

QUESTION ON NOTICE / Written

QoN 014 Hearing 11 October 2021

Topic: Evacuation numbers

Senator Penny Wong

Question

41. How many citizens, PRs, visa holders and visa applicants were you expecting to evacuate at the start of the operation?

Answer

On 14 August the estimated number of citizens, permanent residents, visa holders and visa applicants expected to be eligible for evacuation was 550, including 57 people registered with DFAT (40 citizens, 13 permanent residents, four family members). The remaining number was an estimate drawn from Home Affairs information on the pipeline of locally engaged employee visa applications. We anticipated those numbers would change over time. The final number evacuated far exceeded our expectations of what would be possible.