



09 March 2020

Vidarbh Sakshee

fyi-request-11969-18accee@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref No: DOIA 1920 – 1035

Dear Vidarbh Sakshee,

Thank you for your email on 02 January 2020, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

I would like to request the number of asylum seekers that New Zealand has received in 2018-19 to 2019-20.

I would like these statistics to be broken down by:

- a) The country of nationality or habitual residence of the asylum seeker who applied for Work Visa while their Claims are determined*
- b) Number of Asylum seekers applied for work visa while there claims are determined.*
- c) Number of Asylum seekers Granted/Declined work visa while there claims are determined.*
- d) Average Days (Time Frame) took on Granting or Declining from the date of Applying Work Visa for Asylum Seekers*

Our response

Please see Table 1 attached showing the number of Asylum Seeker application claims received during the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years.

Part a:

Please see Table 2 attached providing the country of nationality of the Asylum Seekers who applied for work visas while their claims were being determined.

Part b:

During the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years, there were 521 Asylum Seekers who applied for work visas while their claims were being determined.

Part c:

Please see table 3 showing the number of Work Asylum Seeker applications Approved and Declined. Please note these figures do not include the applications that were withdrawn with no fee refunded.

Part d:

The average processing days (from tendered to decision date) was 50 calendar days.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Lautalie Leausa Vaa, Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at Lautalie.Leausavaa@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicola Hogg". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Nicola Hogg
General Manager – Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Table 1: Number of Asylum Seeker application claims made during the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years:

Financial Year	Application Count
2018/19	732
2019/20	524

Table 2: Country of nationality of the Asylum Seekers who applied for Work Visa applications while their claims were being determined:

Nationality
Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Brazil
Burundi
Cameroon
Chile
China
Colombia
Cuba
Czech Republic
Egypt
Ethiopia
Fiji
Germany
Ghana
Great Britain
India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Israel
Japan
Jordan
Lebanon
Malaysia
Mexico
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
Nigeria
Pakistan
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Portugal
Russia
Saudi Arabia

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Slovakia
South Africa
South Korea
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Syria
Thailand
Tonga
Turkey
Ukraine
United Nations
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Venezuela
Vietnam
Yemen
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Table 3: The number of Work Asylum Seeker applications approved and declined:

Decision	Applicant Count
Approved	394
Declined	1

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