

## Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

### QUESTION ON NOTICE / Written

QoN 005 – 02 July 2021

Topic: Returning Australians

Senator Kristina Keneally

#### Question

1. To be answered by Home Affairs.
2. Since 20 March 2020, how many Australians have registered their interest in returning to Australia, broken down by the country they indicated they are currently in, on a monthly basis?
3. What is, with respect to the standard statistical measures below, the amount of time between Australians that had registered their interest in returning to Australia and Australians that had now arrived, since 20 March 2020.
  - a. Average time
  - i. Standard deviation
  - b. Median time
  - c. Range of times
  - d. Lower 25% time quartile
  - e. Upper 25% time quartile
4. Since 20 March 2020, what is the number of Australians that had registered their interest in returning to Australia and have now made it to Australia, broken down by the country they indicated they were in when they registered.
5. Since 20 March 2020, how many Australians, who are unaccompanied minors have registered their interest in returning to Australia, broken down by the country they indicated they are currently in, on a monthly basis.
6. Since 20 March 2020, what percentage of returned Australian citizens or Australian permanent resident had (at some point prior to returning) registered with DFAT their intention to return?
7. Since 20 March 2020, of the Australians that had registered their interest in returning to Australia and have now made it to Australia, how many were unaccompanied minors?

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### Answer

Q. Since 20 March 2020, how many Australians have registered their interest in returning to Australia, broken down by the country they indicated they are currently in, on a monthly basis?

A. Data by country outlining a snapshot of what the total registration numbers and total returns were as at each month dating back to November 2020 is listed below.

Q. What is, with respect to the standard statistical measures below, the amount of time between Australians that had registered their interest in returning to Australia and Australians that had now arrived, since 20 March 2020?

A. As at 28 May 2021:

Average time – 2.2 months

Standard deviation – 1.9 months

Median time – 1.7 months

Range of times – 0 months to 13 months

Lower 25% time quartile – 0.8 months

Upper 25% time quartile – 3 months

4. Since 20 March 2020, what is the number of Australians that had registered their interest in returning to Australia and have now made it to Australia, broken down by the country they indicated they were in when they registered?

A. As at 28 May 2021, there were 87,893 registered Australians (incl. family) who returned to Australia. The following table outlines a break down by country:

India	20,577
UK	12,348
US	4,095
Philippines	4,252
Thailand	3,200
Canada	2,208
Pakistan	2,751
South Africa	2,332
UAE	1,754
Vietnam	1,300

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Malaysia	1,157
Germany	1,343
Saudi Arabia	896
Other	29,680

5. Since 20 March 2020, how many Australians, who are unaccompanied minors have registered their interest in returning to Australia, broken down by the country they indicated they are currently in, on a monthly basis?

A. DFAT works closely with minors and their families on a case-by-case basis, DFAT does not at this time hold historical data on the overall number of cases in this category.

6. Since 20 March 2020, what percentage of returned Australian citizens or Australian permanent resident had (at some point prior to returning) registered with DFAT their intention to return?

A. As at 28 May 2021, 16% of total Australian arrivals since March 2020 had registered with DFAT as seeking to return to Australia.

7. Since 20 March 2020, of the Australians that had registered their interest in returning to Australia and have now made it to Australia, how many were unaccompanied minors?

A. DFAT works closely with minors and their families on a case-by-case basis, DFAT does not at this time hold historical data on the overall number of cases returned in this category.

**Snapshot of what the total registration numbers and total returns were as at each month dating back to November 2020**

Date	Country	Total current registered	Returns information not available
As at 29 Nov 2020	India	9993	
	UK	5024	
	US	1,639	
	Philippines	1348	
	Thailand	1,127	
	Canada	1005	
	Pakistan	856	
	South Africa	740	
	UAE	794	
	Vietnam	677	
	Malaysia	580	
	Germany	605	

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	Saudi Arabia	381	
	<i>Other</i>	<i>11532</i>	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,301</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total current registered</b>	<b>Returns information not available</b>
As at 30 Dec 2020	India	10710	
	UK	5428	
	US	1797	
	Philippines	1436	
	Thailand	1253	
	Canada	1038	
	Pakistan	946	
	South Africa	744	
	UAE	745	
	Vietnam	580	
	Malaysia	661	
	Germany	604	
	Saudi Arabia	424	
	<i>Other</i>	<i>12523</i>	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38,889</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total current registered</b>	<b>Total registered returns since Mar 2020</b>
As at 29 Jan 2021	India	10,383	13,852
	UK	6,134	6,858
	US	2,267	2,187
	Philippines	1,412	3,269
	Thailand	1,319	2,195
	Canada	1,082	1,175
	Pakistan	1,023	1,958
	South Africa	754	1,757
	UAE	765	1,145
	Vietnam	549	895
	Malaysia	708	614
	Germany	694	734
	Saudi Arabia	444	656
	<i>Other</i>	<i>13,138</i>	<i>18,517</i>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40,672</b>	<b>55,812</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total current registered</b>	<b>Total registered returns since Mar 2020</b>
As at 28 Feb 2021	India	10,184	15,419
	UK	5,315	8,948
	US	2,161	2,818

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	Philippines	1,404	3,417
	Thailand	1,328	2,371
	Canada	1,104	1,413
	Pakistan	1,085	2,104
	South Africa	758	1,854
	UAE	751	1,310
	Vietnam	587	929
	Malaysia	709	728
	Germany	606	917
	Saudi Arabia	396	719
	<i>Other</i>	<i>13,052</i>	<i>21,125</i>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,440</b>	<b>64,072</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total current registered</b>	<b>Total registered returns since Mar 2020</b>
As at 30 Mar 2021	India	9,038	17,488
	UK	4,606	10,173
	US	1,944	3,261
	Philippines	1,310	3,685
	Thailand	1,172	2,654
	Canada	828	1,835
	Pakistan	1,006	2,256
	South Africa	708	1,978
	UAE	671	1,462
	Vietnam	524	1,051
	Malaysia	630	900
	Germany	529	1,057
	Saudi Arabia	363	766
	<i>Other</i>	<i>11,897</i>	<i>23,768</i>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,226</b>	<b>72,334</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total current registered</b>	<b>Total registered returns since Mar 2020</b>
As at 30 Apr 2021	India	9,273	19,698
	UK	4,560	11,331
	US	1,945	3,790
	Philippines	1,346	4,021
	Thailand	1,163	2,997
	Canada	849	2,061
	Pakistan	837	2,613
	South Africa	516	2,244
	UAE	718	1,626
	Vietnam	465	1,226

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	Malaysia	665	1,054
	Germany	564	1,214
	Saudi Arabia	359	828
	<i>Other</i>	<i>11,430</i>	<i>27,334</i>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,690</b>	<b>82,037</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total current registered</b>	<b>Total registered returns since Mar 2020</b>
As at 28 May 2021	India	10,994	20,577
	UK	4,150	12,348
	US	1,960	4,095
	Philippines	1,267	4,252
	Thailand	1,178	3,200
	Canada	824	2,208
	Pakistan	868	2,751
	South Africa	472	2,332
	UAE	676	1,754
	Vietnam	444	1,300
	Malaysia	660	1,157
	Germany	527	1,343
	Saudi Arabia	320	896
	<i>Other</i>	<i>10,788</i>	<i>29,680</i>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,128</b>	<b>87,893</b>