

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE2011/0216) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

How many onshore protection visa applications, by nationality, were lodged by people who were not Irregular Maritime Arrivals who arrived with visas and were lawful at the time of application?

Answer:

Information about Protection visa applicants readily available in DIAC systems records the lawful status of a person at the time the data is extracted, not at the time of application.

While it might be possible to determine the historical lawful status of a person, to arrive at a figure would require case-by-case examination for over 6000 individuals for the 2010–11 program year.