

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0328_12

Senator Abetz asked on 31/05/2011, Hansard page 28.

Question

Work For The Dole - Month By Month Data Since 2007

Senator ABETZ: Yes. Are you able to give us—on notice, of course—a month-by-month figure for Work for the Dole from the beginning of 2007 and through so that we have a comparison for the last three years plus? Ms Laker: I will have to take that on notice.

Answer

The Job Services Australia model places a much greater emphasis on meeting the needs of the individual job seeker and ensuring that their work experience activities are building their skills and experience towards sustainable employment. This has had a significant impact on the number of Work for the Dole placements as many more job seekers now undertake education and training activities; and Work for the Dole is no longer the 'default' activity. Consequently, it is not valid to make a direct comparison of placements into Work for the Dole from 2007 through to the present time.

The following table provides monthly commencements in the Work for the Dole program delivered by Community Work Coordinators up to June 2009. [Attachment A](#) in EW0331_12 provides a breakdown of Work for the Dole placements under Job Services Australia from 1 July 2009 to 31 May 2011.

Month	Number of Commencements 2007	Number of Commencements 2008	Number of Commencements 2009
January	8,091	4,542	5,488
February	7,187	5,358	5,847
March	7,230	5,162	5,919
April	6,169	5,834	4,672
May	8,132	5,722	4,878
June	6,611	1,279	3,165
July	7,328	5,774	
August	7,214	4,936	
September	5,944	5,146	
October	7,031	5,226	
November	6,272	4,853	
December	3,946	4,106	