

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Additional Estimates Hearings March 2015**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 72**

**Program 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: Page 20, 19/03/2015**

**Topic: Greenfields demographic**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

**Mr Mason:** It is true that we have not done detailed research, but we do have an idea about the demographics of people who buy properties. But I guess the point is the charges apply to new developments. The extent to which they are passed through is dependent on a whole range of factors as well, including competition between developers. If the charges are applied generically across new developments, they will inevitably flow through—to the extent the developers allow for them to flow through—to whomever the home buyers are.

**Senator URQUHART:** Which are mainly young families, which I what I understood you to say?

**Mr Mason:** They include young families.

**Senator URQUHART:** You have not done any research, but you have looked at it. Would the majority of those people who buy in those places be young families?

**Mr Mason:** I would have to take the exact percentage on notice.

**Answer:**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics' Survey of Income and Housing provides data on home buyers, including first time and change-over buyers of new homes (as opposed to established homes). The most recent survey results are for 2011-12 and were published in the ABS report *Housing Occupancy and Costs 2011-12* (4130.0).

The report indicates that 43 per cent of new home buyers were households with dependent children.