



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations



Mr Justin Baker  
Inquiry Secretary  
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education and Training  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Baker

### **ADDITIONAL BREAKDOWN OF DATA ON STUDENTS ON YOUTH ALLOWANCE IN THE SCHOOL SECTOR BY GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION**

At the roundtable hearing held on 2 February 2009, Ms Robyn Shannon, Branch Manager for the DEEWR Income Support Policy Branch, undertook to investigate whether the Department could provide figures quoted at the hearing (regarding those students on Youth Allowance (student) who were in the school sector and who had earnings as at June 08) by metropolitan, regional and remote geographical classifications. The additional information is provided below:

### **Income support recipients who combine school and work**

At June 2008 there were 97,296 Youth Allowance (student) recipients aged 15 years or older in the school sector. Of these, 86 per cent were aged either 16 or 17. Of the 97,296 YA(s) recipients in the school sector, 21,984 or 23 per cent had earnings as at June 2008.<sup>1</sup>

Of the 21,984 students, 11,528 or 52 per cent resided in a major city, 6,561 or 30 per cent resided in inner regional areas, 3,425 or 16 per cent resided in outer regional areas, and 470 or 2 per cent resided in remote or very remote areas or in unidentified locations<sup>2</sup>. The location of Youth Allowance (student) secondary students with earnings broadly reflects the geographic distribution of secondary students receiving Youth Allowance (student), although the proportion of those with earnings in capital cities is about 7 per cent lower than the overall proportion of Youth Allowance (students) living in cities.

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<sup>1</sup> DEEWR administrative data. . Note Schooling Sector is defined as an education institution type of primary, secondary, both or special education.

<sup>2</sup> DEEWR administrative data. Postcode was the physical location of the recipient as recorded at the time of the file extraction. The ARIA (Accessibility Remote Index of Australia) classification was based on the latest postcode to ARIA mapping available



This information relates to that provided in the Department's submission in Chapter 2, page 25 – Income support recipients who combine school and work.

Yours sincerely

**[signed]**

Rena Houston  
Director  
Careers and Transitions Branch  
Lifting Educational Outcomes Group

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