

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: ABS

Question: 1034-1041

Topic: Government payments policy

Reference: written - 30 October 2015

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question:

Since 1 January 2015:

1034. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others (including small businesses)?
1035. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
1036. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
1037. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
1038. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days?
1039. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?
1040. 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 Budget Estimates June 2015?
1041. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

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Answer:

1034. The average time period to pay accounts was 10 days.

1035. to 1039.

Payment of Accounts
1 January 2015 to 31 October 2015

Days Paid	Transactions	Percentage
< 30 days	15,059	92.7 %
30 - < 60 days	760	4.7 %
60 - < 90 days	241	1.5 %
90 - < 120 days	116	0.7 %
120 days plus	77	0.5 %
	16,253	100 %

1040. The ABS is paying interest on overdue amounts. Since June 15, interest paid on overdue amounts totalled \$2,005.

1041. Payment is in accordance with the general interest charge rate determined under section 8AAD of the Taxation Administration Act 1953 on the day that payment is due. Details of the General Interest Charge rate are available from the Australian Taxation Office.