

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0950_12

Senator Bernardi provided in writing.

Question

Number of Investigations and costs incurred and recouped

How many investigations in the last 12 months have been undertaken? How many of these have resulted in providers paying back money to the Department? What has been the total amount recouped? What has been the total cost of these investigations?

Answer

In the last 12 months a total of 8 program assurance activities were completed by the Department at either the national or state level.

Of the completed activities, 4 resulted in financial recoveries from providers.

A total of \$806,694 was recovered from these activities.

In addition to these activities, in the twelve months since 28 February 2011, a total of 11 criminal investigations relating to employment programs were completed.

Program assurance and investigation activities are part of ongoing departmental business and are therefore part of normal staffing costs.