

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

TREASURY

Australian Taxation Office

(Budget Estimates 29 May 2007)

Question **BET 91**
Topic: **Historical data last ten years: Disaggregation-AVO bonus, levels quantum and numbers paid**
Hansard Page: **E21b**

Senator **Sherry** asked:

I want to make a couple of points on the same issue. When was DAS transferred? Can you recall the approximate time?

Mr D'Ascenzo—It is a lot of years ago. It is near on a decade, I think.

Senator SHERRY—1996, was it?

Mr D'Ascenzo—Fairly close.

Senator SHERRY—1996 or 1997?

Senator Minchin—1997.

Senator SHERRY—Who was the head of the department then?

Mr D'Ascenzo—I do not know.

Senator SHERRY—Could you take on notice to disaggregate the bonus, the levels, the quantum paid and numbers paid. Obviously I do not want names.

Mr D'Ascenzo—I understand.

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Senator SHERRY—I return to my earlier question that you have taken on notice about the historical data over the last 10 years so that we can see what the trends have been. Thanks.

Mr D'Ascenzo—I am not sure whether I have over 10 years, but I will provide what I can.

Answer:

AVO has paid the following productivity bonuses since 1999:

Financial Year	Total bonus Paid	Number of staff receiving a bonus
1999/00	\$579,791	
2000/01	\$306,922	
2001/02	\$372,340	
2002/03	\$115,592	
2003/04	\$98,149	
2004/05	\$712,729	142
2005/06	\$368,562	161
Total	\$2,554,085	-

The total value of the AVO profit share bonus pool fluctuates annually based on the overall financial performance of the organisation. It is calculated from the operating result before tax. Key factors affecting the result include fees earned, staff numbers, and any large one-off cost items such as office moves and fitouts.

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With the transition from DAS to ATO systems the earlier records providing breakdowns of individual productivity bonus payments are not readily available. These breakdowns are available from 2004/05 onwards, enabling the calculation of the following average bonus payments:

2004/05	\$712,729 / 142 staff	=	Average bonus payment of \$5,021.29
2005/06	\$368,562 / 161 staff	=	Average bonus payment of \$2,289.19