

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates, 2 June – 4 June 2009

Question: bet 23

Topic: Staff with a Disability

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

1. How many people with a disability were employed full-time and how many part-time?
2. What classifications were these staff employed under?
3. What percentage of staff in the Department had a disability at March 30, 2008 and March 30, 2009? What programs does the Department have to encourage the employment of people with a disability?

Answer:

1. As at 30 March 2009, 17 Treasury staff identified that they had a disability. (A further 121 staff chose not to disclose if they had a disability or to provide any information on their disability status.) Of the staff who identified that they had a disability, 15 worked full-time and 2 worked part-time.
2. As at 30 March 2009, the staff who identified as having a disability were employed under the following classifications:
 - APS 2 – 1 staff member
 - APS 3 – 1 staff member
 - APS 4 – 2 staff members
 - APS 5 – 1 staff member
 - APS 6 – 4 staff members
 - Executive Level 1 – 2 staff members
 - Executive Level 2 – 4 staff members
 - SES Band 1 – 2 staff members
3. As at 30 March 2009, 1.7 per cent of Treasury staff identified that they have a disability. This compares with 1.6 per cent as at 30 March 2008. The Treasury has a range of programs to encourage the recruitment and retention of people with a disability:
 - Treasury's merit based selection processes support the diverse needs of applicants, including those with a disability. Applications can be accepted in different formats and appropriate adjustments can be made for interview,

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including the provision of translators for hearing impaired staff. Campaign based employment opportunities within Treasury are also advertised through a disability employment network.

- A range of assistance is provided to staff with a disability, including work station set-up and the purchase of special equipment such as voice recognition software. The department endeavours to identify, wherever possible, the needs of staff with a disability before they commence work in Treasury and to provide staff and their managers with ongoing support and assistance.