



Gracien

fyi-request-13703-09fd7e85@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Gracien

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 received on 7 September 2020 requesting the following:

I would like to know how many non-priority SMC (on-shore) application waiting to be allocated to CO between February 2019 - June 2019?

Our response

As at 25 September 2020 there were 1,617 non-priority Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) applications unallocated for onshore applicants on hand, for applications received between 1 February 2019 and 30 June 2019.

I can also advise that over the last year, demand for residence under the SMC and Residence from Work category (RfW) has risen significantly. In 2018/19 we accepted 12,646 visas in these two categories, and in 2019/20 we accepted 17,058.

INZ's role as a regulator is to process and approve applications in line with immigration instructions and the New Zealand Residence Programme (NZRP) planning range set by the Government of the day. The volume of approved residence applicants has been within the NZRP planning range every year. Further information on the NZRP can be found on the Immigration New Zealand website - [New Zealand Residence Programme](#).

You can also find up to date information about SMC and RfW processing times [on our website](#).

I trust you find the information helpful.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact Matt Burden, Senior Business Advisor, Operations Support at Matt.Burden@mbie.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

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

