

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-039

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: GENERAL PRACTITIONERS IN TASMANIA

Written Question on Notice

Senator Colbeck asked:

- a) Can the Department provide the number of General Practitioners working in Tasmania, cross-referenced to Divisions of General Practice?
- b) Can the Department provide the number of GPs who discontinued work in Tasmania since July 1, 2010 cross-referenced to Divisions of General Practice?
- c) Can the Department provide the number of GPs who have commenced work in Tasmania since July 1, 2010, cross-referenced to Divisions of General Practice?

Answer:

- a) *Table 1: Number of General Practitioners working in Tasmania by Divisions of General Practice, 2009-10 (latest figures available)*

State	Division Name [^]	GP Headcount ^{^^}
TAS	GP South	400
TAS	GP North	174
TAS	GP North West	130

Footnote:

[^] *Maps of the Tasmania Divisions of General Practice can be accessed from the following website: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-pcd-programs-divisions-boundarymaps-TAS>*

^{^^} *Providers are included in the headcount if they provided at least 1 Medicare service during the financial year and have had at least 1 Medicare service processed during the same year.*

- b) As the 2010-11 Financial Year has not yet finished, there is still an opportunity for GPs to provide services during this Financial Year. Therefore, there is not sufficient data at this time to determine whether a GP has discontinued from 1 July 2010.

- c) Yes. Table 2 below provides information on the number of General Practitioners who have commenced work in Tasmania.

Table 2: Number of General Practitioners who have commenced working in Tasmania by Divisions of General Practice

State^^	Division Name	(b) Discontinued from 1-Jul-2010	(c) Commenced from 1-Jul-2010 to 31-Dec 2010
TAS	GP South	No figure provided	9
TAS	GP North	No figure provided	10
TAS	GP North West	No figure provided	8
Total		No figure provided	27

Footnotes:

^^ State and Divisions of General Practice have been based on the location at which the GP has provided the most services, using the latest Medicare claims data available for the provider.

(b) Discontinued = GP provided 1 service during 2009-10.

(c) Commenced = GP claimed services between 1 July 2010 and 31 December 2010 but no services in the previous 4 financial years, within Tasmania.