

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 6

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 22 February 2011:

Senator BRANDIS—It is interesting that you started keeping your statistics in September 2008. I think everybody in Australia now knows why that is; the significance of that date, I should say. Can you tell me, since September 2008, how many crew and asylum seekers in total you have interviewed?

Mr Negus—I would have to take that on notice. We could certainly give you a very close estimation if we do not have the exact figure.

Senator BRANDIS—All right, and would you disaggregate that for us, please, by years?

Mr Negus—Certainly.

The answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

2008

During 2008 no formal records were retained by the AFP.

2009

Reporting for 2009 (1 January to 31 December) indicates that:

- 549 statements were obtained from passengers; and
- 146 crew were interviewed.

2010

Reporting for 2010 (1 January to 31 December) indicates that:

- 1,026 statements were obtained from passengers ; and
- 345 crew were interviewed.

2011

Reporting for 2011 (1 January to 28 February) indicates that:

- 128 statements were obtained from passengers ; and
- 19 crew were interviewed.

The number of passengers interviewed exceeds the number of statements obtained. Statements are only taken from all passengers who are able/willing to provide relevant evidence of alleged offences.