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Monthly Travel Exemptions Processing Report

The below statistics are for the month of November 2021. Data prior to 1 August 2020 is collated manually from multiple systems.

| | Cumulative ¹ | | November 2021 | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Travel exemption requests received (a request may include more than one person) | | | | |
| Outwards | 503,970 | | 2,800 (↓ 26072) | |
| Inwards | 533,698 | | 83,539 (↑ 40806) | |
| Outward travel exemption decisions | | | | |
| Category | Approved | Refused ³ | Approved | Refused ³ |
| Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak | 1,050 | 359 | <5 | <5 |
| Critical industries and business | 35,955 | 13,084 | 188 | 66 |
| Urgent medical treatment | 1,649 | 2,049 | 22 | 20 |
| Travelling overseas for a compelling reason for at least 3 months ² | 126,862 | 43,719 | 959 | 134 |
| Ordinarily resident outside Australia ⁴ | 7,372 | 2,646 | 76 | 57 |
| Urgent and unavoidable personal business | 14,897 | 10,353 | 13 | 36 |
| Compassionate and compelling grounds | 60,293 | 73,249 | 444 | 255 |
| National interest | 3,288 | 188 | 7 | <5 |
| TOTALS | 251,366 | 145,647 | 1,709 | 572 |
| Otherwise finalised ⁵ | 106,862 | | 537 | |
| Total finalisations for outwards travel exemptions | 503,875 | | 2,818 | |
| On-hand caseload at the end of October 2021 | | | 95 (↓ 18) | |
| Inward travel exemptions decisions | | | | |
| Category | Approved | Refused ³ | Approved | Refused ³ |
| Compassionate and compelling | 23,506 | 118,678 | 2,478 | 5,259 |
| Critical skills – Medical | 2,603 | 313 | <5 | 5 |
| Critical skills – other | 44,067 | 47,980 | 3,424 | 2,999 |
| International Student Arrival Plans | 345 | <5 | 345 | <5 |
| National interest (including diplomatic) | 4,495 | 29 | 494 | <5 |
| Urgent Medical Treatment | 922 | 591 | 56 | 44 |
| Transit | 7,777 | 9 | <5 | <5 |
| TOTALS | 83,715 | 167,602 | 6,800 | 8,310 |
| Otherwise finalised ⁵ | 257,591 | | 61,323 | |
| Total finalisations for inwards travel exemptions | 508,908 | | 76,433 | |
| On-hand caseload at the end of October 2021 | | | 24,790 (↑ 7106) | |

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

² 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.

³ Refused requests generally failed to support their claims or did not meet the guidelines for an exemption to be approved.

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 (excluding immediate family of Australian citizens and Permanent residents inbound), 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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