

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

**Outcome 1 – Early Childhood, Working Age and Indigenous Participation**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0356\_13

**Senator Nash asked on 30 May 2012, Hansard page 57**

**Question**

***Early Childhood Teachers Qualifications***

Senator NASH: With those existing workers being upskilled, the ones that are going to need to get a cert III, do you have any figures around how many of the currently existing workforce have started doing, say, cert III training? Ms Taylor: I do not have that with me at the moment but I could on notice see if we could get that. One of the key measures that was announced in the budget before last was the recognition of prior learning and the funding that went into that.

**Answer**

DEEWR does not collect enrolment information so is unable to provide figures on how many of the existing workforce have commenced Certificate III training. However, the 2010 Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Census showed that the following proportions of staff in the various sectors already had a relevant qualification:

- Long Day Care – almost 80%
- Pre-school – 75%
- Family Day Care – 60%

The qualifications requirements, which commence on 1 January 2014, allow educators to hold or be working towards Certificate III and Diploma level qualifications.