

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Territory Families:

Seniors Recognition Scheme

1. Please advise region by region, how many seniors from remote communities have logged onto the Seniors Recognition Scheme?

ANSWER:

As at 30 June 2019 there were:

13,312 members of the Seniors Recognition Scheme.

A breakdown of all members is provided by local government area in the Table 1 below:

Table 1: Breakdown of Seniors Recognition Scheme Members by Local Government Area

Location	Total
Alice Springs Town Council	1,643
Barkly Shire Council	179
Belyuen Shire	2
Central Desert Shire Council	19
City of Palmerston	1,602
Coomalie Council	176
Darwin City Council	6,707
East Arnhem Shire Council	28
Katherine Town Council	569
Litchfield Council	1,736
MacDonnell Shire Council	60
Roper Gulf Shire Council	88
Tiwi Island Shire Council	27
Victoria Daly Shire Council	103
Wagait Shire	91
West Arnhem Shire Council	21
Other	261
Grand Total	13,312

2. What is your estimate as to how many have not logged onto the Seniors Recognition Scheme?

ANSWER:

Approximately 70 per cent of the Northern Territory's senior population are current members of the NT Seniors Recognition Scheme.

This figure is calculated based on membership data as a percentage of the NT population 65 years of age or over.

For example based on the NT Seniors Recognition Scheme membership data as at 30 June 2019, there was 13,312 members who were either 65 years old or turning 65 this calendar year. The total NT population 65 years of age and over is 18,765*.

* Data Source: ABS Australian Demographic Statistics Cat no. 3101.0 release at 21/03/2019.

3. How are seniors with no internet access being assisted to log on?

ANSWER:

Seniors do not have to have internet access to apply for the NT Seniors Recognition Scheme. A senior wishing to join the NT Seniors Recognition Scheme can be assisted with their application at Territory Families shopfronts. Territory Families has shopfronts in Casuarina, Palmerston, Katherine, Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs. Some service providers in remote communities also help seniors to apply. Territory Families are working to increase the number of organisations in remote communities able to assist a senior to apply.

Members not able to visit a Territory Families shopfront can also contact the NT Concession and Recognition hotline on 1800 777 704 and request a printed application and reply paid envelope to submit an application via post.