

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 26 MAY 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(26) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Humphries (L&C 62) asked:

How many international student visas were declined in 2008-09, how many were approved in 2009-10 and how many were declined in 2009-10, to date? In respect of these sorts of visas has there been a marked increase in the decline of international student visas?

Answer.

In the 2008-09 program year, 27 876 Student visa applications were refused.

In the 2009-10 program year to 31 May, 245 186 Student visa applications were granted.

In 2009-10 program year to 31 May, 34 158 Student visa applications were refused.

There has been a reduction of approximately 14 per cent in Student visa grants from 1 July 2009 to 31 May 2010 compared to the same period in the previous program year.