



## Freedom of Information Request FA 21/06/01373

### Question:

Number of outbound travel exemption requests granted between March 25 2020 and June 24 2021 by country of destination and exemption type

### Response:

Table 1 - Outbound travel exemption requests approved between 25 March 2020 and 24 June 2021, by discretionary category

Discretionary Category	Requests approved
Compassionate and compelling	43,731
Travelling overseas for a compelling reason for at least three months *	84,724
Urgent and unavoidable personal business	13,449
Critical industries and business	22,825
Urgent medical treatment	1,260
Response to the COVID-19 outbreak	737
National interest	1,346
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>168,072</b>

#### Notes

- 'Requests' means individuals who sought an exemption. An individual may submit more than one request
- Excludes requests that were otherwise finalised (persons found to meet an already exempt category, withdrawn requests, or requests that did not contain sufficient information for referral to a decision maker)
- \* 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

Table 2 - Outbound travel restriction exemption requests approved between 1 August 2020 and 24 June 2021, by top 10 intended destination countries

Intended destination country	Requests approved
China	15,038
United Kingdom	14,209
United States of America	12,488
India	11,999
Pakistan	5,368
New Zealand	5,341
Singapore	4,179
Papua New Guinea	3,755
Canada	3,511
Japan	2,797
Other	66,745
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>145,430</b>

**Notes:**

*Travel exemption data cannot be disaggregated by intended destination country prior to 1 August 2020*

*Excludes requests that were otherwise finalised (persons found to meet an already exempt category, withdrawn requests, or requests that did not contain sufficient information for referral to a decision maker)*