

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000157

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

Also refer to previous Question No. ED0405_15

Earnings between different Certificate levels

Question

"In answering QON ED0405_15, the department uses figures found in a NATSEM report. You say that, over a lifetime, a Certificate III or IV holder will earn \$2.09 million.

- (a) Can you confirm that the NATSEM report quotes that figure for a Certificate holder, but not for a Cert III or IV holder?
- (b) Doesn't that mean that the figure would include people with only Certificates I and II?
- (c) Would those people tend to earn lower incomes than Cert III or IV holders?
- (d) Can you provide me with figures for Cert III and IV holders, without those for people with lower-level Certificates? Can you disaggregate the figures for Cert III and Cert IV?
- (e) The figures include incomes for those working both full-time and part time. How do you think that inclusion of part-time workers affects the figures?
- (f) Would there be more degree-holders working part-time, or more Certificate holders?
- (g) Can you provide a gender breakdown to shed more light on these figures?"

Answer

- (a) The NATSEM report quotes the figure of \$2.09 million for the lifetime earnings of a Certificate holder.
- (b) The NATSEM report does not state that Certificate I and II are included or excluded in the earnings analysis.
- (c) The NATSEM report does not show estimates of Certificate I and II earnings.
- (d) The NATSEM report does not disaggregate the income estimates between Certificate III and Certificate IV.
- (e) The NATSEM report does not disaggregate the earnings estimates between full-time and part-time employees.
- (f) The latest Australian Bureau of Statistics survey of Education and Work (Cat No 6227.0) estimates of part-time worker and educational attainment are shown in Table 1.
- (g) Table 1 shows the number of persons by gender with Certificate III/IV and Bachelor and above who are in the labour force, working part-time, and the proportion working part-time.

| Table 1 Qualification | In the Labour Force (000's) | | Part-time work (000's) | | Proportion working Part-time | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Certificate III/IV | 1,597 | 817 | 160 | 371 | 10% | 45% |
| Degree or above | 1,674 | 1,786 | 206 | 611 | 12% | 34% |