

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

**Cross Portfolio**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0996\_12**

**Senator Humphries provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Contractors**

1. How many contractors are currently employed in the department/agency?
2. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 2 years?
3. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 5 years?
4. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 10 years?
5. Does the department/agency make a habit of employing contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis?

**Answer**

1. The total number of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) contractors engaged by the department is 159. In addition, there are 46 non-ICT contractors.
2. 66 ICT contractors and fifteen non-ICT contractors have been with the department for more than two years.
3. 51 ICT contractors and four non-ICT contractors have been with the department for a period of more than five years.
4. No contractor has been at the department for a period of more than ten years.
5. The department has met our Gershon Review contractor reduction target by reducing our ICT contractor workforce by more than 50% over the past three years. This has been achieved through strategies focusing on contractor conversion/replacement and APS ICT capability development. However, the targeted use of ICT contractors continues to provide the department with the flexibility to meet peaks and troughs in demand.

The department continually tests the market to determine whether contractor roles can be filled by APS employees.