

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2011-12
15 February 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: Financial Assistance for the Car Industry

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Bushby

QUESTION No.: AI-131

How much has the car industry received in total direct financial assistance from the Federal Government since 1 January 1985?

ANSWER

It is not possible to provide a consistent time series of direct budgetary assistance to the automotive industry from 1985. This is because estimates of some forms of budgetary assistance to the automotive industry from industry-wide programs such as assistance for research and development were not published prior to 2000. Further, many elements of assistance prior to 2000 were opaque and included protection via local content requirements.

Notwithstanding this, the Productivity Commission has published data on a consistent basis in various Trade and Assistance Review reports from 2000-01 onwards. This shows the motor vehicles and parts manufacturing industry has received \$6.7 billion in direct budgetary assistance over the period 2000-01 to 2009-10 inclusive.