

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 1 - 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000433

OUTCOME: 6 - Private Health

Topic: Private Health Insurance Participation

Type of Question: Hansard Page 126, 1 June 2015

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

Mr Porter: In the March 2015 quarter, there were 11.23 million people covered by hospital treatment cover.

There were 5.45 million policies, for a participation rate of 47.3 per cent. For general treatment cover: as at the end of the March quarter 2015, there were 13.2 million people with general treatment cover through 6.4 million policies. For any type of cover at the end of March 2015, there were 13.2 million people and 6.4 million policies, for a coverage rate of 55.6 per cent.

Senator McLUCAS: That is for general?

Mr Porter: That is general or hospital, or both.

Senator McLUCAS: Can you break that down by gender?

Mr Porter: On notice, Senator, yes. I do not have gender breakdowns with me.

Senator McLUCAS: What about age groups?

Mr Porter: I would have to take that on notice.

Senator McLUCAS: But it is possible to do that?

Mr Porter: We will have to have a look at that, because I am not completely clear on the age breakdown or the gender breakdown; but we will see what we can provide on notice.

Answer:

In the March 2015 quarter, the age and gender breakdown of the total insured population is as follows:

Gender	No. of insured persons	%
Male	5,450,396	48.54%
Female	5,778,888	51.46%
Total	11,229,284	100%

Age cohort	No. of insured persons	%
0-34	4,587,812	40.86%
35-64	4,794,949	42.70%
65+	1,846,523	16.44%
Total	11,229,284	100.00%