

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2 and 3 NOVEMBER 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W622-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing

The Prime Minister has claimed in his media release of 9 October that 'the real wages of Australian workers have risen by 14.9 per cent' during his Government:

- (a) Is this statistic from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)?
- (b) If so, please provide the catalogue, page and table number for this statistic.
- (c) If not, what is the source of this statistic?
- (d) Was ABS data used to calculate this statistic?
- (e) Please provide a detailed copy of the data and the calculations performed to reach this figure broken down by industry and occupation

Answer:

- (a) Yes.
- (b) *Australian National Accounts* publication (Cat. No. 5206.0). Table 12 and table 41 are used.
- (c) N/A.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) A copy of the data and calculations is provided below:

	Final consumption expenditure - Households (seasonally adjusted)	Average non-farm compensation per employee (seasonally adjusted) (\$)	Real Average non-farm compensation per employee (\$)
March quarter 1996	84.7	8,665.00	10,465.52
June quarter 2005	102.3	12,025.00	12,025.00

Real average non-farm compensation per employee for March 1996 =
 $(8,665.00/84.7) * 12,025.00 = \$10,466.00$

Real average non-farm compensation per employee for June 2005 =
 $(12,025.00/102.3) * 12,025.00 = \$12,025.00$

Real wages growth over the period = $(12,025.00-10,466.00)/ 10,466.00 * 100 =$
14.9 per cent

The data is not available by industry and occupation.