

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 February 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/013) - Stress leave and stress-related issues for staff - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator Macdonald, Ian (L&CA 30) asked:

CHAIR: Do you have any trends on stress leave and stress-related issues for your staff?

Mr Pezzullo: I am sure we could make that available on notice.

CHAIR: Perhaps this is even before your time, but is there a noticeable cohort in stress-related issues within the department?

Mr Pezzullo: Quite possibly, but I would like to take some advice on that. I know both from my leadership of Customs as well as from hearing the stories once I took over in Immigration that it was a very stressful period for folks involved in the transfer of persons from intercepted vessels into onshore detention and all the challenges of dealing with that. Whether the data shows some sort of spike in claims et cetera, I will have to check. I am sorry. I interrupted the commissioner.

Answer:

A comparative analysis of stress-related workers' compensation claims lodged between 2012-13 and 2015-16 shows a steady decline.

2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
68	59	42	38

Of the 207 claims lodged between 2012-13 and 2015-16, 167 have been accepted by Comcare.

2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
39	34	20	19