

Question on notice from Senator Siewert to The Australia Institute, 2 July 2020:

Senator SIEWERT: Take, for example, the care economy. This question may be to Mr Richardson. Have you done the figures on how many jobs it would generate if we invested a million dollars in the care economy—in aged care, disability and social services? They're very feminised workforces, too.

Mr Richardson: Yes, they're about 85 per cent female, from memory, and—

Senator SIEWERT: If you don't have the figures, could you take that on notice?

Mr Richardson: Sure, but they're around—

Senator SIEWERT: The number of jobs per million dollars.

Mr Richardson: Yes. They're in the order of nine per million dollars—

Senator SIEWERT: About nine?

Dr Denniss: Around nine jobs per million, versus 1½ for construction.

Mr Richardson: I'll get you the exact figures, though.

Mr David Richardson, Senior Research Fellow, The Australia Institute provided the following response on 7 July 2020:

Table 1 gives the average number of jobs in the sectors for each \$1 million spending.

Table 1: Health care and social assistance (private) (Numbers refer to ABS classifications)

| | Jobs per \$m spent |
|---|--------------------|
| 84 Hospitals (private) | 8.1 |
| 85 Medical and other health care services (private) | 6.2 |
| 86 Residential care services (private) | 14.7 |
| 87 Social assistance services (private) | 19.8 |
| Total health care and social assistance (private) | 10.2 |

Source: ABS 6306.0.

The ABS definitions of the above are given in Division Q of [https://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/subscriber.nsf/0/5718D13F2E345B57CA257B9500176C8F/\\$File/12920_2006.pdf](https://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/subscriber.nsf/0/5718D13F2E345B57CA257B9500176C8F/$File/12920_2006.pdf)

The question also went to the degree to which the sectors are feminised. The following Table 2 gives the share of women in the relevant sectors.

Table 2: Health care and social assistance

| Industry sub-divisions | Females as a share of the total workforce (%) |
|---|---|
| 84 Hospitals | 76.9 |
| 85 Medical and other health care services | 72.4 |
| 86 Residential care services | 85.0 |
| 87 Social assistance services | 80.6 |
| Total health care and social assistance | 77.7 |

Source; ABS 6291.0.55.003.

On the figures in Table 2 there is no doubt that Health Care and Social Assistance is very heavily feminised. The figures in Table 2 could be further broken down into full and part-time workers by sex if the Senate wishes.