

**Question on notice no. 662**

**Portfolio question number: SE25-0443**

**2025-26 Supplementary Budget estimates**

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

**Senator David Shoebridge:** asked the Department of Home Affairs on 16 October 2025—

Please provide the number of asylum seekers 'screened in' at Australian airports since 1 January 2013? (broken down by individual calendar year) :

- a. How many lodged a protection visa application and how many were subsequently granted a visa or refused a visa?
- b. What was the longest period of detention (and nationality) ?
- c. What was the shortest period of detention (and nationality) ?
- d. What was the average length of detention?
- e. What were the top five countries of nationality?

**Answer —**

Please see the attached answer.

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

**Home Affairs Portfolio  
Department of Home Affairs**

**Program 3.5: Onshore Compliance and Detention**

**SE25-0443 - Onshore asylum - Asylum seekers 'screened in' since 2013**

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*Answer:*

1. The following table shows the number of unauthorised air arrivals (UAAs) from 1 July 2013 to 31 August 2025 who were screened in:

Program Year (PY)	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 (to 31 August 2025)
<b>Unauthorised Air Arrivals</b>	65	42	56	43	62	60	40	0	12	45	53	75	13
<b>Screened In</b>	28	29	38	6	12	17	10	0	9	8	25	20	<5

- a. Of those UAAs who were screened in:
  - 183 lodged Protection (subclass 866) visa (PV), Temporary Protection (subclass 785) visa (TPV), Safe Haven Enterprise (subclass 790) visa (SHEV) or Resolution of Status (subclass 851) (RoS) visa applications
  - 125 have been granted a visa to date with a further 2 whose visa applications are progressing
  - 45 were refused a PV, TPV, SHEV or RoS visa (note: there are some applicants at Administrative or Judicial Review)
- b. The longest period of detention was 2,455 days (Brazil).
- c. The shortest period of detention was two days (Mongolia).
- d. The median length of detention was 223 days.
- e. The top five nationalities for screened-in UAAs were:
  - Sri Lanka
  - Afghanistan
  - Iraq
  - Pakistan
  - Saudi Arabia

Notes:

\*The lodgement, grant and refusal data refers to the first valid protection visa application lodged following the screening assessment.

\*Applications lodged in one program year may not be finalised in the same program year. Therefore, data relating to lodgements and finalisations (grants and refusals) in a program year cannot be directly compared.

\*This information is provided by the Department of Home Affairs and was extracted from departmental systems. As data has been drawn from a dynamic system environment, the information is correct at the time of extraction and figures may differ slightly from previous or future reporting. Data has been compiled from multiple sources, including manual reports.