



Home Office

# Data on No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF): Applications to change conditions of leave

Ad-hoc management information release

30 July 2020

## Background to 'change condition of leave' data

No Recourse To Public Funds (NRPF) is a standard condition applied to those in the UK with a temporary immigration status in order to protect public funds. Most migrants visiting, studying, working or joining family in the UK are subject to an NRPF condition until they have obtained indefinite leave to remain. Migrants here without leave are also subject to NRPF, by virtue of their being in the UK without status. Exceptions are made in respect of some migrants, such as families here on the basis of family life/Article 8, where the condition is lifted if the family can provide evidence that they would otherwise be destitute.

Migrants with leave under the family and human rights routes can apply to have the NRPF restriction lifted by making a 'change of conditions' application if there has been a change in their financial circumstances. The figures included in this ad-hoc release relate to these change of conditions applications, and subsequent decisions. These figures do not directly relate to people, but rather individual claims and their outcomes. More than one claim can be made during a grant of leave and subsequent grants will be considered on their own merit and may have their own claim(s).

## Other support measures in-place

The Government has put in place various support measures in response to the current pandemic, which are available to some of those subject to the NRPF restriction. These include the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, Self-Employment Income Support Scheme, facilities to assist the extremely vulnerable with access to shopping and medication, as well as rent and mortgage holidays. Statutory sick pay and contributory-based employment and support allowances are also not classed as public funds.

For those in the UK on the basis of family life/Article 8, who can apply to have the condition lifted, the Home Office has recently digitised the application form and it is therefore now accessible for those who need to remain at home.

During the pandemic, the Department for Education has also temporarily extended eligibility for free school meals to include some groups who have NRPF. Local authorities may also provide basic safety net support, regardless of immigration status, if it is established that there is a genuine care need that does not arise solely from destitution.

To help them respond to Covid-19 pressures across all the services they deliver, including providing this support, the Government has allocated £3.7 billion to local authorities in England, and additional funding under the Barnett formula to the devolved administrations.

## Further data on NRPF

The Home Office Chief Statistician recently set out the Department's position in relation to NRPF data in [his response to a letter on the subject from the UK Statistics Authority](#). The response makes clear that there are a number of reasons why it is not of practical application for the Home Office to produce an estimate of the total population subject to NRPF present in the UK at any one time. However, the response committed to investigate other data held by the Department which can inform public understanding of any impacts from application of the NRPF condition.

The best available data to illustrate whether the NRPF condition might potentially be preventing the availability of support for non-residents who may have found themselves temporarily destitute and unable to return home are the applications made to the Home Office for the NRPF condition to be lifted by those with leave to remain on family or human rights routes. These data are produced from live Home Office administrative systems and therefore provisional.

## Figures on change of condition application

Figures for the quarter 2 (April to June) 2020 show a sharp increase in applications during the Covid-19 lockdown. This increase was particularly marked in the latter part of April and early May, peaking at 1,292 applications in the week ending 03 May 2020 although numbers have fallen in subsequent weeks and by the end of June the 4-weekly average was around 380.

## CoC\_01: Destitution Change of Conditions Applications and Outcomes<sup>6</sup>

Quarter	Applications Received <sup>1</sup>	Of which: Pending <sup>2</sup>	Decisions	Of which: Accepted	Of which: Rejected	Average Days to Decision <sup>3,4</sup>	Acceptance Rate <sup>5</sup>
2017 Q3	347	0	347	142	205	62	41%
2017 Q4	694	1	693	373	320	20	54%
2018 Q1	679	0	679	341	338	20	50%
2018 Q2	688	0	688	330	358	35	48%
2018 Q3	785	1	784	387	397	19	49%
2018 Q4	900	0	900	510	390	22	57%
2019 Q1	815	0	815	646	169	28	79%
2019 Q2	914	1	913	733	180	37	80%
2019 Q3	789	0	789	626	163	42	79%
2019 Q4	889	0	889	700	189	19	79%
2020 Q1	843	18	825	685	140	27	83%
2020 Q2	5,665	2,795	2,870	2,565	305	30	89%

### Notes

1. A person may make more than 1 application during a period of leave and so these figures should not be used represent a count of individuals or grants of leave.
2. Older pending applications are under review as there may be a delay in updating the records once decisions have been made.
3. Average days to decision is the mean average and is rounded to whole days.
4. Average days to decision only applies to those applications that have received a decision as of 30 June 2020. As more decisions are made, these figures may change.
5. Acceptance Rate only applies to those applications that have received a decision as of 30 June 2020. As more decisions are made, these rates may change.
6. This data is provisional and still being reviewed with around 3% of total records currently excluded.

## Quality of the data

The figures have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change. The data have been subject to a standard quality assurance process to ensure suitability for publication.

Data included in this release is from a snapshot taken as of 28/07/2020

This is the first time that these figures have been released and there are some outstanding records where the quality cannot be verified sufficiently and so they have been excluded from this publication. These records have been excluded as they fail a logic check on the expected application process. The majority of these excluded records are applications marked as Accepted but are missing a preceding Claimed event. These records will require further investigation to ascertain what the current state of the claim is. Excluded records represent 3% of all records over the last 3 years.

There is also a known issue with a small number of cases still showing as pending on the system, where it is likely that they have now been closed.

We will continue to review these cases with a view to updating them for future releases of the data.

## Future publication of the data

Going forward these figures will be released as part of the regular migration transparency data <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data>

## User Feedback

This is the first release of this data and users are encouraged to provide feedback on how these statistics are used and how well they meet user needs. Comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed and encouraged. Responses should be addressed to the following mailbox [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk)



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