

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION SERVICE

Question No. 3

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 29 May 2013:

Senator HUMPHRIES: ... I just want to confirm IMA numbers and boat arrivals according to the figures operated by your agency, please. My calculation of the number of IMAs since August 2008, when of course there was a change in policy by this government, is 694 boat arrivals carrying 42,187 asylum-seekers. Is that the figure you have?

Mr Pezzullo: I would want to check that, rather than just say off the top of my head. I have some data here by financial year and by calendar year, but August 2008 was obviously, as you mentioned, a change-in-policy point. So I would want to check the calculations, but the numbers sound broadly right.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

In the period 1 August 2008 to 28 May 2013, there were 699 boat arrivals, carrying 41,314 asylum seekers and 1,387 crew.