

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(127) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Ludwig asked:

Based on the Department's own records what percentage of people on a skilled migration (independent stream) visa, are still working in that skilled stream after 3 months?

Answer:

While the Department does not have information on what proportion of skilled independent migrants are working in a skilled occupation three months after arrival, we do have information on how skilled independent migrants are faring after six months. This information comes from the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Australia (LSIA).

The latest study, LSIA 3, surveyed 9,865 primary applicants who entered Australia in 2004-05 and found that after six months, 67% of skilled independent primary applicants were working in a skilled job. Our experience following previous cohorts of skilled migrants suggests that this percentage will increase steadily the longer the skilled migrants have lived in Australia.

The full list of skilled visa classes for LSIA 3 is:

105	119	120	121	124	126	127	128
131	132	134	136	137	138	139	160
161	162	163	164	165	805	840	844
845	846	855	856	858	880	881	
882	892	857					