



Freedom of Information Request – FA 24/08/00506

The Department of Home Affairs (the Department) has a non-discriminatory visa framework and the same arrangements apply to all non-citizens applying for an Australian visa, regardless of nationality or location. As of 8 August 2024, a total of 78,243 Visitor (subclass 600) visas were on-hand of which:

- 123 were for people declaring Palestinians.
- 416 were for people declaring Israelis.
- 468 were for people declaring Lebanese.

Applicants are provided information on our website about their visa options and should consider the requirements and their circumstances before lodging:

- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 10,064 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications were lodged by Palestinians.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 5,780 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications were lodged by Israelis.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 8,434 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications were lodged by Lebanese.
- Between 24 February 2022 and 30 December 2022, 13,201 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications were lodged by Ukrainians.

All non-citizens who wish to travel to, enter or remain in Australia must satisfy the requirements of the Migration Act 1958 (the Migration Act) and the Migration Regulations 1994, including identity, health, character and security requirements.

- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 2,564 Visitor (subclass 600) visas were granted to Palestinians.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 5,410 Visitor (subclass 600) visas were granted to Israelis.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 3,610 Visitor (subclass 600) visas were granted to Lebanese.
- Between 24 February 2022 and 30 December 2022, 11,222 Visitor (subclass 600) visas were granted to Ukrainians.
- Between 24 February 2022 and 8 August 2024, 15,559 Visitor (subclass 600) visas were granted to Ukrainians

Each application is assessed on its individual merits. Where an applicant does not demonstrate they meet the legal requirements for a visa, their application must be refused.

- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 7,076 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications from Palestinians were refused.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 141 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications from Israelis were refused.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 August 2024, 4,689 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications from Lebanese were refused.
- Between 24 February 2022 and 8 August 2024, 1,812 Visitor (subclass 600) visa applications from Ukrainians were refused.

Within existing visa frameworks and processes, the Department prioritises the grant of visas to applicants who clearly meet all requirements and needed to travel urgently. Processing times can vary for a range of reasons including whether all required document was submitted and how long it takes us to perform required checks. You can learn more about processing times at [Global visa processing times \(homeaffairs.gov.au\)](https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/global-visa-processing-times):

- The average processing time for a Palestinian Visitor (subclass 600) visa application finalised between 1 October 2023 and 31 July 2024 was four months.
- The average processing time for an Israeli Visitor (subclass 600) visa application finalised between 1 October 2023 and 31 July 2024 was one day.
- The average processing time for a Lebanese Visitor (subclass 600) visa application finalised between 1 October 2023 and 31 July 2024 was 14 days.
- The average processing time for a Ukrainian Visitor (subclass 600) visa application finalised between 1 February 2022 and 31 December 2022 was one day.

The Department has robust procedures in place and each application goes through standard checks that can be repeated at any time along a person's journey to Australia. Where a visa is cancelled, a person may apply for revocation of the cancellation if they can demonstrate that grounds do not exist or that the visa should not have been cancelled.

- Between 7 October 2023 and 31 July 2024, 44 Visitor (subclass 600) visas of Palestinians were cancelled while they were outside of Australia, after new information came to the Department's attention after the grant of their visas. In the same period 21 cancellations were revoked meaning the client's visa was reinstated.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 31 July 2024, less than five Visitor (subclass 600) visas of Israelis were cancelled.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 31 July 2024, five Visitor (subclass 600) visas of Lebanese were cancelled.
- Between 24 February 2022 and 30 December 2022, less than five Visitor (subclass 600) visas of Ukrainians were cancelled.

Notes:

1. Source: Department of Home Affairs (internal documents)

Caveats:

- *This information is provided for the specific purpose of this request. Any other use of the information provided will require consideration and clearance by the Department of Home Affairs*
- *The use of Palestinians, Israeli, Lebanese and Ukrainian refers to people who declared citizenship of those countries*
- *Data used in this report are drawn from a dynamic source. As a result a figure appearing in this report relating to a previous period may show minor variation when comparing a previously published report.*
- *Regarding Immigration data, the Department's current policy is to mask numbers which are less than five as <5, noting we are reviewing the confidentiality method for the future.*
- *There are some limitations on the Department's ability to report certain date ranges – questions have been answered to the best of our ability with some data provided for slightly different periods than requested.*