

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES  
OCTOBER 2023**

**Home Affairs Portfolio  
Department of Home Affairs**

**Program 2.5: Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship**

**OSE23-278 - Citizenship Test - Breakdown by Year from 2013**

Senator Paul Scarr asked:

For each year from 2013 to present:

- a. The number of citizen tests taken?
- b. Number of citizen tests passed?
- c. Number of people who have failed the test for a third time?
- d. Number of people refused citizenship for failing the test a third time?

*Answer:*

The Department is unable to provide a response to the questions for the period 2013 – 2016 inclusive, as the information is not readily available in reporting systems. A response has been provided for the period 2017 onwards.

a.

| <b>Table 1: Number of Australian citizenship tests administered from 1 January 2017 to 31 August 2023, by year of test (data as at 22 November 2023).</b> |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Test year   | No. of tests     |
| 2017  | 97,445           |
| 2018  | 107,063          |
| 2019  | 193,750          |
| 2020  | 104,349          |
| 2021  | 181,601          |
| 2022  | 223,445          |
| 2023 (to 31 Aug)  | 164,787          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1,072,440</b> |

*Data for the current financial year is drawn from a dynamic system environment and is correct at the time of publication but may differ slightly from previous or future reporting.*

*The Department of Home Affairs must be consulted regarding any requests to use this data for purposes not originally intended or discussed.*

b.

**Table 2: Number of Australian citizenship tests passed from 1 January 2017 to 31 August 2023, by year of test (data as at 22 November 2023).**

| <b>Test year</b> | <b>No. of test passes</b> |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 2017             | 77,993                    |
| 2018             | 90,857                    |
| 2019             | 169,378                   |
| 2020             | 80,985                    |
| 2021             | 123,435                   |
| 2022             | 142,294                   |
| 2023 (to 31 Aug) | 107,762                   |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>792,704</b>            |

*Data for the current financial year is drawn from a dynamic system environment and is correct at the time of publication but may differ slightly from previous or future reporting.*

*The Department of Home Affairs must be consulted regarding any requests to use this data for purposes not originally intended or discussed.*

- c. The Department is unable to provide a response as the information is not readily available in reporting systems and would require a significant diversion of resources to respond to this request.
- d. The Department is unable to provide a response based on the number of times an applicant failed the Australian citizenship test, prior to their application for Australian citizenship by conferral being refused, as the information is not readily available in reporting systems.