

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 May 2007

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(70) Output 1.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Entry and Stay

Senator Bartlett (L&CA 85) asked:

Provide more information such as age, gender and family relationships on the Iraqi and Afghani persons in Indonesia who have been referred by UNHCR for resettlement in Australia:

Answer:

As at 27 June 2007, Australia continued to process some 112 Iraqi and Afghan persons for temporary humanitarian visas. The original number of 119 people reduced after seven people were found eligible for other visa types. Seventy four per cent of this caseload are Iraqis and 26 per cent Afghans. Thirty-one persons have been settled in Australia so far with the remaining to be visaed as soon as possible after health and security checks have been finalised.

Twenty per cent of these people are aged between zero and 12 years; five per cent between 13 and 18 years; 31 per cent between 19 and 30 years; 33 per cent between 31 and 45 years; nine per cent between 46 and 60 years; and two per cent are over 60 years old.

Sixty four per cent are male and 36 per cent are female.

In regards to their relations living in Australia, 59 per cent have immediate family (parents, siblings and/or children), 11 per cent have extended family members (for example aunts, uncles and/or grandparents) and 30 per cent have other relations such as cousins.

Of the total caseload, 33 per cent are independent single persons while family groups consisting of parents and children represent 67 per cent.