

**Question No: 116**

**Question: Payroll Tax Collected in Northern Territory**

**Date: 12/05/92**

**Member: Mr EDE**

**To: TREASURER**

1. What is the most recent estimate for the number of small business enterprises operating in the Northern Territory as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

2. Of the employers currently paying Northern Territory payroll tax, how many of these are -

- (a) Commonwealth departments, corporations or authorities;
- (b) Northern Territory departments, corporations or authorities; and
- (c) private sector enterprises.

3. What was the value of payroll tax collections in the financial year 1990-91 for -

- (a) Commonwealth departments, corporations or authorities;
- (b) Northern Territory departments, corporations or authorities; and
- (c) private sector enterprises.

**ANSWER**

1. The Australian Bureau of Statistics does not provide a single category of small business. Two categories are reported -

(a) non-manufacturing - a small business in this category is regarded as a business employing less than 20 employees; and

(b) manufacturing - a small business in this category is regarded as a business with less than 100 employees.

On this basis ABS estimate that there are 187 small manufacturing businesses and 4940 small non-manufacturing businesses in the Territory.

2. (a) No Commonwealth departments pay payroll tax. There are 5 Commonwealth corporations or authorities which do pay payroll tax.

(b) There are 16 Northern Territory departments and 13 Northern Territory authorities paying payroll tax.

(c) 903 private sector enterprises are currently registered to pay payroll tax.

3. (a) Approximately \$3.3m was paid by Commonwealth authorities in payroll tax in 1990-91.

(b) Approximately \$28.8m was paid by Northern Territory departments and authorities in 1990-91.

(c) Payroll tax paid by private sector enterprises in 1990-91 was \$39.8m.