

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000543

OUTCOME: 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

Topic: Regional Assessment Services

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Siewert, Rachel

Question:

What proportion of people who are being referred from My Aged Care for assessment by Regional Assessment Services have diverse backgrounds that mean they have specific needs (CALD, LGBTI?)

Answer:

My Aged Care does not currently collect reportable information across all diverse needs groups such as LGBTI, Care-leavers or older people who are financially disadvantaged.

My Aged Care however does collect the following:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI)

The proportion of clients who identified as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander* registered in My Aged Care and referred for an assessment by a Regional Assessment Service steadily increased from 1.2 per cent in July 2015 to 2.2 per cent in June 2016. This proportion has steadied during the first quarter of 2016-17 at an average of 1.9 per cent.

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)

The proportion of clients who are determined as being Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)* registered in My Aged Care and referred for an assessment by a Regional Assessment Service steadily increased from 8.2 per cent in July 2015 to 8.7 per cent in June 2016. This proportion increased to 11.0 per cent in the first quarter of 2016-17.

* All data regarding My Aged Care clients has been extracted from the Aging and Aged Care Data Warehouse (AACDW). However, the enumeration process for some data is different depending on what information is being collected. For the fields concerning Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders and gender, the client self-identifies these characteristics. This means the information is collected direct from the source, and has not been derived.

Within the My Aged Care environment, the *Country of Birth* and *Preferred Language Spoken* fields are used to identify CALD clients. These fields are optional and therefore CALD information presented in this report is derived and not self-identified. The client is asked what their country of birth is and if they speak a language other than English at home. A client's CALD status is then derived in the AACDW based on their responses to these questions.

Source: Data extracted from the Ageing and Aged Care Data Warehouse on 9 November 2016.