

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 October 2009
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Indigenous employment benefits

Question reference number: HS18

Senator: Boyce

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2009

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator BOYCE – With regards to Indigenous Australians who receive unemployment benefits in the form of Newstart or Youth Allowance, how many Indigenous people are on "work experience" in order to qualify for unemployment benefits, broken down to numbers in each state and territory?

Answer:

The response to this question is based on data provided by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

For the period 1 July 2009 to 24 January 2010, for those job seekers who are identified in the DEEWR system as Indigenous, 15,040 Indigenous job seekers on Newstart or Youth Allowance have participated in one or more Work Experience Activities. The number excludes job seekers who have exited Job Services Australia.

The following table gives the breakdown by Allowance Type and State.

Allowance Type	State	Number of Indigenous Job Seekers
NSA	ACT	44
	NSW	2,745
	NT	2,827
	QLD	3,686
	SA	639
	TAS	203
	VIC	420
	WA	1,690
YAL	ACT	11
	NSW	860
	NT	334
	QLD	878
	SA	158
	TAS	57
	VIC	138
	WA	350
TOTAL		15,040