

Question on notice no. 451

Portfolio question number: OBE22-451

2022-23 Budget estimates October and November

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Paul Scarr: asked the Department of Home Affairs on 23 January 2023—

- (1. Since June to present, how many people have arrived in Australia via plane and subsequently claimed asylum?
2. What countries were these people from?
3. What visas have these applicants been placed on?
4. Can you provide answers to the above questions but for the previous six month reporting period?
5. How many people in total are currently in Australia seeking asylum that have arrived via plane?
6. Of the cases processed to date, what percentage are found to be genuine refugees?
7. How many refugee claims are considered to be vexatious or without merit by the department?
8. Can the department provide examples / details of claims considered to lack merit (de-identified) ?

Answer —

Please see the attached answer.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
BUDGET ESTIMATES
FEBRUARY 2023**

**Home Affairs Portfolio
Department of Home Affairs**

Program 2.3: Refugee Humanitarian, Settlement and Migrant Services

OBE22-451 - Planes - Asylum

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Answers:

1. Between 1 July and 31 December 2022, 8,333 individuals arrived in Australia by plane on a valid visa and subsequently lodged a permanent Protection Visa application.
2. The following table provides a breakdown of the 8,333 individuals by citizenship:

| Citizenship | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|
| India | 1,032 |
| China (Exc. SAR) | 763 |
| Indonesia | 554 |
| Malaysia | 512 |
| Tonga | 423 |
| Vietnam | 400 |
| Thailand | 295 |
| Myanmar | 293 |
| Fiji | 276 |
| Timor Leste | 272 |
| Vanuatu | 264 |
| Sri Lanka | 241 |
| Ukraine | 234 |

| Citizenship | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Samoa | 213 |
| Pakistan | 194 |
| Iran | 165 |
| Solomon Islands | 134 |
| Lebanon | 130 |
| Philippines | 126 |
| Nepal | 122 |
| Bangladesh | 118 |
| Taiwan | 102 |
| Papua New Guinea | 101 |
| Turkey | 96 |
| Stateless | 78 |
| Nigeria | 69 |

| Citizenship | Total |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Cambodia | 62 |
| Afghanistan | 62 |
| Colombia | 60 |
| Russian Federation | 55 |
| Iraq | 52 |
| Egypt | 51 |
| South Africa | 51 |
| Hong Kong | 47 |
| Kenya | 43 |
| Korea (Sth) | 41 |
| Yemen | 32 |
| Lao Peoples Dem Republic | 28 |
| Peru | 26 |
| Brazil | 26 |
| Zimbabwe | 23 |
| Mongolia | 21 |
| Syria | 21 |
| Kiribati | 21 |
| Jordan | 19 |
| Ethiopia | 17 |
| Venezuela | 15 |
| Ireland | 14 |
| Not Yet Recorded | 14 |

| Citizenship | Total |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Sierra Leone | 13 |
| Sudan | 13 |
| Eritrea | 12 |
| United Kingdom | 12 |
| Sweden | 11 |
| Cuba | 10 |
| Brunei | 9 |
| Palestinian Authority | 9 |
| Mexico | 9 |
| Somalia | 8 |
| Ghana | 8 |
| Libya | 7 |
| Chile | 7 |
| United States Of America | 7 |
| Albania | 6 |
| Uganda | 6 |
| Saudi Arabia | 6 |
| North Macedonia | 5 |
| Mauritius | 5 |
| Uzbekistan | 5 |
| Morocco | 5 |
| Other | 152 |
| Total | 8,333 |

3. The 8,333 individuals referred to above entered Australia by plane holding a range of visas granted for varying periods of time. The current visas held by these individuals are listed below in **Table A – Current visas held by individuals who applied for a Permanent PV in 2022 and arrived onshore by plane**. Those visas with less than 5 applications made in the 6 month period have been aggregated under “Other”.

4. Between 1 January and 30 June 2022, 4,978 individuals who arrived in Australia by plane on a valid visa subsequently lodged a permanent Protection Visa application.

The following table provides a breakdown of these 4,978 individuals by citizenship:

| Citizenship | Total |
|--------------------------|-------|
| China (Exc. SAR) | 595 |
| Malaysia | 513 |
| India | 504 |
| Vanuatu | 365 |
| Vietnam | 220 |
| Fiji | 218 |
| Myanmar | 217 |
| Tonga | 197 |
| Ukraine | 181 |
| Thailand | 177 |
| Solomon Islands | 146 |
| Pakistan | 134 |
| Indonesia | 109 |
| Nepal | 93 |
| Sri Lanka | 80 |
| Samoa | 72 |
| Taiwan | 71 |
| Korea (Sth) | 71 |
| Iran | 56 |
| Bangladesh | 51 |
| Timor Leste | 49 |
| Papua New Guinea | 45 |
| Philippines | 45 |
| Lebanon | 42 |
| Stateless | 42 |
| Afghanistan | 37 |
| Ethiopia | 37 |
| Hong Kong | 36 |
| Colombia | 35 |
| Turkey | 32 |
| Lao Peoples Dem Republic | 31 |

| Citizenship | Total |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Nigeria | 30 |
| Cambodia | 28 |
| Iraq | 26 |
| Kenya | 25 |
| Brazil | 24 |
| Mongolia | 24 |
| Venezuela | 15 |
| Peru | 15 |
| Egypt | 14 |
| Sudan | 12 |
| Saudi Arabia | 12 |
| Zimbabwe | 12 |
| Jordan | 12 |
| Russian Federation | 12 |
| Yemen | 11 |
| United Kingdom | 10 |
| Chile | 9 |
| New Zealand | 9 |
| South Africa | 9 |
| Ireland | 8 |
| Italy | 8 |
| Singapore | 7 |
| Congo | 7 |
| Burundi | 6 |
| Albania | 6 |
| Mauritius | 6 |
| Syria | 5 |
| Romania | 5 |
| Uzbekistan | 5 |
| Other/Not yet recorded | 105 |
| Total | 4,978 |

The current visas held by these individuals are listed in **Table A – Current visas held by individuals who applied for a Permanent PV in 2022 and arrived onshore by plane**. Note that those visas with less than 5 applications in the 6 month period have been aggregated under “Other”.

5. As at 31 December 2022, a total of 24,154 individuals who had arrived in Australia on a valid visa had a permanent Protection Visa application that was undergoing assessment.

6. The following table shows the number of permanent Protection Visa grants and the grant rates between the program years 2019–20 and 2022–23 (to 31 December 2022):

| Program Year | Grants | Grant Rate |
|--------------|--------|------------|
| 2019–20 | 1,650 | 9.8% |
| 2020–21 | 1,389 | 9.7% |
| 2021–22 | 1,762 | 11.2% |
| 2022–23 | 995 | 14.2% |

7. All claims for protection are assessed on the merits of the individual case against current country information.
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Table A: Current visas held by individuals who applied for a Permanent PV in 2022 and arrived onshore by plane

| Visa Name | Subclass | Total 1/7/22 to 31/12/22 | Total 1/1/22 to 30/6/22 |
|--|----------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bridging Visa A | 010 | 3,596 | 1,554 |
| Bridging Visa C | 030 | 1,660 | 1,625 |
| Visitor | 600 | 706 | 23 |
| Bridging Visa E | 050 | 614 | 553 |
| Student | 500 | 320 | 138 |
| Temporary Work (International Relations) | 403 | 317 | 131 |
| Temporary Activity | 408 | 242 | 142 |
| Business Innovation and Investment | 188 | 38 | 8 |
| Temporary Graduate | 485 | 37 | 15 |
| Electronic Transit Authority | 601 | 32 | <5 |
| Temporary Skill Shortage | 482 | 16 | 11 |
| Bridging Visa B | 020 | 14 | 17 |
| Temporary Humanitarian Concern Visa | 786 | 13 | 96 |
| Sponsored Parent (Temporary) | 870 | 11 | 6 |
| Skilled – Recognised Graduate | 476 | 11 | <5 |
| Student Guardian Visa | 590 | 10 | 6 |
| Temporary Work (Short Stay Specialist) | 400 | 7 | <5 |
| New Zealand Citizen Family Relationship | 461 | 6 | <5 |
| Criminal Justice Stay Visa | 951 | 5 | <5 |
| Other | N/A | 42 | 106 |
| No <i>In effect</i> subclass reported | | 636 | 541 |
| Total | | 8,333 | 4,978 |

Note: This table is based on lodgements for the periods of 1/7/22 to 31/12/22 and 1/1/22 to 30/6/22 and visas held on 27/1/23.

