

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2006-2007 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
29TH AND 30TH MAY 2006
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome: Corporate

Question Number: W171-07

Question:

Senator Mason asked in writing:

With respect to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (the department) in the last calendar year or financial year do you have records for what is the total number of days of sick leave and unscheduled leave taken by the department's employees? Over the same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave and unscheduled leave taken per full time equivalent employee of the department?

Answer:

Unscheduled Absence

Unscheduled absence includes Sick Leave, Workers' Compensation, Carers Leave and Miscellaneous Leave. For the 2005 calendar year, DEWR had an unscheduled absence rate of 4.05%. The total number of unscheduled days absent over the same period was 29,299. This equates to 9.74 days of unscheduled absence per employee annually.

Sick Leave

For the 2005 calendar year, DEWR had a sick leave rate of 3.02%, with a total 21,826 days of sick leave. This equates to 7.26 days of sick leave per employee annually.

The department utilises the 'InfoHRM' information system which calculates unscheduled absence and sick leave statistics on employee headcount rather than a full time equivalent basis.

Data provided is most current and reflects the position as at 23 June 2006.