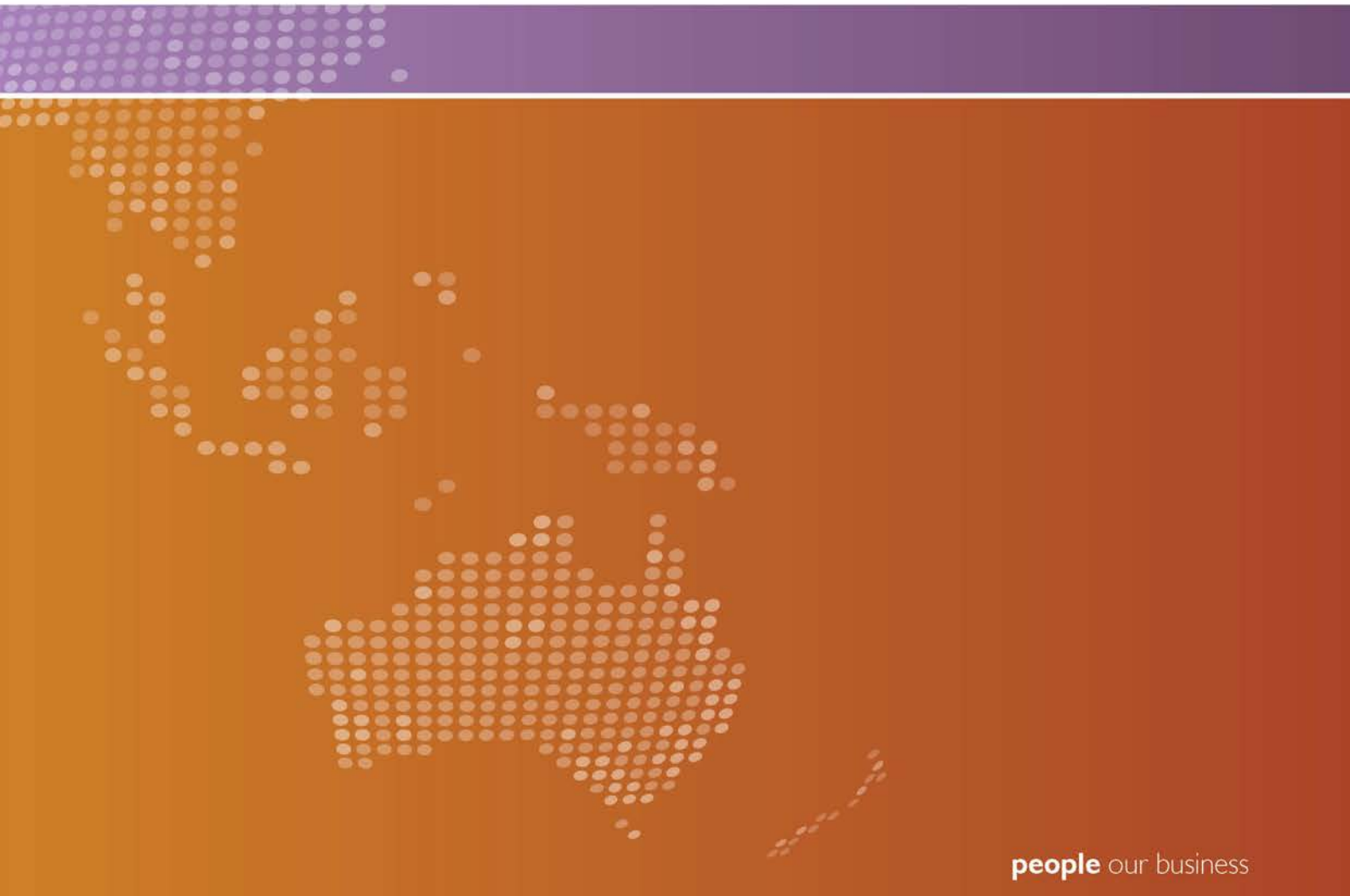
Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Asylum Trends

Australia

2011-12 – Annual Publication



people our business

Asylum Trends – Australia: 2011-12 Annual Publication was prepared by Systems, Program Evidence and Knowledge Section of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) in Australia.

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All figures in this publication (including RRT statistics) are as revised at the end of the 2011-12 program year and hence may differ from previously published figures.

Background

An asylum seeker is someone outside their country who is seeking international protection and who may or may not be a refugee.

A refugee is someone who would face persecution in their home country on account of their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion. The definition does not include people who leave their country because of generalised civil disturbance or war, famine, natural disasters or in order to seek a better life.

Australia considers the claims of asylum seekers under the provisions of the Migration Act 1958 and the Migration Regulations 1994. Most claimants are now considered through the Protection visa process regardless of the mode of arrival. A non-statutory assessment refugee status determination process has applied to irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) who arrived prior to 24 March 2012 and who had not been interviewed by that date.

The determination of a claim for asylum is based on the specific and particular circumstances of the applicant. Country of origin information from a wide range of sources is relied upon to assist in the assessment of each person's circumstances and claims. Where a person is found to be a refugee, health, character and security checks are required before a visa may be granted.

Asylum seekers – the numbers in context

When the Refugees Convention was established in 1951 there were approximately 1.5 million refugees globally. According to UNHCR, at the end of 2011 an estimated 42.5 people worldwide were considered forcibly displaced due to conflict and persecution, including 15.2 million refugees, 895 000 asylum seekers and 26.4 million internally displaced people**.**

The number of people seeking asylum in Australia each year has fluctuated widely over the past decade, with the lowest point in 2004-05.

Table 1: People seeking Australia's protection

Program Year	Non-IMA[1] Protection visa (PV) applications[2] lodged	IMA refugee status determination requests received[3]	Total
2002-03	4960	60	5020
2003-04	3485	87	3572
2004-05	3062	146	3208
2005-06	3191	101	3292
2006-07	3723	23	3746
2007-08	3987	21	4008
2008-09	5072	668	5762
2009-10	5986	4579	10565
2010-11	6337	5174	11511
2011-12	7036	7379	14415

Source: DIAC Systems

[1] Non irregular maritime arrivals. Non-IMA generally refers to Protection visa applicants who arrived by air and are already in Australia's migration zone.
[2] Number of PV applications refers to the number of people (including family members) who made a valid application claiming protection in Australia.
[3] Refugee status determination requests counted by people screened into a determination process for IMAs. Figures prior to 2008-09 are asylum seekers who lodged Protection visa applications and do not include 1637 asylum seekers processed at the offshore processing centres in Nauru and Manus, of whom 1518 were transferred in 2001-02.

Australia received 3 per cent of asylum applications made in industrialised countries in 2011. Combined, the United States and Canada received 23 per cent of asylum applications during 2011, while France, Germany, Sweden and United Kingdom received 35 per cent.

Table 2: Share of global asylum applications – by country

Countries	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
United States	15%	13%	13%	15%	17%
France	9%	9%	11%	13%	12%
Germany	6%	6%	7%	11%	10%
Italy	4%	8%	5%	3%	8%
Sweden	11%	6%	6%	9%	7%
Belgium	3%	3%	5%	6%	6%
United Kingdom	8%	8%	8%	6%	6%
Canada	8%	10%	9%	6%	6%
Switzerland	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Turkey	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%
Austria	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%
Netherlands	2%	4%	4%	4%	3%
Australia	**1%**	**1%**	**2%**	**3%**	**3%**
Greece	8%	5%	4%	3%	2%
Norway	2%	4%	5%	3%	2%

Source: UNHCR – Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries – 2011

Table 3: Changes in the ranking of the top-15 receiving countries (calendar year)

Countries	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
United States	1	1	1	1	1
France	3	3	2	2	2
Germany	7	7	5	3	3
Italy	8	5	7	14	4
Sweden	2	6	6	4	5
Belgium	10	14	9	7	6
United Kingdom	5	4	4	6	7
Canada	4	2	3	5	8
Switzerland	11	9	13	8	9
Turkey	13	12	15	15	10
Austria	9	13	11	11	11
Netherlands	15	11	12	9	12
Australia	**19**	**16**	**16**	**10**	**13**
Greece	6	8	10	12	14
Norway	17	10	8	13	15

Source: UNHCR – Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries – 2011

Section 1
Non irregular maritime arrivals

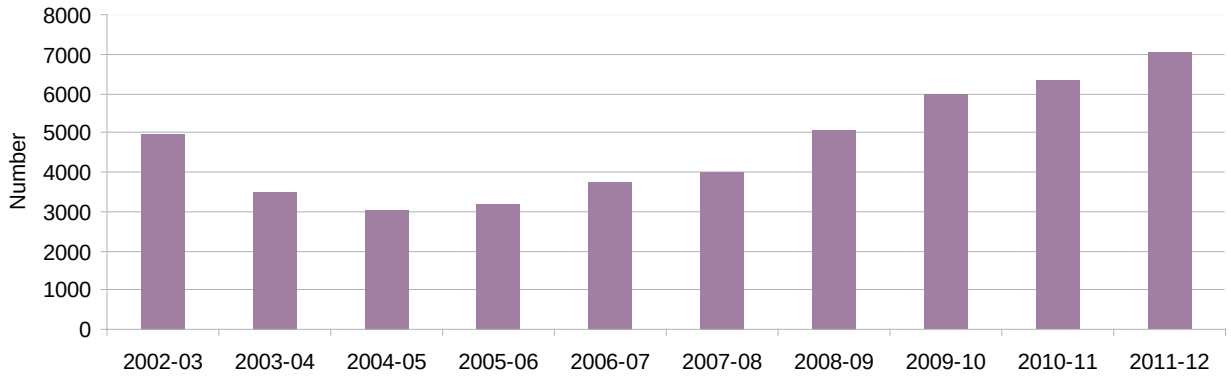
Non irregular maritime arrivals (non-IMA)

Applications – overall

In 2011-12 there were 7036 applications for asylum by people who originally arrived by air, an increase of 11 per cent on 2010-11. The increase was almost exclusively attributable to lodgements by international students which tapered off during the second half of the program year

The number of people arriving by air and seeking protection has been rising since 2004-05 after falling from just over seven thousand in 2001-02 as shown in the chart below drawing on figures set out in Table 1.

Figure 1: Protection visa applications lodged (non-IMA)



The rise in the number of applications for protection by international students continued in 2011-12. Students accounted for 47 per cent of the total applications, up from 42 per cent in 2010-11. The large number of applications in recent years reflects the large stock of international students in the country.

Table 4: Protection visa applications lodged by major visa groups (arrival visa)

Visa Group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Students	673	1118	2121	2668	3327
Visitors and Working Holiday Makers	2584	2998	2830	2607	2488
Temporary Residents (Economic)	169	236	220	149	174
Bridging Visa	19	31	44	60	141
Family Migration	72	103	89	110	130
Temporary Residents (Non-Economic)	38	62	73	58	93
Other	432	524	609	685	683
Total	**3987**	**5072**	**5986**	**6337**	**7036**

Source: ICSE

Applications – regions of citizenship

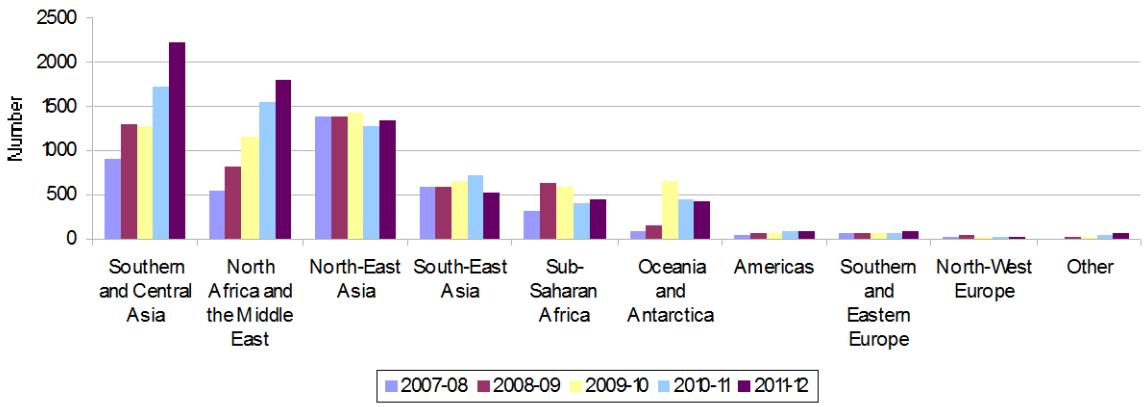
Around seven out of ten applicants in 2011-12 came from Southern and Central Asia, North Africa and the Middle East or North East Asia, a proportion that has stayed relatively constant over the past five years.

Table 5: Protection visa applications lodged by region (non-IMA)

Region	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Southern and Central Asia	913	1290	1282	1716	2228
North Africa and the Middle East	551	813	1156	1555	1799
North-East Asia	1390	1381	1425	1274	1330
South-East Asia	589	598	667	723	526
Sub-Saharan Africa	312	635	598	402	448
Oceania and Antarctica	98	167	649	445	424
Americas	39	66	75	88	92
Southern and Eastern Europe	65	70	76	73	89
North-West Europe	22	35	24	17	30
Other	8	17	34	44	70
Total	**3987**	**5072**	**5986**	**6337**	**7036**

Source: ICSE

Figure 2: Protection visa applications lodged by region (non-IMA)



Applications – countries of citizenship

The top five countries of citizenship for applications in 2011-12 were China, India, Pakistan, Iran and Egypt which accounted for 51 per cent of all lodgements (41 per cent excluding students). Applications by citizens of India, Pakistan, Libya and Syria were significantly higher than in previous years, reflecting in part the large number of students in those caseloads.

Table 6: Protection visa applications lodged by top 20 countries of citizenship[4] (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
China (PRC)	1252	1188	1293	1124	1216
India	194	353	301	556	906
Pakistan	180	221	349	549	667
Iran	115	203	378	386	462
Egypt	53	113	208	427	357
Iraq	186	232	222	221	297
Fiji	44	116	564	331	271
Nepal	35	42	93	229	241
Malaysia	219	206	257	212	196
Lebanon	84	103	157	174	182
Libya	<5	7	6	66	164
Zimbabwe	140	317	377	195	147
Afghanistan	20	71	111	98	138
Sri Lanka	397	478	328	160	137
Indonesia	219	211	178	196	133
Syria	7	17	19	31	128
Bangladesh	82	116	86	104	118
Turkey	38	49	76	118	77
Nigeria	17	43	34	28	70
South Korea	99	153	89	90	70
Others	605	833	860	1042	1059
Total	**3987**	**5072**	**5986**	**6337**	**7036**

Source: ICSE

Figure 3: Protection visa applications lodged by top 20 countries of citizenship in 2011-12 (non-IMA)



[4] Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2010-11 program year lodgements.

Applications – demographics

Most non-IMA applicants for asylum are unaccompanied. Sole applicants accounted for 82 per cent of principal applicants in 2011-12, a proportion that has remained steady for the past five years. In 2011-12, there were about two dependants for each principal applicant with dependants.

Table 7: Protection visa applications by type of applicants (non-IMA)

Program Year	Principal Applicants			Dependants	Total
	Sole Applicants	Accompanied applicants	Total		
2007-08	2584	523	3107	880	**3987**
2008-09	3242	666	3908	1164	**5072**
2009-10	3763	813	4576	1410	**5986**
2010-11	3846	909	4755	1582	**6337**
2011-12	4285	965	5250	1786	**7036**

Source: ICSE

Figure 4: Breakdown of principal applicants by sole applicants and accompanied applicants (non-IMA)

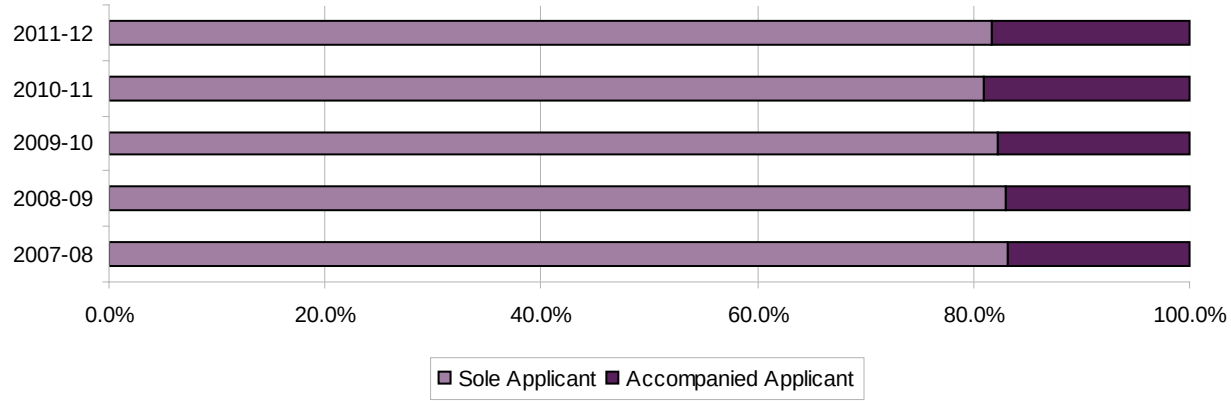


Table 8: Protection visa applications lodged by age group and role of applicant (non-IMA)

Age at lodgement	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
0-17 years	473	621	765	876	1041
18-30 years	1212	1899	2508	2893	3306
31-40 years	1154	1266	1394	1348	1422
41-50 years	751	803	840	716	735
51-60 years	236	265	293	303	302
60+ years	161	218	186	201	230
Total	**3987**	**5072**	**5986**	**6337**	**7036**
Principal applicants					
0-17 years	55	62	104	106	119
18-30 years	1033	1650	2155	2516	2890
31-40 years	1041	1110	1200	1124	1201
41-50 years	665	710	728	620	632
51-60 years	198	217	247	245	246
60+ years	115	159	142	144	162
Total	**3107**	**3908**	**4576**	**4755**	**5250**
Dependants					
0-17 years	418	559	661	770	922
18-30 years	179	249	353	377	416
31-40 years	113	156	194	224	221
41-50 years	86	93	112	96	103
51-60 years	38	48	46	58	56
60+ years	46	59	44	57	68
Total	**880**	**1164**	**1410**	**1582**	**1786**

Source: ICSE

The age profile of the non-IMA caseload reflects the weight of the student component in the caseload. In 2011-12 around 62 per cent of applicants were 30 years of age or younger.

Figure 5: Protection visa applications lodged by age group (non-IMA)

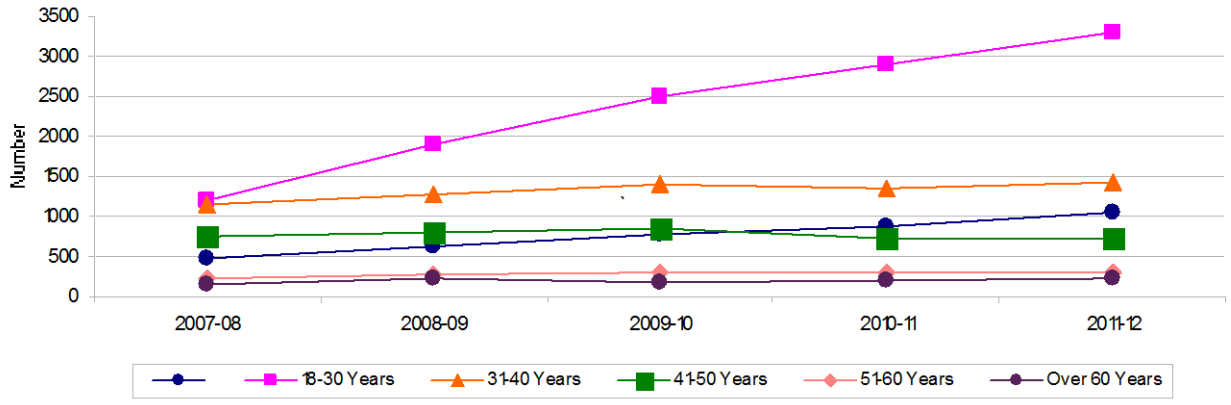


Table 9: Protection visa applications lodged by sex (non-IMA)

Sex	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
Female	1518	1851	2292	2331	2534
Male	2469	3221	3694	4006	4502
Total	**3987**	**5072**	**5986**	**6337**	**7036**
Principal applicants					
Female	1003	1181	1507	1428	1554
Male	2104	2727	3069	3327	3696
Total	**3107**	**3908**	**4576**	**4755**	**5250**
Dependants					
Female	515	670	785	903	980
Male	365	494	625	679	806
Total	**880**	**1164**	**1410**	**1582**	**1786**

Source: ICSE

The proportions in the caseload comprised by male and female applicants have remained relatively constant over the past half decade in both aggregate and by role type. In 2011-12, around 30 per cent of principal applicants and 55 per cent of dependants were female.

Figure 6: Protection visa applications lodged by sex (non-IMA)

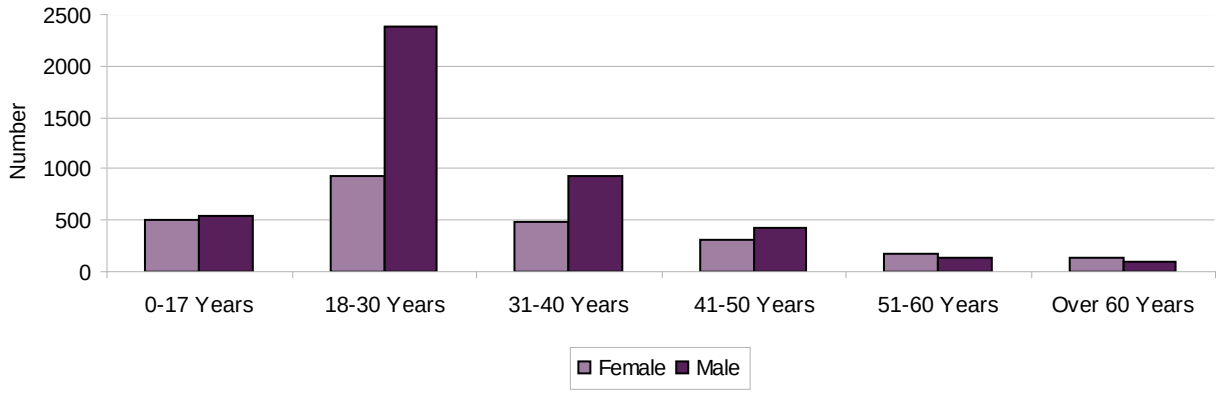


Table 10: Protection visa applications lodged by age group and sex (non-IMA)

Age at lodgement	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
0-17 Years	473	621	765	876	1041
18-30 Years	1212	1899	2508	2893	3306
31-40 Years	1154	1266	1394	1348	1422
41-50 Years	751	803	840	716	735
51-60 Years	236	265	293	303	302
60+ Years	161	218	186	201	230
Total	**3987**	**5072**	**5986**	**6337**	**7036**
Female					
0-17 years	219	285	354	436	504
18-30 years	385	540	758	850	931
31-40 years	405	439	524	464	486
41-50 years	310	312	396	321	307
51-60 years	110	142	156	154	172
60+ years	89	133	104	106	134
Total	**1518**	**1851**	**2292**	**2331**	**2534**
Male					
0-17 years	254	336	411	440	537
18-30 years	827	1359	1750	2043	2375
31-40 years	749	827	870	884	936
41-50 years	441	491	444	395	428
51-60 years	126	123	137	149	130
60+ years	72	85	82	95	96
Total	**2469**	**3221**	**3694**	**4006**	**4502**

Source: ICSE

Figure 7: Protection visa applications lodged by age group and sex in 2011-12 (non-IMA)



Primary decisions - overall

There were 5792 applications considered and decided in the first instance by officials in 2011-12, an increase of five per cent on 2010-11.

Table 11: Primary decisions and primary grant rates (non-IMA)

Decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grants	1295	1598	1708	1389	1467
Refusals	2413	2982	3039	4105	4325
Total primary decisions	**3708**	**4580**	**4747**	**5494**	**5792**
Primary grant rate	34.9%	34.9%	36.0%	25.3%	25.3%

Source: ICSE

The number of applicants who were found to be refugees at the primary stage remained unchanged on the previous year at around 25 per cent. The primary grant rate for students continued to fall.

Figure 8: Primary decisions and primary grant rates (non-IMA)

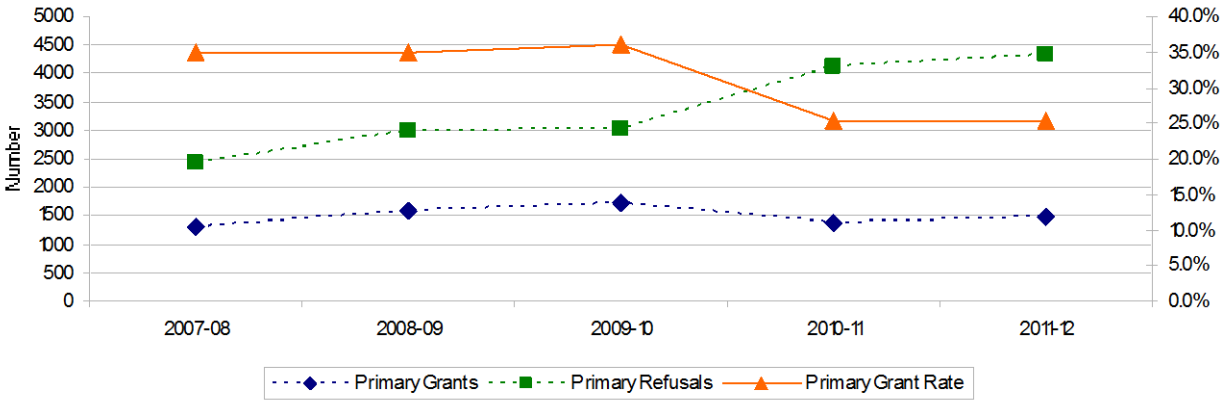


Table 12: Primary grant rate by major visa groups (non-IMA)

Visa Group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Students	47.8%	44.0%	40.0%	28.4%	21.6%
Visitors and Working Holiday Makers	27.5%	30.8%	29.6%	23.2%	28.2%
Temporary Residents (Economic)	62.1%	31.7%	49.2%	31.2%	36.7%
Bridging Visa	41.2%	28.0%	37.5%	27.9%	14.3%
Family Migration	54.7%	60.0%	38.2%	39.5%	39.1%
Temporary Residents (Non-Economic)	72.2%	44.2%	57.1%	19.3%	40.3%
Other	44.8%	38.3%	44.3%	20.0%	27.6%

Source: ICSE

Primary decisions – countries of citizenship

Fluctuations in primary grant rates for various countries of citizenship over the years reflect a number of factors including changing circumstances in those countries.

For the top five countries by volume of primary (or first instance) grants in 2011-12, the primary grant rates were Iran (70 per cent), Pakistan (40 per cent), Iraq (78 per cent), China (10 per cent), and Sri Lanka (52 per cent).

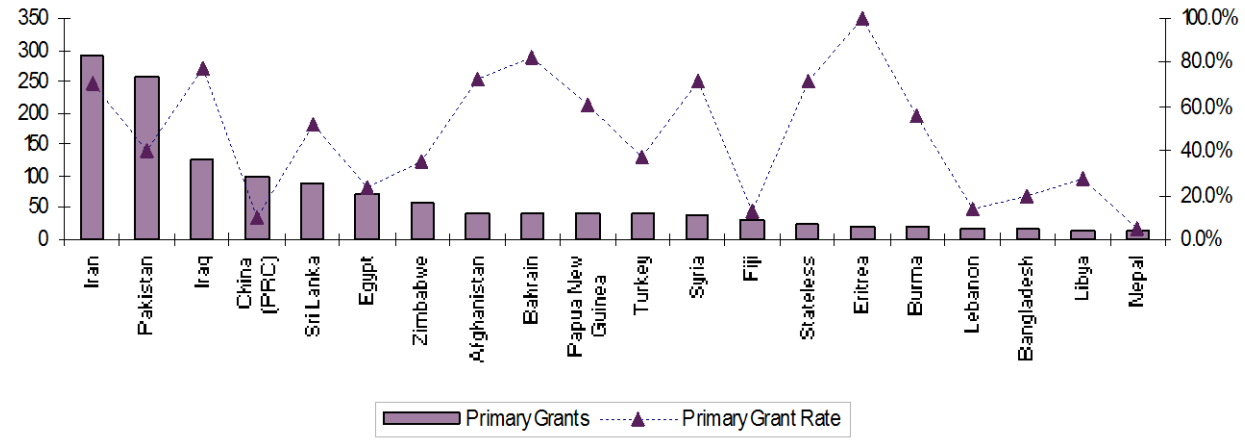
Table 13: Primary grants and primary grant rates by top 20 countries of citizenship[5] in 2011-12 (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate
Iran	72	75.8%	132	83.5%	199	88.1%	313	78.4%	291	70.1%
Pakistan	99	63.5%	138	65.7%	183	71.8%	170	54.0%	259	40.3%
Iraq	200	96.6%	153	88.4%	175	91.1%	97	66.9%	128	77.6%
China (PRC)	186	16.7%	176	14.6%	229	19.9%	121	10.6%	98	9.7%
Sri Lanka	389	88.0%	335	80.3%	164	67.8%	97	45.5%	89	52.4%
Egypt	26	57.8%	38	41.8%	62	45.9%	101	28.5%	72	23.4%
Zimbabwe	63	51.6%	191	75.8%	224	74.2%	120	50.4%	60	35.5%
Afghanistan	17	89.5%	47	92.2%	74	86.0%	53	67.9%	42	72.4%
Bahrain	<5	20.0%	0	0.0%	<5	66.7%	<5	50.0%	42	82.4%
Papua New Guinea	15	46.9%	18	72.0%	17	70.8%	20	42.6%	40	60.6%
Turkey	14	38.9%	14	38.9%	23	51.1%	32	32.0%	40	37.0%
Syria	0	0.0%	7	38.9%	0	0.0%	<5	18.8%	38	71.7%
Fiji	5	12.2%	10	9.6%	14	3.4%	23	5.8%	30	12.6%
Stateless	<5	25.0%	12	70.6%	15	78.9%	14	43.8%	25	71.4%
Eritrea	17	94.4%	<5	80.0%	8	88.9%	12	100.0%	21	100.0%
Burma	50	87.7%	70	76.1%	61	80.3%	36	61.0%	19	55.9%
Lebanon	6	8.7%	20	20.8%	9	9.7%	25	13.2%	18	14.2%
Bangladesh	14	18.2%	38	35.2%	21	30.4%	16	16.7%	16	19.3%
Libya	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	100.0%	0	0.0%	13	27.7%
Nepal	<5	7.1%	12	41.4%	16	24.6%	16	10.5%	13	5.2%
Others	117	…	183	…	205	…	118	…	113	…
Totals	**1295**	**34.9%**	**1598**	**34.9%**	**1708**	**36.0%**	**1389**	**25.3%**	**1467**	**25.3%**

Source: ICSE

[5] Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2011-12 program year grants.

Figure 9: Primary grants and primary grant rates by top 20 countries of citizenship in 2011-12 (non-IMA)



Primary decisions – demographics

Table 14: Primary decisions and primary grant rates by sex (non-IMA)

Sex and decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Decisions					
Female grants	536	622	699	545	639
Female refusals	847	1059	1158	1464	1409
Total	**1383**	**1681**	**1857**	**2009**	**2048**
Male grants	759	976	1009	844	828
Male refusals	1566	1923	1881	2641	2916
Total	**2325**	**2899**	**2890**	**3485**	**3744**
Grant rates					
Female grant rate	38.8%	37.0%	37.6%	27.1%	31.2%
Male grant rate	32.6%	33.7%	34.9%	24.2%	22.1%

Source: ICSE

Table 15: Primary grants by age group and role of applicant (non-IMA)

Age at decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
All asylum seekers					
0-17 years	251	213	297	232	296
18-30 years	432	658	725	582	579
31-40 years	266	315	322	312	295
41-50 years	156	156	172	127	124
51-60 years	88	127	89	54	94
60+ years	102	129	103	82	79
Total	**1295**	**1598**	**1708**	**1389**	**1467**
Principal applicants					
0-17 years	14	23	29	17	15
18-30 years	356	555	594	491	479
31-40 years	226	273	271	265	233
41-50 years	118	141	144	103	99
51-60 years	71	103	71	43	71
60+ years	72	88	77	59	55
Total	**857**	**1183**	**1186**	**978**	**952**
Dependants					
0-17 years	237	190	268	215	281
18-30 years	76	103	131	91	100
31-40 years	40	42	51	47	62
41-50 years	38	15	28	24	25
51-60 years	17	24	18	11	23
60+ years	30	41	26	23	24
Total	**438**	**415**	**522**	**411**	**515**

Source: ICSE

Reviews by Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT)

Asylum seekers arriving by air whose applications have been refused may appeal to the Refugee Review Tribunal. In 2011-12, nearly 90 per cent of refused applicants sought such review, a rate that has been largely constant for the past half decade.

Table 16: Primary refusals and RRT take up rate[6] (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2010-11		2011-12	
	Number of primary refusals	Take up rate (%)	Number of primary refusals	Take up rate (%)
China (PRC)	1025	92.0%	908	90.4%
India	349	80.5%	648	84.2%
Pakistan	145	91.7%	383	95.4%
Egypt	254	94.9%	236	96.5%
Nepal	136	89.7%	236	90.0%
Fiji	372	87.9%	208	88.2%
Malaysia	201	84.1%	154	82.8%
Indonesia	190	85.3%	124	85.6%
Iran	86	97.7%	124	95.6%
Lebanon	164	91.5%	109	97.8%
Zimbabwe	118	83.9%	109	88.1%
Others	1065	…	1086	…
Total	**4105**	**89.7%**	**4325**	**89.7%**

Source: ICSE

Broadly consistent with the 5 per cent increase in the absolute number of primary refusals in 2011-12, there was a 6 per cent increase in the number of cases lodged with the RRT. Note that DIAC statistics count all individuals on an application whereas RRT statistics count cases which may cover several people.

Table 17: Cases lodged with RRT (non-IMA)

RRT cases by Country of Citizenship	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
China (PRC)	890	1000	751	819	690
India	215	287	139	222	435
Pakistan	67	57	53	102	307
Egypt	18	39	52	181	184
Nepal	48	25	28	107	184
Fiji	38	60	243	253	130
Malaysia	126	165	201	172	112
Indonesia	164	115	115	145	98
Lebanon	51	80	84	127	94
Iran	23	17	27	58	88
Others	643	693	578	782	825
Total	**2283**	**2538**	**2271**	**2968**	**3147**

Source: RRT

[6] The RRT take up rate is the percentage of primary refusals in the program year where a review application was subsequently lodged.

Figure 10: Cases lodged with RRT (non-IMA)

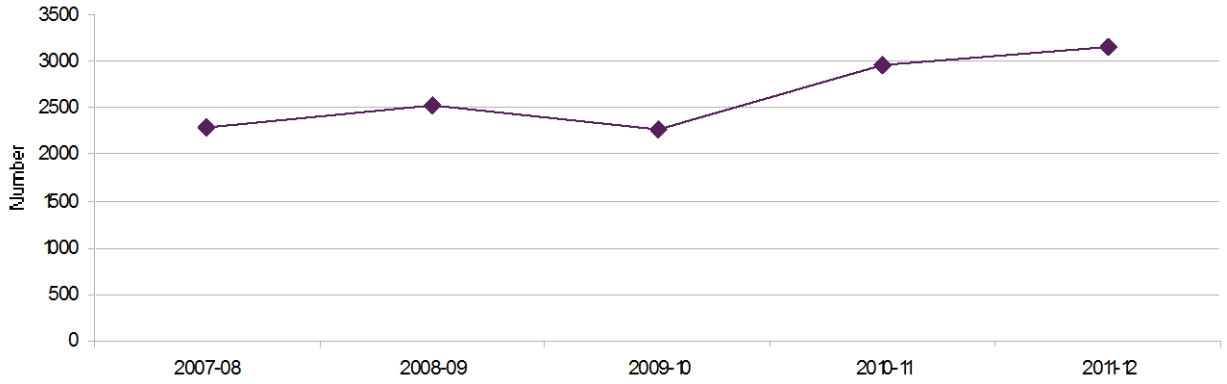
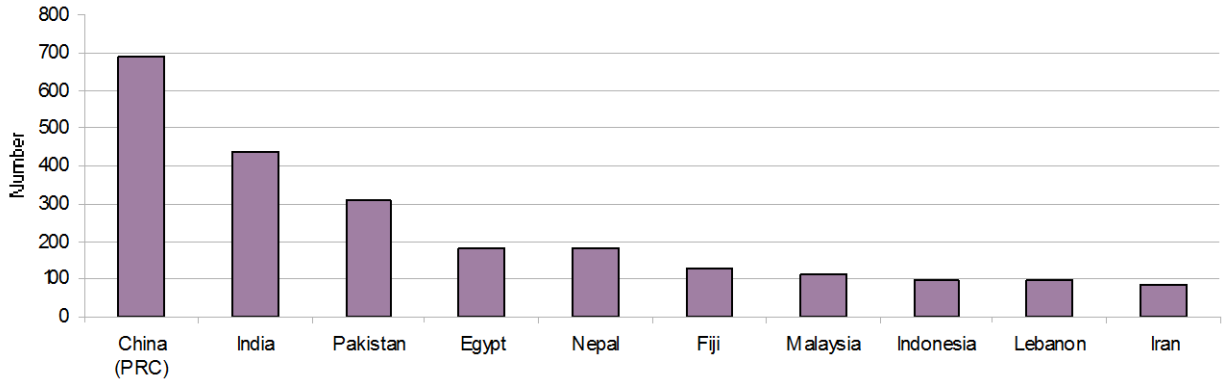


Figure 11: Cases lodged with RRT by country of citizenship in 2011-12 (non-IMA)



In considering an appeal, the RRT may affirm the original primary refusal, remit the case back to DIAC for reconsideration or the client may withdraw.

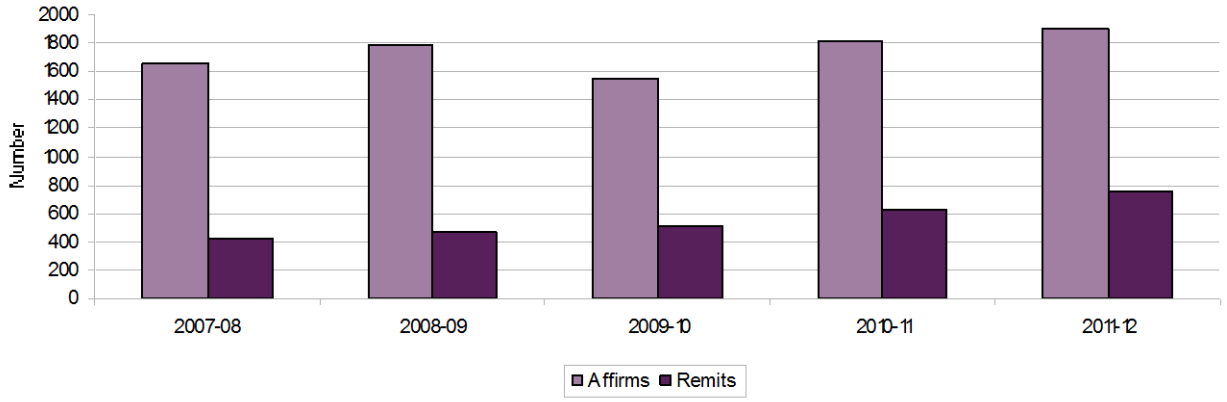
The reasons for remittal vary and can be for reasons such as the provision by applicants of new information to substantiate their claims and changes in circumstances in the country of origin.

Table 18: RRT outcomes (non-IMA)

RRT outcomes	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Affirms	1661	1787	1540	1814	1899
Remits	422	468	514	626	748
Withdrawals	33	29	21	53	86
No jurisdiction to review	202	178	82	110	69
Total	**2318**	**2462**	**2157**	**2603**	**2802**

Source: RRT

Figure 12: Primary decisions affirmed or remitted by RRT (non-IMA)



Around 28 per cent of RRT reviews in 2011-12 resulted in remittal of the case back to DIAC for reconsideration. This rate is comparable to review outcomes in other countries with similar refugee status determination processes.

Figure 13: Remit rates (non-IMA)

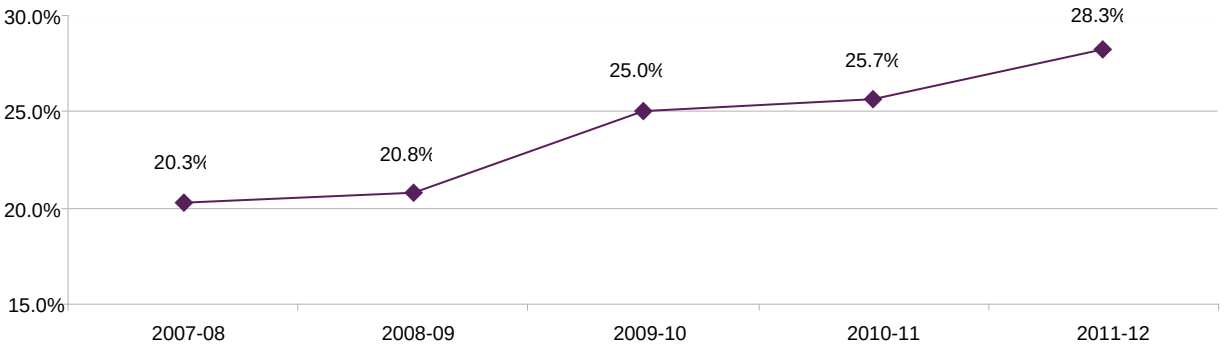


Table 19: RRT remit rate by countries of citizenship (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2011-12		
	Remits	Affirms	Remit rate (%)
Egypt	131	78	62.7%
China (PRC)	114	514	18.2%
Pakistan	81	72	52.9%
Iran	55	11	83.3%
Lebanon	41	56	42.3%
Turkey	36	16	69.2%
Zimbabwe	35	36	49.3%
Fiji	26	98	21.0%
India	20	295	6.3%
Sri Lanka	19	45	29.7%
Others	190	678	…
Total	**748**	**1899**	**28.3%**

Source: RRT

Final decisions - overall

Table 20: Final decisions and final grant rates (non-IMA)

Decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grants	1898	2171	2365	2101	2272
Refusals	2107	2618	2271	2739	2887
Total final decisions	**4005**	**4789**	**4636**	**4840**	**5159**
Final grant rate	47.4%	45.3%	51.0%	43.4%	44.0%

Source: ICSE

In 2011-12 there were 5159 Protection visa applications finally determined following a primary decision, review by the RRT and/or consideration by the courts

.

The average final grant rate in 2011-12 remained steady at 44 per cent.

Figure 14: Final decisions and final grant rates (non-IMA)

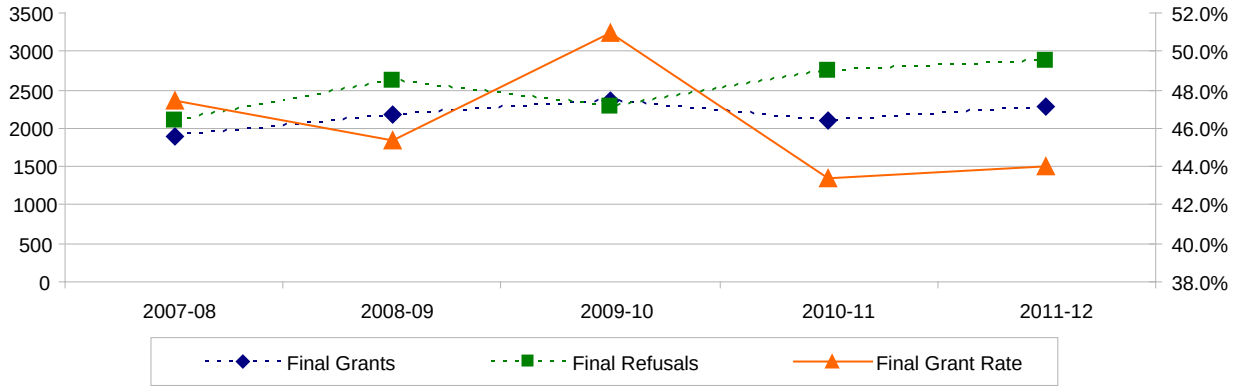


Table 21: Final grant rate by major visa groups (non-IMA)

Visa Group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Students	64.7%	60.7%	58.4%	49.2%	42.2%
Visitors and Working Holiday Makers	40.6%	40.3%	42.5%	38.3%	43.9%
Temporary Residents (Economic)	73.7%	39.1%	60.9%	51.1%	49.6%
Bridging Visa	40.0%	38.5%	38.2%	50.0%	37.3%
Family Migration	61.8%	70.5%	57.7%	51.9%	67.2%
Temporary Residents (Non-Economic)	40.5%	55.6%	71.2%	37.0%	68.6%
Other	40.6%	40.3%	42.5%	38.3%	43.9%

Source: ICSE

Final decisions – countries of citizenship

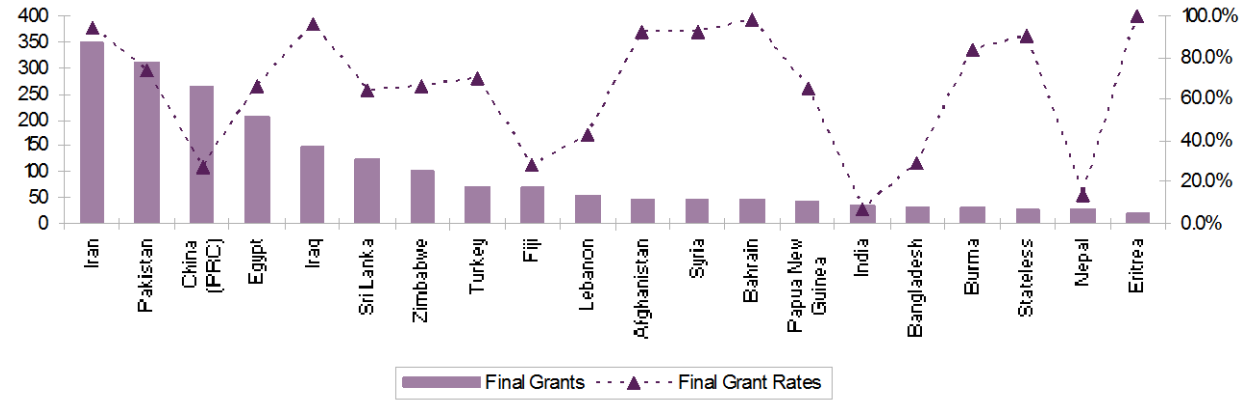
For the top five countries by volume of final grants, the final grant rates in 2010-11 were Iran (94 per cent), Pakistan (74 per cent), China (27 per cent), Egypt (66 per cent) and Iraq (96 per cent).

Table 22: Final grants and final refusals by top 20 countries of citizenship of grants in 2011-12 (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals
Iran	96	8	142	18	210	<5	368	15	351	22
Pakistan	115	42	158	49	212	38	208	51	309	108
China (PRC)	415	686	427	927	494	677	315	741	264	717
Egypt	37	22	45	35	79	31	143	72	204	103
Iraq	204	<5	157	7	183	8	114	6	146	6
Sri Lanka	432	44	359	40	189	58	118	34	125	69
Zimbabwe	87	22	215	23	254	41	172	52	101	52
Turkey	26	16	25	14	31	12	55	13	70	30
Fiji	7	54	27	64	38	196	88	392	68	176
Lebanon	27	44	36	60	34	60	64	90	54	71
Afghanistan	24	<5	48	<5	74	<5	59	16	48	<5
Syria	<5	7	10	7	<5	<5	5	9	46	<5
Bahrain	7	<5	<5	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	45	<5
Papua New Guinea	22	13	22	7	17	6	22	13	41	22
India	26	316	23	347	34	223	22	271	34	463
Bangladesh	40	77	49	98	37	48	30	33	30	72
Burma	56	5	78	5	79	<5	50	7	30	6
Stateless	<5	6	14	<5	17	<5	19	6	29	<5
Nepal	24	26	26	23	22	27	32	70	27	167
Eritrea	17	0	6	0	9	0	12	0	21	0
Others	232	712	303	888	345	828	201	847	229	791
Total	**1898**	**2107**	**2171**	**2618**	**2365**	**2271**	**2101**	**2739**	**2272**	**2887**

Source: ICSE

Figure 15: Final grants and final grant rates by top 20 countries of citizenship of grants in 2011-12 (non-IMA)



Final decisions – demographics

Table 23: Final decisions and final grant rates by sex (non-IMA)

Sex and decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Final decision					
Female grants	782	866	964	842	956
Female refusals	692	879	845	946	914
Total	**1474**	**1745**	**1809**	**1788**	**1870**
Male grants	1116	1305	1401	1259	1316
Male refusals	1415	1739	1426	1793	1973
Total	**2531**	**3044**	**2827**	**3052**	**3289**
Final grant rate					
Female grant rate	53.1%	49.6%	53.3%	47.1%	51.1%
Male grant rate	44.1%	42.9%	49.6%	41.3%	40.0%

Source: ICSE

Figure 16: Final grant rates by sex (non-IMA)

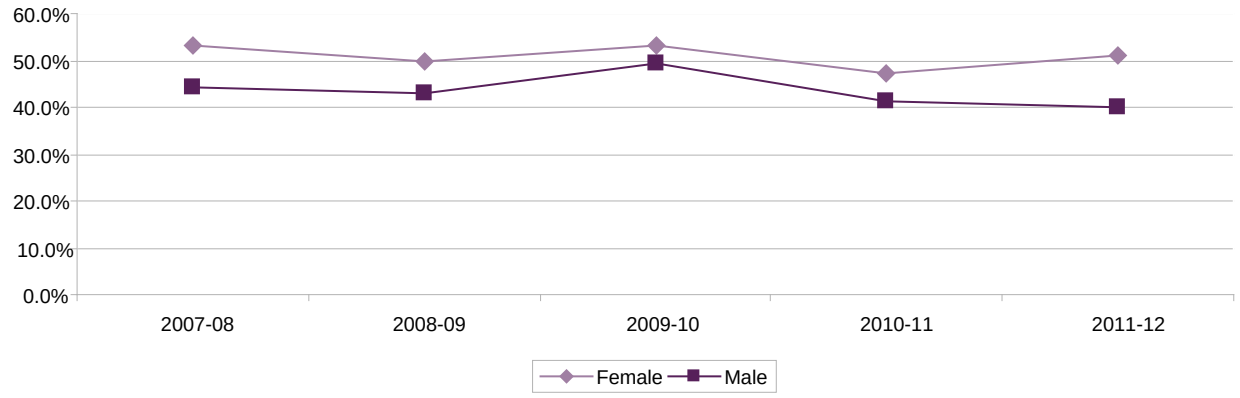
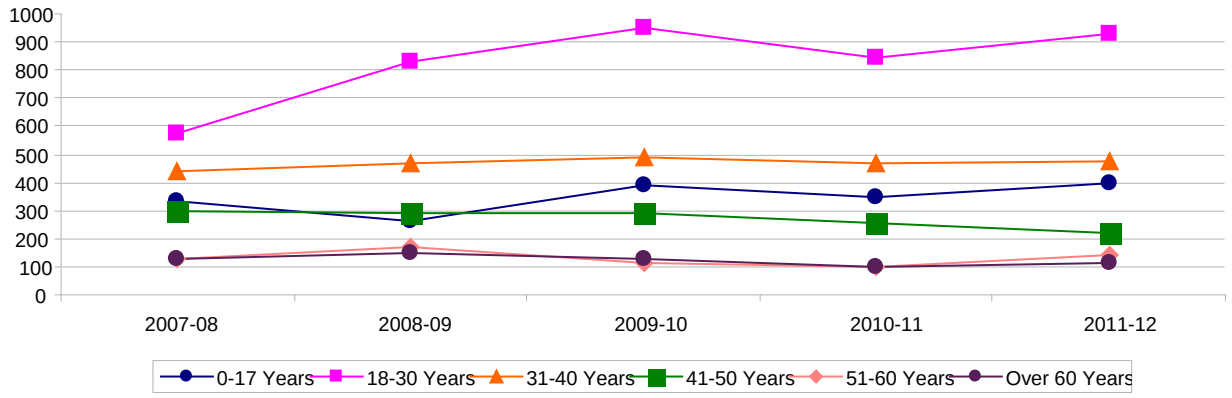


Table 24: Final grants by age group and role of applicant (non-IMA)

Age at decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
0-17 years	333	264	391	345	399
18-30 years	577	830	951	841	926
31-40 years	443	471	488	466	475
41-50 years	295	290	291	253	217
51-60 years	125	170	115	96	140
60+ years	125	146	129	100	115
Total	**1898**	**2171**	**2365**	**2101**	**2272**
Principal applicants					
0-17 years	23	31	40	35	25
18-30 years	480	687	776	719	777
31-40 years	382	411	419	394	378
41-50 years	234	252	250	206	174
51-60 years	100	140	91	77	113
60+ years	86	101	97	72	77
Total	**1305**	**1622**	**1673**	**1503**	**1544**
Dependants					
0-17 years	310	233	351	310	374
18-30 years	97	143	175	122	149
31-40 years	61	60	69	72	97
41-50 years	61	38	41	47	43
51-60 years	25	30	24	19	27
60+ years	39	45	32	28	38
Total	**593**	**549**	**692**	**598**	**728**

Source: ICSE

Figure 17: Final grants by age group (non-IMA)



Section 2
Irregular maritime arrivals

Irregular maritime arrivals (IMA)

Refugee status determination requests received

Only those persons arriving as irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) who seek Australia's protection are screened into a refugee status determination process (in general, crew members do not seek asylum).

In 2011-12, a total of 7379 people who arrived by sea were screened into a refugee status determination process. Approximately 43 per cent were from Afghanistan (compared to 31 per cent in 2010-11) and 21 per cent were from Iran (compared to 30 per cent in 2010-11).

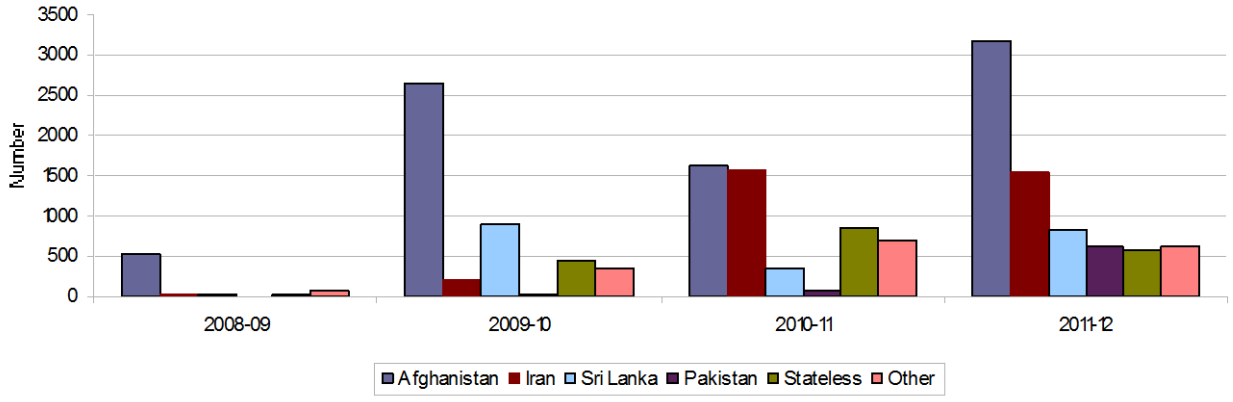
A new single Protection visa process for both boat and air arrivals applied from 24 March 2012. There were only 119 primary decisions for IMAs under the single process to end June 2012 and no Protection visa grants following review by the Refugee Review Tribunal. The department also commenced processing Complementary protection claims as part of the Protection visa framework from 24 March 2012. No Protection visas had been granted on Complementary protection grounds to end June 2012.

Table 25: Refugee status determination requests received by top 5 countries of citizenship[7] (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Afghanistan	528	2642	1621	3179
Iran	13	198	1563	1553
Sri Lanka	33	907	359	825
Pakistan	3	17	70	618
Stateless	25	460	854	576
Other	66	355	707	628
Total	**668**	**4579**	**5174**	**7379**

Source: DIAC Systems

Figure 18: Refugee status determination requests received (IMA)



[7] Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2011-12 program year refugee status determination requests from IMAs received.

Refugee status determination requests received - demographics

About 88 per cent of those screened into a refugee status determination process in 2011-12 were male, compared to 83 per cent in 2010-11.

Table 26: Refugee status determination requests received by sex (IMA)

Sex	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Female	40	317	861	867
Male	628	4262	4313	6512
Total	**668**	**4579**	**5174**	**7379**

Source: DIAC Systems

Figure 19: Refugee status determination requests by sex (IMA)



Table 27: Refugee status determination requests received by age group (IMA)

Age at request	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
0-17 years	131	594	1046	1399
18-30 years	290	2028	2319	3404
31-40 years	160	1302	1244	1704
41-50 years	63	512	402	634
51-60 years	19	122	138	187
60+ years	5	21	25	51
Total	**668**	**4579**	**5174**	**7379**

Source: DIAC Systems

About 65 per cent of those screened in to a refugee determination process in 2011-12 were aged 30 years or younger. This ratio has remained fairly steady during the past four program years.

Figure 20: Refugee status determination requests received by age group (IMA)

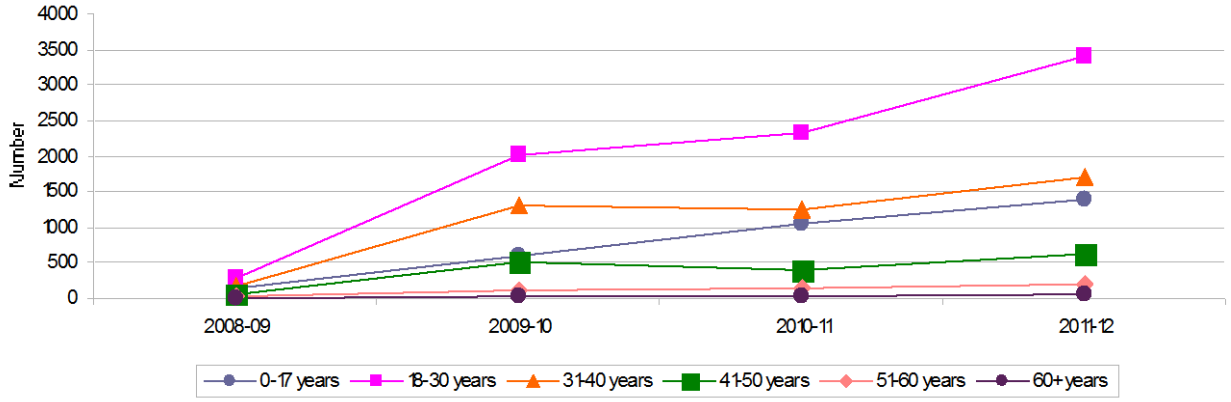
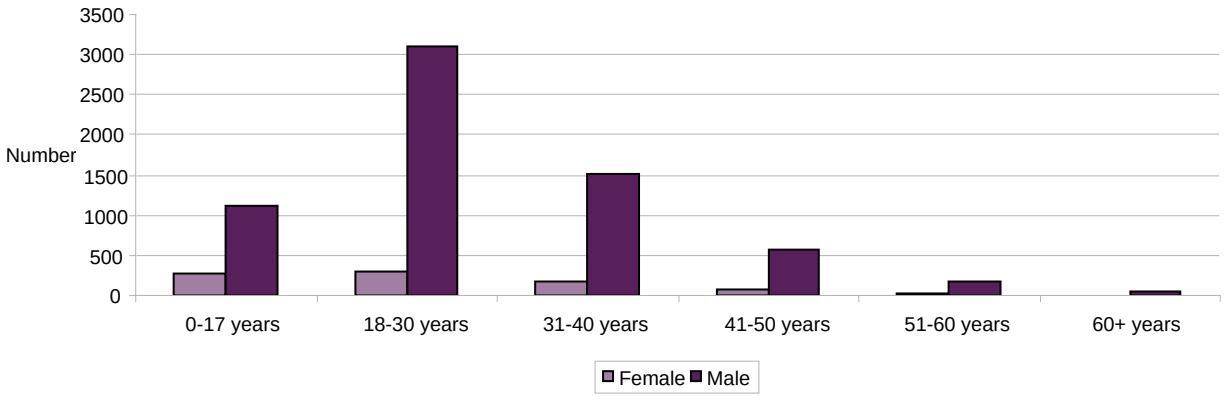


Table 28: Refugee status determination requests received in 2011-12 by age group and sex (IMA)

Age at request	Female	Male	Total
0-17 years	285	1114	1399
18-30 years	306	3098	3404
31-40 years	183	1521	1704
41-50 years	72	562	634
51-60 years	17	170	187
60+ years	4	47	51
Total	**867**	**6512**	**7379**

Source: DIAC Systems

Figure 21: Refugee status determination requests received in 2011-12 by age group and by sex (IMA)



Primary decisions

The 2011-12 program year saw a return to higher levels of primary Protection visa grant rates. About 71 per cent of asylum seekers who arrived by sea whose claims were considered and decided in the first instance by officials were found to be refugees.

Table 29: Primary Protection visa grants[8] and refusals by top 5 countries of citizenship[9] (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals
Afghanistan	176	0	1440	401	865	1413	955	181
Iran	4	0	60	47	277	705	854	544
Stateless	5	0	171	81	371	494	304	116
Iraq	15	0	134	83	190	279	203	65
Sri Lanka	5	0	315	94	233	263	192	83
Other	4	0	13	26	65	63	213	115
Total	**209**	**0**	**2133**	**732**	**2001**	**3217**	**2721**	**1104**

Source: DIAC Systems

For the top five countries by volume of primary (or first instance) grants in 2011-12, the primary grant rates were Afghanistan (84 per cent), Iran (61 per cent), Stateless (72 per cent), Iraq (76 per cent) and Sri Lanka (70 per cent).

Table 30: Primary Protection visa grant rates[10] (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Afghanistan	100.0%	78.2%	38.0%	84.1%
Iran	100.0%	56.1%	28.2%	61.1%
Stateless	100.0%	67.9%	42.9%	72.4%
Iraq	100.0%	61.8%	40.5%	75.7%
Sri Lanka	100.0%	77.0%	47.0%	69.8%
Other	100.0%	33.3%	50.8%	64.9%
Total	**100.0%**	**74.5%**	**38.3%**	**71.1%**

Source: DIAC Systems

[8] A primary Protection visa grant to an IMA is a Protection visa granted to an irregular maritime arrival following a positive refugee status determination made by a departmental delegate.
[9] Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2011-12 program year Protection visa grants to IMAs.
[10] The percentage of IMAs who were found to be a refugee and granted a Protection visa expressed as a proportion of all primary decisions (grants and refusals) in a given period.

Figure 22: Primary decisions (IMA)

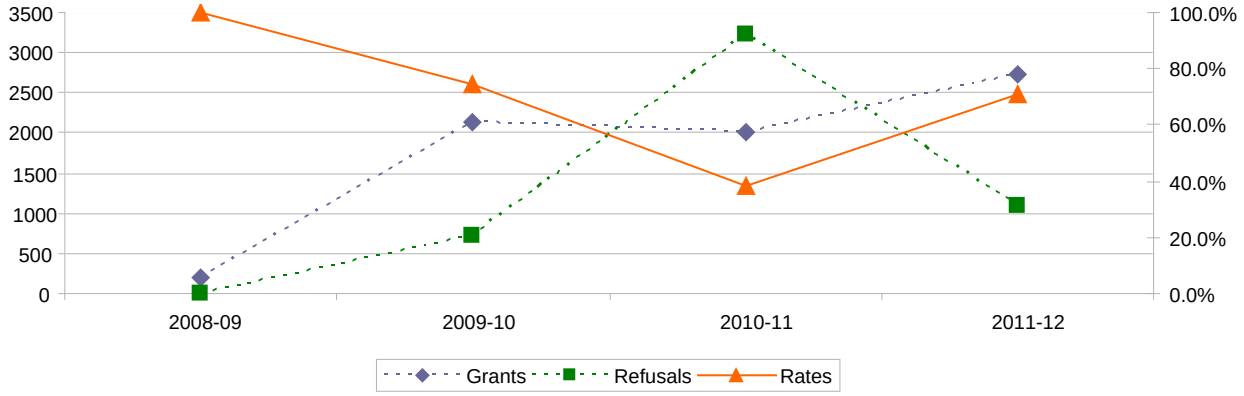


Table 31: Protection visa grants after primary processing by sex (IMA)

Sex	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Female	7	139	272	529
Male	202	1994	1729	2192
Total	**209**	**2133**	**2001**	**2721**

Source: DIAC Systems

Table 32: Protection visa grants after primary processing by age group (IMA)

Age at decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
0-17 years	47	296	384	820
18-30 years	93	958	841	982
31-40 years	45	546	537	627
41-50 years	18	259	172	219
51-60 years	5	63	50	63
60+ years	1	11	17	10
Total	**209**	**2133**	**2001**	**2721**

Source: DIAC Systems

Figure 23: Primary grants in 2011-12 by age group and sex (IMA)

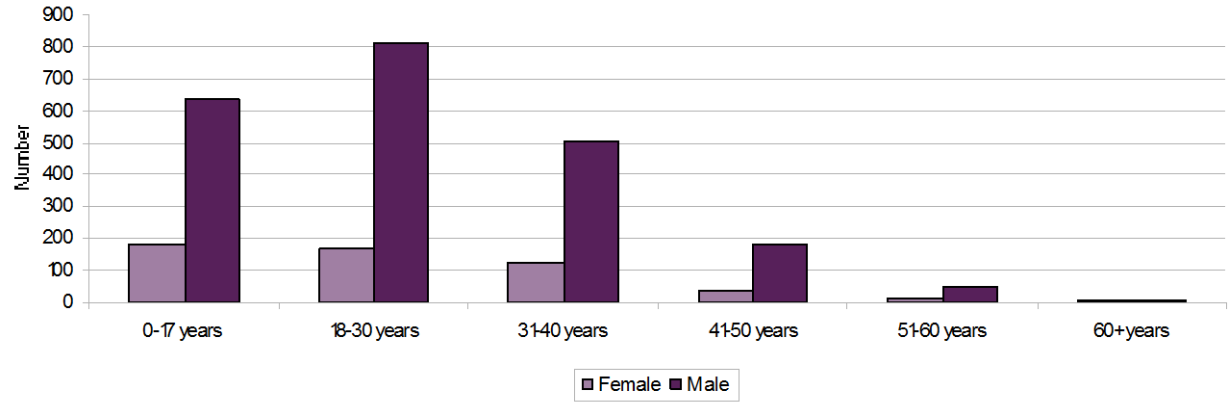


Table 33: Primary Protection visa grants by role type (IMA)

Program Year	Principal applicants	Dependants	Total
2008-09	193	16	**209**
2009-10	1996	137	**2133**
2010-11	1742	259	**2001**
2011-12	2135	586	**2721**

Source: DIAC Systems

Review process

A review process known as Independent Merits Review/Independent Protection Assessment applied to IMAs who arrived and were interviewed before 24 March 2012.

Table 34: Review recommendations by countries of citizenship (IMA)

Citizenship	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Refugees	Not refugees	Refugees	Not refugees	Refugees	Not refugees
Afghanistan	0	1	594	88	782	86
Iran	13	0	70	19	685	180
Stateless	10	0	121	23	335	72
Sri Lanka	15	21	62	27	199	45
Iraq	13	4	69	23	172	56
Other	4	2	13	10	51	35
Total	**55**	**28**	**929**	**190**	**2224**	**474**

Source: DIAC Systems

Independent reviewers conduct a fresh consideration of all aspects of a case, including new information or claims raised by a client.

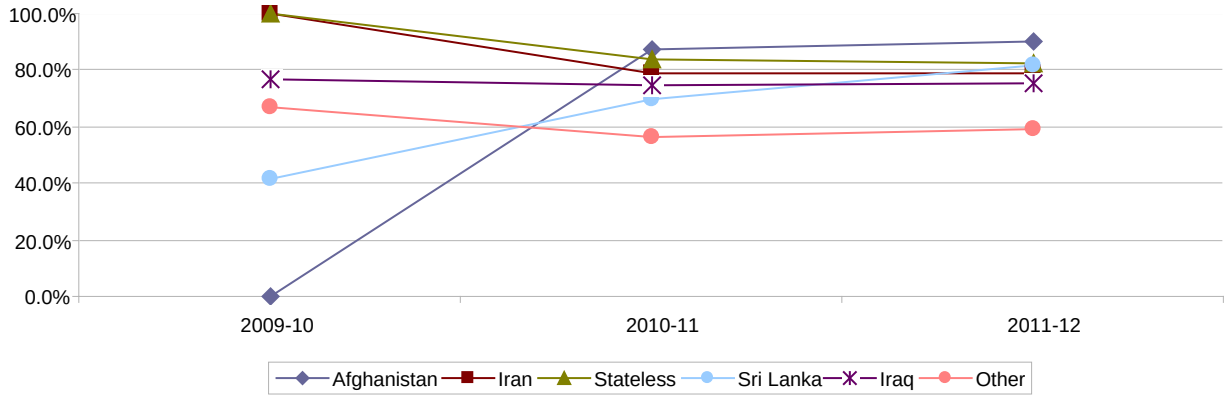
Table 35: Overturn rate[11] by countries of citizenship (IMA)

Citizenship	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Afghanistan	0.0%	87.1%	90.1%
Iran	100.0%	78.7%	79.2%
Stateless	100.0%	84.0%	82.3%
Sri Lanka	41.7%	69.7%	81.6%
Iraq	76.5%	75.0%	75.4%
Other	66.7%	56.5%	59.3%
Total	**66.3%**	**83.0%**	**82.4%**

Source: DIAC Systems

[11] Overturn rate is a percentage of recommendations to consider as refugees compared to the total number of review recommendations during the period.

Figure 24: Overturn rate by countries of citizenship (IMA)



Final decisions

A total of 4766 Protection visas were granted to irregular maritime arrivals in 2011-12, representing 68 per cent of all such grants. Afghan citizens accounted for more than 40 per cent of grantees.

Table 36: Final Protection visa grants and refusals by top 5 countries of citizenship[12] (primary and review processes completed) (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals	Grants	Refusals
Afghanistan	176	0	1440	1	1335	88	1972	86
Iran	4	0	69	0	334	19	1272	180
Stateless	5	0	174	0	479	23	624	72
Iraq	15	0	139	4	256	23	348	56
Sri Lanka	5	0	316	21	241	27	299	45
Other	4	0	13	2	74	10	251	35
Total	**209**	**0**	**2151**	**28**	**2719**	**190**	**4766**	**474**

Source: DIAC Systems

Table 37: Final Protection visa grants by sex (IMA)

Sex	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Female	7	140	330	752
Male	202	2011	2389	4014
Total	**209**	**2151**	**2719**	**4766**

Source: DIAC Systems

[12] Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2011-12 program year refugee status determination Protection visa grants to IMAs.

Table 38: Final Protection visa grants by age group (IMA)

Age at decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
0-17 years	47	296	518	1033
18-30 years	93	970	1101	1862
31-40 years	45	552	747	1259
41-50 years	18	259	257	451
51-60 years	5	63	75	138
60+ years	1	11	21	23
Total	**209**	**2151**	**2719**	**4766**

Source: DIAC Systems

Figure 25: Final Protection visa grants in 2011-12 by sex (IMA)

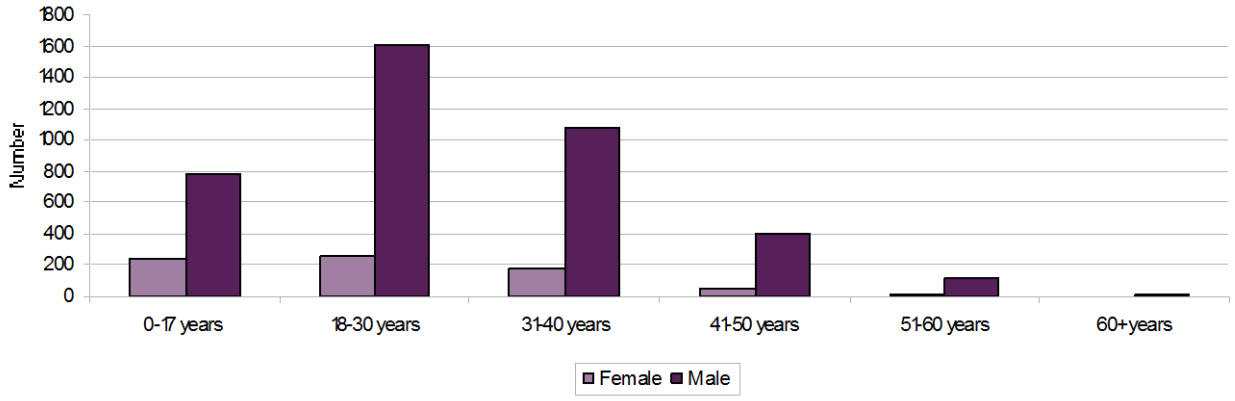


Table 39: Final Protection visa grants by role type (IMA)

Program Year	Principal applicants	Dependants	Total
2008-09	193	16	**209**
2009-10	2012	139	**2151**
2010-11	2392	327	**2719**
2011-12	3928	838	**4766**

Source: DIAC Systems

Glossary

Asylum seeker

A person who has left their country of origin, has applied for recognition as a refugee in another country and is awaiting a decision on their application.

Citizenship

Citizenship is based on passports/travel documents at the time of application for protection. If the applicant has no travel documents, citizenship determination is based on information supplied in the application. A formal process is then undertaken to verify information supplied.

Departmental delegate

An employee of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship who is a delegate of the Minister for the purposes of the Migration Act 1958.

Dependant

Member of the same family unit who is included in the application of the principal applicant.

DIAC

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Final decision

A decision made at the end of primary processing where no review has been sought, or after the conclusion of all review processes, by a departmental delegate to grant a visa or refuse a claim for protection.

Final grant

A Protection visa grant made after the conclusion of all review processes.

ICSE

Integrated Client Services Environment.

IMA

Irregular Maritime Arrival.

Lodgement

The receipt of a Protection visa application.

Primary decision

A decision made at the end of initial processing by the departmental delegate to grant a visa or refuse a claim for protection.

Primary grant

A visa granted by the departmental delegate at the primary stage of processing.

Primary grant rate

The ratio of visa grants at the initial processing stage in the Protection visa process as a proportion of total decisions (grants and refusals) made in a given period.

Principal applicant

The main applicant for a Protection visa with specific asylum claims.

Program Year

The period beginning from 1 July to 30 June of the following year.

Protection visa

A visa issued to a non-citizen in Australia to whom the Minister is satisfied Australia has protection obligations under the Refugees Convention, as defined in s.36 of the Migration Act.

Refugee

A person who has been found to be a ‘refugee’ as defined in the Refugees Convention (i.e. a person who is unable to return to their home country owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for one of the Convention grounds).

Refusal

A decision that an applicant does not meet the legal criteria for the grant of a visa.

Stateless

A stateless person is an individual who self identifies as stateless, who lacks identity as a national of a state for the purpose of law and is not entitled to the rights, benefits or protection ordinarily available to a country's nationals.

Valid application

A valid application is one that meets the validity criteria specified in the Migration Act and Regulations.

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<5 Not published

The department has a policy of not publishing citizenship breakdown of asylum figures (non-IMA) that total less than five. This is to protect the privacy of applicants.

N/A Not applicable