

**HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO  
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Select Committee COVID-19

**QoN Number:** CV19-403

**Subject: Visa Overstayers**

**Asked by:** Kristina Keneally

**Question:**

How has visa overstayers changed since the advent of COVID-19?

- a. Please provide monthly visa overstayer data from July 2019 to August 2020
- b. If this exact data is not available, please provide nearest comparable data.

**Answer:**

- The number of Unlawful Non-Citizens (UNC) in Australia as at 30 June 2020 is estimated to be 70,000.
- The Department does not produce a monthly estimate on the number of UNC in Australia.
  - The UNC estimate is derived by matching visa grants, arrivals and departures across departmental systems and Fact of Death data collated by individual state and territory jurisdictions, to ascertain those who may have arrived in Australia and not departed before their visa expired or cancelled.
  - The matching of the datasets is not precise as people can depart on different passports to those on which they arrived. For example, a person may depart Australia using a newly issued passport, the person has a new name on their passport, or the person has multiple passports from different countries.
  - Some of the data used to derive UNC estimates has been collected manually (more so in earlier years than now) and the way data has been entered into systems will invariably result in anomalies.
- The estimate does not consist of the same individuals each time it is reported. There is constant movement in and out of the UNC population. Most UNCs are only unlawful for a short period and then depart voluntarily.

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**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRYWRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Select Committee COVID-19

**QoN Number:** CV19-404

**Subject: Number of Temporary Visa Holders**

**Asked by:** Kristina Keneally

**Question:**

How has the number of Temporary Visas holders in Australia changed since the advent of COVID-19?

a. To help illustrate how the number of Temporary Visa holders in Australia has changed,

please provide the number of Temporary Visa holders in Australia for each month data from July 2019 to August 2020 in total, and broken down by:

i. Bridging visa (please specify each BV category)

ii. Visitor

iii. Student

iv. Temporary resident (skilled)

v. Temporary resident (other)

vi. Working holiday maker

vii. Special category (New Zealand)

viii. Other temporary

ix. Maritime crew and transit

b. If this exact data is not available, please provide nearest comparable data

a. The number of temporary visa holders by category in Australia (as at the end of each month) is as follows:

Visa Category	Visa Subclas	31/07/2019	31/08/2019	30/09/2019	31/10/2019	30/11/2019	31/12/2019	31/01/2020	29/02/2020	31/03/2020	30/04/2020	31/05/2020	30/06/2020	31/07/2020	31/08/2020
<b>Bridging</b>	Bridging A	113,381	132,580	136,582	128,474	124,128	125,410	124,040	127,772	180,735	194,893	220,080	232,148	213,944	228,332
	Bridging B	42,151	42,964	44,145	45,250	47,172	42,610	46,608	49,481	50,836	48,499	46,009	43,948	41,903	40,273
	Bridging C	22,177	22,618	23,039	23,157	23,431	23,497	23,818	24,113	24,817	25,730	26,685	27,595	28,052	28,776
	Bridging D	<5	<5		<5		<5	<5	<5	<5					
	Bridging E	25,542	25,255	25,142	24,842	24,699	24,504	24,427	24,569	24,659	26,200	27,903	29,661	29,779	30,188
	Bridging F	16	17	26	33	37	40	44	43	42	44	45	45	47	48
	Bridging R	94	94	94	95	96	96	96	97	97	101	99	102	100	98
<b>Crew and Transit</b>		11,701	13,009	11,832	20,467	20,942	23,748	23,700	30,881	26,252	9,739	10,020	9,044	8,485	7,305
<b>Other Temporary</b>		6,248	6,267	5,416	6,430	5,958	3,423	5,693	5,931	5,576	5,463	5,452	5,556	5,526	5,372
<b>Special Category</b>		682,424	682,972	685,172	679,838	680,648	668,687	674,511	677,583	672,432	671,001	669,364	667,288	664,242	660,293
<b>Student</b>		639,235	639,303	633,816	652,462	586,088	480,543	501,966	597,481	567,924	559,755	559,536	555,310	538,853	498,251
<b>Visitor</b>		348,263	294,931	337,563	354,535	378,443	635,109	423,765	376,325	206,025	163,108	120,285	93,494	97,056	93,719
<b>Working Holiday Maker</b>		128,689	127,780	135,124	140,554	145,411	141,142	141,430	143,042	119,266	98,830	91,648	85,691	79,030	71,884
<b>Temporary Resident (Other Employment)</b>		134,015	134,038	136,725	138,894	140,640	128,403	135,367	140,804	137,624	138,240	135,069	134,199	137,400	139,275
<b>Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)</b>		140,998	139,540	139,267	139,855	139,269	119,160	136,923	138,918	139,331	136,192	132,122	128,145	124,074	120,796
<b>Other</b>		15,556	15,740	15,936	16,291	16,477	16,509	16,648	16,857	17,223	17,397	17,541	17,647	17,714	17,750
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,310,491</b>	<b>2,277,111</b>	<b>2,329,879</b>	<b>2,371,179</b>	<b>2,333,439</b>	<b>2,432,883</b>	<b>2,279,038</b>	<b>2,353,898</b>	<b>2,172,841</b>	<b>2,095,192</b>	<b>2,061,858</b>	<b>2,029,873</b>	<b>1,986,205</b>	<b>1,942,360</b>

Note: "Crew and Transit" includes subclasses 488 Superyacht Crew, 988 Maritime Crew visa and 771 Transit

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**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Select Committee COVID-19

**QoN Number:** CV19-406

**Subject: Processing of Temporary Visas**

**Asked by:** Kristina Keneally

**Question:**

How has the processing of Temporary Visas changed since the advent of COVID-19?

- a. Has the Department diverted any resources from Temporary Visa processing to other tasks during COVID-19?
- b. To help illustrate how processing of Temporary Visas has changed, please provide the following monthly data from July 2019 to August 2020:
  - i. Number of temporary visas granted?
    1. Please provide data split by visa subcategory
  - ii. Number of temporary visa holders who entered the country?
    1. Please provide data split by visa subcategory
    2. Please provide data split by entry port
    3. Where the data is available, please indicate what state/territory the temporary visa holder intends to reside in.
  - iii. The average staffing level of the team that processes temporary visas.
- c. If this exact data is not available, please provide nearest comparable data.

**Answer:**

- a. Visa processing staff, including some who would undertake temporary visa processing, have been redirected to COVID-19 government priorities including travel exemption processing.

b(i). Table 1: The number of temporary visas (excluding Bridging visas) granted onshore and offshore (by subclass) from July 2019 to August 2020

Visa subclass	31/07/2019	31/08/2019	30/09/2019	31/10/2019	30/11/2019	31/12/2019	31/01/2020	29/02/2020	31/03/2020	30/04/2020	31/05/2020	30/06/2020	31/07/2020	31/08/2020
400 Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity)	3,764	3,301	3,369	3,811	3,134	3,100	4,283	3,340	1,788	63	109	281	348	459
402 Training and Research									<5					
403 Temporary Work (International Relations)	788	1,395	1,474	2,065	2,254	1,138	1,528	1,234	592	22	23	36	89	219
405 Investor Retirement	8	<5	<5	<5			6	<5		<5				
407 Training	466	339	257	259	328	263	336	241	220	86	12	<5	78	113
408 Temporary Activity	4,175	4,237	5,348	5,806	5,015	5,311	5,538	4,873	2,062	128	906	1,727	1,897	1,929
410 Retirement	51	25	56	34	48	46	52	80	47	66	58	13	<5	
417 Working Holiday	14,523	15,418	14,689	15,661	13,756	11,997	12,597	10,792	7,091	2,141	1,663	2,345	2,100	2,563
444 Special Category	169,495	161,606	164,817	183,997	155,938	174,341	174,909	123,265	82,229	1,124	2,285	2,829	1,570	1,173
457 Temporary Work (Skilled)	155	144	128	143	109	81	88	60	64	23	15	<5	27	11
461 New Zealand Citizen Family Relationship (Temporary)	80	118	153	255	115	61	83	35	32	8	10	6	11	20
462 Work and Holiday	3,559	3,678	2,763	2,920	2,565	3,266	2,760	2,282	1,319	530	410	524	693	743
476 Skilled - Recognised Graduate	137	308	278	370	500	334	379	226	143				<5	<5
482 Temporary Skill Shortage	6,397	6,753	5,814	5,969	6,403	5,250	5,744	5,931	4,045	409	503	830	3,344	3,486
485 Temporary Graduate	3,884	3,104	5,969	7,972	5,625	5,101	4,135	4,589	6,312	7,886	5,017	3,422	7,117	6,667
500 Student	40,423	34,508	30,351	32,797	32,280	30,545	38,403	30,759	23,101	14,196	16,204	16,488	18,744	21,826
570 Independent ELICOS Sector													<5	
572 Vocational Education and Training Sector	<5	<5	<5		<5	<5	<5	<5			<5			
573 Higher Education Sector	<5	<5	<5	6	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5					
574 Postgraduate Research Sector	7	6	7	8	9	<5	<5	7		<5			<5	<5
576 Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector										<5				
590 Student Guardian	203	134	150	144	238	236	306	109	89	71	64	85	91	119
600 Visitor	186,247	171,618	161,374	183,965	190,995	159,332	151,813	81,923	49,449	4,637	7,802	12,418	15,762	13,865
601 Electronic Travel Authority	251,591	229,558	220,006	255,850	257,313	251,473	221,669	169,287	56,671	199	13	13	23	17
602 Medical Treatment	238	218	220	231	206	136	172	231	139	73	117	137	132	121
651 eVisitor	63,921	69,068	89,753	111,415	117,893	108,781	109,086	76,523	34,362	61	324	200	403	343
771 Transit	4,302	4,593	4,808	6,650	7,036	6,231	8,859	7,248	4,626	470	1,868	2,901	3,168	2,217
773 Border	599	574	555	605	525	376	893	554	270	52	36	144	104	15
870 Sponsored Parent (Temporary)	19	95	135	250	223	192	238	178	132	27	12	24	28	47
950 Criminal Justice Entry	7	5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	9	<5		<5		<5	
951 Criminal Justice Stay	<5	<5	<5	<5	9	<5	9	<5	8	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
988 Maritime Crew Visa	25,262	24,550	24,663	26,004	25,833	21,391	25,203	24,040	18,723	9,479	10,078	13,415	20,418	21,473
995 Diplomatic (Temporary)	306	242	168	193	227	187	191	215	285	57	165	268	316	176
<b>Total</b>	<b>780617</b>	<b>735607</b>	<b>737314</b>	<b>847390</b>	<b>828584</b>	<b>789183</b>	<b>769293</b>	<b>548044</b>	<b>293804</b>	<b>41813</b>	<b>47701</b>	<b>58112</b>	<b>76472</b>	<b>77610</b>

b(ii)(1). Table 2: The number of temporary visa holders (excluding Bridging visas) who have entered Australia (by subclass) from July 2019 to August 2020

Visa subclass	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20
400 Temporary Work (short Stay Specialist)	3,505	3,447	3,543	3,835	3,605	2,496	4,429	3,662	1,898	125	127	176	213	282
403 Temporary Work (international Relations)	1,104	1,125	1,737	1,872	2,553	1,282	2,268	1,616	751	<5	<5	<5	8	30
405 Investor Retirement	48	59	43	51	62	44	38	30	14					
407 Training	572	549	530	420	386	474	792	498	218	5	11	7	7	41
408 Temporary Activity	4,491	3,836	4,626	7,336	4,758	4,360	7,725	5,425	3,981	13	14	111	98	71
410 Retirement	163	210	204	247	185	202	161	117	75	<5	<5	<5		
417 Working Holiday	13,733	17,769	24,127	22,810	20,626	15,866	20,999	19,650	10,824	38	21	20	29	33
444 Special Category	169,231	161,345	164,570	183,739	155,749	174,041	174,751	127,959	82,105	1,131	2,289	2,813	1,575	1,169
457 Temporary Work (skilled)	11,561	9,685	9,168	8,794	6,960	5,686	13,010	5,101	2,696	42	46	22	19	28
461 New Zealand Citizen Family Relationship	697	689	698	648	632	575	1,058	615	395	16	16	20	12	<5
462 Work And Holiday (temporary)	2,702	3,457	3,998	3,983	3,809	3,478	3,641	3,727	2,607	9	5	18	9	15
476 Skilled - Recognised Graduate	234	254	300	309	364	413	466	420	273					
482 Temporary Skill Shortage	10,735	11,147	11,378	11,807	10,682	10,321	21,777	10,602	6,712	127	144	170	255	441
485 Temporary Graduate	5,409	6,154	6,037	5,722	7,195	5,897	12,438	9,387	4,933	22	39	32	17	17
500 Student	140,951	54,042	45,230	51,824	39,037	38,651	92,062	121,275	59,346	30	44	53	59	48
570 Independent Elicos Sector	6				<5		<5	6	<5					
572 Vocational Education And Training Sector	162	126	89	94	46	52	77	61	26					
573 Higher Education Sector	7,664	3,076	1,796	1,191	1,015	1,573	2,766	3,250	2,193		<5	5	<5	<5
574 Postgraduate Research Sector	681	566	468	429	391	390	629	375	123					5
576 Foreign Affairs Or Defence Sector	37	20	11	11	15	29	19	11	<5					
590 Student Guardian	1,614	211	229	1,070	174	244	2,404	379	71	<5	<5	<5	<5	
600 Visitor	195,334	221,905	191,126	191,034	209,340	273,167	188,245	102,791	52,187	636	593	873	676	808
601 Electronic Travel Authority	224,482	276,406	215,374	235,712	285,629	354,407	224,579	230,838	91,846	782	596	604	604	539
602 Medical Treatment	147	145	166	151	143	103	179	167	99	<5	20	33	43	60
651 Evisitor	65,656	57,506	59,010	90,220	103,011	182,287	100,478	120,417	55,810	514	502	544	473	426
771 Transit	2,855	3,493	3,304	4,434	4,576	4,177	6,127	5,644	3,512	190	461	801	568	613
773 Border	602	589	568	610	537	377	901	576	280	51	38	154	104	17
870 Sponsored Parent	<5	20	52	110	152	137	155	175	133			<5		<5
950 Criminal Justice Entry	5	<5		<5	<5		<5	<5	<5			<5		
988 Maritime Crew Visa	32,642	34,964	34,048	43,613	39,853	51,524	43,860	47,292	42,017	32,183	31,323	31,844	30,210	31,285
995 Diplomatic	1,100	816	712	745	636	623	1,115	818	370	19	28	55	114	171

b(ii)(2). Table 3: The number of Temporary visa holders (as per Table 2) who have entered Australia (by port of entry) from July 2019 to August 2020

Port of Entry	July 2019	August 2019	September 2019	October 2019	November 2019	December 2019	January 2020	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020
† Abbot Point	673	633	584	653	895	782	647	587	631	605	564	587	525	812
† Adelaide	16,367	14,129	15,398	15,907	16,395	23,447	20,755	17,525	8,911	335	126	201	274	390
† Albany	81	142	132	124	89	170	192	200	155	201	121	210	20	108
† Alice Springs			<5	8	<5			<5		<5		<5	5	
† Amberley	100			98	34	<5	<5	<5						<5
† Ardrossan					40							18		
† Avalon	12,242	13,169	10,277	11,200	9,925	10,745	7,748	10,409	6,180					<5
† Barrow Island	527	375	237	367	258	476	350	385	405	558	627	194	224	325
† Bell Bay	87	66	62	66	97	61	41	23	108	42	80	66	62	81
† Blacktip - Offshore Installation		25			22									
† Bowen					131	231	40							
† Brisbane	4,049	5,002	2,781	2,815	3,090	4,864	3,802	2,681	2,907	2,282	1,717	1,820	2,046	2,219
† Broome	94	196	60	1,437	63	949	51	15	<5	133	95	99	115	216
† Bunbury	597	437	615	498	599	684	648	608	504	457	461	363	408	520
† Bundaberg	<5	14	7	63	58	12	5	43		21	21	61		
† Burnie	105	64	47	46	45	816	1,022	977	65	44	46	154	119	64
† Cairns	22,768	25,956	19,875	22,549	15,848	17,616	13,578	16,927	6,144	108	17	55	47	83
† Canberra	960	744	871	687	999	1,069	572	1,043	450		9	15		
† Cape Flattery	101	100	61	103	122	101	80	81	80	61	83	77	61	76
† Cape Preston	254	392	397	325	432	219	392	180	393	307	401	361	351	355
† Capecuvier	42	107	20	105	38	64		40	39	60	21	42		83
† Carnarvon	20		21	21			20							
† Christmas Island	127	94	195	146	230	213	32	47	70	106	100	49	137	102
† Cocos Island	5	20	56	62					14	14				
† Coffs Harbour	<5		<5	6	8	11								
† Cooktown									<5					
† Coolangatta	31,654	29,034	25,067	26,825	24,426	32,799	29,733	23,341	11,798	<5				
† Dampier	2,922	3,102	2,710	2,780	2,953	3,394	2,861	2,432	2,851	3,007	2,655	3,106	3,070	2,821
† Darwin	7,977	8,016	8,528	9,866	8,151	11,124	6,826	6,892	3,300	1,099	901	1,264	1,089	1,190
† Devonport							21		21		20			
† Eagle Farm	146,684	136,374	117,688	129,715	130,683	154,694	132,029	108,817	54,446	870	780	1,575	1,200	798
† Eden		23			23	67		15		5		22	61	
† Edinburgh		<5		<5		<5	31							
† Esperance	147	170	165	145	236	170	227	233	240	244	236	245	197	214
† Essendon	8	15	15	<5	10	16	20	27	8		<5			
† Exmouth Gulf	<5					402		719						
† Fairbairn		6	5		<5			51		<5				
† Fremantle	1,351	1,514	1,584	1,389	2,663	4,995	3,769	4,788	4,825	1,173	1,201	1,272	912	910
† Geelong	384	331	299	263	507	345	224	277	389	294	298	316	259	182
† Geraldton	479	468	575	480	524	541	1,057	567	486	446	449	399	269	329
† Gladstone	2,101	2,347	2,457	2,383	2,717	3,004	2,652	2,473	2,361	2,288	2,191	2,411	2,340	2,254
† Gove	254	272	146	296	290	375	192	186	186	231	276	267	268	222
† Groote Island	166	211	255	167	165	44	208	147	319	242	170	287	185	269
† Hay Point	1,552	1,888	1,726	1,918	1,871	2,270	1,848	1,946	1,842	1,170	1,980	1,793	1,532	1,738





Skardon River	92	165	169	204	128	61				122	160	177	155	160
Southport		<5	8	12	15	10	11	23	<5			<5		
Stag Platform									24					
Sydney	280	1,536	1,275	15,545	2,889	9,662	5,307	19,945	8,586	199	348	79	168	171
Thevenard	20		63		44	20	41			20	21		19	20
Thursday Island	5	5	8	161	9	181		<5				<5		
Townsville	927	1,010	1,137	1,078	734	891	836	783	764	712	812	763	785	704
Tullamarine	220,678	205,478	178,138	204,865	228,885	293,406	239,547	201,010	106,333	715	1,202	1,446	142	146
Uselessloop	42	21	40	125	83	20	59	100	38	146	56	21	77	123
Varanus Island	21		28	57					25	21		25		
Vincent - Floating Production, Storage And Offloading			29		26		49	21		26		51		18
Wallaroo			21				20				24			
Wandoo Terminal		21	22		24		22			24		23		
Weipa	608	485	859	596	715	738	561	508	681	721	599	694	690	655
Western Port	111	92	58	88	133	115	46	92	56	142	33	82	69	116
Whyalla	110	68	86	63	100	108	97	70	105	41	151	61	60	123
Williamtown								<5						
Wyndham	138	141	43	47	61	18	36	20	35	30	19		65	38
Yamba	<5								10					5
Yampi Sound	65	43	86	47	110	91	46	63	21	45	65	62	41	42

b(ii)(3). This data cannot be provided in the form requested.

b(iii). The average staffing level of the team that processes temporary visas is not available.