



Australian Government

Department of Employment and
Workplace Relations

RECEIVED
15 MAY 2006

BY:

Submission No. 1089
Date Received 10.

National Office

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Mr Barry Wakelin MP
Chair
House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Wakelin

Officials from the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) appeared before the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Employment Inquiry hearing on 8 August 2005.

During that hearing, DEWR undertook to provide the Committee with additional information on Indigenous employment issues.

Yours sincerely

Bob Harvey
Group Manager
Indigenous Employment and Business Group

// May 2006

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS**

ENQUIRY INTO INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT HEARING

8 AUGUST 2005

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO
WITNESSES**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased Workforce Participation

Output Group 3.1: Working Age Policy

Outputs 3.1.1: Working Age Policy and Legislation

Question:

Ms Ellis asked at *Hansard* page 2:

Is there a breakdown of the type of work – full-time, part-time or casual – in that figure? [Referring to 39,000 Indigenous job placements through the Job Network in 2004-05]

Answer:

The following tables provide a break-up of the Indigenous Job Network placements made in 2004-05 by employment type:

Fiscal Year	Casual Positions	Full-time Positions	Part-Time Positions	Total
2004-05	18,500	14,400	6,100	39,000

Source: DEWR administrative data

Note: Casual positions may include full-time or part-time positions.

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Question:

Ms Ellis asked at *Hansard* page 8:

It would be extremely useful...to get the geographical spread of them [Referring to 39,000 Indigenous job placements through the Job Network in 2004-05]...For example, is more happening in urban than rural or remote?

Answer:

The following tables provide a break-up of the Indigenous Job Network placements made in 2004-05 by remoteness type*:

Fiscal Year	Metropolitan	Regional	Remote	Total
2004-05	12,800	23,000	3,200	39,000
05-06 FYTD**	11,800	22,000	3,000	36,800

Source: DEWR administrative data

*Remoteness type based on categorisation of DEWR Employment Service Areas.

** Data is 10 months to end April 2006

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Question:

Ms Ellis asked at *Hansard* page 21:

Can you provide us with a map which shows the levels of unemployment in Indigenous communities across the country? It might be just a list of figures or it might be a map of Australia....Give it to us with and without CDEP.

Answer:

The attached document shows a selection of labour market and employment data by Labour Market Region (LMR). The data includes:

Job Network Data

Indigenous job placements 1 July 2005 to 30 April 2006

Australian Job Search (AJS) Data

A count of all job vacancies listed on the AJS database from 1 July 2005 to 30 April 2006.

Census 2001 Data

Collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

CDEP Data

This administrative information is sourced from DEWR's CDEPManager database and shows the number of CDEP organisations, level of participation, and off CDEP job outcomes achieved 1 July 2005 to 30 April 2006.

The Department has also provided an A1 size map which lists all CDEP organisations and locations and identifies those organisations which operate Indigenous Employment Centres.

It should be noted that in 2001, the Census calculated Indigenous unemployment at 20.0 per cent. In 2002, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey estimated the figure to be around 22.9 per cent.

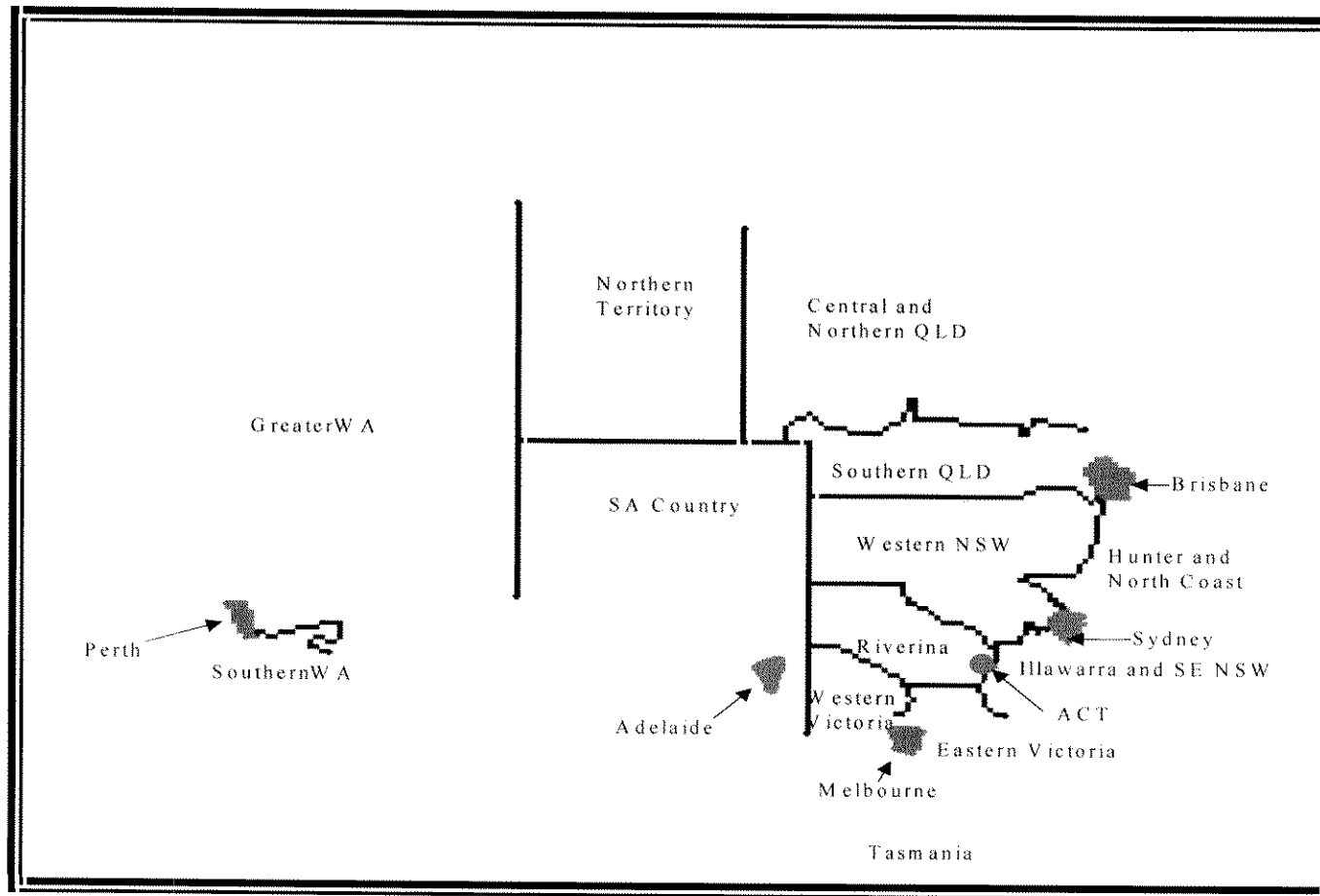
Since the 2001 Census, the Australian Government has been seeking more regular data on the employment status of Indigenous Australians. As part of this effort the Australian Bureau of Statistics has released some experimental data derived from the monthly Labour Force Survey. The experimental estimate of the national unemployment rate for Indigenous Australians for 2004 from the Labour Force Survey is around 17 per cent.

Further, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey released last month estimated the Indigenous unemployment rate in 2004-05 at 15.4 per cent, a drop of 7.5 percentage points since 2002.

This shows that using comparable surveys, the Indigenous unemployment rate has fallen dramatically.

Selected Labour Market Data by Labour Market Region

Job Network labour market regions



CDEP AND JOB NETWORK OUTCOMES

State	Labour Market Region	CDEP Organisations at April 2006	CDEP Participants at end April 06	Indigenous Off-CDEP employment outcomes 05-06 to end April	Indigenous Job Network Placements 05-06 to end April	Total Job Vacancies 05-06 to end April
NSW	Hunter and North Coast	13	1,761	153	2,380	46,173
	Illawarra, ACT and SE NSW	5	525	128	1413	77822
	Riverina	3	307	52	981	12,871
	Sydney	5	453	83	2,728	97,201
	Western NSW	24	2,493	211	3,184	26,355
	Total	50	5,539	627	10,686	260,422
NT	Northern Territory	55	8,313	317	1,723	13,322
	Total	55	8,313	317	1,723	13,322
QLD	Brisbane	2	534	122	4,638	129,418
	Central and Northern QLD	31	6,524	542	6,685	49,803
	Southern Queensland	6	958	95	1,552	23,104
	Total	39	8,016	759	12,875	202,325
SA	South Australia	27	2,335	317	2,461	63,074
	Total	27	2,335	317	2,461	63,074
TAS	Tasmania	2	123	26	1,388	22,245
	Total	2	123	26	1,388	22,245
VIC	Eastern Victoria	3	472	51	702	20,091
	Melbourne	2	156	30	1,024	124,325
	Western Victoria	3	282	59	1,000	35,264
	Total	8	910	140	2,726	179,680
WA	Greater Western Australia	38	7,908	491	1,905	13,134
	Perth & Southern WA	3	1548	193	3,040	73,679
	Total	41	9,456	684	4,945	86,813
Australia		222	34,692	2,870	36,804	827,881

Source: DEWR administrative data

Note: Some LMRs merged to prevent individual providers from identification

CENSUS 2001 DATA

State	Labour Market Region	Indigenous Employment	Indigenous Unemployment Rate (%)	Total Employment	Total Unemployment Rate (%)
NSW	Hunter and North Coast	5,891	28.4	385,503	11.2
	Illawarra, ACT and SE NSW	3,837	21.4	387,632	7.0
	Riverina	1,574	23.1	111,576	6.3
	Sydney	11,485	16.9	1,814,976	6.1
	Western NSW	6,787	27.2	207,340	8.2
	Total	29,574	22.8	2,907,027	7.1
NT	Northern Territory	10,336	13.3	89,627	6.0
	Total	10,336	13.3	89,627	6.0
QLD	Brisbane	9,456	21.7	1,027,638	8.4
	Central and Northern QLD	16,477	18.1	352,254	7.6
	Southern Queensland	3,375	24.1	188,334	8.7
	Total	29,308	20.0	1,568,226	8.2
SA	South Australia	5,230	21.1	634,161	7.6
	Total	5,230	21.1	634,161	7.6
TAS	Tasmania	4,420	19.8	182,099	10.1
	Total	4,420	19.8	182,099	10.1
VIC	Eastern Victoria	1,300	21.1	194,722	7.4
	Melbourne	3,999	15.1	1,580,319	6.6
	Western Victoria	1,604	22.4	307,956	7.5
	Total	6,903	18.1	2,082,997	6.8
WA	Greater Western Australia	9,093	13.7	121,038	6.2
	Perth & Southern WA	5,386	26.6	706,769	7.8
	Total	14,479	19.0	827,807	7.5
Australia		100,251	20.0	8,291,944	7.4

Source: DEWR purchased customised data cubes, Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Note: Some LMRs merged to allow comparison with CDEP and Job Network Outcomes table

CDEP AND JOB NETWORK OUTCOMES BY EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AREA TYPE

Employment Service Area Type	CDEP Organisations at April 2006	CDEP Participants at end April 06	Indigenous Off-CDEP employment outcomes 05-06 to end April	Indigenous Job Network Placements 05-06 to end April	Total Job Vacancies 05-06 to end April
Metropolitan	11	2,170	395	11,842	504,451
Regional	101	15,418	1,592	22,008	307,119
Remote	110	17,104	883	2,954	16,311
Australia	222	34,692	2,870	36,804	827,881

Source: DEWR administrative data

2001 CENSUS DATA BY EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AREA TYPE

Employment Service Area Type	Indigenous Employment	Indigenous Unemployment Rate (%)	Total Employment	Total Unemployment Rate (%)
Metropolitan	31,010	20.0	5,481,962	6.9
Regional	47,624	23.4	2,655,638	8.4
Remote	21,617	11.4	154,344	5.4
Australia	100,251	20.0	8,291,944	7.4

Source: DEWR purchased customised data cubes, Australian Bureau of Statistics.

NOTES

CDEP outcomes information sources from CDEPManager.

CDEP location based on postal location, not necessarily physical address or coverage area

All vacancies listed on Australia Job Search, not Indigenous specific vacancies.

Total vacancies exclude those not attributed to any particular Employment Service Area (ESA)

Indigenous Employment includes those counted in the Census as participating in CDEP