

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
COMMONWEALTH DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Question No. 85

Senator Hanson-Young asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2012:

What is the current rate of acquittals of boat crew trials?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

As at 30 May 2012, 70 persons have been acquitted of people smuggling offences since 2008. In that same period, there have been 405 prosecutions concluded (that is, where a conviction has been recorded, the person has been acquitted or discharged or the prosecution has been discontinued).