



To the Assistant Minister for Finance, Charities and Electoral Matters

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), I have this day ascertained the number of the people of the Commonwealth, States and Territories, and those numbers are as follows:

The Commonwealth	24,845,330
The States	
New South Wales	8,128,984
Victoria	6,651,074
Queensland	5,129,996
Western Australia	2,639,080
South Australia	1,759,184
Tasmania	537,012
The Territories	
Australian Capital Territory	440,253
Northern Territory	247,280
Norfolk Island	1,742
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	563
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,956
Australian Antarctic Territory	220
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	4
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0

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	39
Queensland	30
Western Australia	15
South Australia	10
Tasmania	5
The Territories	
Australian Capital Territory	3
Northern Territory	1
Norfolk Island	0
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	0
The Territory of Christmas Island	0
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	150

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.

1. Reference date

The 2019 federal election was held on Saturday 18 May 2019.

In the 46th Parliament, the first meeting of the House of Representatives was held on Tuesday 2 July 2019.

The reference day is Friday 3 July 2020.

2. Number of the people of the States and Territories as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner

This ascertainment has been made using statistics supplied to the Electoral Commissioner by the Australian Statistician on 18 June 2020 in accordance with section 47 of the Electoral Act. The information supplied is reproduced in Tables 11 and 12.

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	8,128,984	0	8,128,984
Victoria	6,651,074	0	6,651,074
Queensland	5,129,996	0	5,129,996
Western Australia	2,639,080	0	2,639,080
South Australia	1,759,184	0	1,759,184
Tasmania	537,012	0	537,012
Australian Capital Territory	427,419	398	427,817
Northern Territory	244,761	0	244,761
Norfolk Island	1,742	0	1,742
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	563	0	563
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,956	0	1,956
Australian Antarctic Territory	220	0	220
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0	0	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	4	0	4
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.

3. The population quota

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:

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

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	8,128,984
Victoria	6,651,074
Queensland	5,129,996
Western Australia	2,639,080
South Australia	1,759,184
Tasmania	537,012
The Commonwealth	24,845,330

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.

Table 3: Population quota

Number of the people of the Commonwealth as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	24,845,330
Twice the number of senators for the States (2 x (12 x 6))	144
Population quota	172,537.013889

4. Number of members for the states

To calculate the number of members of the House of Representatives for a state, the ascertained number of people of the state is divided by the population quota, and the result rounded to the nearest whole number.

$$\text{Number of members for a state} = \frac{\text{Ascertained population of individual state}}{\text{Population quota}}$$

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	8,128,984	172,537.01389	47.11443543	47
Victoria	6,651,074	172,537.01389	38.54867921	39
Queensland	5,129,996	172,537.01389	29.7327274	30
Western Australia	2,639,080	172,537.01389	15.29573244	15
South Australia	1,759,184	172,537.01389	10.19598033	10
Tasmania	537,012	172,537.01389	3.112445196	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.

5. Number of members for the territories

To calculate the number of members of the House of Representatives for a state, the ascertained number of people of the state is divided by the population quota, and the result rounded to the nearest whole number.

$$\text{Number of members for a territory} = \frac{\text{Ascertained population of individual territory}}{\text{Population quota}}$$

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	427,817	172,537.01389	2.479566502	2
Northern Territory	244,761	172,537.01389	1.418599954	1
Norfolk Island	1,742	172,537.01389	0.010096384	0
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	563	172,537.01389	0.003263068	0
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,956	172,537.01389	0.011336698	0
Australian Antarctic Territory	220	172,537.01389	0.001275089	0
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0	172,537.01389	0	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	4	172,537.01389	0.000023183	0
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0	172,537.01389	0	0

Note: 1) 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.

2) Pursuant to paragraph 48(2A)(b) of the Electoral Act, where there is a remainder of greater than 0.5 and less than or equal to 1.5, one member of the House of Representatives is to be chosen for that Territory.

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

6. Adjustments for the Australian Capital Territory to incorporate Norfolk Island

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 Tables 6 and 7.

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	427,817
Number of the people of Norfolk Island as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	1,742
Adjusted population of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	429,559

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	429,559
Population quota	172,537.01389
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Australian Capital Territory	2.489662886
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) 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.

3) Pursuant to paragraph 48(2A)(b) of the Electoral Act, where there is a remainder of greater than 0.5 and less than or equal to 1.5, one member of the House of Representatives is to be chosen for that Territory.

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

7. Adjustments for the Northern Territory to incorporate Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands

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 8 and 9.

Table 8: Adjustments to the population of the Northern Territory

Number of the people of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	244,761
Number of the people of the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	563
Number of the people of the Territory of Christmas Island as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	1,956
Adjusted population of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	247,280

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 1.

Table 9: 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	247,280
Population quota	172,537.01389
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Northern Territory	1.43319972
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Northern Territory – application of rounding rule	1

Note: 1) The number of people of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner is in Table 8.

2) 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.

3) Pursuant to paragraph 48(2A)(b) of the Electoral Act, where there is a remainder of greater than 0.5 and less than or equal to 1.5, one member of the House of Representatives is to be chosen for that Territory.

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

8. Adjustments for the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory

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:

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

Australian Capital Territory

Table 10: 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	172,537.013889
Number of people required to achieve 2.5 quotas	431,342.5347
Number of the people of the Australian Capital Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	429,559
Difference between the number of people required to achieve 2.5 quotas and the ascertained population	1,783.534722
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 11: 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	429,559
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	440,253
Population quota	172,537.01389
Number of members of the House of Representatives for the Australian Capital Territory	2.55164379
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.

2) 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.

3) Pursuant to paragraph 48(2A)(b) of the Electoral Act, where there is a remainder of greater than 0.5 and less than or equal to 1.5, one member of the House of Representatives is to be chosen for that Territory.

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

Northern Territory

Table 12: Calculations to determine whether sub-section 48(2E) of the Electoral Act applies to the Northern Territory

Relevant whole number	1
Relevant whole number + 0.5	1.5
Population quota	172,537.013889
Number of people required to achieve 2.5 quotas	258,805.5208
Number of the people of the Northern Territory as ascertained by the Electoral Commissioner	247,280
Difference between the number of people required to achieve 2.5 quotas and the ascertained population	11,525.52083
Twice the standard error of the estimated net undercount for the Northern Territory	7,440
Is the difference less than twice the standard error?	No
Does sub-section 48(2E) of the Electoral Act apply to the Northern Territory?	No

Note: 1) The number of people of the Northern 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 Northern Territory is taken to never have been made. The number of the people of the Northern Territory is increased by a number equal to twice the standard error of the estimated net undercount for the Northern Territory.

9. Information supplied by the Australian Statistician

Table 13: Populations supplied by the Australian Statistician in accordance with section 47 of the Electoral Act

	Estimated resident population as at 31 December 2019
The States	
New South Wales	8,128,984
Victoria	6,651,074
Queensland	5,129,996
Western Australia	2,639,080
South Australia	1,759,184
Tasmania	537,012
The Territories	
Australian Capital Territory (excluding Jervis Bay Territory)	427,419
Northern Territory	244,761
Norfolk Island	1,742
The Jervis Bay Territory	398
The Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	563
The Territory of Christmas Island	1,956
Australian Antarctic Territory	220
Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands	0
Coral Sea Islands Territory	4
Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands	0

Note: 1) The Australian Statistician confirmed the information presented above, was compiled and published in a regular series on 18 June 2020 in Table 3 of the ABS publication *Australian Demographic Statistics, December Quarter 2019* (ABS cat. No. 3101.0) in accordance with sections 9 and 12 of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. The Australian Statistician also confirmed they are the most recent population estimates published before 3 July 2020 (the reference day).

Table 14: 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
Upper limit of the 95% confidence interval of the estimate of the net undercount for the Territory at the 2016 Census	6,562	19,460
Lower limit of the 95% confidence interval of the estimate of the net undercount for the Territory at the 2016 Census	-14,826	4,580

Note: 1) The Australian Statistician advised the information presented above, in respect of the 2016 Census of Population and Housing, was published on 23 February 2018 in the ABS publication *Census of Population and Housing: Details of Overcount and Undercount, Australia, 2016* (ABS cat. no. 2940.0).

SIGNED

Tom Rogers
Electoral Commissioner

3 July 2020