

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

Question: BET 264

Topic: Data Presented in Reports

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Eggleston asked: Has pressure been placed by politicians to influence the data presented in any reports?

Answer:

No. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is Australia's official national statistical agency. The ABS has statutory independence in order to maintain trust and confidence in Australia's official statistics. This allows it to play a valued role in informing the Australian community, as well as policy makers and the Government, with trusted data. The ABS is respected, both nationally and internationally, for the quality and integrity of its data.