

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0309) Program 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Cash asked:

How many failed asylum seekers remain in Australia from the IMA cohort by nationality, age, gender and country of origin? Where are they? What will happen to them?

Answer:

The Department considers IMAs to be failed asylum seekers when they have received a negative outcome at both departmental and independent merits review. According to DIAC operational data as at cob 13 February 2012 there are 64 IMA clients who are considered to be failed asylum seekers.

The table below provides a breakdown of these clients by age, gender and country of origin.

Location by Nationality

	Afghanistan	Iran	Iraq	Sri Lanka	Stateless	Other	TOTAL
Facilities based detention	21		1	17			39
Community Detention	10	2	5		3	5	25
TOTAL	31	2	6	17	3	5	64

Gender by Age Group

	Female	Male	Total
18 to 25 years		12	12
26 to 35 years		33	33
36 to 50 years	1	14	15
51+ years	1	3	4
Total	2	62	64

A significant number of IMAs who have received negative independent merits review (IMR) assessments apply to the Federal Magistrates Court for judicial review of the IMR assessment.

The Department is under a general legal obligation to remove unlawful non-citizens as soon as reasonably practicable. Pre-removal planning processes, including pre-removal clearances and obtaining travel documents, commence once a person has completed all processes related to protection claims and any judicial review