

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No. EW0430_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

JOB SEEKERS

Providers have indicated that there is a tendency for job seekers to be 'parked'. What is the Department doing to ensure that job seekers are being serviced?

Answer

Notwithstanding Suspended status, job seekers are able to volunteer to participate in employment services and receive a full range of Stream Services.

Around 76 per cent of all Suspensions are due to one of the following factors:

- Job seekers undertaking part-time work (18 per cent of all Suspensions);
- Provisional Exits (comprising 15 per cent of all Suspensions). Provisional Exits apply to an eligible job seeker placed in either employment or education which is likely to result in a Full Outcome. In addition, voluntary work accounts for 9 per cent of all Suspensions;
- Temporary reduced work capacity (as determined by Job Capacity Assessment providers on appropriate evidence) comprising 20 per cent of all Suspensions; and
- Temporary medical incapacity (comprising 14 per cent of all Suspensions) as determined by Centrelink on appropriate evidence.