

Questions on Notice – University of Newcastle

1. How many people has the University of Newcastle engaged through labour hire in each of the last 3 financial years?
 - a. For each year, please advise how many were engaged in each of the following functions:
 - i. Academic
 - ii. Professional or administrative
 - iii. Other (Please specify - eg. Cleaning, security, maintenance, etc.)
2. How many people has the University of Newcastle engaged as external contractors other than labour hire in each of the last 3 financial years?
 - a. For each year, please advise how many were engaged in each of the following functions:
 - i. Academic
 - ii. Professional or administrative
 - iii. Other (Please specify - eg. Cleaning, security, maintenance, etc.)
3. If there are any workers the University of Newcastle would classify as not being a direct employee, labour hire or external contractor, please advise how many the University has engaged in each of the last 3 financial years.
 - a. For each year, please advise how they were engaged.
 - b. For each year, please advise how many were engaged in each of the following functions:
 - i. Academic
 - ii. Professional or administrative
 - iii. Other (Please specify - eg. Cleaning, security, maintenance, etc.)

Answers

Questions 1 & 2:

The University engages labour-based services for a wide range of purposes, including to provide short term expertise and experience that is outside of the University business as usual requirements, to provide surge capacity during times of need, as well as for maintenance of certain kinds of infrastructure. These contracts are managed by business units based on business requirements, and often contain arrangements for both labour and materials, i.e. contracts do not necessarily reflect payment for labour only, and do not reflect numbers of people involved in providing a service.

While the University does not collect numbers of people in contracted arrangements, in the published annual reports for 2017-2020 the value of services engaged as contractors or consultants are reflected in the University Income Statement under the expense lines:

- Repairs and maintenance – which includes the cost of outsourced service providers, contractors and consultants as well as non labour costs such as

consumables, compliance fees etc associated with the maintenance of the University buildings and equipment

- Other expenses – captured in the sub-category ‘professional services’ in note 10 – this includes payments to contractors and consultants as well as any costs associated with equipment and other non labour supply under these arrangements.

Annual Report – Expenditure associated with Repairs and Maintenance and Professional Services*

Account	2020 (\$m)	2019 (\$m)	2018 (\$m)
Repairs and maintenance (please note caveats above, includes labour and non-labour costs)	32	31	31
Professional Services (Note 10) (please note caveats above, includes labour and non-labour costs)	54	59	46

* As the University does not distinguish between the labour and the non-labour components of contractor and consultant fees provision of a further break down of these figures would require extensive and detailed review of documentation at the invoice level as previously advised. Please note, these figures are higher than outsourced labour costs.

Question 3:

Noting the above caveats with providing numbers of people engaged with the University via contractual arrangements, the best figures to answer the question remain numbers of casual staff members, **please note however these people are direct employees of the University, as are people on fixed term contracts.** We provide the below figures for the Committee’s information.

The University publishes FTE figures of casual employees in our annual reports (see below and at

https://www.newcastle.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0007/735469/University-of-Newcastle-Annual-Report-2020-R.pdf)

Casual Staff, FTE

(University of Newcastle Annual Report, p125)

	2018	2019	2020
Casual Staff, FTE			
Total	483	511	436
Academic	295	308	279
Professional	188	203	157
Full-time Staff, FTE			
Total	2,680	2,766	2,859
Academic	1,107	1,137	1,173
Professional	1,573	1,629	1,686

With regard to numbers of casual staff over the past three years, please see below. Please note these figures are point in time extraction and alignment with the annual report FTE may vary slightly (by less than 1%).

Casual Staff, numbers of people

	2018	2019	2020
Casual Staff			
Total	4233	4348	3538
Academic	2375	2419	2126
Professional	2069	2205	1666
Teacher	153	142	100

Fixed Term Contract Staff, numbers of people

NB this represents both short and long term contracts (i.e. up to 5 years)

	2018	2019	2020
Fixed Term Contract			
Total	1370	1555	1540
Academic	613	675	690
Professional	750	880	851
Teacher	11	3	1