

Question on notice no. 1454

Portfolio question number: SE25-0353

2025-26 Supplementary Budget estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Jonathon Duniam: asked the Australian Border Force on 17 October 2025

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- (1. What were the performance targets, if any, for maritime patrol days by the Australian Border Force in 2024-25? Were these targets met in 2024-25?
 2. How many maritime patrol days were achieved by the Australian Border Force in 2024-25?
 - a. How does this result compare to the patrol days achieved by the ABF in the 2023-24, 2022-23 and 2021-22 financial years?
 3. What were the performance targets, if any, for aerial surveillance hours by the ABF in 2024-25? Were these targets met in 2024-25?
 4. How many aerial surveillance flying hours were completed by the Australian Border Force in 2024-25?
 - a. How does this result compare to the aerial surveillance flying hours achieved by the ABF in the 2023-24, 2022-23 and 2021-22 financial years?
- Nauru
5. How many illegal maritime arrivals have been taken to Nauru since May 2022?
 6. How many illegal maritime arrivals have been taken to Nauru in the last financial year?
 7. How many illegal maritime arrivals are currently on Nauru?

Answer —

Please see the attached answer.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES
OCTOBER 2025**

**Home Affairs Portfolio
Australian Border Force**

Program 3.4: Border Enforcement

SE25-0353 - Operation Sovereign Borders - performance targets

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Answer:

1. The performance target for the ABF Blue Water Fleet, excluding those vessels undergoing scheduled maintenance activities including mandatory Depot Level Maintenance, Life-of-Type Extension and Scheduled Service Visits was 85% operational availability. In 2024-25 the target was met.
2. 2,156 maritime patrol days were achieved by the ABF Blue Water Vessels.
 - a. The total maritime patrol days of 2,156 completed in FY2024-25 was:
 - 3.3% higher compared to the total maritime patrol days of 2,086 completed in FY2023-24.
 - 1.2% lower compared to the total maritime patrol days of 2,182 completed in FY2022-23.
 - 8% lower compared to the total maritime patrol days of 2,337 completed in FY2021-22.
3. There were no aerial surveillance (fixed wing and rotary wing combined) flying hours performance targets in the Department's 2024-25 Corporate Plan.

4. 14,755 aerial surveillance (fixed wing and rotary wing combined) flying hours were completed in 2024-25.
 - a. The total aerial surveillance (fixed wing and rotary wing combined) flying hours of 14,755 completed in FY2024-25 was:
 - 17.3% higher compared to the total aerial surveillance (fixed wing and rotary wing combined) flying hours of 12,579 completed in FY2023-24.
 - 16.3% higher compared to the total aerial surveillance (fixed wing and rotary wing combined) flying hours of 12,688 completed in FY2022-23.
 - 0.2% lower compared to the total aerial surveillance (fixed wing and rotary wing combined) flying hours of 14,784 completed in FY2021-22.
5. Since May 2022 and as at 30 September 2025, a total of 163 UMAs have been transferred to Nauru for regional processing.
6. Between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025, a total of 41 UMAs have been transferred to Nauru for regional processing.
7. As at 30 September 2025 there were 91 UMAs located on Nauru.

Data caveat: The ABF notes that figures presented are based on current data sources and reporting logic as at the date of publication. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and completeness, figures may be subject to revision due to data updates, classification changes, or methodological refinements.