

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15
2-3 June 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Government Payments of Accounts

REFERENCE: Written Questions – Senator Ludwig

QUESTION No.: BI-149

1. From Additional Estimates in February, 2014 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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014?
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 five days from the receipt of a correctly rendered invoice.
- 2-6. 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	33,488
Total number paid under 30 days	33,473
Total percentage paid under 30 days	99.96%
Total number paid between 30 and 60 days	11
Total percentage paid between 30 and 60 days	0.03%
Total number paid between 60 and 90 days	3
Total percentage paid between 60 and 90 days	0.01%
Total number paid between 90 and 120 days	1
Total percentage paid between 90 and 120 days	0.00%
Total number paid over 120 days	0
Total percentage paid over 120 days	0.00%

7. For the period 28 February 2014 to 30 June 2014, the department has not paid any interest on overdue accounts.
8. Where interest is paid the Australian Taxation Office general interest charge rate will be used.