



## Freedom of Information Request FA 20/06/00586

On 14 June 2020, the Department received the following FOI request:

*How many of the people applied for protection visa by faith/religion from each country (India, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan) under Offshore Humanitarian program and Onshore Humanitarian program for 2015-2016, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-2019 FY. I need it by faith/religion (e.g. Hindu, Christian, Muslim (Shia), Muslim (Sunni), Muslim Ahmadiyya, Zoroastrian and Jews or in whatever reasonable form the data is available) for the people who applied the protection visa. Is it also possible to get the reason for protection visa (e.g. religious persecution, civil war, etc.)?*

### Humanitarian visa lodgements by Religion Group, 2015–16 to 2018–19

Nationality	Religion Group	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	Total
Afghanistan	Christian	25	8	11	19	63
	Islam	3,288	2,846	2,000	2,179	10,313
	No religion	0	0	<5	0	<5
	Not stated/unknown	534	607	546	639	2,326
	Other	0	18	11	23	52
Bangladesh	Christian	0	0	<5	<5	<5
	Hindu	0	0	0	<5	<5
	Islam	18	<5	21	23	66
	No religion	0	0	<5	<5	<5
	Not stated/unknown	211	218	247	261	937
	Other	0	0	<5	0	<5
India	Buddhist	85	18	26	73	202
	Christian	5	0	15	20	40
	Hindu	12	12	36	53	113
	Islam	6	5	7	15	33
	No religion	0	0	<5	<5	<5
	Not stated/unknown	878	1,112	1,479	1,744	5,213
	Other	12	13	30	52	107
Pakistan	Christian	99	51	33	36	219
	Hindu	0	0	0	<5	<5
	Islam	102	90	77	161	430
	No religion	0	0	<5	<5	<5
	Not stated/unknown	1,046	944	890	939	3,819
	Other	5	0	5	<5	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>6,326</b>	<b>5,946</b>	<b>5,444</b>	<b>6,247</b>	<b>23,963</b>

<sup>1</sup> **Other:** Includes religions that do not fit into the main groupings (e.g. Baha'i, Sabian Mandæan, Yazidism).

<sup>2</sup> **Not stated/unknown:** Religion is self-identified and as declared on application and may include generic responses. Religion may not be recorded until time of visa grant.

<sup>3</sup> **No Religion:** Applicant identifies as non-religious (e.g. atheist, agnostic).

**Data Notes:**

1. This information is provided by the Department of Home Affairs and was extracted from departmental systems on 08 July 2019. As data has been drawn from a dynamic system environment, the information is correct at the time of publication and figures may differ slightly from previous or future reporting.
2. Visas counted include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In-Country Special Humanitarian Program), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) 204 (Woman at Risk) and 866 (Permanent Protection).
3. Statistics for the offshore component are based on Country of Birth. The Country of Birth of the principal visa applicants is applied to secondary visa applicants.
4. Statistics for the onshore component are based on Citizenship.
5. For the offshore component, the religion of principal visa applicants is applied to secondary visa applicants.
6. Religion is self-identified and as declared on application and may include generic responses.
7. Cells with values of less than 5 are masked in accordance with departmental data release protocols.