Original and Extended Medicare Safety Nets by electorate
(based on patient enrolment postcode)
2010 Calendar Year (year of service)

Electorate	Number of people qualifying for a Medicare Safety Net (1)	Number of singles who have received a safety net benefit (2)	Number of families who have received a safety net benefit (3)	Number of people who have received a safety net benefit (4)	Total safety net benefits paid (5)
Adelaide	8,443	624	2,383	5,365	2,056,886
Aston	11,804	440	3,432	7,213	2,213,610
Ballarat	7,619	257	2,094	4,274	1,170,820
Banks	11,792	628	3,451	7,209	2,512,755
Barker	3,810	128	1,096	2,130	769,507
Barton	11,215	727	3,247	6,722	2,753,109
Bass	5,615	171	1,625	3,398	744,294
Batman	8,680	653	2,408	5,469	2,508,789
Bendigo	6,043	257	1,714	3,628	888,606
Bennelong	13,798	947	4,171	8,823	3,526,575
Berowra	17,293	781	5,176	11,177	4,047,425
Blair	5,382	232	1,516	3,159	985,425
Blaxland	5,620	421	1,523	2,869	1,125,147
Bonner	17,647	696	5,188	11,727	3,368,783
Boothby	7,307	366	2,140	4,431	1,799,136
Bowman	11,695	495	3,511	7,383	1,942,492
Braddon	3,136	99	920	1,706	460,231
Bradfield	27,263	1,452	8,277	18,931	7,813,057
Brand	7,319	271	2,144	4,127	1,167,190
Brisbane	17,139	1,333	4,765	11,553	4,343,006
Bruce	8,173	421	2,570	5,234	1,638,385
Calare	5,710	298	1,695	3,343	942,609
Calwell	6,528	290	1,906	3,785	1,471,786
Canberra	22,917	1,106	6,756	15,403	3,771,688
Canning	8,521	329	2,561	5,010	1,295,105
Capricornia	11,589	437	3,352	7,252	2,186,932
Casey	12,768	422	3,627	7,877	2,169,200
Charlton	9,389	438	2,875	5,864	1,425,968
Chifley	3,935	215	1,121	2,017	746,724
Chisholm	14,059	771	4,138	9,288	3,001,954
Cook	17,548	856	5,180	11,298	3,570,571
Corangamite	13,784	376	3,977	8,463	2,013,662
Corio	10,003	337	2,832	6,287	1,652,808
Cowan	11,774	360	3,360	6,995	1,915,269
Cowper	9,179	571	2,955	5,888	1,147,454
Cunningham	11,473	623	3,318	7,020	1,927,344
Curtin	18,272	1,194	5,326	12,304	4,086,100
Dawson	12,621	407	3,836	8,170	1,991,933
Deakin	13,273	629	3,877	8,585	2,699,860
Denison	6,636	360	1,966	4,162	1,135,198
Dickson	14,530	441	4,220	9,076	2,766,467
Dobell	8,510	506	2,556	5,175	2,159,146
Dunkley	13,095	547	3,833	8,487	2,309,231
Durack	6,067	204	1,715	3,485	903,935
Eden-Monaro	11,047	575	3,398	7,167	1,804,304
Fadden	11,048	623	3,442	6,987	2,417,711
Fairfax	8,446	583	2,558	5,057	1,890,520

Farrer	7,000	261	2,017	4,189	1,313,585
Fisher	7,282	475	2,343	4,426	1,715,289
Flinders	13,275	495	4,006	8,803	2,305,794
Flynn	9,921	415	2,938	6,099	2,145,196
Forde	6,975	272	2,017	3,822	1,363,179
Forrest	9,343	260	2,714	5,403	1,182,834
Fowler	4,636	361	1,307	2,422	1,081,079
Franklin	8,054	274	2,433	5,062	1,225,815
Fraser	23,817	1,145	6,885	16,170	3,976,149
Fremantle	14,677	693	4,267	9,067	2,814,661
Gellibrand	8,665	568	2,473	5,425	2,503,438
Gilmore	7,983	386	2,489	4,942	1,403,712
Gippsland	4,922	146	1,396	2,728	681,998
Goldstein	23,879	1,338	6,983	16,663	5,366,036
Gorton	8,888	289	2,489	5,164	1,786,064
Grayndler	10,574	1,182	2,888	6,540	3,611,521
Greenway	7,809	342	2,190	4,165	1,514,246
Grey	2,718	99	772	1,437	659,528
Griffith	16,773	1,010	4,742	11,419	3,819,842
Groom	13,129	427	3,866	8,161	2,159,044
Hasluck	9,494	392	2,825	5,797	1,705,858
Herbert	8,482	304	2,481	5,237	1,321,242
Higgins	22,532	1,767	6,360	15,897	6,080,387
Hindmarsh	7,229	475	2,125	4,511	1,897,154
Hinkler	6,125	401	2,016	3,883	1,186,677
Holt	11,096	296	3,076	6,204	1,841,320
Hotham	12,332	620	3,575	7,988	2,505,596
Hughes	12,835	493	3,622	7,694	2,436,608
Hume	9,396	396	2,796	5,668	1,425,183
Hunter	8,787	351	2,616	5,418	1,304,886
Indi	6,892	262	2,030	4,154	1,479,781
Isaacs	12,383	554	3,585	7,858	2,359,087
Jagajaga	13,614	622	3,920	8,601	2,827,649
Kennedy	6,917	315	2,139	4,188	1,046,697
Kingsford Smith	14,061	1,156	3,960	8,878	3,914,086
Kingston	4,776	191	1,397	2,609	1,025,942
Kooyong	20,370	1,291	5,864	14,104	5,132,229
La Trobe	12,497	424	3,483	7,285	2,263,979
Lalor	9,430	326	2,670	5,116	1,885,372
Leichhardt	5,484	413	1,712	3,341	1,102,259
Lilley	16,470	881	4,920	11,030	3,454,145
Lindsay	6,910	371	1,956	3,705	1,241,309
Lingiari	1,843	43	489	1,043	341,289
Longman	6,525	269	1,997	3,842	1,334,757
Lyne	6,079	363	1,960	3,697	749,388
Lyons	4,159	133	1,233	2,392	587,524
Macarthur	6,280	270	1,774	3,346	1,107,608
Mackellar	22,720	1,341	6,841	14,927	5,332,438
Macquarie	9,546	571	2,711	5,425	1,694,536
Makin	5,735	241	1,688	3,319	1,228,760
Mallee	4,884	126	1,413	2,757	638,826
Maranoa	9,061	348	2,619	5,334	1,557,863
Maribyrnong	8,332	460	2,397	5,283	1,977,239
Mayo	6,550	272	1,866	3,859	1,342,356
McEwen	11,349	386	3,177	6,657	2,176,643
McMahon	5,490	348	1,582	2,890	1,173,062

McMillan	5,172	229	1,463	2,780	973,321
McPherson	12,859	712	3,907	8,082	2,871,950
Melbourne	11,969	1,607	3,315	8,110	4,350,166
Melbourne Ports	19,815	1,960	5,499	13,511	5,998,579
Menzies	13,763	587	4,188	8,911	2,980,706
Mitchell	14,187	610	4,091	8,441	2,957,318
Moncrieff	12,034	842	3,731	7,933	2,752,221
Moore	14,278	412	4,134	8,743	2,372,741
Moreton	13,805	761	4,040	8,783	2,956,415
Murray	7,357	176	2,069	4,543	1,101,120
New England	7,211	303	2,106	4,287	986,215
Newcastle	9,523	586	2,809	6,150	1,646,904
North Sydney	23,609	2,067	6,871	16,442	7,417,465
O'Connor	4,644	172	1,329	2,573	727,192
Oxley	9,276	381	2,713	5,553	1,884,308
Page	10,231	628	3,119	6,479	1,443,859
Parkes	5,949	326	1,751	3,516	1,061,190
Parramatta	8,174	592	2,399	4,725	1,907,037
Paterson	8,893	404	2,799	5,697	1,270,596
Pearce	10,102	311	2,963	5,901	1,693,912
Perth	11,305	729	3,287	7,113	2,363,842
Petrie	9,590	523	2,916	6,237	1,945,853
Port Adelaide	4,107	246	1,184	2,417	1,098,784
Rankin	7,599	347	2,196	4,437	1,474,861
Reid	10,615	848	3,081	6,345	2,847,996
Richmond	8,915	680	2,764	5,479	2,018,692
Riverina	12,132	419	3,540	7,380	1,798,229
Robertson	8,766	535	2,625	5,319	2,412,832
Ryan	21,193	1,012	6,251	14,290	4,638,500
Scullin	5,833	295	1,686	3,325	1,284,269
Shortland	8,481	475	2,588	5,308	1,493,658
Solomon	6,960	223	1,946	4,042	1,128,615
Stirling	12,120	657	3,597	7,799	2,529,798
Sturt	9,235	511	2,738	5,871	1,887,393
Swan	10,719	758	3,184	6,896	2,267,050
Sydney	12,639	2,047	3,438	8,618	5,358,156
Tangney	16,797	697	4,995	10,647	3,043,278
Throsby	7,906	436	2,439	4,634	1,435,407
Wakefield	3,358	126	933	1,777	718,662
Wannon	8,505	274	2,340	5,087	1,063,787
Warringah	25,360	2,119	7,333	17,697	7,473,684
Watson	7,393	476	2,015	3,873	1,651,458
Wentworth	27,933	3,550	7,696	20,328	10,996,378
Werriwa	5,451	300	1,563	2,895	1,274,562
Wide Bay	5,832	394	1,911	3,714	1,173,480
Wills	9,985	712	2,815	6,279	2,653,181
Wright	7,697	258	2,235	4,462	1,416,669

Original and Extended Medicare Safety Nets
By State/Territory (based on patient enrolment postcode)
2010 Calendar Year (year of service)

State	Number of people qualifying for a Medicare Safety Net (1)	Number of singles who have received a safety net benefit (2)	Number of families who have received a safety net benefit (3)	Number of people who have received a safety net benefit (4)	Total safety net benefits paid (5)
NSW	527,453	34,675	154,730	331,198	$122,396,876
VIC	413,707	21,215	118,704	261,911	$87,988,620
QLD	323,174	16,008	96,086	204,670	65,220,711
SA	63,271	3,280	18,323	37,727	$14,484,108
WA	165,467	7,438	48,410	101,885	$30,075,904
TAS	27,601	1,037	8,178	16,722	$4,153,120
NT	8,768	266	2,425	5,064	$1,462,847
ACT	46,909	2,256	13,692	31,686	$7,771,421
Aust	**1,576,350**	**86,175**	**460,548**	**990,863**	**$333,553,608**

Notes:

- Electorate safety nets statistics published prior to November 2009 were on a year of processing basis. These statistics have been compiled on a calendar year of service basis (having regard to services processed up to six months after the end of calendar year 2010) consistent with the basis on which the safety nets operate. Date of processing refers to the date on which the claim was processed by Medicare Australia, whilst date of service data compiles the data based on the date that the service was provided to the patient. The date of processing and date of service are not necessarily the same date. For example, a person may receive a service in November 2010 (date of service) but may not claim the Medicare benefit, including any safety net benefits, until January 2011 (date of processing). This lag in payment of benefits can mean that there is a significant difference between data complied on date of service versus date of processing.

- Published safety net statistics have regard to the original Medicare safety net and the extended Medicare safety net.

- The original Medicare benefits safety net covers the 'gap amount' that is, the difference between the Medicare benefit paid and the schedule fee for out-of hospital services. Once an annual threshold of cumulative 'gap amounts' has been reached, the Medicare rebate is paid at 100% of the Schedule Fee for the remainder of the calendar year. In 2010 the threshold for the original Medicare safety net was $383.90.

- Under the extended Medicare safety net, (EMSN) Medicare meets 80% of the out-of-pocket costs for Medicare services provided outside hospital, once an annual threshold of out-of-pocket costs is reached. Out-of-pocket costs refers to the difference between the Medicare benefit and the fee charged by the practitioner. There are two threshold levels for the EMSN. Concession card holders and families in receipt of Family Tax Benefit Part A are eligible for the lower threshold. All other singles and families are eligible for the general EMSN threshold. The thresholds applying to calendar year 2010 were $555.70 (for Concession Card Holders and families in receipt of Family Tax Benefit Part A) and $1,111.60 (for all others).

- The number of people qualifying for the Medicare safety net is not equivalent to the number of people receiving benefits under the safety net.

- Only health services receiving a Medicare benefit rebate appear in Medicare data sets.

- All funding data is in nominal/current dollars of the year in question i.e. not adjusted for price inflation.

- Electorate level data should be considered as estimates only. Allocations of services and funding for other than safety net data were based on patient enrolment postcode. Safety net data for families were allocated to electorates having regard to the postcode of the family contact, otherwise they were based on the postcode for the oldest member of the family at 31 December of the year in question. The postcode concordance used in compiling these estimates is for Commonwealth Electoral Divisions as at 2010.

- Where a postcode boundary overlaps different electorate boundaries, the postcode data is allocated to the respective electorates using a postcode to CED concordance file, built by the Department of Health and Ageing, using Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) population data. This assumes that Medicare postcode data is geographically distributed in the same proportions as the population was distributed for these split postcodes.

This may result in some postcode-based service and funding data being allocated to an electorate different from that of the address of the service provider or user.

- Where possible, PO Box postcodes have been allocated to an electorate using geospatial programs and a PO Box/delivery area postcode file from Australia Post.

- Electorate data should not be aggregated to produce state and national totals as some postcode data cannot be allocated to electorate. State and national totals are included in the attached PDF and RTF files.

- It is important to note that some people would receive assistance from services outside this electorate, and similarly services located in this electorate may provide assistance to people living in other electorates.

- In compiling statistics by state/territory, each postcode has been allocated to only one state. In contrast, the electorate concordance file, allocates fractions of particular postcodes across states. Some postcodes are not represented on the concordance file. As a consequence, state/territory totals derived from aggregations of electorate data, differ slightly from state/territory data in this report, or elsewhere.

- Small discrepancies may exist between Department of Human Service (DHS) and Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) published data due to a small number of claim adjustment records included in DHS data that were not captured by DoHA data.

Table Column Explanations:

(1) Number of people qualifying for the safety nets: the number of single people who have received a safety net benefit plus the total number of people who are in a registered family unit that has reached the safety net threshold and where at least one family member has received safety net benefits from either the original or extended Medicare safety net or both.

(2) Contains the number of single people who are not part of a family but who qualified and received a safety net benefit from either the original or extended Medicare safety net, or both.

(3) Contains the number of families who have qualified and where at least one family member has received a safety net benefit from either the original or extended Medicare safety net, or both.

(4) Contains the number of single people and the total number of people within a family who received a safety net benefit from either the original or extended Medicare safety net, or both.

(5) Contains the total of the benefits paid under both the extended Medicare safety net, which was introduced in March 2004, and the original Medicare safety net.