To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of overall asylum spaces that have been granted to refugees in Ireland in each of the years from 2015 to date; the average length of time the asylum application takes; and the breakdown of country of origin for successful applications on a yearly basis for the time period specified.

- Patrick Costello.

\* For Written answer on 01/12/2021   
  
Ref No: 59170/21

**Table 1**

The figures below include decisions granted under the Subsidiary Protection Regulation 2013 and 2006 and under both the Refugee Act 1996 (as amended) and the International Protection Act 2015.

| **No. of decisions to grant either refugee status or subsidiary protection to applicants by year and nationality (2015-2021 to end October)** | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Nationality/year in which decision was made** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021  ﻿(end October)** | **Total** |
| Afghanistan | 55 | 66 | 18 | 76 | 78 | 67 | 75 | **435** |
| Albania | 7 | 7 | ≤ 5 | 32 | 53 | 48 | 24 | **175** |
| Algeria | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 11 | 11 | ≤ 5 | **39** |
| Angola | ≤ 5 | 0 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | **12** |
| Armenia | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | 0 | **8** |
| Bahrain | ≤ 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | **6** |
| Bangladesh | 6 | 12 | 6 | 6 | 28 | 39 | 10 | **107** |
| Bhutan | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | **9** |
| Bolivia | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 9 | ≤ 5 | **19** |
| Botswana | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 8 | ≤ 5 | 0 | **12** |
| Brazil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 15 | ≤ 5 | **20** |
| Burundi | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 7 | **22** |
| Cameroon | 13 | 9 | ≤ 5 | 9 | 6 | 24 | 11 | **73** |
| China (Including Hong Kong) | 8 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 13 | 10 | 11 | ≤ 5 | **51** |
| Congo, The Democratic Republic Of The | 65 | 45 | 16 | 39 | 78 | 63 | 40 | **346** |
| Congo, The Republic Of The | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | **9** |
| Cote D'Ivoire | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | **9** |
| Egypt | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | 12 | 15 | 8 | **41** |
| El Salvador | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 8 | 6 | **19** |
| Eritrea | 13 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 22 | 15 | 13 | **73** |
| Ethiopia | 6 | 10 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 10 | **34** |
| Georgia | ≤ 5 | 13 | 0 | 15 | 27 | 43 | 21 | **124** |
| Ghana | ≤ 5 | 7 | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 7 | ≤ 5 | **26** |
| Guinea | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | **9** |
| India | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | **13** |
| Iran (Islamic Republic Of) | 31 | 23 | 10 | 10 | 16 | 18 | 9 | **117** |
| Iraq | 37 | 32 | 75 | 28 | 39 | 33 | ≤ 5 | **247** |
| Israel | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 0 | 7 | 0 | **12** |
| Kenya | 8 | ≤ 5 | 0 | ≤ 5 | 7 | ≤ 5 | 6 | **28** |
| Korea, Democratic People's Republic Of (North Korea) | 0 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 5 | 0 | 0 | ≤ 5 | **10** |

**Table 2**

The table below sets out the median processing times for recommendations to grant or refuse a protection application (either refugee or subsidiary protection) by the IPO between 2018 to 2021 (for Q3 2021). Unfortunately the data is not readily available for the years prior to 2018.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Timeline**  **2018 to Date** | **Median Processing Times – All Cases** |
| **2018** | **19.7 Months** |
| **2019** | **17.5 Months** |
| **2020** | **17.6 Months** |
| **2021**  **Q1**  **Q2**  **Q3** | **22.1 Months**  **26.9 Months**  **23 Months** |

The median processing times for cases processed to completion by the Ministerial Decisions Unit in 2020 was 1.6 months and in 2021, the median processing time for cases completed in Q3 was 1 day.

Statistics in respect of the processing times for applications for subsidiary protection by the Repatriation Division of my Department under the Subsidiary Protection Regulations 2006 and 2013 are not readily available.

**Table 3**

The table below sets out the median processing times for decisions on appeals by the IPAT and the RAC (Refugee Appeals Tribunal) between 2015 and 2021 (for Q3 2021).

**Appeal Decision Processing Times**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Timeline**  **2015 to Date** | **Median and Average Processing Times for Appeal Decisions – All Cases** |  |
| **2015** | **Median of 15.8 Months** based on a sample of 385 cases (substantive appeals) |  |
| **2016** | **Median of 20.7 Months** based on a sample of 486 cases (substantive appeals) |  |
| **2017** | **Average of** **5.7 Months (substantive appeals)** |  |
| **2018** | **Average of 7.1 Months (substantive appeals)** |  |
| **2019** | **Average of 7.8 Months (substantive appeals)** |  |
| **2020** | **Median of 9 months (all appeals).** |  |
| **2021**  **Q3** | **Median of 13.3 Months**  (as of end September 2021) **for all appeals.** |  |