

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: - CSIRO

DEST Question No. E589_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003.

Question:

There is another piece of analysis that I would like you to give me some information on. Previous answers to Estimates questions have confirmed a massive increase in the number of business and commercialisation staff employed across the organization.

Can you tell me what that figure is now (for the entire organisation)?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Annual Report: Finances 2 – Business development and commercialisation staff

CSIRO compiles information on its business development and commercialisation activities as part of the Commercialisation Survey, for which the data is collected on a financial year basis. In 2002-03, CSIRO's level of resources employed on business development and commercialisation was 187.3 equivalent full-time staff. This figure includes staff in business development and commercialisation, associated management activities, and commercialisation support activities, both in Divisions and the Corporate group. The equivalent number for the previous year, 2001-02, was 153.1.

In line with the implementation of the May 2001 Strategic Action Plan, the increase was a result of the strategic decision taken by CSIRO to bolster CSIRO's skill base in the business development and commercialisation domain to capture the maximum benefit (which includes both public good and commercial outcomes) for Australia and CSIRO from the intellectual property generated by CSIRO's scientists.