

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0294) Program 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Cash asked:

Have any visas been refused or cancelled as a result of applicants presenting fraudulent documents? If not, why not?

Answer:

Cancellations

In the 2010-2011 program year, 665 visas were cancelled as a result of fraud.

In the 2011-2012 program year, to 31 December 2012, 242 visas were cancelled as a result of fraud.

Refusals

In the 2010-2011 program year, Departmental systems indicate that 3 618 temporary visa applications were refused because of fraudulent activity, including production of fraudulent documentation.

In the 2011-2012 program year (to 31 December 2012), 1 736 temporary visa applications were refused because of fraudulent activity, including production of fraudulent documentation.

The use of reason codes for permanent visa refusals does not allow the Department to provide meaningful data on refusal of permanent visas as a result of fraudulent activity, including production of fraudulent documents.