

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 OCTOBER 2008

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(33) Output 1.1: Migration and Visa Policy**

Senator Ellison (L&CA 72) asked:

What is the percentage of 457s who have converted to permanent residency?

*Answer:*

The total percentage of 457 visa holders who have converted to permanent residence is subject to change over time and is therefore difficult to accurately express as a percentage. Subclass 457 visa holders can become permanent residents at any time over the period of their visa, which can be up to four years. Some visa holders may also be granted further 457 visas and become permanent residents while on a subsequent visa.

However, the percentage of Subclass 457 visa holders who have become permanent residents can be provided for a specific point in time. For example, of the 37,430 people who were granted Subclass 457 visas in the 2003-04 program year, 18,441 (49.3 percent) have been granted a permanent residence or provisional permanent visa (as at 19 October 2008).