

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0237) Program 3.1: Border Management

Senator Cash asked:

How many air arrivals presented as undocumented at the time of lodgement either:
a) at airports, or; b) after immigration clearance in 2010-11 and the year to date?

Answer:

- a) In 2010–11, 27 people arrived at an Australian airport without any documentation and raised a protection claim. For the first quarter 2011-12, there were 3 people who arrived at an Australian airport without any documentation and raised a protection claim.
- b) DIAC systems data for Protection visa applicants does not always include information about documentation and it is therefore not possible to reliably report on air arrivals who presented as undocumented. Moreover, a proportion of applicants without recorded information about documentation would likely be children born subsequent to the grant of a visa to a parent.