

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 9 FEBRUARY 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(50) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Barnett (L&C 101) asked:

How many detainees have departed Christmas Island by month since 1 July of the current financial year? Advise who were granted a permanent protection visa and how many were failed asylum seekers and returned to their country of origin or some other country.

Answer:

As at 9 February 2010, 1319 clients had departed Christmas Island in the current financial year after receiving a visa or to facilitate a return to their country of origin.

The table below indicates how many were granted a visa and how many were returned to their country of origin each month.

The 'returned to home country or another country' column does not include the 58 passengers from SIEV 53, who did not claim asylum and who returned home voluntarily 14 days after arrival on Christmas Island.

These figures do not include significant numbers of clients who have received a negative Refugee Status Assessment and/or are currently undergoing an independent Merits Review.

Month	PV Grants	Failed asylum seekers returned to home country or another country
Jul-09	116	0
Aug-09	63	9
Sep-09	259	0
Oct-09	91	17
Nov-09	200	23
Dec-09	195	6
Jan-10	232	11
Up to and including 9 Feb-10	97	0
Total	1253	66

