

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/319) PROGRAMME –

Senator Hanson-Young (L&CA 10) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I want to know how many children, how many adults, onshore-offshore; I would also like to know the type of disability, physical-mental, and their age.

Mr Cormack: You will not get all that today, because of course we do not have it to hand. We will be able to give you a figure on the number of people with disabilities in detention.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Can I also add ethnicity to those categories, if possible.

Answer:

The department wishes to clarify its advice, provided at the hearing, that there were 291 people with disabilities in onshore immigration detention facilities. This number refers to disability type. The number of detainees with a disability is 268 and some detainees had more than one disability type.

As at 30 September 2014, there were 268 detainees with disabilities in onshore immigration detention facilities of which 219 were adults and 49 were minors; and 114 transferees with disabilities at regional processing centres of which 109 were adults and 5 were minors.

The disability types were:

- Amputation;
- Cognitive (eg dementia);
- Developmental (eg Asperger's disorder, autism, developmental delay);
- Functional impairment (eg reduced mobility, deformity, multiple sclerosis);
- Hearing impairment (eg hearing loss, deafness);
- Visual impairment (eg blindness of eye, visual impairment, coloboma); and
- Other (eg epilepsy and neuralgia).

Detailed ethnicity data is not available but the top five nationalities were

- Iranian, Stateless, Afghan, Iraqi and Pakistani