

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

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

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0335_12

Senator Abetz asked on 31/05/2011, Hansard page 34.

Question

JSA - Duration Of Very Long Term Unemployed In The Work Experience Phase.

Senator ABETZ: ... Do we have a figure for the expected duration of somebody being in the work experience phase? Sure there will be people less and longer in that phase but do we have some figure in our mind as to what we might expect? Ms Paul: We would have figures on duration. Whether we have them with us now I am not sure, I will just check. We do not, no, so we will take that on notice too. Senator ABETZ: Thank you. Ms Paul: We would have those numbers. Senator ABETZ: Can I then ask whether that is the same number or figure, whatever, that was forecast when Job Services Australia was being designed? Ms Paul: We will have to take that on notice, obviously.

Answer

The time a job seeker spends in the Work Experience Phase can vary depending on their individual circumstances and barriers to employment and the local labour market conditions in the area in which they live.

On 31 May 2011 (point-in time), the average duration of a jobseeker within the Work Experience Phase was 37 Weeks.

Prior to the commencement of Job Services Australia, modelling indicated that approximately 31% of the total caseload of job seekers would enter the Work Experience Phase over the life of the contract but this did not include a breakdown of the expected duration of job seekers in the Work Experience Phase.