

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/610) PROGRAMME – 1.2: Visa and Citizenship

Senator Xenophon (Written) asked:

The Department's Book 9 Temporary Work (Skilled) (subclass 457) visa emphasises that: "The Temporary Work (Skilled) (subclass 457) visa is designed to enable employers to address labour shortages by bringing in genuinely skilled workers where they cannot find an appropriately skilled Australian." It has been suggested that, for example, in the nursing profession, that the numbers of nurses entering the country on 457 visas is such that the remaining vacancies are now so low that the great majority of nurses graduating from Australian training courses are unable to find entry-level nursing employment. Can you please advise:

1. How many foreign nurses have been granted 457 visas over each of the past three years?
2. What was the projected vacancy levels for nurses in Australia over each of the past three years?
3. What mechanisms does the Department utilise to estimate the likely net vacancies for nurses before approving 457 visas?
4. Do those mechanisms include projections for the number of Australian graduate nurses entering the system at the conclusion of their studies?
5. In establishing 457 quotas for each employment category, what is the Department's general strategy in matching quotas to projected net vacancies? Do you plan a rough match, a deliberate over-supply or a deliberate under-supply?
6. In regard to aviation-related occupations, please advise the number of 457 visas granted over each of the past three years for the following categories:

Aeronautical Engineer 233911

Aeroplane Pilot 231111

Air Traffic Controller 231112

Flying Instructor 231113

Helicopter Pilot 231114

Air Transport Professionals nec 231199

Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Avionics) 323111

Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Mechanical) 323112

Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Structures) 323113

Flight Attendant 451711

Answer:

1. Table 1.1 below displays the number of subclass 457 primary visa granted between 2010-11 and 2013-14 to 31 May 2014 where the nominated occupation is Midwifery, Nursing Professional or Enrolled Nurse. For privacy

reasons, nominated occupations with less than five primary 457 visas granted in Australia as at 31 May 2014 are masked.

Table 1.1 Subclass 457 primary visa granted between 2010-11 and 2013-14 to 31 May 2014 where the nominated occupation is Midwifery and Nursing Professionals or Enrolled Nurse

Nominated Occupation	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 to 31/05/14
254111 Midwife	66	83	74	62
254211 Nurse Educator	< 5	< 5		< 5
254212 Nurse Researcher	< 5	< 5	< 5	
254311 Nurse Manager	11	12	7	7
254411 Nurse Practitioner	9	32	53	17
254412 Registered Nurse (Aged Care)	382	632	612	307
254413 Registered Nurse (Child and Family Health)	35	37	47	16
254414 Registered Nurse (Community Health)	12	17	21	< 5
254415 Registered Nurse (Critical Care and Emergency)	209	399	350	164
254416 Registered Nurse (Developmental Disability)		< 5	< 5	< 5
254417 Registered Nurse (Disability and Rehabilitation)	34	31	40	29
254418 Registered Nurse (Medical)	779	838	647	258
254421 Registered Nurse (Medical Practice)	31	31	56	74
254422 Registered Nurse (Mental Health)	128	246	262	149
254423 Registered Nurse (Perioperative)	138	217	192	119
254424 Registered Nurse (Surgical)	269	467	372	164
254425 Registered Nurse (Paediatrics)				17
254499 Registered Nurses nec	120	147	199	92
411411 Enrolled Nurse	41	47	61	27
Total	2 268	3 239	2 999	1 508

Source: Department of Immigration and Border Protection, 2014 (BE7453.01)

Note 1: ANZSCO was introduced in the department on 1 July 2010. Applications lodged prior to that date using the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations 2nd Edition have been converted to an ANZSCO code using a standard departmental mapping approved by the ABS.

Note 2: Figures for 2013-14 are subject to variation.

2 - 5. The 457 programme is demand driven and the department does not impose occupational quotas or project or estimate vacancy levels for any occupations nominated in the programme.

6. Table 1.2 below displays the number of subclass 457 primary visas granted between 2010-11 and 2013-14 to 31 May 2014 for the requested aviation-related occupations. For privacy reasons, nominated occupations with less than five subclass 457 primary 457 visas granted in Australia as at 31 May 2014 are masked.

Table 1.2

Nominated Occupation	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 to 31/05/14
231111 Aeroplane Pilot	19	61	31	16
231112 Air Traffic Controller	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
231113 Flying Instructor	13	13	11	< 5
231114 Helicopter Pilot	21	< 5	6	11
231199 Air Transport Professionals nec	8	12	9	12
233911 Aeronautical Engineer	31	35	23	8
323111 Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Avionics)	37	47	27	10
323112 Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Mechanical)	129	86	119	65
323113 Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Structures)		34	10	< 5
451711 Flight Attendant	11		< 5	< 5
Total	272	294	239	128

Source: Department of Immigration and Border Protection, 2014 (BE7453.02)

Note 1: ANZSCO was introduced in the department on 1 July 2010. Applications lodged prior to that date using the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations 2nd Edition have been converted to an ANZSCO code using a standard departmental mapping approved by the ABS.

Note 2: Figures for 2013-14 are subject to variation