

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 OCTOBER 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Rates of Debt Recovery

Question reference number: HS 155

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 December 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) Provide the numbers and percentages of recipients on standard and non-standard rates of debt recovery for 2013-14.
- b) Provide a breakdown by the numbers of Indigenous/non-Indigenous income support recipients.

Answer:

- a) and b) This information can only be provided at a point in time as customers may move between standard and non-standard withholdings depending on their financial circumstances. The latest available data is as at 31 July 2014.

The total number (and percentage) of recipients on standard and non-standard rates of debt recovery by Indigenous/non-Indigenous customer status, as at 31 July 2014, is provided in the table below.

Withholding type	For Indigenous customers	% For Indigenous customers	For Non-Indigenous customer	% For Non-Indigenous customer	Total	Total %
Standard	13,771	42.40%	121,199	41.63%	134,970	41.71%
Non-standard	18,704	57.60%	169,919	58.37%	188,623	58.29%
Total	32,475	100.00%	291,118	100.00%	323,593	100.00%