

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

**Question: BET 562-572**

**Topic: Staffing**

**Written: 17 June 2013**

**Senator BUSHBY asked:**

562. How many ongoing staff have been recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
563. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
564. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?
565. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?
566. How many non-ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?
567. How many contract staff left the department/agency in the year this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?
568. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred this financial year to date? What was the reason for these reductions?
569. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.
570. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.
571. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.
572. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.

*\*Financial Year to Date – 31 May 2013*

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#### Answer:

562. 86 ongoing staff (excluding ABS Interviewers) have been recruited this financial year to date (to 15 March 2013). Of these; 73 were at the APS level (60 being Graduates), 11 at the Executive Level and two at the SES level.

563. As at 31st May 2013 there were 237 non-ongoing staff employed by the ABS, compared with 480 as at 30 June 2012 (excluding ABS Interviewers). Please see the following table for comparison of levels.

	at 30/06/12	at 31/05/13
<b>APS 1-6</b>	418	225
<b>DPC 1-6</b>	31	0
<b>EL</b>	30	12
<b>SES</b>	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>237</b>

564. Contractors are not engaged as APS staff.

565. During this financial year (up to 31 May 2013) there have been 167 ongoing staff (excluding ABS Interviewers) leave the ABS. Of these; 135 were at the APS level, 29 were at the Executive Level and 3 at the SES level.

566. During this financial year (up to 31 May 2013) there have been 471 non-ongoing staff (excluding ABS Interviewers) leave the ABS. Of these; 436 were at the APS level and 25 were at the Executive Level. The other ten non-ongoing staff were Population Census Data Processing Centre (DPC) employees who left at the completion of the Population Census processing phase.

567. Contractors are not engaged as APS staff.

568. 12 voluntary redundancies have occurred for ABS APS staff this financial year to date. These were largely due to technological or other changes in the work methods of the ABS, or changes in the nature, extent or organisation of functions within the ABS.

84 ABS Interviewer redundancies have occurred this financial year to date. These reductions were as result of ABS work program adjustments needed to meet the Mid-year Economic and Fiscal Outlook savings.

569. There were no involuntary redundancies.

570. Activities to manage staffing numbers in the ABS include: natural attrition; limited general recruitment (recruitment has been limited to key positions); strict limitations to non-ongoing and graduate recruitment; and extensions to non-ongoing staff contracts needing approval by the Chief Operating Officer (COO). As at 31 May 2013 there was no staff reduction target.

571. Not applicable.

572. There are no plans for involuntary redundancies.