

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
30, 31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.2: Workplace relations implementation

Output 2.2.4: Workplace relations services

Question Number: W337-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing:

How many complaints has the department received in the last year regarding the underpayment or non-payment of wages?

Please provide a breakdown of these complaints by: gender, age, occupation, industry, size of business, location (by state) and employment status (full-time, part-time, casual or independent contractor).

Of these complaints, how many involved unpaid monies of:

- (a) less than \$1,000
- (b) between \$1,000 and \$5,000
- (c) between \$5,000 and \$10,000
- (d) over \$10,000

Answer:

The Department received 4,933 claims for underpayment or non-payment of wages in the period 1 July 2004 to 31 March 2005. However, no further breakdowns are available.

The only available demographic breakdowns are claims finalised by State/Territory.

State or Territory	No of claims finalised
New South Wales (includes the ACT)	849
Victoria	1,937
Northern Territory	159
South Australia	196
Queensland	414
Tasmania	82
Western Australia	128
Total	3,765

A breakdown by monetary value of the cases finalised by the Department for the period 1 July 2004 to 31 March 2005 is only available for NSW (including the ACT), Victoria and the Northern Territory. These figures are:

	NSW/ACT	Vic	NT	Total
<\$1,000	215	591	65	871
\$1,000 and < \$5,000	133	357	31	521
\$5,000 and < \$10,000	29	49	7	85
Above \$10,000	6	21	3	30
Total	383	1018	106	1507