

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-001008

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Rural Health

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Why does the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency not report on registrations by jurisdiction and remoteness as a matter of course? When will this be adopted?

Answer:

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) publishes an annual report at the end of each financial year. In the 2015-16 report table R1 on page 38 *Registered Practitioners by Profession by principal place of practice* reports on registrations by jurisdictions. The annual report can be found at <https://www.ahpra.gov.au/annualreport/2016/downloads.html>

AHPRA also provides quarterly statistical information on its website under each National Board. An example for the Nursing and Midwifery Board can be found at <http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/About/Statistics.aspx>

The Department of Health has a deed of licence with AHPRA to gain access to the National Health Workforce Data Set (NHWDS). This data is obtained through the annual renewal process for all registered health professionals and is analysed, including by remoteness classification. This can be accessed using the on-line tool and through various published workforce fact sheets at <http://data.hwa.gov.au/>, and includes information on the remoteness of practitioners' place of practice.