

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Treasury Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates
2014 - 2015

Department/Agency: Treasury
Question: SBT 4259
Topic: Minimum Wage
Reference: Hansard page no. 11 - 22 October 2014
Senator: Leyonhjelm, David

Question:

Senator LEYONHJELM: Has the Treasury done any work on how many people are on the minimum wage?

Ms Croke: We have some data, but mainly that work would be done by the department of employment.

Senator LEYONHJELM: Have you reviewed the work of any others on that? If you have not done it yourself, have you reviewed the work of the department of employment on it, or anybody else's work?

Ms Croke: I would have to take that on notice. I do not think so—not from recent memory. But I could take that on notice.

Answer:

Treasury has previously undertaken analysis of minimum wage coverage in Australia.

In the course of developing Australian Government submissions to the Fair Work Commission's Annual Wage Reviews, Treasury has considered issues including minimum wage incidence.

The Department of Employment, which has direct portfolio responsibility for these matters, produced estimates of the number of people earning the National Minimum Wage in May 2012 using the Employee Earnings and Hours survey published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics which appear in the Australian Government submission to the 2014 Annual Wage Review.