

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**  
Budget supplementary estimates; November 2005  
Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs

**Question 1**

**Outcome: Output Group 6 (Corporate)**

**Topic: How many briefings**

**Senator Annette Hurley**

- a. How many written briefings have been provided to the current Minister from the Acting Director of Office of Australian War Graves?
- b. Could you provide any records that you might have of the previous briefings to the two previous Ministers?

**Answer:**

- a. 3 (6 September – 21 November 2005).
- b. 124—The Hon Danna Vale MP (26 November 2001 – 15 November 2004)  
55\*—The Hon Bruce Scott MP (11 March 1996 – 25 November 2005)

\*This number only includes briefings provided to the Minister from the Department's on-line records management system that was implemented in 1998. To provide the number of briefings prior to this date would require a substantial diversion of resources.

**Question 2**

**Outcome: 3 Commemorations**

**Topic: Design Proposal Gallipoli**

**Senator Annette Hurley**

Could I get a copy of the design proposal by the Norwegian architects which won the 1997–98 Gallipoli Peninsula Peace Park International Ideas and Design Competition.

**Answer:**

Please find attached a colour photocopy of pages 38–39 from a publication titled *Projects – Gallipoli Peninsula Peace Park International Ideas and Design Competition*. Limited information is available at the website [http://vitruvius.arch.metu.edu.tr/gallipoli/gallipoli\\_english.html](http://vitruvius.arch.metu.edu.tr/gallipoli/gallipoli_english.html)

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**Question 3**

**Outcome: 3 Commemorations**

**Topic: VP Medallions**

**Senator Annette Hurley**

When did the production of the VP Medallions by the Mint commence?

Note see extract from Hansard below:

“Mr Kelly It was in May–June from memory

Mr Sullivan answered—The distribution started in August.

Senator Hurley—Could you bring that date back to the Committee later?

Mr Sullivan—The minister has a media release about the medallion. We will get that date for you because that is probably when the design had been finalise and the Mint was able to construct some medallions for the media release. After that they prepared the plates and other things for the production run. We will get you the details of what those production runs looked like.”

**Answer:**

The first medallion was produced on 17 June 2005. Mass production began on 8 July 2005.

**Question 4**

**Outcome: 1 Compensation**

**Topic: BEST grants**

**Senator Annette Hurley**

- a. Is the date on the DVA web page of 1 July the correct date for funding of the BEST grants to commence?
- b. How many organisations were defunded?

**Answer:**

- a. 1 July is the correct date for funding of the BEST grants to commence. The exceptions to this date were the 2004-05 BEST Supplementary Funding Round when funding to grant recipients occurred in June 2005; and the 2005–2006 Funding Round, when funding grant recipients occurred in August 2005. These exceptions were a result of the overlap of these two funding rounds.
- b. No BEST grant recipient has been defunded. BEST has never been promoted as a rolling program. All BEST grants are for a twelve-month period and applicants are aware they have to reapply for each round. They are not given any expectation that they will receive full funding, nor necessarily any funding in any round they apply.

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**Question 5**

**Outcome: Output 6 (Corporate)**

**Topic: Airfares**

**Senator Steve Fielding** (written question on notice)

- a. How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
- b. How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years?
- c. How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
- d. How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
- e. How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
- f. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?

**Answer:**

a–e

The following table covers air travel (including Goods and Service Tax) for staff, contractors and veterans.

Question	Air Fare Type/Class	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
a	Domestic/All classes	5,196,180	5,014,415	4,459,625
b	Overseas/All classes	475,290	733,520	1,030,434
c	Domestic/Economy	3,759,479	3,450,507	2,996,333
d	Domestic/Business	1,149,157	1,142,622	1,116,232
e	Domestic/First	0	0	0
a, c, d	Domestic/No class breakdown available (economy or business)	287,544	421,286	347,060

- f. For non-Senior Executive Service (SES) employees, there would be no saving because these employees fly economy for flights of less than one and a half hours.

Separate air fare data is not available for SES employees. It is a condition of their employment that SES employees fly business class.

**Question 6**

**Outcome: Output 6 (Corporate)**

**Topic: Performance of information technology outsourcing arrangements**

**Senator Conroy** (written question on notice)

1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months.
2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites).
3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period?
  - a. If not, please provide details of:
    - i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period;
    - ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period;
    - iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period.
4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates).
  - a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of:
    - i. The extent of any delay;
    - ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time;
    - iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments).
5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications.
6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.
  - a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:
    - i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects.
    - ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.

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**Answer:**

1. \$45,508,134 (FY 2004-05).
2. ICT Productions & Services - \$44,086,091  
((\$33.4m paid to IBMGS and \$10.6m to other suppliers)

Computer Repairs & Consumables - \$142,808  
Printers - \$822,621  
Software - \$2,735,772  
Comms Infrastructure/Voice/Network - \$3,755,170  
IT Contract Implementation - \$5,232,816  
Servers - \$5,697,620  
IT Contract Programmers - \$6,381,929  
Desktop - \$7,493,957  
Mainframe - \$11,823,398

Telecommunications - \$1,422,043  
Wide Area Network - \$1,422,043

3. Yes.
4. Nil.
5. Nil.
6. Nil.

**Question 7**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Order for departmental and agency contracts**

**Senator Andrew Murray** (written question on notice)

1. What guidance is provided to staff with responsibilities for contract negotiations specifically about the requirements of the Senate Order? If relevant guidance is not provided, please explain why this is the case.
2. What training and awareness sessions are provided, either in-house or through other training providers (e.g. DOFA, APS Commission or private firms) in respect of the Order? Please provide a list of the dates, the identity of the training providers and the content of the training that staff attended in 2005. If training and awareness sessions are not provided, please explain why this is the case.
3. Has the department/agency revised its procurement guidelines to incorporate the new Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines that took effect from 1 January 2005, particularly with respect to the confidentiality elements contained in those guidelines? If so, when did this occur and can a copy be provided? If not, what is the cause of the delay and when will the revision occur?

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4. ANAO audits for the last three years have revealed a consistently low level of compliance across most agencies with DOFA confidentiality criteria (February 2003) for determining whether commercial information should be protected as confidential. The ANAO's latest report on the Order (No.11 2005–2006, September 2005) states that departments and agencies need to give higher priority with this important requirement of the Senate Order.
  - What specific measures have been or will be taken to address this problem, give it higher priority and raise compliance levels?
  - What guidance and training are provided to staff about the confidentiality criteria and the four tests employed to determine whether information should be protected?
  - What internal auditing or checking is performed to test compliance in this area? If none is performed, why not and is the agency considering the adoption of internal controls and checks?
5. What problems, if any, has the agency and/or relevant staff experienced in complying with the Senate Order? What is the nature and cause of any problems? What measures have been, or could be, adopted to address these concerns?

**Answer:**

1. DVA provides staff with a Contract and Procurement Manual which includes a chapter: 'Use and reporting of confidentiality provisions in DVA contracts'.
2. The DVA Contract Advisory Unit has held information sessions for staff about DVA's accountability and reporting obligations for contract and procurement activity. Content includes the Senate Order, the outcome of the ANAO Senate Order audit and the use of confidentiality provisions. The dates of the information sessions were:
  - 13 October 2005
  - 18 October 2005
  - 21 October 2005
  - 24 October 2005
  - 3-4 November 2005
  - 30 November 2005

These sessions were delivered to more than 110 staff.

3. DVA has revised its Contract and Procurement Manual to incorporate the new Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines which includes the chapter: 'Use and reporting of confidentiality provisions in DVA contracts'.
4. DVA is addressing this issue through the revised guidance and information sessions described above. During the preparation of future Senate Order Listings DVA will seek to verify that contracts listed as containing specific confidentiality provisions are appropriately listed.
5. DVA has concerns about the strict application of the four test rule to hospital contracts. These concerns are detailed in the ANAO report.

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**Question 8**

**Outcome: Outcome 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Number of veterans**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. By state, electorate, age group and gender, what are the surviving number of veterans from, World War II, BCOF, Korea, the Malaysian Emergency, the Indonesian Confrontation, Vietnam, Peacekeeping (by operation), the Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq?
2. What is the estimated change in the number of the above veterans over the next 4 years?
3. Has DVA done any long term modelling of numbers of veterans into the future, if so, what were the results of that modelling?
4. What number from each deployment have qualifying service and how many do not?

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**Answer:**

1. The estimated number of surviving veterans is calculated using the DVA survivor model and includes persons known to DVA as a beneficiary and those who are not beneficiaries of DVA. Inputs are taken from specified nominal rolls, survey data and Department of Defence data. As data is based on these sources and not necessarily DVA claimants, it is not possible to provide data for all survivors by electorate and State. The number of surviving veterans is available only by conflicts or service (as listed) and by age groups. Table 86 in the Department's Annual Report for 2004–2005 contains notes relating to each conflict and service.

<b>Conflict and Service (a)</b>	<50	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Total
World War 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	17 900	91 600	47 700	13 200	170 400
BCOF (b)	0	0	0	0	0	50	2 000	2 750	320	50	5 200
Korea (c)	0	0	0	0	0	3 100	4 200	1 200	230	40	8 800
Korea, Malaya, FESR (d)	0	0	1 500	1 300	2 900	4 700	4 800	500	30	10	15 800
Vietnam	0	2 900	25 200	13 200	4 200	2 200	1 400	400	70	10	49 800
Others pre 1972	0	0	0	1 400	3 000	1 600	300	100	20	0	6 400
Peacekeeping (e)	8 500	700	500	500	400	200	100	30	0	0	10 800
Gulf War (e)	1 300	300	100	50	20	0	0	0	0	0	1 750
Afghanistan (e)	5 840	130	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5 990
Iraq (e)	5 600	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5 700

The figures are at June 2005.



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- (a) An appropriate age distribution has been applied to each conflict to estimate the number of survivors
- (b) Contains those who had service in WW2 and/or Korea and already counted in those conflicts
- (c) Individual numbers for Korea are based on the Korean Nominal Roll. They are included in the total figures for the combined Korea, Malaya, FESR conflicts.
- (d) Individual numbers for Malaya and Far East Strategic Reserve cannot be determined because of unknown overlaps with those who also served in Korea.
- (e) The numbers represent deployments for each conflict or service and there are overlaps within and between them due to multiple deployments.

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2. The estimated change in number is derived from applying ABS Mortality rates for the appropriate age groups.

<b>Conflict and service</b>	<b>Deaths June 05 to June 09</b>
World War 2	66 300
BCOF	1 500
Korea	1 800
Korea, Malaya, FESR	2 100
Vietnam	2 500
Others pre 1972	600
Peacekeeping	200
Gulf War	25
Afghanistan	30
Iraq	30

3. Yes. DVA has a series of demographic models, which it updates every six months. The results are published every six months in an executive summary listing forecasts of the various DVA client types. The current results at June 2005 for the next four years are as follows:

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
DVA Veteran Beneficiaries	227 234	216 200	205 000	193 800	182 700
DVA Dependants	249 670	242 400	234 700	226 800	219 000
Overlap	4 677	4 500	4 300	4 100	3 900
Total DVA Beneficiaries	472 227	454 100	435 400	416 500	397 700

Figures for 2005 are actual.

4. Numbers by deployment with and without qualifying service.

<b>Conflict/service</b>	
World War 2	97,200 with Qualifying Service - 73,200 without Qualifying Service
BCOF	No Qualifying Service
Korea	All Qualifying Service
Korea, Malaya, FESR	All Qualifying Service
Vietnam	All Qualifying Service
Peacekeeping	Some with Qualifying Service and some without Qualifying Service
Gulf War	Some with Qualifying Service and some without Qualifying Service
Afghanistan	Some with Qualifying Service and some without Qualifying Service
Iraq	All Qualifying Service

**Question 9**

**Outcome: Output Group 6 and Outcome 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Types of pensions**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What are the number of recipients for the following DVA entitlements by a) state, b) electorate, c) age group and, d) gender
  - a. General Rate (Total and totals by percentage)
  - b. Special Rate
  - c. Intermediate
  - d. EDA
  - e. DFISA (Defence Force Income Support Allowance)
  - f. Service Pension
  - g. War Widow's Pension
  - h. Orphan's Pension
  - i. ISS
2. What is the estimated change in the number of the above pensions over the next 4 years?
3. Has DVA done any long term modelling of numbers of pension recipients into the future, if so, what were the results of that modelling?
4. How many claims were made annually for the above pensions or benefits over the last 4 years?
5. What is the projected number of claims to be made with DVA for the above pensions over the next 4 years?
6. How many cases of understating income and assets were referred to the DPP last year?
7. What was the total sum recovered last year for understatement of income and assets?

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**Answer:**

1.

	10% General Rate	15% General Rate	20% General Rate	25% General Rate	30% General Rate	35% General Rate	40% General Rate	45% General Rate	50% General Rate	55% General Rate	60% General Rate	65% General Rate	70% General Rate	75% General Rate	80% General Rate	85% General Rate	90% General Rate	95% General Rate	100% General Rate	All General Rate	EDA	Intermediate Rate	Special Rate (TPI)	DFISA	Service Pension	War Widow(ers)	Orphans	ISS	
<b>Total Persons</b>	11049	343	10246	221	12373	44	11121	12	9791	9	8658	9	6032	20	7803	*	6195	0	22049	105977	14723	967	28786	22141	239317	114239	239	88493	
<b>By Sex</b>																													
Male	10170	306	9462	193	11590	41	10507	9	9202	9	8193	9	5732	20	7469	*	5986	0	21096	99995	14461	933	28433	11539	129423	273	119	98	
Female	879	37	784	28	783	*	614	*	589	0	465	0	300	0	334	*	209	0	953	5982	262	34	353	10602	109894	113966	120	88395	
<b>By Age Group</b>																													
Unknown	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	*	0	1123	0	17	0	0	
Under 45	1858	*	1708	0	2130	0	1220	0	1059	0	737	0	416	*	392	0	317	0	401	10241	0	75	828	692	983	190	239	59	
45 - 49	962	*	765	*	936	0	646	0	540	0	444	0	228	0	251	0	186	0	295	5255	0	55	538	527	1383	318	0	93	
50 - 54	910	*	776	*	866	0	693	0	553	0	498	0	255	*	306	0	240	0	496	5598	0	81	1519	714	6074	735	0	141	
55 - 59	1320	8	977	*	1116	*	1003	0	843	0	936	0	572	0	801	0	685	0	1548	9811	0	267	11863	836	20624	1401	0	446	
60 - 64	578	0	525	*	600	0	568	0	457	0	439	0	232	0	347	0	311	0	871	4929	0	87	5147	700	14909	1836	0	1171	
65 - 69	367	0	373	*	475	0	460	*	307	0	316	0	174	0	250	0	196	0	721	3642	199	41	1843	1037	13263	3301	0	2411	
70 - 74	304	5	286	*	384	0	317	0	328	0	289	0	202	0	263	0	246	0	801	3428	590	31	790	1367	18344	8866	0	7013	
75 - 79	833	47	781	20	1047	*	1033	0	884	*	787	0	574	*	817	0	608	0	3122	10558	2363	54	1085	6008	41900	28614	0	22975	
80 - 84	2506	171	2508	117	3058	17	3313	6	3097	*	2742	5	2214	8	2903	*	2345	0	9350	34364	7803	177	3487	6034	82982	39756	0	31312	
85 - 89	1078	73	1179	53	1400	13	1478	*	1348	*	1148	4	923	7	1186	*	892	0	3652	14440	3185	83	1399	2291	31953	20851	0	16298	
90 or over	332	35	365	21	358	11	389	*	372	*	320	0	242	0	287	0	169	0	792	3698	583	15	287	812	6902	8354	0	6574	

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	10% General Rate	15% General Rate	20% General Rate	25% General Rate	30% General Rate	35% General Rate	40% General Rate	45% General Rate	50% General Rate	55% General Rate	60% General Rate	65% General Rate	70% General Rate	75% General Rate	80% General Rate	85% General Rate	90% General Rate	95% General Rate	100% General Rate	All General Rate	EDA	Intermediate Rate	Special Rate (TPI)	DFISA	Service Pension	War Widow(ers)	Orphans	ISS
NSW	3109	102	2756	78	3464	16	3259	6	3031	4	2756	*	1992	4	2662	0	1962	0	8105	33308	5491	345	8494	7391	74760	40454	80	31280
Victoria	2078	79	1960	53	2415	8	2192	*	2085	*	1771	4	1254	6	1661	0	1166	0	4775	21512	4085	166	4342	5184	49876	28291	38	21723
Queensland	2899	50	2795	35	3330	9	2989	0	2509	*	2111	0	1487	5	1858	*	1623	0	4890	26592	3234	211	8353	5195	53420	22850	73	18183
SA	944	41	924	19	952	6	764	*	644	0	606	*	431	*	531	0	394	0	1347	7608	701	97	2270	1699	23436	9141	6	7353
WA	1102	58	1016	23	1198	*	1099	*	820	*	802	*	487	*	628	*	651	0	1817	9710	782	91	3246	1804	24930	7923	24	6130
Tasmania	302	9	319	7	408	*	418	*	354	0	349	*	204	0	276	0	260	0	709	3620	312	30	1509	514	9937	4028	12	3108
NT	115	*	108	0	126	0	75	0	77	0	53	0	42	0	29	0	40	0	48	715	15	6	167	44	626	162	0	88
ACT	500	*	368	6	480	0	325	0	271	0	210	0	135	0	158	0	99	0	358	2912	103	21	405	310	2332	1390	6	628

*By State of Residence*

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	By Federal Electorate																			Orphans	War Widow(er)s	Service Pension	DFISA	Special Rate (TPI)	Intermediate Rate	EDA	All General Rate	100% General Rate	95% General Rate	90% General Rate	85% General Rate	80% General Rate	75% General Rate	70% General Rate	65% General Rate	60% General Rate	55% General Rate	50% General Rate	45% General Rate	40% General Rate	35% General Rate	30% General Rate	25% General Rate	20% General Rate	15% General Rate	10% General Rate	ISS
	New South Wales																																														
Banks	50	0	43	6	64	*	60	0	44	0	57	0	38	0	61	0	50	0	646	188	5	115	168	1913	1042	0	852																				
Barton	43	6	54	4	44	0	44	0	49	0	39	*	27	0	52	0	26	0	525	120	7	89	113	1328	946	*	707																				
Bennelong	77	*	55	*	82	0	76	0	62	0	56	0	58	0	45	0	35	0	672	80	7	103	132	1333	925	0	673																				
Berowra	62	*	45	*	60	*	59	0	40	0	51	0	39	0	48	0	22	0	543	71	4	78	101	1009	661	*	423																				
Blaxland	31	0	33	0	23	0	35	0	40	0	27	0	38	0	33	0	17	0	382	103	*	68	99	1695	623	0	538																				
Bradfield	112	6	77	*	115	*	110	0	87	0	63	0	42	0	61	0	35	0	905	82	12	80	107	955	1122	*	458																				
Calare	53	0	40	*	63	*	52	0	56	0	60	0	27	0	38	0	30	0	554	77	11	176	117	1330	760	*	619																				
Charlton	72	4	51	*	53	0	64	0	57	0	59	0	40	0	59	0	42	0	683	133	5	234	193	1898	788	*	673																				
Chifley	35	*	34	*	24	0	26	*	19	0	20	0	17	0	23	0	18	0	285	42	5	126	51	878	367	*	323																				
Cook	62	4	60	5	80	0	81	0	64	0	68	0	34	0	68	0	55	0	784	129	*	119	172	1575	1006	*	698																				
Cowper	59	*	88	*	100	*	95	0	96	*	88	0	68	0	107	0	84	0	1095	250	25	454	350	2810	1125	4	926																				
Cunningham	38	0	28	*	36	0	30	0	32	0	30	0	24	0	23	0	20	0	384	104	4	104	113	1224	585	*	497																				
Dobell	78	4	83	*	97	0	78	0	75	*	89	0	64	0	82	0	61	0	965	164	13	242	227	2223	1134	*	973																				
Eden-Monaro	138	*	106	*	138	0	116	0	108	0	106	0	59	0	65	0	49	0	1126	117	12	283	176	2070	921	*	683																				
Farrer	61	*	60	*	85	0	102	0	96	0	57	0	51	0	66	0	46	0	867	168	10	236	206	1889	1098	0	937																				
Fowler	13	*	21	0	11	0	12	0	19	0	15	0	9	0	28	0	8	0	188	40	4	51	37	1683	251	0	224																				
Gilmore	149	*	128	*	137	0	151	0	131	0	134	0	71	0	116	0	65	0	1359	184	5	322	308	2717	1088	4	870																				
Grayndler	27	0	19	*	29	0	30	0	14	0	17	0	11	0	15	0	14	0	227	32	0	39	51	611	311	0	248																				
Greenway	37	0	29	0	42	*	41	0	28	0	31	0	19	0	22	0	13	0	331	32	*	78	43	796	374	*	329																				
Gwydir	51	*	34	0	61	0	65	0	50	0	59	0	38	0	58	0	38	0	612	85	9	180	132	1235	914	*	729																				

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**

Budget supplementary estimates; November 2005

Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs

	10% General Rate	15% General Rate	20% General Rate	25% General Rate	30% General Rate	35% General Rate	40% General Rate	45% General Rate	50% General Rate	55% General Rate	60% General Rate	65% General Rate	70% General Rate	75% General Rate	80% General Rate	85% General Rate	90% General Rate	95% General Rate	100% General Rate	All General Rate	EDA	Intermediate Rate	Special Rate (TP)	DFISA	Service Pension	War Widow(er)s	Orphans	ISS
Hughes	61	4	67	0	72	0	52	0	59	0	59	0	47	0	31	0	48	0	122	599	71	*	133	91	983	540	*	426
Hume	64	*	56	*	81	0	59	0	67	0	55	0	55	0	39	0	45	0	142	657	72	14	203	103	1372	803	5	610
Hunter	64	*	54	0	67	0	50	0	65	0	56	0	56	0	29	0	56	0	133	627	88	4	220	141	1277	625	5	529
Kingsford Smith	57	0	42	*	67	*	48	0	57	0	47	0	47	0	29	0	32	0	144	551	78	6	82	106	1053	680	0	520
Lindsay	83	0	51	0	53	*	61	*	55	0	42	0	42	0	22	0	34	0	95	529	49	4	170	91	1059	477	*	382
Lowe	40	0	29	*	53	0	41	0	41	0	28	0	28	0	19	0	26	0	98	399	55	*	74	76	782	643	0	460
Lyne	100	4	76	0	97	*	113	0	104	0	101	*	101	*	73	*	106	0	314	1169	235	15	404	365	2980	1399	*	1171
Macarthur	35	0	52	0	42	0	37	0	49	0	37	0	37	0	17	0	32	0	116	453	68	4	132	89	1019	456	*	382
Mackellar	91	6	84	*	104	0	97	0	77	0	73	0	73	0	56	0	69	0	244	961	125	11	160	173	1669	1211	0	758
Macquarie	81	0	83	*	89	0	72	0	63	0	57	0	57	0	37	0	37	0	91	640	65	9	173	111	1304	627	0	464
Mitchell	53	*	44	*	60	*	50	0	39	0	38	0	38	0	22	0	27	0	86	450	34	*	95	52	833	498	0	333
New England	53	*	56	0	74	0	80	0	74	0	62	0	62	0	53	*	68	0	218	800	139	7	249	184	1665	1257	*	1024
Newcastle	69	*	74	0	78	0	63	0	69	0	66	0	66	0	45	0	66	0	186	758	118	5	174	185	1764	973	*	848
North Sydney	66	*	75	4	68	*	58	0	60	0	44	0	44	0	43	0	42	0	136	638	66	8	72	81	737	833	0	447
Page	76	*	69	*	91	0	102	*	109	*	80	0	80	0	62	0	86	0	272	1017	199	16	377	274	2405	1367	4	1158
Parkes	32	4	51	*	55	0	55	0	48	0	47	0	47	0	37	0	62	0	182	601	107	6	175	139	1333	897	*	773
Parramatta	40	4	40	0	53	*	44	*	36	0	37	0	37	0	28	0	37	0	124	472	65	6	86	78	1198	746	*	606
Paterson	131	0	90	*	150	0	135	*	120	0	104	0	104	0	87	0	103	0	306	1310	220	11	364	346	2487	1072	*	852
Prospect	26	0	15	*	15	0	22	0	20	0	28	0	28	0	11	0	10	0	45	206	25	4	52	31	892	222	*	191
Reid	35	*	32	0	32	*	31	0	27	0	28	0	28	0	24	0	31	0	110	367	92	0	69	122	1155	631	0	575
Richmond	85	4	72	*	122	0	113	0	124	0	106	0	106	0	72	0	93	0	352	1247	298	13	417	377	3230	1383	8	1128
Riverina	80	0	74	0	88	0	75	0	64	*	50	0	50	0	54	0	63	0	167	758	87	5	177	186	1405	910	*	739
Robertson	81	*	69	4	124	*	88	0	101	0	91	0	91	0	65	0	99	0	347	1146	327	14	317	318	2759	1540	*	1251
Shortland	64	*	65	*	79	0	102	0	78	0	70	0	70	0	61	0	97	0	240	919	227	6	306	294	2518	1074	6	926
Sydney	42	*	29	*	33	0	35	0	31	0	30	0	30	0	28	0	18	0	70	337	25	9	78	40	612	325	0	212

## Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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	10% General Rate	15% General Rate	20% General Rate	25% General Rate	30% General Rate	35% General Rate	40% General Rate	45% General Rate	50% General Rate	55% General Rate	60% General Rate	65% General Rate	70% General Rate	75% General Rate	80% General Rate	85% General Rate	90% General Rate	95% General Rate	100% General Rate	All General Rate	EDA	Intermediate Rate	Special Rate (TPI)	DFISA	Service Pension	War Widow(er)s	Orphans	ISS	
Throsby	43	*	30	*	29	0	24	0	30	0	26	0	27	0	22	0	26	0	78	338	72	*	117	76	1215	462	*	421	
Warringah	67	*	62	4	93	0	94	0	69	0	65	0	54	*	70	0	38	0	204	824	93	6	147	131	1163	1115	0	624	
Watson	41	*	25	0	36	0	47	0	32	0	30	0	35	*	31	0	27	0	114	422	90	*	93	98	1193	599	*	467	
Wentworth	51	*	47	*	49	0	47	*	43	0	36	0	25	0	31	0	28	0	108	469	47	*	65	60	557	659	*	317	
Werriva	36	*	36	0	45	0	32	0	47	0	41	0	20	0	39	0	19	0	80	397	45	4	108	54	818	314	0	256	
<b>Victoria</b>																													
Aston	38	0	36	*	51	*	31	0	35	0	32	0	27	0	30	0	20	0	83	385	71	*	83	90	955	441	*	332	
Ballarat	64	*	56	*	80	0	59	0	60	0	63	0	44	0	40	0	40	0	133	641	123	9	192	197	1600	952	0	773	
Batman	34	*	34	*	29	0	35	0	38	0	30	0	24	0	43	0	32	0	102	404	124	*	55	138	1159	762	*	655	
Bendigo	63	4	59	*	94	0	84	0	102	0	42	0	59	0	61	0	36	0	262	867	258	8	221	290	1958	1255	*	1058	
Bruce	38	0	27	*	33	0	36	0	42	0	35	0	31	0	29	0	17	0	91	380	67	*	81	72	1160	576	0	451	
Calwell	20	*	28	0	46	0	23	0	26	0	20	0	16	0	13	0	12	0	43	248	41	*	70	60	637	281	*	229	
Casey	37	*	47	*	42	0	38	0	48	*	32	0	22	0	44	0	28	0	88	430	65	*	80	107	1142	580	0	469	
Chisholm	67	*	63	4	76	*	69	0	78	0	61	*	36	0	59	0	47	0	155	719	118	4	71	157	1590	1015	0	713	
Corangamite	75	*	73	*	102	0	84	0	73	0	79	*	60	0	77	0	47	0	219	892	232	9	181	244	2066	1075	0	824	
Corio	46	*	61	0	69	0	65	0	62	0	52	0	37	*	61	0	47	0	169	672	173	6	146	230	1645	797	0	682	
Deakin	72	*	75	4	64	*	56	0	61	0	45	0	34	0	44	0	31	0	148	638	113	*	86	160	1575	974	0	735	
Dunkley	103	5	88	*	117	0	79	0	96	0	78	0	48	*	66	0	51	0	209	943	182	10	195	220	2307	1048	0	776	
Flinders	101	*	94	*	123	*	114	*	114	0	101	0	62	0	85	0	67	0	298	1165	270	10	216	300	2649	1161	*	901	
Gellibrand	45	*	41	0	43	0	40	0	45	0	30	0	26	0	27	0	19	0	78	397	113	5	59	85	1270	523	*	440	
Gippsland	69	*	62	0	99	0	80	0	74	0	65	0	51	*	65	0	31	0	167	765	117	6	219	199	1911	896	*	729	
Goldstein	91	7	86	4	100	*	86	0	86	0	88	0	54	*	81	0	38	0	196	921	164	4	105	171	1628	1376	0	855	
Gorton	14	0	10	0	19	0	13	0	9	0	14	0	11	0	12	0	5	0	30	137	20	0	44	28	669	168	0	137	
Higgins	40	*	52	*	54	0	64	0	62	0	43	0	35	0	27	0	29	0	123	533	61	*	53	87	722	730	0	369	
Holt	34	0	32	*	33	0	27	0	40	0	25	0	9	0	24	0	15	0	43	283	39	*	83	31	755	278	0	246	
Hotham	51	5	61	*	64	0	53	0	53	0	55	*	38	0	55	0	42	0	140	619	103	6	72	166	1710	908	0	720	



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	110	*	89	*	123	0	142	0	120	0	100	0	62	0	70	0	52	0	190	1063	130	5	279	213	1765	1025	0	809																			
	150	General Rate	20%	General Rate	25%	General Rate	30%	General Rate	35%	General Rate	40%	General Rate	45%	General Rate	50%	General Rate	55%	General Rate	60%	General Rate	65%	General Rate	70%	General Rate	75%	General Rate	80%	General Rate	85%	General Rate	90%	General Rate	95%	General Rate	100%	General Rate	All General Rate	EDA	Intermediate Rate	Special Rate (TPI)	DFISA	Service Pension	War Widow(ers)	Orphans	ISS		
Indi	62	*	43	0	53	0	52	0	61	0	45	0	28	0	44	0	31	0	145	565	91	5	150	126	1617	813	*	673																			
McMillan	73	5	58	*	68	0	86	0	68	0	68	0	44	0	56	0	37	0	201	766	166	*	192	217	1753	1214	*	1064																			
Mallee	19	4	20	*	29	0	26	0	24	0	23	0	15	0	22	0	17	0	59	259	95	7	54	99	997	530	0	404																			
Maribyrnong	39	*	22	*	36	0	30	0	19	0	15	0	13	0	26	0	18	0	50	272	41	*	51	51	645	449	0	319																			
Meibourne	50	*	33	0	37	0	33	*	26	0	22	0	18	0	15	0	18	0	60	315	55	*	40	40	654	489	0	310																			
Meibourne Ports	33	*	45	*	41	0	50	0	32	0	26	0	24	0	28	0	18	0	79	379	52	*	57	76	857	506	*	336																			
Menzies	65	*	56	*	69	*	79	0	66	*	60	0	46	0	73	0	45	0	194	757	157	10	197	243	1739	1022	*	849																			
Murray	18	*	23	0	29	0	19	0	15	0	13	0	9	0	14	0	9	0	48	198	51	*	70	26	562	244	*	207																			
Scullin	62	*	56	*	86	0	92	0	73	0	62	0	49	0	69	0	50	0	153	755	84	7	159	176	1748	1109	5	875																			
Wannon	26	4	33	0	46	0	46	0	31	0	36	0	19	0	34	0	19	0	105	399	178	6	75	153	1267	805	*	663																			
Wills																																															
<b>Queensland</b>																																															
Blair	156	0	147	0	154	0	149	0	121	0	114	0	60	0	88	0	71	0	168	1228	122	13	391	307	2044	640	*	559																			
Bonner	81	9	88	*	110	0	102	0	77	0	65	0	47	0	52	0	47	0	158	837	90	4	207	144	1822	980	*	792																			
Bowman	119	*	104	*	96	0	82	0	96	0	84	0	46	0	56	0	41	0	155	883	107	7	315	184	2036	759	*	626																			
Brisbane	124	*	128	*	124	*	112	0	89	0	86	0	56	0	59	*	67	0	165	1016	96	9	170	129	1443	1028	*	793																			
Capricornia	59	0	59	*	63	0	58	0	63	0	58	0	24	0	45	0	42	0	112	584	55	5	216	82	1492	692	0	615																			

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	10% General Rate	15% General Rate	20% General Rate	25% General Rate	30% General Rate	35% General Rate	40% General Rate	45% General Rate	50% General Rate	55% General Rate	60% General Rate	65% General Rate	70% General Rate	75% General Rate	80% General Rate	85% General Rate	90% General Rate	95% General Rate	100% General Rate	All General Rate	EDA	Intermediate Rate	Special Rate (TP)	DFISA	Service Pension	War Widow(er)s	Orphans	ISS
Dawson	68	*	75	*	88	0	92	0	68	0	51	0	42	0	55	0	41	0	147	729	96	8	232	156	1478	660	*	564
Dickson	133	0	132	*	156	0	130	0	126	0	103	0	60	0	62	0	66	0	172	1142	56	14	400	119	1586	583	5	454
Fadden	92	0	67	*	99	0	106	0	91	0	65	0	50	0	75	0	53	0	227	927	146	5	242	220	1936	746	0	567
Fairfax	96	0	116	*	99	0	111	0	75	0	69	0	51	*	76	0	71	0	174	941	146	15	417	235	2419	810	*	601
Fisher	108	*	109	*	124	*	148	0	112	*	118	0	67	0	86	0	61	0	233	1172	218	11	384	295	3019	1118	*	839
Forde	90	*	78	*	92	0	88	0	63	0	49	0	37	0	51	0	50	0	139	739	91	6	331	159	1743	509	6	414
Griffith	76	5	81	*	98	*	99	0	58	0	64	0	47	0	61	0	50	0	165	806	103	*	131	134	1647	970	*	763
Groom	140	*	120	*	175	0	146	0	130	0	89	0	70	0	65	0	54	0	144	1136	75	8	243	197	1730	893	*	738
Herbert	176	*	180	*	227	0	165	0	136	0	85	0	75	0	92	0	79	0	164	1382	85	*	500	177	1804	585	0	478
Hinkler	69	*	82	0	113	0	100	0	85	0	76	0	65	0	68	0	59	0	172	890	116	*	380	238	2175	804	9	712
Kennedy	88	0	77	*	122	*	89	0	93	0	59	0	48	0	59	0	70	0	157	864	55	10	313	119	1621	505	*	429
Leichhardt	80	*	99	*	99	0	92	0	71	0	69	0	49	0	49	0	44	0	107	763	47	5	212	84	1222	516	*	421
Lilley	119	4	134	7	125	0	108	0	107	0	78	0	56	*	67	0	72	0	219	1098	147	9	197	198	2304	1550	5	1245
Longman	133	*	118	0	168	0	140	0	135	0	119	0	60	0	92	0	91	0	248	1305	165	8	604	298	3097	872	6	728
Maranoa	45	*	55	0	72	0	51	0	54	0	48	0	41	0	67	0	39	0	112	586	84	*	200	111	1266	739	4	613
McPherson	71	0	67	0	92	0	107	0	83	0	75	0	78	0	98	0	85	0	282	1038	285	10	315	296	2464	1018	4	732
Moncrieff	85	*	72	*	67	*	82	0	79	0	70	0	59	0	69	0	56	0	288	932	239	10	254	244	1910	986	0	677
Moreton	87	*	66	*	84	*	87	0	73	0	47	0	48	0	42	0	45	0	146	730	90	*	160	133	1586	822	*	636
Oxley	107	*	98	0	111	0	74	0	77	0	51	0	38	0	53	0	48	0	121	779	69	6	215	133	1659	683	0	558
Petrie	130	*	127	0	159	*	144	0	104	0	88	0	42	0	79	0	57	0	218	1150	117	5	280	197	2265	1212	*	977
Rankin	84	0	69	*	88	*	62	0	52	0	44	0	26	*	33	0	30	0	100	591	50	9	238	122	1215	360	*	305
Ryan	95	*	89	*	111	*	86	0	49	0	56	0	42	0	47	0	27	0	113	720	49	4	133	84	1019	719	*	424
Wide Bay	99	*	86	*	132	0	134	0	104	0	111	0	84	0	101	0	98	0	256	1207	214	19	612	358	3153	980	*	848

South Australia

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**  
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Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs

	10% General Rate	15% General Rate	20% General Rate	25% General Rate	30% General Rate	35% General Rate	40% General Rate	45% General Rate	50% General Rate	55% General Rate	60% General Rate	65% General Rate	70% General Rate	75% General Rate	80% General Rate	85% General Rate	90% General Rate	95% General Rate	100% General Rate	All General Rate	EDA	Intermediate Rate	Special Rate (TPI)	DFISA	Service Pension	War Widow(er)s	Orphans	ISS		
Adelaide	94	*	91	*	72	*	79	0	54	0	45	0	45	0	33	*	45	0	35	0	104	659	65	10	115	139	1697	956	0	748
Barker	64	5	89	*	85	0	65	0	62	0	63	0	63	0	51	0	57	0	43	0	127	712	69	13	235	130	2048	960	*	816
Boothby	121	5	98	4	101	*	90	0	76	0	84	*	84	*	55	0	73	0	38	0	203	950	120	9	186	249	2578	1276	0	930
Grey	57	7	64	0	67	*	56	0	59	0	49	0	49	0	41	0	50	0	34	0	123	608	45	12	283	153	1998	733	0	616
Hindmarsh	112	6	119	*	120	0	85	0	108	0	85	0	85	0	51	*	82	0	52	0	192	1016	132	7	215	263	2925	1442	*	1152
Kingston	78	*	73	*	88	0	71	0	45	0	53	0	53	0	36	*	25	0	34	0	87	593	39	10	286	141	2211	495	*	428
Makin	57	0	62	*	68	*	53	0	38	0	44	0	44	0	22	0	32	0	13	0	79	470	32	6	225	99	1702	433	0	360
Mayo	95	*	81	*	94	0	67	*	56	0	45	0	45	0	43	0	48	0	40	0	126	700	66	9	240	132	2157	676	0	557
Port Adelaide	75	*	71	*	76	0	64	0	34	0	45	0	45	0	41	0	46	0	43	0	112	611	57	8	159	107	2192	788	0	709
Sturt	88	6	92	*	89	*	67	0	46	0	49	0	49	0	29	0	37	0	33	0	107	647	54	*	123	129	1815	942	*	667
Wakefield	89	*	76	*	83	0	64	0	65	0	44	0	44	0	28	0	36	0	29	0	86	605	22	11	202	150	2108	437	0	369

**Western Australia**

Brand	148	4	141	0	186	0	156	0	108	0	111	0	111	0	63	0	80	0	81	0	219	1297	101	12	404	232	2899	692	6	588
Canning	63	4	81	0	91	0	76	*	50	0	61	0	61	0	29	0	38	0	34	0	126	654	39	5	297	123	1828	358	*	287
Cowan	65	*	50	*	71	0	60	0	44	0	43	0	43	0	31	0	32	0	40	0	98	538	33	6	239	100	1436	327	*	268
Curtin	95	6	91	4	96	*	104	0	62	0	70	0	70	0	33	*	43	0	53	0	161	820	83	7	126	102	1459	907	0	512
Forrest	68	7	63	*	83	0	86	0	58	*	48	0	48	0	26	0	41	0	44	0	104	633	61	8	302	134	1979	555	*	458
Fremantle	76	*	73	*	67	0	67	0	65	0	68	*	68	*	28	0	52	0	52	0	117	670	76	*	167	111	1633	557	*	473
Hasluck	73	*	52	*	53	0	53	0	36	0	38	0	38	0	18	0	27	0	25	0	68	447	22	4	166	84	1452	354	*	296
Kalgoorlie	28	*	37	0	32	0	38	0	27	0	25	0	25	0	20	0	17	0	14	0	37	277	10	*	94	30	498	149	*	117
Moore	61	0	48	*	58	0	49	0	38	0	33	0	33	0	25	*	41	0	38	0	85	478	25	9	249	83	1173	322	5	247

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O Connor	61	4	50	0	57	0	69	0	36	0	51	0	31	0	47	0	40	0	108	554	36	6	237	103	1599	540	*	423
Pearce	71	*	77	0	76	0	68	0	59	0	45	0	35	0	33	0	56	0	118	639	29	10	277	121	1704	338	*	253
Perth	45	5	53	4	69	0	66	0	48	0	37	0	32	0	35	0	30	0	113	537	48	7	138	122	1696	636	*	520
Stirling	68	*	59	*	81	*	66	0	50	0	56	0	28	0	42	*	38	0	145	639	81	6	217	158	1860	666	*	535
Swan	63	8	56	*	72	0	58	0	66	0	51	0	34	0	43	0	50	0	148	651	70	0	156	133	1815	829	0	666
Tangney	98	7	77	*	90	0	77	0	67	0	64	0	52	0	55	0	47	0	159	796	66	5	155	158	1811	679	0	478
<b>Tasmania</b>																												
Bass	39	0	43	0	80	*	73	0	61	0	61	0	40	0	54	0	50	0	132	635	59	*	245	98	1786	865	0	730
Braddon	26	0	31	*	47	*	68	0	58	0	55	0	38	0	61	0	52	0	130	568	72	5	240	116	1887	674	*	588
Denison	60	*	61	*	67	0	79	*	61	0	74	0	36	0	49	0	34	0	164	692	64	5	262	78	1789	988	0	741
Franklin	59	*	56	*	85	0	70	0	74	0	60	0	39	0	56	0	44	0	129	674	51	4	338	100	1904	718	5	579
Lyons	39	0	52	0	55	0	60	0	46	0	52	*	23	0	27	0	44	0	108	507	48	6	292	102	1498	493	*	416
<b>Northern Territory</b>																												
Lingiari	26	0	32	0	30	0	18	0	18	0	18	0	10	0	8	0	9	0	19	188	*	4	59	15	227	44	0	24

Solomon	85	*	68	0	87	0	52	0	55	0	33	0	30	0	20	0	28	0	28	488	12	*	104	29	375	107	0	58
<b>Australian Capital Territory</b>																												
Canberra	267	*	196	*	254	0	167	0	122	0	92	0	60	0	75	0	47	0	167	1449	43	12	221	127	1067	689	4	310
Fraser	228	*	172	5	225	0	157	0	149	0	119	0	77	0	85	0	52	0	191	1461	60	9	183	183	1273	700	*	318
Unknown	251	7	213	4	229	0	144	0	116	0	79	0	64	0	55	0	63	0	101	1326	53	9	253	113	1621	519	4	205
<b>ISS</b>																												
<b>Orphans</b>																												
<b>War Widow(ers)</b>																												
<b>Service Pension</b>																												
<b>DFISA</b>																												
<b>Special Rate (TP)</b>																												
<b>Intermediate Rate</b>																												
<b>EDA</b>																												
<b>All General Rate</b>																												
<b>100% General Rate</b>																												
<b>95% General Rate</b>																												
<b>90% General Rate</b>																												
<b>85% General Rate</b>																												
<b>80% General Rate</b>																												
<b>75% General Rate</b>																												
<b>70% General Rate</b>																												
<b>65% General Rate</b>																												
<b>60% General Rate</b>																												
<b>55% General Rate</b>																												
<b>50% General Rate</b>																												
<b>45% General Rate</b>																												
<b>40% General Rate</b>																												
<b>35% General Rate</b>																												
<b>30% General Rate</b>																												
<b>25% General Rate</b>																												
<b>20% General Rate</b>																												
<b>15% General Rate</b>																												
<b>10% General Rate</b>																												

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**NOTE:** To avoid potential breach of personal information and identification of a recipient, where the number of recipients is 3 or less, it has been replaced by an \*.

2and5. DVA has demographic forecast models for service pension veterans and dependants, disability pensions and war widows. The current results at June for the next ten years are as follows:

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Service Pension Veterans	130 719	122 700	114 800	107 200	99 600	92 100	84 900	77 900	71 200	65 000	59 300
Service Pension Dependants	108 598	103 300	97 900	92 400	87 000	81 600	76 200	70 900	65 600	60 400	55 400
Disability Pensioners	150 615	146 100	141 200	136 100	130 800	125 600	120 400	115 600	111 000	106 800	103 000
War Widow(er)s	114 239	113 900	113 500	112 800	111 900	110 500	108 700	106 400	103 400	99 900	96 100

Figures for 2005 are actual

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4.

	2004/05	2003/04	2002/03	2001/02
<b>Disability Pension</b>				
• Claim for Disability Pension and Medical treatment	18652	23613	25378	26903
• Application for Increase	12040	15126	16931	17375
<b>DFISA *</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Service Pension</b>				
• Claim Age	2333	2457	3192	4056
• Claim Invalidity	1591	2036	2424	2852
• Claim Dependant	926	967	1076	1142
<b>Death Claim (War Widows/Orphans)</b>	5408	6050	6796	7673
<b>ISS New Claim</b>	3063	5529	5089	6309

\* Where a disability pensioner is receiving income support under Social Security law, eligibility for DFISA is determined and paid. No claim/application is made.

6. Last year the Department referred 29 cases to the DPP that related to understating income and assets.
7. Overpayments of pension can be created by a variety of circumstances. Because of system limitations, it is not possible to provide details of overpayments arising solely from understatement of income and assets.

**Question 10**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Indexation of disability pensions**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What would be the total and individual cost of indexing the remaining component of the Special Rate Pension to MTAWWE?
2. What would be the total and individual cost of indexing the remaining component of the EDA Pension to MTAWWE?
3. What would be the total and individual cost of indexing the remaining component of the Intermediate Rate Pension to MTAWWE?
4. What would be the total and individual cost of indexing the General Rate Pension to MTAWWE?

**Answer:**

DVA is unable to provide costings of alternate policy options.

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**Question 11**

**Outcome: Output Group 6 and Outcome 1**

**Topic: DVA allowances**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. For the following DVA allowances and payments A) what is the rate of payment and B) what is the number of recipients i) nationally ii) by state iii) by electorate iv) by age group and v) by gender over the past 4 years?
  - a. Attendance Allowance
  - b. Bereavement Payment
  - c. Clothing Allowance
  - d. Decoration
  - e. Defence Force Income Support Allowance (DFISA)
  - f. Funeral Benefits
  - g. Guardian Allowance
  - h. GST Exemption on the purchase of a new motor vehicle, or spare parts,
  - i. Loss of Earnings Allowance
  - j. Pharmaceutical Allowance
  - k. Recreational Transport Allowance
  - l. Remote Area Allowance
  - m. Seniors Concession Allowance
  - n. Telephone Allowance
  - o. Temporary Incapacity Allowance
  - p. Utilities Allowance
  - q. Vehicle Assistance Scheme
  - r. Veterans' Children Education Scheme
  - s. Victoria Cross Allowance

**Answer:**

1A. The current rates are:

- a. Attendant Allowance
  - High rate \$249.10 per fortnight
  - Low rate \$124.40 per fortnight
- b. Bereavement Payment

The amount of bereavement payment varies according to the individual circumstances of people and the type of pension they receive.

Service pensioners

The amount of bereavement payment where the deceased pensioner has a partner is the equivalent of seven pension instalments (instalments

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are of the combined provisional rate of pension). If the deceased pensioner was not partnered, one pension instalment is payable to the estate.

**Disability pensioners**

A widow or widower of a veteran may receive the equivalent of six disability pension instalments at the actual rate payable to the veteran at the time of his or her death.

**c. Clothing Allowance**

High rate      \$10.40 per fortnight

Mid rate        \$ 7.10 per fortnight

Low rate        \$ 4.80 per fortnight

**d. Decoration Allowance              \$2.10 per fortnight**

**e. Defence Force Income Support Allowance (DFISA)**

DFISA may be payable to people whose social security income support payment is reduced or not payable because of the impact of adjusted disability pension. The amount of DFISA is the difference between the person's rate of social security payment, and what the rate would be if adjusted disability pension were exempt from the assessment, but included in the calculation of any rent assistance entitlement.

**f. Funeral Benefits                      Up to \$1 000**

**g. Guardian Allowance    \$45.78 per fortnight**

**h. GST Exemption on the purchase of a new motor vehicle, or spare parts**

This assistance is administered by the Australian Taxation Office. GST exemption may be provided on the purchase of a motor car once every two year or where a previously purchased vehicle has been driven more than 40 000 kilometres since purchase. GST exemption is also provided on the purchase of essential spare parts.

**i. Loss of Earnings Allowance**

Amount payable varies according to the individual circumstances of each person. The maximum amount of loss of earnings allowance combined with the amount of any disability pension normally payable to the person, cannot exceed the amount of the special (totally and permanently incapacitated) rate of disability pension, currently \$816.20 per fortnight.

**j. Pharmaceutical Allowance**

Singles rate    \$5.80 per fortnight

Couples rate   \$2.90 each per fortnight



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- k. Recreational Transport Allowance  
 High rate \$66.40 per fortnight  
 Low rate \$33.10 per fortnight
- l. Remote Area Allowance  
 Singles rate \$18.20 per fortnight  
 Couples rate \$15.60 each per fortnight  
 Each child \$ 7.30 per fortnight
- m. Seniors Concession Allowance (Paid half yearly in June and December)  
 Singles rate \$103.00 per half year  
 Couples rate \$103.00 each per half year
- n. Telephone Allowance (Paid quarterly in January/March/July/September)  
 Singles rate \$20.40 per quarter  
 Couples rate \$10.20 each per quarter  
 WW I veterans \$80.85 per quarter
- o. Temporary Incapacity Allowance (TIA)  
 Amount payable varies according to the individual circumstances of each veteran. TIA may be paid concurrently with loss of earnings allowance but the amount of the two allowances, combined with the amount of disability pension normally payable to the veteran, cannot exceed the amount of the special (totally and permanently incapacitated) rate of disability pension, currently \$816.20 per fortnight.
- p. Utilities Allowance (Paid half yearly in March and September)  
 Singles rate \$50.60 per half year  
 Couples rate \$25.30 each per half year  
 Illness/Respite separated \$50.60 each per half year
- q. Vehicle Assistance Scheme  
 Maintenance/running costs \$1 726.40 per year
- r. Veterans' Children Education Scheme  
 Primary Students \$201.60 per year  
 Secondary and tertiary students (fortnightly rate)
- | <i>Age</i> | <i>At home</i> | <i>Living away<br/>From home</i> | <i>Homeless</i> |
|------------|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Under 16   | \$ 41.40       | \$277.94                         | \$334.70        |
| 16-17      | \$183.20       | \$334.70                         | \$334.70        |
| 18 & over  | \$220.30       | \$334.70                         | \$334.70        |
- s. Victoria Cross Allowance **\$3 311 per annum**

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- 1B. The number of recipients of Defence Force Income Support Allowance as at 30 June 2005 and their break-up into the categories requested is provided in the answer to Question 9 (1).

The exemption of the GST for eligible veterans who purchase a new motor vehicle or spare parts is the responsibility of the Australian Taxation Office.

Tables 87 and 88 of the 2004–2005 Annual Report provide a summary of benefits, number of recipients and rates as at 30 June 2004 and 30 June 2005. Tables 76 and 77 in the 2003–2004 Annual Report provides the same information as at 30 June 2003.

Table A indicates the number of DVA recipients of Attendant Allowance, Bereavement Payment, Clothing Allowance, Decoration Allowance, Guardian Allowance, Loss of Earnings Allowance, Pharmaceutical Allowance, Recreation Transport Allowance, Remote Area Allowance, Seniors Concession Allowance, Telephone Allowance, Utilities Allowance and Victoria Cross Allowance, in the requested categories as at 30 June 2005. As Funeral Benefit is a one-off payment and assistance under the Vehicle Assistance Scheme is only made intermittently, no additional information has been included in respect of these benefits. As at 30 June 2005, there were no recipients of Temporary Incapacity Allowance. A break-up of recipients of these benefits into the categories requested for past years is not readily available.

Table B provides details of the numbers of students in receipt of education allowance over the past 4 years by State and nationally at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. The resources required to produce additional details requested would involve considerable cost which cannot be justified.

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**TABLE A**

	Attendant Allowance	Bereavement Payments	Clothing Allowance	Decoration Allowance	Guardian Allowance	Loss of Earnings	Pharmaceutical Allowance	Recreation Transport Allowance	Remote Area Allowance	Seniors Concession Allowance	Telephone Allowance	Utilities Allowance SP/ISS	Victoria Cross Allowance
<b>Total Persons</b>	1304	2291	1199	32	17	104	423517	3716	1347	9783	345356	292470	*
<b>By Sex</b>													
Male	1272	204	1173	32	8	101	195163	3627	704	4445	135036	111008	*
Female	32	2087	26	0	9	*	228354	89	643	5338	210320	181462	0
<b>By Age Group</b>													
Unknown	0	10	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	14	9	0
Under 45	19	*	18	0	*	23	13007	36	17	0	1711	0	0
45 – 49	20	11	21	0	*	25	7603	43	13	0	2013	0	0
50 – 54	22	19	23	0	*	24	13036	44	57	0	6864	0	0
55 – 59	58	41	118	0	5	19	32722	159	209	10	22089	5329	0
60 – 64	43	42	62	0	*	12	20623	107	163	552	16739	16114	0
65 – 69	25	86	33	0	0	0	18261	62	127	664	16536	15522	0
70 – 74	31	216	32	*	0	0	28356	141	125	695	26579	25023	*
75 – 79	160	579	131	*	0	0	77535	518	222	1937	70111	63452	0
80 – 84	571	853	466	8	*	0	136678	1719	298	3968	120027	109890	0
85 – 89	292	355	227	16	0	*	58733	748	94	1573	49671	45125	*
90 or over	63	77	68	5	0	0	16934	139	22	384	13002	12006	0

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	Attendant Allowance	Bereavement Payments	Clothing Allowance	Decoration Allowance	Guardian Allowance	Loss of Earnings	Pharmaceutical Allowance	Recreation Transport Allowance	Remote Area Allowance	Seniors Concession Allowance	Telephone Allowance	Utilities Allowance SP/SS	Victoria Cross Allowance
<b>By State of Residence</b>													
New South Wales	576	811	578	12	4	24	136850	1964	59	3045	112547	95536	0
Victoria	189	449	171	5	*	9	92119	433	5	2548	77020	65654	*
Queensland	170	518	222	7	*	44	95217	393	268	1631	75227	62626	*
South Australia	45	200	53	*	*	8	37391	124	22	738	31241	27442	0
Western Australia	254	186	50	*	*	11	39567	560	233	1319	32752	27293	0
Tasmania	61	97	98	*	5	4	14424	207	74	169	11964	10662	0
Northern Territory	0	*	*	0	*	4	1489	5	686	19	739	556	0
Australian Capital Territory	9	28	25	*	0	0	6460	30	0	314	3866	2701	0
<b>By Federal Electorate</b>													
<b>New South Wales</b>													
Banks	12	25	14	0	0	*	3286	47	0	62	2903	2605	0
Barton	8	19	10	0	0	0	2576	31	0	87	2254	1945	0
Bennelong	11	15	12	0	0	0	2667	28	0	90	2271	1912	0
Berowra	8	12	10	0	0	0	2036	27	0	98	1662	1342	0
Blaxland	7	19	17	0	0	0	2474	33	0	38	2230	1891	0
Bradfield	15	16	13	*	0	0	2841	36	0	215	2148	1359	0
Calare	8	11	6	0	0	*	2447	17	0	29	1981	1725	0
Charlton	8	16	12	0	0	*	3083	52	0	53	2622	2277	0
Chifley	7	7	8	0	*	*	1431	17	0	7	1167	1035	0
Cook	15	32	16	0	0	0	3061	30	0	105	2565	2153	0
Cowper	31	18	17	*	0	*	4594	97	0	46	3897	3289	0
Cunningham	13	13	8	0	*	0	2029	32	0	34	1771	1583	0
Dobell	27	21	22	0	0	0	3892	103	0	93	3349	2970	0

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Eden-Monaro	13	27	12	*	0	0	3821	41	0	64	2915	2467	0
Farrer	10	16	11	0	0	0	3498	31	0	56	2849	2528	0
Fowler	*	7	*	0	0	*	2043	8	0	11	1780	1243	0
Gilmore	21	19	25	0	0	*	4727	54	0	80	3757	3245	0
Grayndler	*	8	*	0	0	0	1067	6	0	11	818	768	0
Greenway	4	4	*	0	0	0	1393	11	0	17	1123	1015	0
Gwydir	14	16	8	0	0	0	2534	19	0	44	2039	1706	0
Hughes	7	6	5	0	0	0	1982	20	0	29	1451	1269	0
Hume	14	20	7	*	0	*	2667	24	*	56	2098	1761	0
Hunter	10	13	17	0	0	0	2322	20	0	19	1822	1554	0
Kingsford Smith	9	11	8	0	0	0	2096	29	0	70	1704	1491	0
Lindsay	*	8	6	0	0	0	1930	18	0	21	1491	1271	0
Lowe	9	7	12	*	0	0	1699	26	0	65	1403	1170	0
Lyne	25	27	14	0	*	*	5050	119	*	90	4309	3721	0
Macarthur	7	7	10	0	0	*	1805	27	0	20	1375	1230	0
Mackellar	11	26	22	0	0	0	3518	48	0	148	2911	2285	0
Macquarie	11	12	8	0	0	0	2414	29	0	67	1832	1580	0
Mitchell	*	8	*	0	0	0	1678	12	0	85	1304	1082	0
New England	24	22	24	0	*	0	3402	67	0	55	2816	2393	0
Newcastle	10	20	9	0	0	0	3176	36	0	49	2676	2408	0
North Sydney	5	11	7	*	0	0	2119	19	0	115	1605	1121	0
Page	27	36	21	0	0	*	4359	67	0	62	3673	3198	0
Parkes	13	11	11	0	0	0	2568	27	*	35	2131	1862	0
Parramatta	6	12	5	0	0	0	2221	22	0	62	1896	1677	0
Paterson	21	28	19	*	0	*	4460	74	*	80	3593	2979	0
Prospect	*	6	*	0	0	0	1255	5	0	8	1012	797	0

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Reid	8	11	12	0	0	0	1963	28	0	28	0	1754	1594	0	0
Richmond	17	48	13	*	0	*	5319	63	0	63	0	4583	3933	0	0
Riverina	17	15	12	0	0	*	2831	29	0	29	0	2233	1922	0	0
Robertson	25	32	25	0	0	0	4995	149	0	149	0	4331	3707	0	0
Shortland	18	20	22	0	0	0	4068	148	0	148	0	3555	3150	0	0
Sydney	4	8	4	0	0	0	1205	13	4	13	4	848	735	0	0
Throsby	9	17	13	0	0	*	1893	22	0	22	0	1598	1475	0	0
Warringah	8	15	8	0	0	0	2942	33	0	33	0	2303	1684	0	0
Watson	4	18	7	*	0	0	2033	34	0	34	0	1773	1534	0	0
Wentworth	4	9	7	*	0	0	1619	19	0	19	0	1214	830	0	0
Werriwa	7	*	11	0	0	*	1441	15	0	15	0	1042	896	0	0
<b>Victoria</b>															
Aston	*	6	5	0	0	0	1663	13	0	13	0	1378	1189	0	0
Ballarat	9	14	4	0	0	*	2938	22	*	22	*	2506	2139	0	0
Batman	*	15	4	0	0	0	2141	9	0	9	0	1902	1735	0	0
Bendigo	5	14	12	0	*	0	3769	13	0	13	0	3118	2744	0	0
Bruce	*	5	*	0	0	0	1960	10	0	10	0	1699	1483	0	0
Calwell	*	4	*	0	0	*	1099	5	0	5	0	887	758	0	0
Casey	*	5	*	0	0	0	2015	8	*	8	*	1695	1499	0	0
Chisholm	*	18	6	*	0	0	3062	17	0	17	0	2657	2191	0	0
Corangamite	14	22	6	0	0	0	3696	14	0	14	0	3155	2667	0	0
Corio	11	18	6	0	0	0	2871	9	0	9	0	2457	2108	0	0
Deakin	7	8	8	0	0	0	2922	18	0	18	0	2599	2208	0	0
Dunkley	6	27	6	0	0	0	3962	17	0	17	0	3335	2858	0	0

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Flinders	20	15	10	0	0	*	4529	34	34	*	101	3832	3271	0
Gellibrand	*	9	*	0	0	0	2044	9	9	0	29	1726	1599	0
Gippsland	5	14	4	0	0	0	3266	11	11	0	52	2721	2327	0
Goldstein	11	23	*	0	0	0	3626	18	18	0	216	3093	2374	0
Gorton	*	*	7	0	0	0	925	5	5	0	7	767	701	0
Higgins	*	10	*	0	0	0	1863	6	6	0	132	1462	1015	0
Holt	*	*	*	0	0	0	1215	6	6	0	8	983	880	0
Hotham	5	17	4	0	0	0	2921	16	16	0	87	2608	2281	0
Indi	7	18	7	0	0	*	3587	15	15	0	68	2740	2261	0
Isaacs	6	17	8	0	0	0	2751	12	12	0	64	2404	2086	0
Jagajaga	4	19	10	0	0	0	3194	13	13	0	104	2599	2200	0
Kooyong	*	11	4	*	0	0	2182	7	7	0	194	1793	1179	0
Lalor	*	4	*	0	0	*	1745	6	6	0	21	1230	1067	0
La Trobe	*	9	*	0	0	0	1934	9	9	0	41	1581	1393	0
McEwen	*	11	*	0	0	*	2227	6	6	0	40	1662	1421	0
McMillan	7	10	*	0	0	0	2737	11	11	0	49	2358	2052	0
Mallee	6	20	8	0	0	0	3422	9	9	*	40	2871	2553	0
Maribyrnong	5	*	4	0	0	0	1707	12	12	0	61	1519	1289	0
Melbourne	*	4	0	0	0	0	1300	4	4	0	31	895	859	0
Melbourne Ports	*	7	*	0	0	*	1370	*	*	0	58	1104	904	0
Menzies	4	10	4	*	0	0	1606	9	9	0	79	1355	1122	0
Murray	11	19	6	0	0	0	3196	12	12	0	55	2686	2329	0
Scullin	*	*	*	0	0	0	947	7	7	0	14	758	670	0
Wannon	8	24	8	0	0	0	3285	15	15	0	82	2801	2402	*
Wills	7	11	*	0	0	0	2306	24	24	*	58	2044	1814	0

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Queensland	Attendant Allowance	Bereavement Payments	Clothing Allowance	Decoration Allowance	Guardian Allowance	Loss of Earnings	Pharmaceutical Allowance	Recreation Allowance	Transport Allowance	Remote Area Allowance	Seniors Concession Allowance	Telephone Allowance	Utilities Allowance	SP/ISS Allowance	Victoria Cross Allowance
Blair	5	20	12	0	0	*	3670	10	12	*	30	2638	2166	0	0
Bonner	6	21	13	*	0	0	3285	11	8	0	69	2753	2391	0	0
Bowman	10	14	7	0	*	*	3413	21	14	*	77	2770	2348	0	0
Brisbane	4	22	9	0	0	0	3249	8	7	0	82	2443	2066	0	0
Capricornia	0	17	*	0	0	*	2503	12	4	6	24	2071	1832	0	0
Dawson	*	15	4	0	0	*	2589	19	13	*	32	2049	1733	*	*
Dickson	*	14	11	0	0	*	3193	12	8	0	34	2126	1704	0	0
Fadden	6	17	10	0	0	4	3314	17	15	*	65	2689	2258	0	0
Fairfax	8	12	8	0	0	*	3908	8	17	*	95	3257	2584	0	0
Fisher	9	32	13	0	0	*	4871	24	24	*	86	4138	3461	0	0
Forde	11	11	6	0	0	*	2812	19	19	*	31	2171	1787	0	0
Griffith	5	15	10	*	0	0	3106	7	7	0	90	2546	2262	0	0
Groom	*	19	9	*	0	*	3469	10	10	*	61	2626	2242	0	0
Herbert	6	15	4	0	0	7	3636	11	11	4	34	2409	1792	0	0
Hinkler	8	20	10	0	0	0	3531	21	21	*	34	2915	2473	0	0
Kennedy	6	9	10	0	0	*	2712	8	8	132	28	2041	1666	0	0
Leichhardt	*	7	*	0	0	0	2274	12	12	94	37	1616	1407	0	0
Lilley	7	26	8	0	0	*	4521	19	19	0	96	3789	3322	0	0
Longman	11	33	17	0	0	*	4863	22	22	0	56	3952	3220	0	0
Maranoa	7	11	6	0	*	0	2354	12	12	4	31	1921	1624	0	0
Mcpherson	12	22	9	*	0	0	4183	30	30	0	83	3548	2891	0	0
Moncrieff	7	24	8	0	0	5	3613	17	17	0	105	2962	2358	0	0
Moreton	*	21	7	0	0	*	2900	6	6	*	82	2421	2046	0	0



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Oxley	*	14	*	0	0	*	2950	*	*	38	2265	1889	0
Petrie	8	27	8	*	0	*	4255	14	*	79	3430	2949	0
Rankin	*	10	4	0	0	*	2057	12	0	14	1535	1243	0
Ryan	*	12	6	0	0	*	2341	4	*	94	1730	1334	0
Wide Bay	18	32	7	*	*	0	4859	40	5	35	4063	3313	0
<b>South Australia</b>													
Adelaide	6	19	8	*	0	0	3064	12	0	84	2508	2247	0
Barker	5	17	4	0	0	*	3405	15	5	47	2807	2538	0
Boothby	5	23	6	*	0	*	4430	17	0	167	3768	3261	0
Grey	4	15	*	0	0	0	3076	13	13	29	2600	2212	0
Hindmarsh	8	21	6	0	0	0	4927	19	0	123	4289	3768	0
Kingston	*	18	6	0	0	0	3113	12	*	38	2603	2261	0
Makin	*	16	*	0	0	*	2508	7	0	19	2012	1752	0
Mayo	4	13	*	0	*	*	3311	9	0	66	2711	2416	0
Port Adelaide	6	23	6	0	0	0	3296	9	0	33	2828	2534	0
Sturt	*	22	*	*	0	0	3192	5	*	110	2697	2290	0
Wakefield	*	13	7	0	0	*	3020	6	0	22	2411	2159	0
<b>Western Australia</b>													
Brand	38	21	7	0	0	*	4594	74	*	81	3617	3078	0
Canning	16	11	*	0	0	*	2638	28	5	62	2183	1784	0
Cowan	8	10	*	0	0	*	2161	29	*	53	1748	1429	0
Curtin	17	18	4	0	0	0	2973	40	0	276	2429	1833	0
<b>Attendant Allowance</b>													
<b>Bereavement Payments</b>													
<b>Clothing Allowance</b>													
<b>Decoration Allowance</b>													
<b>Guardian Allowance</b>													
<b>Loss of Earnings</b>													
<b>Pharmaceutical Allowance</b>													
<b>Recreation Allowance</b>													
<b>Transport Allowance</b>													
<b>Remote Area Allowance</b>													
<b>Seniors Concession Allowance</b>													
<b>Telephone Allowance</b>													
<b>Utilities Allowance</b>													
<b>SP/SS Allowance</b>													
<b>Victoria Cross Allowance</b>													

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Forrest	15	11	*	*	0	*	2923	46	4	69	2499	2082	0
Fremantle	23	9	*	0	0	*	2618	43	0	79	2195	1907	0
Hasluck	8	6	*	0	*	0	2112	23	0	43	1765	1529	0
Kalgoorlie	*	6	*	0	0	*	863	5	160	24	616	499	0
Moore	11	10	4	0	0	0	1904	29	0	61	1498	1184	0
O Connor	11	16	*	*	0	0	2505	32	11	78	2126	1705	0
Pearce	17	8	*	0	0	*	2523	31	4	76	2029	1658	0
Perth	8	12	4	0	0	0	2630	31	*	75	2228	1980	0
Stirling	21	13	5	0	0	0	2938	47	0	97	2544	2161	0
Swan	32	13	5	0	0	0	3024	60	*	98	2636	2303	0
Tangney	26	22	5	*	0	*	2986	41	*	143	2536	2091	0

**Tasmania**

Bass	14	27	12	0	0	0	2914	53	22	24	2454	2282	0
Braddon	14	15	20	0	0	*	2808	31	50	20	2394	2191	0
Denison	12	23	30	0	0	*	3124	48	*	67	2614	2332	0
Franklin	11	15	23	*	0	*	2990	32	0	35	2459	2186	0
Lyons	6	14	11	0	*	0	2293	33	0	23	1869	1586	0

**Northern Territory**

Lingiari	0	*	0	0	*	0	454	*	246	4	249	179	0
Solomon	0	*	*	0	0	4	958	*	410	14	458	351	0

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**Australian Capital Territory**

Canberra	*	17	7	*	0	0	3162	12	0	179	1850	1235	0
Fraser	7	12	18	0	0	0	3298	18	0	134	2025	1473	0
Unknown	7	12	9	0	4	*	1838	18	121	16	810	638	0

**NOTE:** To avoid potential breach of personal information and identification of a recipient, where a number is 3 or less, it has been replaced by an \*.

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**TABLE B**

**Beneficiaries by educational level as at 30 June 2002**

<b>State</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>TAS</b>	<b>Total</b>
Primary	486	278	147	123	210	70	1 314
Secondary	750	613	400	215	314	123	2 415
Tertiary	513	347	291	142	255	67	1 615
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 749</b>	<b>1 238</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>5 344</b>

**Beneficiaries by educational level as at 30 June 2003**

<b>State</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>TAS</b>	<b>Total</b>
Primary	404	295	184	118	199	63	1 263
Secondary	833	642	335	212	300	118	2 440
Tertiary	493	386	253	139	251	50	1 572
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 730</b>	<b>1 323</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>5 275</b>

**Beneficiaries by educational level as at 30 June 2004**

<b>State</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>TAS</b>	<b>Total</b>
Primary	390	270	155	109	197	60	1 181
Secondary	856	648	393	197	292	126	2 512
Tertiary	421	351	228	135	234	55	1 424
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 667</b>	<b>1 269</b>	<b>7 76</b>	<b>4 41</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>5 117</b>

**Beneficiaries by educational level as at 30 June 2005**

<b>State</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>TAS</b>	<b>Total</b>
Primary	473	279	114	94	181	48	1 189
Secondary	705	593	327	177	256	113	2 171
Tertiary	416	358	273	146	192	58	1 443
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 594</b>	<b>1 230</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>4 803</b>

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**Question 12**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)-**  
**Topic: BCOF**

**Senator Hurley**

(written question on notice)

1. How many Australian veterans served in BCOF?
2. How many BCOF veterans are still alive?
3. How many of the BCOF veterans have qualifying service?
4. How many BCOF veterans have access to the Gold Card?
5. What would be the cost of supplying the Gold Card to all remaining BCOF veterans who currently are not eligible?
6. What progress has been made with the preparation of a nominal roll for BCOF, and what is the timeframe for completion?

**Answer:**

1. An estimated 14 250 Australian Defence Force personnel served with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces.
2. As at 30 June 2005, it is estimated that 5 000 personnel who served with the BCOF would be still alive.
3. No personnel who served with the BCOF have Qualifying Service due to that service. However, it is estimated that 50% of personnel with BCOF service would have qualifying service due to service during World War II or the Korean War.
4. 3 027 BCOF veterans have access to the Gold Card.
5. DVA is unable to provide costings of alternate policy options.
6. At this time the Department has not committed to preparing a nominal roll for BCOF. The allocation of funds for such a project would need to be considered in the budget context.

**Question 13**

**Outcome: Outcome 1 (Compensation) and Outcome 2 (Health)**  
**Topic: Commonwealth and allied servicemen from WWII**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many commonwealth and allied ex-servicemen from WWII are living in Australia?
2. How many have become Australian Citizens and how many are permanent residents?
3. How many Allied Servicemen living in Australia have qualifying service?
4. How many are receiving the service pension?
5. What DVA benefits are they entitled to?

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6. What is the cost of providing those benefits?
7. Has the Government any analysis or research on the costs involved in giving Commonwealth and Allied WWII veterans the Gold Card? If so, could that research be provided?

**Answer:**

1. The estimated number is 67 000.
2. DVA does not collect this data.
3. 47 000.
4. 21 025.
5. Commonwealth and allied ex-servicemen who are in receipt of a service pension are entitled to the following DVA benefits:
  - receipt of the service pension five (5) years earlier than the age pension;
  - a service pension of the same amount for their partners;
  - a Pensioner Concession Card for access to discounted pharmaceuticals listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule (PBS);
  - a Repatriation Health Card – For Specific Conditions (White Card) for the free treatment and care of any health condition accepted by their home governments as war or service related;
  - access to some rehabilitation appliances and home care;
  - a Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits (Orange) card for access to discounted pharmaceuticals listed on the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule which contains a wider range of items than the PBS.
6. A breakdown of these costs for Commonwealth and allied veterans is not available.
7. DVA is unable to provide costing of alternate policy options.

**Question 14**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Rwandan veterans**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many ADF personnel served with the UN peacekeeping force in Rwanda?
2. How many have made claims with DVA since?
3. How many claims have been accepted?
4. What were the both the successful and unsuccessful claims for?
5. Could a detailed outline of the process that would be involved in reclassifying the Peacekeeping service in Rwanda to 'warlike' be provided?
6. Why was the recent call to have the Rwandan operation reclassified from non-operational refused?
7. What would be the estimated cost of having service in Rwanda classified as 'warlike'?

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**Answer:**

1. It is a matter for Defence.
2. As at 11 November 2005, 273 claims have been lodged under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA) and 68 claims under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (SRCA).
3. 212 claimants under the VEA had at least one disability accepted under the VEA. 53 claims were accepted under the SRCA.
4. Under the VEA, the top five successful claims based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) body grouping are:

Mental Disorder  
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and connective tissue  
Diseases of the Nervous System & Sense Organs  
Injury and Poisoning\*  
Diseases of the Digestive System

Under the VEA, the top five unsuccessful claims based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) body grouping are:

Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and connective tissue  
Diseases of the Nervous System & Sense Organs  
Injury and Poisoning\*  
Mental Disorder  
Infestations and parasitic diseases

*\* Body grouping includes poisoning but all claims related to sprains, lacerations or soft tissue injuries.*

Under the SRCA, mainly psychiatric conditions were accepted and the rejected claims were across a range of conditions.

- 5 & 6 The question does not fall within the responsibilities of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. It is a matter for the Department of Defence.
7. DVA is unable to provide costings of alternate policy options.

**Question 15**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Gold Card**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many Gold Card holders there?
2. What is the cost per card?

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3. What is the estimated projected increase in cost of the card over the next 4 years?
4. What is the total cost of providing the Gold Card?
5. How many Specialists, by state and special have indicated to DVA that they will not accept the Gold Card?
6. What are the concerns that have been raised by the Queensland Branch of the AMA with the Minister or the Department?
7. How many GP's by state have stated they will not accept the Gold Card?
8. How many dentists by state have informed DVA they will not accept the Gold Card?

**Answer:**

1. 258 005.
2. \$11 450.
3. The estimated average projected cost for the Gold Card is as follows:

Year	Estimated Average Cost per Gold Card
2003-04*	\$11 450
2004-05#	\$12 400
2005-06#	\$13 900
2006-07#	\$15 200
2007-08#	\$16 800

\* Final figure

# Estimated average cost for each card is calculated per member of the treatment population. It shows the estimated cost in each of the financial years.

Note: The above estimates exclude the Residential Aged Care subsidy and various minor items not directly related to veteran health care (eg health research).

4. Output 2.1 provides for administration costs associated with the delivery of services to Gold and White Card holders. The 2004–05 DVA Annual Report (page 110) identifies \$225 as the price of departmental cost per Card holder (Gold and White).
5. 382 specialists, however 286 have billed the Department through Gold and White Cards for some services in the last 12 months.



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The table below provides a breakdown of these specialists by state and specialty:

Specialty	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Unknown	Total
Anaesthetist	1	10		5	3		5			24
Cardiologist/Cardio Thoracic		5		1						6
Consultant Physician – General medicine		4		3			2			9
Consultant Physician – Internal medicine				1	1					2
Consultant Physician – Neurology				3						3
Dermatology		1	1	6	1	1	1	1		12
Diagnostic Radiology		1								1
Gastroenterologist		5								5
General Surgery		11		15	2		7	1		36
Intensive Care				1			1			2
Nephrology	1	1								2
Neurosurgery		3		11	1	1	2			18
Obstetrics and Gynaecology		4		3		2				9
Oncology/Medical Oncology		2					1			3
Ophthalmology	2	16		14			12	3		47
Orthopaedics	2	23		35	6	10	10			86
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	2	7		5		1	1	1		17
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	3	7		5			1	1		17
Psychiatry		18		7	1					26
Radiotherapy		1								1
Rheumatology		5		1			1			7
Pathologist		1								1
Unknown									21	21
Urology		12		9	3	2				26
Vascular Surgery								1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>382</b>

6. The Department and the Minister respect the privacy of individuals or organisations making representations. The AMAQ publishes a regular newsletter, which is available publicly.
7. One
- 8.

State/Territory	Number of dentists no longer accepting the Gold Card
NSW	5
VIC	3
QLD	3
TAS	3

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**Question 16**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: White Card**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many white card holders are there?
2. What is the cost per white card?
3. What is the estimated projected increase in cost of the card over the next 4 years?

**Answer:**

1. 55,285.
2. \$1,200.
3. The estimated average projected cost for the White card is as follows:

Year	Estimated Average Cost per White Card
2004–05	\$1 300
2005–06	\$1 500
2006–07	\$1 600
2007–08	\$1 800

**Question 17**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Orange Card**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many orange card holders there?
2. What is the cost per card?
3. What is the estimated projected increase in cost of the card over the next 4 years?

**Answer:**

1. 17 495.
2. \$850.
3. The estimated average projected cost for the Orange Card is set out below:

Year	Estimated Average Cost per Orange Card
2004–05	\$ 950
2005–06	\$1 100
2006–07	\$1 300
2007–08	\$1 600

**Question 18**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: RMA**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What was the RMA budget for 2004-05?
2. Where and how many people are employed by the RMA?

**Answer:**

1. This information is in the RMA 2004/2005 Annual Report (Financial Activity).
2. This information is in the RMA 2004/2005 Annual Report (Appendix 1—Organisational Structure).

**Question 19**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Processing time of claims and claim assessment**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What are the reasons the department did not meet its target of an average of 75 days to process primary claims in 2004-05?
2. Has the Department adopted a policy or practice of greater scrutiny of Above General Rate claims by allowing their processing to be carried out predominantly or entirely by senior claims assessors?
3. Has DVA had to employ more senior claims assessors to carry out this policy?
4. What is the extra cost of this practice?
5. What are the annual acceptance rates of Above General Rate pension claims by pension type over the past 6 years?
6. What are the annual acceptance rates of claims for an increase in the General Rate pension over the past 6 years?
7. What are the annual acceptance rates of War Widow Pension claims over the past 6 years?

**Answer:**

1. This information is available in the DVA 2004-2005 Annual Report, page number 65.
2. Yes. The Repatriation Commission has a policy of two-tier decision making for Above General Rate cases. Claims assessors undertake research and analysis of claims and provide preliminary findings to senior claims assessors, who review the findings, assess the claim and make the decision.
3. DVA has provided training to some claims assessors to take up these additional responsibilities.

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4. The additional cost of this practice is approximately \$41,794 from April 2004 to 31 December 2005.

5. Claims are not made for the “Above General Rate” group of pensions. A rate of pension is assessed based on the veteran’s level of incapacity from his or her war or defence caused conditions.

Over the past six years, the percentage increases (rounded) in the rate of disability pension related to the Above General Rate (AGR) group are as follows (Note: Individual figures may not add to the total due to rounding):

**2004/2005**

20% of the increases in the rate of disability pension related to the AGR group:

- 15.0% increased to Extreme Disablement Adjustment;
- 0.4% increased to the Intermediate Rate of pension;
- 0.3% increased to the Totally Temporarily Incapacitated Rate; and
- 4.5% increased to the Totally Permanently Incapacitated Rate.

**2003/2004**

19% of the increases in the rate of disability pension related to the AGR group:

- 14.3% increased to Extreme Disablement Adjustment;
- 0.4% increased to the Intermediate Rate of pension;
- 0.3% increased to the Totally Temporarily Incapacitated Rate; and
- 4.5% increased to the Totally Permanently Incapacitated Rate.

**2002/2003**

23% of the increases in the rate of disability pension related to the AGR group:

- 16.6% increased to Extreme Disablement Adjustment;
- 0.4% increased to the Intermediate Rate of pension;
- 0.1% increased to the Totally Temporarily Incapacitated Rate; and
- 5.5% increased to the Totally Permanently Incapacitated Rate.

**2001/2002**

19% of the increases in the rate of disability pension related to the AGR group:

- 12.9% increased to Extreme Disablement Adjustment;
- 0.4% increased to the Intermediate Rate of pension;
- 0.2% increased to the Totally Temporarily Incapacitated Rate; and
- 5.8% increased to the Totally Permanently Incapacitated Rate.

**2000/2001**

19% of the increases in the rate of disability pension related to the AGR group:

- 12.9% increased to Extreme Disablement Adjustment;
- 0.5% increased to the Intermediate Rate of pension;
- 0.3% increased to the Totally Temporarily Incapacitated Rate; and
- 5.6% increased to the Totally Permanently Incapacitated Rate.

**1999/2001**

18% of the increases in the rate of disability pension related to the AGR group:

- 11.2% increased to Extreme Disablement Adjustment;
- 0.5% increased to the Intermediate Rate of pension;

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- 0.6% increased to the Totally Temporarily Incapacitated Rate; and
- 5.4% increased to the Totally Permanently Incapacitated Rate

6. Determinations of rate of disability pension over the last six financial years is available as follows:

- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 1999-2000 pg.132
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2000-2001 pg.150
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2001-2002 pg.153
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2002-2003 pg.57
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2003-2004 pg.67
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2004-2005 pg.69

7. The acceptance rate of claims for War Widow Pension over the last six financial years is available as follows:

- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 1999-2000 pg.132
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2000-2001 pg.150
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2001-2002 pg.152
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2002-2003 pg.56
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2003-2004 pg.66
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Annual Report 2004-2005 pg.68.

## **Question 20**

### **Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

#### **Topic: Section 31 reviews**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many section 31 reviews were conducted in the last 4 years?
2. What is was the average processing time by year over the last 4 years?
3. What percentage of cases over the past 4 years upheld the original decisions and what percentage overturned the original decision?

#### **Answer:**

1. The number of section 31 reviews conducted in the last 4 years were:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of reviews *</b>
2001-02	4 986
2002-03	5 142
2003-04	4 345
2004-05	3 614

\* The figures comprises specific requests for section 31 reviews, regardless of outcome, and cases where intervention occurred either upon screening or at the initiative of the Repatriation Commission, but does not include cases where the delegate decided not to intervene at the screening stage.

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2. The average processing time by year over the last 4 years were:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Average Time Taken</b>
2001–02	35 days
2002–03	29 days
2003–04	32 days
2004–05	35 days

3. The Department does not have this information available.

**Question 21**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: VRB**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How much funding is provided to the VRB annually?
2. How many employees are employed by the VRB?
3. How many cases have been handled by the VRB by state over the past 4 years?
4. What is the average processing time of claims by state and nationally over the past 4 years?
5. What percentage of cases to the VRB, over the past 4 years, upheld the original decisions and what percentage overturned the original decision?

**Answer:**

1. This information is contained in the VRB 2004-05 Annual Report at pages 42-43.
2. This information is contained in the VRB 2004-05 Annual Report at pages 40-41.
3. The following table sets out the numbers of applications for review that have been notified to the VRB over the four financial years from 2001-02 to 2004-05 by State:

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS
7218	4839	6798	1803	1157	479

4. The following table sets out the average time (in days) from lodgement to finalisation of applications over the four financial years from 2001–02 to 2004–05 by State:

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	AUST
429	316	304	294	338	309	347

5. Of those applications that proceeded to a hearing over the four financial years from 2001-02 to 2004-05, 29.8% of decisions of the Repatriation Commission were set aside and 70.2% were affirmed by the VRB.

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**Question 22**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: AAT**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many appeals of DVA decisions have progressed to AAT by state and year over the past 4 years?
2. What was the cost to DVA?
3. What percentage of cases to the VRB, over the past 4 years, upheld the original decisions and what percentage overturned the original decision?

**Answer:**

1. The following table details the DVA decisions that have progressed to the AAT by state and year over the past 4 years:

Year in which AAT Application was received	NSW	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	ALL STATES
2001-02	104	412	98	39	314	53	1 020
2002-03	404	332	118	51	224	46	1 175
2003-04	331	268	94	14	160	31	898
2004-05	400	231	83	26	173	40	953

2. \$1 709 558.
3. The following table provides percentages of AAT cases over the past 4 years that were affirmed, varied, set-aside and withdrawn:

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Affirmed	24%	36%	32%	32%
Varied	18%	21%	14%	16%
Set-aside	57%	41%	40%	40%
Withdrawn	0%	1%	13%	12%

**Question 23**

**Outcome: Output group 6 (Corporate)**

**Topic: Fraud investigations—compensation**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. For the year 2003-04 how many investigations were conducted into fraud in the Compensation program, how many cases were referred to the DPP, and how many prosecutions resulted?

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**Answer:**

	<b>Number of cases</b>
	<b>2003–4</b>
Number of Investigations	399
Number of Cases Referred to the CDPP	68
Number of Resulting Prosecutions	16

**Question 24**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Overpayments Pensions**

**(The Committee confirmed that this question related to pension overpayments).**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

**Overpayments**

1. What sum is currently owed to DVA from overpayments, on a state basis?
2. What is the current threshold below which payments are not pursued?
3. How many overpayments were there for each of the last 5 years on a state basis?
4. What proportion was successfully recovered, and how many were waived?

**Answer:**

1. As of 10/11/05 the following amounts were owed to the Department due to overpayments:

<b>State</b>	<b>Amount outstanding</b>
	<b>\$</b>
NSW	5, 333, 134.11
VIC	3, 122, 544.72
QLD	3, 848, 114.26
SA	1, 433, 776.05
WA	1, 090, 631.40
TAS	647, 630.39

2. \$200.



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**3. Number of Overpayments on a State basis:**

<i>Date range</i>		27/01/01	01/01/02	01/01/03	01/01/04	01/01/05
		<i>to</i> 31/12/01	<i>to</i> 31/12/02	<i>to</i> 31/12/03	<i>to</i> 31/12/04	<i>to</i> 15/11/05
<b>NSW</b>	<i>No. Raised</i>	8 374	9 193	9 713	10 662	9 477
<b>VIC</b>	<i>No. Raised</i>	4 464	6 463	6 295	7 654	5 506
<b>QLD</b>	<i>No. Raised</i>	3 705	6 017	5 729	7 144	8 993
<b>SA</b>	<i>No. Raised</i>	2 216	2 375	2 100	3 354	3 625
<b>WA</b>	<i>No. Raised</i>	1 230	1 441	1 486	1 540	1 970
<b>TAS</b>	<i>No. Raised</i>	787	771	1 213	1 051	1 025
<b>ACT</b>	<i>No. Raised</i>	708	1 158	1 935	2 646	2 935

**4. Recovered Debts by number:**

<i>Date range</i>		27/01/01	01/01/02	01/01/03	01/01/04	01/01/05
		<i>to</i> 31/12/01	<i>to</i> 31/12/02	<i>to</i> 31/12/03	<i>to</i> 31/12/04	<i>to</i> 15/11/05
<b>NSW</b>	<i>No. Recovered</i>	5 924	6 775	6 522	7 624	6 472
<b>VIC</b>	<i>No. Recovered</i>	2 969	4 718	4 531	5 556	4 058
<b>QLD</b>	<i>No. Recovered</i>	2 406	3 344	3 772	5 056	6 325
<b>SA</b>	<i>No. Recovered</i>	1 451	1 410	1 305	2 474	2 712
<b>WA</b>	<i>No. Recovered</i>	856	882	973	1 019	1 442
<b>TAS</b>	<i>No. Recovered</i>	545	528	780	726	641
<b>ACT</b>	<i>No. Recovered</i>	308	682	861	1 195	1 866

*Note: Debts which are currently being recovered by cash instalments or by limitation are not included in the above.*

**Recovered debts as a proportion:**

<i>Date range</i>		27/01/01	01/01/02	01/01/03	01/01/04	01/01/05
		<i>to</i> 31/12/01	<i>to</i> 31/12/02	<i>to</i> 31/12/03	<i>to</i> 31/12/04	<i>to</i> 15/11/05
<b>NSW</b>	<i>% Recovered</i>	70.74	73.70	67.15	71.51	68.29
<b>VIC</b>	<i>% Recovered</i>	66.51	73.00	71.98	72.59	73.70
<b>QLD</b>	<i>% Recovered</i>	64.94	55.58	65.84	70.77	70.33
<b>SA</b>	<i>% Recovered</i>	65.48	59.37	62.14	73.76	74.81
<b>WA</b>	<i>% Recovered</i>	69.59	61.21	65.48	66.17	73.20
<b>TAS</b>	<i>% Recovered</i>	69.25	68.48	64.30	69.08	62.54
<b>ACT</b>	<i>% Recovered</i>	43.50	58.89	44.50	45.16	63.58

*Note: Debts which are currently being recovered by cash instalments or by limitation are not included in the above.*

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**Waived Debts by Number:**

<i>Date range</i>		27/01/01 <i>to</i> 31/12/01	01/01/02 <i>to</i> 31/12/02	01/01/03 <i>to</i> 31/12/03	01/01/04 <i>to</i> 31/12/04	01/01/05 <i>to</i> 15/11/05
<b>NSW</b>	<i>No. waived</i>	298	388	658	726	566
<b>VIC</b>	<i>No. waived</i>	609	612	494	458	413
<b>QLD</b>	<i>No. waived</i>	119	1,383	259	317	310
<b>SA</b>	<i>No. waived</i>	48	275	174	192	233
<b>WA</b>	<i>No. waived</i>	100	224	216	201	158
<b>TAS</b>	<i>No. waived</i>	33	63	78	65	50
<b>ACT</b>	<i>No. waived</i>	7	23	96	148	114

**Waived Debts as a Proportion:**

<i>Date range</i>		27/01/01 <i>to</i> 31/12/01	01/01/02 <i>to</i> 31/12/02	01/01/03 <i>to</i> 31/12/03	01/01/04 <i>to</i> 31/12/04	01/01/05 <i>to</i> 15/11/05
<b>NSW</b>	<i>% waived</i>	3.56	4.22	6.77	6.81	5.97
<b>VIC</b>	<i>% waived</i>	13.64	9.47	7.85	5.98	7.50
<b>QLD</b>	<i>% waived</i>	3.21	22.98	4.52	4.44	3.45
<b>SA</b>	<i>% waived</i>	2.17	11.58	8.29	5.72	6.43
<b>WA</b>	<i>% waived</i>	8.13	15.54	14.54	13.05	8.02
<b>TAS</b>	<i>% waived</i>	4.19	8.17	6.43	6.18	4.88
<b>ACT</b>	<i>% waived</i>	0.99	1.99	4.96	5.59	3.88

**Note:** The departmental debt management system was implemented on 26/1/01. Debt management data before the 27/1/01 cannot be accessed.

**Question 25**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Military compensation and rehabilitation service (MCRS)**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many claims have been made under the MCRS since 1 July 2004?
2. How many claims were successful?
3. What were the successful and unsuccessful claims made for?
4. What was total cost of the MCRS for the last financial year?

**Answer:**

1. 5 485 claims.
2. 3 895 claims.
3. The top five successful claims were for conditions in the following categories:

Injury and poisoning  
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue  
Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs  
Mental Disorders  
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue

The top five unsuccessful claims were for conditions in the following categories:

Injury and poisoning  
Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs  
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue  
Mental Disorders  
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue

4. \$175.765m.

**Question 26**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Research grants**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What current research is being carried out by DVA sponsored research grants?
2. Who is the principal investigator of each research project and what institution is the research being carried out in?
3. What was the DVA funding of each research program?
4. What is the time frame for completion of each research program?

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**Answer:**

1. – 4.

<b>Currently Funded Research Grants under the DVA "Health and Medical Research Grants Program" (as at 15 November 2005)</b>				
<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Principal Researcher</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Total DVA funding</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Alcohol and Pancreatic Stellate Cells	Dr Minoti Apte	University of NSW	\$280 500	January 2004 - December 2006
Care and Outcomes of Care for Prostate Cancer in NSW	Prof Bruce Armstrong	NSW Cancer Council	\$578 750	January 2003 - December 2005
Oncogenic Action and Therapeutic Potential of PLA2 in Prostate Cancer	Dr Qihan Dong	University of Sydney	\$490 500	January 2004 - December 2006
Prostate Cancer: Sun Exposure and Candidate Genes Modifying the Risk	Prof Terry Dwyer	University of Tasmania	\$274 275	January 2004 - December 2006
Molecular Pathogenesis of Alcoholic Liver Disease	Dr Paul Haber	University of Sydney	\$215 000	January 2003 - December 2005
Detection and Diagnosis of Prostate Disease by Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Spectroscopy	Dr Carolyn Mountford	University of Sydney	\$309 000	January 2003 - June 2006
Role of Heterocyclic Amine Carcinogens in Prostate Cancer - a Pharmacogenetic Analysis	A/Prof Rod Minchin	University of Queensland	\$527 000	January 2004 - December 2007

**Question 27**

**Outcome: Outcome 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: F-111 Deseal/reseal**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many claims have now been made for the lump sum, and how many have been paid in each category ( \$10,000 and \$40,000)
2. How many claims have been refused, and on what grounds?
3. How many claims from widows have been received, how many have been accepted, and how many refused (and why)?
4. How many lump sums have been paid?
5. How many of the total group have eligibility for disability compensation under the VEA as the result of service between 1972 and 1994, and how many only have eligibility under the Military Compensation and Rehabilitation Act (MCRA)?
6. How many have eligibility under the predecessor to the MCRA (Commonwealth Employees Compensation Act)
7. How many civilians not covered by Commonwealth compensation legislation were affected, how many have made claims for the lump sum, and how many have been accepted?
8. In what proportion of cases are Defence records an issue in determining claims?
9. For how many, and in what proportion, have reviews been sought for rejected claims? Can it be confirmed that appeals to the AAT are not allowed, and if so, what is the reason?
10. How many common law applications for damages have been made to the courts by those affected?
11. Has a decision been made as to whether the Commonwealth's rights under the statute of limitations in Qld will be waived and, if so, when and how will that be announced?
12. How many claims for disability compensation have been received, accepted and rejected under both Acts, including those with dual eligibility (1972-94).
13. What consideration is currently being given to changing the eligibility date for widows, from 2001 to an earlier date in recognition of those who died before that date?
14. Why was the 2001 date chosen?
15. Why were the two lump sums selected (\$10,000 and \$40,000) for 10-29 days exposure and 30+ days respectively, and what medical science was used to select these figures?
16. What's the difference between the effects on someone exposed for 29 days and 30 days, in medical terms? (NB the real effect is \$30,000).
17. Why was a lump sum ex gratia grant proposed in addition to standard disability compensation, and what precedent does this present for all other military personnel affected by toxic substances, including Agent Orange, depleted uranium, atomic radiation, herbicides, pesticides, etc?
18. What work is being done by the RMA to investigate the effects of many of the chemicals for which a SoP does not exist?

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19. What was the experience in the USA where the same task must have been undertaken?
20. Why didn't the Repatriation Commission and Comcare simply use the discretion available under the legislation to accept disabilities regardless of the existence of SoP's—as was done with Agent Orange and a certain range of cancers, and for children with spina bifida etc?

**Answer:**

1. As at 9 January 2006, 1 015 claims have been lodged. Of these 444 claims have been accepted for payment in the \$40 000 category and fourteen in the \$10 000 category.
2. As at 9 January 2006, 43 claims have been refused. These did not meet the definitions of a Deseal/Reseal participant for the purposes of the ex-gratia lump sum payment scheme.
3. As at 9 January 2006, sixteen claims have been received from F-111 Deseal/Reseal estates. One has been successful at \$40 000. One has been refused as the deceased had died before the eligibility date of 8 September 2001. One was refused because the deceased did not meet the definitions of a Deseal/Reseal participant for the purposes of the ex-gratia lump sum payment scheme. The other 13 are still being processed.
4. As at 9 January 2006, a total of 365 ex-gratia lump sum payments have been made.
- 5 & 6. The exact number of participants in the various Deseal/Reseal programs is not known. The Department of Veterans' Affairs relied on information from the Department of Defence and RAAF to estimate the potential population of 1 280 APS employees and ADF personnel. All of these employees have SRCA coverage. It is estimated that approximately 93 percent of ADF personnel also have eligibility under the VEA.

With respect to the operation of the *Compensation (Commonwealth Government Employees) Act 1971* (the 1971 Act), this Act provides for a range of payments where liability has been accepted including medical treatment, payment for incapacity for work, rehabilitation and household services. Certain conditions also attract a lump sum for permanent impairment.

It is important to note that all claims for lump sum compensation payments are determined under the Act that was in force at the time the injury or disease was diagnosed. Therefore, a person who worked on the first program in 1980 but did not have symptoms manifesting into a disease until 1990 would be covered under the SRCA and not the 1971 Act.

7. The exact number of civilian contractors involved in the various Deseal/Reseal programs and in closely allied duties is very difficult to determine because the employment records from these civilians contractors have been difficult to access. As at 9 January 2006, 82 civilians have lodged claims for the F-111 ex-gratia payment of which 59 have been accepted.
8. Defence records have been used to build a general history of the Deseal/Reseal activities. In respect to claims for the F-111 ex-gratia lump sum for RAAF participants relevant individual service records, personnel records and unit records have been used.
9. Appeals from claimants who have had their application for the F-111 ex-gratia payment rejected are made to the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman. Therefore, this is a matter for that Office.

However, as a matter of sound administrative practice, before rejecting any claim, the claimant is given an opportunity to provide additional information in support of their claim. The decision making process is then conducted in two stages based on a recommendation from the Specialist RAAF Officer with the decision made by a departmental officer.

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Appeals to the AAT are not allowed. The AAT relies on a statutory head of power to authorise its review of Commonwealth decisions. As the F-111 ex-gratia payment is an administrative not a statutory scheme, there is no such right of appeal.

10. The question does not fall within the responsibilities of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. It is a matter for the Department of Defence.
11. The question does not fall within the responsibilities of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. It is a matter for the Department of Defence.
- 12.

<i>Disability Claims as of 2 December 2005</i>				
	<b>SRCA only</b>	<b>VEA only</b>	<b>Claims under both Acts</b>	<b>Total *</b>
Received	509	492	N/A	1 001
Accepted	165	186	98	449
Rejected	239	114	219	572

\* The reason for the variation between the total number of claims received and the sum of the figures shown as accepted and rejected is due to the fact that a claim may contain more than one condition.

13. This is a decision of Government and it is not appropriate to comment on alternate policies.
14. The F-111 Deseal/Reseal Board of Inquiry report was made public on 8 September 2001. It was on this date that liability was accepted.
- 15&16. Whilst the Study pointed to an association between Deseal/Reseal activities and a number of medical conditions, the F-111 ex-gratia payment was not linked to a particular health outcome requiring the use of medical science.

The ex-gratia payment of \$40 000 recognises the special nature of the circumstances experienced by the core group, including those who incinerated the by-products associated with the F-111 Deseal/Reseal Programs. The 30-day time frame is consistent with that set for veterans who may have been exposed to dioxins and herbicides as part of their service during the Vietnam War.

The ex-gratia payment of \$10 000 recognises that those who worked either inside the F-111 fuel tanks for lesser periods of time or whose tasks supported these activities may have also experienced increased concentrations of the chemicals and solvents associated with this process.

17. In developing policy responses to other work environment or circumstances, a whole of Government approach is adopted for working out the compensation, health care, and other benefits. Making an ex-gratia lump sum payment to the F-111 participants recognises the unique environment of contact with Deseal/Reseal chemicals, usually in confined spaces, for significant periods of time. This environment was not replicated anywhere else in the Air Force.
18. The function of the RMA is to conduct investigations in respect of a particular kind of injury, disease or death. It is not the function of the RMA to consider all possible health consequences of any given ADF work environment.

In reviewing SoPs or making new SoPs, research is undertaken to locate medical-scientific evidence relevant to a particular condition and a possible exposure. Consideration is given

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to factors relating to petroleum products, solvents, herbicides, pesticides and other chemicals in conditions where there is sound medical-scientific evidence suggesting the possibility of causation.

For example, there is a factor relating to exposure to specified solvents in the SoPs for multiple sclerosis, mesangial IgA nephropathy, peripheral neuropathy, solvent related chronic encephalopathy and erectile dysfunction.

Where no SoP exists, the RMA may, of its own volition, authorise an investigation under section 196B(4)(b). This can happen if the RMA is of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence on which it can rely to determine a SoP. Such sound medical-scientific evidence may include recently available studies and reports.

A recent example of a RMA-initiated investigation was an investigation into toxic encephalopathy notified in the Government Notices Gazette of 25 February 2004. At the conclusion of this investigation, SoPs concerning solvent related chronic encephalopathy were determined (Nos. 39 & 40 of 2005) which may assist claims from Deseal/Reseal participants.

Under section 196E, the RMA must carry out an investigation if it receives a request from an eligible person or organisation for a condition for which there is no current SoP. In order to make a new SoP, the RMA must be satisfied that the condition meets the definition of disease as set out in section 5D of the VEA.

The following investigations are underway in relation to conditions for which no SoP currently exists: narcolepsy, steatohepatitis, pulmonary barotrauma, macular branch vein occlusion, vascular dementia, heart block, binge eating disorder, osteopaenia, seborrhoeic keratoses, carcinoma in situ of the skin, dyspepsia and systemic lupus erthematosus.

19. The question does not fall within the responsibilities of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. It is a matter for the Department of Defence.
20. The Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission has exercised its legislative discretion under the SRCA. Using the reverse standard of proof, subsection 7(2) of SRCA provides compensation for all ADF and APS personnel in relation to those conditions that the SHOAMP showed an association to F-111 Deseal/Reseal work. To access these beneficial provisions, a claimant will have to meet the definition of an F-111 Deseal/Reseal participant that have been established for this purpose. It should be noted that it is still necessary to obtain a diagnosis of the SHOAMP condition. However, if the person meets the F-111 Deseal/Reseal definition and a definitive diagnosis is obtained, subsection 7(2) provides the necessary link between that condition and the person's defence service.

### Question 28

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Vietnam Veterans' Children Support Program**

Senator Hurley written question on notice)

1. How many people were assisted under the Vietnam Veterans' Children Support Program in 2004-05?
2. What was the total cost of this assistance?



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3. How much was spent on:
- a. Medical expenses
  - b. Pharmaceutical costs
  - c. Public or Private Hospital expenses
  - d. Medical aids and appliances
  - e. Respite Care
  - f. Home Care
  - g. Allied Health Care
  - h. Travel and Accommodation

**Answer:**

1. See Annual Report 2004-05, page 118.
2. The total cost of the assistance for 2004-05 was \$33,171.
3. The breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

	\$
a. Medical expenses	439
b. Pharmaceutical costs	768
c. Public or Private Hospital expenses	14,323
d. Medical aids and appliances	4,052
e. Respite Care	234
f. Home Care	3,014
g. Allied Health Care	8,762
h. Travel and Accommodation	1,579
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$33,171</b>

**Question 29**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Scheme (VVRS)**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many people were assisted by the VVRS in 2004-05?
2. What was the total cost of this assistance
3. How was this assistance provided?
4. Which private organisations were contracted to provide this assistance?
5. For each service provider, what was the total amount of funding provided by DVA and what were the services provided?

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**Answer:**

1. 126.
2. \$616 910.
3. Case management and comprehensive vocational assessment and assistance.
4. None.
5. See above.

**Question 30**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Korean Health Study**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What will the department's response be to these studies as a whole, now they are completed?
2. Does the department have any new initiatives planned as a result of the study in relation to health, welfare or spending of any kind?
3. Will any actual physical results, actual tangible policies and initiatives result in response to the 8 years of work from the study?
4. What was the final cost of the Korean Health Study?
5. What was the original estimated cost when the study was first announced?

**Answer:**

1. In 2002 the Australian Government extended eligibility for the Repatriation Gold Card to all Australian Korean War veterans 70 years of age and older. The Gold Card entitles holders to a comprehensive range of free health care for all medical conditions. There would be extremely few Korean War veterans who would not yet be eligible for the Gold Card.

Korean War veterans also have access under Repatriation legislation to programs of compensation and income support through the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

While the impact of past exposures and lifestyle cannot be changed, the Health Study results suggest that targeted health intervention may be effective in reducing ill health and improving quality of life in Australian Korean War veterans.

All Australian veterans of the Korean War who are resident in Australia, and whose whereabouts are known to DVA, have been sent the Executive Summary of the Health Study report and a Health Awareness Kit. The Health Awareness Kit has been developed to raise awareness of relevant existing DVA health services and preventive health programs such as *The Right Mix* and the *Men's Health Peer Education Program*, as well as the availability of the Vietnam Veterans Counselling Service. It also provides targeted information on identified health issues within the Korean War veteran group.

2. As described above, there is an extensive range of benefits already available to Australian veterans of the Korean War. With this in mind, the Government has decided that the most appropriate action in response to the study results is to increase this group's awareness of the availability of these services.

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3. The Government has been pro-active in providing eligibility for health care services to Korean War veterans through the extension of Gold Card entitlements in 2002.

The results of the study confirm that this action was warranted. As the Gold Card initiative was relatively recent, the development of a Health Awareness Kit was seen as a tangible way to encourage Korean War veterans to take up the services available to them through the Gold Card.

The kit was not only designed to alert Korean War veterans of the availability of services, but also to increase awareness of the health issues identified by the study and to provide valuable information to assist them in maintaining and improving their health in these areas.

4. The total research cost for the series of health studies of Korean War Veterans was approximately \$967,729. The administrative costs of the study are not available as they were absorbed by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
5. The original estimated research cost for these studies was \$1,100,000.

### **Question 31**

#### **Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

#### **Topic: Atomic test veterans**

#### **Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many Australian ADF personnel and civilians participated in the atomic tests?
2. How many Australian veterans are considered to be Atomic veterans?
3. How many are alive today?
4. What would be cost of providing DVA benefits to veterans with service in the atomic test program if this service was declared Hazardous Service under the VEA?
5. What entitlements would they eligible for if their service was declared hazardous?
6. Is it the Government's failure to seek an accurate answer on the studies time line or is it the researcher's who have failed to provide accurate information to government that has resulted in the Government announcing several false completion dates for the study?
7. How many atomic veterans, as listed in the nominal roll, have died since the end of 2002, the original date of the report's release and will now not see any of the possible entitlements that the report could indicate they should be entitled to because of their service?

#### **Answer:**

1. There were about 8 100 ADF personnel and about 8 600 civilians involved in the tests.
2. Approximately 65 per cent of the ADF personnel involved in the tests have VEA coverage arising from other service.
3. Approximately 4 178 of the ADF personnel listed in Question One are alive as at 31 December 2005.
4. DVA is unable to provide costings of alternate policy options.

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5. Declaration of their service as hazardous would require amendments to the legislation, and the amendments would determine the entitlements.
6. At various times estimates have been made of the most likely conclusion date for the study. However, in consultation with the veteran community through the Consultative Forum established for the study, it has been necessary to complete additional work to make the study of the appropriate standard.
7. Approximately 550 of the ADF personnel involved in the tests have died since the end of 2002. The expectation was that a report would be completed by the end of 2003. However, due to unanticipated delays in securing an academic partner to conduct the study, and the difficulties inherent in reconstructing radiation dose, the study has taken much longer. The reports will not address the issue of entitlement, but describe the mortality and cancer incidence experience of the cohort and estimate the levels of radiation that groups involved in the tests received.

**Question 32**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Feasibility study of the Children of Vietnam Veterans Health Study**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What was the cost of the feasibility study?
2. What was the original estimated cost of the study?

**Answer:**

1. \$65 337.
2. \$50 000.

**Question 33**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: VVCS**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What is the total cost of the VVCS?
2. What is the number of clients who received assistance from the VVCS per year over the last 4 years?
3. What is the average hours of counselling provide per client over the past 4 years?
4. What is the demographic spread of VVCS clients, i.e. veterans by conflict, number of family members of veterans, age and gender?
5. How many children of veterans use the VVCS?
6. What is the average annual cost of veterans' children access to the VVCS?

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7. Has the Department considered any plans to increase the age restriction on access to the VVCS for the children of veterans? If so, what were the outcomes of those considerations?
8. How many veterans' children who have used the VVCS service in the last 10 years now become ineligible to use the service after turning 36 years of age?
9. What would be the estimated cost of removing the age restrictions of veterans' children over the age of 36?

**Answer:**

1. The 2004-2005 expenditure was \$7,497,086
2. 2001-2002 – 16000 clients  
2002-2003 – 17791 clients  
2003-2004 – 23694 clients  
2004-2005 – 23317 clients
3. 2001-2002 – 3.79 hours  
2002-2003 – 3.37 hours  
2003-2004 – 2.83 hours  
2004-2005 – 2.83 hours
4. The demographic spread of VVCS clients for 2004-2005:

Veterans by conflict

Afghanistan – 19  
Borneo – 68  
Cambodia – 44  
East Timor – 576  
Gulf War – 50  
Iraq – 100  
Korea – 48  
Malaya – 136  
Namibia – 6  
Rwanda – 36  
Somalia – 50  
Vietnam – 1875  
WW1 – 1  
WW2 – 128  
Unknown – 1114\*  
Other – 232\*\*  
This totals – 4483.

The total number of veterans is 4091 but some have served in multiple conflicts.

*Client type by percentage of total*

Veterans 46%  
Partners 27%  
Children 27%

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*Client group by age*

Veterans – 22% are under 50 years of age and 78% are greater than 50 years of age.

Partners – 26% are less than 56 years of age and 74% are greater than 50 years of age.

Children – 83% are less than 36 years of age and 17% are greater than 36 years of age.

*Client group by gender*

Male = 58%

Female = 42%

\* Some of these have been transferred from our old pre-2000 data system which did not require the service zone, and some are veterans where the service zone has not been specified in the data base but may have been specified at intake

\*\* The VVCS has 14 most common service zones listed (dominant cohorts). There are dozens of other service zones, which we have grouped under “other” because the system would become too unwieldy.

5. During the 2004-05 financial year 2,446 children of veterans used the VVCS.
6. The average annual cost of veterans’ children access to the VVCS is \$295 per client.
7. As an initiative in response to the Vietnam Veterans Health Study, Vietnam veterans’ children who are aged 36 years or over are currently able to access assistance with issues relating to their parent’s operational or warlike service. This measure was announced by the Government as a five-year initiative beginning on 1 July 2001.

At this time no decision has been made whether to continue or discontinue eligibility for this group of people beyond 30 June 2006.

The Department is seeking advice on the effectiveness of continued access to VVCS for Vietnam veterans’ sons and daughters who are over 36 years of age. Furthermore the Minister has requested the National Veterans Mental Health and Well-being Forum to consider this matter.

8. See answer to question 7. above.
9. See answer to question 7. above.

### **Question 34**

#### **Outcome: 2 (Health)**

#### **Topic: Veterans Home Care**

#### **Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What is the total cost of the Veterans’ Home Care program?
2. How many individual services provided are provided annually?
3. How many individual DVA clients receive services?
4. What is the average number of hours of service per DVA client?
5. What is the average cost of services per veteran?
6. What are the estimated increases in cost of the program over the next 4 years?

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**Answer:**

1. \$80.5 million
2. 2 million hours of service provided during 2004-05
3. During the 2004-05 financial year, 66 284
4. 30.52 hours
5. In 2004-05, \$938.64
6. Forward estimates are not normally provided as they are classified as protected.

**Question 35**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Hospitals**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many admissions by specific hospital were made under the Repatriation to Private Hospital Scheme to:
  - a. Tier 1 Hospitals
  - b. Tier 2 Hospitals
  - c. Tier 3 Hospitals
2. By state, what hospitals and day procedure centres are contracted with DVA under the Repatriation to Private Hospital Scheme?
3. Could an update be provided on the status of negotiations with states on hospital agreements, and with all private hospitals?

**Answer:**

1. The number of admissions that were made under the Repatriation to Private Hospital Scheme during 2004/2005 is as follows:

**a. Tier 1 Hospitals**

State	No. of admissions
NSW	43,807
VIC	34,750
QLD	56,021
SA	7,576
TAS	5,311
WA	18,206
ACT	2,935
NT	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>168,606</b>

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**b. Tier 2 Hospitals**

State	No. of admissions
NSW	6,764
VIC	5,188
QLD	12,425
SA	2,490
TAS	206
WA	215
ACT	0
NT	355
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,643</b>

**c. Tier 3 Hospitals**

State	No. of admissions
NSW	0
VIC	0
QLD	1,908
SA	0
TAS	0
WA	187
ACT	0
NT	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,095</b>

2. Under the Repatriation to Private Hospital Scheme, DVA is currently contracted with 428 hospitals and day procedure centres. The following table shows a break down by state.

**Number of contracted private hospitals and day procedure centres**

NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	Total
171	118	66	50	13	10	428

3. Negotiations with states on Public and Private Hospital Agreements are under way.

The negotiations on the long term Arrangements for Public Hospitals in NSW, Victoria and Queensland have now been finalised.

A new long term Public Hospitals Agreement with South Australia will replace the Agreement that expired on 30 June 2005.

The rates to apply for 2003/04 in Western Australian Public Hospitals have now been finalised and work is under way to agree on an indicative figure for 2004/05.

A preliminary meeting has been held with ACT Health and the aim is to finalise the new long term Public Hospital Agreement by the end of 2005. There has been little progress with Northern Territory.

A nationwide tendering process scheduled for late January 2006 will align Private Hospital services contracts in all States. This strategy includes standardised tender documentation, a streamlined tender evaluation and post offer negotiation process, and common price review dates across all States.



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Price reviews have concluded in South Australia, Victoria and country Western Australia and have commenced in Queensland and New South Wales.

**Question 36**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: DVA funding of Chaplains in hospitals**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

**DVA funding of Chaplains in hospitals**

1. Which hospitals were provided with DVA funded chaplain services over the last 4 years?
2. Has there been a reduction in the number of hospitals that provide DVA funded chaplains over the last 4 years?
3. How many veterans access this service by state/hospital and year over the last 4 years?
4. By state and territory, what religious organisations does DVA have funding arrangements with to provide chaplaincy services over the past 4 years and, what amount of funding was provided?
5. What are the details of the changes in funding arrangements from providing funding from religious organisations to hospitals, what religious organisation and hospitals will be affected by these changes?
6. Will these new funding arrangements be indexed to inflation to ensure adequate ongoing levels of remuneration?
7. Will there be any reduction in services provided to veterans?
8. Will the number of chaplains provided under the old funding arrangement be maintained?

**Answer:**

1. In the hospital services industry (public and private) pastoral care is a normal inclusion in a multidisciplinary approach to hospital care including palliative care. All contracted hospitals are funded for the provision of pastoral care (referred to as chaplaincy services by Christian communities).

Funding for chaplaincy services in Greenslopes Hospital (QLD) and Hollywood Hospital (WA) is paid directly to religious organisations.

2. No.
3. There are sensitivities about the collection of such information and therefore specific information is not collected. Chaplaincy is provided on the basis that it is of value to the veteran community. Reports are received on specific commemorative activity undertaken by chaplains under these arrangements but there is no accurate measure of the chaplains' interaction with veteran patients at former Repatriation Hospitals.
4. Over the past four years funding has been provided to the Church of Christ, Passionist Fathers, and the Anglican, Catholic, Baptist and Uniting churches. Funding to religious organisations has been provided in the order of \$2 million dollars which represents an increase of 4–6% per year. Fluctuations over the years are a result of circumstances such as the retirement of Ministers and changing GST liability.

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5. Last year, the Repatriation Commission reviewed the funding of chaplaincy services at former RGH hospitals. It decided that in general these arrangements should reflect those in place at other contracted hospitals while ensuring that separate funding was available to enable the continuation of commemorative activities. The proposed change involves providing the money to the hospital as part of its funding and enabling it to make its own arrangements. This will allow chaplaincy services to be tailored according to the hospital's assessment of its needs in this area.

The religious organisations currently receiving direct funding are Anglican, Catholic and Uniting for services in Greenslopes Hospital (QLD) and Anglican, Catholic and Baptist for services in Hollywood Hospital (WA).

Under the new contractual arrangement with these hospitals the provision of pastoral care will reflect that in place at other contracted hospitals (ie incorporated into the standard contract for hospital services). DVA will ensure that separate funding is available where required to enable the continuation of special commemorative activities of significance to the veteran community.

The Department is currently in discussions with the Department of Health in South Australia (DHSA) in relation to a new agreement for provision of hospital services to the veteran community. A part of this discussion has been in relation to pastoral care services and incorporating this into the contract for hospital services. The Department has also commenced discussions with the Repatriation General Hospital at Daw Park (RGHDP) on a new subsidiary agreement for Special Veterans Services, which will include transitional funding for commemorative/memorial type activities at which pastoral services are also required. This policy ensures decision-making about the range of pastoral care needs is taken at the local level and reflects local concerns, local strengths and local flexibilities.

6. Any supplementary arrangements put in place at former RGHs for the continuation of commemorative activities of significance to the veteran community will be funded at levels that ensure their ongoing viability.
7. Federal funding of chaplaincy services at Repatriation Hospitals has not been cut. Pastoral care will continue to be a normal inclusion in a multidisciplinary approach to hospital care including palliative care. The change to funding arrangements ensures decision making about the range of pastoral care needs is taken at the local level to reflect local concerns, local strengths and local capabilities.
8. Under the new arrangements hospitals will assess the services required in this area to ensure the local needs of its veteran inpatient community are met.

**Question 37**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS)**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many claims were processed annually by the RPBS over the past 4 years?
2. What was the annual cost of provision of these claims over the past 4 years?
3. What is the estimated annual cost of RPBS over the next 4 years?

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4. How often does the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Reference Committee meet each year?
5. How many applications have been made to the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Reference Committee (RPRC) annually over the past 4 years?
6. How many of those applications were accepted and what were they?
7. How many of those applications were refused and what were they?
8. Is funding currently available for rebates to pharmacist to provide services for DVA clients to organise their medications into packaged daily doses?

**Answer:**

1. The number of claims processed annually for the past four financial years are as follows:

Financial Year	Number of Claims processed for RPBS (millions)
2001/2002	14.22
2002/2003	15.34
2003/2004	15.61
2004/2005	15.72

2. The annual cost of provision of the RPBS claims for the last four financial years are as follows:

Financial Year	Total Cost (\$ millions)
2001/2002	371.61
2002/2003	417.35
2003/2004	462.26
2004/2005	471.53

3. Estimated Administered expenditure during 2005-06 is \$507.175 million. The forward estimates are not normally provided as they are classified as protected.
4. The Repatriation Pharmaceutical Reference Committee (RPRC) meets three times a year.

Questions 5, 6, and 7 are answered in the following table:

Year	Application	Accepted	Refused
<b>2002</b>	<i>Xalacom</i> (Latanoprost and Timolol) – Pharmacia	✓	
	<i>Neurontin</i> (Gabapentin) – Pfizer	✓	
	<i>Avelox</i> (Moxafloxacin) – Bayer	✓	
	<i>Polymem</i> Dressings – Beta Healthcare		✗
	<i>Constreet H</i> Dressings – Coloplast		✗
	<i>Rozex Cream</i> (Metronidazole) – Galderma		✗

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Year	Application	Accepted	Refused
	<i>Spiriva</i> (Tiotropium) – Boehringer Ingelheim	✓	
	<i>Actonel</i> (Residronate) – Aventis	✓	
	<i>Mylanta Double Strength</i> (Antacid combination) – Pfizer	✓	
	<i>Cialis</i> (Tadalafil) – Eli Lilly		✗
	<i>Remicade</i> (Infliximab) – Schering Plough	✓	
	<i>Phenergan</i> (Promethazine) – Aventis Pharma	✓	
	<i>DBL and GenRx</i> (Gabapentin) – Faulding Healthcare	✓	
	<i>Avance &amp; Avance A</i> Dressings – SSL Int.		✗
	<i>Handiplast Aqua Protect</i> Dressings – Beiersdorf		✗
	<i>Polymem</i> Dressings – Beta Healthcare		✗
<b>Totals 2002</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>

Year	Application	Accepted	Refused
<b>2003</b>	<i>Arixtra</i> (Fondaparinux Sodium) – Sanofi-Synthelabo	✓	
	<i>Eprex</i> (Epoetin Alfa) – Janssen-Cilag		✗
	Risperidal Consta (Risperidone) – Janssen-Cilag		✗
	<i>Actonel</i> (Residronate) – Aventis Pharma	✓	
	<i>Konazol</i> Shampoo (Ketoconazole 2%) – Hexal Australia	✓	
	<i>Caverject</i> (Alprostadil) – Pharmacia	✓	
	<i>Ebixa</i> (Memantine Hydrochloride) – Lundbeck Australia		✗
	<i>Levitra</i> (Vardenafil) – Bayer and GSK		✗
	Risperidal Consta (Risperidone) – Janssen-Cilag	✓	
	<i>Iressa</i> (Gafitinib) – AstraZeneca		✗
	<i>Cialis</i> (Tadalafil) – Eli Lilly	✓	
	<i>Rozex Gel</i> (Metronidazole 0.75%) – Galderma Australia		✗

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
	GenRx, Chem Mart, and Terry White Clotrimazole Cream (Clotrimazole) – Faulding Healthcare	✓	
	<i>AQUACEL AG</i> Dressings – ConvaTec		✗
	<i>DuoDERM Signal</i> Dressings – ConvaTec		✗
	<i>Allevyn Adhesive</i> Dressings – Smith and Nephew	✓	
	<i>SoloSite</i> Dressings – Smith and Nephew	✓	
	<i>Profore Lite</i> Dressings – Smith and Nephew	✓	
	<i>Contreet</i> Foam and Hydrocolloid Dressings – Coloplast		✗
	Iressa (Gefitinib) – AstraZeneca		✗
	<i>Fluad</i> (Influenza Vaccine) – Chiron Vaccines		✗
	<i>Senagar and Ammonia</i> – Milton Pharmaceuticals	✓	
	<i>Pholcodine Linctus</i> - Milton Pharmaceuticals	✓	
	<i>Proguide</i> Dressings - Smith and Nephew	✓	
	<i>Contreet</i> Dressings - Coloplast		✗
	<i>Acticoat/Acticoat 7</i> Dressings – Smith and Nephew		✗
	<i>Polymem</i> Dressings - Beta Healthcare		✗
	<i>Konazol</i> (Ketoconazole 2%) shampoo – Hexal Australia	✓	
<b>Totals 2003</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>

<b>Year</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
<b>2004</b>	Etoricoxib ( <i>Arcoxia</i> ) - Merck Sharp and Dohme		✗
	Metronidazole ( <i>Rozex</i> ) Gel – Galderma	✓	
	<i>Elastoplast Aqua Protect</i> Dressings - Beiersdorf		✗
	Gefitinib ( <i>Iressa</i> ) – AstraZeneca		✗
	Orlistat ( <i>Xenical</i> ) - Roche	✓	

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
	Alefacept ( <i>Amevive</i> ) - Biogen Idec		✗
	Memantine ( <i>Ebixa</i> ) – Lundbeck		✗
	Gabapentin ( <i>Douglas Gabapentin</i> ) - Douglas Pharmaceuticals	✓	
	Ciclopirox Olamine ( <i>Stieprox</i> ) Liquid - Stiefel Laboratories	✓	
	Imiquimod ( <i>Aldara</i> ) – 3M Health Care		✗
	Teriparatide ( <i>Forteo</i> ) – Eli Lilly		✗
	Alefacept ( <i>Amevive</i> ) - Biogen Idec	✓	
	Sunscreen (Hamilton Solastick 30+) – Hamilton Laboratories	✓	
<b>Totals 2004</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

<b>Year</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
<b>2005</b>	Glargine Insulin ( <i>Lantus</i> ) – Sanofi Aventis		✗
	Terbinafine ( <i>Zabel</i> ) – Alphapharm	✓	
	Nicotine ( <i>QuitX</i> ) – Alphapharm	✓	
	Gabapentin ( <i>Nupentin</i> ) – Alphapharm	✓	
	Fexofenadine ( <i>Xergic</i> ) – Alphapharm	✓	
	Dressings ( <i>TenderWet</i> ) – Hartmann	✓	
	Dressings ( <i>Hydrocoll</i> ) – Hartmann	✓	
	Dressings ( <i>Atrauman</i> ) – Hartmann	✓	
	Dressings Silver impregnated ( <i>Atrauman Ag</i> ) – Hartmann		✗
	Glargine Insulin ( <i>Lantus</i> ) – Sanofi Aventis		✗
	Etanercept ( <i>Enbrel</i> ) – Wyeth		✗
	Liposomal Amphotericin ( <i>Ambisome</i> ) – Gilead Sciences		✗
	Epoetin Alfa ( <i>Eprex</i> ) – Janssen-Cilag		✗
	Imiquimod ( <i>Aldara</i> ) – 3M Pharmaceuticals	✓	

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
	Zopiclone ( <i>Imrest</i> ) – Alphapharm	✓	
	Coal tar / coal tar solution / pine tar / cade oil / arachis oil ( <i>Polytar Liquid</i> ) – Stiefel	✓	
	Gabapentin ( <i>Gabahexal</i> ) – Hexal Australia	✓	
	Phenol / coal tar solution / sulfur ppte ( <i>EgoPsoryl TA</i> ) – Ego Pharmaceuticals	✓	
	Aspirin ( <i>Astrix</i> ) – Mayne Pharma		✗
	Cetuximab ( <i>Erbitux</i> ) – Alphapharm		✗
	Orlistat ( <i>Xenical</i> ) – Roche Pharmaceuticals		✗
	Terbinafine hydrochloride ( <i>Terbinafine-DP</i> ) – Douglas Pharmaceuticals	✓	
	Terbinafine hydrochloride ( <i>Tamsil</i> ) – Arrow	✓	
	Miconazole nitrate ( <i>Daktarin</i> ) – Janssen-Cilag	✓	
	Aluminium hydroxide / Magnesium hydroxide / Simethicone ( <i>Mylanta Double Strength</i> ) – Pfizer	✓	
	Dressings ( <i>Permafoam</i> ) – Hartmann		✗
<b>Totals 2005</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>39</b>

8. Currently funding is not available for rebates to pharmacists for filling dose administration aids (DAAs) for DVA clients.

**Question 38**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: DVA transport schemes**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. By state, how many claims were made under the Repatriation Transport Scheme over the past 4 years.
2. By state, what was the cost of these claims?

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3. By state, how many booked car with driver and air travel claims were made annually over the past 4 years for:
- a. taxi services
  - b. air travel
4. What was the total cost for each service by state?

**Answer:**

1. Number of Claims over the past 4 years

State	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
NSW	61,384	65,589	65,166	69,770
VIC	29,461	29,642	33,478	32,954
QLD	56,951	69,065	71,041	80,285
SA	21,032	23,427	23,532	26,598
WA	14,648	15,174	15,232	17,014
TAS	9,283	11,045	11,686	12,092
<b>Total</b>	192,759	213,942	220,135	238,713

2. Cost of claims

State	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
NSW	\$6,474,782	\$6,959,351	\$6,746,606	\$7,035,071
VIC	\$2,903,265	\$2,727,136	\$2,809,747	\$2,680,984
QLD	\$5,750,251	\$5,697,894	\$5,757,337	\$5,924,665
SA	\$2,218,379	\$2,305,220	\$2,444,318	\$2,447,500
WA	\$1,388,122	\$1,488,563	\$1,516,524	\$1,569,431
TAS	\$719,389	\$790,367	\$727,605	\$722,936
<b>Total</b>	\$19,454,189	\$19,968,530	\$20,002,137	\$20,380,586

3. a. Number of booked car trips

State	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
NSW	115,600	128,586	141,354	155,440
VIC	168,983	172,806	155,382	152,500
QLD	221,588	231,782	250,642	272,266
SA	41,138	47,468	53,652	55,152
WA	71,508	70,856	70,398	72,626
TAS *	#N/A	#N/A	15,252	11,942
<b>Total</b>	618,817	651,498	686,680	719,926

\* Tasmanian usage is not available for 01/02 and 02/03



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b. Number of air travel claims

<b>State</b>	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>2003/04</b>	<b>2004/05</b>
<b>NSW</b>	287	291	350	437
<b>VIC</b>	43	65	58	56
<b>QLD</b>	176	172	202	203
<b>SA</b>	291	300	375	457
<b>WA</b>	42	43	55	43
<b>TAS</b>	58	64	73	63
<b>Total</b>	897	935	1,113	1,259

4. a. Cost of booked car

<b>State</b>	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>2003/04</b>	<b>2004/05</b>
<b>NSW</b>	\$4,553,439	\$4,893,261	\$5,331,105	\$5,044,448
<b>VIC</b>	\$5,877,892	\$5,070,508	\$5,850,354	\$5,870,648
<b>QLD</b>	\$7,351,482	\$6,389,993	\$7,532,746	\$8,414,092
<b>SA</b>	\$2,044,861	\$1,908,476	\$2,113,593	\$2,156,082
<b>WA</b>	\$1,620,218	\$1,329,560	\$1,465,148	\$1,646,806
<b>TAS</b>	\$572,239	\$592,548	\$375,647	\$369,748
<b>Total</b>	\$22,020,130	\$20,184,345	\$22,668,592	\$23,501,824

b. Cost of air travel claims

<b>State</b>	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>2003/04</b>	<b>2004/05</b>
<b>NSW</b>	\$131,297	\$130,422	\$162,152	\$196,803
<b>VIC</b>	\$17,004	\$28,268	\$22,480	\$27,424
<b>QLD</b>	\$75,368	\$65,600	\$71,994	\$71,991
<b>SA</b>	\$102,425	\$101,991	\$117,243	\$127,197
<b>WA</b>	\$11,925	\$14,291	\$18,732	\$17,133
<b>TAS</b>	\$20,841	\$23,187	\$20,275	\$21,117
<b>Total</b>	\$358,860	\$363,759	\$412,876	\$461,664

**Question 39**

**Outcome: 1 (Compensation)**

**Topic: Transport concession**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What concessions are available to DVA pensioners by state and federal governments?
2. What is the current progress of the negotiations with the Northern Territory Government and the Federal Government over funding for concessions on the Alice to Darwin railway?

**Answer:**

1. All State and local governments and authorities and many private organisations provide concessions for pensioners. The relevant State authorities and businesses determine what concessions to offer and who is eligible for those concessions. Concessions are generally provided to pensioners who hold a Pensioner Concession Card (PCC), which indicates that they have limited means. However, many concessions are also provided to other pensioners including Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders and Gold Card holders.

PCC holders, CSHC holders, World War I Australian veterans and their spouses and widows, and disability pensioners receiving the TPI rate, Intermediate rate or the Extreme Disablement Adjustment receive concessions from the Great Southern Railway (GSR) for travel on the Commonwealth owned sections of track of GSR journeys.

The Federal Government provides funding to GSR for it to provide concessions on these Commonwealth owned sections of track.

2. The Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS) administers the contract with GSR on behalf of the Australian Government.

**Question 40**

**Outcome: 2 (Health)**

**Topic: Fraud investigations—Health**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. For the year 2004–05 how many investigations were conducted into (a) fraud in health services and (b) pharmaceutical fraud?
2. What was the value of each case investigated and what restitution was made?
3. How many cases were referred to the DPP and how many proceeded to prosecution?

**Answer:**

Please note that the following includes only investigations conducted by the National Fraud Control Unit and does not include the extensive program of investigations into cases of apparent administrative and servicing anomalies.

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1	How many investigations were conducted into (a) fraud in health services and	38 (includes pharmaceuticals)
1	(b) pharmaceutical fraud?	3 (pharmaceuticals only)
2	What was the value of each case investigated and	For 2004–5 the value of an alleged health fraud was not calculated until restitution was made.
2	what restitution was made?	\$13,423
3	How many cases were referred to the DPP and	5
3	how many proceeded to prosecution?	2

**Question 41**

**Outcome: Output Group 6 (Corporate)**

**Topic: DVA service review**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many staff has been assigned to the review?
2. How much funding has been allocated for the review?
3. Are outside consultants being used in any way for the review?
4. If so, who are they and how much are they being paid?
5. Will the review look at centralisation of DVA's services?
6. Are any stakeholder groups from the community being involved? Who? If none, why were they not included?
7. What progress has been made in the review to date?
8. Have any recommendations arisen from the review so far?
9. When do you expect to start implementing any recommendations from the review?
10. As the number of DVA clients continues to reduce, will the review be looking at staff ratios in the future to match that decline?
11. What is the current DVA client to staff ratio?
12. Has this ratio been increasing or decreasing over the past 10-15 years

**Answer:**

1. Six officers, some part-time, plus project leaders from each State Office and National Office Divisions.
2. 2005-06 – \$320,000.
3. Yes – Econtech.

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4.
  - KPMG: \$128,932
  - IBM: \$246,832
  - ODS Consulting: \$42,202.49
  - Econtech: \$18,336.88
5. A range of options are being developed.
6. Ex-service organisations.
- 7&8. The review has made recommendations on:
  - a new organisational structure and ways of implementing it;
  - a new governance structure;
  - changes to DVA's performance reporting framework; and
  - change management training.
9. Implementation has commenced and completion is expected by mid 2006.
10. Staff will match workload.
11. 126.
12. Varied to match workload.

**Question 42**

**Outcome: Output Group 6 (Corporate)**

**Topic: VAN Offices**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. How many (a) offices are there, (b) by state and (c) electorate?
2. How many calls/interactions do they take per year by state and by individual VAN office?

**Answer:**

1 (a) There are 26 VAN offices.

1 (b) VAN numbers by State are:

STATE/TERRITORY	Number of VANs
ACT	1
New South Wales	7
Northern Territory	1
Queensland	5
South Australia	1
Tasmania	2
Victoria	8
Western Australia	1

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- 1 (c) There is one VAN in each of the following electorates:  
Adelaide, Ballarat, Bass, Brisbane, Corio, Cunningham, Denison, Dunkley, Fisher, Fraser, Groom, Herbert, Indi, Melbourne, Moncrieff, Newcastle, Page, Parramatta, Perth, Richmond, Robertson, Solomon, Sydney, Wannon.  
There are two VANs in the Gippsland electorate.
2. The Department does not record VAN interactions separately.

**Question 43**

**Outcome: 3 (Commemorations)**

**Topic: 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Funding Grants**

**Senator Hurley asked on notice:**

1. What was the total amounting of funding available for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II commemorative grants?
2. By electorate, how much funding was spent?
3. Have all the grants been acquitted?
4. Why was the time from the release of the grant application and the close of applications so close?

**Answer:**

1. \$3 million: Electorate grants \$1.5 million (\$10 000 for each Federal electorate); Capital city grants \$1.2 million; Regional centre grants \$0.3 million
2. Electorate grants: see Attachment A for amounts paid.  
Capital city grants: see Attachment B for amounts paid.  
Regional grants: see Attachment C for amounts paid.
3. As at 6 February 2006:  
Electorate grants: 457 acquitted and 45 outstanding  
Capital city grants: 3 acquitted and 4 outstanding  
Regional grants: 1 acquitted and 2 outstanding (extension granted to one recipient)
4. The procedures for organisations to apply for grants were straightforward and guidance was provided by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Timeframes were acceptable. In a small number of cases, extensions of time were requested and granted.

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*Attachment A*

<b>Electorate/State/Member</b>	<b>Total grant paid for Electorate</b>	<b>Medallion Presentation Ceremonies Preserved funds</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Adelaide, SA, Kate Ellis	\$5,150.00	\$0.00	\$5,150.00
Aston, Vic, Chris Pearce	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Ballarat, Vic, Catherine King	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Banks, NSW, Daryl Melham	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Barker, SA, Patrick Secker	\$5,540.00	\$4,460.00	\$10,000.00
Barton, NSW, Robert McClelland	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Bass, Tas, Michael Ferguson	\$9,700.00	\$300.00	\$10,000.00
Batman, Vic, Martin Ferguson	\$7,063.00	\$2,000.00	\$9,063.00
Bendigo, Vic, Steve Gibbons	\$8,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$10,000.00
Bennelong, NSW, John Howard	\$7,934.00	\$0.00	\$7,934.00
Berowra, NSW, Philip Ruddock	\$6,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$10,000.00
Blair, Qld, Cameron Thompson	\$9,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$10,000.00
Blaxland, NSW, Michael Hatton	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Bonner, Qld, Ross Vasta	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Boothby, SA, Andrew Southcott	\$9,250.00	\$750.00	\$10,000.00
Bowman, Qld, Andrew Laming	\$9,421.25	\$500.00	\$9,921.25
Braddon, Tas, Mark Baker	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$10,000.00
Bradfield, NSW, Brendan Nelson	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00
Brand, WA, Kim Beazley	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Brisbane, Qld, Arch Bevis	\$8,473.60	\$0.00	\$8,473.60
Bruce, Vic, Alan Griffin	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Calare, NSW, Peter Andren	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Calwell, Vic, Maria Vamvakinou	0	0	0
Canberra, ACT, Annette Ellis (See Electorate of Fraser)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Canning, WA, Don Randall	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Capricornia, Qld, Kirsten Livermore	\$3,525.00	\$0.00	\$3,525.00
Casey, Vic, Tony Smith	\$9,965.00	\$0.00	\$9,965.00
Charlton, NSW, Kelly Hoare	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Chifley, NSW, Roger Price	\$3,959.00	\$0.00	\$3,959.00
Chisholm, Vic, Anna Burke	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Cook, NSW, Bruce Baird	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Corangamite, Vic, Stewart McArthur	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Corio, Vic, Gavan O'Connor	\$1,715.00	\$0.00	\$1,715.00
Cowan, WA, Graham Edwards	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Cowper, NSW, Luke Hartsuyker	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Cunningham, NSW, Sharon Bird	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Curtin, WA, Julie Bishop	\$1,200.00	\$8,800.00	\$10,000.00
Dawson, Qld, De-Anne Kelly	\$3,200.00	\$6,800.00	\$10,000.00

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Deakin, Vic, Phillip Barresi	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Denison, Tas, Duncan Kerr	\$7,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$10,000.00
Dickson, Qld, Peter Dutton	\$5,660.00	\$0.00	\$5,660.00
Dobell, NSW, Ken Ticehurst	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Dunkley, Vic, Bruce Billson	\$9,500.00	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
Eden-Monaro, NSW, Gary Nairn	\$6,910.00	\$3,090.00	\$10,000.00
Fadden, Qld, David Jull	\$3,100.00	\$0.00	\$3,100.00
Fairfax, Qld, Alex Somlyay	\$9,434.60	\$511.50	\$9,946.10
Farrer, NSW, Sussan Ley	\$8,885.00	\$1,115.00	\$10,000.00
Fisher, Qld, Peter Slipper	\$1,860.00	\$8,140.00	\$10,000.00
Flinders, Vic, Greg Hunt	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Forde, Qld, Kay Elson	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Forrest, WA, Geoffrey Prosser	0	0	0
Fowler, NSW, Julia Irwin	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Franklin, Tas, Harry Quick	\$6,499.00	\$3,501.00	\$10,000.00
Fraser, ACT, Bob McMullan (Shared with Canberra)	\$16,860.00	\$0.00	\$16,860.00
Fremantle, WA, Carmen Lawrence	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Gellibrand, Vic, Nicola Roxon	\$9,412.00	\$0.00	\$9,412.00
Gilmore, NSW, Joanna Gash	\$1,250.00	\$8,750.00	\$10,000.00
Gippsland, Vic, Peter McGauran	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Goldstein, Vic, Andrew Robb	\$9,400.00	\$600.00	\$10,000.00
Gorton, Vic, Brendan O'Connor	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Grayndler, NSW, Anthony Albanese	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Greenway, NSW, Lousie Markus	\$900.00	\$9,100.00	\$10,000.00
Grey, SA, Barry Wakelin	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Griffith, Qld, Kevin Rudd	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Groom, Qld, Ian Macfarlane	\$7,100.00	\$0.00	\$7,100.00
Gwydir, NSW, John Anderson	\$9,819.00	\$0.00	\$9,819.00
Hasluck, WA, Stuart Henry	\$3,200.00	\$800.00	\$4,000.00
Herbert, Qld, Peter Lindsay	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Higgins, Vic, Peter Costello	\$6,325.00	\$3,675.00	\$10,000.00
Hindmarsh, SA, Steve Georganas	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Hinkler, Qld, Paul Neville	\$8,445.00	\$690.00	\$9,135.00
Holt, Vic, Anthony Byrne	\$3,124.00	\$6,500.00	\$9,624.00
Hotham, Vic, Simon Crean	\$9,645.00	\$355.00	\$10,000.00
Hughes, NSW, Danna Vale	\$7,600.00	\$0.00	\$7,600.00
Hume, NSW, Alby Schultz	\$3,260.00	\$1,000.00	\$4,260.00
Hunter, NSW, Joel Fitzgibbon	\$5,375.00	\$2,000.00	\$7,375.00
Indi, Vic, Sophie Panopoulos	\$7,400.00	\$2,600.00	\$10,000.00
Isaacs, Vic, Ann Corcoran	\$9,378.00	\$0.00	\$9,378.00

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Jagajaga, Vic, Jenny Macklin	\$9,400.00	\$0.00	\$9,400.00
Kalgoorlie, WA, Barry Haase	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Kennedy, Qld, Robert Katter	\$9,950.00	\$0.00	\$9,950.00
Kingsford Smith, NSW, Peter Garrett	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
Kingston, SA, Kym Richardson	\$6,227.50	\$3,772.50	\$10,000.00
Kooyong, Vic, Petro Georgiou	\$9,675.00	\$325.00	\$10,000.00
La Trobe, Vic, Jason Wood	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Lalor, Vic, Julia Gillard	\$9,175.20	\$820.00	\$9,995.20
Leichhardt, Qld, Warren Entsch	\$8,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$9,500.00
Lilley, Qld, Wayne Swan	\$9,935.89	\$64.00	\$9,999.89
Lindsay, NSW, Jackie Kelly	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Lingiari, NT, Warren Snowdon	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
Longman, Qld, Mal Brough	\$9,600.00	\$400.00	\$10,000.00
Lowe, NSW, John Murphy	\$7,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$10,000.00
Lyne, NSW, Mark Vaile	\$9,945.00	\$0.00	\$9,945.00
Lyons, Tas, Dick Adams	\$9,999.60	\$0.00	\$9,999.60
Macarthur, NSW, Pat Farmer	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Mackellar, NSW, Bronwyn Bishop	\$8,047.00	\$0.00	\$8,047.00
Macquarie, NSW, Kerry Bartlett	\$9,650.00	\$350.00	\$10,000.00
Makin, SA, Trish Draper	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Mallee, Vic, John Forrest	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Maranoa, Qld, Bruce Scott	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Maribyrnong, Vic, Bob Sercombe	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Mayo, SA, Alexander Downer	\$6,116.00	\$0.00	\$6,116.00
McEwen, Vic, Fran Bailey	\$2,940.00	\$0.00	\$2,940.00
McMillan, Vic, Russell Broadbent	\$8,540.00	\$0.00	\$8,540.00
McPherson, Qld, Margaret May	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Melbourne, Vic, Lindsay Tanner	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Melbourne Ports, Vic, Michael Danby	\$9,790.00	\$0.00	\$9,790.00
Menzies, Vic, Kevin Andrews	\$8,025.00	\$0.00	\$8,025.00
Mitchell, NSW, Alan Cadman	\$3,950.00	\$0.00	\$3,950.00
Moncrieff, Qld, Steven Ciobo	\$8,200.00	\$1,800.00	\$10,000.00
Moore, WA, Mal Washer	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Moreton, Qld, Gary Hardgrave	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Murray, Vic, Sharman Stone	\$9,994.00	\$0.00	\$9,994.00
New England, NSW, Tony Windsor	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Newcastle, NSW, Sharon Grierson	\$9,960.00	\$0.00	\$9,960.00
North Sydney, NSW, Joe Hockey	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
O'Connor, WA, Wilson Tuckey	\$5,249.00	\$0.00	\$5,249.00
Oxley, Qld, Bernie Ripoll	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Page, NSW, Ian Causley	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00



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Parkes, NSW, John Cobb	\$4,700.00	\$0.00	\$4,700.00
Parramatta, NSW, Julie Owens	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Paterson, NSW, Bob Baldwin	\$6,600.00	\$3,400.00	\$10,000.00
Pearce, WA, Judi Moylan	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Perth, WA, Stephen Smith	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Petrie, Qld, Teresa Gambaro	\$9,260.00	\$0.00	\$9,260.00
Port Adelaide, SA, Rodney Sawford	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Prospect, NSW, Chris Bowen	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Rankin, Qld, Craig Emerson	\$5,260.00	\$4,740.00	\$10,000.00
Reid, NSW, Laurie Ferguson	\$9,600.00	\$400.00	\$10,000.00
Richmond, NSW, Justine Elliot	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Riverina, NSW, Kay Hull	\$1,427.00	\$0.00	\$1,427.00
Robertson, NSW, Jim Lloyd	\$5,339.00	\$4,661.00	\$10,000.00
Ryan, Qld, Michael Johnson	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Scullin, Vic, Harry Jenkins	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Shortland, NSW, Jill Hall	\$9,975.75	\$0.00	\$9,975.75
Solomon, NT, David Tollner	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Stirling, WA, Michael Keenan	\$9,803.00	\$190.00	\$9,993.00
Sturt, SA, Christopher Pyne	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Swan, WA, Kim Wilkie	\$4,260.00	\$5,740.00	\$10,000.00
Sydney, NSW, Tanya Plibersek	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Tangney, WA, Dennis Jensen	\$9,545.55	\$0.00	\$9,545.55
Throsby, NSW, Jennie George	\$9,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$10,000.00
Wakefield, SA, David Fawcett	\$3,495.00	\$0.00	\$3,495.00
Wannon, Vic, David Hawker	\$5,074.00	\$0.00	\$5,074.00
Warringah, NSW, Tony Abbott	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Watson, NSW, Tony Burke	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Wentworth, NSW, Malcolm Turnbull	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00
Werriwa, NSW, Chris Hayes	\$9,900.00	\$0.00	\$9,900.00
Wide Bay, Qld, Warren Truss	\$9,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$10,000.00
Wills, Vic, Kelvin Thomson	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$1,124,145.94</b>	<b>\$190,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,314,745.94</b>

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**  
 Budget supplementary estimates; November 2005  
 Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs

*Attachment B*

<b>Capital City</b>	<b>Grant Amount Approved</b>
<i>Adelaide City Council</i>	\$150 000
Brisbane City Council	\$200 000
Darwin City Council	\$150 000
Hobart City Council	\$142 160
City of Melbourne	\$200 000
City of Perth	\$148 763
City of Sydney	\$36 500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1 027 423</b>

*Attachment C*

<b>Regional Grants</b>	<b>Grant Amount Approved</b>
<i>Townsville City Council</i>	\$150 000
Shire of Greenough (Geraldton)	\$27 500
Sunshine Coast Concert Band (Caloundra)	\$10 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$187 500</b>

**Question 44**

**Outcome: 3 (Commemorations)**

**Topic: 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary medallions**

**Senator Hurley** (written question on notice)

1. What is the total estimated number of medallions to be issued?
2. What was the total cost of the programme?
3. How many medallions have been minted?
4. How many of these is estimated will be now surplus and not issued?
5. What was the cost of production per medallion?
6. What was the precise date that DVA changed its one medallion policy?
7. How many veterans have received subsequent medallions as a result of that change in policy? How many are expected?
8. Why were letters informing veterans of their eligibility for the medallion sent to deceased veterans and widows and how many letters were sent to deceased veterans?
9. What was the longest period a veteran or widow has been deceased that such a letter was sent?
10. The Minister in answer to a question on this matter on 11 August 2005 stated that it is the responsibility of the family to inform the department when a veteran or war widow dies. What information campaigns, advice, publications or general information does the department give to veterans that advise them that their family must report their death to the department when they die?
11. Why does it become the responsibility of the next of kin or family to report the death of DVA clients?
12. What happens if a veteran or war widow who is without immediate family dies? Who is responsible in reporting their death?
13. Why didn't the Department use resources such as the National Death Register to validate its database before sending the letters out?
14. What measures does DVA take to ensure the accurate record the deaths of veterans?
15. Why was next of kin other than widows and widowers excluded from being able to apply for posthumous medallions on behalf of deceased veterans?
16. Given the precedence of wider eligibility criteria posthumous medals for next of kin with Defence Honours and Awards medals, such as the Anniversary of National Service 1951–1972 Medal and all other Defence Honours and Awards medals? Why did DVA not then adopt a similar process and allow next of kin to receive the medallions using the already current and successful criteria used by the Department of Defence?
17. What is the estimated numbers of next of kin who would have been eligible to receive a posthumous medallion on behalf of deceased veterans if DVA had not restricted the criteria to just widows and widowers?

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**Answer:**

1. 270,000
2. In the order of \$4 million. A small number of applications are still being received and there will be administration and distribution costs associated with these.
3. In the order of 260,000 as at 6 February 2006.
4. None anticipated as production is in line with demand.
5. Approximately \$15.
6. 29 September 2005.
7. 1080 people. Not more than 10,000.
8. The initial mailout to 272,400 eligible people was based on an extract from the Department of Veterans' Affairs client database. The extract excluded anyone recorded as deceased at the time of the extract. Where the deceased person had not been in receipt of DVA payment, the family was not obliged to inform DVA of the death. As a result of the initial mailout, DVA was advised of around 400 deaths.
9. 14 years. In this case, DVA has not been advised of the person's death.
10. If a DVA pensioner dies leaving a surviving partner who is in receipt of a DVA pension, the partner is obliged to inform DVA of the death. This obligation is advised to pensioners through the *You and Your Pension* and *Planning Ahead* publications. *You and Your Pension* is provided to all pensioners at grant of pension and periodically following grant. *Planning Ahead* is available through DVA offices and ex-service organisations and is also provided to pensioners on request.
11. It is the responsibility of a partner who is in payment to inform DVA of the death to ensure that the surviving partner receives their correct entitlements, including re-assessment to the correct rate of income support payment, and payment of any entitlements for bereavement.
12. Where a DVA pensioner dies and there is no surviving partner, the family of the deceased person is under no legal obligation to report the death. DVA uses information from Births, Deaths and Marriages registries to undertake fact of death matching to detect unreported deaths, however computerised matching can only be utilised for deaths occurring since 1997.
13. See 12.
14. See 10–13.
15. It would be difficult and controversial to determine which next of kin or descendants should receive medallions.
16. See 15.
17. See 15.