

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000406

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: MBS Rebates

Type of Question: Hansard Page 41, 19 October 2016

Senator: Reynolds, Linda

Question:

Senator REYNOLDS: I know you keep longitudinal data based on the same datasets, so if you are able to break it down by GPs, by specialisation, I think that would be very instructive for the committee.

Answer:

In order to gain a consistent picture over time, the GP workforce has been divided based on the total number of days worked each year. An individual who worked full time five days a week for 48 weeks each year would work on average 240 days. In reality individual work patterns are much more varied and include both full-day and part-day combinations of work. The group “211 to 280 day” is the nearest equivalent to full-time and has two subcategories – 211 to 240 days and 241 to 280 days.

Full-time GP Average MBS billing, 2011-12 to 2015-16

Financial Year	Full time		Full time 211 to 280 days
	211 to 240 days	241 to 280 days	
2011-12	\$272,929	\$349,462	\$312,000
2012-13	\$283,322	\$364,862	\$323,450
2013-14	\$292,372	\$369,903	\$329,621
2014-15	\$294,292	\$376,229	\$333,544
2015-16	\$298,814	\$381,036	\$338,524

Note: income is based on Medicare benefits only