

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2010

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 3, Program 3.1

Topic: Percentage of Ministerial staffing in the Prime Minister's Office

Question reference number: F57

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 35, 27 May 2010

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Senator Ronaldson asked:

I understand that 50 out of the 337 ministerial personal staff are in the Prime Minister's office. Mr Tune, in the last decade has there been a higher percentage of ministerial personal staff in the PM's office that you are aware of?

Answer:

The following table provides snapshots between 1 July 2000 and 1 May 2010 of the Ministerial positions allocated to the relevant Prime Minister's office as a percentage of the total Ministerial positions.

It shows that:

- At 1 May 2010, the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, Prime Minister had 50 out of 368 Ministerial staff positions (13.59%) allocated to him;
- At 23 November 2007 the Hon John Howard MP, Prime Minister had 50.3 out of 467.9 (10.75%) Ministerial staff positions allocated to him. While this represents a lower percentage of Ministerial staff positions than for Mr Rudd, this is because the total number of Ministerial staff positions declined from 467.9 in November 2007 to 368 in May 2010.

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Date	Number of Ministerial staff positions allocated to Prime Minister	Total Number of Ministerial staff positions *	Percentage allocation to Prime Minister
Howard - 1 July 2000 #	41	339.4	12.08
Howard - 1 July 2001 #	43	351	12.25
Howard - 1 July 2002 #	42.5	360.5	11.79
Howard - 1 July 2003 #	43.6	365.2	11.94
Howard - 1 July 2004 #	44.5	390.9	11.38
Howard - 1 July 2005 #	47.4	404.6	11.72
Howard - 1 July 2006 #	47.4	439.6	10.78
Howard - 1 July 2007 #	49.3	464.7	10.61
Howard - 23 Nov 2007 #	50.3	467.9	10.75
Rudd - 1 July 2008	41	334	12.28
Rudd - 1 July 2009	45	368	12.23
Rudd – 1 May 2010	50	368	13.59

* Excludes personal staff of Government Whips & former leaders

Includes Ministerial consultants and staff allocated to the Cabinet Policy Office/Cabinet Policy Unit