

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

#### IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

#### (24) Output 1.1: Non-Humanitarian Entry and Stay

Senator Ludwig (L&C 7) asked:

Provide the number of people who are issued student visas, how many travel to Australia and how many never take up the visa and then, of those that do come to Australia, how many complete their studies and go home, how many go home before completing their studies (and why), how many transfer to another visa category (eg. Humanitarian, student, permanent residency) and when during their studies do they transfer to this category, how many have their visas cancelled and are removed from Australia.

So basically, what happens to each person who gets a student visa to come to Australia in terms of if and when they leave Australia and the circumstances in which they leave (*this question was provided by Senator Ludwig after the Committee Secretariat sought his clarification*).

*Answer:*

Statistics on the timing of international students' movements to other visa categories or to their home country, and the reasons for their movements at the level of detail requested would involve a very major diversion of resources to collect. However, statistics based on aggregate movement provides a reasonable approximation. These are provided below.

#### Student Visa Grants

The following table provides the number of people who were issued student visas in the last three program years (both on-shore and off-shore):

##### Total Student Visa Grants

Total Student Visa Grants 2002-03	Total Student Visa Grants 2003-04	Total Student Visa Grants 2004-05	Total Student Visa Grants 2005-06 (Jul-Sept)
162,575	171,618	174,786	44,245

#### Student Arrivals and Departures

The table below gives information on international student arrivals and departures for the last three program years. Please note that these statistics include each movement and that some students will have moved to and from Australia more than once.

##### Overseas Student Arrivals and Departures 2002-03 to 2004-05

Program Year	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
2002-03	249,055	207,414
2003-04	269,366	237,493
2004-05	288,425	254,394

### Change of Status from Student Visa

DIMIA records that as at 30 September 2005, some 70 persons who arrived at any time on a student visa were granted initial protection visas in the 2004-05 program year.

In addition, approximately 16,600 student visa holders were granted General Skilled Migration visas, some 2,661 former student visa holders were granted Family Stream visas and another 301 were granted Employer Sponsored Permanent Residence visas. Some student visa holder would have obtained other temporary resident and/or visitor visas.

### Student Visa Cancellations and removals: 1999/2000 to 2004/05 and 1 July 2005- 31 August 2005:

Program Year	Cancellations	Cancellation % Change	Enforced Departures	Departures % Change
1999/00	3 324	-	1 249 ^	-
2000/01	3 986	19.92	1 625	30.10
2001/02	7 049	76.84	2 268	39.57
2002/03	8 204	16.39	2 731	20.41
2003/04	8 245	0.50	3 095	13.33
2004/05	8 140	-1.27%	2110	-31.83%
1 July 2005 to 31 August 2005	1 014		321	

Source: Compliance Section, ORS Data

% change = (new-old)/old x 100

\* % change has not been calculated as a comparison between a full program year and a half program year would be inaccurate due to the cyclical nature of the student program.

^ Enforced departures include removals and monitored and supervised departures.

### A note on student cancellation statistics

The statistics in the above table include visa cancellations that have since been reversed as a result of the Uddin decision.