



JCPAA inquiry based on the Commonwealth Performance Framework

Auditor-General's reports 31 (2015-16) - Administration of Higher Education Loan Program Debt and Repayments

Correction to ATO submission

The ATO seeks to correct information provided in the submission provided to the Joint Committee of Accounts and Audits with regard to Committee's review of the ANAO Audit of the Administration of Higher Education Loan Program Debt and Repayments.

In the ATO response to Recommendation 3 on page 7 of the submission the following 2013-14 statistics were provided:

- 1,997,973 HELP clients
- 65% had a compulsory HELP repayment raised.
- 35% that did not have a compulsory repayment raised were either under the repayment threshold or did not lodge an income tax return.
- Of the 35% who did not have a compulsory repayment raised, 78% were undertaking further study and had an additional HELP obligation in that year.

The ATO has identified a human error in the methodology that was used to generate these statistics. The correct statistics for 2013-14 are as follows:

- 1,997,973 HELP clients
- 23% had a compulsory HELP repayment raised.
- 77% that did not have a compulsory repayment raised were either under the repayment threshold or did not lodge an income tax return.
- Of the 77 % who did not have a compulsory repayment raised, 21% were undertaking further study and had an additional HELP obligation in that year.