

Joint Standing Committee on Migration

Treasury Portfolio

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Inquiry into Australia's skilled migration program

2021-2022

Division/Agency: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Topic: Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO)

Reference: Written – 30 July 2021

Question:

ANZSCO is a statistical classification developed for use in the collection, publication and analysis of occupation statistics. In addition to the skilled migration program, what other functions of government utilise ANZSCO or integrate ANZSCO into their programs and data collection and for what purposes? (e.g. Census, employment data collection, labour force surveys)

Answer:

Occupation statistics, classified using ANZSCO, are used to understand the jobs that people are working in and how the labour market is changing over time. Some of the key occupation statistics are produced from the Census of Population and Housing, the Labour Force Survey, and the Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours. Beyond the number of people in each occupation, these statistics provide insights on a range of topics, such as earnings, hours, educational qualifications, industry and working arrangements.

ANZSCO and occupation statistics are used by governments for a variety of purposes, including labour market monitoring and forecasting activities and in policy and programs covering education and training, skills, employment, job search, workforce strategy, industry support, migration and taxation. For example, the ATO uses ANZSCO to support people to report their occupation in personal income tax returns.