

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0356) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

How many people currently in immigration detention have been charged with a criminal offence? What are those offences?

Answer:

As at 11 February 2013 departmental records indicate there are 147 clients in immigration detention facilities who have been charged with a criminal offence.

The majority of these are people who may have arrived lawfully with valid passports and visas but are in immigration detention as unlawful non-citizens, some of whom may have had their visa cancelled under powers in the *Migration Act 1958*.

As some state/territory jurisdictions apply different terminology in relation to criminal offences, charges have been grouped under similar offence types. These offences include:

Armed Robbery
Assault, Grievous Bodily Harm
Breach of court or police order, Contravening AVO
Child Prostitution
Domestic Violence
Drug Possession, Importation and Manufacture
Fraud, Identity and document theft, Passport Fraud
Indecent Assault
Murder, Manslaughter
People Smuggling or People Smuggling Related Offences
Damage to Commonwealth Property, Arson, Violent Demonstration
Sexual Assault
Sexual Assault Minor
Theft, Break and Enter, Deal with Proceeds of Crime, Aggravated Robbery
Threatening to Cause Harm, Stalk and Intimidate
Traffic Offences, Drink Driving
Unlawful Detention
Weapons Related Offences

This information is limited to details known to the department where convictions have been lawfully disclosed by other agencies. The department does not routinely hold details of personal histories where a conviction may have been recorded against an immigration detainee unless these convictions were taken into consideration in relation to the cancellation of a person's visa.