

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW1126_12

Senator Bernardi asked on 15 February 2012 , Hansard page 96

Question

Work for the Dole

Senator BERNARDI: What is the pool of people eligible for Work for the Dole? If I recall at the last estimates, I was given a figure of around 120,000 or 121,000. Ms Parker: You mean those who were in Work for the Dole, or who were eligible? Senator BERNARDI: Those eligible for Work for the Dole. Ms Parker: Any job seeker. Ms McKinnon: 706,890. Senator BERNARDI: Where am I getting the 121,000 from? Don't tell me I am making it up. Ms McKinnon: It could be, and is likely to be, job seekers who are actually in the work experience phase. After 12 months of service, a job seeker enters the work experience phase, but job seekers at any time can choose to do training or Work for the Dole. Senator BERNARDI: Thank you for that. I appreciate that. Would you be able to give me that figure, please. Ms McKinnon: We would have to take that on notice. Senator BERNARDI: Thank you. Would you be able to break down by state as well the figures that you have undertaken to get me about the people who relate to the 121,000 or something that I said before?

Answer

Of the 706 890 job seekers on the Job Services Australia caseload on 30 November 2011, 132 710 had commenced in the Work Experience Phase (WEPH). Below is a table indicating the breakdown by state:

Job seekers in WEPH as of 30 November 2011

State	Number
ACT and surrounding regions	763
NSW	43 253
NT	5342
QLD	28 645
SA	12 620
TAS	5339
VIC	26 669
WA	10 079
Total	132 710