

Standing Committees on Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2023 - 2024

Outcome: Employment and Workforce

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations Question No. SQ23-001188

Senator Tony Sheldon provided in writing.

PALM Fatalities and Injuries

Question

For each of the last 3 years, please advise:

1. The number of short- and long-term PALM (or its predecessor PLS and SWP) workers in the country each year, including the numbers for their country or origin, industry of employment and gender.
2. Total number of fatalities and long-term injuries each year including for each scheme (short-term PALM, long-term PALM, SWP, and PLS)
3. For those who have suffered fatalities, please advise:
 - a. Country of origin
 - b. Industry of employment
 - c. Approved employer name and ABN
 - d. Employment subgroup (Labour Hire or Direct Employment)
 - e. State and region in which the injury or fatality occurred
 - f. Age and gender
 - g. Cause of death (heart attack, MVA, self harm etc)
4. For those who have suffered long-term or serious injuries, please advise:
 - a. Country of origin
 - b. Industry of employment
 - c. Approved employer name and ABN
 - d. Employment subgroup (Labour Hire or Direct Employment)
 - e. State and region in which the injury or fatality occurred
 - f. Age and gender
 - g. Cause of death (heart attack, MVA, self harm etc)

Answer

1. All data is as at 30 June 2023.

Table 1 – Participants in country by program

Time Period	Seasonal Program (SWP / PALM Short-term)	Longer-Term Program (PLS / PALM Longer-term)	Total
2020-21	10,149	2,952	13,101
2021-22	15,676	8,462	24,138
2022-23	26,054	13,590	39,644
Total	51,879	25,004	76,883

Table 2 – Participants in country by country of origin

Country of Origin	30-Jun-21	30-Jun-22	30-Jun-23	Total
Fiji	991	2,391	5,259	8,641
Kiribati	431	614	1,338	2,383
Nauru	12	9	5	26
PNG	135	569	1,457	2,161
Samoa	1,287	4,142	4,980	10,409
Solomon Islands	1,177	3,311	4,717	9,205
Timor-Leste	1,200	2,018	4,401	7,619
Tonga	3,320	4,291	6,742	14,353
Tuvalu	32	29	82	143
Vanuatu	4,516	6,764	1,0663	21,943
Total	13,101	24,138	39,644	76,883

Table 3 – Participants in country by industry

Industry	30-Jun-21	30-Jun-22	30-Jun-23	Total
Agriculture	10,941	17,449	28,051	56,441
Meat Processing	2,003	5,737	9,451	17,191
Accommodation	43	364	915	1,322
Residential Care Services /Aged & Social and other Health Care Services	68	289	733	1,090
Other	46	299	494	839
Total	13,101	24,138	39,644	76,883

Table 4 – Participants in country by gender

Gender ¹	30-Jun-21	30-Jun-22	30-Jun-23	Total
Male	10,789	19,124	30,758	60,671
Female	2,312	5,014	8,886	16,212
Total	13,101	24,138	39,644	76,883

¹ Based on the gender breakdown of visa arrivals in each respective year applied to PALM participants in country.

- The following tables include data on fatalities and incidents incurred while engaged under the PALM scheme, not necessarily related to the participant's engagement in the scheme. The Department is advised that there is one fatality currently under investigation by work safety authorities.

The Department does not hold data specific to short-term or long-term injury.

Table 5 – PALM participant deaths by program

Time Period	Seasonal Program (SWP / PALM Short-term)	Longer-Term Program (PLS / PALM Longer-term)	Total
2020-21	n.p.	<5	9
2021-22	<5	<5	7
2022-23	13	16	29
			45

Table 6 – Critical Incidents reported regarding injuries to PALM participants by program

Time Period	Seasonal Program (SWP / PALM Short-term)	Longer-Term Program (PLS / PALM Longer-term)	Total
2020-21	16	44	60
2021-22	29	66	95
2022-23	32	46	78
			233

3. The following tables include information in relation to the fatality of a PALM participant by category in which the participant was engaged under the PALM scheme, not necessarily related to their engagement in the scheme.

A breakdown of data on PALM participants who have suffered fatalities in the last 3 years is below.

Table 7 – PALM participant fatalities by country of origin

Country Of Origin	No. of Fatalities
Fiji	7
Kiribati	<5
Samoa	8
Solomon Islands	6
Timor-Leste	<5
Tonga	7
Vanuatu	12
Total	45

Table 8 – PALM participant fatalities by industry of engagement

Industry of engagement	No. of Fatalities
Agriculture	27
Meat and Meat Product Manufacturing and Other industries	18
Total	45

Table 9 – PALM participant fatalities by Approved Employer Name and ABN

Approved Employer Name	ABN	No. of Fatalities
ADCO Holdings Pty Ltd	21 097 414 910	<5
Connect Group (Aust) Pty Ltd	99 510 917 559	<5
HILLWOOD BERRIES PTY LTD	86 600 385 975	<5
Jobs Australia Enterprises Ltd	81 673 634 329	<5
Labour Solutions Australia Pty Ltd	76 008 137 782	<5
Linx Employment Tas Pty Ltd	77 162 415 689	<5
MADEC Australia	48 086 804 015	<5
Mulpha Hotels Pty Ltd	17 070 662 627	<5
NQ Powertrain Pty Ltd	34 143 330 590	<5
OASIS NEWMAN OPERATIONS PTY LTD	33 612 952 477	<5
Owen Pacific Workforce Pty Ltd	41 158 702 893	<5
Pinata Farms Pty Ltd	35 209 582 822	<5
PlantGrowPick Pty Ltd	50 149 839 930	<5
Regional Workforce Management Pty Ltd	49 601 595 091	9
Riverland Labour Hire Pty Ltd	78 621 385 573	<5

Approved Employer Name	ABN	No. of Fatalities
Rugby Employment Pty Ltd	32 096 900 604	<5
Tasmanian Berries Pty Ltd	83 168 549 442	<5
The Trustee for CR Hansen Family Trust No2	15 391 529 317	<5
The Trustee for Golden Banana Services Trust	89 393 893 181	<5
The Trustee for Suvarnabhoomi Discretionary Trust	16 102 266 894	<5
The Trustee for The Casotti Enterprises Trust	48 062 604 465	<5
Warrigal Care	34 002 392 636	<5
Total	-	45

Table 10 – PALM participant fatalities by engagement subgroup

Engagement subgroup	No. of Fatalities
Direct Employer	9
Labour Hire	36
Total	45

Table 11 – PALM participant fatalities by state and region in which fatality occurred

State	Local Government Area	No. of Fatalities
NSW	Central Coast (NSW)	<5
	Gunnedah	<5
	Port Macquarie-Hastings	<5
	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional	<5
	Sydney	<5
	Tamworth Regional	<5
	Upper Hunter Shire	<5
	Wagga Wagga	<5
	Wentworth	<5
NT	Katherine	<5
QLD	Bundaberg	<5
	Cassowary Coast	<5
	Goondiwindi	<5
	Lockyer Valley	<5
	Mackay	<5
	Mareeba	<5
	South Burnett	<5
	Southern Downs	<5
	Whitsunday	<5
SA	Adelaide Plains	<5
	Renmark Paringa	<5
TAS	Devonport	<5
	Huon Valley	<5
	Launceston	<5
	Meander Valley	<5
	Sorell	<5
VIC	Hobsons Bay	<5
	Mildura	<5
	Swan Hill	<5
	Wyndham	<5
WA	Esperance	<5
	Kalamunda	<5

	Katanning	<5
	Manjimup	<5
	Perth	<5
	Rockingham	<5
	Woodanilling	<5
Total	-	45

Table 12a – PALM participant fatalities by age

Age Group	Total
22-29	13
30-39	19
40-49	n.p.
50-59	<5
Total	45

Table 12b – PALM participant fatalities by gender

No. of Female Fatalities	No. of Male Fatalities	Total
8	37	45

Table 13 – PALM participant fatalities by cause of death

Cause of Death	No. of Fatalities
Boating Accident	<5
Car Accident	10
Medical Condition	10
Under Investigation*	17
Other**	n.p.
Total	45

* One fatality is currently under investigation by work safety authorities

** Other includes causes such as drownings, snake bite etc

- There are a range of factors that may result in the injury of a PALM participant. The following tables include information in relation to the injury of a PALM participant by category in which the participant was engaged under the PALM scheme, not necessarily related to their engagement in the scheme.

The Department does not hold data specific to short-term or long-term injury.

The number of critical incidents reported regarding injuries to PALM participants for the last 3 years is below.

Table 14 – Critical incidents reported regarding injuries to PALM participants by country of origin

Country Of Origin	No. of Injury Incidents
Fiji	64
Kiribati	15
Nauru	<5
Papua New Guinea	7
Samoa	44
Solomon Islands	26
Timor-Leste	6

Country Of Origin	No. of Injury Incidents
Tonga	13
Tuvalu	<5
Vanuatu	53
Total	233

Table 15 – Critical incidents reported regarding injuries to PALM participants by industry of employment.

Industry of employment	No. of Injury Incidents
Accommodation	<5
Agriculture, Fishing, Forestry and Logging	90
Meat and Meat Product Manufacturing	132
Residential Care Service	n.p.
Total	233

Table 16 – Critical incidents reported regarding injuries to PALM participant by Approved Employer

Approved Employer Name	ABN	No. of Injury Incidents
Regional Workforce Management Pty Ltd	49 601 595 091	109
Jobs Australia Enterprises Ltd	81 673 634 329	27
Kyshan Pty Ltd	61 059 235 782	10
Labour Solutions Australia Pty Ltd	76 008 137 782	9
MADEC Australia	48 086 804 015	7
NQ Powertrain Pty Ltd	34 143 330 590	6
ADCO Holdings Pty Ltd	21 097 414 910	5
Linx Employment Tas Pty Ltd	77 162 415 689	5
Superior Production Company Pty Ltd	23 069 718 216	<5
Warrigal Care	34 002 392 636	<5
Harvey Industries Group Pty Ltd	64 117 597 985	<5
JBS Australia Pty Limited	14 011 062 338	<5
Mulpha Hotels Pty Ltd	17 070 662 627	<5
Rock Ridge Farming Pty Ltd	18 153 578 735	<5
HealthX Group Pty Ltd	20 155 858 969	<5
Usinch Pty Ltd	24 060 571 673	<5
Owen Pacific Workforce Pty Ltd	41 158 70 2893	<5
The Trustee for the Borrello Family Trust	45 546 531 608	<5
PlantGrowPick Pty Ltd	50 149 839 930	<5
Hilltop Meats Pty Ltd	82 143 273 349	<5
The Trustee for Golden Banana Services Trust	89 393 893 181	<5
The Trustee for The J T & P Moon Discretionary Trust	13 658 330 700	<5
The Trustee for Suvarnabhoomi Discretionary Trust	16 102 266 894	<5
Whales Regional Workforce Pty Ltd	21 628 170 650	<5
Epona Pty Ltd	23 001 044 293	<5
Agri-Labour Australia Pty Ltd	23 142 526 216	<5
Toren Fishing & Trading Pty Ltd	24 009 601 101	<5
Manbulloo Management Pty Ltd	24 116 279 871	<5
Simfresh Pty Ltd	28 075 859 728	<5
Treviso Farm Management Pty Ltd	31 144 899 276	<5
Rugby Employment Pty Ltd	32 096 900 604	<5
Mercy Services	34 095 335 309	<5

Approved Employer Name	ABN	No. of Injury Incidents
Castro Orchards Pty Ltd	37 624 435 801	<5
Fruitico Pty Ltd	49 608 313 604	<5
D.L Bombaci & F.S Bombaci	55 749 20 5733	<5
Australian Lamb (Colac) Pty Ltd	56 087 919 944	<5
K&S Contracting (QLD) Pty Ltd	57 613 061 028	<5
Hamilton Island Enterprises Limited	61 009 946 909	<5
Howe Farming Enterprises Pty Ltd	63 099 827 791	<5
Pickers & Pruners Labour Hire Pty Ltd	70 623 917 608	<5
RESPECT GROUP LIMITED	74 121 263 545	<5
Geoffrey Thompson Orchards Pty Ltd	78 004 371 653	<5
GFH Enterprises Pty Ltd	78 146 263 425	<5
Australian Regional and Remote Community Services Limited	88 167 926 132	<5
Abacus Fisheries Company Pty Ltd	95 009 149 179	<5
The Trustee for The Connect Group Unit Trust	99 510 917 559	<5
Total	-	233

Table 17 – Critical incidents reported regarding injuries to PALM participants by engagement type.

Engagement subgroup	No. of Injury Incidents
Direct Employer	31
Labour Hire	202
Total	233

Table 18 – Critical incidents reported regarding injuries to PALM participants by state in which incident occurred

State	No. of Injury Incidents
NSW	76
NT	5
QLD	85
SA	10
TAS	9
VIC	29
WA	19
Total	233

Critical incident regional data is not available in a consistently reportable manner.

Age and gender data in relation to incidents resulting in injury are not collected in a reportable manner.

Cause of death is not a category for injury related data. Refer to Answer 3.

Note: In order to protect individuals' privacy, identified populations less than 5 are reported as "<5" and other data that would allow these populations to be derived are not provided "n.p."