

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 209

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

- a) What is the inspection target for inspection of containers for each port?
- b) How many containers did each port inspect?
- c) What is the inspection target for examination of containers for each port?
- d) How many containers did each port examine?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The following figures are in twenty foot equivalent units (TEU), which is the international measure for containers. No figures are provided for the Adelaide Container Examination Facility (CEF) as it commenced operations on 14 March 2005 and had an eight week ramp up period.

- a) On 20 July 2004, the Government announced a 25 per cent increase in CEF inspection targets to 133,000 TEU per annum. As a result of this initiative Saturday operations were introduced at the Fremantle CEF on 31 July 2004 and at the Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne CEFs in August 2004. An additional 20 staff had to be recruited and trained for the Brisbane CEF before it could commence afternoon shifts from 10 March 2005. The following inspection targets for the financial year 2004-05 reflect these different arrangements.

Location	2004-05 Inspection Targets (TEU)
Melbourne	37,706
Sydney	37,839
Brisbane	24,592
Fremantle	19,910

b)

Location	Inspections (TEU) from 1 July 2004 to 31 March 2005
Melbourne	29,024
Sydney	28,210
Brisbane	18,666
Fremantle	15,571

- c) Consistent with the approach outlined in (a) above, the physical examination targets have been increased by 25 per cent.

Location	2004-05 Examination Targets (TEU)
Melbourne	3,771
Sydney	3,784
Brisbane	2,459
Fremantle	1,991

d)

Location	Examinations (TEU) from 1 July 2004 to 31 March 2005
Melbourne	2,578
Sydney	1,905
Brisbane	2,031
Fremantle	1,404