

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

**Question: AET 146 - 147**

**Topic: Superannuation Co-contribution**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator BROWN asked:**

146. What information does Treasury have about the people benefiting from the superannuation co-contribution?
147. Are most truly from low income households or are many the partners or children of high income earners?

**Answer:**

146. Treasury has access to:
- a confidentialised historical data set from the ATO on 2007-08 superannuation co-contribution beneficiaries;
  - a confidentialised sample data set of 2009-10 co-contribution beneficiaries;
  - information published in Taxation Statistics 2008-09 [http://www.ato.gov.au/corporate/content.aspx?menuid=0&doc=/content/00268761.htm&page=49#P2368\\_123530](http://www.ato.gov.au/corporate/content.aspx?menuid=0&doc=/content/00268761.htm&page=49#P2368_123530); and
  - information on the number and distribution of co-contribution beneficiaries as published in the Report from the Commissioner of Taxation: Super co-contributions reports for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 <http://www.ato.gov.au/corporate/content.aspx?menuid=0&doc=/content/00275456.htm&page=5&H5> .

Relevant tables from the report are copied below:

<b>Total number of beneficiaries of super co-contribution entitlements made during the financial year</b> (paragraph 21A(2)(a) of the regulations)	<b>1,505,856</b>
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2008-09	1,269,918
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2007-08	201,349
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2006-07 and earlier years	34,589
<b>Total amount of super co-contribution entitlements made during the financial year</b> (paragraph 21A(2)(b) of the regulations)	<b>\$1,348,799,000</b>
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2008-09	\$1,114,205,000
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2007-08	\$200,544,000
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2006-07 and earlier years	\$34,050,000
<b>Total of super co-contribution amounts recovered during the financial year</b> (paragraph 21A(2)(c) of the regulations)	<b>\$22,329,000</b>

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**Number of beneficiaries of a super co-contribution within each of the following prescribed total income ranges - subregulation 21A(3)**

Total Income Range	No of Beneficiaries for 2007 and earlier years of entitlement	No of Beneficiaries for 2008 year of entitlement	No of Beneficiaries for 2009 year of entitlement
Less than \$0		7,348	13,976
\$0 to \$999	124	1,409	4,274
\$1,000 to \$1,999	188	1,321	4,630
\$2,000 to \$2,999	157	1,408	5,060
\$3,000 to \$3,999	162	1,424	6,003
\$4,000 to \$4,999	191	1,643	7,003
\$5,000 to \$5,999	255	1,852	8,013
\$6,000 to \$6,999	276	1,863	8,209
\$7,000 to \$7,999	266	1,811	8,569
\$8,000 to \$8,999	245	1,768	9,266
\$9,000 to \$9,999	283	1,832	9,892
\$10,000 to \$10,999	360	2,164	10,922
\$11,000 to \$11,999	319	3,318	11,589
\$12,000 to \$12,999	337	2,937	12,621
\$13,000 to \$13,999	313	2,741	13,863
\$14,000 to \$14,999	386	3,232	15,234
\$15,000 to \$15,999	386	3,230	15,895
\$16,000 to \$16,999	438	2,994	16,156
\$17,000 to \$17,999	381	3,077	17,438
\$18,000 to \$18,999	425	3,200	17,609
\$19,000 to \$19,999	431	3,137	17,896
\$20,000 to \$20,999	510	3,385	19,180
\$21,000 to \$21,999	532	3,235	18,942
\$22,000 to \$22,999	521	3,326	19,551
\$23,000 to \$23,999	511	3,519	20,296
\$24,000 to \$24,999	549	3,556	20,630
\$25,000 to \$25,999	653	3,744	21,892
\$26,000 to \$26,999	613	3,773	22,498
\$27,000 to \$27,999	572	3,749	22,535
\$28,000 to \$28,999	618	3,937	23,404
\$29,000 to \$29,999	641	4,367	24,422
\$30,000 to \$30,999	709	5,086	26,022
\$31,000 to \$31,999	704	4,198	25,688
\$32,000 to \$32,999	718	4,090	26,891
\$33,000 to \$33,999	759	4,158	28,052
\$34,000 to \$34,999	763	4,048	30,686
\$35,000 to \$35,999	784	4,160	29,408
\$36,000 to \$36,999	830	4,024	29,282
\$37,000 to \$37,999	765	3,949	29,477

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\$38,000 to \$38,999	813	3,963	29,337
\$39,000 to \$39,999	820	4,117	30,016
\$40,000 to \$40,999	842	4,141	30,204
\$41,000 to \$41,999	858	3,895	29,640
\$42,000 to \$42,999	900	3,934	28,976
\$43,000 to \$43,999	871	3,968	28,864
\$44,000 to \$44,999	789	3,873	28,962
\$45,000 to \$45,999	820	3,934	28,974
\$46,000 to \$46,999	941	3,837	28,546
\$47,000 to \$47,999	807	3,777	27,796
\$48,000 to \$48,999	883	3,708	27,772
\$49,000 to \$49,999	869	3,771	27,160
\$50,000 to \$50,999	859	3,873	27,488
\$51,000 to \$51,999	870	3,553	26,448
\$52,000 to \$52,999	871	3,545	26,705
\$53,000 to \$53,999	822	3,378	25,753
\$54,000 to \$54,999	824	3,405	24,200
\$55,000 to \$55,999	851	3,314	24,330
\$56,000 to \$56,999	771	3,150	23,570
\$57,000 to \$57,999	833	3,163	22,606
\$58,000 to \$58,999		3,037	21,595
\$59,000 to \$59,999			20,630
\$60,000 to \$60,999			7,372
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,589</b>	<b>201,349</b>	<b>1,269,918</b>

The superannuation co-contribution is only received by low income earners who make a post-tax voluntary contribution. As most low income earners don't have the resources to put extra money into superannuation, only around 20 per cent of the individuals eligible to receive the co-contribution make the voluntary contributions needed to receive it.

The Government's new Low Income Superannuation Contribution (LISC) is more broadly targeted at low income earners who do not get superannuation tax concessions, as it applies to superannuation guarantee and other pre-tax contributions for contributors with marginal tax rates below 32.5%. Treasury estimates that around 3.6 million low income earners with income up to \$37,000 will benefit from the LISC in 2012-13.

147. Treasury does not have any information on parental income or household income of co-contribution beneficiaries.

The Report from the Commissioner of Taxation includes information on the number of co-contribution beneficiaries with a spouse and a distribution of taxable income of the spouse. The report can be accessed using the second link in the answer to question 146 above.

Relevant tables from the report are copied below:

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Taxable Income Range	No of spouses of 2007 and earlier years beneficiaries	No of spouses of 2008 beneficiaries	No of spouses of 2009 beneficiaries
Less than \$0	37	182	6,209
\$0 to \$4,999	882	11,943	38,210
\$5,000 to \$9,999	591	5,859	26,933
\$10,000 to \$14,999	662	9,527	34,852
\$15,000 to \$19,999	686	8,691	36,854
\$20,000 to \$24,999	797	9,095	38,050
\$25,000 to \$29,999	845	10,107	42,210
\$30,000 to \$34,999	793	9,427	47,877
\$35,000 to \$39,999	759	7,596	43,818
\$40,000 to \$44,999	651	6,433	39,970
\$45,000 to \$49,999	659	5,730	37,102
\$50,000 to \$54,999	595	4,854	33,595
\$55,000 to \$59,999	528	4,059	29,335
\$60,000 to \$64,999	475	3,484	25,451
\$65,000 to \$69,999	445	2,862	22,841
\$70,000 to \$74,999	348	2,682	19,650
\$75,000 to \$79,999	265	2,101	17,187
\$80,000 to \$84,999	223	1,546	13,128
\$85,000 to \$89,999	174	1,333	10,722
\$90,000 to \$94,999	129	1,051	8,445
\$95,000 to \$99,999	126	897	6,848
\$100,000 and above	909	7,651	44,390
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,579</b>	<b>117,110</b>	<b>623,677</b>

<b>Total number of beneficiaries of super co-contributions who the Commissioner was not satisfied had a spouse at the end of the financial year</b> (paragraph 54(2)(e) of the Act)	<b>710,599</b>
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2008-09	608,053
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2007-08	81,053
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2006-07 and earlier years	21,493
<b>The total number of spouses of super co-contribution beneficiaries whose taxable income was not able to be determined by the Commissioner</b> (paragraph 54(2)(f) of the Act)	<b>42,891</b>
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2008-09	38,188
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2007-08	3,186
Beneficiaries in relation to the financial year 2006-07 and earlier years	1,517