

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
AUSTRALIA FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. 275**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2005:**

a) How many investigations of fraud against Federal Government Departments or agency have been conducted by the AFP in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005? Please provide a breakdown by agency and department.

(i) In each case, how much is the fraud alleged to represent?

b) Of the above investigations, were any charges laid? If so, please provide a breakdown of charges laid in each case and the number of persons charged with a fraud offence?

c) How many of the prosecutions resulted in a successful conviction?

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

a)

<b>Number of fraud cases by referring agency</b>								
	<b>2005/06</b>	<b>2004/05</b>	<b>2003/04</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2000/01</b>	<b>1999/00</b>	<b>Total</b>
National Crime Authority	.	.	.	1	.	1	2	4
AUSTRAC	.	5	1	1	1	1	1	10
Australian Customs Service	10	18	20	11	11	15	11	96
Attorney General	7	7	6	4	2	.	2	28
Minister Justice & Customs	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	3
Director of Public Prosecutions	3	.	.	2	1	1	.	7
Insolvency Trustees Services Australia	.	5	10	8	4	3	1	31
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	3	5	7	11	1	1	1	29
Australian Crime Commission	.	4	4	.	.	.	.	8
Department of Immigration Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs	8	17	10	15	2	2	4	58
Australian Taxation Office	45	92	110	67	55	42	31	442

Centrelink	79	102	113	101	115	154	192	856
Australian Securities and Investments Commission	4	6	17	9	11	9	5	61
Australia Post	7	8	3	7	8	10	6	49
Other CwltH Departments	26	48	57	56	47	29	28	291
Total	192	317	358	293	259	269	285	1973

\* These statistics include all fraud matters referred to the AFP by Commonwealth Departments/Agencies.

\* These cases do not include referrals involving internal fraud (fraud committed against a Commonwealth Department / Agency by employees). Internal frauds are not included in the fraud statistics as they are categorised by the AFP under corruption.

\*These statistics do not differentiate whether the referring Commonwealth Department/Agency is the victim of the alleged fraud.

(i)

<b>Fraud cases referred by Commonwealth agencies</b>		
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>Value average</b>
2005/06	192	470,088
2004/05	317	431,717
2003/04	358	457,975
2002/03	293	610,157
2001/02	259	1,457,997
2000/01	269	506,107
1999/00	285	866,023

\* 2005/06 – period of 1 July to 30 November.

\* These value averages are based on estimates at the time of referral.

\* These statistics include all matters referred to the AFP by Commonwealth Departments/Agencies.

\* These cases do not include referrals involving internal fraud (fraud committed against a Commonwealth Department / Agency by employees). Internal frauds are not included in the fraud statistics as they are categorised by the AFP under corruption.

b) Yes, charges were laid, however, to provide a breakdown of charges laid in each case and the number of persons charges with a fraud offence would be an onerous task.

c) There have been 216 cases that recorded a conviction.

\*Please note these statistics indicate the number of cases which resulted in a conviction, not the number of people convicted.

\* These statistics do not include all convictions for those referrals which are still subject of ongoing investigations.