

Veteran Beneficiaries in Commonwealth Electoral Divisions

Introduction

A major component of Australia's income support system is the provision of benefits for veterans (people who saw active service in wartime, usually overseas) and their dependants. This component is not administered by CentreLink but by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). It provides income support and compensation payments and medical treatment. This note shows the numbers of pensioners and treatment cardholders in each Commonwealth Electoral Division.

Pensions, etc.

There are several different financial payments to which veterans and their dependants may be entitled. These are:

- *Service pension*: payable on the grounds of age (similar to but payable five years earlier than the social security age pension) or invalidity (payable at any working age). They are paid to eligible veterans and their partners.
- *Disability pension*: previously known as war pensions, these payments are in the form of compensation for injuries or diseases caused or aggravated by war. They are paid according to the level of disability suffered as a result of the injury or disease.
- *War widow(er) pension*: payable to the partners of deceased veterans who have died as a result of war or eligible defence service.
- *Income support supplement*: payable where the recipient of a

war widow(er) pension is (otherwise still) of limited means as defined.

- *Social security age pension*: payable where a veteran is not entitled to a service pension but receives another DVA payment.
- *Orphan pension*: payable to orphans of veterans and their partners, where the veteran's death was caused by war or eligible defence service.

It is quite common for a veteran to receive more than one DVA pension. For example many service pensioners also receive a disability pension. Thus the table overleaf shows the number of people who receive one or more of the DVA payments available, i.e. 'net' pensioners. There is also a range of special purpose allowances payable to veterans in addition to the DVA payment(s) listed above. These include decoration allowance, attendant allowance, clothing allowance and recreation transport allowance.

Treatment

Veterans are entitled to medical treatment at the expense of the Commonwealth in certain circumstances. Eligibility for the various forms of treatment depends on the treatment card a beneficiary holds. These are:

- *Gold card*: provides free unrestricted medical treatment; can be held by veterans and their dependants.
- *White card*: provides free medical treatment for war or service-related conditions, and

certain other conditions, for veterans only.

There is also a pharmaceutical benefits (only) card (orange card). The 'treatment population' shown overleaf is the sum of gold cardholders plus white cardholders.

A small number of gold and white cardholders in each electoral division do not also receive any payment or allowance from DVA, so the total number of DVA beneficiaries in each electoral division (not shown in this note) is slightly higher than the number of net pensioners.

Figures shown overleaf are as at 1 December 2001. They are estimates derived from postcode data.

The full set of data from which these figures are taken is available through the Statistics Resources Guides page on the intranet at: <http://libiis1/services/statistics/index.htm>

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Veteran Beneficiaries: 1 December 2001

| Electoral division | Net pensioner population | Treatment population | Electoral division | Net pensioner population | Treatment population |
|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Adelaide (SA) | 3 216 | 2 374 | Hunter (NSW) | 2 509 | 1 891 |
| Aston (Vic.) | 1 958 | 1 392 | Indi (Vic.) | 3 965 | 3 083 |
| Ballarat (Vic.) | 3 543 | 2 601 | Isaacs (Vic.) | 3 110 | 2 219 |
| Banks (NSW) | 3 855 | 2 708 | Jagajaga (Vic.) | 3 202 | 2 477 |
| Barker (SA) | 4 153 | 2 844 | Kalgoorlie (WA) | 1 090 | 851 |
| Barton (NSW) | 3 168 | 2 369 | Kennedy (Qld) | 2 581 | 1 903 |
| Bass (Tas.) | 2 993 | 2 140 | Kingsford Smith (NSW) | 2 601 | 1 979 |
| Batman (Vic.) | 2 804 | 2 062 | Kingston (SA) | 3 018 | 1 720 |
| Bendigo (Vic.) | 3 999 | 3 073 | Kooyong (Vic.) | 2 636 | 2 466 |
| Benelong (NSW) | 3 207 | 2 512 | Lalor (Vic.) | 1 739 | 1 194 |
| Berowra (NSW) | 2 313 | 1 873 | La Trobe (Vic.) | 2 118 | 1 485 |
| Blair (Qld) | 3 312 | 2 433 | Leichhardt (Qld) | 2 157 | 1 680 |
| Blaxland (NSW) | 3 085 | 1 841 | Lilley (Qld) | 4 801 | 3 670 |
| Bonython (SA) | 2 454 | 1 201 | Lindsay (NSW) | 2 058 | 1 475 |
| Boothby (SA) | 4 926 | 3 421 | Lingiari (NT) | 543 | 443 |
| Bowman (Qld) | 3 857 | 2 703 | Longman (Qld) | 4 509 | 3 115 |
| Braddon (Tas.) | 2 650 | 1 773 | Lowe (NSW) | 1 949 | 1 562 |
| Bradfield (NSW) | 3 193 | 3 042 | Lyne (NSW) | 5 482 | 3 912 |
| Brand (WA) | 2 968 | 1 919 | Lyons (Tas.) | 3 529 | 2 444 |
| Brisbane (Qld) | 3 151 | 2 496 | Macarthur (NSW) | 1 196 | 865 |
| Bruce (Vic.) | 2 058 | 1 425 | Mackellar (NSW) | 4 174 | 3 431 |
| Burke (Vic.) | 1 898 | 1 382 | Macquarie (NSW) | 2 840 | 2 103 |
| Calare (NSW) | 2 481 | 1 877 | Makin (SA) | 2 418 | 1 404 |
| Calwell (Vic.) | 1 173 | 765 | Mallee (Vic.) | 2 656 | 2 093 |
| Canberra (ACT) | 3 049 | 2 753 | Maranoa (Qld) | 2 780 | 2 198 |
| Canning (WA) | 2 067 | 1 320 | Maribyrnong (Vic.) | 1 489 | 913 |
| Capricornia (Qld) | 2 653 | 1 953 | Mayo (SA) | 2 669 | 1 798 |
| Casey (Vic.) | 2 252 | 1 589 | McEwen (Vic.) | 2 386 | 1 840 |
| Charlton (NSW) | 2 950 | 2 034 | McMillan (Vic.) | 2 396 | 1 663 |
| Chifley (NSW) | 1 426 | 962 | McPherson (Qld) | 5 717 | 4 070 |
| Chisholm (Vic.) | 3 518 | 2 657 | Melbourne (Vic.) | 1 250 | 1 035 |
| Cook (NSW) | 2 992 | 2 176 | Melbourne Ports (Vic.) | 1 696 | 1 392 |
| Corangamite (Vic.) | 4 390 | 3 201 | Menzies (Vic.) | 1 946 | 1 470 |
| Corio (Vic.) | 2 901 | 2 017 | Mitchell (NSW) | 1 825 | 1 442 |
| Cowan (WA) | 1 945 | 1 280 | Moncrieff (Qld) | 2 853 | 2 064 |
| Cowper (NSW) | 4 257 | 2 970 | Moore (WA) | 2 053 | 1 394 |
| Cunningham (NSW) | 2 407 | 1 605 | Moreton (Qld) | 3 932 | 2 823 |
| Curtin (WA) | 3 596 | 2 964 | Murray (Vic.) | 3 387 | 2 592 |
| Dawson (Qld) | 2 453 | 1 857 | Newcastle (NSW) | 3 125 | 2 271 |
| Deakin (Vic.) | 2 949 | 2 198 | New England (NSW) | 3 963 | 3 132 |
| Denison (Tas.) | 3 616 | 2 685 | North Sydney (NSW) | 2 486 | 2 276 |
| Dickson (Qld) | 3 355 | 2 558 | O'Connor (WA) | 2 637 | 1 900 |
| Dobell (NSW) | 5 348 | 3 811 | Oxley (Qld) | 2 999 | 2 127 |
| Dunkley (Vic.) | 4 129 | 2 894 | Page (NSW) | 5 233 | 3 846 |
| Eden-Monaro (NSW) | 3 449 | 2 540 | Parke (NSW) | 2 777 | 2 177 |
| Fadden (Qld) | 3 649 | 2 513 | Parramatta (NSW) | 2 518 | 1 843 |
| Fairfax (Qld) | 3 672 | 2 476 | Paterson (NSW) | 4 858 | 3 555 |
| Farrer (NSW) | 5 340 | 4 115 | Pearce (WA) | 3 071 | 2 021 |
| Fisher (Qld) | 6 209 | 4 247 | Perth (WA) | 2 625 | 1 782 |
| Flinders (Vic.) | 5 917 | 4 112 | Petrie (Qld) | 5 660 | 4 081 |
| Forde (Qld) | 3 532 | 2 462 | Port Adelaide (SA) | 4 033 | 2 617 |
| Forrest (WA) | 2 906 | 1 939 | Prospect (NSW) | 1 777 | 988 |
| Fowler (NSW) | 1 872 | 672 | Rankin (Qld) | 1 941 | 1 351 |
| Franklin (Tas.) | 3 128 | 2 189 | Reid (NSW) | 2 488 | 1 681 |
| Fraser (ACT) | 3 094 | 2 725 | Richmond (NSW) | 6 180 | 4 356 |
| Fremantle (WA) | 2 884 | 1 969 | Riverina (NSW) | 2 940 | 2 307 |
| Gellibrand (Vic.) | 2 167 | 1 437 | Robertson (NSW) | 5 422 | 3 927 |
| Gilmore (NSW) | 5 260 | 3 707 | Ryan (Qld) | 2 745 | 2 174 |
| Gippsland (Vic.) | 4 101 | 2 949 | Scullin (Vic.) | 1 335 | 928 |
| Goldstein (Vic.) | 4 358 | 3 661 | Shortland (NSW) | 4 241 | 2 973 |
| Grayndler (NSW) | 1 311 | 929 | Solomon (NT) | 860 | 757 |
| Greenway (NSW) | 1 438 | 1 006 | Stirling (WA) | 3 349 | 2 238 |
| Grey (SA) | 2 717 | 1 959 | Sturt (SA) | 3 592 | 2 629 |
| Griffith (Qld) | 3 878 | 2 886 | Swan (WA) | 3 380 | 2 395 |
| Groom (Qld) | 3 402 | 2 637 | Sydney (NSW) | 1 540 | 1 244 |
| Gwydir (NSW) | 3 376 | 2 730 | Tangney (WA) | 3 174 | 2 165 |
| Hasluck (WA) | 1 877 | 1 156 | Throsby (NSW) | 2 003 | 1 202 |
| Herbert (Qld) | 3 714 | 2 953 | Wakefield (SA) | 3 706 | 2 456 |
| Higgins (Vic.) | 2 348 | 2 184 | Wannon (Vic.) | 3 432 | 2 643 |
| Hindmarsh (SA) | 4 953 | 3 459 | Warringah (NSW) | 3 399 | 2 967 |
| Hinkler (Qld) | 3 423 | 2 387 | Watson (NSW) | 2 439 | 1 709 |
| Holt (Vic.) | 1 220 | 764 | Wentworth (NSW) | 1 828 | 1 733 |
| Hotham (Vic.) | 3 438 | 2 449 | Werriva (NSW) | 1 704 | 1 117 |
| Hughes (NSW) | 1 677 | 1 180 | Wide Bay (Qld) | 4 930 | 3 411 |
| Hume (NSW) | 4 153 | 3 140 | Wills (Vic.) | 2 788 | 2 062 |

Source: Department of Veterans' Affairs.