

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Additional Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14
27 February 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Government Payments of accounts

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Ludwig

QUESTION No.: AI-49

1. From Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date, what has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?
2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days?
6. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?
7. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since 7 September 2013?
8. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined

ANSWER

1. The average time period for payment of invoices is approximately nine days from the receipt of a correctly rendered invoice.

Responses to Questions 2 to 6 are provided in the table below. Late payments are primarily the result of clarifying or seeking further information in relation to the provision of goods or services before invoices are passed to the processing phase.

Total invoices processed	27,543
Total number paid under 30 days	27,462
Total percentage paid under 30 days	99.71%
Total number paid between 30 and 60 days	70
Total percentage paid between 30 and 60 days	0.25%
Total number paid between 60 and 90 days	7
Total percentage paid between 60 and 90 days	0.03%
Total number paid between 90 and 120 days	1
Total percentage paid between 90 and 120 days	0.01%

7. For the period 7 September 2013 to 28 February 2014, the department has not paid any interest on overdue accounts.
8. The Australian Taxation Office general interest charge rate is applied.