

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No.EW0249_12

Senator Abetz asked on 30/05/2011, Hansard page 23.

Refers to previous Question No [EW0730_11](#)

Question

Unfair Dismissal (Previous Question EW0730_11)

Senator ABETZ: I move to question on notice 0730, average time sought for extensions of unfair dismissal claims. I was told the average number of days extension sought is not recorded by Fair Work Australia. The fact that you do not do it is fine; it does not tell us that you cannot do it and that you should not do it..... We then settled on 14 days and I am wondering whether that 14 days has hit the mid-mark and is working well or whether Fair Work Australia is being inundated by applications between 14 and 21 days seeking an extension of time. That was the purpose of the question and, if you do not keep that data, could I invite you to see whether there is a data set or something that can be searched to reveal what the answer is, please? Mr Lee: We can examine that against a background of whether there would be some utility for us—performance would be one consideration. Collecting data does require some administrative resource and also against that we would want to factor in, in that sense, how onerous it would be to do. Subject to those provisos, we will take that on notice.

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response.

For the period 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011, 97 applications seeking an extension of time were determined. Of these, 23 applications sought an extension of time of up to 7 days and 74 sought an extension of time of greater than 7 days.