

CORRECTIVE SERVICES — AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS REPORT — RATE OF
IMPRISONMENT

3559. Mr P. Papalia to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) report 4512.0 of September quarter 2014, and I ask:

- (a) for each financial year from 2001–2002 to 2013–2014, what was the rate of imprisonment per 100 000 adult population;
- (b) what was the rate of Aboriginal imprisonment per 100 000 adult population for each of those years;
- (c) what was the rate of imprisonment for women per 100 000 adult population for each of those years;
- (d) what was the rate of imprisonment for Aboriginal women per 100 000 adult population for each of those years;
- (e) when did the government cease reporting rates of imprisonment per 100 000 in the budget papers; and
- (f) why did the government cease reporting rates of imprisonment per 100 000 adult population in the budget papers noting that this is the standard national measurement employed by the ABS, all other Australian jurisdictions and many international authorities to monitor and benchmark imprisonment rates?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

The Department of Corrective Services advises:

- (a)–(d) [See tabled paper no 2722.]
- (e) The Department ceased reporting on rate of imprisonment per 100 000 in 2011. As a result these figures ceased being published in the Government's budget papers in 2011/2012.
- (f) The Department historically reported this information as a key performance indicator (KPI). However, the imprisonment rate is a function of many factors, with most being outside of the Department's influence. Given this, new KPIs were developed to more effectively measure performance.

The Department is aware that imprisonment rates continue to be published by the ABS and contributes information to facilitate that publication.