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Monthly Travel Exemptions Processing Report

	March ¹ -November 2020	December 2020	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021	Cumulative ¹															
Travel exemption requests received (a request may include more than one person)																													
Outwards	192,117	19,502	20,976	22,443	26,599	23,715	26,429	32,019	34,111	37,796	36,591	28,872	2,800	503,970															
Inwards	178,305	22,213	20,355	20,637	22,388	20,931	22,505	25,038	24,707	26,345	24,002	42,733	83,539	533,698															
Outwards travel exemption decisions																													
Category	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²			
Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak	430	77	8	<5	48	8	43	14	40	22	50	10	61	14	66	21	91	39	85	74	76	37	52	39	<5	<5	1,050	359	
Critical industries and business	7,861	781	1,102	135	2,116	710	2,230	954	2,077	1,257	1,950	1,193	2,856	1,205	3,110	1,144	3,169	1,976	3,424	1,467	3,035	1,312	2,837	884	188	66	35,955	13,084	
Urgent medical treatment	844	311	38	37	34	102	67	172	60	221	78	126	84	123	61	106	100	247	79	207	105	227	77	150	22	20	1,649	2,049	
Travelling overseas for at least 3 months ³	42,921	2,577	8,872	94	4,308	2,343	4,635	3,936	6,380	4,725	5,375	4,205	6,322	3,733	7,561	4,098	9,622	5,524	10,445	4,455	11,403	4,664	8,059	3,231	959	134	126,862	43,719	
Ordinarily resident outside Australia ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<5	<5	3,832	727	2,142	1,104	1,322	758	76	57	7,372	2,646	
Urgent and unavoidable personal business	11,148	4,439	538	203	348	519	271	638	335	675	269	427	249	485	345	460	565	906	343	634	197	466	276	465	13	36	14,897	10,353	
Compassionate and compelling grounds	28,599	19,687	2,495	3,169	1,609	5,355	2,062	5,590	2,693	4,963	2,028	4,418	2,003	4,305	2,796	4,309	3,758	6,890	2,995	4,748	3,521	4,787	5,290	4,773	444	255	60,293	73,249	
National interest	158	19	17	<5	83	12	97	18	194	6	121	9	305	<5	577	12	1,011	23	142	28	253	38	323	18	7	<5	3,288	188	
Total outwards approved/refused	91,961	27,891	13,070	3,640	8,546	9,049	9,405	11,322	11,779	11,869	9,871	10,388	11,880	9,868	14,516	10,150	18,316	15,605	21,345	12,340	20,732	12,635	18,236	10,318	1,709	572	251,366	145,647	
Otherwise finalised ⁵			1,883		3,431		2,403		3,022		2,758		3,486		4,189		4,862		3,248		1,482		3,901		537		106,862		
Total finalisations for outwards travel exemptions			18,593		21,026		23,130		26,670		23,017		25,234		28,856		38,783		36,933		34,849		32,455		2,818		503,875		
Inwards travel exemptions decisions																													
Category	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²	Approved	Refused ²			
Compassionate and compelling	6,102	30,910	1,204	8,756	502	8,749	718	8,168	673	8,323	638	6,733	713	6,662	993	7,723	1,011	9,768	2,711	7,483	4,122	5,567	1,641	4,577	2,478	5,259	23,506	118,678	
Critical skills – Medical	1,236	135	95	9	48	5	47	<5	61	8	84	<5	30	<5	177	31	318	45	241	32	204	19	59	13	<5	5	2,603	313	
Critical skills – other	12,684	7,771	2,378	2,431	1,843	2,428	2,295	2,996	2,501	3,778	2,328	3,274	2,236	2,957	2,675	4,048	2,431	4,477	3,338	4,364	2,826	3,671	3,108	2,786	3,424	2,999	44,067	47,980	
International Student Arrival Plans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	345	<5	345	<5
National interest (including diplomatic)	815	7	124	5	75	<5	176	<5	378	<5	310	9	320	<5	231	<5	664	<5	260	<5	185	<5	463	<5	494	<5	4,495	29	
Urgent Medical Treatment	295	140	72	45	53	33	54	45	51	14	48	27	57	62	62	44	36	20	54	42	41	41	43	34	56	44	922	591	
Transit	7,777	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,777	9	
Total inwards approved/refused	28,909	38,972	3,873	11,246	2,521	11,216	3,290	11,212	3,664	12,124	3,408	10,047	3,356	9,685	4,138	11,850	4,460	14,311	6,604	11,921	7,378	9,298	5,314	7,410	6,800	8,310	83,715	167,602	
Otherwise finalised ⁵			6,306		6,197		6,500		7,334		6,598		7,800		8,690		8,752		7,117		6,732		16,267		61,323		257,591		
Total finalisations for inwards travel exemptions			21,425		19,934		21,002		23,122		20,053		20,842		24,677		27,523		25,642		23,408		28,991		76,433		508,908		

These statistics are as at the end of November 2021. Data prior to 1 August 2020 is collated manually from multiple systems. Numbers for past months may differ from previous monthly reports due to small numbers of cases where outcomes changed after initial finalisation.

¹ Figures are since 20 March 2020 for inwards exemptions and 25 March 2020 for outwards exemptions

² Refused requests generally failed to support their claims or did not meet the guidelines for an exemption to be approved.

³ Prior to 30 September 2020, this category was included within "Urgent and unavoidable personal business". "For a compelling reason" was added on 8 January 2021.

⁴ Became a discretionary category rather than automatically exempt from 11 August 2021.

⁵ Otherwise finalised includes persons found to meet an already exempt category, withdrawn requests and those that did not contain sufficient information for referral to a decision maker.

Authorising Officer: Assistant Secretary, Temporary Visas and Travel Exemptions
Date: 1 December 2021

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