

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1

DEST Question No. E479_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003, EWRE Hansard page 39:

Question:

Can you get me a list of what you believe to be the success rates by comparable countries?

Answer:

Research grant success rates

The ARC has provided the following response.

In *The Chance to Change* which was published in November 2000, the Chief Scientist provided success rates of grants administered by the Australian Research Council (ARC), the research councils* in the United Kingdom (UK) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the United States.

At that time the success rates were reported to be as follows:

- ARC large grants – 20 per cent,
- UK research councils' grants – 25-35 per cent, and
- NSF grants – 31 per cent.

Based on the most recent program statistics available on the World Wide Web, comparable data are as follows:

- ARC Discovery–Projects – 27 per cent (grants commencing in 2004),
- UK research councils' grants – 28-34 per cent (based on the most recent year's statistics available), and
- NSF grants – 27 per cent (based on research grants** awarded in 2003)

*included data for the following UK Research Councils: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Economics and Social Sciences Research Council, Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council and Natural Environment Research Council.

** In this instance 'research grants' includes support for a range of research, education and training awards.