

What we have learnt from the responses to 2023-24 Budget Estimates Questions on Notice

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The responses to Senate Questions on Notice after the [2023-24 Budget Estimates round](#) were published in July 2023.

We compiled the questions put to the Department of Home Affairs. Below is a summary of new information with links to download the answers.

Unless otherwise specified, this information is current as at 31 March 2023.

Onshore detention and visa cancellation

| Summary of response | Question number |
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| Updated figures on the length of time spent by people in Immigration detention by nationality [update to SE23-538]. | BE23-667 |
| As at 31 March 2023, 1,117 persons are currently in immigration detention, of which: 250 previously held a Protection or Humanitarian (Class XB) visa; 64 have made an application for a Protection visa which has not been finally determined. | BE23-669 |
| Use of force on people in immigration detention. | BE23-670 , BE23-671 , BE23-673 |
| There were less than five incidents involving the use of a spit hood restraint, since 1 July 2022. Following an internal review finalised in | BE23-675 |

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| May 2023, the Department directed the use of spit hoods within the IDN be ceased from 1 July 2023. | |
| Health practitioners at detention facilities. | BE23-676 |
| Statistics for: asylum seekers and refugees in held detention, protection and humanitarian visas cancelled under section 501 Migration Act, detainees who previously held protection or humanitarian visas, detention releases of former protection and humanitarian visa holders, time in held detention for stateless people, removal of detainees with protection and humanitarian visas cancelled under s 501. | BE23-710 |
| 163 non-citizens were released from immigration detention as a result of the Pearson judgement. 110 have been re-detained and were in immigration detention. Less than 5 have been re-detained and were in the community in residence determination. 15 have been re-detained and subsequently removed from Australia. 7 were in criminal custody. 12 have had a visa cancellation decision revoked or deemed invalid (due to other legal errors). Less than 5 have voluntarily departed from the community. | BE23-704 |
| Number of people who have been in held immigration detention by number of years. | BE23-705 |
| The average number of days individuals have been held in the community under a residence determination was 1,610 days. Number of people who have been held in the community under a residence determination by number of years. | BE23-706 |
| Number of Alternative Places of Detention (APODs) currently in use, breakdown by state/territory, type of facility, number of people currently detained. | BE23-714 |
| Incidents of self-harm recorded in immigration detention over the last 5 years. | BE23-715 |
| Deaths in immigration detention and coronial inquests over the last 5 years. | BE23-716 |
| Over the last five years, 2,591 detainees in immigration detention received professional mental health counselling, and 1,081 detainees received counselling through an external torture and trauma service. | BE23-717 |
| There were 490 complaints of assaults made by detainees over the last five years. | BE23-718 |

Refugee and Humanitarian Program

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| As at 31 March 2023, 12,055 permanent Humanitarian visas have been granted. | BE23-641 |
| Number of Global Special Humanitarian (subclass 202) visas granted under five processing priorities. | BE23-642 |
| Number of subclass 200 visas granted to applicants proposed by an immediate ("split") family member who holds a subclass 200 visa, for the last three years. | BE23-643 |
| Number of subclass 202 visas granted to applicants proposed under the Community Support Programme, for the last three years. | BE23-644 |
| Number of humanitarian visa grants by subclass, country of origin and country of residence. | BE23-645 |
| Number of humanitarian visa holders yet to arrive in Australia by subclass, country of residence and program year of grant. | BE23-646 |
| Total number of visa processing officers and number responsible for processing protection claims. | BE23-545 |
| The total amount of funding for the Humanitarian Settlement Program over the period FY2023-24 to FY2026-27. | BE23-776 |
| The total amount of funding for the Adult Migrant English Program over the period FY2023-24 to FY2026-27. | BE23-777 |
| The number of applications made under the Australian offshore humanitarian program based on country of origin for financial year 2022-2023 so far. | BE23-779 |
| The number of visa grants made under the Australian offshore humanitarian program based on country of origin for financial year 2022-2023 so far. | BE23-780 |
| The number of humanitarian visas granted to Afghan nationals per financial year since the fall of Kabul in August 2021, based on the country of residence of those granted a humanitarian visa. | BE23-781 |
| Reasons why the Australian government cannot undertake biometrics for humanitarian visa applicants from Afghanistan who reside in Afghanistan. | BE23-782 |

Stateless persons

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| Number of stateless people on visas in Australia by subclass. | BE23-647 |
| Number of stateless people under 18 on visas in Australia by subclass. | BE23-648 |
| Number of stateless people with pending visa application in Australia by subclass. | BE23-649 |
| Number of stateless people who have obtained Australian citizenship in past five years. | BE23-650 |
| Number of stateless people under 18 born in Australia by visa type. | BE23-651 |
| Number of stateless people in immigration detention. | BE23-652 |

Family visas

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| The family stream planning level is 52,500 places for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24. | BE23-546 |
| Active on hand applications and median processing times for applications decided in March 2023 by visa class. | BE23-547 |
| Number of partner visas granted to Afghan nationals in FY2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23. Breakdown provided of year of lodgement, gender, age and year of grant. | BE23-550 |
| Number of partner visa applications refused for Afghan nationals since 2020-21 by program year. | BE23-552 |
| Number of parent visas waiting to be processed. Breakdown provided by visa class, nationality, year of lodgement. | BE23-613 |
| The processing time for new Parent and Aged Parent visa applications may be at least 29 years and for new Contributory Parent visa applications may be at least 12 years. | BE23-614 |
| Number of parent visas granted over the past five years. Breakdown provided by visa class, nationality and year of grant. | BE23-615 |

Regional processing centres and 'transitory' people

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| Commonwealth funding to Papua New Guinea for management of people seeking asylum and refugees transferred under regional processing arrangements. | BE23-791 BE23-792 BE23-793 |
| Maintenance of a 'state of readiness' for regional processing in Nauru. | BE23-794 |

TPV/SHEV

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| As at 31 March 2023, 491 Resolution of Status visas have been granted since the visa rollout commenced on 14 February 2023. | BE23-625 |
| Breakdown of the \$732.5 million costing allocated to providing a permanent visa pathway for TPV/SHEV holders. | BE23-678 |
| 21,693 TPV/SHEV visas have been granted since 2013, broken down by visa subclass. | BE23-679 |
| 733 TPV/SHEV visas have been granted in FY 2022-23. | BE23-680 |
| 6,281 people in Australia have been refused TPV/SHEV visas and were Fast Track applicants. | BE23-682 |
| 1,842 people who previously held TPV/SHEV visas have applied for a permanent visa, 194 have been granted a permanent visa. | BE23-685 |

Judicial review and Ministerial Intervention requests

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| 6,929 fast track applicants have sought judicial review of a negative Immigration Assessment Authority (IAA) decision. Of these, a total of 802 judicial review applications resulted in an outcome in favour of the applicant. As at 31 March 2023, 3,656 matters remain as active undecided proceedings before the courts. These matters are broken down by financial year and court. | BE23-687 |
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| In the last five financial years, there have been 8,775 unsuccessful permanent protection visa applicants that have sought judicial review. Of these, 809 applicants were successful in their judicial review applications. As at 31 March 2023, 5,747 judicial review applications were yet to be decided. A breakdown of these figures by financial year is provided. | BE23-688 |
| Section 48B requests received by the Department of Home Affairs by country of origin. | BE23-789 |
| Number of section 48B requests that were referred to the Minister in the financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23. | BE23-790 |

Status Resolution Support Service (SRSS)

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| In total, 1,574 people receive SRSS support, breakdown provided by band type. | BE23-762 |
| From this total, 1,227 receive SRSS income support. | BE23-763 |
| 603 people transferred from Nauru or PNG receive SRSS support. Of those, 446 receive financial assistance. | BE23-764 |
| Why was the October 2022 estimated allocation for SRSS revised so significantly in the May 2023 Budget? “The Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) program is demand driven and the number of people receiving SRSS support has been decreasing since 2017. A key driver of the reduction in SRSS recipients has been the resolution of the legacy Unauthorised Maritime Arrival (UMA) caseload. Once a person is granted a protection visa (Protection visa, Temporary Protection Visa, Safe Haven Enterprise visa, or Resolution of Status visa) the SRSS program is no longer required.” | BE23-655 |
| Breakdown of number of people receiving SRSS since 2015-16. | BE23-659 |

FOI process

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| Average processing time of valid FOI requests made by unauthorised maritime arrivals (UMA) under the FOI Act. | BE23-784 |
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| Percentage of valid FOI requests responded to by the Department of Home Affairs within the statutory timeframe provided in the FOI Act, in the years since 2018. | BE23-785 |
| Percentage of valid FOI requests, made by UMAs, and responded to by the Department of Home Affairs within the statutory timeframe provided in the FOI Act, in the years since 2018. | BE23-786 |
| Percentage of FOI requests made by UMAs, subject of appeals/complaints to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner due to the Department of Home Affairs not meeting its statutory timeframes, in the years since 2018. | BE23-787 |