

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 May 2007

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(40) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Crossin (L&CA 50) asked:

- (1) Do you have a handle on whether people around the globe are actually applying many more times through the internet for whatever reason than are actually walking into an embassy or providing hard copies of applications or visa requests?
- (2) Is the traffic over the internet increasing?

Answer:

- (1) On average since 2004 the internet has accounted for 76% of all visitor visa applications lodged. This includes Electronic Travel Authorities [Subclasses 956 (Business entrant Long stay); 976 (Visitor); and 977 (Business entrant Short stay); Subclass 676 Tourist (short stay); e676 (online Tourist); Subclass 456 Business visitor (short stay); Subclass 459 Sponsored Business visitor (short stay); and Subclass 679 Sponsored family visitor (short stay)].
- (2) The percentage of visitor visa applications lodged via the internet has remained steady since 2004.