

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

**Department/Agency: Australian Taxation Office**

**Question: AET 783-789**

**Topic: Government payments of accounts**

**Reference: written - 19 February 2016**

**Senator: Ludwig, Joe**

**Question:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

783. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?

784. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?

785. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?

786. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?

787. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?

788. 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 Estimates, 2014?

789. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

**Answer:**

From 1 September 2015 – 31 January 2016

783. The average time for the ATO to pay its' accounts was 27.71 days.

784. The ATO paid 10,309 invoices (96.1 percent) within 30 days of receipt of a correctly rendered invoice.

785. The ATO paid 281 invoices (2.6 percent) between 30 and 60 days.

786. The ATO paid 63 invoices (0.6 percent) between 60 and 90 days.

787. The ATO paid 31 invoices (0.3 percent) between 90 and 120 days. f) The ATO paid 44 invoices (0.4 percent) in over 120 days.

788. From 1 July 2014 to 31 January 2016, the ATO paid \$1,454 (GST exclusive) in interest under the Supplier Pay on Time or Pay Interest policy. \*

789. Interest is paid at the General Interest Charge (GIC) rate. The GIC rate is updated quarterly and calculated using a statutory formula based on the monthly arrangement yield of 90 day bank accepted bills (as published by the Reserve Bank of Australia) and an uplift factor of 7 percent.

\*Supplier Pay on Time or Pay Interest policy effective from 1 July 2014.