



STATEMENT

Fair Work Act 2009

s.285—Annual wage reviews to be conducted

Annual Wage Review 2018–19

(C2019/1)

JUSTICE ROSS, PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT HATCHER
DEPUTY PRESIDENT ASBURY
COMMISSIONER HAMPTON
PROFESSOR RICHARDSON
MR GIBBS
MR APTED

MELBOURNE, 8 NOVEMBER 2018

DRAFT RESEARCH PROGRAM

[1] The *Annual Wage Review 2017–18* decision stated that the Expert Panel intended to give consideration to a research program for the *Annual Wage Review 2018–19* (2018–19 Review) and gave interested parties an opportunity to lodge research proposals.¹ No proposals were received.

[2] A draft research program for the 2018–19 Review is provided at Attachment A for comment. The draft research program includes a description of the Statistical report and Research reference list.

[3] Submissions to the Fair Work Commission (Commission) regarding the draft research program should be made by close of business on 23 November 2018 and can be filed electronically at awr@fwc.gov.au.

[4] Submissions will be posted to the Commission's website.



Printed by authority of the Commonwealth Government Printer <PR702143>

¹ [2018] FWCFB 3500 at para. 497.

Attachment A

Annual Wage Review 2018–19—draft research program



The following items will be published to inform the *Annual Wage Review 2018–19* (2018–19 Review).

Statistical report

This will follow the format of previous Statistical reports, and will be updated throughout the 2018–19 Review as new data are released.

Research reference list

This will follow the format of previous Research reference lists and will include Australian and international literature, such as working papers, journal articles or other types of published reports relevant to the minimum wages and modern awards objectives. The list will initially cover literature published over the year to February 2019 and be updated throughout the 2018–19 Review.

Accessing ABS data sources

The Commission is engaging with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to explore opportunities to use and link various data sources to undertake research topics relevant to the minimum wages and modern awards objectives. Research proposals and expectant projects will be communicated in due course.

Research reports

Outlines of the research reports to be undertaken for the 2018–19 Review are provided below.

Developments in wages growth

This report will analyse several indicators of wages growth to assess the current period of low wages growth. The report will review the recent discussion on wages growth in Australia and contribute to the literature by also examining differences in wages growth between modern award minimum wages, enterprise agreements and individual arrangements.

Insights into underemployment

The ABS now publishes monthly data on underemployment and underutilisation disaggregated by gender and age group. This report will present an analysis of this monthly data to look into trends and assess how changes among these characteristics have contributed to shifts in aggregate underemployment and underutilisation.