

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.5 – Assistance for post school students including those with special needs.

DEST Question No: E054_06

Senator Carr provided in writing

Question:

It is claimed in the Discussion paper that there has been no decline in overall expenditure on this program. Is this still correct? Can you provide the correct figures?

Answer:

ABSTUDY II

Table 3 on page 11 of the discussion paper reported latest available data showing that total expenditure on ABSTUDY, when not indexed by CPI, continued to increase up to 2003. That has not changed.

Year	Total Expenditure (\$)
1993	84,374,245
1994	94,159,877
1995	99,375,941
1996	110,036,946
1997	125,695,994
1998	119,255,493
1999	126,353,362
2000	136,070,765
2001	144,649,913
2002	148,089,025
2003	151,467,815

Sources: Education Students Assistance Scheme (Pre-2000) and Centrelink Education Payments System (2000 and later) administrative data collections.