

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0227) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

How many age-disputes are there Australia wide and where are they being detained – in what states, in which facilities?

Answer:

The term “Age-dispute” has been defined as an instance where:

- the claimed age of an Irregular Maritime Arrival is less than 18 years and there are concerns that the client is older than their claimed age, or
- the claimed age of an Irregular Maritime Arrival is more than 18 years and there are concerns that the client is younger than their claimed age.

As at 18 November 2011, there were 77 Irregular Maritime Arrivals in facilities Australia-wide, whose age is being assessed. Numbers are constantly varying due to new boat arrivals and clients seeking to change their date of birth after arrival.

They were located in the following states and facilities:

State	Facility	Age-Disputes in Immigration Detention
South Australia	Port Augusta Detention Centre	38
	SA Community detention	4
New South Wales	NSW Community detention	3
Victoria	VIC Community detention	29
Christmas Island	Christmas Island	3
Total		77