

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome 2 – HIGHER EDUCATION

DEST Question No. E141_08

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

Question:

What is the average cost of a domestic full-fee degree in Australia and how does this compare on an annual time series basis since domestic full-fee degrees were allowed?

Answer:

Cost of domestic undergraduate full-fee degrees

DEST does not hold historical data on the average cost of full-fee undergraduate degrees. However, annual student data on the amount charged per year for each domestic undergraduate fee-paying course and the corresponding length of each course can be used to derive an estimate of the total cost of each course.

An estimate of the average cost of domestic undergraduate full-fee courses can be calculated for each year since 1999. A weighted average has been used which takes account of the differing numbers of students undertaking each course. Any fee exemptions for units of study are excluded from the derivation of the estimates. The estimates for the period 1999-2005 are as follows:

1999	-	\$46,995
2000	-	\$47,836
2001	-	\$44,799
2002	-	\$43,567
2003	-	\$45,965
2004	-	\$49,874
2005	-	\$43,095