

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0941_11

Senator Abetz asked on 23/02/2011, Hansard page 93.

Question

FINANCIAL PENALTIES

Senator ABETZ—Can we then break up that figure of 36,478 into the various categories for which financial penalties were applied? Ms Milliken—Yes. Would you like that now or on notice? Senator ABETZ—Take it on notice, yes. Ms Milliken—Absolutely. Senator ABETZ—For those financial penalties where you can convert to 25 hours of intensive compliance, could you indicate how many opted for that option? Ms Milliken—Yes, we can. Senator ABETZ—And you will take that on notice as well. Ms Milliken—Absolutely. Senator ABETZ—Thank you. How many jobseekers have had their income support suspended for the full eight weeks in that six-month period? Ms Milliken—I will look that up for you. In terms of the number who undertook a compliance activity where they had a serious failure applied, there were 1,502 jobseekers of 2,920 who had the eight-week non-payment period. In terms of those who served the entire duration of the non-payment period, we do not have that information with us today. Senator ABETZ—If you could take that on notice for me, I would be obliged.

Answer

Between 1 July 2010 and 31 December 2010, there were 36 478 financial penalties applied. The breakdown by category is:

Penalty Category	Number of penalties
No Show, No Pay	17 322
Reconnection failure	9165
Unemployment non-payment period	7071
Persistent non-compliance	2467
Serious failure	453

Between 1 July 2010 and 31 December 2010:

- 1502 job seekers agreed to undertake a Compliance Activity to waive their eight week non-payment period
- 1391 job seekers served the full eight week non-payment period.