

Question on notice no. 69

Portfolio question number: BE19/070

2019-20 Budget estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Stirling Griff: asked the Department of Home Affairs on 8 April 2019—

Please provide:

- the number of protection visa applications still awaiting decision, broken down by nationality of the applicant, for 2017-18 and the financial year to date
- the numbers of protection visa applications made in the past three financial years and year to date, broken down by the substantive visa class previously held by the person applying
- the average time taken for a decision on a protection visa

Answer —

a) The number of non-IMA protection visa applications on-hand with the Department of Home Affairs:

- For 2017-18

Citizenship	as at 30 June 2018
China, Peoples Republic of	7,152
Malaysia	3,860
India	2,277
Pakistan	669
Thailand	646
Iraq	612
Iran	472
Turkey	441
Lebanon	385
Sri Lanka	379
Other	6,034
Total	22,927

- Financial year to date

Citizenship	as at 28 February 2019
China, Peoples Republic Of	9,199
Malaysia	4,213
India	3,079
Thailand	1,391
Pakistan	810

Fiji	698
Iran	678
Indonesia	585
Philippines	557
Iraq	495
Other	7,805
Total	29,510

b) The number of protection visa applications made in the past three financial years and year-to-date, broken down by the substantive visa class previously held by the person applying:

Initial Arrival visa	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	1 Jul 2018 to 28Feb 2019
Visitor	7,807	13,249	21,996	11,531
Student	3,234	3,026	3,517	2,861
Temporary Resident	784	998	1,410	1,059
Other	872	1,017	1,008	631
Total	12,697	18,290	27,931	16,082

c) In the 2017-18 program year, the average number of days from lodgement to primary decision (grants and refusals) for onshore protection visas was 231 days.