

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. SQ15-000411

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

Also refer to previous Question No. SQ15-000173

Projections for employment of new graduates, as set out in the answer to QON SQ15-000173

Question

Can you provide the assumptions and calculations that underlie your projections for employment of new graduates, as set out in the answer to QON SQ15-000173? Why do you think that, in the current tight employment market, their job prospects will remain more or less the same – at around 67%? What underlies the predicted drop from 68% in the current year to 66% in 2015-16? Why will that trend turn around?

Answer

Estimates of the proportion of new graduates employed full-time, provided in QON SQ15-000173, are based on a statistical relationship with Treasury estimates of the overall unemployment rate, published in the 2014-15 MYEFO. Treasury estimates indicated the overall unemployment rising from 5.9 per cent in June 2014 to a peak of 6.5 per cent in June 2015, before falling to 5.8 per cent by June 2018.