

# You can't keep a bad idea down, but this lot can't even keep it straight

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The world according to Swan:

“As we know, mining pays a relatively low rate of company tax compared to its share of the economy. Mining companies currently account for about 30 per cent of corporate gross operating profits, but only around 15 per cent of corporate tax receipts.”

- [Wayne Swan, Federal Treasurer, 29 March 2012](#)

The world according to Parkinson:

“Mining companies account for about a fifth of gross operating surplus, yet only around a tenth of company tax receipts”

- [Martin Parkinson, Treasury Secretary, 7 March 2012](#)

The world according to the ATO:

2008-09 ATO data shows that mining companies paid \$13.38 billion in net company tax in 2008-09, whereas total net tax paid by all companies was \$56.1 billion. So mining pays around a quarter – not 10 per cent, and not 15 per cent - of all net company tax.