

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

**Question No. 200**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2005:**

Regarding the answer to question on notice 209, from the May Budget Estimates:

- a) Are you able to provide the actual figures for the 04-05 year?
- b) Did these figures meet the target?
  - (i) If not, what are you doing to ensure that you do meet the target?
  - (ii) Have any extra funds been allocated to ensure that you reach the targets?
  - (iii) If so, how much and how much of it has been expended?
  - (iv) If not, why not?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

The following figures are in twenty foot equivalent units (TEU), which is the standard international measure for containers.

- a) On 20 July 2004 the Government announced a 25 per cent increase in container examination facility (CEF) inspection targets to 133,000 TEU per annum. As a result of this initiative Saturday operations were introduced at the Fremantle CEF on 31 July 2004 and at the Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne CEFs in August 2004. An additional 20 staff were recruited and trained for the Brisbane CEF before it could commence afternoon shifts on 10 March 2005. The inspection (x-ray) target of 123,717 TEU for the financial year 2004-05 is below the figure of 133,000 TEU as it reflects the difference in implementation dates for Saturday operations and the commencement of the afternoon shift in Brisbane. The inspection target for the financial year 2005-2006 is set at 133,000 TEU.

	Inspection Target	Actual Inspections	Actual Examinations
Melbourne	37,706	39,046	3,570
Sydney	37,839	39,476	2,764
Brisbane	28,263	28,359	3,095
Fremantle	19,910	21,376	2,020
Adelaide	353	359	359
Nationally	123,717	128,257	11,808

- b) The inspection target was met for all regions.
  - (i) Not applicable.
  - (ii) Not applicable.
  - (iii) Not applicable.
  - (iv) Not applicable.