



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

BR0112

Visitor Visa Program Report

31 December 2020

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About this report

This report provides data about the Visitor visa program administered by the Department of Home Affairs (the Department). The report has been produced to assist tourism industry stakeholders and policy makers.

This report is published every six months.

Data is sourced from several departmental visa processing and recording systems. Data can be dynamic and there can be delays in transmission of information from the Department's global operations. Variations in figures between this report and previous reports can occur. Due to these issues, figures for the current financial year should always be considered provisional.

For privacy reasons < 5 has been used where a number in a table is between 1 and 4.

Further information about the Visitor visa program is available at <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-australia>

Note 1: Data in years prior to 2017-18 was revised on 1 October 2019, due to better source data becoming available. This may result in minor discrepancies with previously published statistics.

Enquiries

Any comments or enquiries concerning this report should be sent to statistical.coordination@homeaffairs.gov.au quoting Report Id BR0112.

Definition of terms

Approved Destination Status (ADS):	This scheme facilitates the travel of organised tour groups from the People's Republic of China (PRC) to Australia by approved travel agents.
Citizenship country:	The country of citizenship of the visa applicant or visa holder. Where a visa applicant or visa holder has more than one citizenship country, either the citizenship of the travel document or the citizenship nominated by the visa applicant is used.
Decided:	The term used for counts of decisions. See below for definition of 'decisions'.
Decisions:	An outcome where a decision-maker (including system-generated decision-making) grants or refuses a visa or sponsorship application.
ETA:	Electronic Travel Authority. An electronic visa available to citizens from certain countries. A list of these can be found on the Department's website.
Granted:	Unless otherwise specified, the number of visas granted includes primary and review grants.
In Australia:	In this report, refers to the location of the client at the time the application was lodged. An applicant in Australia may already hold a visa of the same kind or may be applying for another type of visa.
Lodged:	Lodged is the count of paper applications receipted in a departmental office or submitted electronically.
On hand:	A visa application, nomination or sponsorship that has not been finalised.
Outside Australia:	In this report, the term refers to the location of the client at the time of lodging the application.
Visa holders in Australia:	The number of visa holders lawfully in Australia. This is not a count of all valid visas, as a number of visa holders may be outside Australia on the snapshot date.

How to read this report

On 23 March 2013, changes were made to Visitor visas as part of the Australian Government's Visa Simplification and Deregulation project. These changes have been summarised in the tables below where relevant visas have been combined into Tourist and Business groups.

Visitor - Tourist visas	Tourist Group
ETA (Visitor) (subclass 976) and ETA (subclass 601 – Tourist)	ETA Tourist
Tourist (subclass 676), Visitor (subclass 600) Tourist stream and Visitor (subclass 600) Approved Destination Status (ADS) stream	Tourist Visitor
Sponsored Family Visitor (subclass 679) and Visitor (subclass 600) Sponsored Family stream	Sponsored Tourist
eVisitor (subclass 651 - Tourist Entrant)	eVisitor Tourist

Visitor - Business visas	Business Group
ETA (Business – Long Validity) (subclass 956), ETA (Business – Short Validity) (subclass 977) and ETA (subclass 601 - Business)	ETA Business
Business (Short Stay) (subclass 456) and Visitor (subclass 600) Business Visitor stream	Business Visitor
Superyacht crew (subclass 488) and Sponsored Business visitor (Short Stay) (subclass 459) visa	Sponsored Business
eVisitor (subclass 651 - Business Entrant)	eVisitor Business

Notes

- **ETA Business** - Clients who previously lodged ETA (Business - Long Validity) (subclass 956) visa applications and (Business - Short Validity) (subclass 977) visa applications are now lodging ETA (subclass 601 - Business) applications. A small percentage of these clients may now be lodging Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) (subclass 400) visa applications, which is not covered in this report.
- **Business Visitor** - Clients who previously lodged Business (Short Stay) (subclass 456) visa applications are now lodging Visitor (subclass 600) Business Visitor stream visa applications. A small percentage of these clients may now be lodging Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) (subclass 400) visa applications, which is not covered in this report.

Background to the Visitor visa program

The Visitor visa program can be divided into two categories, Tourism and Business. Tourism may include a holiday or recreation, or visiting family and friends. The Business category allows business people to undertake business visitor activities. This may include attending meetings, conferences, site visits and exploring business opportunities. The visa holder cannot engage in work in Australia (that is, perform an activity in Australia a person would normally be remunerated for).

The Visitor visa program is made up of three subclasses, the ETA (subclass 601), the eVisitor visa (subclass 651) and the Visitor visa (subclass 600). The Visitor visa (subclass 600) has five streams, the Tourist stream, the Sponsored Family stream, the Business Visitor stream, the Approved Destination Status (ADS) stream and the Frequent Traveller stream. The below table outlines the activities allowed by each subclass and stream, and the location of the client at time of lodgement.

Subclass	Tourism	Business Visitor	Client Location
601 - Electronic Travel Authority	✓	✓	Outside Australia
651 - eVisitor	✓	✓	Outside Australia
600 - Tourist stream	✓		In or outside Australia
600 - Business Visitor stream	✓	✓	Outside Australia
600 - Sponsored Family stream	✓		Outside Australia
600 - Approved Destination Status stream	✓		Outside Australia
600 - ADS stream	✓		China*
600 - Frequent Traveller stream	✓	✓	China*

*The ADS and Frequent Traveller streams are only available to People's Republic of China (PRC) passport holders who are applying from within the PRC.

On 23 March 2013, the following changes were made to Visitor visas as part of the Australian Government's Visa Simplification and Deregulation project:

- The Tourist visa (subclass 676) was replaced by the Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Tourist stream.
- The Sponsored Family Visitor visa (subclass 679) was repealed and replaced by the Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Sponsored Family stream.
- The ETA (Visitor) (subclass 976) was repealed and replaced by the ETA (subclass 601).
- The Business (Short Stay) visa (subclass 456) was repealed and replaced by the Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Business Visitor stream.
- The Sponsored Business visitor (Short Stay) visa (subclass 459) was repealed and replaced by the Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Business Visitor stream.
- The Electronic Travel Authority (Business - Short Validity) (subclass 977) was repealed and replaced by the Electronic Travel Authority (subclass 601).
- The Electronic Travel Authority (Business - Long Validity) (subclass 956) was repealed and replaced by the Electronic Travel Authority (subclass 601).

Background to the Visitor visa program - continued

Visitor visa subclasses can be divided into Tourism and Business streams:

Tourism:

1. Electronic Travel Authority (subclass 601). This visa is designed for ETA eligible passport holders who are outside of Australia and who want to visit Australia for tourism or business visitor purposes. It allows an applicant to stay in Australia for up to 3 months on each visit within a 12 month period from the date of grant, or for the life of the passport if it is less than 12 months. It can be applied for online, through a travel agent, airline or specialist service provider or at an Australian visa office outside Australia.
2. eVisitor visa (subclass 651). This visa is designed for people outside Australia who want to visit Australia for tourism or business visitor purposes. It can only be lodged online and is available to certain European nationals, as it was introduced in October 2008 to meet the Australian Government's undertaking to have reciprocal short stay travel arrangements with the European Union. It allows a stay of up to 3 months on each visit within a 12 month period from the date of grant.
3. Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Tourist stream. This stream of the Visitor visa allows people to visit Australia for tourism purposes. This may include a holiday or recreation, or to visit family and friends. This stream can also be used for other short-term non-work purposes including study for up to three months. This visa can be applied for online (known as the 'e600') by eligible passport holders, or by paper.
4. Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Sponsored Family stream. This stream allows people who are outside Australia and have an eligible sponsor in Australia (an eligible relative or Australian Government official willing to sponsor them), to travel to Australia for a holiday and to visit family. This visa is intended for higher risk visitors and contains additional requirements which are designed to provide assurance that the visa holder will comply with their visa conditions and depart Australia before their visa expires. A formal sponsorship is to be completed by an Australian citizen/permanent resident and in some cases a security bond is requested where the decision maker has residual concerns about the visa applicant's intention to abide by the visa conditions.
5. Visitor visa (subclass 600) - ADS stream. The ADS stream enables PRC passport holders who are members of approved tour groups to visit Australia for sightseeing and related activities only. This visa can only be applied for through an approved Chinese travel agent participating in the ADS scheme.
6. Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Frequent Traveller stream. This stream enables PRC passport holders who reside in the PRC to visit Australia for multiple short stays of up to 3 months, for tourist or business visitor purposes, for a visa validity period of up to 10 years. This visa must be applied for online and from within China.

Business:

7. Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) (subclass 601). As noted above, the ETA can be used for tourism or business visitor purposes.
8. eVisitor visa (subclass 651). As noted above, the eVisitor visa can be used for tourism or business visitor purposes.
9. Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Business Visitor stream. This stream allows people to visit Australia for business visitor purposes. Business visitor activities may include making general business or employment enquiries, investigating, negotiating, signing or reviewing a business contract, activities carried out as part of an official government-to-government visit and participating in conferences, trade fairs or seminars as long as the visa holder is not being paid by the organisers for their participation. This visa can be applied for online (known as the 'e600') by eligible passport holders, or by paper.
10. Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Frequent Traveller stream. As noted above, the Frequent Traveller stream can be used for tourism or business visitor purposes.

Eligible Passports for Electronic Lodgement of Visitor Visa Applications

The Department continues to implement changes to support the progressive expansion of online Visitor visa application lodgement to all countries. There are currently over 200 countries with access to online lodgement.

For a list of eligible passports for Visitor e600, ETA 601 and eVisitor 651 online applications please refer to the Department's website.

For e600: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/600-/Visitor-e600-visa-online-applications

For ETA 601: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601>

For eVisitor 651: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/evisitor-651>

Background to the Visitor visa program - continued

Family members

Since 23 March 2013, all accompanying family members must lodge separate Visitor visa applications, including children younger than 18 years of age who are included on their parent's passport. Sponsors of Visitor visa (subclass 600) Sponsored Family stream applicants must include all visiting family members on the sponsorship form.

Family members who are accompanying Business Visitors and are not themselves intending to engage in business visitor activities while in Australia could consider applying for the Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Tourist stream.

Visa Requirements

To be eligible for a Visitor visa, the applicant genuinely intends to stay temporarily in Australia for the purpose for which the visa is granted (for tourism or business visitor purposes).

Applicants must also meet certain health and character requirements, and could be asked to undergo a health examination and/or provide police certificates for each country they have lived in for 12 months or more over the last 10 years since turning 16.

In order to meet the financial requirements for the grant of a Visitor visa, applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have access to adequate means to support themselves (and their family where relevant) during their stay in Australia, including health insurance where required. They could be asked to provide evidence of their adequate means of support.

Ability to work

Work is not permitted on Visitor visas. This is enforced by a mandatory 'no work' condition imposed on all Tourist, Sponsored Family and ADS stream visas. Holders of Business Visitor stream and Frequent Traveller stream visas can undertake business visitor activities but not otherwise work. Business visitor activities include making general business enquiries, attending conferences and contractual negotiations and making government-to-government visits.

Where a person is found to be working in breach of their visa conditions, they could face visa cancellation and an exclusion period.

Ability to study

Holders of Visitor visas (subclass 600) in the Tourist stream, Sponsored Family stream, Business Visitor stream, or Frequent Traveller stream, can study for up to 3 months. This can be an award or non-award course, but the entire course must not be longer than 3 months in duration.

Extending stay

Visitor visas cannot be 'extended'. However, Visitor visa holders may extend their stay in Australia by applying for another visa, which may include a Visitor visa (subclass 600) - Tourist stream, at least two weeks before their current visa expires. The Tourist stream is the only stream of the Visitor visa that can be applied for inside Australia.

Visa refusals

A decision to refuse a Visitor visa application is made when a delegate of the Minister is not satisfied that the applicant meets the legal criteria for grant of a visa. When refusing a visa application, the Department provides an applicant, or their agent, with a written decision record that sets out the reason for the decision and any review rights.

Background to the Visitor visa program - continued

Processing times

Global Visitor visa application processing times are published on the Department's website at:
<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/global-visa-processing-times>

The published processing times are updated on a monthly basis to reflect current caseloads and processing pressures. Processing times are impacted each month by changes in application volumes, seasonal peaks, complex cases and incomplete applications.

Executive Summary

Key Points

- This executive summary covers the Tourist and Business Visitor visa statistics for the Visitor visa program from 30 June 2020 to 31 December 2020 (first half of the 2020-21 program year). The terminology used in this executive summary to describe Tourist and Business visas and subclasses are referenced on page 3 of this report. Figures referred to in this report include both applications made in Australia and outside Australia. It should be noted that subclass 600 (Tourist stream) is the only Visitor visa option for applicants already in Australia.
- During the first half of the 2020-21 program year, the Visitor visa program continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak, a global reduction in demand for international travel, and strict border measures in place to protect the health of the Australian community. Visitor visa applications, visa grants, grant rates, Visitor visa holders in Australia, and arrival numbers all declined compared to the same period in the 2019-20 program year.
- There was a decrease in Visitor visa application lodgements with 99,533 applications lodged under the Visitor visa program (Tourist and Business) in the first half of 2020-21; down 97 per cent compared to the same period in 2019-20 (3,272,816). China remained the largest source country for Visitor visa applications to Australia with 22,969 lodgements. The next two highest source countries were India and the United Kingdom with 21,247 and 5,975 lodgements respectively.
- Tourist Visitor visas accounted for the majority of applications lodged with 79,068 applications during the first half of 2020-21; down 97.4 per cent compared to the same period in 2019-20 (3,006,905). Business Visitor visa lodgements decreased during the first half of 2020-21 to 20,465; down 92.3 per cent compared to the same period in 2019-20 (265,911).
- A total of 68,053 Visitor visas were granted during the first half 2020-21; down by 97.8 per cent compared to same period in 2019-20 (3,080,153). Tourist Visitor visa grants decreased by 97.7 per cent (64,454) and Business Visitor visa grants decreased by 98.6 per cent (3,599) in the first half 2020-21, when compared to the same period in 2019-20. This category includes visa grants to applicants already in Australia, and to travellers in categories exempt from COVID-19-related travel restrictions (such as immediate family members of Australian citizens and permanent residents, and essential workers in critical industries).
- The grant rate statistics in this report are calculated quarterly. The grant rate for all Visitor visas (Tourist and Business) for the second quarter of 2020-21 (1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020) was 80.9 per cent; down from 94.4 per cent for the corresponding quarter in 2019.
- As at 31 December 2020, there were 57,786 Visitor visa (Tourist and Business) holders in Australia; a 90.9 per cent decrease compared to 31 December 2019 (635,109).
- During the first half 2020-21, there were 14,384 arrivals on Visitor visas (Tourist and Business); a 99.6 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2019-20 (3,440,507). Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, all Visitor visa arrivals over this period have been in an exempt category, received an individual travel exemption, or travelled under the New Zealand Safe Travel Zone arrangements.

1 Applications lodged

In the first half 2020-21, 99,533 Visitor visa (Tourist and Business) applications were lodged; down 97 per cent compared to the same period in 2019-20.

China was the largest source country for Visitor visa lodgements during the first half of 2020-21 with 22,969 lodgements (down 95.6 per cent compared to the same period in 2020-21), ahead of India (down 89.5 per cent to 21,247) and the United Kingdom (down 98.2 per cent to 5,975).

Tourist

Tourist visas accounted for the majority of Visitor visa applications lodged during the first half of 2020-21, with 79,068 applications. This included a large number of applications made in Australia by visitors seeking to extend their stay due to COVID-19 travel disruptions.

Despite the increase in applications made in Australia, there was still an overall 97.4 per cent decrease in total lodgements compared to the same period in 2019-20 (3,006,905). All major source countries experienced a decline in lodgements, and there was a shift in the composition of the top ten source countries. The top three source countries for Tourist Visitor visa applications were:

1. India (down 89.0 per cent to 20,325)
2. China (down 96.2 per cent to 17,916)
3. UK (down 98.3 per cent to 5,570)

Business

A total of 20,465 Business Visitor visa applications were lodged during the first half of 2020-21, down 92.3 per cent compared to 2019-20 (265,911). The top three source countries for Business visitor visa applications were:

1. China (down 88.9 per cent to 5,053)
2. Japan (down 82.4 per cent to 3,491)
3. Singapore (down 84.6 per cent to 2,178)

Executive Summary - continued

2 Visas granted

Tourist

64,454 Tourist Visitor visas were granted in the first half of 2020-21; a 97.7 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2019-20 (2,825,297).

The majority of Tourist Visitor visa grants were for the Tourist visitor (61,060), down 93.2 per cent compared to the same period in 2019-20. This category includes visa grants to applicants already in Australia.

The top three countries for Tourist visa grants were:

1. India (down 89.4 per cent to 15,090)
2. China (down 96.9 per cent to 13,051)
3. Philippines (down 91.3 per cent to 3,999)

Business

3,599 Business Visitor visas were granted in the first half of 2020-21; a 98.6 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2019-20 (254,856).

The top three countries for Business Visitor visa grants were:

1. India (down 95.6 per cent to 724)
2. Philippines (down 90.8 per cent to 549)
3. Russian Federation (down 76.1 per cent to 225)

Sponsored Family visitor

419 Sponsored Family visitor visas were granted in the first half of 2020-21; down by 97.9 per cent compared to the same period in 2019-20 (20,429).

3 Grant rates

Grant rates are provided on a quarterly basis. Due to low finalisation rates and reprioritisation of visa caseloads during the COVID-19 pandemic, minimal weight should be given to the grant rate as a reflection of the caseload risk.

The grant rate for all Visitor visas for the second quarter of 2020-21 (1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020) decreased to 80.9 per cent, compared to 94.4 per cent for the corresponding quarter in 2019.

4 Processing times

Processing times are provided on a quarterly basis. Due to COVID-19 some visa processing times have been affected and applications may take longer to finalise. While Visitor visa processing times increased, the Department prioritised finalisation of applications to facilitate urgent travel for applicants in one of the categories exempt from COVID-19-related travel restrictions.

During the second quarter of 2020-21 (1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020):

- 75 per cent of Tourist Visitor visa applications were processed within 149 calendar days, compared to 15 days for the corresponding quarter in 2019.
- 75 per cent of Business Visitor visa applications were processed within 8 calendar days, compared to 7 days for the corresponding quarter in 2019.

5 Applications on hand

Due to COVID-19 some visa processing times have been affected and applications have taken longer to finalise. As at 31 December 2020, both Tourist and Business Visitor visa on hand application figures were higher than at the same time in 2019.

6 Visa holders In Australia

On 31 December 2020, there were 57,786 Visitor (Tourist and Business) visa holders in Australia. This was a 90.9 per cent decrease from 635,109 Visitor visa holders in Australia on 31 December 2019.

The Visitor visa (subclass 600) comprised the largest cohort with 56,326 visa holders in Australia, followed by subclass 651 eVisitor with 816 visa holders, and subclass 601 ETA with 603 visa holders. It should be noted that subclass 600 is the only Visitor visa option for applicants already in Australia if they want to extend their stay in Australia.

7. Approved Destination Status (ADS)

Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, there were no Visitor visas lodged under the ADS scheme in the reporting period.

8 Arrivals

During the first half of 2020-21, there were 14,384 arrivals on Visitor (Tourist and Business) visas; a 99.6 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2019-20 (3,440,507).

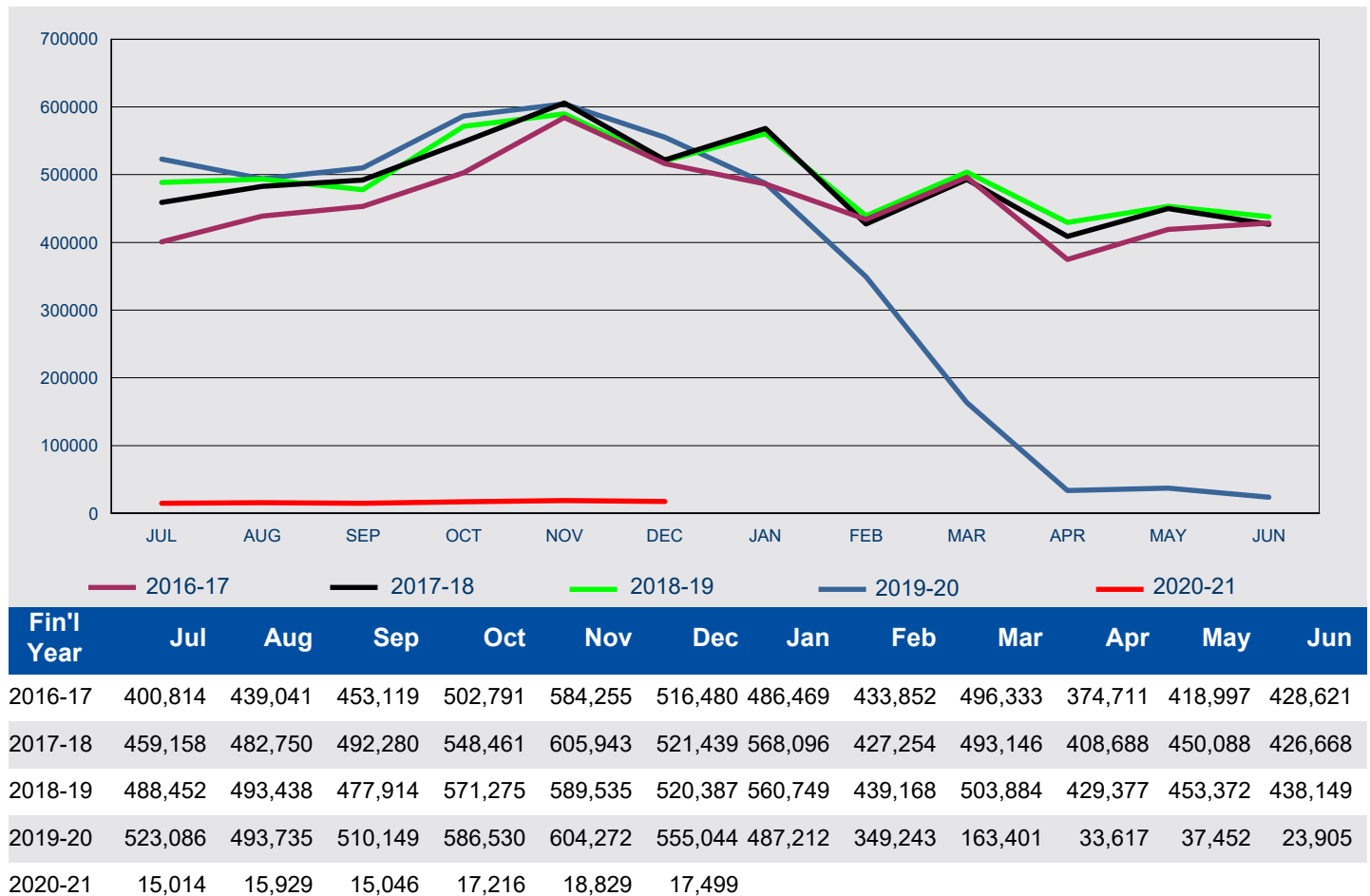
The top three countries for arrivals on Visitor visas were:

1. USA (down 99.5 per cent to 1,757)
2. UK (down 99.5 per cent to 1,545)
3. India (down 99.3 per cent to 1,248)

1 Lodged

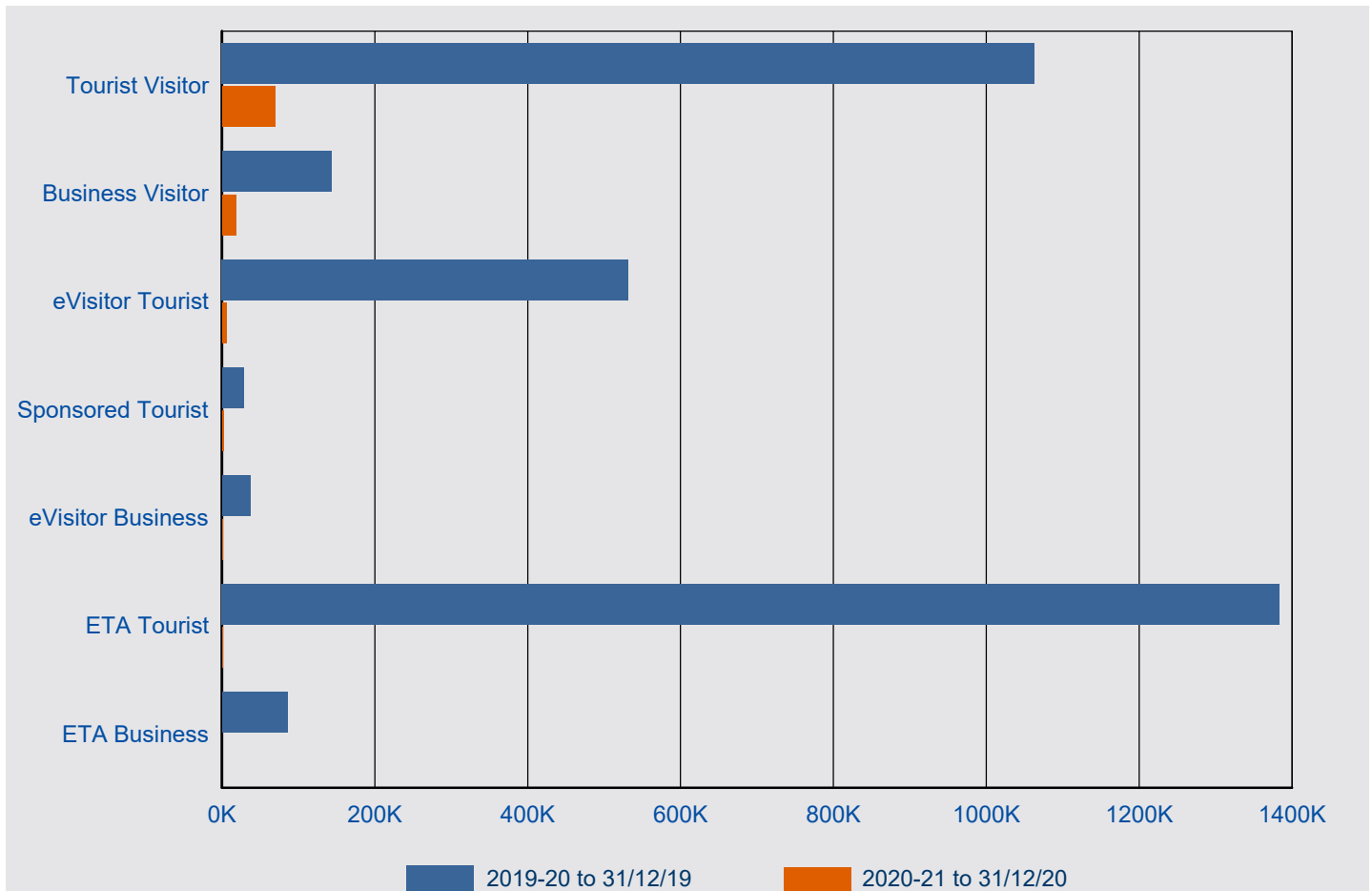
1 Lodged

1.01 Number of Visitor visa applications lodged in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by month - comparison with previous four financial years



1 Lodged

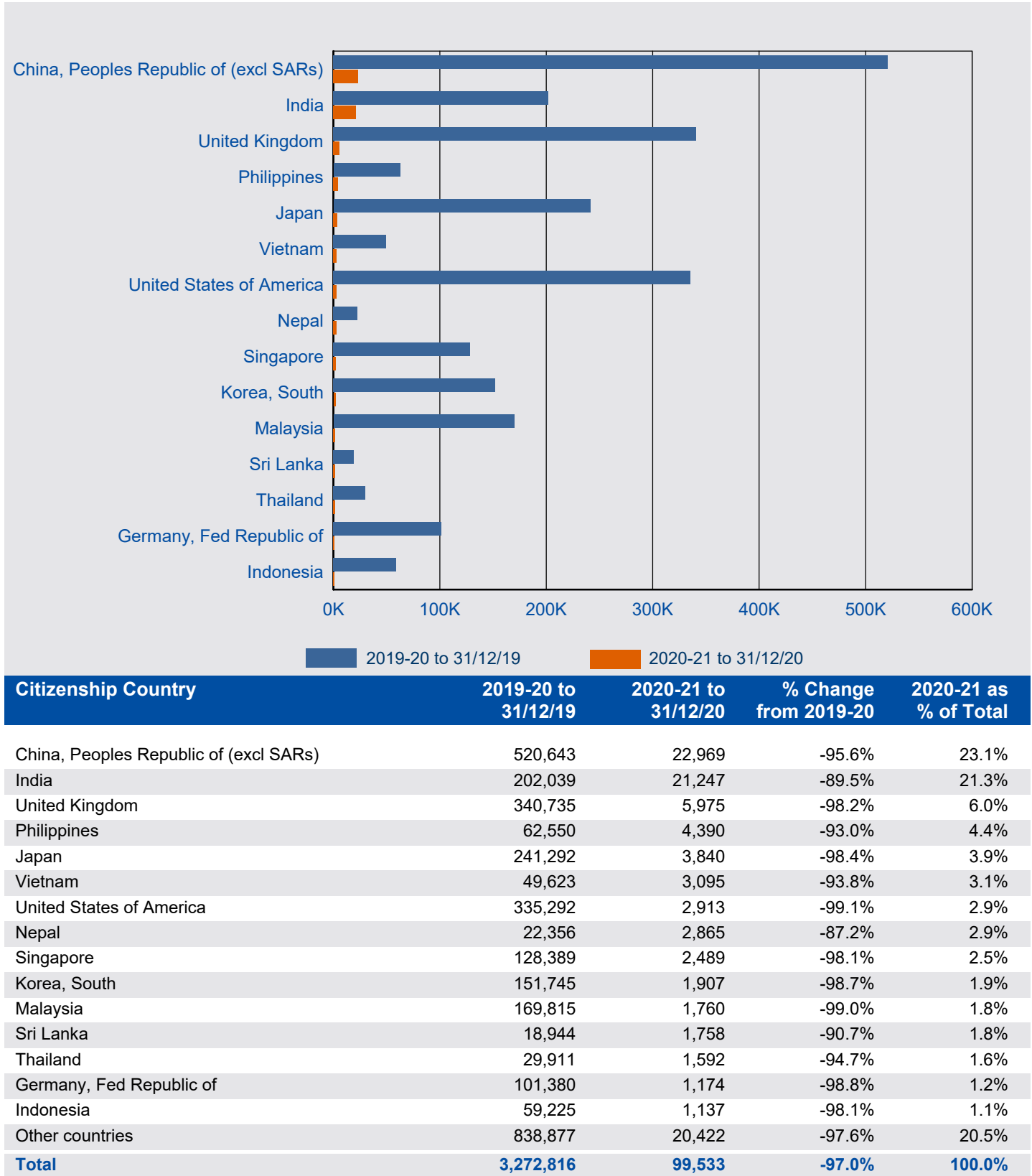
1.02 Number of Visitor visa applications lodged in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



Visa Group	2019-20 to 31/12/19	2020-21 to 31/12/20	% Change from 2019-20	2020-21 as % of Total
Tourist Visitor	1,062,756	69,597	-93.5%	69.9%
Business Visitor	142,897	18,880	-86.8%	19.0%
eVisitor Tourist	531,440	6,142	-98.8%	6.2%
Sponsored Tourist	28,827	2,023	-93.0%	2.0%
eVisitor Business	37,110	1,311	-96.5%	1.3%
ETA Tourist	1,383,882	1,306	-99.9%	1.3%
ETA Business	85,904	274	-99.7%	0.3%
Total	3,272,816	99,533	-97.0%	100.0%

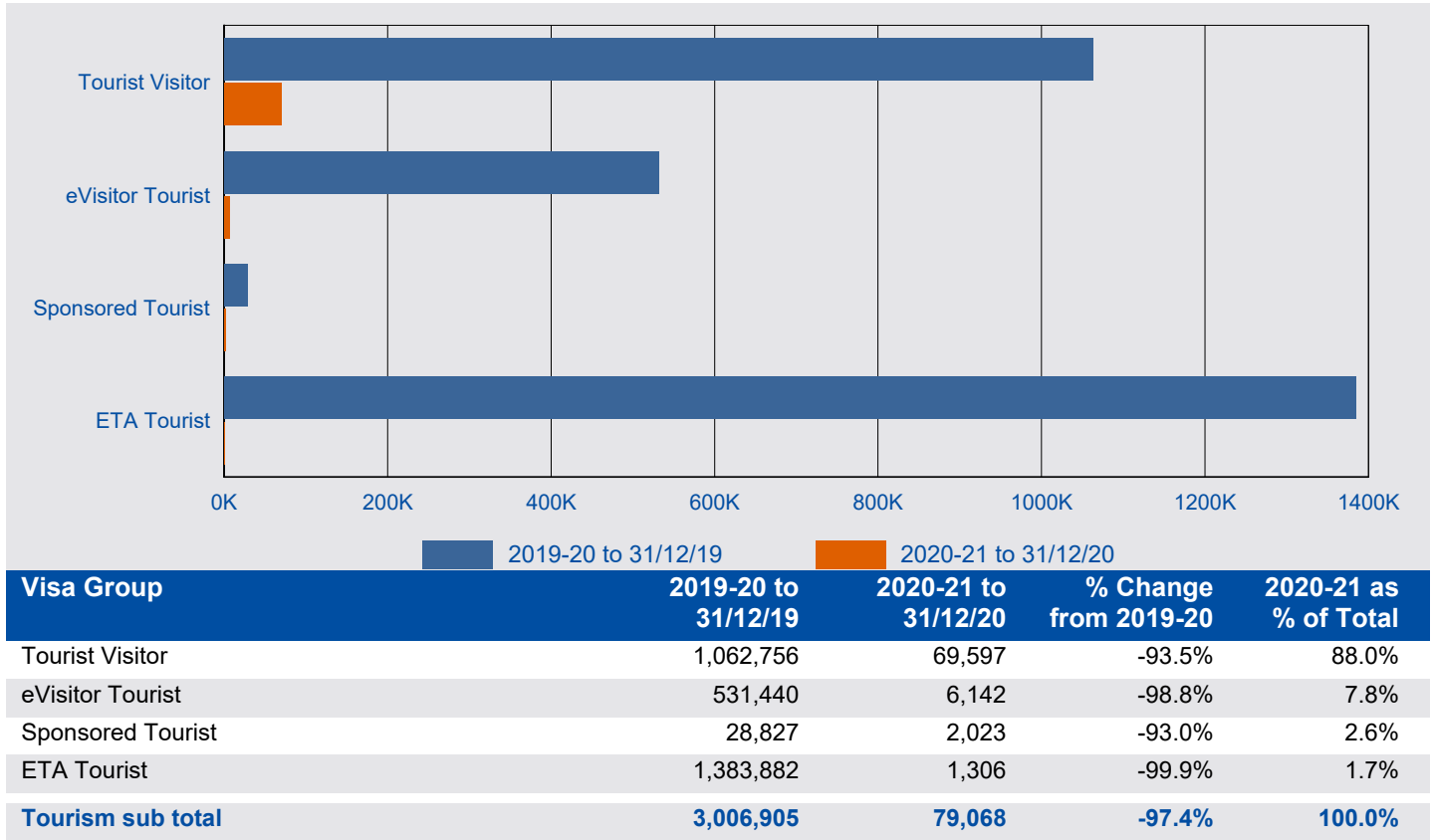
1 Lodged

1.03 Number of Visitor visa applications lodged in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year

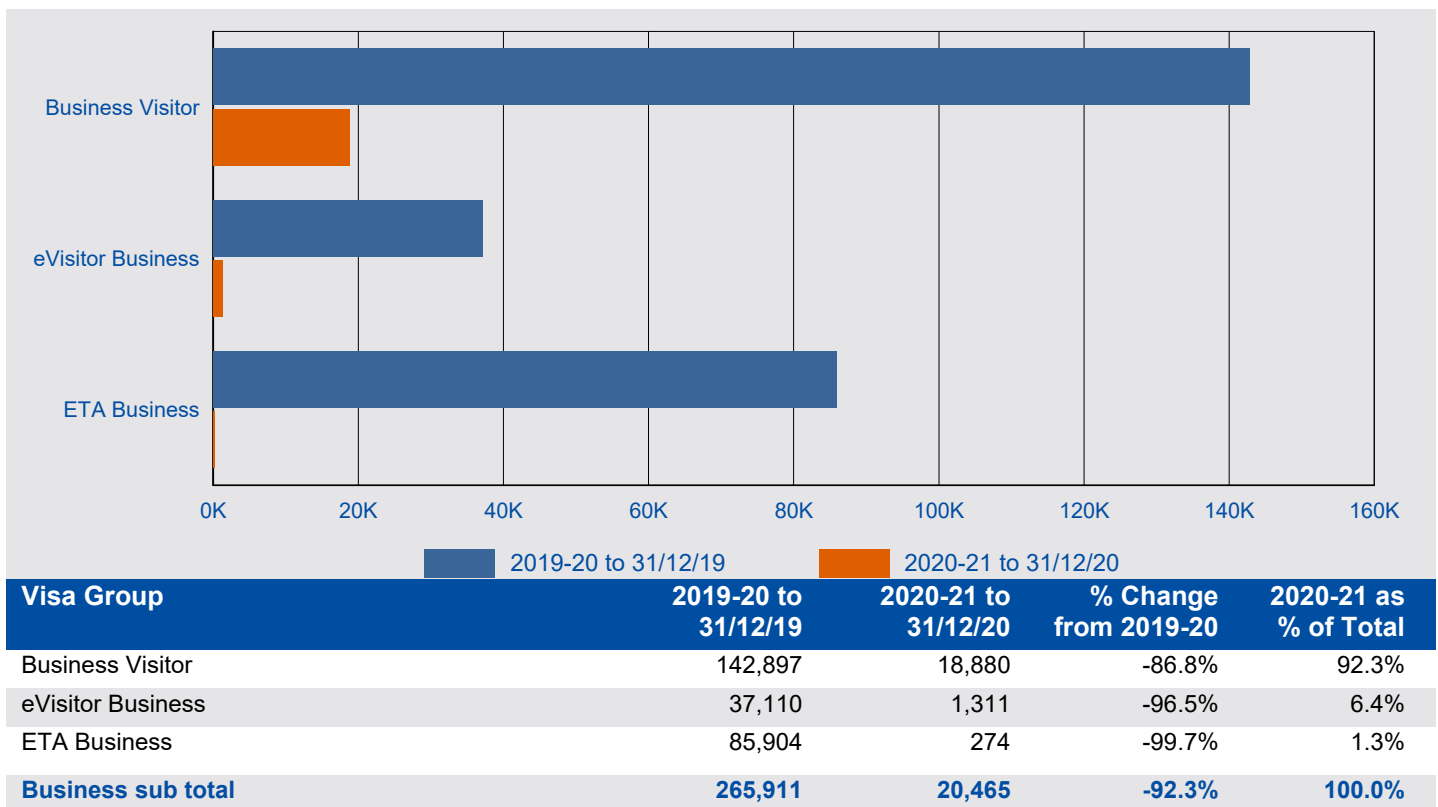


1 Lodged

1.04 Number of tourism Visitor visa applications lodged in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year

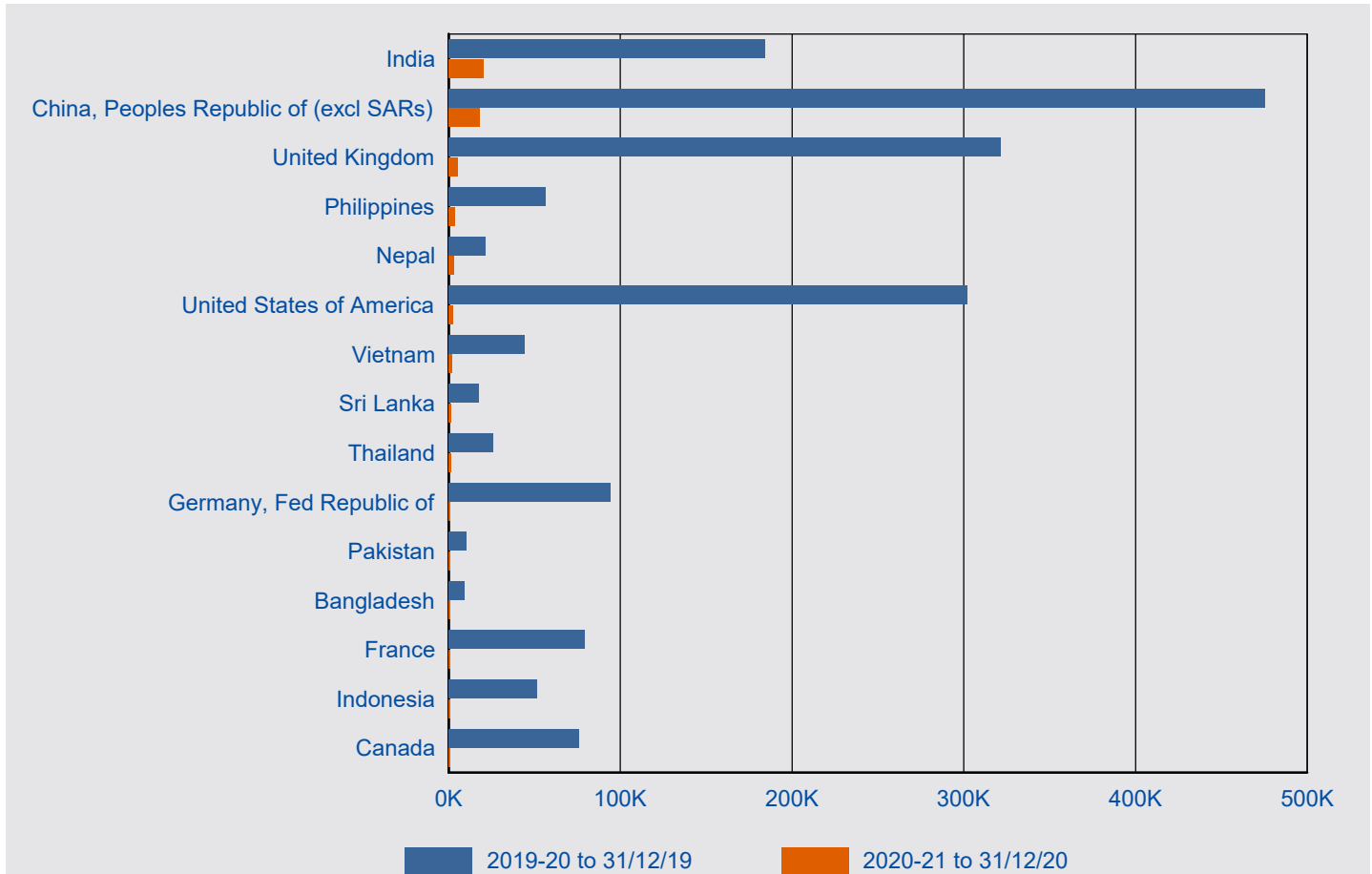


1.05 Number of business Visitor visa applications lodged in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



1 Lodged

1.06 Number of tourist Visitor visa applications lodged in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



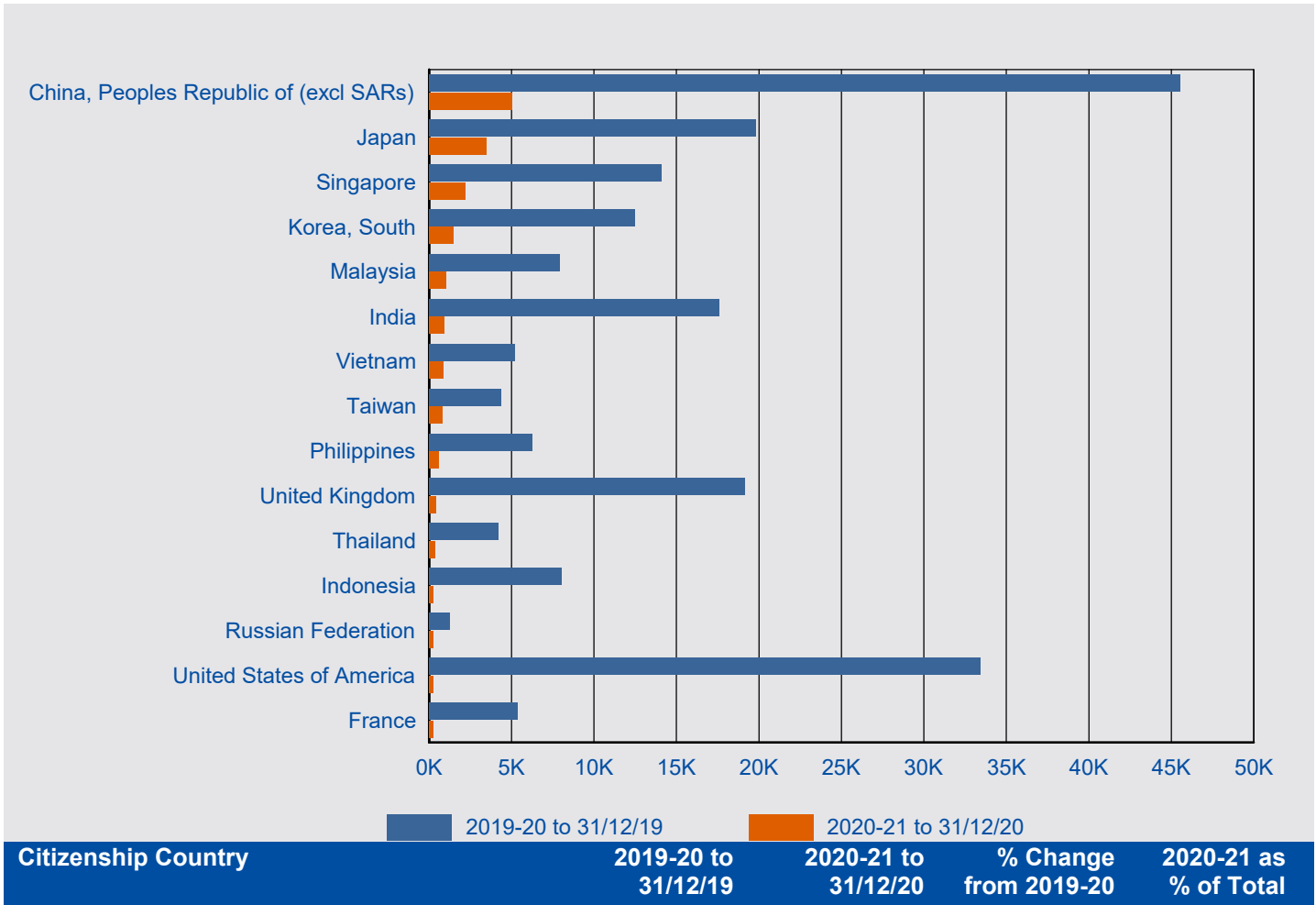
Citizenship Country	2019-20 to 31/12/19	2020-21 to 31/12/20	% Change from 2019-20	2020-21 as % of Total
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Tourist

India	184,463	20,325	-89.0%	25.7%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	475,133	17,916	-96.2%	22.7%
United Kingdom	321,586	5,570	-98.3%	7.0%
Philippines	56,310	3,776	-93.3%	4.8%
Nepal	21,529	2,842	-86.8%	3.6%
United States of America	301,897	2,666	-99.1%	3.4%
Vietnam	44,418	2,246	-94.9%	2.8%
Sri Lanka	17,799	1,714	-90.4%	2.2%
Thailand	25,682	1,242	-95.2%	1.6%
Germany, Fed Republic of	94,450	1,051	-98.9%	1.3%
Pakistan	10,593	1,047	-90.1%	1.3%
Bangladesh	9,011	985	-89.1%	1.2%
France	79,275	888	-98.9%	1.1%
Indonesia	51,209	868	-98.3%	1.1%
Canada	75,705	746	-99.0%	0.9%
Other countries	1,237,845	15,186	-98.8%	19.2%
Tourist total	3,006,905	79,068	-97.4%	100.0%

1 Lodged

1.07 Number of business Visitor visa applications lodged in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



Business

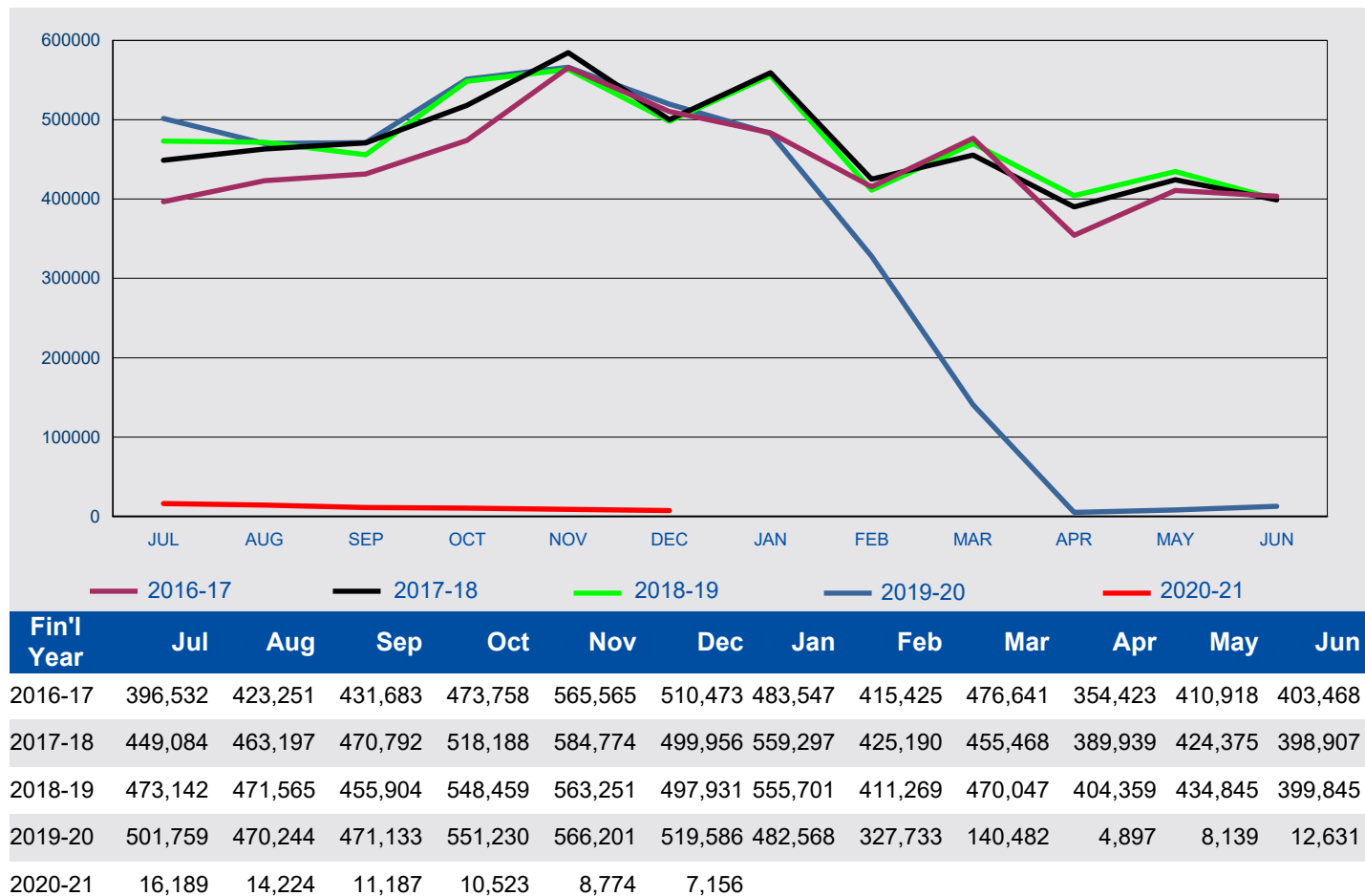
Citizenship Country	2019-20 to 31/12/19	2020-21 to 31/12/20	% Change from 2019-20	2020-21 as % of Total
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	45,510	5,053	-88.9%	24.7%
Japan	19,795	3,491	-82.4%	17.1%
Singapore	14,104	2,178	-84.6%	10.6%
Korea, South	12,484	1,490	-88.1%	7.3%
Malaysia	7,946	1,020	-87.2%	5.0%
India	17,576	922	-94.8%	4.5%
Vietnam	5,205	849	-83.7%	4.1%
Taiwan	4,359	834	-80.9%	4.1%
Philippines	6,240	614	-90.2%	3.0%
United Kingdom	19,149	405	-97.9%	2.0%
Thailand	4,229	350	-91.7%	1.7%
Indonesia	8,016	269	-96.6%	1.3%
Russian Federation	1,234	248	-79.9%	1.2%
United States of America	33,395	247	-99.3%	1.2%
France	5,398	242	-95.5%	1.2%
Other countries	61,271	2,253	-96.3%	11.0%
Business total	265,911	20,465	-92.3%	100.0%

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2 Granted

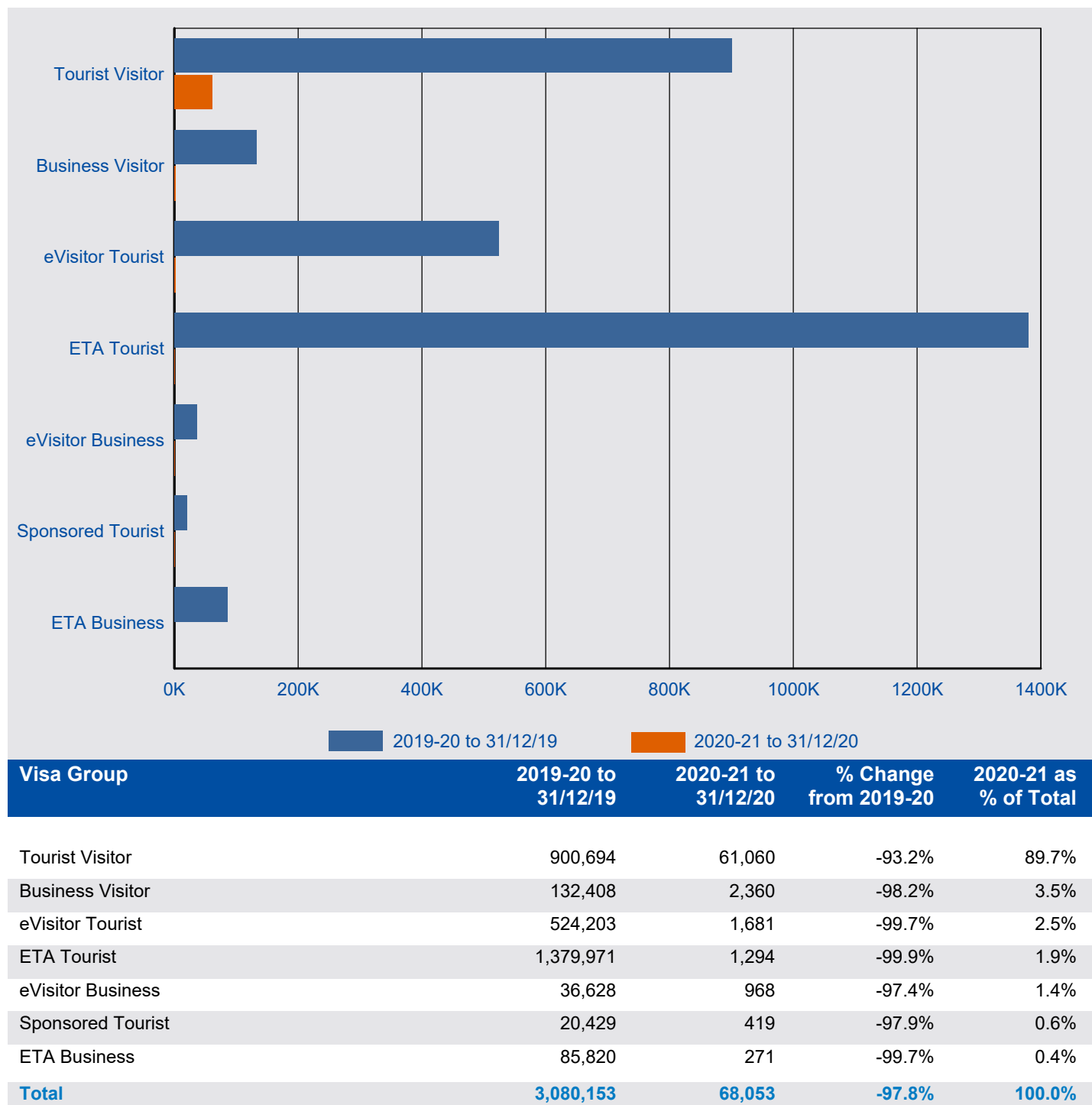
2 Granted

2.01 Number of Visitor visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by month - comparison with previous four financial years



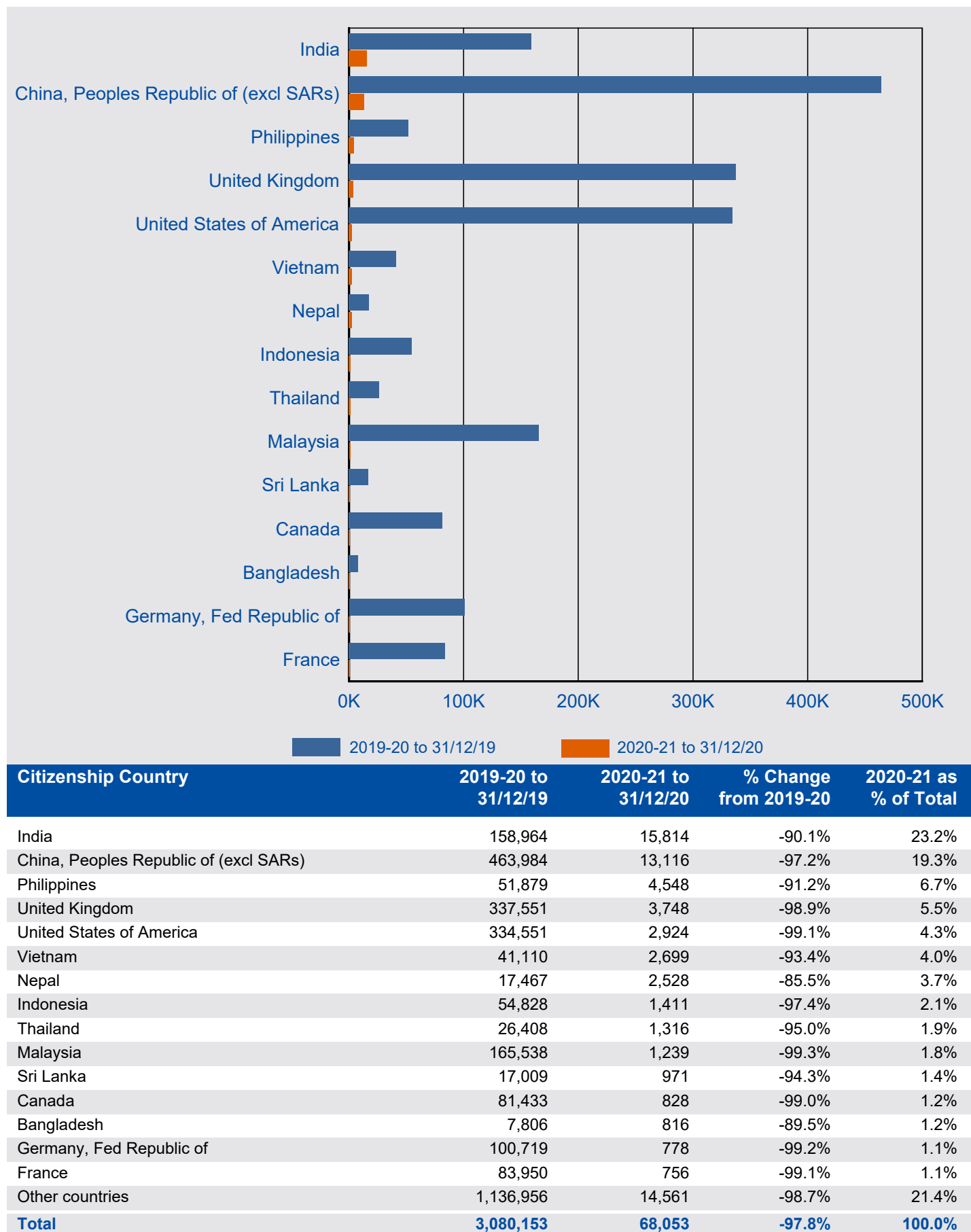
2 Granted

2.02 Number of Visitor visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



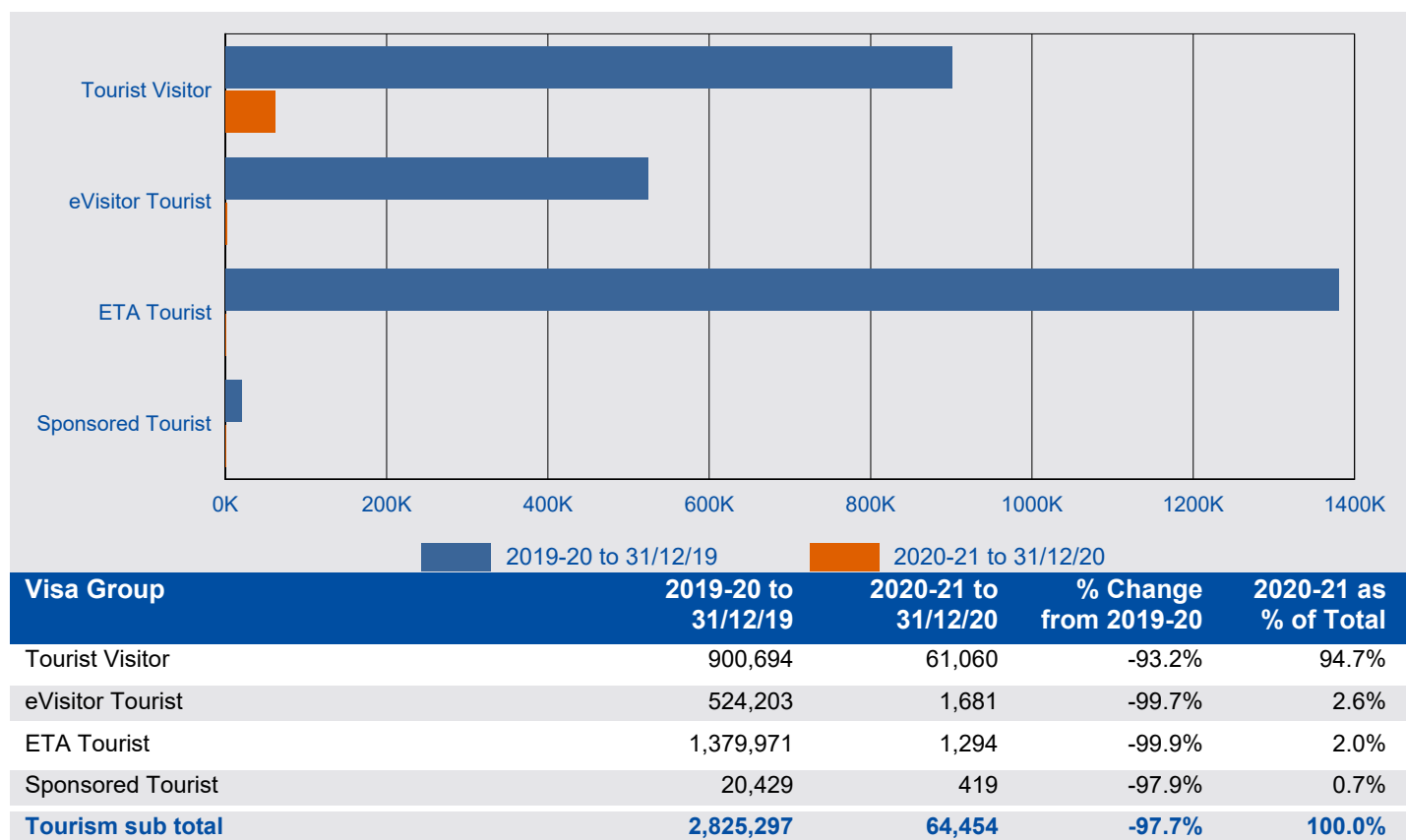
2 Granted

2.03 Number of Visitor visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year

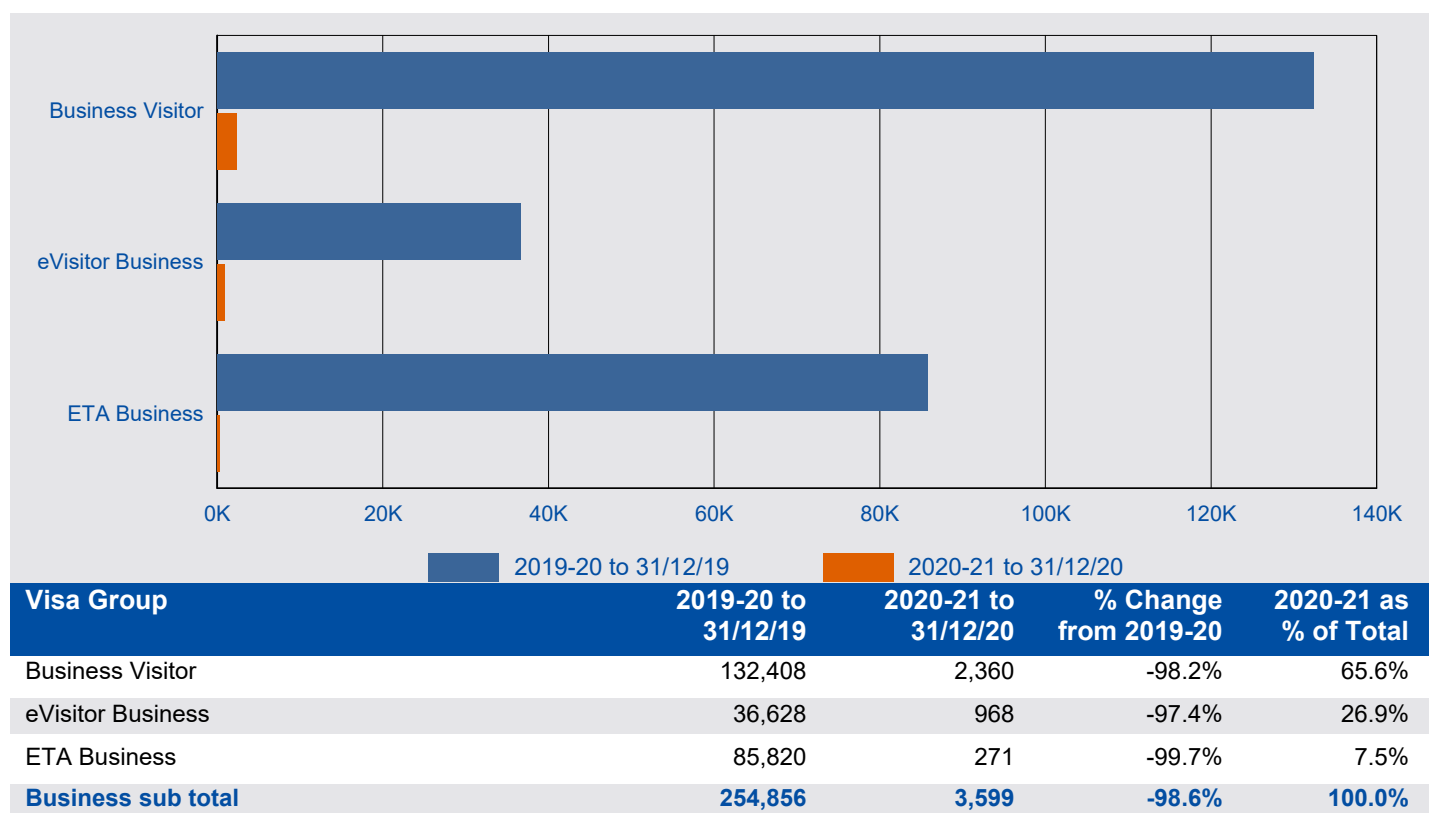


2 Granted

2.04 Number of Tourism Visitor visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year

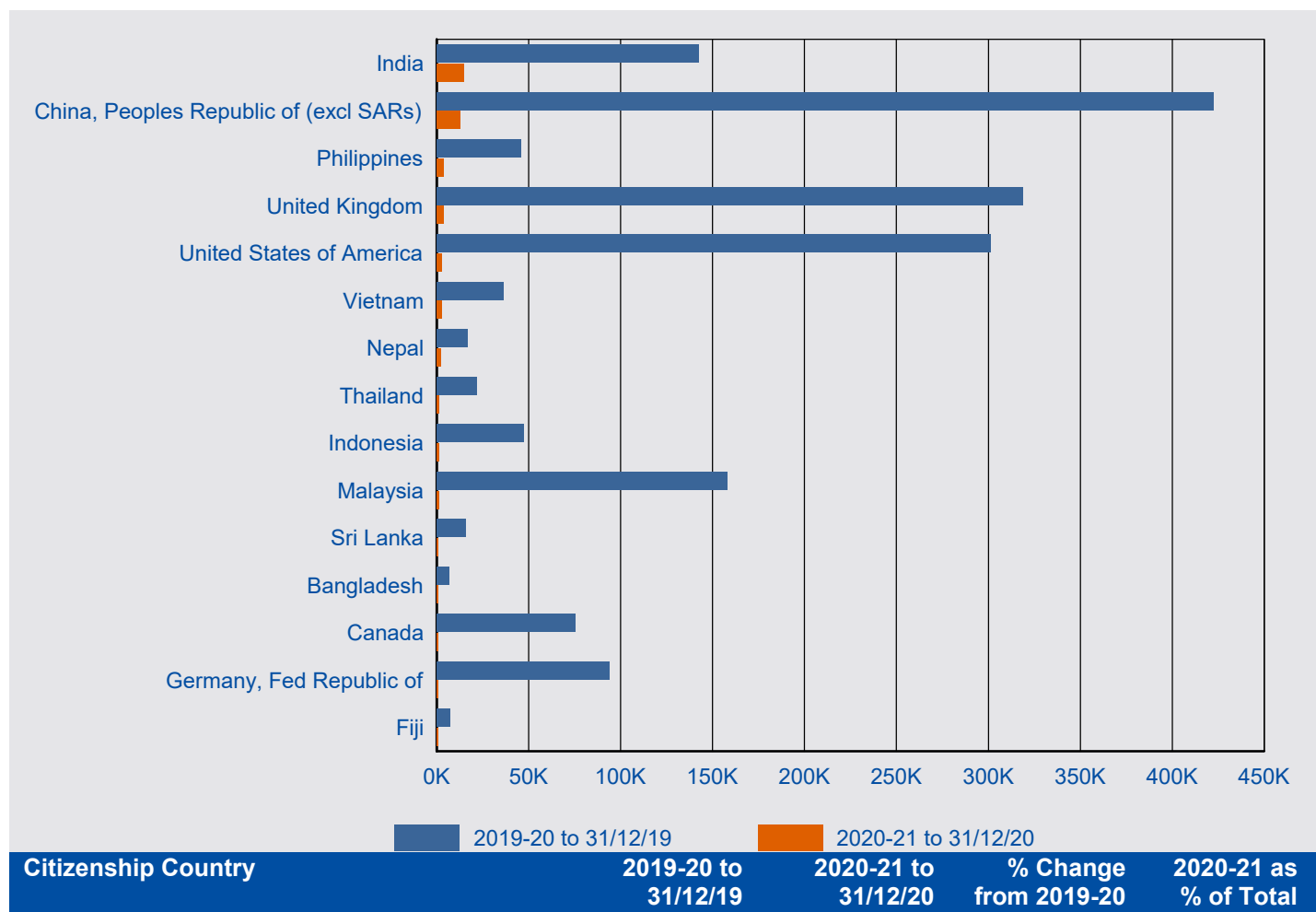


2.05 Number of Business Visitor visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



2 Granted

2.06 Number of Tourist Visitor visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year

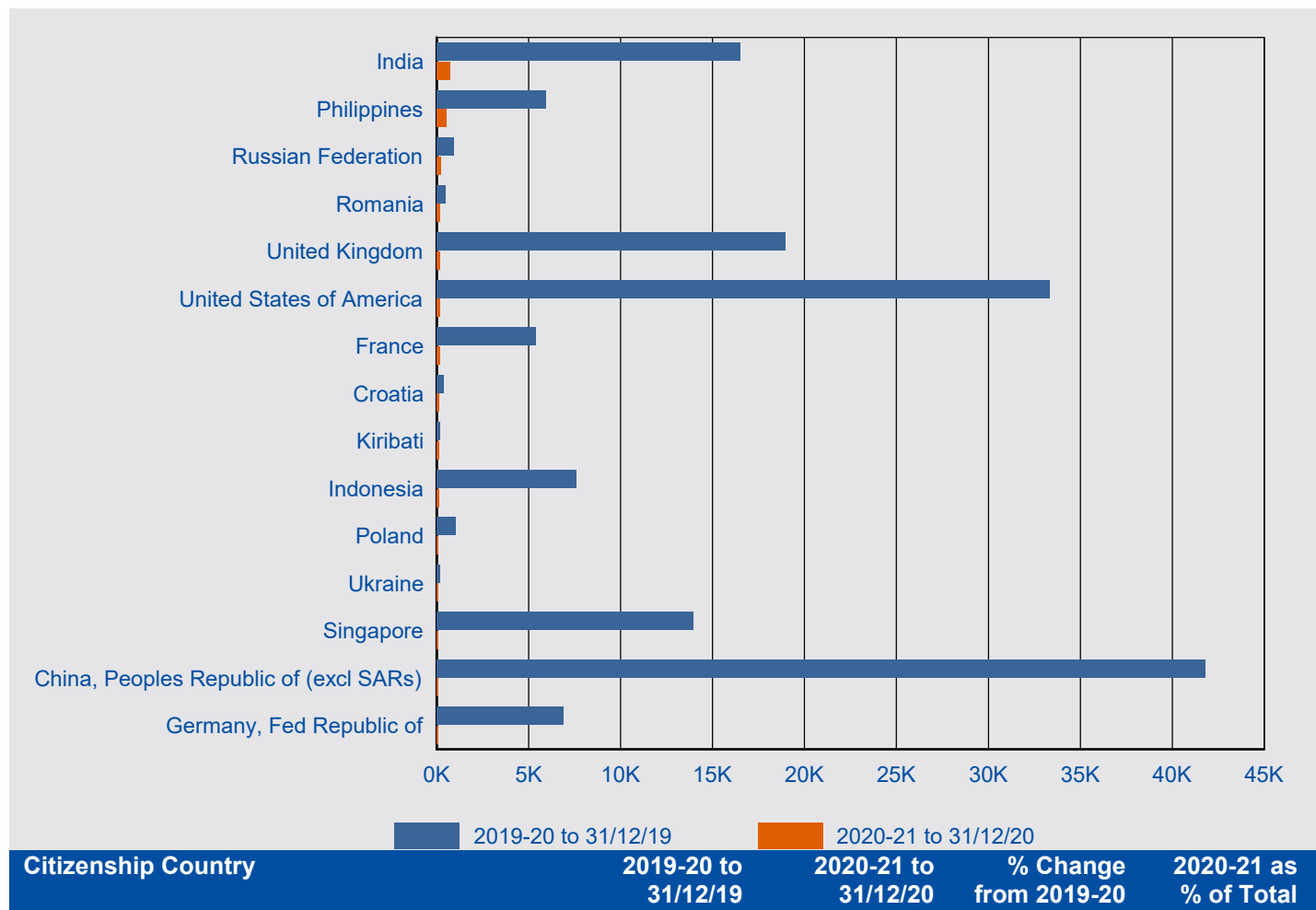


Tourist

Citizenship Country	2019-20 to 31/12/19	2020-21 to 31/12/20	% Change from 2019-20	2020-21 as % of Total
India	142,477	15,090	-89.4%	23.4%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	422,174	13,051	-96.9%	20.2%
Philippines	45,926	3,999	-91.3%	6.2%
United Kingdom	318,575	3,582	-98.9%	5.6%
United States of America	301,244	2,761	-99.1%	4.3%
Vietnam	36,449	2,699	-92.6%	4.2%
Nepal	16,874	2,526	-85.0%	3.9%
Thailand	22,097	1,315	-94.0%	2.0%
Indonesia	47,217	1,275	-97.3%	2.0%
Malaysia	157,775	1,191	-99.2%	1.8%
Sri Lanka	16,056	927	-94.2%	1.4%
Bangladesh	6,624	803	-87.9%	1.2%
Canada	75,481	793	-98.9%	1.2%
Germany, Fed Republic of	93,831	714	-99.2%	1.1%
Fiji	7,513	713	-90.5%	1.1%
Other countries	1,114,984	13,015	-98.8%	20.2%
Tourist total	2,825,297	64,454	-97.7%	100.0%

2 Granted

2.07 Number of Business Visitor visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



Business

Citizenship Country	2019-20 to 31/12/19	2020-21 to 31/12/20	% Change from 2019-20	2020-21 as % of Total
India	16,487	724	-95.6%	20.1%
Philippines	5,953	549	-90.8%	15.3%
Russian Federation	942	225	-76.1%	6.3%
Romania	497	176	-64.6%	4.9%
United Kingdom	18,976	166	-99.1%	4.6%
United States of America	33,307	163	-99.5%	4.5%
France	5,364	158	-97.1%	4.4%
Croatia	354	148	-58.2%	4.1%
Kiribati	165	144	-12.7%	4.0%
Indonesia	7,611	136	-98.2%	3.8%
Poland	1,051	105	-90.0%	2.9%
Ukraine	205	87	-57.6%	2.4%
Singapore	13,960	75	-99.5%	2.1%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	41,810	65	-99.8%	1.8%
Germany, Fed Republic of	6,888	64	-99.1%	1.8%
Other countries	101,286	614	-99.4%	17.1%
Business total	254,856	3,599	-98.6%	100.0%

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3 Grant rate

For this section:

A grant rate is defined as:

$$\frac{\text{Number of grants}}{\text{Number of decisions}} \times 100$$

where the number of decisions equals the number of grants plus the number of refusals.

A grant rate of 0.00% indicates that no applications were decided during the reporting period.

3 Grant rate

3.01 Grant rate of Visitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with previous four periods

Visa Group	01/10/19 to 31/12/19	01/01/20 to 31/03/20	01/04/20 to 30/06/20	01/07/20 to 30/09/20	01/10/20 to 31/12/20
Business					
Business Visitor	93.1%	92.8%	46.9%	87.9%	95.4%
ETA Business	99.9%	99.9%	28.0%	74.6%	97.8%
eVisitor Business	98.5%	97.8%	87.2%	74.3%	92.8%
All Business	96.1%	96.0%	65.9%	81.6%	95.2%
Tourism					
ETA Tourist	99.8%	99.7%	20.1%	5.1%	99.5%
eVisitor Tourist	98.8%	98.4%	37.8%	88.3%	89.5%
Sponsored Tourist	78.0%	70.0%	82.4%	76.1%	85.1%
Tourist Visitor	84.6%	81.4%	91.2%	88.2%	78.6%
All Tourism	94.2%	93.4%	87.2%	86.3%	79.9%
All	94.4%	93.6%	86.6%	86.1%	80.9%

3 Grant rate

3.02 Grant rate for Tourist Visitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship Country	01/10/19 to 31/12/19	01/01/20 to 31/03/20	01/04/20 to 30/06/20	01/07/20 to 30/09/20	01/10/20 to 31/12/20
India	74.4%	75.7%	93.2%	82.0%	79.5%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	89.7%	89.3%	96.0%	96.3%	92.2%
Philippines	81.4%	77.4%	97.3%	72.3%	75.2%
Nepal	75.2%	78.7%	96.1%	89.8%	85.6%
United Kingdom	87.4%	85.6%	87.9%	86.2%	62.8%
Vietnam	84.8%	82.0%	88.2%	97.7%	86.9%
United States of America	89.4%	87.3%	92.1%	95.0%	74.7%
Sri Lanka	89.7%	86.0%	97.3%	92.0%	78.5%
Indonesia	92.8%	89.1%	96.4%	93.5%	57.6%
Bangladesh	75.6%	75.0%	90.5%	82.0%	79.3%
Thailand	75.4%	74.1%	94.1%	90.7%	61.2%
Malaysia	74.6%	69.8%	95.5%	89.9%	65.7%
Fiji	72.7%	63.0%	96.1%	98.9%	83.5%
Pakistan	60.6%	61.4%	60.3%	79.1%	62.0%
South Africa	95.5%	91.4%	93.3%	93.9%	76.6%
Other countries	82.2%	79.7%	85.0%	90.6%	67.2%
All Tourist Visitor	84.6%	81.4%	91.2%	88.2%	78.6%

3.03 Grant rate for Sponsored Tourist visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship Country	01/10/19 to 31/12/19	01/01/20 to 31/03/20	01/04/20 to 30/06/20	01/07/20 to 30/09/20	01/10/20 to 31/12/20
India	82.3%	79.3%	92.1%	84.6%	92.0%
Bangladesh	87.3%	88.3%	100.0%	93.8%	100.0%
Pakistan	71.6%	69.3%	88.2%	69.4%	63.6%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	85.6%	77.0%	42.9%	58.3%	100.0%
Iran	69.4%	29.4%	50.0%	69.2%	63.2%
United States of America	60.0%	66.7%	85.7%	80.0%	100.0%
Sri Lanka	92.8%	84.0%	90.0%	80.0%	83.3%
Philippines	81.9%	73.9%	92.0%	81.8%	88.9%
Indonesia	63.7%	73.4%	91.7%	77.8%	87.5%
Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC)	50.0%	14.3%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Lebanon	44.6%	36.6%	75.0%	62.5%	100.0%
Russian Federation	86.1%	80.3%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
United Kingdom	66.7%	91.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Afghanistan	31.0%	16.2%	33.3%	0.0%	42.9%
Nepal	88.5%	85.3%	85.7%	80.0%	100.0%
Other countries	70.6%	58.9%	73.7%	66.7%	78.3%
All Sponsored Tourist	78.0%	70.0%	82.4%	76.1%	85.1%

3 Grant rate

3.04 Grant rate for Business Visitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship Country	01/10/19 to 31/12/19	01/01/20 to 31/03/20	01/04/20 to 30/06/20	01/07/20 to 30/09/20	01/10/20 to 31/12/20
India	93.0%	88.6%	4.3%	96.9%	96.3%
Philippines	95.4%	94.8%	94.1%	93.0%	97.0%
Russian Federation	81.4%	86.6%	23.3%	24.7%	89.0%
Kiribati	98.9%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Indonesia	94.9%	93.8%	75.0%	98.1%	100.0%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	93.2%	95.9%	66.7%	50.0%	100.0%
Ukraine	85.3%	88.3%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
France	95.6%	89.2%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Sri Lanka	85.7%	86.3%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
United States of America	95.5%	93.7%	96.0%	95.5%	89.5%
Turkey	94.4%	93.4%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
United Kingdom	94.6%	95.9%	0.0%	83.3%	92.9%
Japan	99.9%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Honduras	87.5%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Lithuania	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Other countries	92.2%	92.0%	16.7%	80.2%	87.5%
All Business Visitor	93.1%	92.8%	46.9%	87.9%	95.4%

3 Grant rate

3.05 Grant rate for subclass 651 eVisitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship Country	01/10/19 to 31/12/19	01/01/20 to 31/03/20	01/04/20 to 30/06/20	01/07/20 to 30/09/20	01/10/20 to 31/12/20
Austria	99.3%	98.7%	50.0%	75.0%	80.0%
Belgium	99.3%	98.7%	50.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Bulgaria	86.5%	85.9%	23.3%	68.0%	91.7%
Croatia	85.6%	82.2%	66.7%	83.6%	92.1%
Cyprus	98.5%	98.1%	25.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Czechia	99.3%	99.3%	80.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Denmark	99.4%	99.2%	35.0%	88.9%	90.9%
Estonia	98.5%	98.2%	33.3%	80.0%	100.0%
Finland	99.3%	98.9%	100.0%	83.3%	77.8%
France	99.0%	98.4%	85.7%	95.0%	97.0%
Germany, Fed Republic of	99.3%	99.1%	61.9%	92.3%	91.6%
Greece	97.3%	97.2%	62.5%	68.4%	88.9%
Hungary	98.4%	97.7%	16.7%	83.3%	77.8%
Ireland, Republic of	98.7%	98.1%	56.0%	87.9%	97.1%
Italy	99.1%	98.9%	67.9%	91.5%	93.8%
Latvia	88.8%	84.9%	30.0%	69.2%	100.0%
Lithuania	91.4%	90.1%	23.1%	80.0%	100.0%
Luxembourg	98.5%	99.2%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Malta	99.2%	94.9%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Netherlands, Kingdom of The	99.3%	98.9%	70.4%	86.4%	95.3%
Norway	99.2%	98.8%	73.7%	66.7%	92.9%
Poland	99.3%	99.2%	88.6%	59.6%	77.5%
Portugal	98.6%	98.8%	80.0%	100.0%	83.3%
Romania	76.6%	76.5%	15.3%	73.5%	90.5%
Slovakia	97.0%	99.4%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Slovenia	99.3%	98.6%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Spain	99.3%	98.9%	89.3%	92.6%	91.2%
Sweden	99.3%	98.8%	66.7%	86.7%	92.9%
Switzerland	99.4%	98.9%	66.7%	100.0%	93.8%
United Kingdom	99.1%	98.8%	63.5%	80.0%	89.7%
All	98.9%	98.5%	58.3%	80.6%	91.1%

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4 Processing times

This section contains information on 25, 50 and 75 percentile processing times for visitor visa applications.

In general terms:

- 25 percentile means that 25 per cent of applications granted during the period were processed within the number of days shown in the tables. Conversely, 75 per cent took longer than the number of days shown. This measure gives an indication of how long it is taking to process the more straight-forward visitor visa applications.
- 50 percentile more commonly known as the median, it means that 50 per cent of applications granted during the period were processed within the number of days shown in the tables. Conversely, 50 per cent took longer than the number of days shown. This measure gives an indication of how long it is taking to process the typical visitor visa applications.
- 75 percentile means that 75 per cent of applications granted during the period were processed within the number of days shown in the tables. Conversely, 25 per cent took longer than the number of days shown. This measure gives an indication of how long it is taking to process the more complex visitor visa applications.

Note: The calculation of days between lodged and grant date has been adjusted to ensure compatibility with the new database.

4 Processing times

4.01 Processing time (in calendar days) for Tourist Visitor visa applications granted in the 3 month period between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship country	Percentile	1/10/19 to 31/12/19	1/01/20 to 31/03/20	1/04/20 to 30/06/20	1/07/20 to 30/09/20	1/10/20 to 31/12/20
India	25th percentile	4	4	38	53	72
	50th percentile (Median)	12	10	48	75	109
	75th percentile	18	16	60	106	154
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	25th percentile	2	2	42	60	63
	50th percentile (Median)	4	7	48	86	83
	75th percentile	7	15	63	117	136
Philippines	25th percentile	15	12	37	58	55
	50th percentile (Median)	22	16	49	79	105
	75th percentile	29	28	63	108	160
Nepal	25th percentile	14	11	37	56	61
	50th percentile (Median)	18	15	47	73	82
	75th percentile	24	22	60	103	132
United Kingdom	25th percentile	0	1	32	66	33
	50th percentile (Median)	6	7	40	117	81
	75th percentile	11	15	48	128	147
Vietnam	25th percentile	15	8	39	65	70
	50th percentile (Median)	19	21	49	89	125
	75th percentile	27	36	62	112	167
United States of America	25th percentile	0	0	24	35	16
	50th percentile (Median)	4	6	44	62	37
	75th percentile	11	11	58	90	101
Sri Lanka	25th percentile	9	18	37	58	78
	50th percentile (Median)	14	23	49	78	132
	75th percentile	20	28	62	109	170
Indonesia	25th percentile	6	7	35	54	25
	50th percentile (Median)	9	9	49	74	88
	75th percentile	11	13	64	103	161
Bangladesh	25th percentile	16	14	32	55	67
	50th percentile (Median)	25	26	46	85	98
	75th percentile	42	39	59	115	152
Other countries	25th percentile	7	4	37	53	39
	50th percentile (Median)	14	11	48	75	80
	75th percentile	21	24	62	104	148
All	25th percentile	3	4	39	55	61
	50th percentile (Median)	7	11	47	79	92
	75th percentile	15	18	61	109	149

4 Processing times

4.02 Processing time (in calendar days) for Business Visitor visa applications granted in the 3 month period between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship country	Percentile	1/10/19 to 31/12/19	1/01/20 to 31/03/20	1/04/20 to 30/06/20	1/07/20 to 30/09/20	1/10/20 to 31/12/20
India	25th percentile	2	3	1	1	1
	50th percentile (Median)	4	7	1	2	3
	75th percentile	10	12	1	3	5
Philippines	25th percentile	6	4	2	2	2
	50th percentile (Median)	10	8	3	5	3
	75th percentile	17	15	10	9	7
Russian Federation	25th percentile	12	6	2	1	217
	50th percentile (Median)	17	8	5	3	272
	75th percentile	21	23	9	7	318
Kiribati	25th percentile	0	0		3	2
	50th percentile (Median)	0	1		4	3
	75th percentile	2	5		4	6
Indonesia	25th percentile	2	1	6	13	3
	50th percentile (Median)	3	3	11	13	7
	75th percentile	5	5	12	22	8
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	25th percentile	0	1	0	5	3
	50th percentile (Median)	2	4	0	5	3
	75th percentile	6	6	0	5	7
Ukraine	25th percentile	13	6	1	2	1
	50th percentile (Median)	20	9	2	3	3
	75th percentile	27	13	6	4	6
France	25th percentile	0	0		1	3
	50th percentile (Median)	0	1		1	3
	75th percentile	9	8		1	14
Sri Lanka	25th percentile	4	3		1	3
	50th percentile (Median)	6	7		3	6
	75th percentile	9	12		3	18
United States of America	25th percentile	0	0	0	0	1
	50th percentile (Median)	0	0	1	3	8
	75th percentile	1	3	3	15	37
Other countries	25th percentile	0	0	1	1	2
	50th percentile (Median)	0	0	2	3	5
	75th percentile	7	6	5	7	12
All	25th percentile	0	0	1	1	2
	50th percentile (Median)	2	3	2	3	4
	75th percentile	7	7	6	6	8

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5 Applications on hand

5 Applications on hand

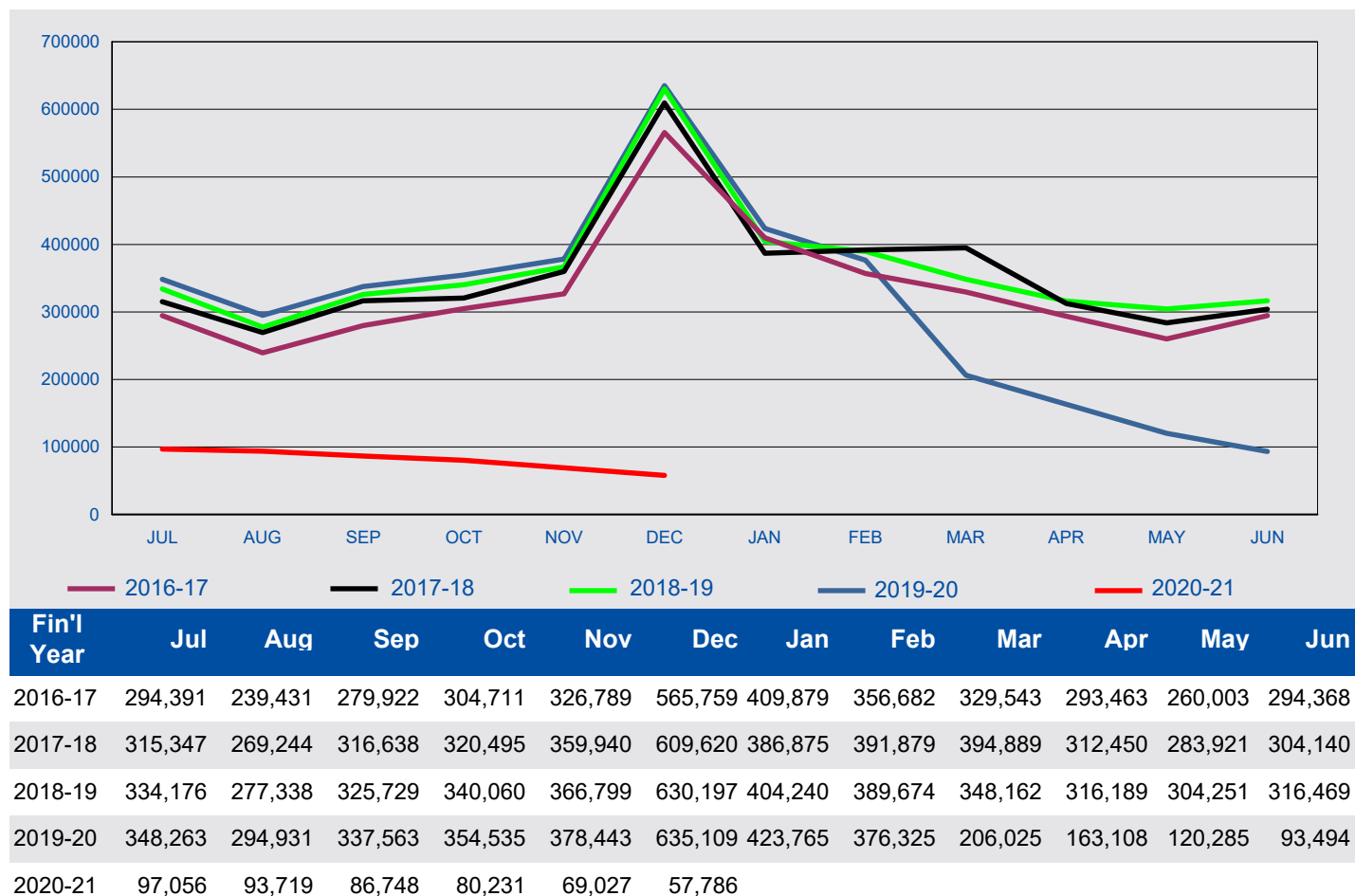
5.01 Number of Visitor visa applications on hand at 31 December 2020 by visa group - comparison with previous four periods

Visa Group	On hand at 31/12/19	On hand at 31/03/20	On hand at 30/06/20	On hand at 30/09/20	On hand at 31/12/20
Tourism					
Tourist Visitor	80 859	61 728	111 647	90 973	90 872
ETA Tourist	18	7	6	< 5	< 5
eVisitor Tourist	2 653	2 160	4 297	6 441	8 461
Sponsored Tourist	5 846	5 200	5 623	6 217	7 039
sub total Tourism	89 376	69 095	121 573	103 634	106 373
Business					
Business Visitor	4 806	2 446	2 407	2 541	2 788
ETA Business	< 5	0	0	0	0
eVisitor Business	127	190	757	660	779
Sponsored Business	0	0	0	0	0
sub total Business	4 934	2 636	3 164	3 201	3 567
Total	94 310	71 731	124 737	106 835	109 940

6 Visa holders in Australia

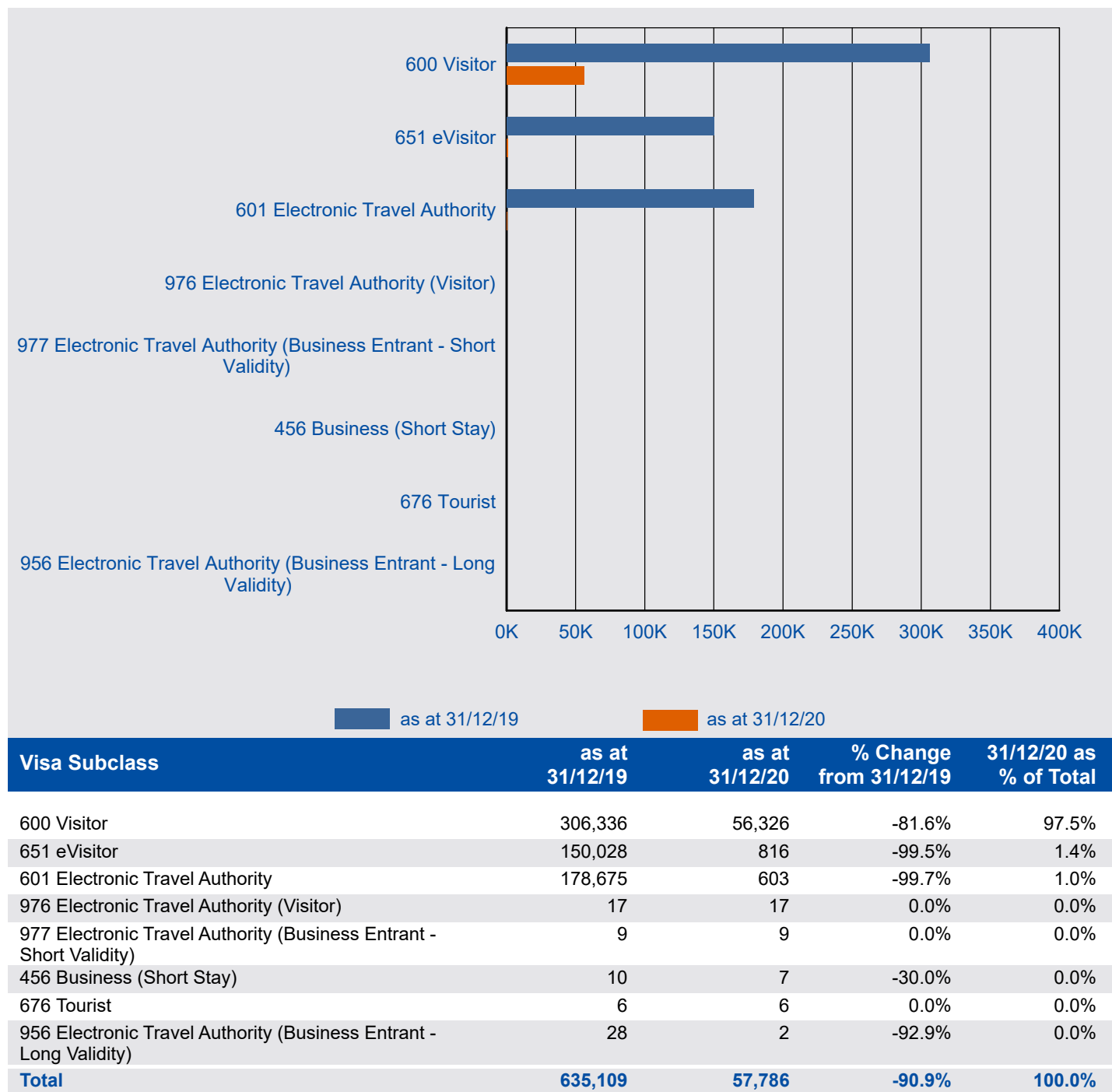
6 Visa holders in Australia

6.01 Number of Visitor visa holders in Australia at the end of each month in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by month - comparison with previous four financial years



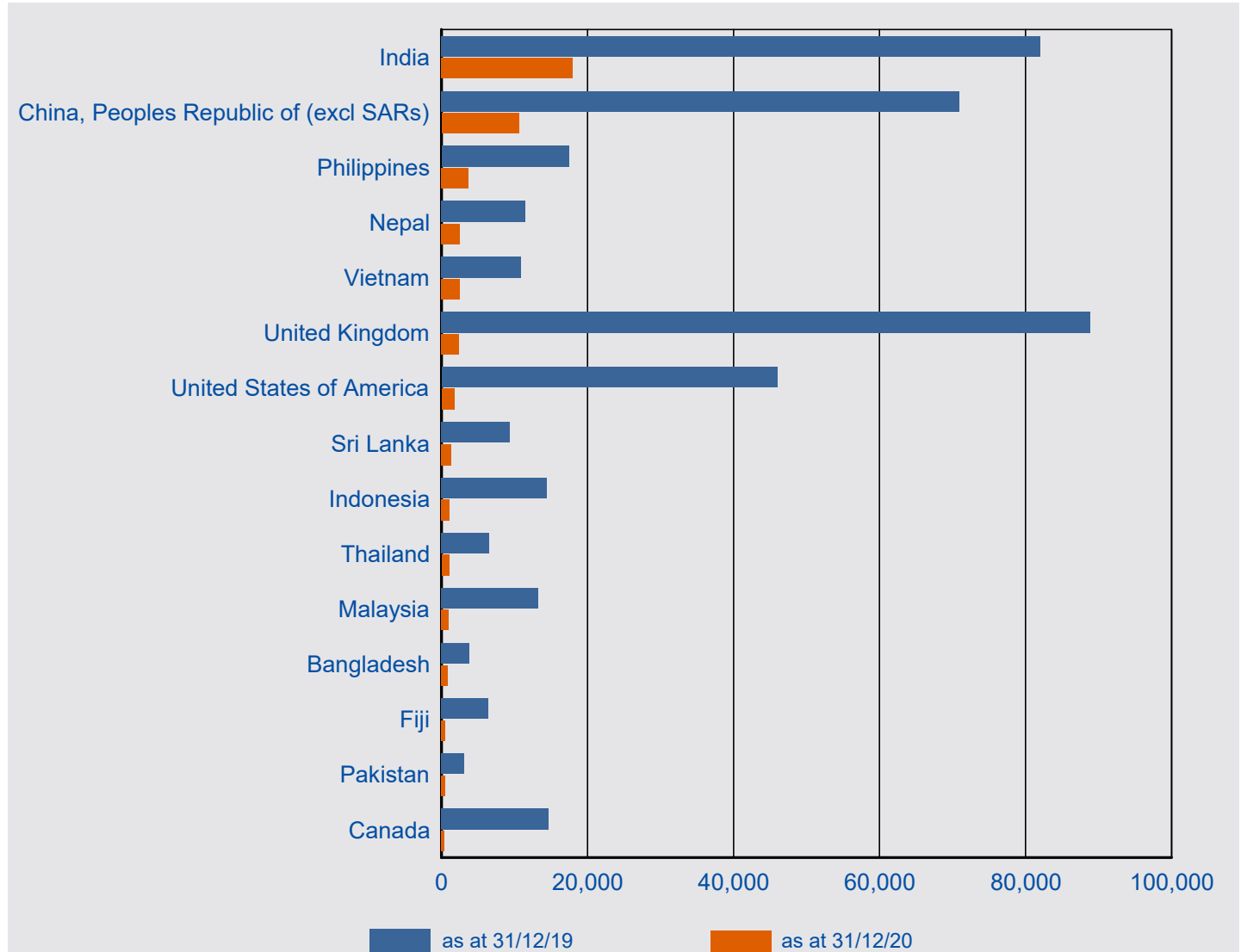
6 Visa holders in Australia

6.02 Number of Visitor visa holders in Australia as at 31 December 2020 by visa subclass - comparison with same date in previous year



6 Visa holders in Australia

6.03 Number of Visitor visa holders in Australia as at 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year

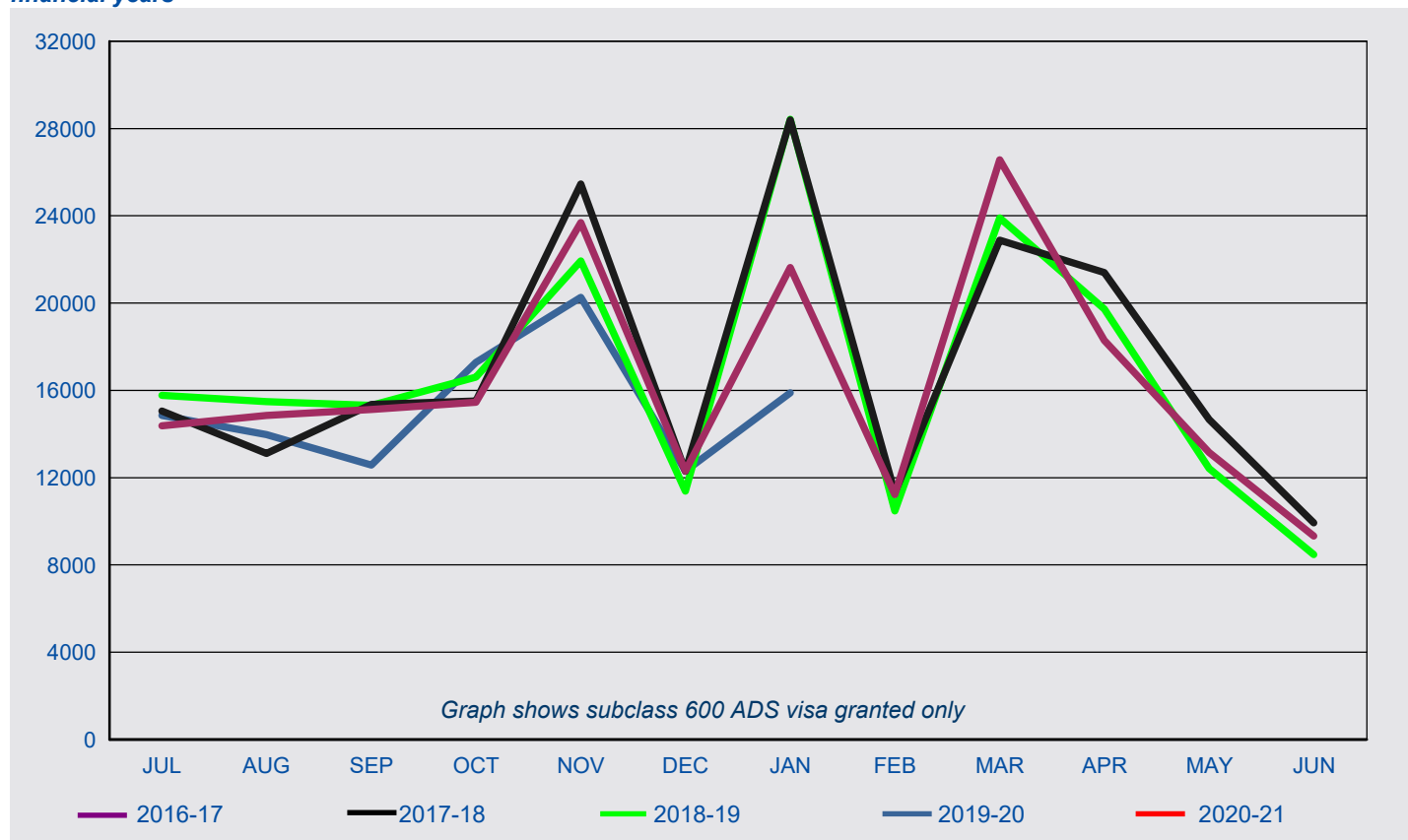


Citizenship Country	as at 31/12/19	as at 31/12/20	% Change from 31/12/19	31/12/20 as % of Total
India	82,043	18,000	-78.1%	31.1%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	70,932	10,604	-85.1%	18.4%
Philippines	17,457	3,701	-78.8%	6.4%
Nepal	11,466	2,587	-77.4%	4.5%
Vietnam	10,893	2,490	-77.1%	4.3%
United Kingdom	88,896	2,412	-97.3%	4.2%
United States of America	46,006	1,760	-96.2%	3.0%
Sri Lanka	9,357	1,415	-84.9%	2.4%
Indonesia	14,488	1,132	-92.2%	2.0%
Thailand	6,585	1,048	-84.1%	1.8%
Malaysia	13,242	981	-92.6%	1.7%
Bangladesh	3,854	896	-76.8%	1.6%
Fiji	6,392	562	-91.2%	1.0%
Pakistan	3,077	531	-82.7%	0.9%
Canada	14,651	467	-96.8%	0.8%
Other countries	235,770	9,200	-96.1%	15.9%
Total	635,109	57,786	-90.9%	100.0%

7 Approved Destination Status (ADS)

7 Approved Destination Status (ADS)

7.01 Number of subclass 600 visa applications granted in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 under the tourism stream where the citizenship country is Peoples Republic of China (PRC) by visa type - comparison with previous four financial years



subclass 600 ADS for PRC

FY Granted	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2016-17	14,378	14,864	15,132	15,464	23,708	12,308	21,640	11,235	26,580	18,297	13,158	9,333	196,097
2017-18	15,066	13,124	15,368	15,521	25,480	12,301	28,409	11,323	22,891	21,412	14,679	9,931	205,505
2018-19	15,774	15,489	15,323	16,615	21,940	11,390	28,438	10,480	23,925	19,748	12,432	8,484	200,038
2019-20	14,862	13,988	12,577	17,299	20,276	12,315	15,902						107,219
2020-21													

subclass 600 non-ADS for PRC

FY Granted	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2016-17	49,051	43,663	43,623	38,281	61,463	72,071	57,882	31,006	51,510	37,660	47,778	63,316	597,304
2017-18	64,228	57,202	54,355	46,238	67,307	65,485	84,735	35,915	44,830	36,853	45,080	48,992	651,220
2018-19	66,020	60,659	53,085	54,797	71,506	68,253	68,431	25,933	43,262	42,083	51,078	43,572	648,679
2019-20	58,548	54,622	46,048	50,151	59,760	58,806	44,474	2,934	3,433	2,104	1,983	2,169	385,032
2020-21	2,610	2,313	2,200	2,147	1,974	1,787							13,031

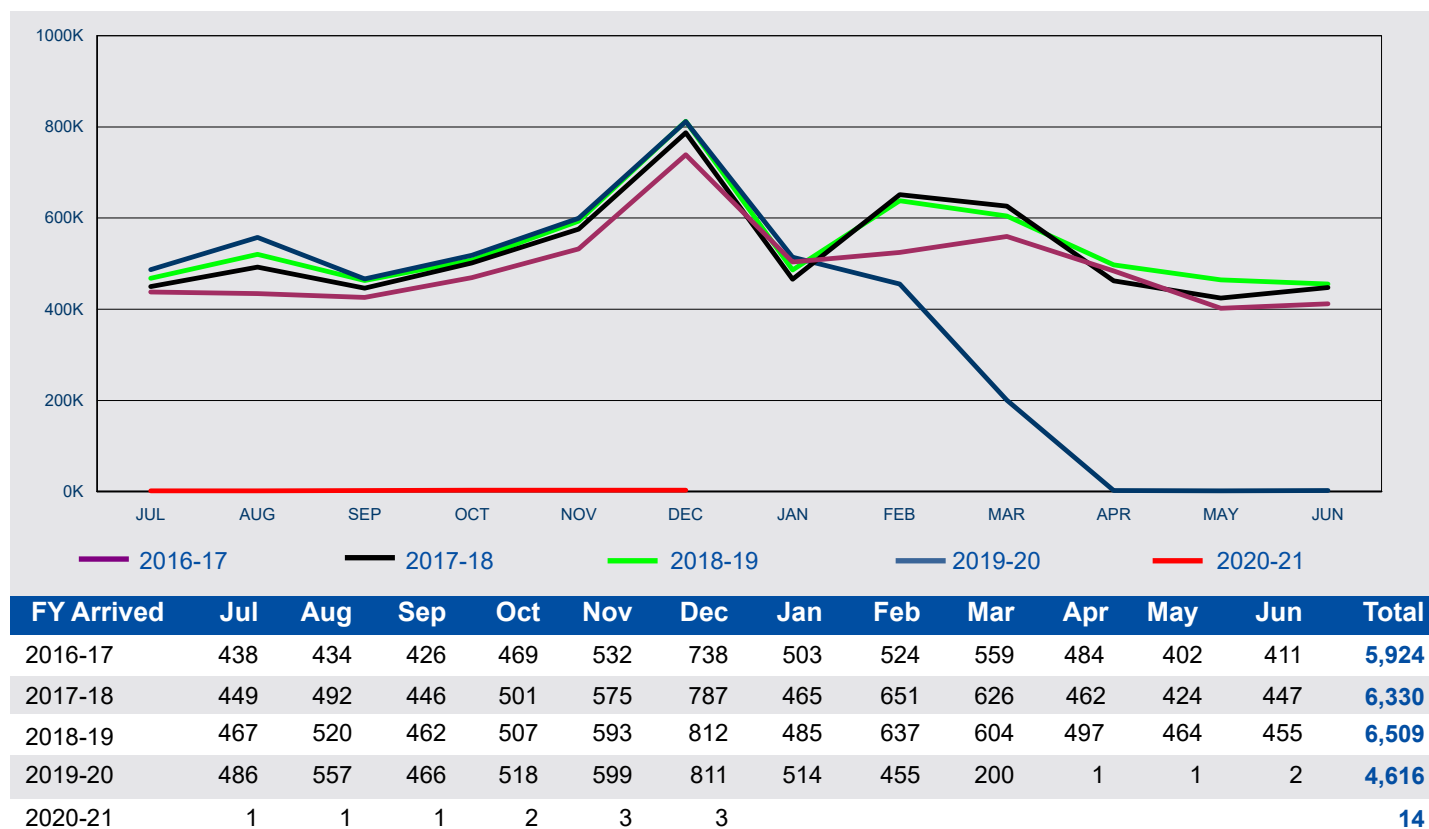
Total subclass 600 for PRC

FY Granted	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2016-17	63,429	58,527	58,755	53,745	85,171	84,379	79,522	42,241	78,090	55,957	60,936	72,649	793,401
2017-18	79,294	70,326	69,723	61,759	92,787	77,786	113,144	47,238	67,721	58,265	59,759	58,923	856,725
2018-19	81,794	76,148	68,408	71,412	93,446	79,643	96,869	36,413	67,187	61,831	63,510	52,056	848,717
2019-20	73,410	68,610	58,625	67,450	80,036	71,121	60,376	2,934	3,433	2,104	1,983	2,169	492,251
2020-21	2,610	2,313	2,200	2,147	1,974	1,787							13,031

8 Arrivals

8 Arrivals

8.01 Number of Visitor visa arrivals ('000) in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 - comparison with previous four financial years



8 Arrivals

8.02 Number of Visitor visa arrivals in 2020-21 to 31 December 2020 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year

