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QON Number: AE17/299

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 27 February 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/299) - Bridging E Visas -

Senator McKim, Nick (L&CA 127) asked:

Ms Zakharoff : In total, as of 31 December 2016, there were 35,050 people on bridging E visas.
Senator McKIM: How many of those do not have a condition attached to their visa that prevents them from working?

Ms Zakharoff : It is a very small number. The information I have is that 84 per cent of the IMAs, or irregular maritime arrivals, are on Bridging Visa E and 84 per cent of them have work rights.

Senator McKIM: So 84 per cent have work rights. Would there be—

Mr Pezzullo : That is not 84 per cent of 35,000.

Senator McKIM: Sorry, is that a clarification, Mr Pezzullo?

Mr Pezzullo : You just need to be clear on that.

Mr Manthorpe : That would be 84 per cent of—

Senator McKIM: The 35,050?

Mr Manthorpe : No, there are not 35,050.

Senator McKIM: That is what I was just about to say.

Mr Manthorpe : It would be 84 per cent of about 30,000. It will be in that vicinity. We can give you more precision on notice, if you need it.

Answer:

On 31 December 2016, there were 35,050 people on Bridging E visas, of which 28,191 did not have a condition attached to their visa that prevented them from working.

	Total BVE holders	With work rights	Without work rights
IMAs	23,836	23,809	27
Non-IMAs	11,214	4,382	6,832
Total	35,050	28,191	6,859