

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0699) PROGRAM – 6.1: Multicultural and Citizenship Services

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Form 119 Application for evidence of Australian citizenship applications: What is the median time for processing these applications per month from July 2008 to June 2012? How many decisions have fallen outside the 30 day processing period?

Answer:

Data on evidence applications received is only available from 1 November 2010. Prior to this date, the department only recorded the number of evidence applications approved. See the below table for the monthly median (50th percentile) processing times in calendar days for evidence applications decided from 1 November 2010 to the end of the 2011-12 financial year:

Month of decision on application	Median processing in calendar days
Nov-10	0
Dec-10	0
Jan-11	0
Feb-11	1
Mar-11	1
Apr-11	1
May-11	1
Jun-11	0
Jul-11	0
Aug-11	0
Sep-11	1
Oct-11	1
Nov-11	0
Dec-11	0
Jan-12	0
Feb-12	1
Mar-12	1
Apr-12	3
May-12	3
Jun-12	4

“0” values mean applications were processed on the same day they were received.

For the period of recorded data, approximately nine per cent of applications were processed outside of 30 calendar days. The current service standard is seven calendar days.