

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

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

Outcome 4 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0770_12

Senator Bernardi asked on 19 October 2011 , Hansard page 90

Question

DEEWR job vacancy report

Senator BERNARDI: All right. Does the monthly DEEWR job vacancy report then rely on any of the data that is on the Australian JobSearch network? Ms Paul: I am not sure. Ms Parker: We will take that on notice. We do not have the people here who run this. Senator BERNARDI: I am sorry; I did not catch that. Ms Parker: We do not have the people here who run the AJS, so we will take it on notice if that is all right. Senator BERNARDI: Yes. If it does in any way then clearly the data would be unreliable if people could not close down available jobs. Ms Parker: We would need to check for those errors, yes. Ms Paul: We will check it out. Senator BERNARDI: If you could provide that information. But I do not want there to be misapprehension about what I am after. I wonder whether the data that is on the Australian JobSearch site is incorporated into the DEEWR vacancy report,

Answer

DEEWR's Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) is a measure of all newly lodged job advertisements published on the four major job boards (SEEK, MyCareer, Career One and Australian JobSearch) each month. As such, the DEEWR job vacancy report does incorporate vacancies that are lodged on the Australian JobSearch (AJS) website.

There is currently a system defect on the AJS website which prevents public employers from removing their active vacancies from display. Advice was posted in AJS on 17 October 2011 advising public employers of the issue and advising them to call the Contact Centre to have the jobs removed. In addition, active vacancies automatically expire after 28 days and are removed from display in AJS. This defect only affects jobs advertised by public employers which count for less than 5% of all jobs advertised on AJS. The defect is scheduled to be resolved on 3 December 2011.

In addition, as only newly lodged vacancies are used in the calculation of IVI, a vacancy that was lodged in the previous month but was not able to be removed before the current month is not considered again for inclusion in the IVI. Further, as part of the normal monthly compilation and processing of the IVI, all duplicates are removed. Accordingly, if, by chance, the same vacancy was entered onto AJS more than once in the same month, it would only be counted once.

The impact of this system defect on the DEEWR vacancy report is therefore very small.