

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education.

DEST Question No. E659_06

Senator Nettle provided writing.

Question:

What are the Minister's forecasts for unmet demand for student enrolments in each of the following skill areas for each of the years from 2005 to 2010, or for years for which forecasts are available?

1. Doctors
2. Dentists
3. Nurses
4. Teachers (Primary)
5. Teachers (Secondary)
6. Optometrists

Answer:

Forecasts for unmet demand for students enrolments in Universities by fields of education

Estimates of unmet demand for undergraduate places in Universities are calculated and published by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC). The AVCC releases these estimates around May each year.

The AVCC does not publish estimates of unmet demand by field of education.

However, the AVCC does provide some information on 'eligible applicants not receiving an offer' by field of education. In defining an eligible applicant, the AVCC removes Year 12 applicants with unrealistic expectations of getting into university (those with a TER of below 53). 'Eligible applicants not receiving an offer' are still an over estimate of unmet demand as multiple applications lodged by the same person, applicants with one or two preferences only and rejection of offers are not taken into account. The AVCC takes these additional factors into account when it estimates unmet demand¹.

Tables providing information on 'eligible applicants not receiving an offer' for selected fields of education for 1996-2000 and 2001-2005 are provided in DEST Question 658_06.

¹ Details about data and methodology used by the AVCC for "eligible applications not receiving an offer" and estimates of "unmet demand" can be found in the AVCC 2005 *Report on Applications for Undergraduate University Courses*. This report is available on the AVCC web site:
http://www.avcc.edu.au/documents/publications/stats/unmet/Unmet_Demand_Report_2005.pdf