

Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Department of Industry, Science and Resources
Inquiry into Education Legislation Amendment (Startup Year and Other Measures) Bill 2023
17 April 2023

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Department of Industry, Science and Resources

TOPIC: Skills building in the start-up sector

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 17 April 2023, Page 31)

QUESTION No.: 1

Senator PAYMAN: My few questions are for the Department of Industry, Science and Resources. This is a bill which supports skill-building in the start-up sector. Can you please give us a sense of the size of the sector and how it impacts Australia's prosperity?

Mrs Roussel: Good question. I'm looking at Tim to see whether he has numbers on the size of the sector. While he's looking at that: we do see this as a really important additional program within the sector, not because it replicates or has a single place in the ecosystem but because we have a range of different programs and a diversity of approaches to help support the start-up sector through venture capital, as I said before when I opened, as well as through a range of programs to help support start-ups and founders directly.

Mr Hristovski: Sorry, Senator—I don't have those numbers to hand here on what the size of the sector is.

Senator PAYMAN: You can take it on notice, if that's okay.

Mr Hristovski: Yes.

ANSWER

The OECD notes that startups are young, high growth firms, that have a high impact on the creation of new jobs.¹ For example, in 2020, an increase of over 3,000 employees could be attributed to Australia's eight most successful startups.² The Tech Council of Australia estimates new technology-based startups could contribute 30,000 new jobs and \$7 billion in value by 2030, thus making a sizable impact on Australia's prosperity.³

¹ OECD (2022), The New Green Economy: Venture Capital, Innovation and Business Success in Cleantech Startups

² G20 Entrepreneurship Roundtable (2021) Entrepreneurship in Australia: Promotion of entrepreneurship and startups in the digital area

³ Tech Council of Australia (2021) Roadmap to Deliver One Million Tech Jobs