

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0231) PROGRAM – 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What is the average processing time for subclass 457 visas granted under a labour agreement compared to those granted under a standard business sponsorship for the financial year to date? How many are subject to a Labour Agreement?

Answer:

For the 2012-13 program year, as at 31 December 2013, the median processing time for a Subclass 457 visa granted under a labour agreement was 18 days, compared with 13 days under the standard Subclass 457 program. As at this date, there had been 1209 primary Subclass 457 visa grants under a labour agreement and 34,728 primary subclass 457 grants under Standard Business Sponsorship arrangements.