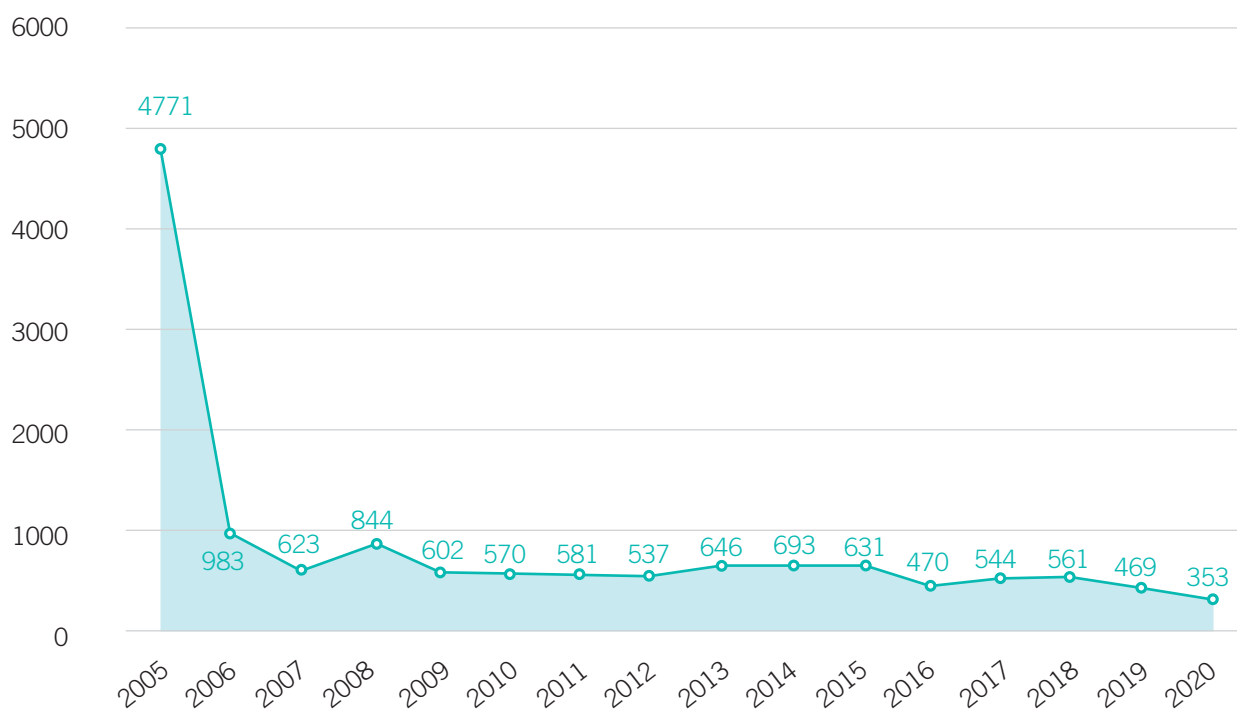


**Figure 1** Number of new registrants who joined the NACPR 2005–2020\*

\*The implementation of a new database has allowed for more accurate reporting of figures. Some statistics published in previous years have been adjusted accordingly.

**Table 1** Breakdown of NACPR Applications by year 2016–2020\*

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Adoptee	333	366	403	300	211
Birth Father	17	16	10	19	11
Birth Mother	60	69	66	54	50
Cousin	7	10	18	8	8
Grandparent/Grandchild	4	3	3	6	5
Sibling	43	61	48	63	50
Uncle/Aunt/Niece/Nephew	6	17	13	19	16
Other/Unknown	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>353</b>

\*The implementation of a new database has allowed for more accurate reporting of figures. Some statistics published in previous years have been adjusted accordingly.

In the main, the Authority receives more applications from adoptees than birth relatives and this trend is once again reflected in the yearly totals for 2020, whereby 211 (60%) adoptees joined compared to 142 (40%) birth relatives (see Table 2).

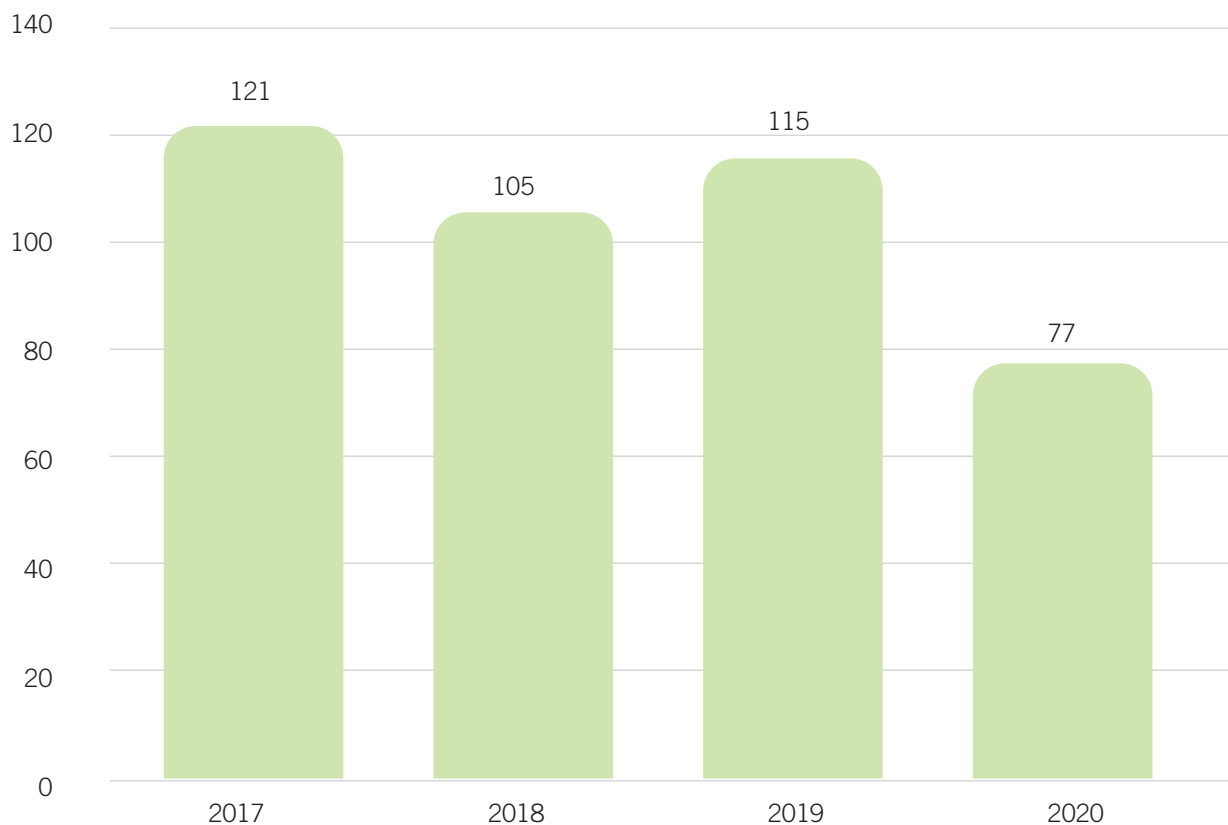
**Table 2** Adoptee/Relative Breakdown\*

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Adoptees	71%	67%	72%	64%	60%
Relatives	29%	33%	28%	36%	40%

\*The implementation of a new database has allowed for more accurate reporting of figures. Some statistics published in previous years have been adjusted accordingly.

### NACPR Matches

In terms of matches recorded on the NACPR during 2020, a total of 77 potential matches were identified between new registrants and previously registered family members. Again, these figures are down from previous years, where the Authority recorded a total of 115 matches in 2019 and 105 in 2018 (see Figure 1). As mentioned above, this drop may be attributed to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Figure 2** Breakdown of NACPR Matches by year 2017–2020

Traditionally, the majority of matches recorded on the NACPR relate to birth mothers and adoptees (26 in 2020). The second highest category is between siblings who were both adopted out (18 in 2020), while the third highest relates to adoptees and birth siblings (17 in 2020). For a concise breakdown of recent figures, please see Table 3:

**Table 3** *Matches by Relationship by year 2017–2020*

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Birth Mother	46	38	32	26
Birth Father	5	1	6	7
Cousin	2	4	0	1
Cousin (adopted)	0	3	1	0
Grandparent	1	2	4	0
Sibling	20	8	14	17
Sibling (adopted)	37	40	49	18
Uncle, Aunt	10	7	9	6
Other	0	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>77</b>

#### Going Forward: Draft Birth Information and Tracing Legislation

As referenced above, the government is currently in the process of drafting Birth Information and Tracing legislation. Draft legislation proposes to allow adoptees access their original birth certificates. It may also be the case that the National Adoption Contact Preference Register is placed on a statutory basis. The Information and Tracing Unit continues to liaise with its counterparts in the Child and Family Agency and welcomes any changes that may assist those affected by adoption.