

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2
Output Group: 2.2 – New Apprenticeships.

DEST Question No. E789_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Please provide the fifty employers with the worst New Apprenticeship completion rates, including the rates and the total number of commencements and completions.

Please provide this data for each of the last three years and the total for the last three years.

Answer:

New Apprenticeships Completion Rates – 2001/02 – 2003/04

The Department is unable to provide statistically valid data and therefore meaningful completion rates for the period requested due to the following factors:

1. Employers of New Apprentices are not obliged to report the completion status of their New Apprentices unless they wish to claim a completion incentive.
2. Not all training arrangements attract a completion incentive. For example, most Certificate level II New Apprenticeships are ineligible for completion incentive payments.
3. Given that there are many employers not eligible to receive a completion incentive (or choose not to claim an incentive), DEST does not hold completion status information on all New Apprentices. Any completion rates derived from TYIMS are as a result potentially misleading and likely to be significantly understated.

As part of its ongoing data analysis role, the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) has been investigating the issue of classifying New Apprenticeships outcomes, including the calculation of appropriate completion rates. As the body responsible for VET research and statistics in Australia, the NCVER is best placed to address matters of completion and non-completion rates in New Apprenticeships.