

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
28 and 29 May 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: Small Business Late Payments

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Ryan

QUESTION No.: BI-102

1. The most recent data published by the government in the Australia Government Payments to Small Business Performance Report – The 13th Survey stated from July 2010 to the end of June 2011 indicates over 55,000 invoices were paid late, with only 60 payments made for interest for late payment of invoices. From 1 July 2011 to May 2012:
 - a. How many invoices were paid late to small business?
 - b. How many small businesses applied for interest on late payments?
 - c. How many payments has the government made for interest for late payment of invoices?
 - d. In financial terms (dollar amount) how much has been paid by the government for late payment of invoices?
2. Of the invoices from 1 July 2011 to May 2012, how many were paid:
 - a. Within 30 days?
 - b. Within 31-44 days (up to 2 weeks late)?
3. List the government agencies that have paid invoices late to small business. For each of these agencies, list:
 - a. The number of invoices paid to small business.
 - b. The number of invoices paid late to small business.
 - c. The monetary value of invoices paid late.
 - d. Interest paid by agencies on late payments.

ANSWER

The data requested from 1 July 2011 to May 2012 is not available.

The Survey of Australian Government Payments to Small Business is conducted annually and has not yet been carried out for 2011-12. The survey report is usually released in November/December each year.