



12 June 2023

Armando Martin Jadrin

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DOIA 2223-2473

Tēnā koe Armando,

Thank you for your email of 30 April 2023 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

- “Q.1. How many applications are at the stage of Under Assessment in Skills Category?”*
- Q.2. How many applications are pending under Split Family escalation?*
- Q.3. Does Immigration take longer time to process Skills Category Application rather than other Category?*
- Q.4. Can you please provide on when the 2021 RV Processing Times website will be updated? So far, the last update was 8 April 2023.*

We sent you an email on 4 May 2023 clarifying the category of applications you were referring to for the below questions. On 4 May 2023 we have received your confirmations as mentioned below.

*Q.1. How many applications are at the stage of Under Assessment in Skills Category? – Please confirm if you are referring to 2021 Resident Visa (skilled criteria)? *** Yes, I'm referring to 2021 Resident Visa at Skilled Criteria.*

*Q.2. How many applications are pending under Split Family escalation? – What specific Visa category you are referring here please? *** This is for 2021 Resident Visa at Skilled Criteria.*

*Q.3. Does Immigration take longer time to process Skills Category Application rather than other Category? – Please clarify if you are referring to 2021 Resident Visa or something else. Also, we would like to clarify what “other category” refers to in the question. *** Indeed, referring to 2021 Resident Visa.*

On 9 May 2023 we further sent you an email clarifying what the ‘other category’ meant in your question three. We have received the below as a response on the same day.

I'm referring to other category such as Settled and Scarce under 2021 Resident Visa. Basically, I would like to know does Immigration take longer time to process Skills Category Application rather than other Category such Settled and Scarce under 2021 Resident Visa.



We further clarified what you meant by applications pending under 'skilled criteria escalation'. We received the below confirmation from you on 10 May 2023.

Regarding "Q.2. How many applications are pending under Split Family escalation?". Can you please provide rough number of applications (for example 214,298) that are pending under Split Family escalation for 2021 One Off Resident Visa."

Our Response

Question One: As at 25 May 2023 there are 247 number of applications for the 2021 Resident Visa (RV21) skilled criteria which are currently in progress.

Question Two: As at 25 May 2023 there are no applications pending allocation under the split family escalation.

Question Three: Please refer to the table below for the processing timeframe for RV21 applications, broken down by the RV21 criteria as at 23 May 2023. This shows that the median number of days to complete the applications under the skilled criteria and scarce criteria takes two weekdays less than the settled criteria.

RV21 criteria	Median number of weekdays until completed	Number of weekdays that 90% of applications are completed in
Skilled	281	295
Scarce	281	295
Settled	283	297

Please note: the number of days expressed in the above table are based on workdays.

Question Four: The timeframes mentioned on the website for 2021 Resident Visa processing is updated weekly on a Monday. There is a link to the website with the most up to date processing data:

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/waiting-for-a-visa/how-long-it-takes-to-process-your-visa-application/2021-resident-visa-processing-times>

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.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact inzoias@mbie.govt.nz

Nāku iti nei, nā



Richard Owen

General Manager (Acting), Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand