

23 April 2025

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Personal details removed for proactive release

Thank you for your email of 14 March 2025 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"I'm getting in touch as MFAT's annual review states the following: "These factors are also driving an increase in the number of consular loans which the Ministry is issuing. For example, in the five-year period 2014-19, the Ministry issued NZ\$42,073.51 in consular loans to New Zealanders. By comparison, in the financial year 2023-24, NZ\$208,175.25 was issued in loans to 65 people".

- 1. Would you be able to please lay this out in a table, per financial year and per country?*
- 2. In addition, would you have a date for the 2023/24 report to be published, and can I please get access to that when it is up?"*

On 11 April 2025, the timeframes for responding to your request were extended by an additional 25 working days because responding to your request necessitated the review of a large quantity of information (section 15A(1)(a) of the OIA refers).

Response to your request

In response to part one of your request, please refer to **Annex A** for a table of the requested information. Please note, since the 2023/24 Annual Review, and as part of the Ministry's debt collection processes, a reconciliation of loan data has been undertaken. This has identified a small number of loans which were not captured in the loan balance figure provided in January 2025. For that reason, the figures presented in Annex A differ slightly from the Annual Review figure.

Data from the 2019/20 year includes financial assistance extended as part of Government-operated repatriation flights during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In response to part two of your request, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Annual Review 2023/24 is published on the Parliament website. Accordingly this part of your request is refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available: https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/54SCFADT_EVI_b6328bb6-20a3-4752-6501-

[08dcfd0f043f_FADT1167/ministry-of-foreign-affairs-and-trade-responses-to-post-hearing](#)

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website:

www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Annex A – Consular loans

Financial year	Country	# of loans issued	Total \$ per country
2015/16	Brazil	1	3,148.00
	Total		3,148.00
2017/18	Egypt	1	1,000.00
	Vietnam	1	530.00
	Total		1,530.00
2018/19	Kenya	1	4,197.00
	Lebanon	1	3,558.94
	Total		7,755.94
2019/20	Australia	3	6,691.00
	Bangladesh	6	38,020.17
	Belgium	1	2,570.73
	Brazil	2	15,000.00
	Canada	1	1,878.00
	Chile	2	12,592.82
	China	7	9,300.00
	Cook Islands	1	3,789.00
	Egypt	3	11,003.33
	Ethiopia	1	2,934.00
	Germany	2	3,141.00
	Guatemala	1	4,752.40
	India	123	1,224,450.27
	Indonesia	3	7,366.22
	Iraq	2	12,804.13
	Israel	1	1,400.00
	Jordan	1	24,602.00
	Malaysia	3	8,324.55
	Mexico	3	17,770.29
	Myanmar	1	4,758.00
	Namibia	1	2,534.91
	Pakistan	2	28,600.00
	Peru	12	59,469.86
	The Philippines	21	97,245.95
	Qatar	1	14,213.84
	Samoa	4	4,140.34
	South Africa	5	32,724.89
	Spain	1	512.62
	Sri Lanka	1	200.00

	Tanzania	1	7,844.00
	Thailand	17	65,116.00
	Tonga	1	1,203.71
	Türkiye	1	5,000.00
	Uganda	1	8,297.00
	United Arab Emirates	1	4,600.10
	United States of America	2	9,101.15
	Vietnam	1	2,401.48
	Total		1,756,353.76
2020/21	Afghanistan	1	2,264.36
	Bangladesh	1	2,209.55
	Egypt	1	4,469.00
	Ethiopia	3	31,295.52
	Germany	1	1,930.05
	India	1	1,747.16
	Indonesia	2	2,733.61
	Ivory Coast	1	221.00
	Jordan	1	7,300.00
	Kiribati	1	3,801.89
	Kuwait	2	7,042.26
	Malaysia	1	616.91
	Norway	1	2,417.00
	Pakistan	1	11,982.00
	Papua New Guinea	1	6,797.18
	Somalia	1	2,800.00
	Spain	1	13,638.00
	Thailand	2	7,635.82
	Timor-leste	1	1,161.07
	Türkiye	2	7,693.00
	Uganda	1	9,737.00
	United Arab Emirates	1	3,202.13
	United States of America	1	586.95
	Uruguay	1	433.00
	Vietnam	4	15,360.08
	Total		149,074.54
2021/22	Australia	1	2,882.94
	Colombia	1	8,000.92
	Cyprus	1	207.19
	Ethiopia	1	3,814.00
	France	1	1,543.00
	Israel	1	4,516.00
	Italy	1	2,307.56

	Republic of Korea	2	7,155.49
	Laos	1	4,286.31
	Moldova	1	6,367.74
	Peru	1	4,108.72
	South Africa	2	4,715.40
	Spain	2	24,183.34
	Tanzania	1	7,122.70
	Thailand	1	2,715.78
	Tunisia	1	256.00
	Türkiye	1	5,116.86
	United States of America	2	17,467.70
	Vietnam	1	2,241.57
	Total		109,009.22
2022/23	Afghanistan	2	9,928.00
	Mexico	1	9,020.00
	The Philippines	2	5,010.00
	Samoa	1	515.60
	Singapore	1	3,177.00
	Somalia	1	199.00
	Spain	2	1,463.41
	Somalia	5	2,4439.74
	Tanzania	1	5,526.00
	Tonga	1	280.00
	United States of America	2	3,845.07
	Malaysia	1	3,504.99
	Total		66,908.81
2023/24	Australia	2	531.37
	Ethiopia	1	6,590.91
	Germany	1	5,436.00
	Hungary	1	4,909.61
	Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories	23	39,133.3
	Italy	1	4,574.12
	Japan	2	2,752.73
	Laos	1	3,430.33
	Myanmar	1	2,376.91
	Pakistan	1	4,738.00
	The Philippines	5	17,391.94
	Samoa	2	1,713.00
	Somalia	5	23,504.94
	Sri Lanka	1	3,898.25
	Sudan	1	26,520.87
	Syria	1	6,802.00

Thailand	6	14,206.30
Togo	1	4,125.00
Türkiye	1	4,209.24
United States of America	1	345.84
Vietnam	2	8,872.16
Uganda	1	35,000.00
Total		221,062.82