

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Outcome 2 – Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004053

Senator Kakoschke-Moore asked on 29 May 2017 on proof Hansard page 114

Question

457 visa program reforms – Labour market analysis

Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: On notice could you provide me with some details about that labour market analysis—what that looked like, how old the data was that you were using or how contemporary?

Ms Parker: Yes, we can take you through that. The other thing we would say is that any employer who feels they have a genuine need to employ an overseas worker can apply for a labour agreement. It is not as if the door is shut. We are saying that the evidence and the data showed that these either were not being very much used or there was not necessarily a skills shortage. But employers can ask the immigration department to agree to a labour agreement to bring in a particular worker.

Answer

The Department was asked by the Government to review the Consolidated Sponsored Occupation List for skilled temporary migration. The Department considered a range of labour market and related factors in the development of its methodology to review the occupation list. The Department used national datasets and the most recent data available.

Factor	Dataset
Skilled migrant employment outcomes	Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP), Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (2014-15, Cohort 2 at Wave 2).
Reliance on temporary visa holders	Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Census Data (2011). Department of Employment, Occupation Trend Data (2016). DIBP, Visa Stock Data (2015-16).
High migration risk	DIBP, Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (Subclass 457) Programme - Occupations of Particular Concern report (2016-17).
Graduate outcomes	Graduate Careers Australia, Graduate Outcomes data (2013-15) and Field of Education Occupation Destination data (2013-15).
Apprentice completion rates	National Centre for Vocational Education Research, Completion and Attrition Rate data (2013-15).
Skill level versus education attainment	ABS, Survey of Education and Work - Educational attainment by Occupation data (2016).

Factor	Dataset
Employment growth projections	Department of Employment, 2016 Occupational Projections - five years to November 2020 (2016, based on ABS data).
Internet vacancies	Department of Employment, Internet Vacancy Index data (2016).
National skill shortages	Department of Employment, Skill Shortage analysis (2016).
ANZSCO 'not elsewhere classified' (NEC) occupations	ABS, Census Data (2011). Department of Employment, Occupation Trend Data (2016). DIBP, 457 Visa Grant Data (2015-16).
Age profile	ABS, Labor Force Survey, Employed Persons: Median Age by Occupation (2016). DIBP, 457 Visa Grants Data (2016-17).
Low visa application rates	DIBP, Report of Occupations with 10 or Less Skilled Work Visa Grants (2012-2015).
Australian citizenship requirement	Information from DIBP, supplemented consultation with other agencies (such as those responsible for health workforce planning and Australian assessing bodies).