



PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 26

Answered on 1 October 2026

Second Meeting 2026-2027 Session – Second Sitting

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY**

**HON. KENNETH V. BRYAN
DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE
CONSTITUENCY OF GEORGE TOWN CENTRAL**

TO

**THE HON. MICHAEL MYLES
MINISTER OF CAYMANIAN EMPLOYMENT & IMMIGRATION**

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Minister state:

- a) the total number of work permit applications processed over the last 12 months, broken down on a month-by-month basis, detailing the specific figures for both approvals and refusals for each month; and
- b) whether the Ministry and relevant departments are currently meeting their projected revenue targets for work permit fees and related charges for the 2026 financial year?

ANSWER:

During the 12 month period from 1 September 2025 to 8 September 2026, a total number of 44,540 work permit applications were processed by the Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman Department (“WORC”), of these, 39,079 (87.7%) were approved and 5,461 (12.3%) were refused.

Refusals were concentrated in a small number of categories. Temporary Work Permits had the highest volume and the highest refusal rate, with 3,817 of 15,595 applications refused (24.5%). This category accounts for around 70% of all refusals. Work Permit Grants followed, with 965 of 11,783 refused (8.2%).

Most other categories had low refusal rates. Work Permit Renewals were refused in 3.3% of cases (428 of 12,904), Temporary Permit Extensions in 7.9% (114 of 1,439) and Provision for Continuation to Work in 4.4% (66 of 1,512). Several smaller categories, including SEZ Work Permit Renewals and Specialist Care Giver Renewals, had no refusals.

Table 1 shows the summary of the types of work permit applications that were approved and refused. **Table 2** provides a detailed breakdown of these applications by type and their respective approval and refusal outcomes.

Answer to Question #2:

The total year-to-date work permit revenue as of 31 August 2026 is recorded as CI\$75.7 million, representing a variance of approximately \$6.5 million (7.9%) below the year-to-date budgeted amount of CI\$82.2 million. This indicates that WORC is below its projected revenue target for the period from 1 January 2026 to 31 August 2026.

The total year-to-date revenue collected during the period ending 31 August 2026 was \$103 million, as compared to budgeted total year-to-date of CI\$105.6 million, This represents a negative variance of CI\$2.6 million, (2%) below the year-to-date budget.

APPENDICES:

Table 1: Summary of the Type of Applications Approved & Refused

Application Type	Approved	Refused	Total	% Approved	% Refused
Business Visitors Permit	320	23	343	93.3%	6.7%
Sez Work Permit Grant	216	1	217	99.5%	0.5%
Sez Work Permit Renewal	35	0	35	100.0%	0.0%
Final Work Permit Non-Renewal (90 days)	5	0	5	100.0%	0.0%
Provision for Continuation to Work	1,446	66	1,512	95.6%	4.4%
Specialist Care Giver Grant	73	1	74	98.6%	1.4%
Specialist Care Giver Renewal	28	0	28	100.0%	0.0%
Specialist Commercial Farmhand	1	0	1	100.0%	0.0%
Temporary Work Permit (Seasonal Worker)	9	1	10	90.0%	10.0%
Temporary Permit Extension	1,325	114	1,439	92.1%	7.9%
Temporary Work Permit	11,778	3,817	15,595	75.5%	24.5%
Working By Operation of the Law	7	0	7	100.0%	0.0%
Work Permit Grant	10,818	965	11,783	91.8%	8.2%
Work Permit Renewal	12,476	428	12,904	96.7%	3.3%
Work Permit Grant (Spouses Term Limit)	62	9	71	87.3%	12.7%
Work Permit Renewal (Spouses Term Limit)	480	36	516	93.0%	7.0%
Grand Total	39,079	5,461	44,540	87.7%	12.3%