

## Freedom of Information request: FA 21/03/00809

### 1) Number of travel exemptions applied for between 13 September 2020 to 24 March 2021

139,368 inwards travel exemption requests were received between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive).

149,454 outwards travel exemption requests were received between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive).

Note: requests means individuals who sought an exemption. An individual may submit more than one request.

### 2) Number of travel exemptions issued between 13 September 2020 to 24 March 2021

23,068 inwards travel exemption requests were approved by the ABF Commissioner or an authorised decision maker between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive).

85,258 outwards travel exemption requests were approved by the ABF Commissioner or an authorised decision maker between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive).

### 3) Number of overseas travel exemption requests per category of travel exemption request from 13 September 2020 to 24 March 2021

Requests for a travel exemption received between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive), by client-selected enquiry type.

	Enquiry Type	Total
Inward exemption requests	Compelling or Compassionate	65,213
	Critical Skills	36,508
	Event	1,215
	Immediate Family	33,084
	Urgent Medical Treatment or Evacuation	1,023
	New Zealand citizen usually resident in Australia	2,325
Outward exemption requests	Travelling overseas for a compelling reason for more than 3 months	57,431
	Compassionate or humanitarian grounds	46,304
	Critical industry and business	19,724
	Urgent and unavoidable personal business	18,225
	Other reasons to depart	7,770
<b>Total</b>		<b>288,822</b>

#### 4) Within the critical skills travel exemption category

a. confirmation of the number of exemptions per occupation (medical technology, critical infrastructure, telecommunications, engineering and mining, supply chain logistics, agriculture, primary industry, food production, and the maritime industry)

*Note: data on occupation and industry codes is only available from 1 January 2021, following major upgrades to the system in December 2020.*

Critical Skills travel exemption requests approved by the ABF Commissioner or a decision maker between 1 January and 24 March 2021 (inclusive), by top 10 employer ANZSIC codes:

<b>ANZSIC Code of Employer</b>	<b>Exemptions approved</b>
Q - Health care and social assistance	1,204
M - Professional, scientific and technical services	1,003
C - Manufacturing	682
B - Mining	581
E - Construction	498
S - Other services	462
R - Arts and recreation services	277
A - Agriculture, forestry and fishing	267
I - Transport, postal and warehousing	256
J - Information media and telecommunications	230
Other industries	763
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,223</b>

**b. confirmation of the number of exemptions for applicants sponsored by an employer to work in Australia in an occupation on the PMSOL**

*Note: data on occupation and industry codes is only available from 1 January 2021, following major upgrades to the system in December 2020.*

Critical Skills travel exemption requests approved by the ABF Commissioner or a decision maker between 1 January and 24 March 2021 (inclusive), where the occupation code recorded was on PMSOL:

<b>ANZSCO Code (PMSOL occupations only)</b>	<b>Exemptions approved</b>
261313 - Software Engineer	295
233512 - Mechanical Engineer	274
111111 - Chief Executive or Managing Director	229
253112 - Resident Medical Officer	179
261312 - Developer Programmer	146
253111 - General Practitioner	139
133111 - Construction Project Manager	135
254415 - Registered Nurse (Critical Care and Emergency)	91
254418 - Registered Nurse (Medical)	82
254499 - Registered Nurses nec	58
253411 - Psychiatrist	40
253999 - Medical Practitioners nec	38
254412 - Registered Nurse (Aged Care)	32
254423 - Registered Nurse (Perioperative)	32
254422 - Registered Nurse (Mental Health)	19
254111 - Midwife	13
272511 - Social Worker	13
312911 - Maintenance Planner	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,827</b>

## 5) Number of travel exemptions issued per Nationality

Inwards travel exemptions approved by the ABF Commissioner or a decision maker between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive), by top 20 passport countries.

<b>Passport Country</b>	<b>Exemptions approved</b>
United Kingdom	2,709
United States of America	2,454
India	2,399
China	1,171
South Africa	1,026
France	955
Japan	917
Philippines	717
New Zealand	666
Canada	656
Germany	590
Malaysia	495
Italy	484
Singapore	472
Ireland	439
Netherlands	435
Korea, Republic of	388
Sri Lanka	298
Indonesia	282
Spain	353
<i>Others</i>	<i>5,162</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,068</b>

Outwards travel exemptions approved by a decision maker between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive), by top 20 passport countries.

<b>Passport Country</b>	<b>Total</b>
Australia	60,203
China	6,891
India	3,871
United Kingdom	1,930
New Zealand	1,268
Pakistan	1,052
Malaysia	787
United States of America	748
Singapore	743
Korea, Republic of	509
Japan	490
Indonesia	428
Germany	364
Canada	323
Philippines	305
Nepal	301
Ireland	292
Viet Nam	250
Thailand	246
Hong Kong (SAR of PRC)	242
<i>Others</i>	<i>4,015</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,258</b>

## 6) Number of travel exemptions issued per country of location

*Note: not available for outbound travel exemption requests – all are in Australia.*

Inwards travel exemptions approved by the ABF Commissioner or a decision maker between 13 September 2020 and 24 March 2021 (inclusive), by top 20 “current location” countries.

<b>Current Location</b>	<b>Total</b>
United Kingdom	2,456
United States of America	2,228
India	1,868
China	1,107
South Africa	1,059
Japan	871
Singapore	836
Australia*	830
Canada	619
France	588
New Zealand	572
Germany	550
Netherlands	538
Philippines	520
Malaysia	485
Thailand	442
Italy	428
Korea, Republic of	379
Ireland	365
Hong Kong (SAR of PRC)	315
<i>Others</i>	<i>6,012</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,068</b>

\*Temporary visa holders may apply pre-emptively whilst they are still in Australia for an exemption to return.