

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 May 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE17/127) - Subsequent visas for previous student visa holders - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Roberts, Malcolm (L&CA 84) asked:

Senator ROBERTS: In the last 20 years, how many students who have come to Australia to study have returned to Australia on another visa?

Ms Dacey: It is the same situation. Depending on when you finish your study and what your plans are, many people transition to another visa, including graduate visas, without actually leaving the country. It depends on an individual's circumstances. We would have—

Senator ROBERTS: Do you have the numbers?

Ms Dacey: I doubt that we would because people might not declare that they had been here—we would have information in our systems.

Mr Pezzullo: We would have the onshore numbers.

Ms Dacey: That is right.

Senator ROBERTS: Sorry?

Ms Dacey: How about I take it on notice to see what we can find you, but we might not be able to be as specific as you wish.

Senator ROBERTS: Thank you.

Answer:

In the last 20 years, 1,184,844 student visa holders have moved onto another visa (excluding visas listed below). Of these, 986,715 student visa holders departed Australia and returned on another visa (excluding visas listed below).

Note 1: Student visa holders moved onto another visa or returned on another visa excludes the following:

- Another student visa*
- Bridging visa*
- Humanitarian visa*
- Special Purpose Travel Authority*

Note 2: Where a person granted two or more student visas, they are counted once only.

Note 3: the last 20 years is based on the period between 1 June 1997 and 31 May 2017.