

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency *Australian Fair Pay Commission Secretariat*

DEEWR Question No. EW0045_10

Senator Siewart asked on 17 June 2009, in writing.

Question

Does the Commission use the Henderson Poverty Line estimates for housing costs rather than the ABS Year Book figures?

Answer

The Commission does not use or endorse any specific estimates of housing costs. The Secretariat provides the Commission with modelled estimates of disposable incomes for a set of low-wage households, who are assumed to be paying private rents that are sufficient to attract the maximum amount of rent assistance. As at June 2009, these rents are as follows:

Household type	Rent at which maximum rate of Rent Assistance is payable (\$ per fortnight)
Single, no children	247.07
Single, no children, sharer	197.64
Couple, no children	300.73
Single, one or two children	304.03
Single, three or more children	326.81
Couple, one or two children	366.47
Couple, three or more children	389.25