: individual and household income, number of weekly hours worked by each parent, age, number of children, age of children, type of care being used, amount of CCB/CCR/other currently received?
- 9 - How many of them were from single-income households?
- 10 - What question(s) were they asked? What were the raw results of the questions they were asked?
- 11 - What information were respondents provided as to how the child care reforms and other changes to family payments in the Budget would impact on their individual circumstances?
- 12 - How many of the respondents would be worse off under in their current circumstances under the Government's proposed changes?
- 13 - Were these parents also informed of the impact on their household budget as a result of the proposed FTB cuts? If not, why not?
- 14 - Did the research company extrapolate the data they collected into a national figure, i.e. the 240,000 figure? Or did the Department do this based on the research results? Who did this?
- 15 - Did the Department ask the research company whether it was statistically reliable to extrapolate their data as a national figure? If not, why not?
- 16 - Whose decision was it to extrapolate the research data as national figures?
- 17 - What specific questions were respondents asked that led the Government to conclude the respondents said they would be “encouraged to increase their involvement in paid work”?
- 18 - How many of the respondents in the research fell within the category of “jobless families where no-one is in work who would be encouraged to work”? Please provide percentage as well as raw number.
- 19 - Is this a statistically significant population to extrapolate to a national figure?
- 20 - Which census data set specifically did the Government use to make these calculations?

**Answer:**

1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. The research and its results are not publicly available as they continue to be used by Government as part of its policy deliberations, including to refine thinking on future policy for child care and early learning.

3. ORIMA Research Pty Ltd.

5. The contract period was 25 March 2015 to 1 May 2015.

6. The contract value was \$182,160.

8. The sample size was around 2,000 participants. Other information requested within this question is in relation to research and its results that are being and will continue to be used by Government as part of its policy deliberations.

19. The survey sample size provided a valid sample for extrapolation.

20. The 2011 ABS census data.