

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

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

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0437\_11**

**Senator Abetz provided in writing.**

**Question**

**PRODUCTIVITY PLACES PROGRAM AND JOB SEEKERS**

- a) How is the Department measuring the employment rate of job seekers who have undertaken a PPP course?
- b) How many job seekers have gained a job, after completing a PPP qualification?
- c) Can we have a breakdown of the jobs that job seekers who have completed a Productivity Places Programme course have then entered?

**Answer**

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations has provided the following response:

- a) Employment outcomes for the Productivity Places Program (PPP) under the Australian Government administration can be tracked for job seekers referred by Employment Service Providers. States and territories are asked to report on employment outcomes.

The Post-Program Monitoring (PPM) survey is one of the department's primary mechanisms to measure the employment, education and training outcomes of job seekers who participate in employment assistance. For PPP, the PPM survey reports the labour force (including full-time, part-time and total employment) and education status of job seekers 3 months after exiting a training placement.

The National Centre for Vocational Education and Research (NCVER) has also conducted a student outcomes survey.

- b) As at 30 September 2010, a total of 80,000 job seekers have completed PPP training<sup>1</sup>. The department does not have employment outcomes for the whole of the PPP as it is difficult to track employment outcomes provided by the states and territories due to inconsistencies in reporting<sup>2</sup>.

The PPM survey of outcomes shows that of 13,984 job seekers who exited PPP training (completed training, discontinued training and failed to complete training) between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010, 49.4% were employed after training, with 21.9% employed full-time and a further 27.5% employed part-time.

The NCVER's *Outcomes from the Productivity Places Program* (2009) found that of the 23,692 job seekers surveyed and had completed their training under the PPP in 2008, 46.6% moved into employment.

- c) Data on jobs that job seekers have entered is not available.

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<sup>1</sup> This includes: 2,565 job seekers who have completed training under the National Partnership Agreement for the PPP as at 31 December 2009 (not including Queensland, Western Australian or Victoria due to data limitations). 77,472 job seekers who have completed training under the Australian Government administration of the PPP. Of these, 58,457 job seekers were referred by Employment Service Providers.

<sup>2</sup> Employment outcomes for the 58,457 job seekers referred by Employment Service Providers under the Australian Government administration of the PPP are that 14,830 employment outcomes have been achieved at 13 weeks and 7,834 employment outcomes achieved at 26 weeks.