



To the Minister for Finance

Notification of Determination

Section 49 Certificate – *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*

I, Tom Rogers, Electoral Commissioner, **hereby certify that:**

Pursuant to section 46 of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (the Electoral Act),¹ I have this day ascertained the number of the people of the Commonwealth, States and Territories, and those numbers are as follows:

The Commonwealth	23,729,561
The States	
New South Wales	7,797,791
Victoria	6,244,227
Queensland	4,883,739
Western Australia	2,567,788
South Australia	1,716,966
Tasmania	519,050
The Territories	
Australian Capital Territory	419,256
Northern Territory	247,512
Norfolk Island	1,756
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	550
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,914
Australian Antarctic Territory	57
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	3
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0

¹ This ascertainment has been made using statistics supplied to the Electoral Commissioner by the Australian Statistician on 28 July 2017 in accordance with section 47 of the Electoral Act and published in the *Australian Demographic Statistics, December Quarter 2016* (ABS cat. no. 3101.0) on 27 June 2017. These statistics have been reproduced in Tables 12 and 13.

Pursuant to section 48 of the Electoral Act, I have this day determined the number of members of the House of Representatives to be chosen in the States and Territories at a general election to be as follows:

State/Territory	Number of members of the House of Representatives to be chosen in the State or Territory
The States	
New South Wales	47
Victoria	38
Queensland	30
Western Australia	16
South Australia	10
Tasmania	5
The Territories	
Australian Capital Territory	3
Northern Territory	2
Australian Antarctic Territory	0
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	0
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0
Total	151

As required by section 49 of the Electoral Act, the following tables provide details of the statistical information supplied by the Australian Statistician, the adjustments made to the statistical information supplied by the Australian Statistician, calculations involved in arriving at those adjusted numbers, and the calculations involved in the making of the determination of the number of members of the House of Representatives to be chosen in the States and Territories at a general election.

Table 1: Number of the people of the States and Territories as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner

State/Territory	Population supplied by the Australian Statistician	Adjustment	Population as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner
New South Wales	7,797,791	0	7,797,791
Victoria	6,244,227	0	6,244,227
Queensland	4,883,739	0	4,883,739
Western Australia	2,567,788	0	2,567,788
South Australia	1,716,966	0	1,716,966
Tasmania	519,050	0	519,050
Australian Capital Territory (excluding Jervis Bay Territory)	406,403	403	406,806
Northern Territory	245,048	0	245,048
Norfolk Island	1,756	0	1,756
Jervis Bay Territory	403	0	403
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	550	0	550
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,914	0	1,914
Australian Antarctic Territory	57	0	57
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0	0	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	3	0	3
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0	0	0

Note: 1) Pursuant to section 38A of the Electoral Act, the Australian Capital Territory includes the Jervis Bay Territory.

To determine the number of members of the House of Representatives each state and territory is entitled to, the Electoral Commissioner is required to calculate the population quota using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Number of the people of the Commonwealth as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner}}{\text{Twice the number of senators for the States}}$$

Table 2: Number of the people of the Commonwealth as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner

State	Population as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner
New South Wales	7,797,791
Victoria	6,244,227
Queensland	4,883,739
Western Australia	2,567,788
South Australia	1,716,966
Tasmania	519,050
The Commonwealth	23,729,561

Note: 1) Pursuant to section 45 of the Electoral Act, the number of the people of the Commonwealth does not include the people of the Territories.

2) Population as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 2.

Table 3: Population quota

Number of the people of the Commonwealth as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	23,729,561
Twice the number of senators for the States	144
(2 x (12 x 6))	
Population quota	164,788.61806

Table 4: Calculation of the number of members of the House of Representatives to which each State is entitled to

State/Territory	Number of people of the State ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	Population quota	Number of members of the House of Representatives	Number of members of the House of Representatives – application of rounding rule
New South Wales	7,797,791	164,788.61806	47.31996	47
Victoria	6,244,227	164,788.61806	37.89234	38
Queensland	4,883,739	164,788.61806	29.63639	30
Western Australia	2,567,788	164,788.61806	15.58231	16
South Australia	1,716,966	164,788.61806	10.41920	10
Tasmania	519,050	164,788.61806	3.14979	5

Note: 1) Pursuant to paragraph 48(2)(b) of the Electoral Act, where there is a remainder greater than one-half of the quota, one more member shall be chosen.

2) Section 24 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act specifies the requirements for the composition of the House of Representatives, requiring that ‘... five members at least shall be chosen in each Original State’. Original States are defined in section 6 as meaning ‘... such States are parts of the Commonwealth at its establishment’. As Tasmania is an Original State, it is guaranteed a minimum of five members of the House of Representatives.

Table 5: Calculation of the number of members of the House of Representatives to which each Territory is entitled to

State/Territory	Number of people of the Territory ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	Population quota	Number of members of the House of Representatives	Number of members of the House of Representatives – application of rounding rule
Australian Capital Territory	406,806	164,788.61806	2.46865	2
Northern Territory	245,048	164,788.61806	1.48704	1
Norfolk Island	1,756	164,788.61806	0.01066	0
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	550	164,788.61806	0.00334	0
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,914	164,788.61806	0.01161	0
Australian Antarctic Territory	57	164,788.61806	0.00035	0
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0	164,788.61806	0.00000	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	3	164,788.61806	0.00002	0
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0	164,788.61806	0.00000	0

Note: 1) Pursuant to sub-section 48(2C) of the Electoral Act, as Norfolk Island is not entitled to a member of the House of Representatives, the population is added to the population of the Australian Capital Territory and the number of members of the House of Representatives to which the Australian Capital Territory is entitled is recalculated. See Table 6.

2) Pursuant to sub-section 48(2C) of the Electoral Act, as the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands and the Territory of Christmas Island are not entitled to a member of the House of Representatives, the populations of both are added to the population of the Northern Territory and the number of members of the House of Representatives to which the Northern Territory is entitled is recalculated. See Tables 10 and 11.

3) Pursuant to paragraph 48(2A)(a) of the Electoral Act, where there is a remainder less than or equal to 0.5, no member of the House of Representatives is to be chosen for that Territory.

4) Pursuant to paragraph 48(2A)(c) of the Electoral Act, where there is a remainder greater than one-half of the quota, one more member shall be chosen.

Table 6: Adjustments to the population of the Australian Capital Territory

Number of the people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	406,806
Number of the people of Norfolk Island as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	1,756
Adjusted population of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	408,562

Note: 1) Number of people of the Australian Capital Territory and Norfolk Island as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 1.

Table 7: Calculation of the number of members of the House of Representatives to which the Australian Capital Territory is entitled to

Number of the people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	408,562
Population quota	164,788.61806
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Australian Capital Territory	2.47931
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Australian Capital Territory – application of rounding rule	2

Note: 1) The number of people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 6.

2) Where the number of members of the House of Representatives to which the Australian Capital Territory is entitled is equal to a whole number (known as the 'relevant whole number') and a remainder that is less than or equal to one-half of the population quota, sub-section 48(2E) of the Electoral Act specifies an additional calculation be performed which, under specified circumstances, will result in the ascertained population being altered which may result in the entitlement increasing. The ascertained population is altered if the following holds true:

$$(\text{Population quota} \times \text{Relevant whole number and one-half}) - (\text{Ascertained population of the Australian Capital Territory}) \leq \text{Twice the standard error of the Australian Statistician's estimate of the net undercount for the Australian Capital Territory at the last Census}$$

Table 8: Calculations to determine whether sub-section 48(2E) of the Electoral Act applies to the Australian Capital Territory

Relevant whole number	2
Relevant whole number + 0.5	2.5
Population quota	164,788.61806
Number of people required to achieve 2.5 quotas	411,971.54514
Number of the people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	408,562
Difference between the number of people required to achieve 2.5 quotas and the ascertained population	3,410
Twice the standard error of the estimated net undercount for the Australian Capital Territory	10,694
Is the difference less than twice the standard error?	Yes
Does sub-section 48(2E) of the Electoral Act apply to the Australian Capital Territory?	Yes

Note: 1) The number of people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 6.

2) In accordance with sub-section 48(2F) of the Electoral Act, the ascertained population of the Australian Capital Territory is taken to never have been made. The number of the people of the Australian Capital Territory is increased by a number equal to twice the standard error of the estimated net undercount for the Australian Capital Territory.

Table 9: Adjustment to the population of the Australian Capital Territory and recalculation of the number of members of the House of Representatives to which the Australian Capital Territory is entitled to

Number of the people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	408,562
Twice the standard error of the estimated net undercount for the Australian Capital Territory	10,694
Adjusted population of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	419,256
Population quota	164,788.61806
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Australian Capital Territory	2.54420
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Australian Capital Territory – application of rounding rule	3

Note: 1) The number of people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 6.

Table 10: Adjustments to the population of the Northern Territory

Number of the people of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	245,048
Number of the people of the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	550
Number of the people of the Territory of Christmas Island as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	1,914
Adjusted population of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	247,512

Note: 1) The number of people of the Northern Territory, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands and the Territory of Christmas Island as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 5.

Table 11: Calculation of the number of members of the House of Representatives to which the Northern Territory is entitled to

Number of the people of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	247,512
Population quota	164,788.61806
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Northern Territory	1.50200
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Northern Territory – application of rounding rule	2

Note: 1) The number of people of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 10.

Table 12: Populations supplied by the Australian Statistician in accordance with section 47 of the Electoral Act

The States	
New South Wales	7,797,791
Victoria	6,244,227
Queensland	4,883,739
Western Australia	2,567,788
South Australia	1,716,966
Tasmania	519,050
The Territories	
Australian Capital Territory (excluding Jervis Bay Territory)	406,403
Northern Territory	245,048
Norfolk Island	1,756
The Jervis Bay Territory	403
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	550
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,914
Australian Antarctic Territory	57
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	3
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0

Table 13: Other information relating to the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory supplied by the Australian Statistician in accordance with section 47 of the Electoral Act

Information	Australian Capital Territory	Northern Territory
Australian Statistician's estimate of the net undercount for the Territory at the 2016 Census	-4,132	12,020
Standard error of the estimate of the net undercount for the Territory at the 2016 Census	5,347	3,720
Two standard errors of the net undercount for the Territory at the 2016 Census	6,348	19,312
Upper limit of the 95% confidence interval of the estimate of the net undercount for the Territory at the 2016 Census	-14,612	4,729
Lower limit of the 95% confidence interval of the estimate of the net undercount for the Territory at the 2016 Census	10,694	7,441

Note: 1) The Australian Statistician advised the information presented above, in respect of the 2016 Census of Population and housing, was published on 27 June 2017 in the ABS publication Census of Population and Housing – Details of Overcount and Undercount (ABS cat. no. 2940.0).

2) For the estimate of the net undercount, a negative number indicates a net overcount.

3) The two standard errors was calculated by using the unrounded standard error, as published, then rounded.

SIGNED

Tom Rogers
Electoral Commissioner

31 August 2017