

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

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

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1

**Topic:** Industrial action

**Senator:** Smith

**Question reference number:** 1

**Type of question:** Spoken

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 December 2015

**Number of pages:** 5

**Question:**

Senator SMITH: If you have other statistics with regard to the industrial action, I would be grateful to see them. Perhaps you could provide them on notice. What time of the day do people participate in the industrial action? I am curious to know what time of the day on 15 September, what time of the day on 24 September, what time of the day Human Services participated in industrial action and what time of the day the department of tax participated et cetera.

Ms Foster: From memory, there were a couple of different stoppages. There was a one-to-five and a five-till-nine stoppage in the Department of Human Services.

Senator SMITH: If you could provide me that information as well?

Ms Foster: Yes.

...

Senator GALLAGHER: If you are providing that information to Senator Smith, I think the results for those agencies where ballots have been held on an offer—including the participation rate, which is very high from my reading of the results—should be included in the answer, if that would be okay.

**Answer:**

The Australian Public Service Commission (the APSC) keeps records of protected industrial action as reported to it by agencies.

Agencies are asked to provide the APSC with copies of all notices, and to report on the participation and impact of stoppages.

There have not been many significant stoppages, with most being for 1-4 hours. Most protected industrial action this bargaining round has been partial work bans. Agencies have reported that the impact of stoppages has been low, with low levels of participation.

The APSC routinely collects participation data only for major work stoppages.

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**Participation in CPSU work stoppages 18-26 June 2015**

Information reported below is what is held by the APSC

<b>Agency</b>	<b>18- Jun</b>	<b>19- Jun</b>	<b>22- Jun</b>	<b>23- Jun</b>	<b>24- Jun</b>	<b>25- Jun</b>	<b>26- Jun</b>
Australian Bureau of Statistics	67		14	78	17	24	37
Department of Immigration and Border Protection, including Australian Border Force	679		40	160	232	7	
Australian Institute of Criminology	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Australian Taxation Office	421	0	40	62	227	257	123
Bureau of Meteorology							
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	30						
Department of Agriculture	100						
Department of Defence	-	-	-	-	-	-	862
Department of Human Services	2,091	132	202	213	858	999	370
Department of Education and Training	4						
Department of Employment	32	0	0	90			
Department of the Environment	4	-					
Department of Veterans' Affairs							
Geoscience Australia	-	-	-	9	-	-	-
National Library of Australia	-	-	-	57	-	-	-
	3,428	132	296	606	1,334	1,287	1,392

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**Work stoppages 3 August 2015**

Work stoppage of up to 4 hours in the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Department of Agriculture, at various sites.

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection advised that 1244 employees participated.

**Work stoppages 15 September 2015**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Participation (where advised by agency)</b>
Department of Human Services	13:00-17:30	141
Department of Employment	12:30-17:00	55
Australian Taxation Office	12:30-17:00	38
Australian Bureau of Statistics	12:00-17:00	
Australian Institute of Criminology	12:00-17:00	
Department of Immigration and Border Protection	12:00-17:00	
IP Australia	12:00-17:00	
Department of Agriculture and Water	12:00-17:00	
Department of Defence	12:00-17:00	
Department of Education and Training	12:30-17:00	
Department of the Environment	12:00-17:00	
Department of Parliamentary Services	12:00-17:00	
National Library of Australia	12:00-17:00	35
Department of Veterans' Affairs	12:00-16:30	
Geoscience Australia	12:00-17:00	

**Work Stoppages 24 September 2015**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Participation (where advised by agency)</b>
Department of Human Services	12:30-17:00	5,557
Department of Employment	12:30-17:00	31
Australian Taxation Office	13:00-17:00 17:00-22:00	1,082
Australian Bureau of Statistics	12:30-17:00	123
Department of Immigration and Border Protection	04:30-06:30 09:00-11:00	
Australian Border Force Marine Unit	14:00-18:00	
Bureau of Meteorology	12:00-17:00	
Department of Agriculture and Water	Formal notification of times was not received from the Dept. Trend indicates that each stoppage lasted for two hours in the morning and evening.	
Department of Defence	12:30-17:00	
Department of Education and Training	12:30-17:00	
Department of the Environment	12:00-17:00	
Department of Veterans' Affairs	14:30-17:00	

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**Rolling stoppages from 15-30 September 2015 – Immigration/Agriculture**

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Department of Agriculture and Water experienced rolling stoppages and partial work bans from 16-30 September 2015. The action involved eight major airports, cruise ship processing terminals, the National Border Targeting Centre, international mail centres, container examination facilities, wharves, regional offices, and the telephone interpreter service. The work bans and stoppages ranged from one and three hours. There was passenger congestion at some airports and delays for air and sea cargo occurred.

Date	Participation in stoppage
<i>Department of Immigration and Border Protection</i> 13,786 employees	
21 Sept 2015	947
22 Sept 2015	316
23 Sept 2015	876
25 Sept 2015	439
26 Sept 2015	259
28 Sept 2015	285
29 Sept 2015	527
30 Sept 2015	474

<i>Department of Agriculture</i> 4,639 employees	
15 Sept 2015	14
21 Sept 2015	51
22 Sept 2015	40
23 Sept 2015	23
24 Sept 2015	168
25 Sept 2015	18
26 Sept 2015	56
28 Sept 2015	41
29 Sept 2015	19
30 Sept 2015	49

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**Enterprise Agreement Ballot Outcomes**

As at 19 October 2015

Agency	Outcome of Vote	Participation Rate (where known)
Communications	Voted up 64.5% in favour	79% %
Treasury	Voted up 58% in favour	67%
Australian Office of Financial Management	Voted up. 83% in favour	
Attorney-General's	Voted down 31% in favour	
APSC	Voted up 65.43% in favour	80%
Comsuper (No longer part of the APS)	Voted up 65.7%	88.9%
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science	Voted down 23.27%	76%
Australian Transport Safety Bureau	Voted up 55% in favour	
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development	Voted down 30% in favour	
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Voted down 37% in favour	82%
Department of Health	Voted down 39.19% in favour	75.7%
IP Australia	Voted down 27.02% in favour	84%
Department of Social Services	Voted up. 52.3% in favour	75.7%
Department of Human Services	Voted down 17% in favour	
Australian Securities and Investments Commission	Voted down 32.15 % in favour	77%
Fair Work Ombudsman	Voted down 31.28% in favour	84.5%
Department of Immigration and Border Protection	Voted down 8.7% in favour	81.6%
Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	Voted up. 90% in favour	71%
Productivity Commission	Voted down 19% in favour	
Prime Minister & Cabinet	Voted down 22% in favour	
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources	Voted down 23% in favour	76%