

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury

Australian Taxation Office

Budget Estimates 2004-05, (4 June)

Outcome 2, Output 2.2.1

Topic: Data series-private income-zero contributions

Hansard Page: E29

Senator Sherry asked:

Let us come back to the tax office then. How many people in its data series does the tax office have on a private income per annum of zero making contributions? I am just interested to know what the approximate number is.

Mr Jackson—I have not got a number like that to hand. I will have to take that on notice.

Senator SHERRY—Okay, if you could get the number of people contributing with private incomes per annum of zero. I know there would be some, but these cameos give the impression that everyone is going to do it. The production of the cameos and the final sign-off of them went through the Treasurer's office, I assume, with the budget papers.

Answer:

To date, over 10 million income tax returns for individuals have been lodged for the year ended 30 June 2003.

Of these, 237,268 were income tax returns with a taxable income of less than one dollar. Of this number, 19,943 were reported to the Australian Taxation Office, through member contributions statements supplied by superannuation funds, as having personal contributions made during the year of income.