

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2012

30 May 2012

QUESTION: BET 39 - 42

Topic: Small business - measures (ATO)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator RYAN asked:

In 2009, the ATO introduced measures to assist small businesses. These measures included:

- 12 month general interest charge (GIC) free payment arrangements, and
- The opportunity to defer the payment date for activity statement liabilities.

These measures were recommitted to in 2010 (July 2010).

39. For the following financial years, how many small businesses requested interest free payment arrangements?
(a) 2009-10
(b) 2010-11
40. For the following financial years, how many small businesses received interest free payment arrangements?
(a) 2009-10
(b) 2010-11
41. For the following financial years, how many small businesses requested a deferral of payment on their next tax activity statement?
(a) 2009-10
(b) 2010-11
42. For the following financial years, how many small businesses were granted and denied a deferral of payment on their next tax activity statement?
(a) 2009-10
(b) 2010-11

Answer:

39. ATO systems are unable to extract aggregated figures for the number of small businesses requesting interest-free payment arrangements.
40. The number of interest-free payment arrangements granted to small businesses under the ATO's 'Assisting small business' measures were:
(a) 230,299 in 2009-10
(b) 114,361 in 2010-11.

A business can be granted more than one payment arrangement. No adjustment has been made where a business has multiple payment arrangements.

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41. ATO systems are unable to extract aggregated figures for the number of small businesses requesting deferral of payment on their next activity statement.
42. The number of payment deferrals on activity statements granted to small businesses under the ATO's 'Assisting small business' measures were:
 - (a) 6,647 in 2009-10
 - (b) 5,774 in 2010-11.

A business can be granted more than one payment deferral. No adjustment has been made where a business has multiple payment deferrals.

ATO systems are unable to extract aggregated figures for the number of payment deferrals denied.