

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

**Outcome 3 - Employment**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0913\_13

**Senator Sinodinos asked on 13 February 2013, Hansard page 63**

**Question**

**Job seekers undertaking Certificate training as part of Work experience**

Senator SINODINOS: Do you have a figure for how many job seekers are currently undertaking Work for the Dole activities?

Ms Drayton: As at 30 November there were 15,026 job seekers undertaking Work for the Dole. From 1 July until 30 November there has been 70,262 jobseekers undertaking Work for the Dole.

Senator SINODINOS: There are separate Work for the Dole activities across the country, is that right?

Ms Drayton: That is correct.

Senator SINODINOS: How many activities would be going on at the moment?

Ms Drayton: From 30 November there is 1,484 Work for the Dole activities, and across the life of JSA there have been 7,113.

Senator SINODINOS: What is the duration of these activities? How long do they normally last for?

Ms Drayton: They vary. They can be undertaken over several months. They can be a more intensive activity. It depends on the actual activity that is being undertaken.

Senator SINODINOS: And Work for the Dole qualifies under work experience, is that how it operates?

Ms Drayton: It does. It is one of the work experience activities that jobseekers can do to meet that requirement.

Senator SINODINOS: Do they get any sort of recognition or accreditation for having undertaken a Work for the Dole activity?

Ms Laker: They do not get accreditation for undertaking the Work for the Dole activity in its own right; however some Work for the Dole activities include accredited training. For example, they might be doing a certificate II in horticulture as part of doing a Work the Dole project in which case they then get a certificate II at completion.

Senator SINODINOS: Can you get figures on how many of them are doing certificate II or certificate III level qualifications as part of that work experience activity?

Ms Laker: We would not necessarily have that information available. We can certainly take that on notice to see whether there is something we can provide you.

**Answer**

The DEEWR IT system does not record breakdown of training by certificate level in the Employment Pathway Plan for job seekers in the Work Experience phase.