

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES – 28 May 2009

Human Services Portfolio

Department/Agency: Medicare Australia

Outcome/Output Group: Outcome 1 / Output Group 1

Topic: Prescription Shopping Program

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: HS26

Date set by committee for the return of answer: 10 July 2009

Question:

HS26: How many calls has the Prescription Shopping Information Service (formerly the Doctor Shopping Hotline) received each year for the past two years in:

- a) Victoria?
- b) New South Wales?
- c) Queensland?
- d) South Australia?
- e) Western Australia?
- f) Tasmania?
- g) ACT?
- h) NT?

Answer:

HS26: In the 2007–08 financial year, the Prescription Shopping Information Line received the following calls:

State	Calls
VIC	4445
NSW	6916
QLD	5109
SA	1133
WA	1398
TAS	173
ACT	103
NT	101
STATE UNKNOWN ¹	1542
TOTAL	20 920

¹ State is not available as the information on the state was not recorded at the time of the call.

In the 2008–09 financial year, to 17 June 2009, the Prescription Shopping Information Line received the following calls:

State	Calls
VIC	4407
NSW	7755
QLD	5484
SA	1249
WA	1366
TAS	173
ACT	134
NT	93
STATE UNKNOWN ²	2878
TOTAL	23 539

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² State is not available as the information on the state was not recorded at the time of the call.