

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

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2006**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**OFFICE OF WORKPLACE SERVICES**

**Outcome 1 : The rights and obligations of workers and employers under the  
*Workplace Relations Act 1996* are understood and enforced fairly**

**Output Group 1.1 : Education and Compliance Services**

**Question Number: W435-07**

**Question:**

Senator Barnett asked at Hansard page 45::

Since the OWS was established in 1997, can you provide the committee with details of underpayments recovered and how many people are involved in recovering these funds? Please provide a breakdown on a state by state basis.

**Answer:**

Between July 1997 and 31 October 2006, OWS has recovered over \$43.4 million on behalf of over 37,400 employees. Furthermore contracted states have recovered over \$6.6 million on behalf of over 3,700 employees for the same period.

(See Attachment A for details)

**Estimated Cost:** To prepare this answer has taken approximately 4.1 hours at a cost of \$74.00

## ATTACHMENT A

### Money recovered by contracted state where breaches were established 1997-2006

	QLD		SA		WA		TAS		Total	
Financial Year	Amount recovered (\$)	No. of employees receiving payments	Amount recovered (\$)	No. of employees receiving payments	Amount recovered (\$)	No. of employees receiving payments	Amount recovered (\$)	No. of employees receiving payments	Amount recovered (\$)	No. of employees receiving payments
1998-1999	265,569	275	54,764	42	29,618	23	-	-	349,951	340
1999-2000	465,503	327	428,354	246	27099	14	16,371	17	937,327	604
2000-2001	530,768	278	134,809	86	38,319	41	95,379	49	799,275	454
2001-2002	448,251	210	110,702	82	53,635	31	137,949	84	750,537	407
2002-2003	417,670	166	158,941	72	73,485	75	183,000	66	833,096	379
2003-2004	551,215	274	147,232	96	304,360	79	58,853	57	1,061,660	506
2004-2005	569416	258	192883	98	206420	105	163,194	188	1,131,913	649
1 July 2005- 26 March 2006	381,662	199	92,145	52	52,246	26	87,905	49	613,958	326
27 March 06 - 30 June 06	121,334	47	36,111	41	10,839	9	31,360	12	199,644	109
1 July 06 - 31 October 06	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,751,388</b>	<b>2,034</b>	<b>1,355,941</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>796,021</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>774,011</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>6,677,361</b>	<b>3,774</b>

N/A – State contracts expired 30 June 2006

## Money recovered by OWS where breaches were established 1997-2006

An accurate breakdown of this information is not readily ascertainable and to provide the requested answers in that format would require an unreasonable diversion of office resources.

Financial Year	States Included	Amount recovered (\$)	No. of employees receiving payments
1997-1998	NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, NT, TAS, ACT	3,738,135	3,685
1998-1999	NSW, VIC, SA, NT, TAS	3,476,259	3,709
1999-2000	NSW, VIC, NT, TAS	3,921,108	7,008
2000-2001	NSW, VIC, NT	4,433,287	5,369
2001-2002	NSW, VIC, NT	4,634,444	2,557
2002-2003	NSW, VIC, NT	5,172,313	2,230
2003-2004	NSW, VIC, NT	5,279,171	2,550
2004-2005	NSW, VIC, NT	4,909,761	3,024
1 July 2005- 26 March 2006	NSW, VIC, NT	2,917,127	3,735
27 March 06 - 30 June 06	NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, NT, TAS, ACT	1,220,578	1,010
1 July 06 - 31 October 06	NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, NT, TAS, ACT	3,785,566	2,569
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>43,487,749</b>	<b>37,446</b>