

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

Outcome/Agency **8**

DEEWR Question No. EW1013_09

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

Indigenous Employment

What changes have there been in the reported rates of unemployment for Aboriginal people?

Answer

The latest available data states the unemployment rate for Indigenous persons aged 15 years and over was 14.0 per cent in 2007, down from 14.3 per cent in 2006 and 16.5 per cent in 2005.

These figures come from the ABS publication, *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey, 2007*, released on 22 May 2008.

Comparisons over time of Indigenous labour force characteristics from this survey, however, need to be treated with caution as reporting does not always detect statistically significant shifts from year to year.