

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0156_11

Senator Cormann asked on 31/05/2010, Hansard page 11.

Question

JOB SERVICE PROVIDERS

How many contracts do those 10 to 12 providers that have raised financial viability issues with you look after?

Are you able to tell us today the dollar figure of business that they are looking after for you?

Answer

The 10 – 12 providers referred to by the Department are the approximate number of those who have approached the Department since 1 July 2009 on a range of issues, some of which go to matters related to their leasing arrangements of commercial premises, size and flow of their caseloads and usage of and access to the Employment Pathway Fund. These can be broadly classified into the category of financial viability matters referred to above. The Department does not disclose information which might result in the identity of providers being established and thereby potentially harming their business.

As Job Services Australia is demand driven, the precise value of contracts cannot be confirmed until the conclusion of the contract period. However, the department gazettes an estimate of contract values and publishes updates on contract values periodically on Austender.