



22 March 2021

Rachel
fyi-request-14765-81c8624c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2021-1629

Dear Rachel,

Thank you for your email of 26 February 2021 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA), the following information:

“Could I please request the following in regards to the culturally arranged Marriage visitor visa: Totals per year over the last six years including so far 2021 (i.e. 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 & 2015) or in periods of time as recorded in stats (i.e. 1/7/2020 - 01/2/2021)

Please break down the results by Nationality.

- 1. Total number of Culturally arranged Marriage visitor visa applications submitted to Immigration New Zealand in the above years.*
- 2. Total number of Culturally arranged Marriage visitor visa applications granted as Culturally arranged Marriage visitor visa in the above years.*
- 3. Total number of Culturally arranged Marriage visitor visa applications granted as an alternative visa in the above years.*
- 4. Total number of Culturally arranged Marriage visitor visa applications declined in the above years.”*

Our Response

Please refer to Appendix One attached which provides the following tables:

- Table One: Number of Culturally Arranged Marriage Visitor Visa applications accepted for processing between 01 July 2015 and 01 February 2021, broken down by financial year accepted and principal applicant’s nationality.
- Table Two: Number of Culturally Arranged Marriage Visitor Visa applications decided between 01 July 2015 and 01 February 2021, broken down by financial year decided, decision type and principal applicant’s nationality.
- Table Three: Number of Culturally Arranged Marriage Visitor Visa applications granted as an alternative visa, broken down by financial year decided and principal applicant’s nationality.



If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Lautalie Leausa Vaa, Senior Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at Lautalie.Leausavaa@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Hogg', is written over a faint, light-colored rectangular background.

Nicola Hogg
General Manager - Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand

Appendix One

Table One: Number of Culturally Arranged Marriage Visitor Visa applications accepted for processing between 01 July 2015 and 01 February 2021, broken down by financial year accepted and principal applicant's nationality.

Nationality	Financial Year (Jul-Jun) Accepted						Total
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	
Afghanistan	49	36	47	30	29	16	207
Bangladesh	2	1	0	0	0	1	4
Cambodia	10	15	10	16	8	1	60
Canada	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
China	7	3	3	0	1	1	15
Egypt	1	0	2	1	1	0	5
Eritrea	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Ethiopia	9	6	4	2	1	0	22
Fiji	28	25	22	16	19	4	114
India	75	55	62	43	121	28	384
Indonesia	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Iran	8	10	8	5	5	2	38
Iraq	16	13	9	6	3	1	48
Japan	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Jordan	3	0	0	2	1	0	6
Laos	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Lebanon	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
Morocco	3	2	0	1	0	0	6
Myanmar	0	2	1	2	1	0	6
Nauru	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Nepal	4	3	1	0	1	0	9
Nigeria	0	3	1	1	0	2	7
Pakistan	16	18	11	14	12	5	76
Palestine	1	2	2	1	0	1	7
Peru	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Philippines	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
Russia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Somalia	3	3	1	0	2	1	10
South Korea	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
South Sudan	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Sri Lanka	11	9	4	9	6	3	42
Stateless	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sudan	4	0	0	1	0	0	5
Syria	2	2	0	4	2	0	10
Thailand	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Tonga	0	2	1	1	1	0	5
United States of America	1	0	0	2	0	0	3
Unknown	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Vietnam	2	0	2	0	0	0	4
Yemen	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Zimbabwe	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	260	212	196	164	219	67	1118

Table Two: Number of Culturally Arranged Marriage Visitor Visa applications decided between 01 July 2015 and 01 February 2021, broken down by financial year decided, decision type and principal applicant's nationality.

Nationality	Decision Type												Total
	Approved						Declined						
	Financial Year (Jul-Jun) Decided						Financial Year (Jul-Jun) Decided						
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	
Afghanistan	17	11	18	2	6	4	30	18	30	30	10	6	182
Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	3
Cambodia	1	0	5	0	0	2	7	8	7	13	6	0	49
China	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	1	7
Egypt	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	4
Eritrea	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ethiopia	0	2	0	0	0	0	7	3	4	1	1	0	18
Fiji	9	8	8	5	10	3	4	6	8	3	3	2	69
India	18	18	16	8	18	20	49	30	41	32	26	31	307
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Iran	1	4	3	0	1	0	7	6	4	6	2	0	34
Iraq	2	3	3	3	0	0	9	7	5	2	1	0	35
Jordan	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	6
Laos	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Lebanon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	3
Morocco	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	6
Myanmar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3
Nauru	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Nepal	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	8
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
Pakistan	3	3	2	4	2	2	13	13	10	10	2	4	68
Palestine	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	6
Philippines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Russia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Somalia	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	0	3	10
South Sudan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Sri Lanka	4	1	0	1	1	1	6	6	4	2	3	0	29
Sudan	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5
Syria	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	0	7
Thailand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
United States of America	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Vietnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Yemen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Zimbabwe	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	60	52	57	23	38	34	153	112	125	118	58	51	881

Table Three: Number of Culturally Arranged Marriage Visitor Visa applications granted as an alternative visa broken down by financial year decided and principal applicant's nationality.

Nationality	Decision							Total
	Approved							
	Financial Year (Jul-Jun) Decided							
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21		
Afghanistan	3	1	3	1	3	1	12	
China	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Egypt	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
Fiji	2	0	0	0	1	4	7	
India	2	1	0	1	1	2	7	
Iraq	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Pakistan	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	
Total	8	2	5	4	5	7	31	