

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

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

**Outcome 3 – Employment**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0234\_13**

**Senator Cash asked on 29 May 2012, Hansard page 26**

**Question**

**Average period a person remains unemployed**

Senator CASH: What is the average period a person remains unemployed for after completing a mutual obligation activity? Ms Drayton: Again, the figure I have— Senator CASH: combines the two. Ms Drayton: Yes, it combines them both. So we will take that on notice. Senator CASH: What is the total figure you have? Ms Drayton: Of those who have participated in a work experience activity, 51 per cent are either working or studying after having been involved in that. But I do not have it broken down any further than that. Senator CASH: You can break that down on notice.

**Answer**

The average period of unemployment after completion of an activity is not able to be calculated due to the range of variables, including multiple activities which may be undertaken by one job seeker. However, post program monitoring shows that for job seekers in the Work Experience Phase in the 12 months to September 2011, 61 per cent\* were unemployed three months after participation in any activity.

Of job seekers who undertook a work experience activity in the same period, three months following participation in the activity:

- 27 per cent were in employment
- 30 per cent were in education and training.

\* Job seekers who were unemployed may be undertaking education and training.

\*\* Some job seekers achieve both an employment and an education or training outcome. As a result, the combined outcome is less than the sum of the employment and education/training outcomes (51 per cent).