

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0477) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash (L&CA 29) asked:

In each of the years from 2007-08 through to the year to date, do you have information at hand as to how many of the applicants under the age of 18 years arrived in Australia and subsequently married the proposer?

Answer

The table below shows the number of Prospective Marriage visa holders that were under the age of 18 when they were granted the visa that married their sponsor and lodged a Partner visa application onshore.

Year¹	Married and lodged Partner visas
2007/8	33
2008/9	44
2009/10	34
2010/11	39
2011/12 to 31/12/2011	22
Total	172

Five people who were granted their Prospective Marriage visa have not proceeded to apply for a Partner visa within the validity period of their visa. A further 25 people are still within their Prospective Marriage visa validity period.

¹ The 'year' column refers to the year in which the visa holder applied for a partner visa in Australia or departed Australia, not the year the Prospective marriage visa was granted or the applicant entered Australia.