

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Agency: ARC

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000104

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

ARC - Open Access policy

Question

1. In regards to the ARC's Open Access policy, why have you settled on a 12 month deadline?
2. Are there any technical limitations towards mandating an quicker timeline for publications to be placed into the repository?
3. The ERA 2015 report: Volume 2 Institutional Insights suggests that between 14 and 34 percent of outputs submitted were open access. Do you expect this to improve over time?
4. What was the percentage of open access outputs per institution?
5. Do you have any insights why there is a wide variability in open access outputs between (a) institutions and (b) FoRs?

Answer

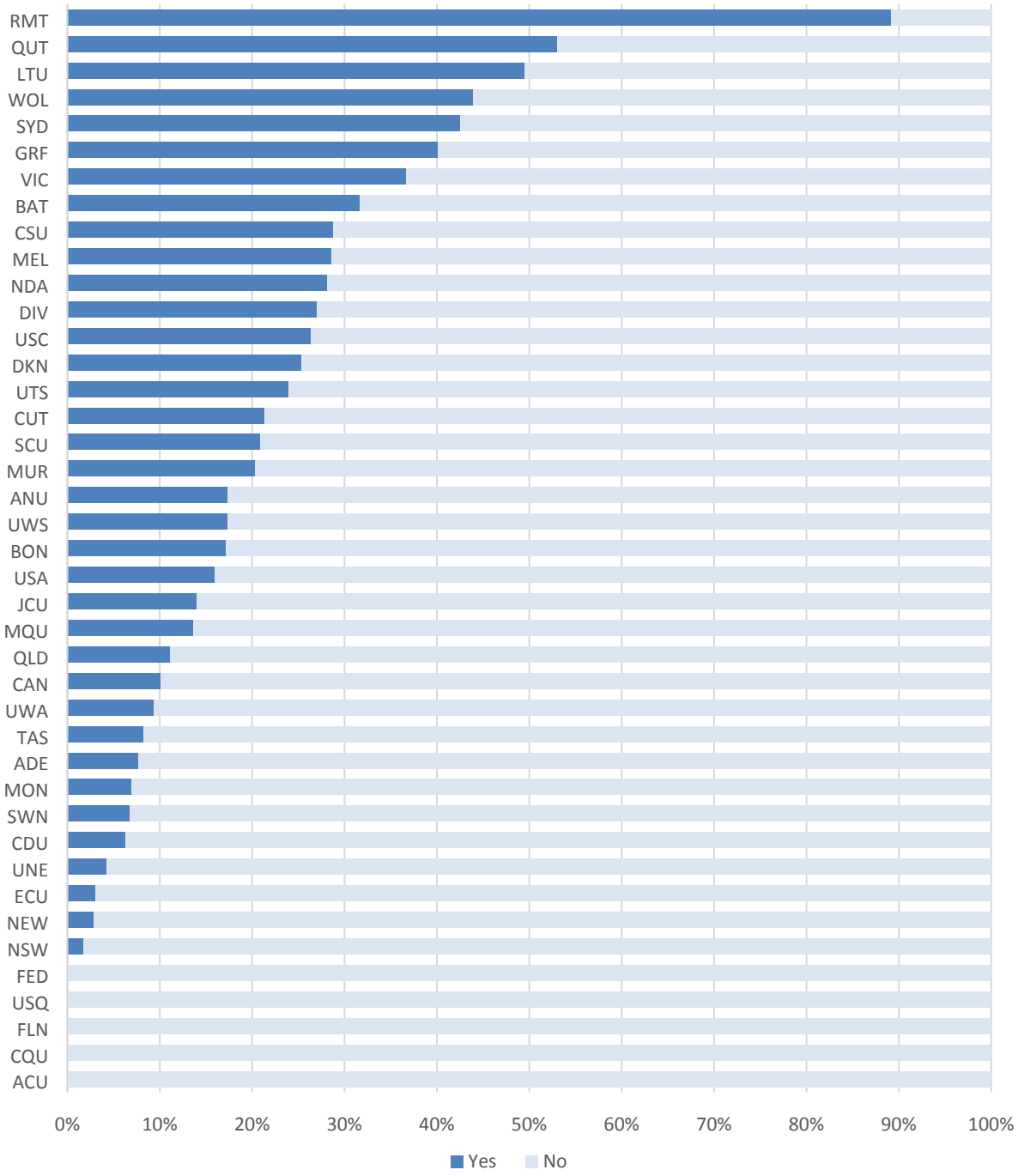
The Australian Research Council (ARC) has provided the following response.

1. The ARC has settled on a 12 month deadline to be consistent with international practice and the National Health and Medical Research Council.
2. No
3. The open access data reported in Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA 2015) was indicative only. Institutions were asked to provide as accurate information as possible, however, the information was supplied retrospectively. Therefore, the information should be treated with caution and will only form a baseline for more accurate reporting in any future rounds.
4. As part of the ERA 2015 submission process, institutions were required to indicate whether a research output submitted to ERA had been made available in an open access repository.

This information was reported in ERA 2015 report: Volume 2 Institutional Insights and varied considerable between institutions from 0 to just under 90 per cent. (See table below for reference).

5. The supply of information on open access by institutions was retrospective to the collection of the research outputs by institutions. Institutions were asked to provide as accurate information as was possible.

Open access reported by Institutions ERA 2015



Source: ERA 2015 report: Volume 2 Institutional Insights