

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2004-2005, 24 and 25 May 2004

Question: PM 23

Outcome 1, Output 2.2.

Topic: Women in non-traditional trades in Australia

Hansard Page: F&PA 16:

Senator Crossin asked: How many women are in non-traditional trades in this country? Has the number of women in non-traditional trades increased or decreased over the last number of years?

Answer: There is no standard definition of non-traditional trades in Australia and definitions have varied over time. OSW has defined non-traditional trades as those occupations in which certificate or diploma level qualifications can be obtained and in which women have not been traditionally employed. Using this definition, it is estimated that in August 2001 there were 211,596 women employed in non-traditional trades in Australia.¹

Later equivalent data are not yet available to calculate the change in the total number of women employed in non-traditional trades since 2001. However, we do know that the number of female apprentices and trainees in training employed in non-traditional occupations increased between December 1999 to December 2002 from 8,100 to 22,500.²

¹ *Census of Population and Housing, ABS, 2001*

² *Year Book Australia, 2004, ABS. Table 10.15, p 299 and Year Book Australia, 2001, ABS. Table 10.14, p 417.*