

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Reform & Support

Department of Education Question No. ED0412_15

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question

Breakdowns of VET FEE-HELP utilisation figures

Can the Department provide the following breakdowns of VET FEE-HELP utilisation figures: (a) By private or public status of provider. (b) By course industry sector and by course level. (c) By completion and failure rates of students by RTO (both private and public), course industry sector and course level. (d) A breakdown of average debt levels of students at RTO (both private and public), course industry sector and course level.

Answer

(a) The following table shows the number of students accessing VET FEE-HELP loans in 2013 by provider type.

	Public providers	Private providers	Total
Students	39,937	60,098	100,035

(b) The VET FEE-HELP Data Collection does not capture industry sector. A table showing the number of course enrolments for students accessing VET FEE-HELP loans in 2013 by broad field of education and course level is at [Attachment A](#). Note that some students have accessed VET FEE-HELP for more than one course and will be double counted.

(c) A table showing course completion rates by VET provider, qualification level and commencement year is at [Attachment B](#). As noted above, the VET FEE-HELP Data Collection does not capture industry sector so this has not been included. The VET FEE-HELP Data Collection does not capture course failures.

(d) When a student accesses a VET FEE-HELP loan, it becomes part of their aggregate HECS debt, administered by ATO, and subject to the same repayment and indexation provisions as other streams of HECS debt. As a result, it is not possible to separately report on current levels of VET FEE-HELP debt.