

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic

2019 - 2020

Division: Social Policy Division
Topic: Number of requests received for the HomeBuilder grants
Reference: Written Question from Senator Gallagher – 12 June 2020, IQ20-000134

Question:

1. How many people have lodged notification requests for the HomeBuilder grants; including total number notification requests by location (state/territory, Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED), Local Government Area (LGA) and suburb).
2. Please provide the committee with a weekly update of these figures.

Answer:

1. As of 12 June 2020, 21,700 people have signed up to receive notifications on the Treasury Coronavirus Economic Response website. Please note that this number reflects only the number of people who have signed up to receive updated HomeBuilder information on the Treasury website, and does not reflect the number of HomeBuilder applications.

Please see below the state and territory split.

State/Territory	Total
NT	109
ACT	468
NSW	4,250
QLD	5,805
SA	2,107
TAS	671
VIC	5,900
WA	2,199

193 chose not to specify their state or territory location. Treasury does not have a further breakdown of this data, including by the Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED), Local Government Area (LGA) or by suburb.

HomeBuilder will be implemented via a National Partnership Agreement, signed by the Commonwealth and State and Territory governments. This approach will utilise existing state and territory mechanisms to distribute the HomeBuilder payments. When the States and Territories begin accepting HomeBuilder applications, they will backdate acceptance of these applications to 4 June 2020.

2. Treasury is able to provide updates on request from the Committee. Providing ongoing weekly updates would be unduly burdensome on Treasury's resources, particularly as its resources are already being reprioritised to respond to economic crisis caused by the coronavirus.