

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

Question No: AET 149

Topic: ATO Staffing Levels

Hansard Page: E 37

Senator Xenophon asked:

Senator XENOPHON—If the response could be given today that would be useful. Mr D’Ascenzo, these are things you may wish to take on notice: how many staff, including SES staff, both ongoing and nonongoing, currently work at the ATO, including the classifications by number and percentage? How would that compare to the 2009 year and the 2010 year? I appreciate that you might want to take that on notice.

Mr D’Ascenzo—That information would be in our annual report, but we can make it available.

Senator XENOPHON—Yes, but specifics in terms of the classifications and percentages. Also, what are the projections in terms of staff levels and classifications for ongoing and non-ongoing staff and SES for the current tax year?

Answer:

Employees (including casual employees) by classification and percentage for the financial years ending 30 June 2009, 30 June 2010 and as at 28 February 2011 were:

Level	30-Jun-09 ¹		30-Jun-10 ¹		28-Feb-11 ²		30-Jun-2011 Forecast ³	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
CADET	96	0.40%	23	0.10%	4	0.02%	4	0.02%
GRADUATE	232	1.00%	162	0.70%	430	1.70%	430	1.64%
APS1	795	3.40%	1,489	6.10%	1,395	5.60%	2,000	7.62%
APS2	1,199	5.10%	1,730	7.10%	2,049	8.30%	2,500	9.52%
APS3	4,035	17.20%	3,771	15.60%	4,608	18.60%	4,800	18.28%
APS4	3,367	14.30%	3,351	13.80%	3,380	13.60%	3,400	12.95%
APS5	2,427	10.30%	2,285	9.40%	2,314	9.30%	2,400	9.14%
APS6	4,541	19.30%	4,578	18.80%	4,346	17.50%	4,400	16.76%
VALUER	55	0.20%	57	0.20%	60	0.24%	60	0.23%
EL1	4,422	18.90%	4,479	18.50%	4,173	16.80%	4,200	16.00%
EL2	2,020	8.60%	2,060	8.50%	1,778	7.20%	1,800	6.86%
SES	298	1.30%	292	1.20%	262	1.14%	262	1.00%
Total	23,487	100%	24,277	100%	24,799	100%	26,256	100%

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

¹. The staffing figures quoted in the 2009 and 2010 Annual Reports do not include casual employees by classification but are referred to separately in those reports.

². The 2011 YTD figures do not include short-term higher duty arrangements

³. The 30 June 2011 forecast projects substantive APS classifications and is based on current and future recruitment campaigns for ongoing and non-ongoing employees and is seasonally adjusted to account for natural attrition forecasted for March-June 2011.

The ATO is undertaking a bulk recruitment campaign to recruit up to 500 casual employees at the APS2 classification and up to 700 at the APS1 classification to assist the organisation to manage peak tax time workload. These staff will be casuals and used primarily in the Customer Service and Processing areas.

Our Operations sub-plan is recruiting up to 400 ongoing employees at the APS3 classification to work in our customer service and debt areas.

We are engaging approx 350 labour hire employees at the APS2 classification in our Customer Service area.

Our Compliance sub-plan is projected to increase by up to 150 ongoing employees primarily at the APS4, APS5 and APS6 levels in line with additional funding to complete Compliance work.

We expect to lose up to 400 employees before the end of the financial year through natural attrition and will aim to replace these.

Substantive (permanent) SES staff levels are projected to remain steady.