

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 18 OCTOBER 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Family Tax Benefit

Question reference number: HS 132

Senator: Back

Type of question: Written question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 7 December 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) How many recipients were there of Family Tax Benefit in 2011-12? Please break this down in Family Tax Benefit A and B. Please break this down by state and territory.
- b) What was the total expenditure on Family Tax Benefit A and B in 2011-12 on a state and territory basis?
- c) How much was the Family Tax Benefit as a percentage of the total Centrelink budget?

Answer:

- a) Recipients of Family Tax Benefit Part A (as at 29 June 2012):

	FTB A Recipients
Australian Capital Territory	17,399
New South Wales	511,720
Northern Territory	18,765
Queensland	347,347
South Australia	127,325
Tasmania	44,387
Victoria	401,027
Western Australia	147,359
Unknown	241
Total	1,615,570

Recipients of Family Tax Benefit Part B (as at 29 June 2012):

	FTB B Recipients
Australian Capital Territory	15,541
New South Wales	430,346
Northern Territory	16,749
Queensland	291,404
South Australia	101,082
Tasmania	35,394
Victoria	330,364
Western Australia	134,670
Unknown	22
Total	1,355,572

Notes – FTB A & FTB B

- Family Tax Benefit instalment data is point in time only and the population will be subject to change once the annual reconciliation process occurs. The data should not be considered as the full Family Tax Benefit population, as it does not include customers claiming a lump sum. Customers have two financial years following the end of an entitlement year in which to lodge a lump sum claim. As such, post reconciliation figures for the 2011-12 financial year are not able to be provided until after two years.
- Family Tax Benefit entitlement is dependent on the family's income for the relevant financial year. Reconciliation is done upon the lodgement of the family's tax return to determine eligibility and payment entitlement.

b) The total value of payments made by the Department of Human Services for Family Tax Benefit Part A in 2011-12 was \$13.81 billion and for Family Tax Benefit Part B was \$4.53 billion. Payment data is not readily held in a format that enables a state and territory breakup. To compile this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

c) Family Tax Benefit Part A allowance represents 13.88 per cent and Family Tax Benefit Part B allowance represents 4.55 per cent payments made by the Department of Human Services from and on behalf of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education, the Attorney-General's Department, the Department of Infrastructure and Transport, the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in regard to the Centrelink Master Program as detailed in the Human Services Portfolio Budget Statements 2012-13 (Budget Related Paper No. 1.11 page 17).