

Question on notice no. 182

Portfolio question number: AE22-182

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 transitory persons in Australia have completed the medical treatment for which they were originally transferred to Australia for?

(a) Please break down by originating regional resettlement country.

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 3.4: Border Enforcement

AE22-182 - Transitory Persons - Completed medical treatment

Senator Nick McKim asked:

How many transitory persons in Australia have completed the medical treatment for which they were originally transferred to Australia for?

(a) Please break down by originating regional resettlement country.

Answer:

The Department is progressing the return of approximately 70 transitory persons to a regional processing country, all of whom have completed the temporary purpose for which they were brought to Australia. All returns are considered on a case by case basis, according to individual circumstances. Various factors are considered when progressing a return, including host country endorsement, active litigation and pre-departure COVID-19 vaccination and testing. Most transitory persons whom have completed their temporary purpose and for whom a return is being progressed have active litigation or have refused to participate in pre-departure COVID-19 requirements.

Many transitory persons continue to receive medical treatment for the temporary purpose for which they were brought to Australia. The Department continues to work with detention health service providers to determine transitory persons' ongoing need to remain in Australia for the purposes for which they were brought. Transitory persons on bridging visas are not currently eligible for return to a regional processing country, owing to their lawful non-citizen migration status. Unlike transitory persons in held detention and under residence determination (community detention), bridging visa holders have access to Medicare and are not under the health care of the Department's detention health service provider.