

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates May 2017

Communications Portfolio

The Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 166

The Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: Written, 06/06/2017

Topic: Employees working on Content

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah asked:

Since the ACMA was created on 1 July 2005, please provide year on year details on:

- (a) FTE employees working on:
 - i. Australian content
 - ii. Children's content

Answer:

Full time equivalent (FTE) Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) employees working on Australian and children's content from 1 July 2005 are as follows:

Year	Australian content	Children's (C) and preschool (P) program classification	New eligible drama expenditure
2005-06	1.0 FTE	0.75 FTE	0.75 FTE
2006-07	1.0 FTE	0.75 FTE	0.75 FTE
2007-08	1.0 FTE	0.75 FTE	0.75 FTE
2008-09	1.0 FTE	1.25 FTE	0.75 FTE
2009-10	1.0 FTE	0.75 FTE	0.75 FTE
2010-11	0.75 FTE	0.5 FTE	0.5 FTE
2011-12	0.75 FTE	0.5 FTE	0.5 FTE
2012-13	0.75 FTE	0.5 FTE	0.5 FTE
2013-14	0.75 FTE	0.5 FTE	0.5 FTE
2014-15	0.5 FTE	0.25 FTE	0.25 FTE
2015-16	0.5 FTE	0.25 FTE	0.25 FTE
2016-17	0.5 FTE	0.25 FTE	0.25 FTE

There was an increase in FTE for children's programs in 2008-09, due to the review of the Children's Television Standards occurring that year.

The reduction in FTEs from 2014-15 arises from the red-tape reduction and the government's deregulation agenda. The changes included:

- changing the frequency of Australian content compliance reporting by commercial television broadcasting licensees from monthly to annually.

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- removing the obligation on commercial television broadcasting licensees to provide the ACMA with annual schedules of C and P programs and the related notification and reporting provisions.
- removing the audit requirement for new eligible drama expenditure returns lodged by licensees that provide a subscription television drama service.