

**ADDITIONAL QUESTION ASKED ON 8 MARCH 2004**

**SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL DISCRETION IN MIGRATION MATTERS**

How many times has Minister Vanstone made a decision to exercise her discretion to intervene?

*Answer:*

Departmental records indicate that during the period 7 October 2003 to 19 March 2004, the Minister has exercised her discretion to intervene in 86 s351 cases and 241 s417 cases.

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### SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL DISCRETION IN MIGRATION MATTERS

What is the total number of cases (by financial year) referred to Minister Ruddock on a schedule since 1996?

*Answer:*

The Department's computer systems do not capture this information. However, information relating to the last three financial years has been compiled through a manual search of departmental hard copy schedules. While in recent years copies of the schedules referred to the Minister have been held in the MIU that prepared them, this has not always been the practice. In some instances, the schedules were placed on individual case files and are therefore unable to be located. As a result, to identify and analyse the outcome of all schedules prior to 2000/01 would require manual interrogation of the files in every case where a request was made by or on behalf of a person.

**Table 1: Number of cases referred to Minister Ruddock on a schedule**

<b>s 351</b>	<b>2000/01</b>	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>1 July to 6 Oct 2003</b>
ACTRO	238	248	703	162
NSW	0	361	400	0
Total	238	609	1103	162

<b>s 417</b>	<b>2000/01</b>	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>1 July to 6 Oct 2003</b>
NSW	1435	2072	1630	298
VIC	425	350	414	126
WA	42	67	57	0
Total	1902	2489	2101	424

Data Source: Manual interrogation of schedules referred to the Minister.