

CoCA Senate Submission Appendix No 6

Overall Effect on Access to Work and Remuneration of the 2003 Changes from 1999 to 2011

% of celebrants doing 1 to 10 weddings increased from 29.53% to 52.3 %
 % of celebrants doing 11 to 25 weddings decreased from 26.20% to 21.95 %
% of celebrants doing 25 to 100 weddings decreased from 33.8 % to 16.35 %
 % of celebrants doing over 100 weddings decreased from 3.73 % to 2.1 %

Given Commonwealth self-employed professionals-in-private practice need to average 100 weddings pa to make a sustainable weekly wage from wedding work, the effect of **the 2003 Changes have halved work and income and been disastrous.**

Adding other ceremony work in 1999 may have allowed 33.8 % celebrants with over 25 wedding per to make a part-time to full-time income from work as a civil celebrant. **This opportunity has shrunk by one half.**

And the number doing 10 weddings or less increased from 36.3% to 63.8%

At \$500 per wedding to compare AVERAGE GROSS incomes of independent celebrants, these tables show **a massive drop in earnings** from **\$17,500 pa (1999) to \$3,500 pa (2010).**

These figures demonstrate that Civil celebrants, like other professionals, need fair recompense for their work, but remuneration is not the prime or only reason they offer their services to the community.

Table 1 - CIVIL MARRIAGES 1999 Dept AG's Statistics
Average weddings per celebrant per year = 35

Number Of Weddings Per Annum	Celebrants %	Celebrants Number
Nil	6.78 %	113
1 - 10	29.53 %	493
11 - 25	26.20 %	438
26 - 50	21.70 %	362
51 - 100	12.08 %	202
101 - 150	2.53 %	42
151 - 200	0.95 %	16
200 plus	0.25 %	4

Celebrante and AFCC Association Survey (2012)
Average weddings per celebrant per year = 7

HOW MANY CEREMONIES DID YOU PERFORM IN 2011?

RESPONSE	%	COUNT
None	6.4%	94
Between 1 and 5	32.8%	480
Between 5 and 10	20.5%	300
Between 10 and 20	17.8%	261
Between 20 and 30	8.3%	122
Between 30 and 40	4.2%	61
Between 40 and 50	2.7%	39
Between 50 and 75	4.1%	60
Between 75 and 100	1.2%	17
More than 100	2.1%	31
TOTAL	100%	1465