



FOI Request 3804 – Response

1. Documents that

- a. outline the number of Level 1, 2, 3, 4 Home Care Packages that are approved each year in each state and territory and
- b. the corresponding number of those Packages that are actually accepted at each level in each state and territory

Response:

1. a) The number of Level 1, 2, 3, 4 Home Care Packages (HCPs) that are approved in each state and territory, and the number of HCPs released are reported quarterly through the Home Care Packages Program Data Report. The quarterly data reports can be accessed at

<https://www.gen-agedcaredata.gov.au/Resources/Reports-and-publications/2020/September/Home-care-packages-report>.

Each report provides data for the relevant quarter only. Data from individual quarters can be added to determine the number of approvals in a year.

1. b) Data on the take up rate of HCPs in each state and territory (e.g., the proportion of the packages released that are taken up by people at each level) is provided in the accompanying document file (*FOI 3804 - Attachment A.pdf*).

The table includes data by financial year/quarter from July 2017 to March 2022. Data for the fourth quarter of 2021-22 is not included; as care recipients can have up to 84 days from the date of assignment to taking up a package, data is incomplete for this period. The quarterly package take-up rates should not be averaged to determine the yearly take up rate.

2. Documents that show the reason that the packages are not accepted, including information on the number of people who instead choose residential care or die while waiting.

Response: The Department does not have complete information on the reasons for people not accepting a package. The Department has limited, unpublished information (below) on persons who have exited the National Priority System (NPS) without accepting a HCP, due to either accepting a residential care place or to having passed away.

- The following number of people had exited the NPS due to passing away¹:
 - 2017-18: 16,076
 - 2018-19: 11,987
 - 2019-20: 10,563
 - 2020-21: 8,068
 - 2021-22 (1 July 2021 to 31 December 2021): 3,802
- The following number of people had exited the NPS to residential care (permanent)²:
 - 2017-18: 10,667
 - 2018-19: 18,193
 - 2019-20: 14,119
 - 2020-21: 11,050
 - 2021-22 (1 July 2021 to 31 December 2021): 3,863

3. Documents that show the average waiting times to receive a Home Care Package following the assessment process at each level for each state and territory.

Response: The median and 90th percentile of the time elapsed between ACAT approval and the assignment of a Home Care Package to a client at each level for each state and territory are published yearly by the Productivity Commission in the *Report on Government Services*. The relevant section is *Part F (Community Services), Section 14 (Aged Care services)*.

The *Report on Government Services 2022* can be accessed at <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services/2022/community-services/aged-care-services#downloads> .

The Aged Care service data tables are available for download at the bottom of the web page. Wait time information by state and package level (2016-17 to 2020-21) is contained in **Table 14A.25** (*Elapsed time between Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) approval and entry into aged care services – rows 84-254*).

¹ Figures quoted by Dr. Nick Hartland during Senate Estimates – Community Affairs Hearing on 1 April 2022 ([Community Affairs Legislation Committee 2022_04_01_Official.pdf.fileType=application/pdf \(aph.gov.au\)](https://www.aph.gov.au/Committee/2022_04_01_Official.pdf.fileType=application/pdf)).

² Unpublished data