

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000943

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Numbers of children assisted through programs

Question

What are the most up to date numbers of children assisted through the following programs, and what is the projected take-up:

- a) JETCCFA
- b) Special child care benefit
- c) Inclusion Support Subsidy
- d) Children attending a Budget Based Funded Programme

Answer

- a. During 2013–2014 there were 38,680 children from 25,340 families using Jobs, Education and Training Child Care Fee Assistance (JETCCFA). It is estimated that 35,500 children from 23,400 families will have used JETCCFA during 2014–15.
- b. During 2013–14 30,780 children received Special Child Care Benefit. Due to the nature of the programme and, as there is no separate appropriation for Special Child Care Benefit, the Department of Education and Training does not separately project the uptake.
- c. In 2014–15 the number of children supported via the Inclusion Support Subsidy was 12,346. The department expects the number of children supported via the Inclusion Support Subsidy during 2015–16 will be consistent with the number supported in 2014–15.
- d. The total number of individual children attending Budget Based Funded (BBF) programme services in a typical fortnight in 2014–15 was 19,197. The department expects approximately this number of children will continue to attend BBF services in 2015–16 and 2016–17. (Note: BBF services are only required to advise the department of service usage for one typical fortnight in each financial year.)