

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

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

Outcome 7

DEEWR Question No. EW256_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 12 months following participation in Employment Services in New Enterprise Incentive Scheme is 83%. The 2008-09 estimate is 80%. Can the Department explain this expected decrease?

Answer

The estimated outcome of 83% 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.