AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Staffing

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard 26 February 2009, E120)

QUESTION No.: AI-57

Senator ABETZ—I understand the terminology but can I say that, in general terms, usually closure of facilities and the loss of 85 to 100 personnel must dilute the research capacity of CSIRO. Otherwise, those 85 to 100 people were sitting around twiddling their thumbs not doing anything— and, knowing CSIRO as I do, I am sure that was not the case.
Mr Whelan—A significant proportion of them would have been involved in management and support roles. We have sought to minimise the impact on research personnel and research programs as a result of the reduction.
Senator ABETZ—And the number of research personnel has decreased?
Mr Whelan—It has increased in CSIRO over the last five years.
Senator ABETZ—Over the last five years?
Mr Whelan—And, to the best of my knowledge there has been no reduction in research personnel this year. I am happy to clarify that but to the best of my knowledge there has been no reduction.
Senator ABETZ—If you would take that on notice, that would be most helpful.

ANSWER

CSIRO has provided the following response:

CSIRO Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff 2004-2009 (as at 26 February 2009)

Year	Research Scientist	Research other [1]
2004	1594	191
2005	1591	211
2006	1594	217
2007	1642	210
2008	1679	221
Current	1731	201

1. 'Research Other' includes Research Consulting and Research Management staff

CSIRO Headcount 2004-2009 (as at 26 February 2009)

Year	Research Scientist	Research other [1]
2004	1625	193
2005	1623	213
2006	1630	220
2007	1688	216
2008	1727	223
Current	1792	205

1. 'Research Other' includes Research Consulting and Research Management staff