

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2004-2005 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
31 MAY AND 1 JUNE 2004**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 1: An effectively functioning labour market

Output Group 1.2: Labour market programme management and delivery

Output 1.2.2: Employment Services

Question Number: W034-05

Question:

Senator Webber asked at *Hansard* page 47:

How many jobseekers, broken down by age and gender, have been in the Job Network for more than two years.

Answer:

There are no job seekers who have been in Job Network for more than two years. Under Employment Services Contract 2 the maximum period of assistance was 12 months. Under ESC3 the job seeker receives continuous assistance for the period of their unemployment, however this contract has been in place for just 12 months. For your information, trend long term unemployment has declined from 214,000 in May 1998 to 118,300 in June 2004, a decrease of 44.7 per cent.