

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2013-14 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 5

**Question No:** 324

**Topic:** Income Support for Carers

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Moore** asked:

Can you please provide the percentage and number of primary carers who are receiving payment?

o Can you confirm whether the department has done any work on possible mechanisms for reducing the future costs associated with this payment?

o Has the department done any work relating to possible changes to any aspect of the current settings for the Carer Allowance?

**Answer:**

As at September 2013 there were 571,730 (74.3 per cent) primary carers who were receiving Carer Allowance.

The Department, as part of its ongoing business practice, monitors and reviews a range of factors in relation to income support payments including costs and policy settings.