

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.1 Access and Information

Question No: SQ15-000222

Topic: Homelessness Supplement

Hansard page: Written

Senator Polley, Helen asked:

1. Please provide an update on the uptake of the Homelessness supplement, by State and Territory.
2. What outreach services are available to ensure at-risk people supported into aged care?

Answer:

1. The table below provides the number of residents on behalf of whom the homeless supplement was paid by state and territory from July to December 2014. Please note that the counts are unique within each jurisdiction. Adding the figures to get an Australian total may result in double counting, as some residents may have moved between states and territories.

State/Territory	Number of residents
NSW	329
VIC	685
QLD	188
SA	43
WA	57
TAS	0
NT	93
ACT	0

2. The Assistance with Care and Housing for the Aged (ACHA) programme supports older people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

In 2013–14, the ACHA programme supported 55 services to assist 5,470 people.

The programme links clients to suitable accommodation services with the aim of helping clients to remain in the community, rather than inappropriately entering residential care.

While accommodation support is a key feature of the programme, clients are also referred to a range of care and other services to help them maintain their independence.