

Question on notice no. 125

Portfolio question number: AE22-125

2021-22 Additional estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Nick McKim: asked the Australian Border Force on 14 February 2022—

How many asylum seekers (including failed/rejected asylum seekers) , humanitarian entrants and refugees currently in a held immigration detention facility (including persons transferred from Nauru or PNG) have contracted COVID-19 in:

- a. closed immigration facilities;
- b. open immigration facilities (e.g. offshore transit centres, hotels, and community etc.) ; and
- c. APODs?

Answer —

Please see the attached answer.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES
14 FEBRUARY 2022**

**Home Affairs Portfolio
Australian Border Force**

Program 2.4: IMA Offshore Management

AE22-125 - Immigration detention facilities - COVID-19

Senator Nick McKim asked:

How many asylum seekers (including failed/rejected asylum seekers), humanitarian entrants and refugees currently in a held immigration detention facility (including persons transferred from Nauru or PNG) have contracted COVID-19 in:

- a. closed immigration facilities;
- b. open immigration facilities (e.g. offshore transit centres, hotels, and community etc.); and
- c. APODs?

Answer:

a/c. As at 31 December 2021, 22 detainees accommodated in *immigration detention facilities including alternative places of detention (APODs), contracted COVID-19. This includes failed/rejected asylum seekers, humanitarian entrants and refugees; including persons transferred from Nauru or Papua New Guinea (PNG).

b. i. As at 31 December 2021, the Department has been advised of 23 individuals under a Residence Determination arrangement who have tested positive to COVID-19. This figure is based on the individual reporting a positive test result to their Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) Provider. (*Refer AE22-134*).

b. ii. Between 4 March 2021 and 31 December 2021, 30 transferees in PNG contracted COVID-19. Over the same period, there are no reported cases in Nauru.

*Immigration Detention Facilities include APODs such as hospitals, aged-care facilities, mental health inpatient facilities, as well as hotel and apartment style accommodation
<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-stats/files/immigration-detention-statistics-30-september-2021.pdf>