

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

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

**Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0855\_12

**Senator Back asked on 20 October 2011, Hansard page 107**

*Refers to previous DEEWR Question No [EW0401\\_12](#)*

**Question**

**Withdrawal rates from PPP Courses**

Senator BACK: I refer to withdrawal rates from Productivity Places Program courses. The question on notice on this from my colleague Senator Nash was EW0401\_12. At that time the response was that: Data for withdrawal rates under the Productivity Places Program National Partnership is not available. Are the rates available now or are they simply not being collated? Ms White: Withdrawal rates are not reported to us under the Productivity Places Program by the states and territories. We did have that data for the Commonwealth part of the program which we responded to in that question on notice. Senator BACK: That is right. The figures as at 30 June for the Australian government component were 128,560 commenced, 40,900 withdrew and of them 14,000 were due to unsatisfactory completion and 26,000 voluntarily discontinued. So that was at the end of June. Would you have an update for us for the next quarter to the end of September, for example? Ms White: I don't believe I do have that figure with me but we can certainly get the figures for the Australian government component for you. Senator BACK: Thank you very much.

**Answer**

This is an update of the Australian Government administered job seeker training places in the previous question number EW0401\_12.

As at 30 September 2011, 130,965 job seekers commenced training under the Australian Government delivery component of the Productivity Places Program, of which 41,317 job seekers have withdrawn from training. Of these withdrawals 14,991 were due to unsatisfactory completion of a qualification and 26,326 voluntarily discontinued training.

When lodging a 'withdrawn' milestone, training organisations have the opportunity to provide a reason for the withdrawal. Of those that provided information, the reasons included gained employment; health or family issues; alternative training (University); did not like course/unsuitable or change of residency.