

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Agency *Fair Work Ombudsman*

DEEWR Question No. **EW432_10**

Senator Humphries provided in writing.

Question

Have these areas changed since the commencement of the Fair Work Act – when compared to the types of areas you investigated under the Workplace Relations Act?

Note: The context of this question relates to D408 – Senator Humphries asked what are the most common areas or circumstances you investigate? Can you list them?

Answer

The Fair Work Ombudsman has provided the following response:

The Fair Work Ombudsman has not yet seen an appreciable difference in the types of contraventions identified during the course of its investigations since 1 July 2009, when compared to the equivalent period in 2008.

In the period between 1 July 2009 and 30 September 2009, the most common contraventions of Commonwealth workplace relations laws recorded by the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) were:

- underpayment of wages, penalties and loadings and allowances (56%);
- non payment of annual leave (15%);
- deficiencies in time and wages record keeping (12%); and
- termination related issues (10%).

For the equivalent quarter in 2008 (1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008), the most common contraventions of Commonwealth workplace relations laws recorded were:

- underpayment of wages, penalties and loadings and allowances (60%);
- non payment of annual leave (15%);
- deficiencies in time and wages record keeping (9%); and
- termination related issues (8%).