

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0105\_15**

**Senator Lines provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Child Care Rebate**

1a. What modelling has the department undertaken to determine the impact on families of the freezing of the Child Care Rebate cap? b. How many families and how many children will be impacted by the freezing of the cap? c. Was this information provided to government prior to the decision being made? 2. How many families choose to get their Child Care Rebate paid fortnightly, monthly & yearly and how does this compare to previous years? 3. How many families choose to have their Child Care Rebate paid directly to their service provider? How does this compare to previous years?

**Answer**

1a. The department has not modelled the effect of the 2013-14 Child Care Rebate Budget measure on individual families as the impact will depend on their individual circumstances, taking into account family income, type of care, hours of care used and number of children in care.

1b. It is estimated that 74,400 families and 109,000 children will be affected by this measure in 2014-15.

1c. The department does not comment on advice to Government.

2. & 3. As indicated in the table below, the number of families choosing the Child Care Rebate fortnightly payment option direct to their service has increased over the last three financial years.

*Table: Child Care Rebate payment methods for the 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 financial years*

	Number of Families					
	2011-12	%	2012-13	%	2013-14**	%
CCR Fortnightly payments direct to services	185,100	23	280,074	33	383,672	43
CCR Fortnightly payments direct to families	102,327	12	123,474	15	138,604	16
CCR Quarterly Payments	480,028	59	391,655	47	329,905	38
CCR Annual Payments	47,961	6	38,602*	5	26,814*	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>815,416</b>		<b>833,805</b>		<b>852,181</b>	

Source: Department of Human Services

\*CCR Annual Payment figures for 2012-13 are likely to increase as families have up to two years after the year in which the care was provided to claim the CCR.

\*\*The number of families that have been paid CCR in 2013-14 is year-to-date figures as at 8 June 2014.