

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: SSAT - Social Security Appeals Tribunal

Question No: 462

Topic: Appeals

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cameron asked:

1. How many appeals were lodged with the SSAT by type of payment for each month from 1 January 2013 to 30 September 2014?
2. How many appeals were upheld by the SSAT by type of payment for each month from 1 January 2013 to 30 September 2014?
3. How many appeals were dismissed by the SSAT by type of payment for each month from 1 January 2013 to 30 September 2014?
4. How many appeals were withdrawn after lodgement with the SSAT by type of payment for each month from 1 January 2013 to 30 September 2014?
5. How many appeals were undetermined by the SSAT by type of payment for each month from 1 January 2013 to 30 September 2014?

Answer:

The SSAT reports data of the kind referred to in questions 1 to 4 on an annual basis as Appendix 4 to its Annual Report. For the reasons explained in the SSAT's answer to question 836 of the 2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings, there is no data on appeals "upheld" but data on decisions "set aside" or "varied" is the best proxy. Extracting such detailed data as requested on a monthly basis would require specialised reports to be written in circumstances in which such data would not assist in management of the SSAT's business.

In relation to question 5, the SSAT reports "on hand" figures at 30 June each year. The SSAT also publishes the number of applications for review of Centrelink, paid parental leave and child support decisions received and finalised each quarter on its internet site: <http://www.ssat.gov.au/about-the-ssat/our-performance>).