

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### (157) Program 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Cash (L&C 68) asked:

In relation to the 8825 compliance related departures, do you have the cost of that to the government? Provide a break-down of voluntary departure and involuntary departure and assisted departure. Provide a list of the countries to which they have been returned.

*Answer:*

#### Cost of compliance related departures:

The individual cost of a removal can vary widely depending on factors such as the destination and commercial airfare costs, whether security or other escorts are required (including their airfares, accommodation and allowances) and the types of immediate post-return assistance that may be appropriate.

During 2009-10 the average cost for removing a person who originally arrived documented at an Australian port was around \$4000. This figure does not include location, detention, case management or review costs.

The cost of IMA removals usually ranges from \$5000 to \$15 000 per person. These figures do not include location, detention, case management or review costs.

IMA removals generally cost more than non-IMA removals because:

- it is policy that people who arrive in Australia irregularly are usually escorted through transit points while being removed to their final destination; and
- the routes to the destination countries for such removals often require multiple transits.

#### Break-down of departure types

The 8825 compliance-related departures for 2009-10 consist of the following elements:

Departure Type	No.	Voluntary*	Involuntary*
Removal of Irregular Maritime Arrivals (removed from immigration detention)	139	124	15
Removal of Illegal Foreign Fishers	136	136	0

<i>(removed from immigration detention)</i>			
Removal of other unauthorised arrivals <i>(includes people removed within 72 hours of being refused immigration clearance at an Australian airport)</i>	1629	1617	12
Removal of compliance and case resolution clients <i>(people detained from the community then removed from immigration detention)</i>	1077	968	109
Departure of compliance and case resolution clients from the community <i>(people who departed Australia from the community while holding a Bridging Visa E)</i>	5380	5380	0
Assisted Voluntary Return compliance and case resolution clients <i>(people who departed Australia from the community while holding a Bridging Visa E, and who received returns counselling and/or material support from IOM)</i>	464	464	0
	<b>8825</b>	<b>8689</b>	<b>136</b>

*\*Voluntary/Involuntary signifies whether the client signed a request for removal. Some clients who decline to sign a request for removal (and are therefore counted as 'involuntary') may nonetheless wish to depart so are cooperative with other aspects of their removal.*

#### Nationalities of removed and departing compliance clients

The Department does not have consolidated data for the final destination countries of removees and those departing on BVEs. Often a client will be removed or will return to their country of citizenship. Following are the figures on removals and departures by citizenship:

<b>Citizenship</b>	<b>Total Removals and Departures 2009-10</b>
China	1006
Malaysia	893
United Kingdom	657
India	623
South Korea	541
Indonesia	470
Ireland	353
Philippines	278
Papua New Guinea	232
Vietnam	213
United States of America	208
Thailand	195
New Zealand	164
Hong Kong	151
Sri Lanka	150
France	135
Brazil	132
Germany	120

Unknown	112
Canada	98
Bangladesh	97
Japan	94
Taiwan	85
Fiji	80
Italy	77
Columbia	76
Singapore	75
Pakistan	74
Israel	69
Saudi Arabia	69
Nepal	62
South Africa	59
Mauritius	55
Lebanon	50
Zimbabwe	50
Netherlands	48
Tonga	43
Russia	42
Turkey	39
Zambia	38
Kenya	37
Romania	37
Sweden	34
Cambodia	32
Poland	31
Norway	30
Spain	30
Switzerland	30
Peru	27
Chile	26
Samoa	26
Egypt	25
East Timor	22
Czech Republic	20
Nigeria	18
Mexico	15
Greece	14
Iran	14
Denmark	13
Finland	13
Solomon Islands	13
Belgium	12
Hungary	12
Austria	11
Estonia	10
Jordan	10
Total of countries with less than 10	250
<b>Total</b>	<b>8825</b>

