

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 3 – Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0572_13

Senator Sinodinos provided in writing.

Question

Job Capacity Assessments

How many Job Capacity Assessments have been undertaken in the last 12 months?
a. What percentage of these was undertaken by Centrelink? b. What percentage was undertaken by CRS Australia? c. What percentage has been conducted over the phone?

Answer

Prior to 1 July 2011, Job Capacity Assessments (JCA) provided a dual purpose:
(a) assessed eligibility of a job seeker for Employment Services eligibility; and
(b) assessed a job seeker's eligibility for Disability Support Pension (DSP).

Following the introduction of new assessment arrangements on 1 July 2011, DEEWR assumed policy responsibility for assessments related to employment services eligibility, referred to as Employment Services Assessments (ESAt). The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs has policy responsibility for assessments related to the DSP, which continue to be known as JCAs.

As at 1 July 2011, the Department of Human Services became the sole provider for assessment services. As a result, a breakdown of the percentage of assessments conducted by Centrelink and CRS cannot be calculated.

The table below shows of the number of assessments (JCA and ESAt) in the 12 months from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012.

Type of assessment	Number of assessments submitted
All Assessments	367,795
ESAt	249,592
JCA	118,203

The table below indicates the percentage of assessments (JCA and ESAt) conducted by phone in the 12 months from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012.

Type of assessment	Phone percentage
All Assessments	12.70%
ESAts	16.60%
JCAs	4.60%