

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 9 FEBRUARY 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(126) Program 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Humphries asked:

1. How many unlawful non citizens have been located as a result of compliance activities?
2. How many have been removed?
3. How does this compare with activity in each of the last three years?

Answer:

1. From 1 July until 31 December 2009, 6 736 unlawful non-citizens were located by the Department as a result of a range of compliance activities.
2. From 1 July until 31 December 2009, 3 567 unlawful non-citizens located previously by the Department departed Australia, including through involuntary and voluntary returns and monitored departures.

The above figure does not include the repatriation of irregular maritime arrivals, unauthorised arrivals and illegal foreign fishers.

3.
 - a. The total number of unlawful non-citizens located as a result of onshore compliance activities were:
 - i. 11 489 in 2006-07;
 - ii. 10 925 in 2007-08; and
 - iii. 12 230 in 2008-09.
 - b. By 31 December 2009, the number of unlawful non-citizens who were previously located as a result of a onshore compliance activity in any financial year, and had departed Australia through a range of means including removal and monitored departure was:
 - i. 6 797 in 2007-08;
 - ii. 6 845 in 2008-09.

The above figure does not include the repatriation of irregular maritime arrivals, unauthorised arrivals and illegal foreign fishers.

Departmental systems cannot readily determine figures for periods prior to the 2007-08 financial year.