

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 2

**Question No:** 521

**Topic:** Rent Assistance

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

At September 2012, provide the number and per cent by recipient type; broken down by age, gender, state/territory and Indigenous status; who are:

- a. home-owners;
- b. paying a mortgage;
- c. renting privately;
- d. living social housing and public housing.

**Answer:**

Information on housing tenure is not required to assess eligibility for pension, benefit or allowance and is therefore not routinely collected or updated.

However, if a claimant indicates that they rent privately at the time they claim a pension, benefit or allowance, they are asked to verify their rent to assess their eligibility for Commonwealth Rent Assistance.

Information on Commonwealth Rent Assistance recipients by gender, state/territory and Indigenous status is provided in response to Question Number 520. Information on Commonwealth Rent Assistance recipients by age is at **Attachment A**.