

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 - Funding for Higher Education

DEST Question No. E660_07

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

What is the average HECS debt for students currently enrolled in a course of study at Table A providers?

Answer:

HECS debt

All outstanding HECS debts, as well as debts incurred under HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP and OS-HELP, became accumulated HELP debts on 1 June 2006.

Data are collected retrospectively. Data on enrolments for the second half of 2006 have yet to be reported. The Australian Taxation Office records accumulated HELP debts for each person. No differentiation is made between people with an accumulated HELP debt on the basis of whether they are currently enrolled in a course of study (as opposed to having recorded new debt in the most recent reporting period) or according to the provider at which they are or have been enrolled.

DEST does not keep separate records of accumulated HELP debts.