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CHAPTER 5

REPATRIATION

The Repatriation Commission, established under the *Repatriation Act 1920-1972*, consists of three full-time members. It is responsible for the administration of the Repatriation Act and associated legislation, all matters of policy, and the general administration and overall supervision of the Repatriation Department. The Chairman of the Commission is also the Permanent Head of the Repatriation Department, which provides the administrative machinery through which the Commission operates. The central office is in Canberra and there is a branch office, under the control of a Deputy Commissioner, in each State.

The principal functions of the Department are: the payment of war and service pensions and allowances to eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and their dependants; the provision of medical treatment for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen for injuries and illnesses caused or aggravated by their war service; the provision of medical treatment in certain circumstances for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are suffering from injuries and illnesses not caused or aggravated by war service; the provision of medical treatment for widows and dependants of deceased ex-servicemen whose deaths are due to war service; and a wide range of other benefits for eligible persons.

Benefits are provided in respect of service, not only in the 1914-18 and 1939-45 Wars, but also in the South African War 1899-1902, the Korea and Malaya operations, with the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve and the Special Overseas Forces serving in prescribed areas.

For information on war service land settlement *see* Chapter 22, Rural Industry; for statistics relating to war service homes *see* Chapter 9, Housing and Building.

For detailed information about repatriation pensions, allowances, benefits and services, reference should be made to the annual reports of the Repatriation Commission.

Total expenditure 1967-68 to 1971-72

REPATRIATION: TOTAL EXPENDITURE^(a), 1967-68 TO 1971-72 ((\$'000)

Class	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Pensions, allowances and other benefits	200,446	221,678	228,309	240,539	266,107
Medical treatment	59,645	62,743	68,395	74,627	87,328
Administration	12,292	13,196	14,972	16,700	18,913
Works, rent and maintenance	4,414	4,929	5,423	7,981	5,301
Total expenditure	276,797	302,546	317,098	339,847	377,649

^(a) Includes expenditure by Departments other than Repatriation as follows: 1967-68, \$4,330,994; 1968-69, \$4,841,789; 1969-70, \$5,298,982; 1970-71, \$5,852,357; 1971-72, \$4,982,764.

War pensions

The first provision for the payment of war pensions to ex-servicemen and their dependants was made by the Commonwealth Parliament in the *War Pensions Act 1914*. This Act was repealed in 1920 by the *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act 1920* (amended from 31 December 1950 to the Repatriation Act). Amendments to the Act in 1943 considerably widened the eligibility provisions, to the benefit mainly of members of the Citizen Military Forces who had not served outside Australia during the 1939-45 War.

For a brief description of eligibility for war pensions; the conditions for payment of the various rates and allowances; and of operation of the Appeals Tribunals, see pages 91-93 of Year Book 55, Chapter 5, Repatriation.

Pensions and allowances

War pensions and associated allowances are not subject to a means test, except in the case of dependants other than wives, widows, widowed mothers and children. Pensions and allowances payable and the main weekly rates from 7 December 1972 are as follows.

Pensions for war-caused incapacity—Special rate (totally and permanently incapacitated (T.P.I.) or blinded), \$51.10; an equivalent rate is payable for temporary total incapacity or to an ex-serviceman pensioned for pulmonary tuberculosis who is, as a result, unfit for employment; *Intermediate Rate*. (Capable of part-time work only), \$36.55; ex-servicemen pensioned for pulmonary tuberculosis and able only to work part-time receive the same rate; *General Rate* (capable of full-time employment), 100 per cent basic rate, \$16. *Dependants*—Pensions are also payable to the dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen: Wife, \$4.05; eligible children \$1.38; (Maximum rates).

Pensions in respect of death—War Widows (where death was due to war service or, at the date of death, the ex-serviceman was receiving a war pension at the special rate, or its equivalent in respect of pulmonary tuberculosis, or as a double amputee) \$21.50; eligible war widows may also receive a domestic allowance, \$8.50; *children* (under 16 years of age) \$7.35; double orphans (both parents deceased), \$14.70.

Allowances—various allowances are provided to supplement war pensions and these vary according to the type and severity of disablement and the special needs of the pensioner. The main allowances and maximum weekly rates payable are: *Special compensation allowance* (payable to certain general rate pensioners assessed as being 75 per cent to 100 per cent incapacitated), from \$4.50 to \$6.00; *Attendants allowance* (for the severely disabled), maximum \$17.50; *Clothing allowances* (where clothing is subject to damage from surgical aids, etc.), from 43 cents to 85 cents; *Domestic allowance* (payable to eligible war widows), \$8.50. Other allowances payable include: *Sustenance allowance; Fares, subsistence and attendance allowance; Recreation transport allowance; Funeral benefits, etc.*

Summary of war pensions

The following tables provide a summary of war pensions (excluding miscellaneous war pensions) for the 1914-18 War, the 1939-45 War (including war pensions payable under the *Interim Forces Benefits Act 1947-1966* and the *Native Members of the Forces Act 1957-1972*), the Korea and Malaya operations, the Far East Strategic Reserve, and the Special Overseas Service. Statistics relating to miscellaneous war pensions are shown later in this section.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1971-72

		1914-18 War	1939-45 War(a)	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Special Overseas Service	Total
New claims granted	No.	494	9,075	466	138	2,868	13,041
Restorations.	No.	18	197	7	1	17	240
Claims disallowed(b)	No.	463	3,351	166	36	941	4,957
Pensions cancelled (gross)	No.	135	16,878	554	55	204	17,826
Deaths of pensioners	No.	5,440	6,603	55	5	21	12,124
Pensions in force at 30 June 1972	No.	72,997	453,548	11,841	2,035	12,403	552,824
Annual pension liability at 30 June 1972	\$'000	55,620	138,011	1,701	227	1,338	196,897
Amount paid in pensions during the year 1971-72	\$'000	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	210,647

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces. (b) Number of ex-servicemen who had their claims for all their disabilities disallowed.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1967-68 TO 1971-72

	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
New claims granted . . .	19,967	17,570	17,129	16,437	13,041
Restorations . . .	343	429	317	569	240
<i>Total additions</i> . . .	<i>20,310</i>	<i>17,999</i>	<i>17,446</i>	<i>17,006</i>	<i>13,281</i>
Pensions cancelled (gross) . . .	24,539	22,285	21,222	20,158	17,826
Deaths of pensioners . . .	10,950	11,247	11,785	11,990	12,124
<i>Total reductions</i> . . .	<i>35,489</i>	<i>33,532</i>	<i>33,007</i>	<i>32,148</i>	<i>29,950</i>

Classes of war pensions

The following tables provide an analysis of the total number of new claims granted, pensions in force, and class of pension for 1971-72.

WAR PENSIONS: NEW CLAIMS GRANTED, AUSTRALIA, 1971-72

Class	1914-18 War	1939-45 War(a)	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Special Overseas Service	Total
Ex-servicemen . . .	266	2,998	109	29	948	4,350
Wives and widows of ex- servicemen . . .	221	3,544	102	30	778	4,675
Children . . .	3	2,445	255	79	1,137	3,919
Other dependants . . .	4	88	..	..	5	97
Total . . .	494	9,075	466	138	2,868	13,041

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

WAR PENSIONS IN FORCE: AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1972

Class	1914-18 War	1939-45 War(a)	Korea and Malaya operations	Far East Strategic Reserve	Special Overseas Service	Total
Ex-servicemen . . .	22,626	183,996	3,408	565	4,888	215,483
Wives . . .	27,126	161,210	2,722	462	3,141	194,661
Children . . .	240	72,537	5,295	920	3,956	82,948
War widows . . .	22,783	26,963	159	30	118	50,053
Children of deceased ex- servicemen . . .	26	3,458	143	48	228	3,903
Orphans . . .	9	132	4	..	1	146
Parents . . .	41	4,602	103	9	71	4,826
Others . . .	146	650	7	1	..	804
Total . . .	72,997	453,548	11,841	2,035	12,403	552,824

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces.

**WAR PENSIONS FOR INCAPACITATED EX-SERVICEMEN IN FORCE: BY CLASS OF PENSION
AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1972**

<i>Class</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War(a)</i>	<i>Korea and Malaya operations</i>	<i>Far East Strategic Reserve</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Total</i>
Special rate (T.P.I.) or equivalent	6,793	14,618	114	7	37	21,569
Intermediate rate	167	1,607	20	1	3	1,798
General rate—from 10 per cent to 100 per cent assessed disability(b)	15,666	167,771	3,274	557	4,848	192,116
Total	22,626	183,996	3,408	565	4,888	215,483

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces. (b) Excludes 78 ex-servicemen who also receive benefits under items 1-6 of the Fifth Schedule and are included above under Special rate (T.P.I.) or equivalent.

Number of war pensions and annual liability, States, etc.

The following table shows the number of pensions in force and annual liability at 30 June 1972, according to place of payment.

**WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY
STATES, ETC., 30 JUNE 1972**

<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>Number of war pensions in force at 30 June 1972(a)</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>Annual pension liability at 30 June(b) (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Total</i>		
New South Wales(c)	77,497	97,596	21,798	196,891	71,626	
Victoria	56,898	73,676	16,868	147,442	53,606	
Queensland	33,776	45,244	8,084	87,104	31,819	
South Australia(d)	19,844	25,612	5,126	50,582	16,194	
Western Australia	17,888	22,932	4,228	45,048	13,583	
Tasmania	8,580	11,874	2,049	22,503	8,477	
Overseas	1,000	1,458	796	3,254	1,592	
Total	215,483	278,392	58,949	552,824	196,897	

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces 1939-45 War. (b) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (d) Includes Northern Territory.

Summary of war pensions, 1967-68 to 1971-72

The following table shows the number of pensions granted, claims rejected, pensions in force and the annual liability for pensions in each of the years ended 30 June 1968 to 1972.

WAR PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1967-68 TO 1971-72

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of war pensions in force at 30 June(a)—</i>						<i>Total</i>	<i>Annual pension liability at 30 June(c) (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Pensions granted</i>	<i>Claims disallowed (b)</i>	<i>Incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of incapacitated ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Dependants of deceased ex-servicemen</i>	<i>Total</i>		
1967-68	19,967	4,578	222,479	334,823	58,674	615,976	164,848	
1968-69	17,570	4,950	221,343	319,899	59,071	600,313	171,818	
1969-70	17,129	5,333	219,841	305,403	59,432	584,676	178,730	
1970-71	16,437	5,110	218,355	291,828	59,356	569,539	185,974	
1971-72	13,041	4,957	215,483	278,392	58,949	552,824	196,897	

(a) Includes interim forces and native members of the forces 1939-45 War. (b) The number of claimants who had the claims for all their disabilities disallowed. (c) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows.

The following table shows, for the years 1967-68 to 1971-72, the amounts paid in pensions and the places where they were paid.

WAR PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID^(a), STATES, ETC., 1967-68 TO 1971-72
(^(a)'000)

<i>Place of payment</i>	1967-68	1968-69 ^(b)	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
New South Wales ^(c)	57,424	64,981	65,469	68,992	76,791
Victoria	47,146	51,566	51,214	52,546	57,357
Queensland	25,525	28,543	29,055	30,813	34,183
South Australia ^(d)	13,807	15,326	15,151	15,722	17,270
Western Australia	11,914	13,038	12,786	13,114	14,384
Tasmania	6,786	7,617	7,831	8,226	9,089
Overseas	1,519	1,414	1,580	1,595	1,573
Total	164,121	182,485	183,086	191,008	210,647

^(a) Includes domestic allowances paid to widows. ^(b) Includes five 12-weekly payments. ^(c) Includes Australian Capital Territory. ^(d) Includes Northern Territory.

Miscellaneous war pensions

The Commission is also responsible for the payment pensions and allowances to beneficiaries under the *Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances Act* 1940-1972 and Cabinet decisions granting eligibility to persons who were attached to the armed forces during war-time.

The following table shows the number and class of pensions and the annual liability at 30 June 1972, and the table thereafter shows the amounts paid during the years 1967-68 to 1971-72 and the place of payment.

MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS: NUMBER OF PENSIONS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY, AUSTRALIA, 30 JUNE 1972

<i>Class</i>	<i>Number of pensions in force at 30 June 1972</i>			<i>Total</i>	<i>Annual pension liability at 30 June^(b) (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Members^(a)</i>	<i>Dependants of members</i>	<i>Dependants of deceased members</i>		
Act of grace	120	147	55	322	153
Seamen's war pension	79	85	63	227	97
New Guinea civilians	2	..	64	66	89
Total	201	232	182	615	338

^(a) 'Member' in this context is a person in respect of whose wartime experience a pension is paid. ^(b) Includes domestic allowances payable to widows.

MISCELLANEOUS WAR PENSIONS^(a): AMOUNT PAID, STATES, ETC.
1967-68 TO 1971-72
(^(a)'000)

<i>Place of payment</i>	1967-68	1968-69 ^(b)	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
New South Wales ^(c)	159	174	176	179	214
Victoria	71	87	84	90	107
Queensland	44	46	47	50	62
South Australia ^(d)	29	30	31	32	36
Western Australia	20	23	25	26	29
Tasmania	4	4	4	4	5
Overseas	1	1	1	1	1
Total	328	365	368	382	454

^(a) Includes domestic allowance payable to widows. ^(b) Includes five 12-weekly payments. ^(c) Includes Australian Capital Territory. ^(d) Includes Northern Territory.

Service pensions

The *Repatriation Act 1920-1972* provides for a service pension to be paid, subject to a means test on income and property, to the following persons:

- ex-servicemen who served in a theatre of war (or in a designated *Operational* or *Special Overseas Service* area) and have attained the age of sixty years or are permanently unemployable;
 - ex-servicemen who suffer from pulmonary tuberculosis, irrespective of the area of their service; and
 - ex-servicewomen who suffer from tuberculosis, or who served in a theatre of war, or served abroad or embarked for service abroad and have attained the age of fifty-five years, or are permanently unemployable.
- veterans of the South African War 1899-1902 who were members of a naval or military force or contingent raised in Australia for active service in that war.

Rates of pension

Maximum service pension rates and allowances are the same as those paid to Age and Invalid pensioners under the Social Services Act. The means test provisions relating to payments are similar.

For information on conditions relating to the various rates and allowances and the operation of the means test, see Chapter 13, Welfare Services.

From 7 December 1972, the maximum weekly rates are as follows:

Standard Rate, \$21.50, *Married Rate*, \$18.75; *Guardian's Allowance*, \$4 (\$6 if caring for a child under 6 years or an invalid child requiring full-time care); *Supplementary assistance*, \$4 (or \$2 payable to each of a married couple); *Additional pension for eligible children*, \$4.50 for each child; and in addition \$0.25 is payable in respect of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th child.

An ex-serviceman or ex-servicewoman in receipt of a service pension is entitled, with certain exceptions, to free medical benefits for disabilities not caused by war service. These benefits include general practitioner service, specialist service where necessary, full pharmaceutical benefits, surgical aids and appliances (including spectacles), dental treatment, and treatment in Repatriation General Hospitals.

SERVICE PENSIONS, SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1971-72

	South African War	1914-18 War	1939-45 War(a)	Korea-Malaya operations	Special Overseas Service	Miscellaneous (b)	Total
New claims granted	1	1,087	9,206	45	..	10	10,349
Restorations	..	142	649	3	..	..	794
Cancellations (gross)	..	1,360	3,706	27	..	5	5,098
Deaths	25	3,160	1,943	7	..	..	5,135
Pensions in force at 30 June 1972	108	31,599	45,713	241	3	49	77,713
Annual liability at 30 June 1972							
\$'000	63	21,924	29,300	112	2	31	51,432
Amount paid in pensions during 1971-72	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	49,194

(a) Includes native members of the forces. (b) Act of grace pensions.

SERVICE PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1967-68 TO 1971-72

	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
New claims granted	8,880	7,479	13,259	10,321	10,349
Restorations	1,052	780	1,642	680	794
<i>Total additions</i>	9,932	8,259	(a)14,901	11,001	11,143
Cancellations (gross)	4,017	5,009	2,858	3,378	5,098
Deaths	4,373	4,601	4,781	5,276	5,135
<i>Total reductions</i>	8,390	9,610	7,639	8,654	10,233

(a) Part of the increase in 1969-70 is due to variation in the means test in September 1969. See Chapter 13—Welfare Services.

Class of service pensions

The following tables give an analysis of the total number of new claims granted and pensions in force for 1971-72.

SERVICE PENSIONS: NEW CLAIMS GRANTED, AUSTRALIA, 1971-72

Class	South African War	1914-18 War	1939-45 War(a)	Korea-Malaya operations	Special Overseas Service	Miscellaneous	Total
Ex-servicemen . . .	1	793	6,550	20	..	7	7,371
Wives and widows of ex-servicemen . . .	..	290	2,112	9	..	3	2,414
Children . . .	..	4	544	16	..	..	564
Total . . .	1	1,087	9,206	45	..	10	10,349

(a) Includes native members of the forces.

SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE, STATES, 30 JUNE 1972

State	South African War	1914-18 War	1939-45 War(a)	Korea-Malaya operations	Special Overseas Service	Miscellaneous	Total
New South Wales(b) . .	21	10,041	14,115	81	..	8	24,266
Victoria . . .	20	8,749	10,363	44	1	17	19,194
Queensland . . .	11	5,064	9,901	58	1	7	15,042
South Australia(c) . .	26	3,699	4,289	25	..	10	8,049
Western Australia . .	26	2,884	4,922	26	1	5	7,864
Tasmania . . .	4	1,162	2,123	7	..	2	3,298
Australia . . .	108	31,599	45,713	241	3	49	77,713

(a) Includes native members of the forces. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

Number, by class, of service pensions and amount paid

The following tables show the number of each class of service pension in force, the annual liability and the amounts paid for the years 1967-68 to 1971-72.

SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER OF EACH CLASS OF PENSION AND ANNUAL LIABILITY AUSTRALIA, 1967-68 TO 1971-72

Number of service pensions at 30 June payable to—

Year	Ex-servicemen who are—		Dependants(a) of ex-servicemen where the ex-serviceman is—				Miscellaneous	Total	Annual pension liability at 30 June (\$'000)
	Aged ex-servicemen	Permanently unemployable	Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	An aged ex-serviceman	Permanently unemployable	Suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis			
1967-68 . . .	35,254	14,874	1,049	631	15,606	1,091	22	68,527	31,436
1968-69 . . .	35,404	14,797	1,060	537	14,373	975	22	67,168	33,273
1969-70 . . .	37,792	17,362	1,154	821	16,237	1,023	31	74,420	40,929
1970-71 . . .	38,666	18,122	1,201	1,017	16,729	1,030	43	76,808	43,334
1971-72 . . .	39,657	17,668	1,203	1,186	16,922	1,028	49	77,713	51,432

(a) Includes dependants of deceased service pensioners.

SERVICE PENSIONS: AMOUNT PAID, STATES, ETC.
1967-68 TO 1971-72
 (\$'000)

<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>1967-68</i>	<i>1968-69</i>	<i>1969-70</i>	<i>1970-71</i>	<i>1971-72</i>
New South Wales(a)	10,844	11,358	12,806	13,963	15,633
Victoria	7,420	8,070	9,767	10,696	12,075
Queensland	5,292	5,799	7,184	8,042	9,150
South Australia(b)	3,416	3,710	4,253	4,651	5,185
Western Australia	3,777	4,071	4,491	4,769	5,298
Tasmania	1,014	1,093	1,404	1,604	1,841
Overseas	8	7	8	7	12
Australia	31,771	34,108	39,912	43,732	49,194

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory.

Medical treatment for ex-servicemen and dependants of ex-servicemen

Medical treatment is provided for all disabilities which have been accepted as due to war service. In addition, and subject to certain conditions, treatment is provided for disabilities not due to war service for: ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen receiving war pensions at or exceeding the maximum general (100 per cent) rate; ex-servicemen who have contracted pulmonary tuberculosis; nurses who served in the 1914-18 war; widows and certain dependants of ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as due to war service and of deceased T.P.I. pensioners; and certain service pensioners, including service pensioners of the South African War 1899-1902. Ex-servicemen who have contracted pulmonary tuberculosis may receive treatment for that condition.

In-patient treatment for eligible patients is provided at the six Repatriation General Hospitals (one in each State) and seven auxiliary hospitals and sanatoria as follows: *New South Wales*—Lady Davidson Hospital; *Victoria*—Macleod Hospital and Anzac Hostel; *Queensland*—Kenmore Hospital and Rosemount Hospital; *South Australia*—Birrallee Hospital; and *Western Australia*—The Edward Millen Hospital. The Anzac Hostel specialises in the care and treatment of long-term patients.

The total number of available beds for patients in wards or parts of wards, open for use, in all these institutions at 30 June 1972 was 3,504, and expenditure during 1971-72 amounted to \$41,143,758. In addition, expenditure of \$46,184,556 was incurred during 1971-72 on medical services outside these institutions.

Repatriation hospitals and institutions

Details of full-time staff in Repatriation general hospitals and other Repatriation institutions are given in the following table.

REPATRIATION HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: FULL-TIME STAFF STATES, 30 JUNE 1972

<i>Type of institution</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
General hospitals—							
Medical staff(a)	127	79	42	31	26	8	313
Nursing staff	704	475	369	203	201	60	2,012
Other staff	1,134	821	492	346	421	118	3,332
<i>Total, general hospitals</i>	<i>1,965</i>	<i>1,375</i>	<i>903</i>	<i>580</i>	<i>648</i>	<i>186</i>	<i>5,657</i>
Other in-patient institutions(b)	234	123	181	35	48	..	621
Out-patient clinics(a)	164	71	21	33	26	..	315
Limb and appliance centres(b)	71	69	28	18	14	11	211
Grand total	2,434	1,638	1,133	666	736	197	6,804

(a) Medical Officers only, excludes psychologists, speech therapists, etc. (b) Total staff.

The following table gives details of in-patients treated at Repatriation general hospitals and other Repatriation institutions in each State. The figures shown refer to treatment episodes, e.g. a person who is admitted to hospital twice during a year is counted twice.

**REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: IN-PATIENTS
TREATED, STATES, 1971-72**

	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS							
In-patients at beginning of year	940	569	423	216	322	102	2,572
Admissions and re-admissions during year	17,016	10,932	8,582	5,053	5,644	1,430	48,657
<i>Total in-patients treated</i>	<i>17,956</i>	<i>11,501</i>	<i>9,005</i>	<i>5,269</i>	<i>5,966</i>	<i>1,532</i>	<i>51,229</i>
Discharges	16,116	10,088	8,230	4,720	5,324	1,374	45,852
Deaths	906	865	359	310	361	76	2,877
In-patients at end of year	934	548	416	239	281	82	2,500
Average daily beds occupied	900	559	399	235	281	79	2,453
OTHER REPATRIATION INSTITUTIONS							
In-patients at beginning of year	187	119	107	35	36	..	484
Admissions and re-admissions during year	2,144	871	1,034	127	465	..	4,641
<i>Total in-patients treated</i>	<i>2,331</i>	<i>990</i>	<i>1,141</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>501</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>5,125</i>
Discharges	2,031	833	970	123	463	..	4,420
Deaths	78	46	48	10	4	..	186
In-patients at end of year	222	111	123	29	34	..	519
Average daily beds occupied	209	100	123	29	35	..	496

In addition to the Repatriation institutions, eligible patients are treated in other country and metropolitan hospitals and nursing homes at Repatriation expense. During 1971-72, 18,751 Repatriation in-patients were accommodated and treated in hospitals and 926 in nursing homes.

Repatriation psychiatric patients requiring custodial care are, by agreement with the State Governments, accommodated at the expense of the Repatriation Department in separate wings of psychiatric hospitals administered by the State authorities. Excluding 138 on trial leave, there were 688 Repatriation patients in these hospitals at 30 June 1972.

Out-patient treatment is provided throughout the Commonwealth at Repatriation hospitals and clinics and through the Repatriation Local Medical Officer Scheme. During 1971-72, 611,637 out-patients were treated at Repatriation institutions, and visits to or by local medical officers totalled 2,772,618. The number of Repatriation local medical officers in the Commonwealth at 30 June 1972 was 6,301.

Artificial limb and appliance services

In each State the Repatriation Department maintains a limb and appliance centre, catering for patients requiring artificial limbs, surgical aids and appliances. The centres fit eligible Repatriation patients and those from other Commonwealth departments and instrumentalities, and, when possible, patients from State Government and philanthropic organisations, and private persons who cannot be fitted satisfactorily elsewhere.

Details of production at all centres during 1971-72 are as follows: arms, 210; legs, 1,613; surgical footwear, 8,278; adapted footwear, 1,856; other surgical appliances, 2,456; and repairs, 27,442.

General Repatriation benefits and miscellaneous

Other Repatriation Department activities

In addition to the payment of pensions and the provision of medical treatment, the Department also provides various benefits and allowances designed to meet the needs of special classes of ex-servicemen and their dependants.

These include educational and vocational training schemes, namely the *Soldiers' Children Education Scheme* (full details of which appear later in this section), the *Disabled Members' Training Scheme*, the *War Widows' Training Scheme* and the *National Service Vocational Training Scheme*.

In addition, gift cars and an annual allowance for their upkeep are provided for ex-servicemen who, as a result of war service, have suffered the amputation of both legs above the knees or amputation of one leg above the knee plus any two other amputations (above the ankle or at or above the wrist) or complete paraplegia resulting in the total loss of the use of both legs. A grant of up to \$100 may be made towards the funeral expenses of eligible ex-servicemen and certain of their dependants. Payment of up to \$10 may be made to provide such necessities as meals, sleeping accommodation etc., for ex-servicemen in need of immediate relief. Also certain concessions in telephone rental charges are provided for some classes of ex-servicemen and their dependants, including war blinded ex-servicemen, war widows and certain service and special rate war pensioners. Ex-servicemen who have been blinded as a result of war service may be issued with talking book machines. The Australian Red Cross Society supplies 'book' records or cassettes for these machines, free of charge, thus enabling the blinded to enjoy a wide range of literature.

Expenditure in 1971-72 on general Repatriation benefits for all wars was \$5,812,000, comprising Soldiers' Children Education Scheme, \$3,625,000; recreation transport allowance, \$750,000; and other benefits \$1,437,000.

Trust (and other) funds administered by the Repatriation Department held \$12,676,940 in securities (face value) and \$599,681 in cash, a total of \$13,276,621 as at 30 June 1972.

Reciprocal arrangements with the United Kingdom, New Zealand and other countries provide for the payment of pensions, etc., to eligible Australian ex-servicemen living overseas and to eligible ex-servicemen from overseas who are living in Australia.

Soldiers' Children Education Scheme

The Soldiers' Children Education Scheme was established in 1921 and operates with the assistance of the voluntary Education Boards in each State. These Boards consist of representatives of government and non-government education authorities and of ex-service and other organisations which have a general interest in the welfare of the children of ex-servicemen. The objects of the Scheme are to assist and encourage eligible children in acquiring a standard of education compatible with their aptitude and ability, and to prepare them to enter an agricultural, commercial, professional, or industrial calling of their own choice. Eligible children are children of ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as due to war service; or of ex-servicemen who died from causes not due to war service but who were receiving at the date of death a war pension at a special rate for blindness, total and permanent incapacity, pulmonary tuberculosis, or amputation of two or more limbs; or of ex-servicemen who, as a result of war service, are blinded, totally and permanently incapacitated, or receiving the special rate pension for pulmonary tuberculosis and are likely to receive such pension for a period of at least three years. From the commencement of primary education up to twelve years, school requisites and fares are provided. An education allowance is also payable for a child from commencement of secondary education or from the age of twelve years, whichever is the earlier, while the child is undertaking primary or secondary education. Further assistance beyond, or parallel with, the later years of secondary education is provided where an approved beneficiary continues with a course of specialised education or training necessary for a career. At this stage of training, in addition to the education allowance, fees are paid and text books, essential equipment and other minor benefits are provided.

All education allowances are subject to an allowed income limit test, i.e. the amount of education allowance payable depends on the amount of income a child receives over the allowed limit. The scale of maximum allowances payable to eligible children at various stages of education is as follows.

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME WEEKLY RATES OF ALLOWANCES, FROM 1 JANUARY 1973 (\$)

<i>Type of training</i>	<i>Living at home</i>	<i>Living away from home</i>
<i>At school—</i>		
Aged 12 and under 14 years	2.60	8.60
Aged 14 " " 16 years	3.90	8.60
Aged 16 " " 18 years	8.60	13.30
Professional (university, etc.)	15.39	25.00
Agricultural . . . . .	. . .	4.30
Industrial (apprenticeship, etc.)	3.15	6.25

The following tables show the costs of education under the scheme for the year ended 30 June 1972 and the number of children in receipt of benefit at 30 June 1972.

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: EXPENDITURE, 1971-72
(\$'000)

	N.S.W.(a)	Vic.	Qld	S.A.(b)	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
Cost of education of beneficiaries—							
Under 12 years of age	7	6	8	1	1	2	25
12 years of age and over	1,357	885	654	340	189	157	3,582
Total expenditure	1,364	891	662	341	190	159	(c)3,607

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Excludes overseas expenditure of \$18,000.

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS(a)
AT 30 JUNE 1972

Type of training	N.S.W. (b)	Vic.	Qld	S.A. (c)	W.A.	Tas.	Over- seas	Total
At school—								
Aged under 14 years(d)	608	418	336	140	93	104	13	1,712
Aged 14 and under 16 years	791	543	463	182	122	134	16	2,251
Aged 16 and under 18 years	792	482	227	186	66	59	18	1,830
Total at school	2,191	1,443	1,026	508	281	297	47	5,793
Professional	486	358	226	132	102	48	12	1,364
Agricultural	5	5	8	3	4	..	..	25
Industrial . . . . .	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	3
Grand total	2,682	1,808	1,260	643	388	345	59	7,185

(a) Refers only to children in receipt of an education allowance. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory. (d) From 12 years of age or the commencement of secondary education, whichever is the earlier.

Settlement of returned service personnel on the land

Reference to the settlement of returned service personnel on the land will be found in the chapter Rural Industry.

Re-establishment benefits for national servicemen

Subject to prescribed conditions, special re-establishment benefits are provided for national servicemen under the *Defence (Re-establishment) Act* 1965-1968. They apply to all national servicemen whether or not they have served on 'special service' and ensure that servicemen will not be at a disadvantage on their return to civil life. The scheme includes appropriate full or part-time training where it is necessary or desirable for effective re-settlement. The assistance includes payment of tuition fees, other associated fees and fares, and an allowance towards the provision of books and equipment as appropriate. A training allowance is also provided for trainees undertaking full-time studies.

Re-establishment loans may be granted, subject to certain conditions, to those national servicemen in need of financial assistance for their re-establishment in civil life and who, prior to call-up, were engaged on their own account in professional practice, business, or agricultural occupations, or who, because of their call-up, were prevented from engaging in these occupations or, in any other case where it is considered desirable in the circumstances to grant a loan.

The maximum amounts of the loans are business and professional \$3,000, agricultural \$6,000.

The Services Canteens Trust Fund

The Services Canteens Trust Fund was established under the *Services Trust Funds Act 1947*. Its funds are derived from the assets and profits of wartime services canteens, mess and regimental funds of disbanded units, and several other sources.

The total amount transferred to the Fund to 31 December 1972 was \$11,057,051. The Act prescribed that, of this, \$5 million and such further amounts as the trustees of the Fund might from time to time decide, should be devoted to the provision of education facilities for the children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen, and that the balance of the Fund should be used to provide relief for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen and their dependants in necessitous circumstances.

The Fund is administered by ten honorary trustees appointed by the Governor-General. The trustees have power to determine the persons or groups of persons to benefit from the Fund and the extent of the benefits to be granted within the provisions of the Act, and to appoint regional committees to assist with the administration. Members of regional committees are all persons who served in the 1939-45 War or are widows of men who served during the war. The trustees and members of regional committees serve in an honorary capacity.

Assistance from the Fund

Persons eligible for assistance from the Fund are those who, between 3 September 1939 and 30 June 1947, served in the Australian Naval, Military or Air Forces, including members of the canteens staff of any ship of the Royal Australian Navy, persons duly accredited to any part of the Defence Forces who served in an official capacity on full-time paid duty, and their dependants. The trustees have introduced schemes for providing welfare relief for ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are eligible for benefits, and for their dependants; benefits for children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen who are suffering from serious and incapacitating afflictions; and education benefits for the children of eligible ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen. From its inauguration in 1947 the Fund is to be available for forty years for both welfare relief and educational benefits.

The total assistance granted under these three schemes from the inception of the Fund to 31 December 1972 was \$12,712,216 (\$454,140 during 1972) distributed as follows: *Welfare relief*, \$3,897,188 (\$145,842); *Assistance for afflicted children*, \$336,511 (\$5,991); and *Educational assistance*, \$8,478,517 (\$302,307).

For detailed information on the operation of the Fund reference should be made to the annual reports of the Services Canteens Trust Fund.

Ex-service personnel, widows and children

In November 1971, a survey based on the quarterly population survey (see Chapter 20, *Employment and Unemployment*) was conducted at the request of the Repatriation Department and the Services Canteens Trust Fund. The survey questions were designed to identify four classes of person, namely:

- (a) those who had served in the Australian armed forces during wartime;
- (b) those ex-service personnel who had a disability which had been accepted by the Repatriation Department as having been war-caused and those who were in receipt of a war pension;
- (c) widows of men who had served during wartime;
- (d) children, under 21 years of age, of ex-service personnel or their widows.

Certain categories of persons covered by the survey were not asked the survey questions. These comprise persons who were patients in hospitals or sanatoria other than Repatriation Hospitals, or who were inmates of gaols, etc., and for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling. The estimates ascribe to such persons characteristics (e.g. ex-service status) according to the proportions found in the sample. Patients in Repatriation Hospitals, however, were asked the relevant questions.

The comments on the reliability of estimates and table of standard errors given in Chapter 20, *Employment and Unemployment*, are also applicable to this survey.

Definitions used and further details of the survey were published in the mimeographed bulletin *Ex-service Personnel, widows and children*, November 1971 (Reference No. 15.1).

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL(a), BY WAR AND AREA OF SERVICE, STATES, NOVEMBER 1971 ('000)

War and area of service	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1914-18 War(c)	19.9	17.0	7.7	4.4	4.4	*	56.3
1939-45 War(d)	251.0	183.9	111.0	62.0	60.7	21.9	698.5
Vietnam	9.5	6.0	4.3	*	*	*	27.2
Other	11.4	5.3	4.4	*	*	*	26.1
Total	291.8	212.1	127.5	70.1	71.3	25.4	808.1
Outside Australian territorial waters(a)	211.6	157.3	91.4	51.0	48.3	18.5	585.8
Within Australian territorial waters	80.2	54.8	36.0	19.1	23.0	6.9	222.3

(a) As defined for the purposes of the survey. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Includes the South African War. (d) Includes those who also served during the 1914-18 War and all occupation forces in Japan.

* Estimates less than 4,000 are not published because they would be subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. Although figures for these small components can be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL(a), BY WAR AND AREA OF SERVICE AND WAR PENSION STATUS, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 1971 ('000)

War and area of service	With an accepted war-caused disability				Total Ex-service personnel
	In receipt of a war pension	Not in receipt of a war pension	Total	Other	
1914-18 War(b)	25.4	*	26.5	29.8	56.3
1939-45 War(c)	178.8	37.1	215.9	482.6	698.5
Total(d)	210.5	42.2	252.6	555.5	808.1
Outside Australian territorial waters(a)	182.1	36.3	218.4	367.5	585.8
Within Australian territorial waters	28.4	5.9	34.3	188.0	222.3

(a) As defined for the purposes of the survey. (b) Includes the South African War. (c) See note (d) to table above.
(d) Includes all other operations as defined for the purposes of the survey.

* See footnote * to table above.

WIDOWS OF EX-SERVICEMEN(a): STATES, NOVEMBER 1971 ('000)

War of husband's service, pension status	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1914-18 War(c)	24.5	21.3	9.7	5.6	6.7	*	69.5
1939-45 War(d)	29.3	21.9	12.5	6.3	9.2	*	82.4
Total(e)	53.9	43.3	22.4	11.9	15.9	4.1	152.3
In receipt of a war widow's pension	16.2	17.7	6.4	5.0	6.6	*	54.4
Not in receipt of a war widow's pension	37.7	25.6	16.0	6.9	9.3	*	97.9
With children under 21 years of age	7.2	5.0	*	*	*	*	20.2
Without children under 21 years of age	46.7	38.3	18.5	10.5	13.9	*	132.1

(a), (b), (c), (d) See first table in this section. (e) See note (d) to table above.

* See footnote * to first table in this section.

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL^(a), SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 1971

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	'000	'000	'000
Total ex-service personnel	745.6	62.5	808.1
In the labour force	599.5	28.9	628.5
Employed	594.2	28.6	622.8
In full-time jobs	574.5	18.8	593.3
In part-time jobs	19.7	9.8	29.5
Unemployed	5.3	*	5.6
Not in the labour force	146.1	33.6	179.7
Never married	65.9	5.8	71.7
Married ^(b)	631.1	49.3	680.4
Widowed	37.9	5.3	43.3
Divorced	10.7	*	12.8
Aged—			
Under 45 years	70.5	*	72.3
45-49 years	171.9	30.6	202.5
50-54 years	179.0	16.2	195.2
55-59 years	121.0	7.2	128.2
60 years and over	203.3	6.6	209.9
Ex-service personnel as a proportion of the population aged 20	(per cent)	(per cent)	(per cent)
years and over	18.8	1.5	10.1
Labour force participation rate ^(c)	80.4	46.2	77.8
Unemployment rate ^(d)	0.9	*	0.9

(a) As defined for the purposes of the survey.
ex-service personnel who were in the labour force.

(b) Includes permanently separated.
(d) The unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labour force.

(c) The percentage of
the civilian labour force.

* Less than, or based on a figure less than 4,000. See footnote * to first table in this section.