

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 08 February 2016**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(AE16/163) - Student Visa cancellations and related statistics - Programme 2.3: Visas**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Can you please update the committee on the number of student visas cancelled to date. Can you break that down into:

source countries

raw numbers

percentage of visas withdrawn

grounds for action

types of providers

Can you provide the number of student visas cancelled in the last 6 months of 2014 compared to the last 6 months of 2015

How many student visas were cancelled in the 2015 calendar year (note 12,289 last year from Jan to September)

*Answer:*

There were 9,263 student visa cancellations, both onshore and offshore, in the period 01 July 2015 to 31 January 2016.

The following table provides figures of student visa cancellations in the period 01 July 2015 to 31 January 2016 by source country, represented as both raw figures and as a percentage of the total:

<b>2015-16 (01 Jul - 31 Jan) Onshore and offshore student visa cancellations by source country*</b>		
<b>Source country</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of total</b>
China	1,847	19.94
South Korea	857	9.25
Vietnam	734	7.92
India	701	7.57
Thailand	470	5.07
Malaysia	413	4.46
Saudi Arabia	329	3.55
HKSAR of the PRC	282	3.04
Indonesia	227	2.45
Taiwan	222	2.40

Pakistan	204	2.20
Brazil	170	1.84
United Kingdom	163	1.76
Japan	153	1.65
Singapore	149	1.61
United States of America	138	1.49
Italy	116	1.25
Philippines	110	1.19
Nepal	102	1.10
Colombia	97	1.05
Kuwait	97	1.05
Canada	88	0.95
Spain	83	0.90
France	80	0.86
Sri Lanka	75	0.81
Sweden	69	0.74
Norway	59	0.64
Bangladesh	58	0.63
Iran	57	0.62
Germany	48	0.52
Russia	46	0.50
Turkey	46	0.50
Greece	44	0.48
Ireland	44	0.48
Mongolia	42	0.45
Iraq	38	0.41
Venezuela	37	0.40
Jordan	33	0.36
Mauritius	32	0.35
Papua New Guinea	32	0.35
Lithuania	31	0.33
Mexico	31	0.33
Slovakia	31	0.33
Myanmar	28	0.30
Czech Republic	27	0.29
Poland	25	0.27
Lebanon	24	0.26
Oman	24	0.26
Nigeria	23	0.25
Kenya	22	0.24
Peru	22	0.24
Hungary	21	0.23
Macau	18	0.19
Netherlands	18	0.19
United Arab Emirates	18	0.19
Portugal	17	0.18
Cambodia	16	0.17
Chile	15	0.16
Unknown	15	0.16

Bhutan	14	0.15
Estonia	14	0.15
Bulgaria	12	0.13
Switzerland	12	0.13
Fiji	11	0.12
Zimbabwe	11	0.12
South Africa	10	0.11
Ecuador	<10	<0.10
Zambia	<10	<0.10
Belgium	<10	<0.10
Egypt	<10	<0.10
Kazakhstan	<10	<0.10
Denmark	<10	<0.10
Finland	<10	<0.10
Israel	<10	<0.10
Tanzania	<10	<0.10
Brunei Darussalam	<10	<0.10
Libya	<10	<0.10
Serbia	<10	<0.10
Uganda	<10	<0.10
Argentina	<10	<0.10
Austria	<10	<0.10
Ghana	<10	<0.10
Laos	<10	<0.10
Maldives	<10	<0.10
Romania	<10	<0.10
Slovenia	<10	<0.10
Albania	<10	<0.10
Botswana	<10	<0.10
Costa Rica	<10	<0.10
Azerbaijan	<10	<0.10
Belarus	<10	<0.10
Cuba	<10	<0.10
Cyprus	<10	<0.10
Dominican Republic	<10	<0.10
Ethiopia	<10	<0.10
Macedonia	<10	<0.10
Malawi	<10	<0.10
Seychelles	<10	<0.10
Vanuatu	<10	<0.10
Bahrain	<10	<0.10
Bolivia	<10	<0.10
Burundi	<10	<0.10
Guyana	<10	<0.10
Honduras	<10	<0.10
Luxembourg	<10	<0.10
Moldova	<10	<0.10
Morocco	<10	<0.10
Namibia	<10	<0.10

New Zealand	<10	<0.10
North Korea	<10	<0.10
Panama	<10	<0.10
Paraguay	<10	<0.10
Qatar	<10	<0.10
Sierra Leone	<10	<0.10
Solomon Islands	<10	<0.10
Stateless	<10	<0.10
Swaziland	<10	<0.10
Tajikistan	<10	<0.10
Trinidad and Tobago	<10	<0.10
Tunisia	<10	<0.10
Ukraine	<10	<0.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,263</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* A visa may be recorded as cancelled more than once. An example of a visa being recorded as cancelled more than once is if the visa is cancelled, and the cancellation is subsequently revoked or set aside, and then the visa is cancelled again. A cancellation may be revoked or set aside for a number of reasons, including further legal proceedings, and administrative or jurisdictional errors.  
- Student visa excludes Visa s/c 580 (Student Guardian).

A cancellation decision may be made on one or more grounds. The following table provides details of the 9,351 legislative grounds for cancellation associated with the 9,263 student visa cancellations in the period 01 July 2015 to 31 January 2016:

<b>2015-16 (01 Jul - 31 Jan) Onshore and offshore student visa cancellations by ground *</b>		
<b>Ground**</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of total</b>
s116(1)(a) fact/circumstance no longer exists	5,903	63.13
s116(1)(g) prescribed ground - r 2.43 (1)(g)	1,581	16.91
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8202	768	8.21
s140(1) family unit member - s128	556	5.95
s116(1)(fa)(i) not a genuine student	168	1.80
s140(1) family unit member - s116	106	1.13
Ground for cancellation existed and not satisfied there is reason to revoke cancellation	37	0.40
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8516	25	0.27
s116(1)(e)(i) risk to the health, safety or good order (community or segment of the community)	23	0.25
Satisfied there is reason to revoke cancellation	21	0.22
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8105	15	0.16
s116(1)(d) non-compliance with Subdivision C - s101	13	0.14
s116(1)(g) prescribed ground - r 2.43 (1)(h)	12	0.13
S116(1)(g), reg 2.43(1)(oa)	11	0.12
s116(1)(aa) - fact/circumstance leading to visa grant never existed	10	0.11
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8532	10	0.11
s116(1)(d) non-compliance with Subdivision C - s103	10	0.11
s140(2) associated visa holder - s128	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(d) non-compliance with Subdivision C - s102	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(e) risk to health, safety or good order	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(e)(ii) risk to the health or safety of an individual	<10	<0.10

s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8102	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8107	<10	<0.10
Ground for cancellation did not exist	<10	<0.10
s101 incorrect information - application form	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(fa)(ii) conduct not contemplated by the student visa	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8101	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8524	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(g) prescribed ground - r 2.43 (1)(o)	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(g) prescribed ground - r 2.43 (1)(a)	<10	<0.10
Primary Visa Holder Breached Student Visa Condition (Auto)	<10	<0.10
s501(1)(6) - character test - s501(6)(a)	<10	<0.10
s103 bogus document	<10	<0.10
s104 changes in circumstances not notified	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8104	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8514	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8528	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8533	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(b) breach of condition - 8560	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(c) breach of condition by third party	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(d) non-compliance with Subdivision C - s104	<10	<0.10
s116(1)(g) prescribed ground - r 2.43 (1)(f)	<10	<0.10
s140(1) family unit member - s109	<10	<0.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,351</b>	<b>100%</b>

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\*\* Note the table provides a count of all grounds associated with a cancellation and is not a count of individual cancellations. A cancellation may have multiple grounds associated to it and as a result the figures may not match the actual total cancellation figure.

The following table provides figures of student visa cancellations in the period 01 July 2015 to 31 January 2016 by student visa subclass type, represented as both raw figures and as a percentage of the total:

<b>2015-16 (Jul-Jan) Onshore and offshore student visa cancellations by visa subclass type*</b>		
<b>Student visa subclass type</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of total</b>
Higher Education Sector	5,674	61.25
Vocational Education and Training Sector	2,271	24.52
Schools Sector	642	6.93
Postgraduate Research Sector	372	4.02
Independent ELICOS Sector	197	2.13
Non-Award Sector	72	0.78
Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	35	0.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,263</b>	<b>100%</b>

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- Student visa excludes Visa s/c 580 (Student Guardian).

The following table provides a comparison of the number of student visa cancellations in the last six months of 2014 (01 July to 31 December 2014) and the last six months of 2015 (01 July to 31 December 2015):

<b>Onshore and offshore student visa cancellations in 2014 (Jul-Dec) 2015 (Jul-Dec)*</b>			
<b>Month</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>% difference from 2014</b>
July	675	1,581	<b>134.22%</b>
August	603	1,759	<b>191.71%</b>
September	531	1,261	<b>137.48%</b>
October	514	599	<b>16.54%</b>
November	436	2,053	<b>370.87%</b>
December	469	870	<b>85.50%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,228</b>	<b>8,123</b>	<b>151.64%</b>

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- Student visa excludes Visa s/c 580 (Student Guardian).

There were 15,716 student visa cancellations, both onshore and offshore, in the 2015 calendar year, compared to 7,027 in the 2014 calendar year. Note that these figures exclude cancellations of visa subclass 580 (Student Guardian).

The significant increase in student visa cancellations between the comparative reporting periods can primarily be attributed to the Department's introduction in early 2015 of a revised process for identifying long-term, offshore students using automated batch processing. Batch processing enables the Department to cancel a higher number of visas per month, for students who are no longer residing in Australia.

*Note that all figures provided in the above response were extracted from Departmental systems as at 10 February 2016. As data has been drawn from a live systems environment, the figures provided may differ slightly in previous or future reporting.*