

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 3 - Employment**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0118\_14

**Senator Sinodinos asked on 4 June 2013, Hansard page 9.**

Senator SINODINOS: Do you have a Work for the Dole figure for the last 12 months?

Ms Drayton: We have the life of the contract and to 31 March.

Senator SINODINOS: What is the attendance rate at Work for the Dole?

Ms Drayton: That is a good question. I am fairly certain we do not have it broken down by activity type, as far as the flows into compliance framework. We have the compliance framework broken down by failure type rather than activity type. We will take that on notice and see if we can find something.

Senator SINODINOS: Okay

**Answer**

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) does not hold information in its IT system concerning the actual days which individual job seekers may be required to attend Work for the Dole activities. Therefore an 'attendance rate' cannot be provided.

The DEEWR IT system, does, however, capture the circumstances in which an employment services provider has decided to submit a Participation Report to the Department of Human Services due to a job seeker not participating in Work for the Dole. It should be noted that the submission of these reports is at provider discretion (that is, a provider does not have to submit a participation report every time an individual does not attend).

From 1 July 2012 to 31 March 2013, a total of 27,917 job seekers were placed into a Work for the Dole activity. During this time, employment services providers submitted one or more Participation Reports in relation to 5672 job seekers for failing to attend their Work for the Dole activity. It is important to note that job seekers can have a reasonable excuse for failing to attend their Work for the Dole activity, and in these circumstances a participation failure will not be applied.