

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0636\_11**

**Senator Nash asked on 21/10/2010, Hansard page 27.**

**Question**

**HOW MANY CHILDREN ARE ASSISTED THROUGH INCLUSION SUPPORT  
SUBSIDY FUNDING? HOW MANY OF THESE CHILDREN ARE REFUGEES AND  
HOW MANY HAVE A DISABILITY?**

Senator NASH—How many children has that inclusion support subsidy assisted in the last financial year? Ms Shannon—The inclusion support subsidy assists childcare services to enhance their capacity to include children with high ongoing support needs. The two primary target groups for the program are children with a disability and children from a humanitarian refugee background. Senator NASH—How many children in the centres would be assisted by that funding? Mr Johnson—We would have to take that on notice. It is a national program which provides approved children's services. Ms Shannon—I should clarify that because the support is provided to the service, more than one child in the service may be assisted. So we have figures at the service level. Senator NASH—Do you have a breakdown between the disability and refugee children. Can you break them down—not now, but if you could give them to me on notice, if you have that information, with the other figures. Ms Shannon—Yes.

**Answer**

Child care services must have a child with high ongoing support needs enrolled at the service to be eligible to apply for the Inclusion Support Subsidy (ISS). As ISS is a subsidy for the service and is not intended to provide one-on-one support to eligible children data is not collected on individual children.

The department collects data on the number of child care services currently approved for ISS. As at June 2010, there were over 5000 child care services accessing assistance under the ISS. Child care services may be in receipt of ISS to support the inclusion of more than one eligible child.