

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No.EW0961_10

Senator Abetz asked on 10/02/2010, Hansard page 58.

Question

Fair Work Australia has done a major job in trying to reduce the number of awards in Australia. Was there any magic in the figure 122; why not 125 or 100?

Was it a case of how many you could jam into the one award before you decided to start creating another one?

How did you go about it—within reason; I do not want to take up too much time.

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

The Full Bench considered 93 industries/occupation groups over the four stages of the award modernisation process. The number of modern awards made in each industry depended on the range of existing federal awards and NAPSAs and the diversity of sectors within a particular industry. The overall approach was dealt with in a statement issued by the President of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission on 29 April 2008 [[2008]AIRC387para 5-12].

The following is a summary of the number of industries/occupation groups and the number of modern awards that were made in each stage of the process:

Priority Stage	11 industry/occupation groups	17 modern awards
Stage 2	11 industry/occupation groups	27 modern awards
Stage 3	39 industry/occupation groups	49 modern awards
Stage 4	32 industry/occupation groups	29 modern awards
Total	93 industry/occupation groups	122 modern awards