

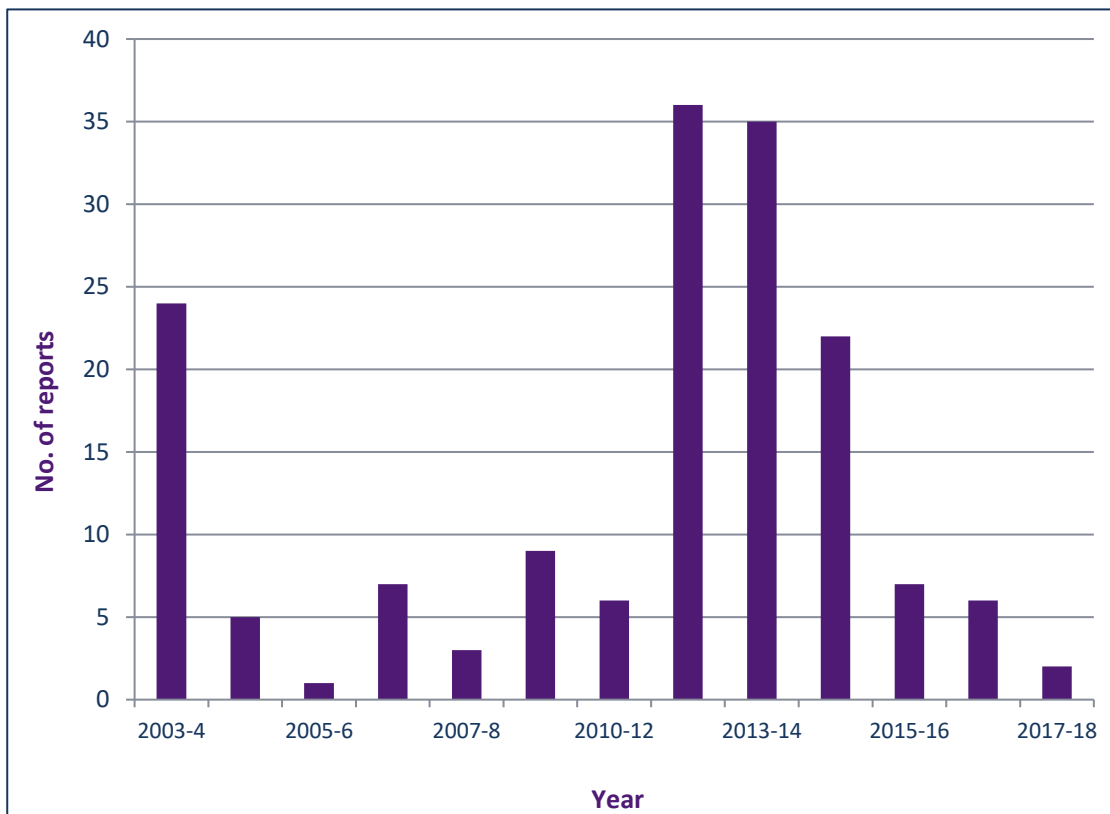


Analysis of EMR Health Complaints Register Data 2017–2018

ARPANSA commenced Australia’s first centralised Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR) Health Complaints Register on 4 July 2003. The Register collects reports of health concerns related to possible EMR field exposures in the range of 0-300 GHz. Members of the public who believe they have suffered ill-effects as a result of exposure to EMR can lodge a written complaint to the Register describing the nature of their exposure and any adverse health effects they claim to have experienced. ARPANSA does not investigate or attempt to resolve individual complaints. Relevant data gathered is used to produce annual statistical summaries on the nature and level of complaints received. The Register operates in strict compliance with the *Privacy Act 1988* and, as such, personal information on people reporting may not be disclosed.

Reports received

Since its commencement the Register has received 163 reports. The number of reports received for different years is shown below.



EMR sources

The sources of EMR reported during July 2017-June 2018, noting that some reports included more than one EMR source, were:

EMR source	July 2017 – June 2018	Cumulative
smart meter	2	68
mobile phone base stations	1	38
household 50Hz electric and magnetic fields	1	37
wireless networks	1	28
solar inverters	1	7

Health effects

The top ten health effects reported during July 2017-June 2018, noting that the reports included more than one health effect, were:

Health effect	July 2017 – June 2018	Cumulative
Headaches	2	85
Lethargy	2	41
Tinnitus	2	37
Disturbed sleep	1	50
Body pain	1	50
Dizziness	1	32
Poor concentration	1	26
Burning sensation	1	28
Ear ache	1	12
Tingling sensation	1	8

Demographics

Age (years)

	Min	Max	Median
July 2017 – June 2018	41	61	51
Cumulative	8	88	53

Gender (no. of reports)

	Males	Females	Not specified
July 2017 – June 2018	1 (50%)	1 (50%)	-
Cumulative	64 (39%)	95 (58%)	4 (3%)

State (no. of reports)

	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Qld	Tas	ACT	NT
July 2017 – June 2018	-	2 (100%)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cumulative	39 (24%)	100 (61%)	3 (2%)	6 (4%)	9 (6%)	5 (3%)	1 (1%)	-

Other

- All of the people reporting during July 2017 – June 2018 were willing to be contacted (33 people in total reporting since the commencement of the register were not willing to be contacted).
- All of the people reporting during July 2017 – June 2018 had seen a medical practitioner about their condition (34 people in total reporting since the commencement of the register had not seen medical practitioner).