

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/338) PROGRAMME – 1.2: Visa and Citizenship

Senator CARR asked:

What is the normal sampling size and what are the methodologies for analysing that sampling size?

Answer:

Sampling is only used in certain circumstances to undertake further analysis of identified behavioural trends of concern. Sample size is dependent on the circumstances of the project.

Under the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act (2000)*, education providers are required to monitor, record and assess student activities relating to course progress and attendance. If a student continues to fail course progress and attendance requirements, the provider is required to notify the department of this breach via the Provider Registration and International Students Management System (PRISMS). The department monitors student compliance via regular reports from PRISMS and takes appropriate action where required.

The department also monitors compliance through its Dob-in Service. The Immigration Dob-in Service encourages people in the community to report a person who may have overstayed their visa or may be working more hours than their visa allows.

The department also conducts integrity exercises as required, including caseload audits. These exercises utilise data to identify non-compliance activity and the department investigates accordingly.

The department operates under a discretionary cancellation framework in dealing with breaches to student visa conditions. High priority is accorded to students who have disengaged from studies and are still in Australia. Under a discretionary framework, students who breach their visa conditions are notified of an intention to cancel their visa and provided an opportunity to provide reasons why the cancellation should not occur. These reasons are taken into account in making a decision as to whether to cancel or not.