Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012

Outcome 3 - Higher Education

DEEWR Question No.EW0409_12

Senator Nash asked on 1/06/2011, Hansard page 45.

Question

I am just trying to drill down on how you actually get to the determination of the skill, and how they fall under the industry.

Answer

The Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO)has been developed for use in the collection, analysis and dissemination of occupation-based statistics *(source: ANZSCO publication Preface).*

ANZSCO was developed jointly by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Statistics New Zealand and the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to improve the comparability of occupation statistics between Australian and New Zealand and the rest of the world.

The conceptual model adopted for ANZSCO uses a combination of skill level and skill specialisation as criteria to design major groups which are meaningful and useful for most purposes.

The categories at the most detailed level of the ANZSCO structure are occupations which aredefined as a set of jobs that require the performance of similar or identical sets of tasks. Occupations are organised into progressively larger groups on the basis of their similarities in terms of both skill level and skill specialisation.

In ANZSCO, skill level is defined as a function of the range and complexity of the set of tasks performed in a particular occupation. The greater the range and complexity of the set of tasks, the greater the skills level.

One of five skills levels are assigned to each occupation. In determining the skill level of each occupation, advice was sought from employers, industry training bodies, professional organisations and others to ensure that the information is as accurate and meaningful as possible.