

# Iscah's Analysis of the Skill Select Round of 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016

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**Nurses** – This occupation was made pro rata for the 24<sup>th</sup> November round with just 27 EOIs invited. Again just 27 places were given for the 7<sup>th</sup> December round. DIBP last week CONFIRMED that this was an error (presumably by the Department of Education who manage the skill select invitation process) and it is no longer Pro Rata. As such there should be close to 300 EOIs given invites for Nurses in the 21<sup>st</sup> December round for anyone with 60 points or more.

**Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers** – Again just 17 places allocated and there are only 225 places left for the rest of the program year. The invitation mark as predicted has shot to 70 points with an immediate invite. There may be a few 65 point applicants who sneak in from mid November 2016 EOIs. But if you lodged an EOI in December I can't see those people getting invites this program year now as most people in this occupation will be scrambling for higher English marks and jump over you to 70 points.

Of course with this occupation Pro rata that also means that DIBP will not invite any more 489 Family sponsored visas this program year in this occupation.

**Electronics Engineers** – With this now also pro rata the invitation mark has gone straight to 65 points. For about a one or two round wait for an invite. Just 382 places left. I can't see any 60 point people getting an invite who lodge an EOI from December 2016 onwards for the rest of this program year now.

Again with this occupation Pro rata that also means that DIBP will not invite any more 489 Family sponsored visas this program year in this occupation.

**Accountants** – With 98 invites per round the EOI invitation date at 70 points moved forward just 1 day !!.

We had predicted that an EOI lodged in November may take 40 weeks at 70 points, that could even get longer now unfortunately.

**Auditors** – The EOI invitation date at 70 points has now caught up to where it was back in September and currently is at 26/9/2016. So in fact is a better option than Accountant. This won't really last as those eligible for skills assessments in both occupations will surely lodge two EOIs anyhow.

Again a 40 week or more if you lodge an EOI now.

**ICT Business Analysts** – No invitations were issued in error in the 7<sup>th</sup> December round. We expect double invitations to make up for this in the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 round. So last months summary is repeated here :

It is likely the reason the invitation dates went backwards for this occupation in recent rounds was similar to Auditors. That is, some people were invited who had already received an invitation in a different IT occupation. As such when they declined their ICT Business Analyst invitation , two months later DIBP would have reinvited them again so skewing the date at 65 points

An EOI lodged today at 70 points should get an invite next round, at 65 points it won't be before July 2017.

**Software and Applications Programmer** – No invitations were issued in error in the 7<sup>th</sup> December round. We expect double invitations to make up for this in the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 round. So last months summary is repeated here :

The 65 point passmark continues to steadily receive invites. 2948 of the 5662 places have been used and with invites at 225 per round the places should last right through to the last skill select round in June 2016. An EOI lodged now at 65 points would likely receive an invite within 2-4 weeks.

**Computer Network Professionals** – No invitations were issued in error in the 7<sup>th</sup> December round. We expect double invitations to make up for this in the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 round. So last months summary is repeated here :

Similarly for this occupation, DIBP did not Pro Rata it until 561 of the 1426 places were used after just 2 rounds. Now at 50 places per round this occupation will also close in mid April 2017. Also 65 points are needed for a current invite and an EOI lodged now at that mark would likely take 6 weeks for an invite.

**Other Engineering Professionals** – No invitations were issued in error in the 7<sup>th</sup> December round. We expect double invitations to make up for this in the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 round. So last months summary is repeated here :

DIBP did not pro rata this occupation until over half the occupations were used (503 out of 1000) just two rounds into the program year. So now as they limit the invites to just 28 per round it has forced the invite mark up to 65 points with about a 8 weeks wait for a 65 point EOI lodged today. Based on 28 per round this occupation will close in mid April 2017.

**Overall Skilled Program** – DIBP are around 6,000 short of their projected 189 targets for the program year at the half way stage. They continue to look to invite around 1600 189s and 200 489s each round but there is no hope they will get close to these targets unless they either change their Pro Rata limitations or drop the invitation mark to 55 points for the other occupations. I can't see the 55 point option having a large enough or quick enough influence.

So something has to give, either DIBP are going to miss their program targets for the first time in living memory , or the pro rata policy is going to have to be looked at seriously.

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