

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 27  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)  
**Topic:** Kangaroo population estimates  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 23 February 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Rhiannon asked:**

Please provide in an excel spreadsheet or csv file, including the missing 2011 to current data:

1. Population estimates for each species of commercially shot macropods in each of the states, including Tasmania;
2. The shooting quota for each of those species, in each state, for each year
3. The take for each species, male and female, for each state, per year.

**Answer:**

The population estimates, harvest quota, take and male/female harvest ratio for New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia for each year for the red kangaroo (*Macropus rufus*), the eastern (*Macropus giganteus*) and western grey kangaroos (*Macropus fuliginosus*) and the common wallaroo or euro (*Macropus robustus*) are at **Attachment A**.

Tasmania

- The commercial harvest of wallabies in Tasmania is based upon the surveyed density of wallabies per square kilometre in the commercial harvest zones. There is no overall population estimate.
- Wallaby species in Tasmania are harvested under three small-scale wildlife trade operations. An approved quota is set for the life of each individual wildlife trade operation.
- The combined annual harvest quota for the three operations is 200 000. The wallaby species harvested under these wildlife trade operations are the Bennett's wallaby (*Macropus rufogriseus*) and Rufous wallaby (*Thylogale billardieri*).
- The Department does not have the annual take figures or data relating to the male to female harvest ratio of wallabies in Tasmania.

Victoria

- There is no kangaroo population estimate for Victoria. For the Victorian pet food trial, which finishes on 31 March 2016, the Victorian Government used ten years of annual non-commercial harvest data in the two pet food trial regions.
- There are three small-scale kangaroo wildlife trade operations that have a combined quota during the Victorian pet food trial of 16 000 kangaroos.
- The Department does not have the annual take figures or data relating to the male to female harvest ratio of kangaroos taken in Victoria.

2011

	Population (2010)	Quota	Special Quota	Total Harvest	Total harvest male (%)	Total harvest female (%)
<b>New South Wales</b>						
Red kangaroo	3,013,908	512,364	45,209	125,843	80.1	19.9
Eastern grey kangaroo	4,756,792	684,278	71,352	235,579	75.3	24.7
Western grey kangaroo	662,982	78,851	9,945	16,575	82.8	17.2
Wallaroo	88,430	11,017	1,326	4,940	96.5	3.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,522,112</b>	<b>1,286,510</b>	<b>127,832</b>	<b>382,937</b>		

	Population (2010)	Quota	Special Quota	Total Harvest	Total harvest male (%)	Total harvest female (%)
<b>Queensland</b>						
Red kangaroo	3,603,509	645,750	0	296,303	86.8	13.2
Eastern grey kangaroo	6,652,443	920,350	0	519,347	90.4	9.6
Wallaroo	1,916,855	261,150	0	197,680	99.9	0.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,172,807</b>	<b>1,827,250</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,013,330</b>		

	Population (2010)	Quota	Special Quota	Total Harvest	Total harvest male (%)	Total harvest female (%)
<b>South Australia</b>						
Red kangaroo	1,074,000	208,550	5,370	73,778	57.1	42.9
Western grey kangaroo	720,000	101,400	3,600	28,043	61.5	38.5
Euro	411,000	57,000	2,500	6,461	96.1	3.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,205,000</b>	<b>366,950</b>	<b>11,470</b>	<b>108,282</b>		

	Population (2010)	Quota	Special Quota	Total Harvest	Total harvest male (%)	Total harvest female (%)
<b>Western Australia</b>						
Red kangaroo	850,731	100,000	0	25,697	57	43
Western grey kangaroo	1,407,376	150,000	0	93,330	60.1	39.9
Euro	--	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,258,107</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>119,027</b>		

Quotas are based on the prior year's population estimates. Population estimates are based on aerial and ground surveys and are for the areas within Australia where commercial harvesting occurs. The actual national populations would be significantly higher as these figures do not include estimates for areas not surveyed.

The purpose of the special quota is to provide for the commercial utilisation of kangaroos that would have otherwise been shot under the normal non-commercial licensing system and left in the field. Special quotas are only allocated when the state management agency has determined that there is a need.