

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. SQ15-000486

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

Targets for higher education participation

Question

Can you confirm that the previous Government established targets for higher education participation?

Were those targets 40% for overall participation in higher education, and 20% participation by low-SES students?

Why do these targets not appear in the PBS? Has the Government abandoned them?

When and where did the Government announce that it had abandoned these targets?

What reasons were offered? What reasons can you provide?

Answer

Yes.

Yes.

PBS estimates assume that growth in the number of domestic undergraduate low SES students is consistent with achievement of the 20 per cent low SES target. The ABS Survey of Education and Work provides an annual update of the proportion of 25-34 year olds with a bachelor degree or above.