

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

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
30 ,31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group: 2.1 – Workplace Relations Policy and Analysis

Output: 2.1.1 – Workplace Relations Policy Advice

Question Number: W409-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked at *Hansard* page 104:

Could the Department detail the arrangements in place to measure the impact on employment of removal of the Unfair Dismissal Laws? How will these arrangements measure an overnight increase in employment of 75,000?

Answer:

DEWR utilises a range of surveys conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, particularly the monthly *Labour Force Survey*, to assist in monitoring and analysing labour market developments. However, movements in the level of employment are a result of many, often interdependent factors including: domestic economic developments; consumer and business confidence; population growth; regulatory changes; global growth; unforeseen external shocks, and statistical variability. Accordingly, identifying the precise impact on employment of any single factor, such as the proposed changes to the unfair dismissal laws – whether that impact manifests itself immediately or over time – may be difficult.