

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000996

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Question

FWO - Applications and Complaints to the Fair Work Ombudsman

What percentages of applications/complaints to the FWO are from?

- a. ATSI people
- b. CALD people
- c. Regional/rural/remote people
- d. Women
- e. Men

Answer

The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) does not routinely capture specific demographic information from persons making a request for assistance. For example, the FWO would not ordinarily require an individual to inform us of their race, sex or geographical location as those factors do not affect a person's entitlements under workplace relations legislation. As such, the data provided below relies on self-identification by individuals in the course of their interaction with the FWO and is likely to be under-representative of persons who contact the FWO overall.

Formal disputes completed by demographic ¹			
		2015-16	
		Number	% of total
CALD people ²	Employees who requested an interpreter	1,214	8.5%
	Visa holders ³ (self-identified)	1,894	12.7%
Regional/rural/remote people ⁴		5,293	36.9%
Women		5,957	41.6%
Men		7,981	55.7%

¹ Specific data in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people is not available in the FWO's complaint management system.

² Specific data in relation to culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) individuals is not available in FWO's complaint management system. The data provided is an indication of CALD status.

³ Note: some visa holders may not be classified as 'CALD' as they may have been born in countries classified as main English speaking countries.

⁴ The figure for regional/rural/remote people has been determined based on the employing entity's physical location where that information is available to us, which is considered to be the employee's place of work.

