



17 June 2022

45 Pipitea Street, Wellington 6011

Phone +64 4 495 7200

Sebastian via FYI

[fyi-request-19274-](#)

37448bda@requests.fyi.org.nz

dia.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Sebastian

OIA request 21/22 0749 Request for Citizenship Timeframes

Thank you for your Official Information Act (Act) request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 5 May 2022.

You requested –

- *I need the following figures for those who had applied in the months of June 2021, July 2021 and August 2021:*

Month No of Total applications No of applications under processing

Month Total No total approved

Same needed for online ones.

We advised on 2 June 2022 pursuant to section 15(1)(b) of the Act, that the Department would grant the information you requested.

In response to your request, I can provide you with the following information.

Please see attached Appendix A which shows – Table one: Total number of online and paper New Zealand Citizenship applications processing for the months of June – August 2021, as at June 2022.

Our new online system lets us make automated checks to see if an applicant meets certain requirements for citizenship.

As an example of an automated check, the system matches an application with the Immigration New Zealand record. It then uses this information to calculate if a person meets the presence requirement.

This means that some applications are processed faster than others, because a case officer does not need to carry out as many manual checks. Applications that need extra manual checks may take longer.

There is extensive information available to the public regarding citizenship processing timeframes both on the citizenship application timeframes webpage here: <https://www.govt.nz/browse/passports-citizenship-and-identity/nz-citizenship/how-to-apply-for-nz-citizenship/application-timeframes/> and on the Department's OIA proactive release webpage as linked below, which may be of interest to you.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Department has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on the DIA website. All requestor data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Official-Information-Act-Requests-2>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Julia Taylor
Manager Operational Policy and Official Correspondence
Service Delivery and Operations