

**EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

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

**Outcome**            7

**DEEWR Question No. EW255\_09**

Senator Abetz asked provided in writing.

**Question**

Table 2.7B on page 121 of the Portfolio Budget Statement indicates that the 2007-08 estimated actual proportion of job seekers off benefit 3 months following participation in Employment Services in New Enterprise Incentive Scheme is 81%. The 2008-09 estimate is 80%. Can the Department explain this expected decrease?

**Answer**

The estimated outcome of 81% in 2007-08 is higher than the target of 80% for that year. The strong labour market that has existed over recent years has contributed to the outcomes being higher than the target. Outcome performance has been tracking within a five per cent range of the target of 80% so there was not a sufficient business case to upwardly adjust the target for 2008-09.