

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates Spill-over hearing March 2017
Communications Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 341

NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: Page 67, 24/03/2017

Topic: Regional Australia – Percentage connected

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

Senator URQUHART: In terms of regional Australia, what is the percentage—I have heard that about 75 per cent of regional Australia is now connected to the NBN.

Mr Morrow: Have access to NBN. So they can order the service, but that does not necessarily mean that they have gone through their retailer to connect to the service.

Senator URQUHART: What is the percentage that is connected? About 75 per cent have access.

Mr Morrow: I think 70 per cent was the number we have been given. We would have to take on notice the question about the number of end users that are in this remote area.

Answer:

nbn understands that the figure referred to by the Senator is one prepared by the Department of Communications and the Arts based on rollout data provided to it by nbn. The Department advises that the figure is based on a calculation of premises outside major urban areas (excluding new developments) that are either already able to order services (ie that are ready for service) or have network construction underway. Major urban areas are defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The Department advises that as at 18 May 2017 approximately 77 per cent of premises outside major urban areas (excluding new developments), are ready for service or have network construction underway and 37 per cent of these premises have active nbn services.