

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0023) PROGRAM – 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash (L&CA 52) asked:

Senator CASH: So it is a small percentage of the 12,000 complaints that relate to the 457 visas, if you really wanted to break it down, based on those statistics.

Ms Smith: I might be wrong on that 12,000 figure. I would have to check that. But it is approximately around that amount.

Answer:

For the 2012-13 program year to 27 May, the Department has finalised 23,132 allegations. Of these, 911 allegations related to Employer Sponsor Breach. DIAC systems do not currently allow the National Allegations Assessment Team (NAAT) to report on allegations against specific visa categories. Current reporting parameters are based around the category of the allegation rather than specific visa subclasses. For example, allegations related to 457, ENS and RSMS visas fall within the fraud category of 'Employer/Sponsor Breach'.

In the 2012/13 program year (up until March 2013) the NAAT actioned 540 allegations against the 'Employer/Sponsor Breach' category. However, it is possible that some subclass 457 related allegations may be recorded against a different category, for example 'False Documents' or 'Identity Fraud'.