

**EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2007-2008 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

**Outcome** 2 - HIGHER EDUCATION

**DEST Question No. E135\_08**

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

**Question:**

1. What does the Department make of reports from the accounting industry that there is a shortage of qualified accountants?
2. Did the Government conduct any testing in this area before making this decision?

**Answer:**

*Qualified Accountants*

1. The shortage of accountants is reflected in the Migration Occupations in Demand List published by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.
2. No separate labour market research or testing was conducted in conjunction with the relevant Budget measure.