

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000886

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing

Higher Education Loan Program (HELP - debt

Question

What average level of HELP debt is currently (as at 30 June 2016) carried by Australian (domestic) students in the following categories:

- (a) a student who graduated from an undergraduate degree in 2015?
- (b) a student who graduated from a postgraduate degree in 2015?
- (c) a student who graduated from an undergraduate degree in 2010?
- (d) a student who graduated from a postgraduate degree in 2010?

Answer

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) does not hold information relating to course of study or when a graduate completed their course. Therefore information on Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) debts for individuals cannot be disaggregated by specific graduate cohorts.

As at 30 June 2016, the average HELP debt was \$19,400.