

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
INSOLVENCY AND TRUSTEE SERVICE AUSTRALIA

Question No. 180

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2007:

Insolvency profiles

- (a) Could ITSA provide a list of factors that it records in relation to bankruptcies/insolvencies? (e.g. age, gender, postcode, industry, income level etc.)
- (i) Since what date has ITSA been collecting data on each factor?
- (b) For each factor listed in response part (a), could ITSA provide a table (preferably in CSV format) detailing the number of personal bankruptcies (and debt agreements) for each quarter since the date listed in response to part (a)(i)?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (a) The factors recorded by ITSA in relation to bankruptcies and personal insolvencies that are able to be reported on are:
- Business and non-business
 - Causes – business and non-business
 - Occupation groups and industry codes
 - Age profile
 - Gender
 - Postcode/Electoral Division
 - Income and debt
- (i) The above data has been collected for many years – it is derived from the Statement of Affairs that is completed by bankrupts and other debtors involved in formal arrangements under the Bankruptcy Act. Capability to extract and separately report this data has been available since 1999/2000.
- (b) The attached CD contains data related to bankruptcies, debt agreements and Part X matters from 1999/2000 to 2006/2007 showing the factors listed above.

The CD contains two files: one contains records showing the type of personal insolvency (bankruptcy, debt agreement or personal insolvency agreement) by postcode and by quarter; the other shows each matter by type and by month and state, with the characteristics of the debtor/bankrupt (age, whether employed, occupation, cause, whether business or non-business matter, income and dependants).