

**EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

**DEST Question No. E079\_07**

Senator Wong provided in writing.

**Question:**

For each year of operation, how many students have access the OS HELP program?

What is the average loan taken under this program?

What is the total debt owed under this program?

**Answer:**

*OS-HELP data for 2005*

In 2005, the first year of OS-HELP, providers allocated 766 OS-HELP loans and the average loan was \$4,843.

Outstanding debt incurred under OS-HELP is part of a person's accumulated Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) debt, which includes any HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP debts. The accumulated HELP debt cannot be disaggregated.