

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2016 - 2017

Division/Agency: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Question No: 45

Topic: 2016 Census – Completion statistics

Reference: Written

Senator: Ketter, Chris

Question:

- 1) Does the ABS have up-to-date or latest figures on the completion rate of the Census?
- 2) When will final response rates be known?
- 3) How does this compare to previous Census years?

Answer:

1. On 12 October 2016 the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) announced that the preliminary response rate for the Census is over 96 per cent.
2. The ABS will release final dwelling response rates on 11 April 2017.
3. The release of final dwelling response rates on 11 April 2017 is over two months earlier than in previous Censuses. With the traditional 2011 Census model a preliminary response rate was not available and thus a direct comparison cannot be made. The final response rate in 2006 was 95.8% and in 2011 was 96.5%.