

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0493) PROGRAM – 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Hanson-Young (Written) asked:

Regarding visa applications made through Dubai - Regarding applicants through the Australian consulate general office in Dubai, what are the statistics for family members found to be falsely declared in the Hazara Afghan case load? Please outline for the last three years. How many DNA tests did the Department require for Afghan applicants who lodge a spouse visa or child related visa application with the Australian Consulate general office in Dubai since July 2012? What percentage of such applications made in Dubai since July 2012 does that number represent? Please also provide the number of DNA requests for that group and the percentage overall of spouse/child visa applications through Dubai for the preceding three financial years.

Answer:

The Department has collected manual statistics in relation to DNA testing since 1 July 2011 only.

A detailed analysis of DNA testing was recently conducted in relation to DNA results in Dubai for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013. This showed the following:

- From 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 Dubai has offered DNA testing to 663 applicants. These include applicants in both the Family Stream of the migration program and the Special Humanitarian Program.
- 359 (54%) of the 663 applicants who have been offered DNA testing, have responded:
 - Of these 359 applicants, 217 (60%) have returned positive results (i.e. their claimed family relationship has been confirmed);
 - Of these 359 applicants, 142 (40%) have returned results of concern. These include 77 applicants who returned results that disproved their claimed biological relationship. The remainder include applicants who have either refused to undertake DNA testing with no stated reason as well as those who have refused to undertake DNA testing while either admitting that relationships were not genuine, claiming sudden death or

disappearance of applicants, or withdrawing applicants from the application without a stated reason.

DNA testing statistics are collected for all program areas (citizenship, migration program and special humanitarian program) and it is not possible to provide a precise percentage of cases where DNA testing was offered in relation to the total number of Partner and Child visa applications lodged.

The table below shows the total number of Partner and Child visa applications lodged by Afghan nationals through Dubai post from 1 July 2009 to 28 February 2013:

Visa Type	Subclass	Client Role	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013 (to 28/02/2013)	Grand total
Child Adoption Orphan Relative	101	Primary	5	13	10	43	71
	102	Primary			1		1
	117	Primary	151	171	228	152	702
Secondary		4		1		5	
Total Child applications			156	184	239	195	774
Total Child applicants			160	184	240	195	779
Prospective Marriage	300	Primary	54	43	53	38	188
		Secondary	11	12	8	3	34
Partner (Permanent)	100	Primary	17	12	35	53	117
		Secondary	38	27	103	202	370
Partner (Temporary)	309	Primary	316	349	438	866	1969
		Secondary	262	241	436	2665	3604
Total Partner applications			387	404	526	957	2274
Total Partner applicants			698	684	1073	3827	6282
Total Child and Partner applications			543	588	765	1152	3048
Total Child and Partner applicants			858	868	1313	4022	7061

Primary applicants are usually the family head who applies. Secondary applicants are claimed family members who are also included in the application (such as dependent children).