

**Question on notice no. 215**

**Portfolio question number: SE21-215**

**2021-22 Supplementary Budget Estimates**

**Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio**

**Senator Nick McKim:** asked the Department of Home Affairs on 5 November 2021

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How many assisted voluntary returns have taken place to countries of origin from Papua New Guinea?

a. How many of those men were found to be refugees by the Papua New Guinea Immigration & Citizenship Authority?

**Answer —**

Please see attached answer.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES  
25 OCTOBER 2021**

**Home Affairs Portfolio  
Department of Home Affairs**

**Program 2.4: IMA Offshore Management**

**SE21-215 - Offshore Processing in PNG - Assisted voluntary returns**

Senator Nick McKim asked:

How many assisted voluntary returns have taken place to countries of origin from Papua New Guinea?

a. How many of those men were found to be refugees by the Papua New Guinea Immigration & Citizenship Authority?

*Answer:*

As at 31 August 2021, 628 transferees had voluntarily returned from Papua New Guinea (PNG) to their country of origin. Of those, 40 were recognised as refugees by the Government of PNG.