

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Agency - Comcare

DEEWR Question No.EW0251_11

Senator Abetz asked on 1/06/2010, Hansard page 36.

Question

SURVEY ON HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE TRAINING

Senator ABETZ—Would it be fair to say that only 13 per cent of the responses were from the private sector? Mr Kibble—I would have to take that on notice. Senator ABETZ—All right. In relation to the other 87 per cent, the figures are highly skewed in favour of the tax office. They comprise well over 30 per cent of the responses. If you could, please take that on notice. If you have done a survey with many HSRs, that is all good, but, if only 13 per cent come from the private sector and over 30 per cent come from one particular department, the evidence that is obtained from something like that may well be skewed and not necessarily reflective. Mr Kibble—Yes, we will have to clarify which survey it is. We will go back and have a look at the respective—

Answer

Comcare has provided the following response

The Review of the Health and Safety Representatives Training Course Accreditation Program was undertaken by consultants Lyn Stoker and Leah Wright contracted by Comcare on behalf of the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (the SRCC). In the course of the review, the consultants surveyed, consulted and sought feed back from all training providers, health and safety representatives (HSRs), employers, unions, SRCC members, Occupational Health and Safety Training Panel members and Comcare staff.

As one part of that consultative process, the consultants conducted an on-line survey of HSRs. HSRs from approximately 135 different Government agencies and self insurers participated. The city/ town responses indicate that while the majority of respondents came from large cities (approx 400) about one third of respondents came from rural towns (approx 200).

The following table provides the location of the 'top ten' sites i.e. those the majority of HSR respondents came from.

Company/Dept:	
Australian Taxation Office	194
Centrelink	53
Department of Defence / RAAF	46
TNT	27

Australian Customs	22
Thales	16
DIAC	13
Medicare	13
Telstra	10
ABC	9