

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2009-10**

**Agency**                              **Fair Work Australia**

**DEEWR Question No.**        **EW555\_10**

Senator Seiwert provided in writing.

**Question**

What are the current research resources of FWA? What is the capacity to undertake research into the needs of low paid workers and their families?

**Answer**

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

The Minimum Wage Branch within Fair Work Australia provides research support for the Minimum Wage Panel. The Branch undertakes both internal and externally commissioned research. In 2009-10 \$800,000 was allocated for commissioned research.

The Branch has four sections: Workplace Relations Section; Economic Analysis Section; Stakeholder Engagement and Social Research Section; and the Safety Net Analysis Section.

In broad terms, the Safety Net Analysis Section focuses on research examining the financial situation of low-paid workers.