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## MEDIA ENQUIRY

<b>Subject:</b> Numbers of visa applications in Hong Kong			
<b>Deadline:</b> 19 July 2019			
<b>Journalist:</b> s22(1)(a)(ii)		<b>Outlet:</b> s22(1)(a)(ii)	
<b>Phone:</b> s22(1)(a)(ii)	<b>Mobile:</b>	<b>Email:</b> s22(1)(a)(ii)	
<b>Enquiry Received (Time &amp; Date):</b> 8.20pm 17 July 2019			
<b>Media Officer:</b> s22(1)(a)(ii)		<b>Media Ph:</b> s22(1)(a)(ii)	

### QUESTION / ISSUE

The journalist asked:

I am working on a story looking into Hong Kong people are inquiring or applying for migration to Australia following the recent political unrest.

my questions are:

1. How many **queries** in relation to migration to Australia by Hong Kong residents in each of the first six months of this year?
2. How many **applications** by Hong Kong residents have been filed in each of the first six months of this year?
3. What about these numbers in each of the year from 2010 to 2018?
4. How many **cases were approved** in each of the year from 2010 to 2018 and each of the month from January to June 2019?
5. What are the consulate's views on these trends?

The journalist clarified the request to:

- applications of permanent residency to Australia by Hong Kong nationals in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 as well as first 5 or 6 months (if available) in 2019.

### RESPONSE UNCLASSIFIED

- There has not been a significant increase in visa applications by Hong Kong SAR passport holders. Growth from 2017-18 to 2018-19 is consistent with global trends and is considered modest.
- The Department does not track numbers of queries.
- The 2018-19 program year figures are not yet publicly available.

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**Permanent visa application lodgements by Hong Kong SAR passport holders**

Lodged Visa Category	Program Year		
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Child	54	64	73
Family	953	1,259	994
Skilled	1,317	2,015	1,686
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>3,338</b>	<b>2,753</b>

*Note 1: Data is reported by program year (July to June).*

*Note 2: Data includes primary and secondary applicants.*

Note: this data covers non-humanitarian permanent visa applications only.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Permanent visa application lodgements by Hong Kong SAR passport holders**

Lodged Visa Category	Program Year
	2018-19 to 30/06/2019
Child	62
Family	1,074
Skilled	1,797
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,933</b>

*Note 1: Data is reported by program year (July to June).*

*Note 2: Data includes primary and secondary applicants.*

Note: this data covers non-humanitarian permanent visa applications only.

**CLEARANCE:**

Drafted by	Title	Time/Date drafted
s22(1)(a)(ii)	A/g Director, Immigration and Citizenship Public Affairs	18 July 2019

Cleared by	Title	Time/Date cleared
s22(1)(a)(ii)	Data clearance	22 July 2019
Peter Richards	Assistant Secretary, Skilled and Family Visa Program	22 July 2019
s22(1)(a)(ii)	Director, Media Coordination	XX July 2019

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