

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2009-10
21 October 2009

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Number of Manufacturing Jobs Lost

REFERENCE: Question on Notice Hansard (21 October 2009, E-52)

QUESTION No.: SI-32

Senator ABETZ—Let us go to another highlight of your portfolio, Minister. How many manufacturing jobs have been lost since you became minister? I would have thought you would have that figure at your fingertips. Take it on notice and we will move on, as time is short

ANSWER

The net loss of manufacturing jobs between November 2007 and August 2009 was 30,712 persons. However manufacturing employment increased by 20,800 jobs over the August 2009 quarter (compared with the May quarter 2009) which is the last quarter for which sectoral employment data is available for manufacturing. It should be noted that this data is **seasonally adjusted**.

Manufacturing employment also edged up in **trend terms** during the August quarter 2009, suggesting a turnaround in employment trends in the manufacturing sector.