

Question on notice no. 148

Portfolio question number: AE22-148

2021-22 Additional estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Nick McKim: asked the Department of Home Affairs on 14 February 2022

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How many assisted voluntary returns of Australia's offshore processing cohort have taken place to countries of origin from Papua New Guinea?

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

Answer —

Please see the attached answer.

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

**Home Affairs Portfolio
Department of Home Affairs**

Program 2.4: IMA Offshore Management

AE22-148 - Papua New Guinea - Assisted voluntary returns of Australia's offshore processing cohort

Senator Nick McKim asked:

How many assisted voluntary returns of Australia's offshore processing cohort have taken place to countries of origin from Papua New Guinea?

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

Answer:

Since 2012 and as at 31 December 2021, 641 transitory persons voluntarily returned to their country of origin from Papua New Guinea. Of those, the Government of PNG recognised 39 transitory persons as refugees.

Note: Figures exclude less than five transitory persons who returned to their country of origin without funding support from the Australian or PNG Governments (unassisted).