

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2016 - 2017

Division/Agency: Individuals and Indirect Tax Division
Question No: 269
Topic: Tax Integrity - Small Business / Individual
Reference: Hansard page 82 (01 March 2017)
Senator: McAllister, Jenny

Question:

Senator McALLISTER: Of those, is it the same proportion where 95 per cent resolve it within 90 days and five per cent run over? Is that proportionately about—

Mrs Purvis-Smith: No, I am actually talking about the five per cent that run over. I would have to take the question on notice to understand. Of the 95 per cent that get paid within 90 days, I am not too sure if that is a 65- 35 split. The five per cent that is not paid within the 90 days, which becomes collectable debt for the ATO, is 65 per cent attributed to small business and 35 per cent to individuals.

Answer:

- The ATO advise that in 2015-16, an average of 96.2 percent of all taxpayer debt was paid on time or within 90 days of the due date. For small business tax debt that figure is 88.1 percent.
- The Australian Taxation Office 2015-16 annual report provides that the collectable debt was \$19.2 billion as at 30 June 2016, with small businesses accounting for 65.2% (\$12.5 billion) of total collectable debt holdings.

Note: Hansard record should reflect Ms Smith from the Australian taxation Office not Mrs Purvis-Smith the Department of Treasury.