

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Australian Public Service Commission

**Outcome/Program:** Cross Portfolio

**Topic:** Payment of small business accounts

**Senator:** Wong

**Question reference number:** 204

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 17 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Since 18 September 2013 what percentage of account payments to small business have been made (a) within 30 days (b) within 31-60 days and (c) beyond 60 days? Has any interest for late payment been paid to a small business in this period? If so, please provide details.

**Answer:**

Due to system constraints, the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)'s financial management information system does not separately identify small businesses therefore payment statistics can only be performed on all suppliers.

For the period between 18 September 2013 and 30 November 2013:

- a) 91% of account payments to suppliers have been made within 30 days
- b) 3% were made in 31-60 days
- c) 3% were made beyond 60 days

The APSC's financial management information system does not record the date invoices have been correctly rendered, which can be a later date than the invoice issue date. Above statistics were based on the invoice issue date. Invoices not correctly rendered on time are the primary reason for late payments.

The APSC did not incur late payment fee or interest charge during the period between 18 September 2013 and 30 November 2013.