

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Higher Education Research and International**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000386**

Senator Carr, Kim asked on 03 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 120

***Completion rates for Swinburne online and for Open University Australia***

**Question**

Senator KIM CARR: As a matter of course, can you give me details of the progression and completion rates for Swinburne online and for Open University Australia?

Ms Borthwick: We will take that on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: How do they compare with the general on-campus enrolments?

Ms Borthwick: We will have to take that on notice.

**Answer**

Completion rates for Swinburne online cannot currently be calculated. The department's completion rate calculation uses students studying externally as a proxy for online study, and Swinburne has only been reporting external students since 2012. The completion rate calculation requires at least 3 years of data to be able to create a meaningful measure.

The progression (retention) rate for Swinburne domestic students commencing a bachelor course externally in 2012 is 59.9 per cent. This compares to the progression rate of 79 per cent for Swinburne domestic students commencing a bachelor course internally in 2012.

Progression and completions rates for Open Universities Australia (OUA) cannot be calculated because OUA does not report course completions.