

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0278) Program 3.1: Border Management

Senator Eggleston (L&CA) asked:

What are the annual numbers of applications submitted and the number approved for the card since its inception?

Answer.

The APEC Business Travel Card Processing System is used by all APEC economies to process applications. This system is used differently by APEC economies, with some economies only entering approved applications into the system. This means that it is not possible to provide information on the numbers of applications submitted annually.

The table below sets out the total number of cardholders in the scheme (at 31 December for all years except 2011) since it commenced permanent operations in 1999. In 2006, data from a previous system was migrated to the existing APEC Business Travel Card Processing System.

Year	Number of cardholders
1999	3062
2000	3831
2001	4152
2002	4298
2003	6535
2004	10 620
2005	17 670
2006	16 683
2007	33 265
2008	57 114
2009	79 376
2010	88 467
2011 (at 5 July)	95 674