

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0713_12

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

JSA Data

Please provide average unit and total costs for each Stream of JSA assistance during 2009-10 and for the Work Experience phase, broken down into three categories: service fees, EPF credits spent, and outcome payments.

Answer

The table below shows total expenditure costs for JSA broken down by stream and the Work Experience phase. Job seeker unit costs for participation in Job Service Australia assistance streams, including Work Experience, are not calculated. A calculation of an aggregate unit cost for a single point in time is not a reliable or useful measure as too many factors may distort results. This was outlined in a previous Senate Estimates response to a Question on Notice, DEEWR Question No. EW0928_11. The factors referred to in this response included:

- transition costs involved when moving existing job seekers from Job Network (where expenditure has occurred prior to 1 July 2009) to Job Services Australia (where expenditure is incurred from 1 July 2009);
- seasonal fluctuations in commencements;
- evolving expenditure patterns as the employment services market matures and develops;
- changing labour market conditions (e.g. the global financial crisis and its aftermath);
- changing policy circumstances (e.g. access to Job Services Australia for redundant workers); and
- the possibility of individual job seekers participating in a number of streams during a financial year.

JSA Expenditure for the 2009-10 Financial Year

Placement Type	Service Fees \$	Outcome Fees \$	Employment Pathway Fund \$	Total
Stream 1	\$204,902,529	N/A	\$11,707,613	\$216,610,142
Stream 2	\$174,051,969	\$73,867,983	\$102,028,925	\$349,948,877
Stream 3	\$107,618,598	\$53,490,368	\$62,217,976	\$223,326,942
Stream 4	\$161,060,040	\$19,357,863	\$60,886,742	\$241,304,645
Group Work Experience	\$89,687,004	\$10,450,539	\$35,069,368	\$135,206,911
Not Attributed	N/A	N/A	\$26,462,030	\$26,462,030
Total	\$737,320,140	\$157,166,753	\$298,372,655	\$1,192,859,548

Notes:

- Data is extracted from the Employment Services System.
- Stream 1 Service Fees contains \$250,702 in Stream 1 Limited service fees for remote job seekers.
- Providers are not eligible for outcome payments for placing Stream 1 job seekers until after 12 months of service in JSA.
- Bulk EPF payments (whether they are for work experience activities or not) are not attributed to individual job seekers and so cannot be allocated to a stream.