

All responses correct as at 15 January 2021.

Q: How many Australians stranded abroad have applied for financial assistance through DFAT, as of 15 January 2021?

A: As at 15 January 2021, 4340 applicants had applied for the Financial Assistance Hardship Program.

Q: How many requests have been granted, as of 15 January 2021?

A: As at 15 January 2021, 2716 applicants had been approved, 603 applications were in progress, 875 applications had been withdrawn or were incomplete, and 146 applications had been declined.

Q: A breakdown of the assistance given. How much per family?

A: Loans and grants are available for individuals and families who are experiencing financial distress, depending on the number of applicants. A single person may receive a grant or loan of \$2000 for emergency living costs (subsistence) until a commercial flight is available – and a family of 4 are eligible to receive up to \$5000 with larger families treated on a case by case basis. As well as subsistence, loans and grants are available for individuals and families to help cover the cost of flights to return to Australia, with the amount depending on the region and number of applicants. This information is available on the Smartraveller website.

Q: How much is provided in grants and how much in loans?

A: As at 15 January 2021, a total value of \$17.38 million had been committed, comprising \$12.79 million in grants and \$4.59 million in loans.

Q: What are the criteria for each?

A: The criteria for grants and loans are set out at <https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/COVID-19/COVID-19-overseas-financial-assistance>.

Q: What are the repayment terms for loans?

A: Clients approved for a loan must sign a legal deed under which they agree to repay the loan within six months of the date of the deed. The department offers flexibility around repayment deadlines and repayment plans for clients who have been subsequently delayed in their return to Australia, or who find themselves in continued financial hardship following the six-month period.

Q: Statistical information on who is being helped. What states and cities are they from?

A: As at 15 January 2021, applicants had identified as returning to:

State/Territory	Applicants
ACT	s47E(d)
NSW	
NT	
QLD	
SA	
TAS	
WA	
Unknown/not provided	
Total	4340

Q: Which countries are they in currently?

A: As at 15 January 2021, applicants had identified as being currently located in:

Location of application	Applicants
Afghanistan	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
Albania	
Algeria	
Argentina	
Armenia	
Australia	
Austria	
Azerbaijan	
Bahrain	
Bangladesh	
Belgium	
Belize	
Benin	
Bolivia	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Botswana	
Brazil	
Bulgaria	
Burundi	
Cambodia	
Cameroon	
Canada	
Chile	
China	
Colombia	
Cook Islands	
Costa Rica	

Côte d'Ivoire	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
Croatia	
Cyprus	
Czech Republic	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	
Denmark	
Djibouti	
Ecuador	
Egypt	
Estonia	
Ethiopia	
Fiji	
Finland	
France	
French Polynesia	
Germany	
Ghana	
Greece	
Grenada	
Guatemala	
Guinea	
Honduras	
Hong Kong	
Hungary	
India	
Indonesia	
Iran	
Iraq	
Ireland	
Israel	
Italy	
Japan	
Jordan	
Kazakhstan	
Kenya	
Kosovo	
Kuwait	
Kyrgyz Republic	
Laos	
Lebanon	
Liberia	
Libya	
Lithuania	
Madagascar	

Malawi	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
Malaysia	
Malta	
Mauritius	
Mexico	
Mongolia	
Morocco	
Myanmar	
Namibia	
Nepal	
Netherlands	
New Zealand	
Nicaragua	
Nigeria	
Northern Ireland	
Norway	
Pakistan	
Palestinian Territories	
Panama	
Peru	
Philippines	
Poland	
Portugal	
Qatar	
Republic of Korea	
Republic of North Macedonia	
Republic of the Congo	
Reunion	
Romania	
Russia	
Rwanda	
Saudi Arabia	
Senegal	
Serbia	
Seychelles	
Sierra Leone	
Singapore	
Slovenia	
Somalia	
South Africa	
South Sudan	
Spain	
Sri Lanka	
Sudan	

Sweden	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
Switzerland	
Syria	
Taiwan	
Tanzania	
Thailand	
The Gambia	
Timor-Leste	
Togo	
Tonga	
Turkey	
Uganda	
Ukraine	
United Arab Emirates	
United Kingdom	
United States of America	
Uruguay	
Uzbekistan	
Vietnam	
Zambia	
Zimbabwe	
Unknown/not provided	
Total	4340

Q: How many family groups?

A: As at 15 January 2021, 866 family groups had applied under the Financial Assistance Hardship Program.

Q: How many minors?

A: As at 15 January 2021, 1020 minors had applied under the Financial Assistance Hardship Program.

Q: How many Australians are stranded abroad and how many are listed as vulnerable?

A: As at 15 January 2021, 40850 persons were registered with the department as wanting to return to Australia. More than 4500 of these persons were assessed as vulnerable.