

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(242) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

How many onshore protection visa applications, by nationality, were lodged by people who were not irregular maritime arrivals, and arrived without visas or identity documentation, ie. were unlawful?

Answer:

In 2009-10, 116 air arrivals raised a protection claim at the border. Of these, 75 were without documents (including some who claimed to have destroyed their documents en route) and 41 were with documents (some of which were detected at the border as fraudulent).

In 2010-11 first quarter, 12 air arrivals raised a protection claim at the border. Of these, nine were without documents and three were with documents.

The nationality of people who present at the border undocumented or on fraudulent documentation is not readily determined at that point in time.