

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: All
Output Group: All

DEST Question Nos. E342_05, E343_05, E344_05 and E345_05

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Questions:

How much did the department spend engaging language a) translator and b) interpreter level in each of the financial years i) 2001-02, ii) 2002-03, iii) 2003-04?

How many times did the department engage an a) translator and b) interpreter in each of the following years i) 2001-02, ii) 2002-03, iii) 2003-04?

For each language in which a) a translator and b) an interpreter was engaged, how many engagements occurred in each of the following years i) 2001-02, ii) 2002-03, iii) 2003-04?

What was the total cost of those engagements by language for a) translators and b) interpreters in each of the following years i) 2001-02, ii) 2002-03, iii) 2003-04?

Answers:

The International Education Group is the main user of interpreting and translating services in the Department. The Group does not record this type of expenditure to the level asked in the question. The information provided in the tables below is an estimate based on the information currently available.

TRANSLATION

Language	2001/02	Number	2002/03	Number	2003/04	Number
Arabic	NIL	NIL	\$A 35570.00	2	\$A 5390.00	7
Chinese	\$A 60935.67	6	\$A 3730.93	5	\$7022.47	2
German	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Indonesian	\$A 33006.13	29	\$A 356.47	3	\$A 769.01	2
Japanese	\$A 22820.76	8	\$A 1588.00	5	\$A 2451.66	6
Korean	\$A 19494.59	5	\$A 181.40	1	\$A 4795.96	7
Malaysian	\$A 500.00	1	NIL	NIL	\$A 500.00	1
Portuguese	\$A 7166.00	6	\$A 6000.00	10	\$A 7460.00	11
Russian	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	\$A 30800.00	2
Spanish	\$A 19273.50	6	\$A 8100.00	11	\$A 7977.70	12
Thai	\$A 16357.50	1	\$A 362.10	1	\$A 1512.97	5
Turkish	NIL	NIL	\$A 144.54	1	NIL	NIL
Vietnamese	\$A 16779.50	3	NIL	NIL	\$A 660.00	1
TOTALS PER YEAR	\$A 196,333.65	65	\$A 56,033.44	39	\$A 69339.77	56

INTERPRETATION

Language	2001/02	Number	2002/03	Number	2003/04	Number
Arabic	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Auslan *	\$A 1785.40	4	\$A 634.09	1	\$A 180.00	1
Chinese	\$A 587.85	1	NIL	NIL	\$A 325.28	1
French	NIL	NIL	\$A 540.05	1	NIL	NIL
German	\$A 8943.34	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Indonesian	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Japanese	\$A 1810.82	5	\$A 1230.30	2	\$A 3286.86	8
Korean	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Malaysian	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Portuguese	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Russian	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Spanish	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Thai	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Turkish	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Vietnamese	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Language Unknown	NIL	NIL	\$A 347.20	7	\$A 777.95	13
TOTALS PER YEAR	\$A 13,127.41	11	\$A 2,751.64	11	\$A 4,570.09	23

*Arranged through Corporate Strategy Group, not International Education Group.

The Following response was provided by CSIRO.

CSIRO does occasionally require the assistance of people with translation and interpretation skills in order to carry out its activities; however CSIRO engages external translator and interpreter level services infrequently. CSIRO's specific requirements include the translation of agreements from or to other languages and English and the checking of translations into other languages. CSIRO also has requirements for the translation of patent application specifications from English to other languages. In relation to the translation of agreements, CSIRO generally relies on its current staff (a number of whom speak and read foreign languages and who also have other relevant knowledge). The translation and interpretation of patent documentation is arranged for CSIRO through the relevant patent attorney firm which has been engaged for the purpose of that patent application (payment for which is usually made as part of the overall fee and is not paid as a separate invoice).

Information on the engagement of translator or interpreter level services is not held centrally. CSIRO's twenty research divisions are located on over fifty sites across Australia and decisions to engage translators and interpreters are made locally. Corporate units do not appear to have engaged translators or interpreter level services during these periods.

Nil response provided from other portfolio agencies.