

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES  
22 MARCH 2021**

**Home Affairs Portfolio  
Department of Home Affairs**

**Program 2.3: Visas**

**AE21-213 - Visa Cancellations - Character Provisions**

Senator David Van asked:

Senator VAN: How many visas have been cancelled under the character provisions since 2014?

Mr Kefford: In 2014 there were 516; in 2015-16 there were 986; in 2016-17 there were 1,278; in 2017-18 there were 904; in 2018-19 there were 943; in 2019-20 there were 1,020; and this year, to 31 January, there have been 624.

Mr Pezzullo: None of us have an abacus here.

Mr Kefford: In my folder that adds up to 6,271.

Senator VAN: In either aggregate or individual years, again, how many were cancelled between 2009 and 2013?

Mr Kefford: I don't have any earlier data than the 2014-15 year here with me. I'd need to take it on notice.

Senator VAN: If you wouldn't mind.

*Answer:*

<b>s501 Character cancellations by financial year</b>	
<b>Financial year</b>	<b>Total</b>
2009-10	58
2010-11	132
2011-12	157
2012-13	139
2013-14	76
2014-15	579
2015-16	986
2016-17	1278
2017-18	904
2018-19	943
2019-20	1020
2020-21 (as at 31 March 2021)	744
<b>Total</b>	<b>7016</b>

*Caveats:*

- Figures were extracted from Departmental systems on 1 April 2021. As data has been drawn from a live systems environment the figures provided may differ slightly in previous or future reporting.*
- Data recorded prior to 11 December 2014 cannot be validated due to system limitations.*