

## Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 October 2009 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Human Services Portfolio

**Topic:** Centrelink Debt

**Question reference number:** HS21

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** *Written*

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 December 2009

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

What is the number, value and payment type of Indigenous recipients with Centrelink overpayments, including FTB?

**Answer:**

#### Current Indigenous Customers<sup>1</sup> With an Outstanding Debt<sup>2</sup> as at 30 June 2009

Benefit Group	Customers	Amount Outstanding (\$)	Debts Outstanding
Age Pension	278	1,376,049	338
Age Pension Related Payments	<20	29,328	<20
Disability Support & Sickness Allowance	1,910	6,571,916	2,701
Disability & Sickness Related Payments	861	2,025,077	1,104
Newstart Allowance	10,804	15,662,151	15,952
Newstart Related Payments	65	314,434	75
Youth Jobseeker	2,629	1,374,428	2,842
Youth Student, Apprentice & Austudy	1,178	1,847,978	1,267
Abstudy	6,760	13,537,610	8,812
Assistance to Isolated Children	77	89,553	115
Youth & Student Related Payments	222	242,264	244
Family Tax Benefit <sup>3</sup>	8,398	5,512,681	11,472
Child Care Assistance	<20	1,504	<20
Family Related Payments	288	835,910	305
FAO Reconciliation <sup>4</sup>	4,612	18,896,908	6,538
Parenting Payment	10,126	33,185,836	14,228
Parenting Related Payments	154	1,874,185	159
Special Circumstances	63	259,740	75
Recovered on behalf of other agencies	<20	27,448	<20
Other	<20	17,964	<20
<b>Total<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>36,563</b>	<b>103,682,964</b>	<b>66,248</b>

Notes:

1. Customers who have self-declared to be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and are in receipt of income support Payment at end of reporting period.
2. Excludes debts that were raised and immediately waived – usually due to the debt being under \$50.
3. Family Tax Benefit refers to all Family Tax Benefit debts not raised as a result of the reconciliation process as outlined below.
4. FAO Reconciliation debts are for Family Tax Benefit and Child Care Benefit debts resulting from the historical determination of a customer's entitlement for a previous financial year when actual taxable income is made available and is reconciled against the previous estimate.
5. Total Customer count is less than the sum of individual counts because customers may have more than one debt.