

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 11

Question No: 609

Topic: Disability Employment Services

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Moore asked:

What proportion of employers use Disability Employment Services when they are recruiting?
What is the Government doing to increase the number of employers that utilise Disability Employment Services when they are looking to recruit?

Answer:

In late 2011, the Australian Human Resources Institute report “Recruiting People with a Disability: An employer Perspective” reported that of the employers surveyed who had recruited a person with a disability, around 35 per cent had used a Disability Employment Service to fill the vacancy.

The Australian Government funds the National Disability Recruitment Coordinator (NDRC), a single national service that provides direct support to employers. The NDRC seeks to support employers to change their attitudes and help them integrate recruitment of people with disability into their mainstream policies to increase the employment of people with disability, particularly those assisted by Disability Employment Service (DES) providers.

The Department is working in collaboration with the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) to actively promote the business benefits of employing people with disability. The Department has partnered with ACCI to develop key messages about the government employment services available to help employers to employ people with a disability. These messages will be disseminated via newsletters to ACCI’s member network, consisting of business associations including the peak state and territory Chambers of Commerce and National Industry associations from all sectors of the Australian economy.