

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 MAY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE12/0022) Program: Internal Product

Senator Cash asked:

In relation to the factors that were taken into consideration in the extra \$840 million, which nationalities cost more to hold in detention?

Answer:

The cost estimates for the care and management of Irregular Maritime Arrivals in detention are dynamic and are influenced by a range of factors including the number and rate of arrivals, processing times, rejection rates, the number of families or unaccompanied minors and the detention accommodation footprint.

The Department does not maintain financial records of the actual costs of detaining specific client cohorts broken down by nationality.