

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 16, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000244

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Prohibition of Live Imports of Primates for Research) Bill 2015

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Urquhart, Ann

Question:

1. Is it correct that the Government has three breeding facilities for non-human primates in Australia?
2. How many primates do the facilities have?
3. Are the primates at these facilities used solely for research?

Answer:

1. The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) provides direct funding support to the two national non-human primate breeding facilities. These are the National Non-Human Primate Breeding and Research Facility (macaques and marmosets) and the National Baboon Colony (baboons).

There is an owl monkey breeding facility in Queensland; however, this facility is not funded by NHMRC.

2. Information provided by the national non-human primates breeding facilities is as follows:
 - Baboon: 165 (as at 19 February 2016)
 - Pig-tailed Macaques: 167 (as at 23 February 2016)
 - Long-tailed Macaques: 76 (as at 23 February 2016)
 - Common marmosets: 343 (as at 23 February 2016)
3. The national non-human primates breeding facilities have confirmed that the animals are used solely for research purposes.