

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

5 June 2013

Question: BET 1074

Topic: Taxi Costs (ATO)

Written

Senator BUSHBY asked:

1074. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date*? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.

a. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

**Financial year to date – 31 May 2013*

Answer:

1074. In 2012-13 to 31 May 2013, the ATO (including the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission, Australian Valuation Office, Australian Business Register and Tax Practitioners Board) spent \$3,769,781 (excluding GST) on taxis.

The ATO is a large national organisation that is located around Australia with over 80 per cent of staff located outside of Canberra. There is a need for the ATO to connect with the community, businesses, tax professionals and staff, requiring travel for a number of employees in the course of their ordinary duties. Taxi costs are typically incurred in the process of undertaking this official travel.

ATO Business Areas	2012-13 to 31 May 2013 (\$)
Aggressive Tax Planning	79,383
ATO Finance*	156,592
ATO People	224,374
Australian Charities & Not for Profits Commission	74,112
Australian Valuation Office	65,975
Business Reporting and Registration	85,449
Business Solutions	115,428
Client Account Services	310,736
Compliance Support & Capability	95,355
Corporate Relations	85,825
Customer Service & Solutions	112,588
Debt	157,151
Indirect Tax	311,672
Information & Communications Technology	322,455
Large Business & International	182,850
Law and Practice	210,216
Micro Enterprises & Individuals	239,348

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Office of the Chief Knowledge Officer	56,946
Office of the Commissioners	50,037
Operations Support & Capability	60,611
Serious Non-Compliance	135,593
Small & Medium Enterprises	199,826
Superannuation	195,726
Tax Practitioner & Lodgement Strategy	156,294
Tax Practitioners Board	85,239
Total	3,769,781

* ATO Finance taxi costs figure includes costs that are held in a cab charge holding account and have not yet been allocated to other business lines as at 31 May 2013.