

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

Agency - Comcare

DEEWR Question No. EW0903_13

Senator Abetz asked on 13 February 2013, Hansard page 53

Question

Percentage of cases of bullying between employees or peers

Senator ABETZ: From the cases in the public services, are you able to tell us the rough percentage of cases of bullying that occurs between employees, or peers at relatively the same level, as opposed to cases of a manager of an area bullying somebody under their supervision? Mr O'Connor: As a percentage of all of our mental harm cases, bullying and harassment as an injury type represent about 42 or 43 per cent of those cases. Work pressure is another category, with about 40 per cent, and then occupational violence, sexual discrimination and racial vilification are some of the other categories. For those, I would have to take it notice. I am not sure that it would be easy to discern the nature of the complaints, whether it is a manager against a team, whether it is a manager being bullied by her or his team—what we call mobbing, or bullying upwards. I will certainly have a look, but I am not sure that it is easy to discern that data.

Answer

Comcare has provided the following response:

This information is unavailable as it is not captured in the data from workers' compensation claims.