

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
17 October 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: HECS-HELP

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Mason

QUESTION No.: SI – 55

What percentage of HECS-HELP debt accumulated over the last ten years by the students has been repaid (please provide a breakdown per each university)? What percentage of HECS-HELP debt accumulated over the last ten years by the students at each university who have not finished their degrees has been repaid (please provide a breakdown per each university)?

ANSWER

The Department is unable to undertake the analysis required to answer these questions as it currently does not have unit record data containing histories of loans and repayments for the relevant students.

Since 1 July 2002, a total of \$28.3 billion in new debt has been notified to or raised by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Over the same period, the total aggregated HELP debt for all years has been reduced by a total of \$11.5 billion for repayments, remissions and voluntary repayment bonuses.