

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0294) Program 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Cash (L&C 12) asked:

The unlawful non-citizens that were located during the 2010-11 financial year and removed, at what cost and to which countries?

Answer:

The figures for unlawful non-citizens that were located during the 2010-11 financial year are contained in the answer for QoN 293. Of these people 4734 have been removed from Australia by the Department by 31 March 2011. The individual cost of a removal depends on a wide range of factors including the destination and commercial airfare costs, whether security or other escorts are required (including their airfares, accommodation and allowances) and the types of immediate post-return assistance that may be appropriate.

From 1 July 2010 - 31 March 2011 the average cost for a non-IMA removal was around \$4000. This figure does not include location, detention, case management or review costs.

The Department does not have consolidated data for the final destination countries of removees. Often a client will be removed or will return to their country of nationality.