

**Question on notice no. 275**

**Portfolio question number: AE22-275**

**2021-22 Additional estimates**

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

**Senator Stirling Griff:** asked the Department of Home Affairs on 14 February 2022

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Of the total 4,183 irregular maritime arrivals transferred to a regional processing country, please provide the current number of people:

- a. who were returned to Australia.
- b. who have been transferred to Australia.
- c. who remain in Papua New Guinea and Nauru.
- d. who are residing in a third country.
- e. who have returned to their country of origin.
- f. who are deceased.

**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 3.5: Onshore Compliance and Detention**

**AE22-275 - Medical transfers and transitory persons in Australia - irregular maritime arrivals**

Senator Stirling Griff asked:

Of the total 4,183 irregular maritime arrivals transferred to a regional processing country, please provide the current number of people:

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- e. who have returned to their country of origin.
- f. who are deceased.

*Answer:*

As at 31 December 2021:

- a. 869 were returned to Australia following the signing of the Regional Resettlement Arrangement with Papua New Guinea on 19 July 2013 and are no longer under regional processing arrangements
- b. 1,116 were in Australia following temporary transfer for medical treatment or related issues
- c. 114 were in Nauru and 105 were in Papua New Guinea
- d. 1004 were resettled in a third country;
- e. 931 were returned, or removed from Australia, to their country of origin; and
- f. 20 were deceased.

*Note: The following outcomes are not included in the above statistics: 20 transitory persons removed by the Papua New Guinea Government under its domestic legislation, less than 5 transitory persons returned to a third country and less than 5 transitory persons incarcerated for criminal offences in Papua New Guinea.*