

Letter to all Members of Federal Parliament

February 9, 2010

Members of Federal Parliament who acknowledge there are 1.72 million Australians unemployed or **under**-employed deserve to be re-elected. As of today most Members of Federal Parliament ignore the issue and have their 'head in the sand'!

As a Member of Federal Parliament you have a responsibility to rely on facts, not the misleading and inaccurate ABS information on the current employment situation in Australia. The facts are:

1. Real **unemployment** is much higher than the ABS say;
2. Why? The ABS unemployment figure (% of workforce) **omits those who have stopped looking for work** – given up;
3. On top of the real 'unemployed' there are as many again who are '**under**-employed' – they have some work but want full-time work or to work more hours;
4. Those who are unemployed and **under**-employed are **mostly unskilled workers** in such industries as hospitality, retail, rural, etc. (They were 'misclassified' in good times as 'so-called' fully employed and are 'missed' in bad times – like now – as many have just stopped looking for work.)

They are over-represented in some geographic areas, and among people who have children (childcare issues), 'young' (no experience), etc. No 'skills' means education is a key issue;

5. If you believe there is no/little unemployment (and ignore **under**-employment) there are huge consequences for Australia:
 - **Economic modeling is based on flawed data** – the RBA puts up interest rates because they are wrongly informed;
 - All policy 'modeling' is flawed with **dire consequences**;
 - Those who are not counted and 'excluded', **make a mockery of the concept of 'social inclusion'**.

Roy Morgan has data on these real unemployed and **under**-employed people – who they are and where they live — their gender, age, occupation, education, etc for each electorate. We also know how these unfortunate people intend to vote!

Please send me a note if you'd like the data for your electorate. gary.morgan@roymorgan.com

Yours sincerely,



Gary Morgan
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

PS: Following are [attachments I sent last week to Dr Peter van Onselen](#), The Australian, pointing out his article (included) on improved productivity should have acknowledged the real unemployment situation.