# 1997, 2001 and 2005 schemes for the viability supplement

Some older residential aged care services are in the 1997, 2001 and 2005 schemes for the [viability supplement](https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/aged-care/providing-aged-care-services/funding-for-aged-care-service-providers/viability-supplement-for-aged-care).

## 1997 scheme

The 1997 scheme uses the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas (RRMA) classification. The RRMA has seven categories:

* **Metropolitan zone M1** — capital cities
* **Metropolitan zone M2** — other metropolitan centres (urban centre population > 100,000)
* **Rural zone R1** — large rural centres (urban centre population 25,000 to 99,999)
* **Rural zone R2** — Small rural centres (urban centre population 10,000 to 24,999)
* **Rural zone R3** — other rural areas (urban centre population < 10,000)
* **Remote zone Rem1** — Remote centres (urban centre population > 4,999)
* **Remote zone Rem2** — other remote areas (urban centre population < 5,000)

A residential care service is eligible for the viability supplement under the 1997 scheme if:

* it was operating on 31 December 2004 and had a score of at least 60 points based on the 1997 points system — see [1997 scheme service](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Latest/F2019C00060/Text#_Toc535399215) in the Subsidy Principles 2014
* the amount payable to the service using the [2005 scheme](#_2005_scheme_1) would be less than the amount payable under the 1997 scheme

## 2001 scheme

The 2001 scheme uses the [Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) scale](http://webarchive.nla.gov.au/gov/20070904164042/http:/drinkingchoices.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-pubs-hfsocc-ocpanew14a.htm).

A residential care service is eligible for the viability supplement under the 2001 scheme if:

* it was operating on 31 December 2004 and had a score of at least 40 points based on the 2001 points system — see [2001 scheme service](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Latest/F2019C00060/Text#_Toc535399216) in the Subsidy Principles 2014
* the amount payable to the service using the [2017 scheme](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/2017-scheme-for-the-viability-supplement-residential-aged-care) would be less than the amount payable under the 2001 scheme

## 2005 scheme

The 2005 scheme uses the [Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA)](http://webarchive.nla.gov.au/gov/20070904164042/http:/drinkingchoices.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-pubs-hfsocc-ocpanew14a.htm) scale.

A residential care service is eligible for the viability supplement under the 2005 scheme if:

* it was operating on 31 December 2016 and had a score of at least 50 points based on the 2005 points system — see [2005 scheme service](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Latest/F2019C00060/Text#_Toc535399217) in the Subsidy Principles 2014
* the amount payable to the service using the [2017 scheme](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/2017-scheme-for-the-viability-supplement-residential-aged-care) would be less than the amount payable under the 2005 scheme

## Safety net

The safety net is for services that were:

* previously eligible for the 1997 or 2001 scheme
* defaulted to the 2005 or 2017 scheme

These services are eligible for the safety net payment rate if they:

* score below the 50 points required to be eligible under the 2005 or 2017 scheme
* have at least 40 points

## Contact

If you have questions about the viability supplement, email [subsidiesandsupplements@health.gov.au](mailto:subsidiesandsupplements@health.gov.au)

## More information

* [Viability supplement expansion](https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/aged-care/providing-aged-care-services/funding-for-aged-care-service-providers/viability-supplement-expansion-for-aged-care)
* [2017 scheme for the viability supplement](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/2017-scheme-for-the-viability-supplement-residential-aged-care)
* [Viability supplement for care providers](https://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/services/aged-care-viability-supplement-care-providers) on the Department of Human Services website