

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2011-12  
19 October 2011

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** STEEL INDUSTRY

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Colbeck

**QUESTION NO:** SI-120

1. How many employees does the Department assess are currently employed in the steel industry in Australia?
2. How many of those are employed in upstream activities, and how many downstream?

**ANSWER:**

1. The Department uses a figure of approximately 90,000 people employed in the steel manufacturing industry, from fabrication firms to upstream steel producers. This figure is currently used by the Australian Steel Institute and is based on ABS data.
2. Around 20,000 people are employed in upstream activities in the steel manufacturing industry. This figure is based on employment figures by BlueScope Steel and OneSteel. This number will decline following the restructure announcements made by BlueScope Steel and OneSteel in August 2011. Around 70,000 people are employed in downstream steel manufacturing activities.