

All responses correct as at 20 August 2021.

Q: How many Australians stranded abroad have applied for financial assistance through DFAT, as of 20 August 2021?

A: As at 20 August 2021, 8884 applicants had applied for the Financial Assistance Hardship Program.

Q: How many requests have been granted, as of 20 August 2021?

A: As at 20 August 2021, 4918 applicants had been approved, 780 applications were in progress, 2698 applications had been withdrawn or were incomplete, and 488 applications had been declined.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 20 August 2021, a total value of \$36.77 million had been committed, comprising \$28.49 million in grants and \$8.28 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 20 August 2021, applicants had identified as returning to:

State/Territory	Applicants	
ACT	s47E(d)	
NSW		
NT		
Qld		
SA		
Tas		
VIC		
WA		
Unknown/not provided		
Total		8884

Q: Which countries are they in currently?

A: As at 20 August 2021, applicants had identified as being currently located in:

Country of application	Total Applicants
Unknown	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
Afghanistan	
Albania	
Algeria	
Argentina	
Armenia	
Australia	
Austria	
Azerbaijan	
Bahrain	
Bangladesh	
Belgium	
Belize	
Benin	
Bolivia	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Botswana	
Brazil	
Bulgaria	
Burundi	
Cambodia	
Cameroon	
Canada	

Chile	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
China	
Colombia	
Congo	
Cook Islands	
Costa Rica	
Côte d'Ivoire	
Croatia	
Cyprus	
Czech Republic	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	
Denmark	
Djibouti	
Ecuador	
Egypt	
El Salvador	
Estonia	
Ethiopia	
Fiji	
Finland	
France	
French Polynesia	
Georgia	
Germany	
Ghana	
Greece	
Grenada	
Guatemala	
Guinea	
Honduras	
Hong Kong	
Hungary	
India	
Indonesia	
Iran	
Iraq	
Ireland	
Israel	
Italy	
Japan	
Jordan	
Kazakhstan	
Kenya	
Kosovo	

Kuwait	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
Kyrgyz Republic	
Laos	
Lebanon	
Liberia	
Libya	
Lithuania	
Madagascar	
Malawi	
Malaysia	
Malta	
Mauritius	
Mexico	
Mongolia	
Montenegro	
Morocco	
Myanmar	
Namibia	
Nepal	
Netherlands	
New Zealand	
Nicaragua	
Nigeria	
North Macedonia	
Norway	
Pakistan	
Palestinian Territories	
Panama	
Papua New Guinea	
Paraguay	
Peru	
Philippines	
Poland	
Portugal	
Qatar	
Republic of Korea	
Reunion	
Romania	
Russia	
Rwanda	
Samoa	
Saudi Arabia	
Senegal	
Serbia	
Seychelles	

Sierra Leone	s47E(d) & s47F(1)
Singapore	
Slovenia	
Somalia	
South Africa	
South Sudan	
Spain	
Sri Lanka	
Sudan	
Sweden	
Switzerland	
Syria	
Taiwan	
Tanzania	
Thailand	
The Gambia	
Timor-Leste	
Togo	
Tonga	
Trinidad and Tobago	
Turkey	
Uganda	
Ukraine	
United Arab Emirates	
United Kingdom	
United States of America	
Uruguay	
Uzbekistan	
Vanuatu	
Venezuela	
Vietnam	
Yemen	
Zambia	
Zimbabwe	
Grand Total	8884

Q: How many family groups?

A: As at 20 August 2021, 1799 family groups had applied under the Financial Assistance Hardship Program.

Q: How many minors?

A: As at 20 August 2021, 2278 applications had been made under the Financial Assistance Hardship Program in respect of minors. This includes applications made as part of family groups.

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

A: As at 20 August 2021, 41,384 persons were registered with the department as wanting to return to Australia. More than 4,400 of these persons were assessed as vulnerable.