

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 MAY 2009

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(67) Program 4.3 - Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

(1) How many people have received visas that have been detained on Christmas Island since the new centre opened in 2008, and how many have been deported? Age, race, and gender breakdown.

(2) Of those that are currently still awaiting visa outcomes on the island detention centre how many weeks have they been waiting for?

Answer:

- (1) As at 28 May 2009, 150 people have been granted visas and 5 people from Sri Lanka have been returned voluntarily from Australia. The table below outlines the age groups i.e. adult or minor, nationality and gender of those that have received visas

Nationality	Minor Male	Minor Female	Adult Male	Adult Female	Total
Afgani	32	1	94	2	129
Iranian			4	1	5
Iraqi	2	1	7	1	11
Kuwaiti			3		3
Burmese			2		2
Total	34	2	110	4	150

- (2) As at 28 May 2009, there were 525 people on Christmas Island awaiting a visa outcome. These people and the period by the number of weeks since arrival is broken down as follows:

74 people	1 week
32 people	2 weeks
184 people	3 weeks
32 people	4 weeks
97 people	7 weeks
50 people	9 weeks
52 people	11 weeks
4 people	23 weeks