

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome 9

DEEWR Question No. EW094_09

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Impact of the Government's workplace relations changes

Do these forecasts of dramatically slower job growth and increased unemployment include the impact of Labor's workplace relations changes?

o If the answer is yes, what is the impact of workplace relations changes on the forecasts?

Answer

The Budget Paper No. 1 states at page 2-5 that

"Employment growth is expected to moderate to 1¼ per cent in 2008-09. The participation rate is forecast to average 65¼ per cent, and the unemployment rate is expected to average 4½ per cent. The unemployment rate is forecast to rise to 4¾ per cent by the June quarter 2009, as conditions in the labour market ease. This reflects an easing in non-farm GDP growth due to slower global growth, tighter credit conditions and higher interest rates."