# F

## **Appendix F: Committee positions**

This appendix contains detailed calculations relating to the structure of the committee system, including the theoretical distribution of committee work as a product of changes to both the number of committees and the number of positions available on each committee. A summary of the contents of each table appears below, followed by some notes relating to the data contained in this appendix.

## List of tables

**Table 1:** The total number of House and joint committee positions available to Members of the House, with details given for each committee.

**Table 2:** The number of government and non-government Members, private Members, and backbench Members.

**Tables 3, 4, and 5:** Distribution of committee positions under various membership models for general purpose standing committees (10, 8, 7, 6, 5 and 3 members), assuming the number of general purpose standing committees is 10, 8 and 6 respectively. Membership is assumed to be open to all private Members, including non-government frontbench Members.

**Tables 6 and 7:** The same as Tables 3 and 4, but also assuming the membership of each domestic committee (excluding the Petitions Committee and the Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests) is reduced to five.

**Table 8:** Compares the distribution of committee work calculated in Tables 3 to 7, with calculations based on non-government frontbench Members (Shadow Ministers and Shadow Parliamentary Secretaries) being excluded from permanent membership of committees.

## Notes on calculations in this appendix

#### General

- Unless otherwise specified, all calculations are as at December 2009.
- Calculations include only ongoing House or joint standing or statutory committees (that is, select committees are not included).

### Tables 3 to 8

- Calculations of the number of positions available exclude *ex-officio* positions.
- For joint committees, calculations include only positions available to Members of the House of Representatives.
- The overall reduction in number of positions (Tables 3 to 7) provides a comparison with the current situation, where there are 256 committee positions in total.
- Although technically a domestic committee, the House Petitions Committee's current membership level is 10 and is therefore treated as a general purpose standing committee for the purpose of adjusting its membership composition.
- Unless otherwise specified:
  - *G* = government positions;
  - *N* = non-government positions.

Type	Committee name	Total	Ex-officio		/ positions
туре	Committee manie	TULAI	Ex-officio	Govt	Non-govt
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs	10	_	6	4
_	Climate Change, Water, Environment and the Arts	10	_	6	4
standing	Communications	10	_	6	4
pu	Economics	10	_	6	4
	Education and Training	10	_	6	4
House	Employment and Workplace Relations	10	_	6	4
House urpose	Family, Community, Housing and Youth	10	_	6	4
H nd	Health and Ageing	10	_	6	4
ra	Industry, Science and Innovation	10	_	6	4
general	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	10	_	6	4
	Legal and Constitutional Affairs	10	-	6	4
	Primary Industries and Resources	10	—	6	4
	House	7	1	3	3
stic	Petitions	10	_	6	4
ous	Privileges and Members' Interests	11	—	6	5
House domestic	Procedure	7	_	4	3
	Publications	7	_	4	3
	Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	5	_	3	2
	Australian Crime Commission	5	_	3	2
2	Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings	6	1	3	2
uto	Corporations and Financial Services	5	_	3	2
tati	Electoral Matters	5	_	3	2
ors	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	22	_	13	9
Joint (standing or statutory)	Intelligence and Security	5	_	3	2
ndir	Migration	6	_	3	3
star	National Capital and External Territories	6	1	3	2
t (ه	Parliamentary Library	7	_	4	3
Joir	Public Accounts and Audit	10	_	6	4
,	Public Works	6	_	3	3
	Treaties	9	_	6	3
Tota	Is 30 committees	259	3	151	105 2 <b>56</b>

 Table 1
 Committee positions available to Members of the House

#### Table 2 Composition of the House, as at 17 February 2010

	All Members	Private Members <sup>1</sup>	Backbench Members <sup>2</sup>
Government	83	49	49
Non-government	67	66	37
Total	150	115	86

NOTES

1 Private Members are all Members, excluding Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. These are the Members who are currently considered to be available for committee duties.

2 Backbench Members are all Members, excluding Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, Shadow Ministers and Shadow Parliamentary Secretaries.

#### Table 3 Alternative models of committee membership; no reduction in the number of committees

<b>T</b>		10 (cu	rrent)	8		7		6		5		3	
Туре	Committee name	G	N	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
g	Climate Change, Water, Environment and the Arts	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
dir	Communications	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
tan	Economics	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
••	Education and Training	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
US6	Employment and Workplace Relations	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
P d	Family, Community, Housing and Youth	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
_ Iq	Health and Ageing	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
statutory) House domestic general	Industry, Science and Innovation	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
ene	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
ō	Legal and Constitutional Affairs	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	Primary Industries and Resources	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
Ö	House	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
sti	Petitions	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
ou me	Privileges and Members' Interests	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5
тġ	Procedure	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
	Publications	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
	Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Australian Crime Commission	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
2C	Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
tute	Corporations and Financial Services	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
stai	Electoral Matters	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
or	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9
	Intelligence and Security	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
ip	Migration	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
(standing	National Capital and External Territories	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
it (s	Parliamentary Library	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
Joint	Public Accounts and Audit	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4
	Public Works	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Treaties	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3
Totals		151	105	138	92	125	92	125	79	112	79	99	66
	government/oon government	3.1	1.6	2.8	1.4	2.6	1.4	2.6	1.2	2.3	1.2	2.0	1.0
	overall	2.	.2	2.0		1.9		1.8		1.7		1.4	
Overa	Il reduction in the number of committee positions	C	)	2		3	9	5	2	6	5	9	1

Turne	Committee nome	10 (cu	irrent)	6	3	7	,	6		5		3	
Туре	Committee name	G	Ń	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν
	No. 1	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
-	No. 2	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
general standing	No. 3	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
general standin	No. 4	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 5	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
se	No. 6	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
House	No. 7	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
⊥ nd	No. 8	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 9	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 10	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	
<u>.</u>	House	3	3 4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
use est	Petitions Privileges and Members' Interests	6 6	4 5	5 6	<u>3</u> 5	4	<u>3</u> 5	4	2	<u>3</u> 6	2 5	2	5
House domestic	Procedure	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
μģ	Publications	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
	Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Australian Crime Commission	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
3	Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
statutory)	Corporations and Financial Services	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
tatı	Electoral Matters	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
ors	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9
	Intelligence and Security	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
din	Migration	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
(standing	National Capital and External Territories	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
s.	Parliamentary Library	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
Joint	Public Accounts and Audit	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4
ř	Public Works	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3
Totals	Treaties 28 committees	139	<u> </u>	128	<u> </u>	6 117	<u> </u>	6 117	3 75	106	75	95	<u> </u>
	covernment/nen covernment	2.8	97 1.5	2.6	86 1.3	2.4	86 1.3	2.4	75 1.1	2.2	75 1.1	95 1.9	64 1.0
Avera	ge positions available per private Member government overall	2.0 <b>2</b> .		2.0 1.3 <b>1.9</b>		2.4 1.3 <b>1.8</b>		2.4 I.1 <b>1.7</b>		2.2 1.1 <b>1.6</b>		1.9 1.0	
Overa	Il reduction in the number of committee positions	2		4		5		6		75		9	

#### Table 4 Alternative models of committee membership; number of general purpose standing committees reduced to 10

Turno	Committee name	10 (cu	irrent)	8	3	7	,	6	6	5	<b>5</b> G N		;
Туре	Committee name	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν
5	No. 1	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
general standing	No. 2	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
general standin	No. 3	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
0,	No. 4	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
House	No. 5	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	
Hou purpo	No. 6	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
т пд	No. 7	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	
	No. 8	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	
<u>.0</u>	House Petitions	<u>3</u> 6	3 4	<u>3</u> 5	<u>3</u> 3	3	<u>3</u> 3	3	3	<u>3</u> 3	3	3	3
use est	Privileges and Members' Interests	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5
House domestic	Procedure	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
σ	Publications	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
	Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Australian Crime Commission	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
2	Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
statutory)	Corporations and Financial Services	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
itat	Electoral Matters	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
or s	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9
	Intelligence and Security	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
(standing	Migration	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
star	National Capital and External Territories	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
it (s	Parliamentary Library	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
Joint	Public Accounts and Audit	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4
	Public Works	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Treaties	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3
Totals			89	118	80	109	80	109	71	100	71	91	62
Avora	government/non-government	127 2.6	1.3	2.4	1.2	2.2	1.2	2.2	1.1	2.0	1.1	1.9	0.9
	overall		.9	1.7		1.6		1.6		1.5		1.3	
Overa	Il reduction in the number of committee positions	4	0	5	8	6			6	8	5	103	

#### Table 5 Alternative models of committee membership; number of general purpose standing committees reduced to eight

# Table 6 Alternative models of committee membership; number of general purpose standing committees reduced to 10; domestic committee membership reduced to five (except Petitions, which is treated as a general purpose standing committee, and Privileges and Members' Interests)

Tumo	Committee name	10 (cu	irrent)	8	3	7	7	6	6	5	5	3	
Туре		G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν	G	Ν
	No. 1	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
-	No. 2	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
ling	No. 3	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
general standing	No. 4	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 5	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
se	No. 6	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
House	No. 7	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
Н nd	No. 8	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 9	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 10	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
<u></u>	House	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
use est	Petitions Privileges and Members' Interests	<u>6</u> 6	<u>4</u> 5	5 6	<u>3</u> 5	4	<u>3</u> 5	4	2 5	3 6	2 5	2	5
House domestic	Procedure	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
τö	Publications	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Australian Crime Commission	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
2	Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
statutory)	Corporations and Financial Services	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
atı	Electoral Matters	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9
g or	Intelligence and Security	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
(standing	Migration	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
and	0	-	2			-			2			3	
(st	National Capital and External Territories	3		3	2	3	2	3		3	2		2
Joint	Parliamentary Library	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
٩	Public Accounts and Audit	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4
	Public Works	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Treaties	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3
Totals		136	94	125	83	114	83	114	72	103	72	92	61
Avera	ge positions available per private Member	2.8	1.4	2.6	1.3	2.3	<b>1</b> .3	2.3	1.1	2.1	1.1	1.9	0.9
	Il reduction in the number of committee positions	<b>2</b> .		1.8		1.7		<b>1.6</b>		<b>1.5</b>		<b>1.3</b> 103	
Overa		26		4	48		59		70		81		3

# Table 7 Alternative models of committee membership; number of general purpose standing committees reduced to eight; domestic committee membership reduced to five (except Petitions, which is treated as a general purpose standing committee, and Privileges and Members' Interests)

		10 (cu	irrent)	8	3	7	7	e	6	5		3	
Туре	Committee name	G	N	G	N	G	Ν	G	N	G	Ν	G	Ν
	No. 1	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
general standing	No. 2	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
general standin	No. 3	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 4	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
House	No. 5	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
Hous	No. 6	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
Нnd	No. 7	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	1
	No. 8	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	
U.	House	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
House domestic	Petitions	6	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	
a de	Privileges and Members' Interests	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5
тö	Procedure	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Publications Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
S													2
statutory)	Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	
atu	Corporations and Financial Services	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
	Electoral Matters	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
o	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9
ing	Intelligence and Security	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
Joint (standing	Migration	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
(sta	National Capital and External Territories	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
ť	Parliamentary Library	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3
joľ	Public Accounts and Audit	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	6	4
	Public Works	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Treaties	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	6	3
Totals		124	86	115	77	106	77	106	68	97	68	88 59	
∆vera	ge positions available per private Member	2.5	1.3	2.3	1.2	2.2	1.2	2.2	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.8	0.9
	overall overall	1.		1.		1.6		1.5		<b>1.4</b>		<b>1.3</b> 109	
Overa	rall reduction in the number of committee positions		46		64		73		82		91		Э

#### Table 8 Comparison of alternative membership models: effect of excluding shadow spokespersons from committee membership

-	-		-				
		10 (current)	8	7	6	5	3
		G N	G N	G N	G N	G N	G N
TABLE 3 – No reduction in number of commit	tees						
Totals	30 committees	151 105	138 92	125 92	125 79	112 79	99 66
Average positions per private Member <sup>1</sup>	government/non-government overall	3.1 1.6 <b>2.2</b>	2.8 1.4 <b>2.0</b>	2.6 1.4 <b>1.9</b>	2.6 1.2 <b>1.8</b>	2.3 1.2 <b>1.7</b>	2.0 1.0 <b>1.4</b>
Average positions per backbench Member <sup>2</sup>	government/non-government overall	3.1 2.8 <b>3.0</b>	2.8 2.5 <b>2.7</b>	2.6 2.5 <b>2.5</b>	2.6 2.1 <b>2.4</b>	2.3 2.1 <b>2.2</b>	2.0 1.8 <b>1.9</b>
TABLE 4 – Number of general purpose standi	ng committees reduced to 10		-	-	-	•	-
Totals	28 committees	139 97	128 86	117 86	117 75	106 75	95 64
Average positions per private Member	government/non-government overall	2.8 1.5 <b>2.1</b>	2.6 1.3 <b>1.9</b>	2.4 1.3 <b>1.8</b>	2.4 1.1 <b>1.7</b>	2.2 1.1 <b>1.6</b>	1.9 1.0 <b>1.4</b>
Average positions per backbench Member	government/non-government	2.8 2.6 <b>2.7</b>	2.6 2.3 <b>2.5</b>	2.4 2.3 <b>2.4</b>	2.4 2.0 <b>2.2</b>	2.2 2.0 <b>2.1</b>	1.9 1.7 <b>1.8</b>
TABLE 5 – Number of general purpose standi	ng committees reduced to eight						
Totals	26 committees	127 89	118 80	109 80	109 71	100 71	91 62
Average positions per private Member	government/non-government overall	2.6 1.3 <b>1.9</b>	2.4 1.2 <b>1.7</b>	2.2 1.2 <b>1.6</b>	2.2 1.1 <b>1.6</b>	2.0 1.1 <b>1.5</b>	1.9 0.9 <b>1.3</b>
Average positions per backbench Member	government/non-government overall	2.6 2.4 <b>2.5</b>	2.4 2.2 <b>2.3</b>	2.2 2.2 <b>2.2</b>	2.2 1.9 <b>2.1</b>	2.0 1.9 <b>2.0</b>	1.9 1.7 <b>1.8</b>
TABLE 6 – Number of general purpose standi	ng committees reduced to 10: don	nestic commi	ttee* membersh	p reduced to five			-
Totals	28 committees	136 94	125 83	114 83	114 72	103 72	92 61
Average positions per private Member	government/non-government overall	2.8 1.4 <b>2.0</b>	2.6 1.3 <b>1.8</b>	2.3 1.3 <b>1.7</b>	2.3 1.1 <b>1.6</b>	2.1 1.1 <b>1.5</b>	1.9 0.9 <b>1.3</b>
Average positions per backbench Member	government/non-government overall	2.8 2.5 <b>2.7</b>	2.6 2.2 <b>2.4</b>	2.3 2.2 <b>2.3</b>	2.3 1.9 <b>2.2</b>	2.1 1.9 <b>2.0</b>	1.9 1.6 <b>1.8</b>
TABLE 7 – Number of general purpose standi				-		2.0	110
Totals	26 committees	124 86	115 77	106 77	106 68	97 68	88 59
Average positions per private Member	government/non-government	2.5 1.3 <b>1.8</b>	2.3 1.2 <b>1.7</b>	2.2 1.2 <b>1.6</b>	2.2 1.0 <b>1.5</b>	2.0 1.0 <b>1.4</b>	1.8 0.9 <b>1.3</b>
Average positions per backbench Member	government/non-government	2.5 2.3 <b>2.4</b>	2.3 2.1 <b>2.2</b>	2.2 2.1 <b>2.1</b>	2.2 1.8 <b>2.0</b>	2.0 1.8 <b>1.9</b>	1.8 1.6 <b>1.7</b>

#### NOTES

1 Private Members are all Members, excluding Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

2 Backbench Members are all private Members, excluding Shadow Ministers and Shadow Parliamentary Secretaries.

\* Except the Petitions Committee (which is treated as a general purpose standing committee) and the Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests.

BUILDING A MODERN COMMITTEE SYSTEM