

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates 3-5 June 2008

Question: bet 13

Topic: Private Health Insurance – Breakdown of Age

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cormann asked:

1. What is the breakdown by age of the 186,000 singles who according to Treasury modelling are expected to leave private health insurance as a result of the increase in Medicare Levy Surcharge thresholds?
2. What is the breakdown by age of the 149,000 couples who according to Treasury modelling are expected to leave private health insurance as a result of the increase in Medicare Levy Surcharge thresholds?

Answer:

1. It is estimated that around 186,000 singles will drop their private health insurance cover as a result of this policy. The distribution of people by age group is as follows: Around 175,000 singles aged under 65, around 3,500 singles aged 65 to 69 and around 7,500 singles aged 70 and above.
2. It is estimated that around 149,000 couples will drop their private health insurance cover as a result of this policy. The distribution of people by age group is as follows: Around 126,000 couples aged under 65, around 10,500 couples aged 65 to 69 and around 12,500 couples aged 70 and above.