

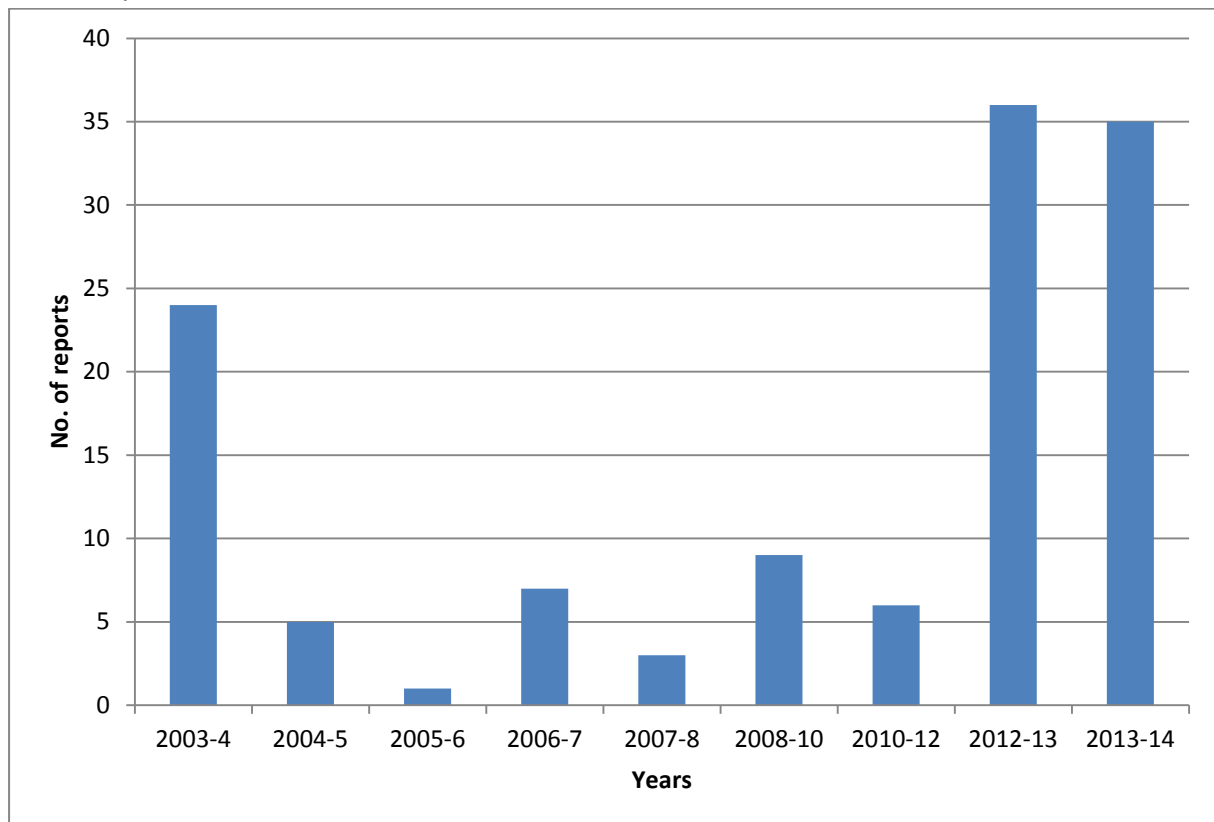


Analysis of EMR Health Complaints Register Data 2013–2014

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. ARPANSA does not investigate or attempt to resolve individual complaints but a standard reporting form allows people to describe the nature of their exposure and any adverse health effects they claim to have experienced. 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 126 reports. The number of reports received for different years is shown below.



EMR sources

The top ten sources of EMR reported during July 2013-June 2014, noting that some reports included more than one EMR source, were:

EMR source	July 2013 – June 2014	Cumulative
smart meter	23	45
mobile phones	12	31
wireless networks	10	18
mobile phone base stations	7	30
household 50Hz electric and magnetic fields	4	27
cordless phones	4	10
compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)	3	7
broadcast towers	2	7
electricity mains box	2	5
transformers	2	4

Health effects

The top ten health effects reported during July 2013-June 2014, noting that the majority of the reports included more than one health effect, were:

Health effect	July 2013 - June 2014	Cumulative
Headaches	21	68
Body pain	12	44
Anxiety	11	21
Lethargy	10	26
Disturbed sleep	8	16
Heart arrhythmia	8	22
Tinnitus	8	23
Muscle stiffness	7	11
Nausea	7	22
Burning sensation	6	22

Demographics

Age (years)

	Min	Max	Median
July 2013 – June 2014	34	85	52
Cumulative	8	88	52

Gender (no. of reports)

	males	females
July 2013 – June 2014	16 (46%)	19 (54%)
Cumulative	52 (41%)	74 (59%)

State (no. of reports)

	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Qld	Tas	ACT	NT
July 2013 – June 2014	1(3%)	30(86%)	-	1(3%)	2(6%)	1(3%)	-	-
Cumulative	34(26%)	72(56%)	3(2%)	5(4%)	6(5%)	8(6%)	1(1%)	-

Other

- Nine people reporting during July 2013 – June 2014 were not willing to be contacted (25 people in total reporting since the commencement of the register were not willing to be contacted).
- Six people reporting had not seen a medical practitioner about their condition during July 2013 – June 2014 (25 in total since the commencement of the register).