

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 – 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000721

OUTCOME: 4 – Individual Health Benefits

Topic: CDBS

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

Over the most recent two year period for which data is available (e.g. to the end of the September 2016 quarter), how many children received:

- a) Between \$900 and \$1000 in CDBS services
- b) Between \$800 and \$900 in CDBS services
- c) Between \$700 and \$800 in CDBS services; and
- d) Between \$600 and \$700 in CDBS services

Please provide this data in raw numbers and as a percentage of total CDBS recipients

Answer:

Benefits amount (2015-16 Cap Period)*	Number of children	Percentage of utilising children	Percentage of eligible children^
\$600-\$699	35,509	6.3%	1.2%
\$700-\$799	29,938	5.3%	1.0%
\$800-\$899	25,844	4.6%	0.8%
\$900-\$1,000	73,650	13.0%	2.4%

* Based on claims processed between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2016

^Based on the number of children notified of their eligibility in 2015.

Notes

The 2015-16 cap period is the second complete two year cap period under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS). The 2015-16 cap period only includes children who commenced their cap period in 2015. A cap period commences from the calendar year in which a patient first receives an eligible dental service, not when the patient first becomes eligible for the CDBS. Benefits under the CDBS are capped at \$1,000 over two consecutive calendar years.

A child's eligibility for the CDBS is determined each calendar year. The figure used to calculate the percentage of eligible children is based on the number of children who were advised of their eligibility for the CDBS in 2015. As well as children who commenced their two year cap period in 2015, it includes eligible children who commenced their two year cap period the previous year. Additionally, some of these children would not have been eligible in 2016 (because they had turned 18 or no longer met the means test).