

**Senate Supermarket Prices Committee - Questions on notice**  
**ALDI Stores Australia hearing on 11 April 2024**  
**Due 24 April 2024**

Question 1 from Senator Sterle

**Senator STERLE:** To the Aldi leadership group, can I just declare that I have protested out front of your stores on many occasions. I'm not sneaking up on you, and if you check my history then you'll see why. My question is in regard to your supply chains: is it possible for the committee—no names, no pack drill—to have a copy of your transport contracts? I don't want to know the company's name or anything or what you require of it. You probably want to take this on notice. You need to google me a little bit more and see my background, because I'd be very keen to know what you do with your tier 1 transports, but I'd also be keen to know what your requirements and standards are for your tier 2s. I said in a previous inquiry into the transport industry, which I chaired, that I don't believe the sustainability and viability of our transport companies are a major issue for Aldi. You will have every opportunity to defend that comment that I've made, and, if I'm wrong, I'll be the first person to stand up in the Senate and apologise.

**Ms McGrath:** Can I just clarify: is the question regarding the sustainability of tier 2 transport?

**Senator STERLE:** My accusation is that, for your tier 2s, I don't believe that Aldi follow up on whether the team management is being kept, whether they're safe and sustainable and whether they have remunerations and conditions that match, maybe, your tier 1—I have no doubt your tier 1 is probably a lot tighter. It's up to Aldi to prove my accusation wrong. I'd love to be proved wrong.

**Mr Jakupec:** Yes, we can take that on notice, in terms of the contract, and, if that's what you'd like, we'll look into that. In terms of safety, we put an enormous amount of effort into ensuring that we have safe work practices both within our own business and within our suppliers' businesses, whether that's a transport supplier or a product supplier. So we spend a lot of effort and spend a lot of time talking about it. We certainly have high expectations within our contracts for our suppliers and an expectation that they'll comply with all legislation; that, obviously, they'll maintain the safety of their vehicles; and that they'll maintain or roster for fatigue management. So we certainly look at that on a regular basis. I don't share your concerns, but I respect that you've got a different view.

Answer

ALDI Domestic Transport Services Supply Agreements are entered into with all transport suppliers. The Agreement is only entered into after extensive due diligence screening checks have been conducted. These checks include Fair Work and National Heavy Vehicle checklists that must be completed by independent and appropriately qualified parties.

ALDI's Domestic Transport Services Supply Agreement is 'commercial in confidence' and not able to be provided given it contains commercial sensitive and confidential information.

Question 2 from Senator Cadell

**Senator CADELL:** You said you had 590 stores. I think in 2019 there was a property search that showed you had 375 property titles. For how many of those 590 do you own the premises they are on?

**Ms McGrath:** It's different in different markets. For example, in WA the market is slightly different and therefore we have a fairly high percentage of leasehold—more in the 65 per cent and above. We've got other markets where it's closer to fifty-fifty or 60-40.

**Senator CADELL:** I'm from the Hunter Valley, and I've noticed they're mostly standalone developments in the Hunter, rather than Charlestown Square—

**Ms McGrath:** Yes, it really depends on the exact market. I don't have them to mind, but—

**Senator CADELL:** On notice, could I ask for that breakdown, state-by-state.

**Ms McGrath:** Yes, that's very easy to get.

Answer

As at 24 April 2024, ALDI has 592 stores in Australia. See below the number of ALDI owned stores broken down by state and territory.

State/Territory	Owned (land and building)	Partially owned	Leased	Total stores
ACT	-	3 Crown leases. The Government owns the land and ALDI has 99 year leases. ALDI owns the building.	9	12
NSW	95	3 ground leases, where ALDI leases the land but owns the building.  1 combined lease. ALDI owns the building and part of the land. However, the store is on leased land.	105	204
QLD	59	2 ground leases, where ALDI leases the land but owns the building.	53	114
SA	26	3 ground leases, where ALDI leases the land but owns the building.	16	45
VIC	70	1 combined lease. ALDI owns the building and the land it is on. However, ALDI leases the land the carpark is on.	94	165
WA	14	-	38	52

Question 3 from Senator Cadell

**Senator CADELL:** Not even on a thing like alcohol? You wouldn't have your alcohol beverage purchased overseas versus Australia?

**Mr Lack:** I don't have it; it is something that is more simple to calculate but I don't have that at hand.

**Senator CADELL:** If you could potentially look at that and come back either on notice or with a PII claim, that would be great.

**Mr Lack:** We can take that on notice.

Answer

ALDI has 100 core range alcohol products. Approximately 68 per cent are sourced through Australian suppliers and approximately 56 per cent are made in Australia.