

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

**2006-2007 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
29<sup>TH</sup> AND 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2006  
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcomes: 3 – Increased workforce participation**

**Output Group: 3.1 – Working age policy**

**Output: 3.1.2 – Research and Evaluation**

**Question Number: W063-07**

**Question:**

Senator Wong asked in writing:

What evidence does DEWR collect about the effectiveness of wage subsidies for highly disadvantaged job seekers, in particular, the priority groups identified under Welfare to Work (single parents, people with a disability, mature aged, very long term unemployed)?

**Answer:**

The effectiveness of wage subsidies can be assessed by examining the sustainability of jobs gained through wage subsidies. Data from EA3000 show that some 61.2 percent of mature aged job seekers who were on Newstart Allowance when they received a wage subsidy of over \$1,000 remained off benefit 6 months later. The corresponding figures for Indigenous job seekers and people unemployed for at least 2 years were 61.6 and 60.4 percent respectively. Due to small sample sizes, data for Disability Support Pension and Parenting Payment Single recipients are not available.