

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2 and 3 NOVEMBER 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W623-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing

ACCIRT have claimed that for non-managerial workers the median average weekly ordinary time earnings have increased by just 2.6% in real terms from 1998 to 2004. Does the Department agree with ACCIRT's claim and if not, why not?

Answer:

The Department agrees the median average weekly ordinary time earnings of non-managerial workers has increased by 2.6 per cent in real terms from 1998 to 2004. However, it would be misleading to assert that this reflected the change in earnings under this Government. Real median average weekly ordinary time earnings increased by 9.7 per cent between 1996 and 2004.

Source: ABS, Employee, Earnings and Hours (Cat No 6306.0) and ABS, Consumer Price Index (Cat No 6401.0).