

Question on notice no. 387

Portfolio question number: AE21-387

2020-21 Additional estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Nick McKim: asked the Department of Home Affairs on 22 March 2021—

Please provide a breakdown of processing times for citizenship applications based on country of origin.

Answer —

Please see the attached answer.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES
 22 MARCH 2021**

**Home Affairs Portfolio
 Department of Home Affairs**

Program 2.1: Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship

AE21-387- Citizenship processing times

Senator Nick McKim asked:

Please provide a breakdown of processing times for citizenship applications based on country of origin.

Answer:

For the period 1 July 2020 to 31 January 2021, 80,602 applications for Australian citizenship by conferral were finalised. Processing times for those applications, by country of nationality of the applicants, is included in the table below.

Average processing timeframes for applications for Australian citizenship by conferral, from date of lodgement to date of decision, by top 30 nationalities (Timeframes based on applications <i>finalised</i> in the period 1 July 2020 to 31 January 2021)		
Country of nationality	Average number of days	No. of applications
India	311	12,587
United Kingdom	278	10,127
Philippines	294	5,348
China*	396	4,019
New Zealand	256	3,546
Pakistan	335	2,841
Vietnam	313	2,464
South Africa	269	2,451
Iraq	377	2,333
Afghanistan	658	1,995
Syrian Arab Republic	254	1,638
Ireland, Republic of	308	1,518
Iran	390	1,299
Sri Lanka	347	1,283
Nepal	355	1,254
Bangladesh	362	1,230

**Average processing timeframes for applications for Australian citizenship by conferral, from date of lodgement to date of decision, by top 30 nationalities
(Timeframes based on applications finalised in the period 1 July 2020 to 31 January 2021)**

Country of nationality	Average number of days	No. of applications
United States of America	297	1,228
Malaysia	254	1,165
Thailand	317	1,085
Italy	276	1,059
Brazil	288	962
Hong Kong	299	851
Korea, South	385	846
Canada	297	798
France	308	742
Indonesia	303	629
Egypt	373	625
Russian Federation	292	596
Taiwan	273	594
Myanmar	838	579
Other	332	12,910
Total	326	80,602

* "China, Peoples Republic of" denotes mainland China only and does not include the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau.

**'Other' includes all other nationalities excluding the top 30 in this list.

This report may differ from previous or other reports due to the use of dynamic database in the current financial year.