

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 22 May 2017**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(BE17/171) - Number of Visa overstays currently in Australia - Programme 1.2: Border Management**

Senator Griff, Stirling (L&CA) written:

Please provide the number of visa overstayers currently in Australia (or as at 30 June, 2017 if applicable).

What proportion of these are estimated to be working?

Please provide a breakdown of how many have overstayed by duration:

- a. 0-3 months
- b. Up to 6 months
- c. Up to a year
- d. Up to 2 years
- e. Up to 5 years
- f. Up to 10 years
- g. Up to 15 years
- h. Up to 20 years
- i. Over 20 years

*Answer:*

The official terminology for a visa overstayer is an unlawful non-citizen (UNC).

The UNC figure is captured annually on 30 June and is only an estimate. As at 30 June 2016, there were an estimated 64,600 UNCs in the Australian community.

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection is unable to provide an estimate of the number of UNCs who are working. However, in the 2016-17 financial year (up to 30 April 2017) of the 12,966 non-citizens located, 1,756 were located working illegally.

The table below provides an indicative breakdown of how many UNCs have overstayed by duration.

Unlawful non-citizens – length of overstay*	
As at 30 June	2016
0 – 3 months	5,060
3 – 6 months	3,190
6 – 12 months	4,290
1 – 2 years	5,980
2 – 5 years	11,880
5 – 10 years	9,940
10 – 15 years	5,510
15 – 20 years	6,670
20 years and over	12,080
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>64,600</b>

Numbers are provided as an estimate only. Numbers are rounded which can result in rounding errors and Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens numbers are only available yearly.

Source: DWARS and Immigration Compliance Analysis and Statistics Section (ICAS).