

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

31 May – 2 June 2011

Question No: BET 65

Topic: ATO unplanned leave

Hansard Page: 125

Senator Cormann asked:

Senator CORMANN: What is the average number of workplace absences, which is defined as sick leave, carers leave, compensation leave, specific types of miscellaneous or other leave and unauthorised leave, across the ATO?

Ms Granger: I would be guessing. It is 16 or 17 days. I will take it on notice and confirm it for you. It is actually trending down.

Senator CORMANN: But it is around 16 days? That is what I have.

Ms Granger: Yes. The last figures I saw showed it was either 16 or 17.

Answer:

The ATO's last full year result (2009-10) for unplanned workplace absence was an average of 16.23 days per full time equivalent.

ATO data for 2010-11 (as at 31 May 2011) shows that unplanned workplace absences are at 14.69 days per full time equivalent. Although this is not a full year's data, on projection it is highly likely to be below the 2009-10 result. This is in a climate of increased workplace absences that fall within this category associated with natural disasters experienced in several states and impacting on employees. Of note, is that absences associated with personal leave have decreased significantly during this period.