Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Australia's Migration Trends 2014–15



Australia's Migration Trends 2014–15 was prepared by:

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Key statistics

Population growth 2014	People
Estimated resident population at start of year	**23,295,400**
Natural increase (preliminary estimate)	**146,200**
Net Overseas Migration (preliminary estimate)	**184,100**
Estimated resident population at end of year	**23,625,600**
Migration 2014–15	**Grants**
Permanent migrants	**205,383**
Migration Programme	189,097
Skill stream	*127,774*
Family stream	*61,085*
Special Eligibility	*238*
New Zealand citizens	2,530
Humanitarian Programme	13,756
Temporary entrants	**5,027,596**
Visitors (applying from overseas)	4,283,920
International students	299,540
Working Holiday Maker Programme	226,812
Temporary Work (Skilled)	96,084
Other	121,240
Citizenship 2014–15	**Conferrals**
Conferrals of Australian citizenship	**136,572**
Labour market outcomes 2014–15 (see Figure 10.1)	**Per cent**
Unemployment rates (year average)	
Australia-born	6.0
Overseas-born	6.2
Participation rates (year average)	
Australia-born	67.9
Overseas-born	61.5

Summary—Australia: recent changes in migration

During 2014–15, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Services (ACBPS) worked closely to progressively transition into an integrated Department of Immigration and Border Protection (the Department), with effect from 1 July 2015. This included establishing the Australian Border Force, a single front-line operational border entity with statutory responsibilities to enforce our customs and immigration laws.

For the 2014–15 programme year, 205,383 permanent migration visas were granted—a decrease of 1.2 per cent on the 207,947 delivered in the previous year. This comprised 189,097 places under Australia's Migration Programme, 13,756 under the Humanitarian Programme and an additional 2530 places to New Zealand citizens—provided for outside of Australia's Migration Programme.

The Migration Programme comprised 127,774 visas (67.6 per cent) granted through the Skill stream, 61,085 visas (32.3 per cent) granted through the Family stream and the remaining 238 visas (0.1 per cent) granted under the Special Eligibility visa category.

For the fourth year in a row, India was the top source country for the Migration Programme, with 34,874 places (an 18.4 per cent share)—down 10.6 per cent on the previous year. The People's Republic of China followed with 27,872 places and the United Kingdom with 21,078 places. In addition to this regulated migration, 23,365 New Zealand citizens entered Australia as permanent settlers under the Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement.

Visitors to Australia in 2014–15 were at their highest level ever, with 4.3 million visas granted—an increase of 7.9 per cent on 2013–14. The People's Republic of China was the top nationality, with 658,430 visas granted to applicants outside Australia. This was followed by the United Kingdom and the United States of America with 556,094 and 425,922 visas granted respectively.

To continue to manage the strong growth from the People's Republic of China, the Department will trial a 10-year validity Visitor visa for Chinese nationals. Applicants who choose this service will be entitled to visit Australia for up to a three-month stay on each entry. The visa is expected to be implemented by the end of 2016.

Demand for the Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) decreased slightly in 2014–15. Grants for these visas fell 2.5 per cent, from 98,571 in 2013–14 to 96,084 in 2014–15. For the third year in a row, India was the top nationality, followed by the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China, with 25,244, 14,729 and 6653 grants respectively.

The Government has acted on recommendations of the independent review of the 457 visa programme presented in their report *Robust New foundations: A Streamlined, Transparent and Responsive System for the 457 Programme*. In the first half of 2015, the Government implemented changes to the English language requirements, sponsorship approval periods, extension of the timeframe in which sponsors can notify the Department of events, information-sharing provisions, and the provision of more evidence-based policy through reinstatement of the Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration and the establishment of a dedicated labour market resource that will provide technical advice on the current state of the labour market. The remaining recommendations are staged for implementation throughout 2016.

Modest growth in Student visa grants was recorded in 2014–15, with grants up 2.6 per cent on the previous year, to reach their second highest level on record of 299,540 grants. Chinese nationals were the number one source of Student visa grants in 2014–15, with 65,737 visas granted—an increase of 9.0 per cent on the previous year. This was followed by India with 29,573 visas granted (down 13.4 per cent) and the Republic of Korea with 13,229 visas granted (up 2.7 per cent).

In June 2015, the Government released the *Future directions for streamlined visa processing* report and announced the introduction of a simplified international student visa framework. The framework will replace both the Streamlined Visa Processing arrangements and the current Assessment Level framework. It will apply to all international students. There will also be a reduction in the number of visa subclasses from eight to two.

For 2014–15, 226,812 Working Holiday Maker visas were granted, a decrease of 5.3 per cent on the 239,592 granted the previous year. Grants of second Working Holiday visas fell for the first time since their inception in 2005–06; dropping from 45,950 grants in 2013–14 to 41,339 grants in 2014–15.

The Working Holiday Maker Programme in 2014–15 had 31 reciprocal working holiday arrangements in effect—19 Working Holiday visa (subclass 417) and 12 Work and Holiday visa (subclass 462) arrangements. New Work and Holiday visa (subclass 462) arrangements were signed with Portugal and Spain in September 2014, Israel in October 2014, Vietnam in March 2015, Slovakia in May 2015, and the People's Republic of China and Slovenia in June 2015. The arrangements with Portugal and Spain were implemented in November 2014.

In aggregate, the labour market outcomes of Australia's migrant population are commensurate with those born in Australia. During 2014–15, Australia's migrants had an overall unemployment rate of 6.0 per cent, slightly lower than the 6.2 per cent figure for those born in Australia. While the labour-force participation rate of migrants was 6.4 per cent lower over the same period (61.5 per cent participation compared to 67.9 per cent for the Australia-born), the increasing share of skilled migrants coming through the Migration Programme means this gap is narrowing—down from 9.8 percentage points in 2002–03.

Chapter 1: Migration policy and programme developments

1.1 Machinery of Government changes

During 2014–15, a staged approach was used to integrate the functions of DIBP and ACBPS and a Reform and Integration Task Force was established to oversee and guide the implementation. A new internal organisational structure for the Department was launched on 2 March 2015, and staff began working within this integrated structure from that time. The transition into an integrated DIBP took effect from 1 July 2015, and included establishing the Australian Border Force (ABF) within the new integrated Department—a single front-line operational border entity with statutory responsibilities to enforce our customs and immigration laws.

The ABF draws together the operational border, investigations, compliance, detention and enforcement functions of DIBP and ACBPS. Its role is to protect the Australian community from the transnational criminal threat posed by drugs, guns and other illicit imports while facilitating the movement in and out of Australia of legitimate goods, services and people.

In addition to these changes, the Department of Education and Training now administers the Adult Migrant English Program as part of the Skills and Vocational Education policy transfer from the Department of Industry and Science in late 2014. The move recognises the crucial place skills have in Australian society.

1.2 Strengthening of biometrics

New legislation to strengthen Australia's border protection measures was introduced in March 2015.

The *Migration Amendment (Strengthening Biometrics Integrity) Bill 2015* creates a new legislative framework for collecting biometrics—such as facial image and fingerprints—providing officials with broad discretionary power to collect biometrics at Australia's airports and seaports.
These activities will enable rapid identity checks with domestic and international security, law enforcement and immigration agencies through portable, hand-held devices.

See: media release: The Hon Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (5 March 2015)—Greater protection at Australia's borders.

1.3 Strengthening Australian citizenship

In May 2015, the Government announced its intention to amend the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007* that would enable Australian citizenship to be lost when a dual national engages in terrorism-related conduct. The proposed legislative changes, set out in the *Australian Citizenship Amendment (Allegiance to Australia) Bill 2015*, were introduced into Parliament in June 2015 and passed by Parliament in December 2015—modernising a long-standing provision of Australian law.

1.4 Review into charges for migrant intake

The Treasurer and the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection announced on 20 March 2015 that the Productivity Commission would start an independent inquiry into the impact of charges relative to quotas and qualitative criteria determining Australia's migration programme settings.

The inquiry would look at potential future options for determining the settings of the temporary and permanent migration programmes to improve Australia's economy and standard of living. The migration programme is currently regulated through a mix of qualitative requirements, such as skills, family connections, refugee status, health, character and security, quotas (for example, the size of the Migration Programme and the Humanitarian Programme, and components within these) and imposts (including the cost of investing under the Significant Investor Visa).

See joint media release—The Hon Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, and the former Treasurer, the Hon Joe Hockey (20 March 2015)—*Productivity Commission inquiry into the use of charges to determine the intake of migrants*.

1.5 More English test options for visa applicants

Visa applicants now have more choice in English language testing with the addition of two new assessment options.

Temporary graduate, skilled, work and holiday, and former resident visa applicants can now take advantage of these changes. Applicants can use scores from the Test of English Language as a Foreign Language internet-based test and the Pearson Test of English Academic as evidence of their English language ability. This will give applicants more choice in providers and also increase competition within the English language testing market.

These new tests are alternatives to the International English Language Testing System and the Occupational English Test and have been accepted in the Student visa programme since 2011.

1.6 Skill and Family stream migration

1.6.1 Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration

A nine-member panel comprising new and returning members has been appointed as the next Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration.

The Council will advise the Government on visa and policy settings to optimise the contribution of skilled migration to Australia's productivity and economy.

One of the panel's first tasks will be to review the composition of the Consolidated Sponsored Occupations List, with a view to increasing the productivity contribution of sponsored migration.

1.6.2 Business Innovation and Investment Programme changes

In October 2014, the Government announced changes to the Significant Investor Visa programme. The changes are designed to enhance the programme's competitiveness. They include:

- creating a Premium Investor Visa
- involving Austrade in determining complying investment policy
- enabling Austrade to nominate Significant Investor Visa and Premium Investor Visa applicants on behalf of the Government
- allowing 'role swapping' between Primary Applicants and Secondary Applicants during the provisional visa stage within all streams of the Business Innovation and Investment Programme
- improving visa processing times
- implementing changes in residence requirements.

The Premium Investor Visa is designed to boost the Australian economy, attracting high net-worth individuals seeking investment migration. It requires an investment of $15 million into complying investments and will allow applications for permanent residence after 12 months.

This programme focuses on attracting a small number of highly talented and entrepreneurial individuals to Australia who can contribute their skills and talents into areas which deliver a long-term economic benefit to the country. States and territories will play an important role in helping identify potential applicants.

Changes to complying investment policy for the Significant Investor Visa and Premium Investor Visa programmes took effect from 1 July 2015. They included investments in emerging enterprises and promoting local commercialisation of innovative research and development such as funding venture capital companies. This marks a shift from the previous approach where investment was largely directed into government bonds.

1.6.3 Partner visa programme—fake couples

In May 2015, the Government announced a new data matching programme to detect fake couples fraudulently claiming social security payments. The programme targets welfare recipients on single payments who have declared sponsorship of a partner for immigration purposes.

The joint operation with the Department of Human Services enables the Department to identify people suspected of being involved in migration fraud through the Partner visa programme.

See: joint media release—The Hon Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, and the Hon Marise Payne MP, former Minister for Human Services (25 May 2015)—*Immigration and Human Services crack down on fake couples*.

1.6.4 Review of the skilled and 400 series visa programmes

This review encompasses most visa subclasses across the skilled migration and temporary activity visa programmes. It is intended to reduce the burden and cost of unnecessary or inefficient regulation imposed on individuals, business and community organisations.

The review was guided by the six principles of:

- simplicity in design supports increased comprehension and usability
- structural flexibility is critical to ensure changing skilled migration needs can be met
- employment outcomes should be a key driver for Australia's skilled migration programmes
- skilled migration must support and complement the Australian labour market
- integrity is essential to maintain the continued acceptance of a skilled migration programme
- reducing red tape and regulatory costs for Australian business and industry.

The review will be the most far-reaching transformation of the skilled migration and 400 series visa programmes in the last 20 years. It will establish a visa framework to support Australia's skilled migration needs well into the future.

For more information, see:

Discussion Paper—Reviewing the skilled migration and 400 series visa programmes

Proposal Paper—Simplification of the skilled migration and temporary activity visa programmes

Report of the Inquiry into the Business Innovation and Investment Programme

Discussion Paper—Review of the Temporary Work (Entertainment) visa (Subclass 420)

1.6.5 Strengthening the integrity of visa sponsorship laws

On 14 December 2015, the *Migration Amendment (Charging for a Migration Outcome) Act* and associated changes to the Migration Regulations 1994 came into force. This legislation introduced penalties for asking for, receiving, offering to provide, or providing a benefit in return for a sponsorship-related event; and discretionary visa cancellation and refusal for visa applicants or visa holders found to be involved in 'paying for visa sponsorship'. The 'paying for visa sponsorship' framework is not intended to target legitimate business activity but the broad scope of the legislation allows the Department to investigate situations where conduct may be disguised as a legitimate service. Consequences for engaging in payment for visas include up to two years imprisonment, civil penalties and or visa cancellation.

The legislation implements a recommendation of the 2014 Independent Review into Integrity in the Subclass 457 Programme.

1.6.6 Supporting innovation through visas

Announced under the Government's National Innovation and Science Agenda on 7 December 2015, was:

- the introduction of a new Entrepreneur Visa to attract innovative talent
- changes to enhance permanent visa pathways to retain high-achieving foreign students in Australia.

The new Entrepreneur Visa is expected to be established in December 2016. It is for entrepreneurs with innovative ideas and financial backing from a third party.

Enhanced pathways to permanent residence will apply to postgraduate research graduates with an Australian masters or doctorate-level qualification in specified science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and information and communications technology related fields. Extra points will be awarded under Points Tested Skilled Migration.

1.6.7 Cap and cease exercise in the points tested visa programme

On 22 September 2015, the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection set a cap for these offshore Points Tested Skilled Migration subclasses:

- Skilled Independent visa (subclass 175)
- Skilled Sponsored visa (subclass 176) and
- Skilled Regional Sponsored visa (subclass 475).

The cap sets the maximum number of places that can be granted in 2015–16 for these visa subclasses. This total has been reached. Applications not finalised before 22 September 2015 are taken not to have been made, resulting in about 6481 offshore primary applications being ceased. These applicants are eligible for repayment of their visa application charges.

A further change in processing priorities for onshore applications for the Skilled Regional Sponsored visa (subclass 487), Skilled Independent visa (subclass 885) and Skilled Sponsored visa (subclass 886) has allowed 3000 applicants for these visas to be processed and finalised.

These actions resolved the situation of applicants who had been sitting in a low priority processing group for several years.

For more information, see: cap and cease.

1.7 Visitors and temporary visas

1.7.1 Review of the integrity of the subclass 457 programme

The Government is acting on recommendations of the Independent Review into the Subclass 457 Programme (457 Integrity Review) presented in the report *Robust New Foundations: A Streamlined, Transparent and Responsive System for the 457 Programme*.

In 2015, the Government implemented changes to: English language requirements; sponsorship approval periods; the timeframe in which sponsors can notify the Department of events (by extending this timeframe); information-sharing provisions; and the provision of more evidence-based policy. The Government did so by reinstating the Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration and establishing a dedicated labour market resource that will provide technical advice on the current state of the labour market. The *Migration Amendment (Charging for a Migration Outcome) Act* was introduced in response to the review's recommendation to create a new offence for sponsors being paid for a migration outcome.

In December 2015, an external review of the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT) began in line with a recommendation of the 457 Integrity Review. The terms of reference for the TSMIT Review include determining a base level for TSMIT, considering factors to be taken when determining settings for TSMIT and advising on appropriate concessions.
Broad stakeholder consultations are being undertaken by the external reviewer. The TSMIT will remain frozen at its current level of $53,900 until this review reports back to the Government by 30 April 2016.

The Department is working to introduce a new training contribution scheme to improve training opportunities for Australians and to streamline processing for low-risk sponsors in the subclass 457 visa programme.

In addition to these measures, the Department is strengthening information sharing with other agencies to better detect non-compliance and allow for a more targeted and effective approach to sponsor monitoring.

It is anticipated that all recommendations of the 457 Integrity Review will be implemented by mid-2017.

1.7.2 Trial of new initiatives for Chinese tourists

To continue to manage the strong growth from China, the Department is implementing the Visitor visa initiatives announced by the Government in June 2015, as part of the *Our North, Our Future: White Paper on Developing Northern Australia*. The measures will see a trial of a 10-year validity Visitor visa for Chinese nationals. The trial is to be in place by the end of 2016. Applicants who choose this service will be entitled to visit Australia for up to three months on each entry.

Visa holders will not be able to work in Australia and will be expected to maintain extended periods of absence between visits.

Other new initiatives for the Chinese market include a fast-track processing service, the availability of Simplified Chinese lodgement and the expansion of online visa applications, also scheduled to begin in 2016.

1.7.3 Enhancing tourism and business links with Indonesia

New visa measures designed to enhance tourism and business links between Australia and Indonesia were announced in November 2015. In 2016, the Government will introduce an option to allow for a three year, multiple-entry visa for Indonesian visitors to Australia. This is an extension on the current one-year visa. Online visa lodgements will also be expanded to all Indonesian nationals by 2017, simplifying the process of applying for a visa for Indonesian tourists and business people.

1.7.4 Working Holiday visa programme

In May 2015, the former Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection announced measures to combat worker exploitation in the Working Holiday visa programme.

Since 31 August 2015, all applications for a second Working Holiday visa must include evidence that the 'specified work' undertaken was remunerated in accordance with Australian workplace law. In most cases this evidence is payslips.

This measure encourages Working Holiday visa holders to inform themselves about their pay. It also safeguards local wages and the participant's own rights.

1.7.4.1 New Work and Holiday (subclass 462) arrangements

New Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa arrangements were signed with Spain and Portugal in September 2014, Israel in October 2014, Vietnam in March 2015, the Slovak Republic in May 2015, Slovenia and China in June 2015 and Hungary in February 2016. The arrangements with Spain and Portugal were implemented in November 2014, the arrangement with China on 21 September 2015 and the arrangements with the Slovak Republic and Slovenia on 1 January 2016.

1.7.4.2 Working Holiday Maker visa initiatives to support Northern Australia

In June 2015, the Government announced changes to Working Holiday Maker visas, following the release of the *Our North, Our Future: White Paper on Developing Northern Australia.* The White Paper included a range of visa initiatives to encourage tourism to Northern Australia, and to support development in the north. Effective from 21 November 2015, visa holders who work for six months with one employer in certain industries in Northern Australia will be able to apply for an employment extension of six months duration. This enables a 12-month consecutive period of work with the one employer.

It has also been announced that Work and Holiday visa (subclass 462) visa holders who work for three months in agriculture, tourism or hospitality in Northern Australia, will be eligible to apply for a one-year extension.

1.7.5 Student visa programme

1.7.5.1 Review of streamlined visa processing

On 16 June 2015 the Government released the *Future directions for streamlined visa processing* report and announced the introduction of a simplified international Student visa framework (SSVF), intended to begin from July 2016, to support Australia's education services sector.

Changes to the framework will mean:

- a reduction in the number of Student visa subclasses from eight to two
- the introduction of a simplified single immigration risk framework for all international students.

An improved approach to administering Student visas as part of the SSVF will have clear benefits. The overall integrity of the Student visa programme will be maintained, and the improved regulatory arrangements will avoid placing unnecessary burden or cost on education providers.

The SSVF will replace the Streamlined Visa Processing arrangements and the current Assessment Level framework. It will apply to all international students.

See: Review of the Student visa programme.

1.8 Humanitarian Programme

1.8.1 Refugee and asylum seekers

1.8.1.1 Temporary Protection visas

In December 2014, amendments to the Migration Act 1958 were passed which, among other measures, established a Temporary Protection visa and a Safe Haven Enterprise visa. Anyone who has arrived in Australia illegally will now only be eligible for the grant of one of these visa types should they be found to be engaged in Australia's protection obligations.

These two visa types are similar; although Safe Haven Enterprise visas are valid for five years rather than three years and they provide access to an onshore pathway to apply for other visas if the visa holder works or studies in specified regional area without accessing certain social security benefits.

1.8.1.2 Asylum seekers and detention—new council

The Minister for Immigration and Border Protection appointed new members to the Minister's Council on Asylum Seekers and Detention (MCASD) in May 2015. The new council will continue to provide independent advice on often complex and contentious issues covering immigration detention and the resolution of individuals' immigration status.

Council members have been selected from diverse backgrounds and work in disciplines related to immigration and asylum seeker issues. The Minister appointed a reduced council of nine members, a number which balances the need for expert advice with the reduction of people in immigration detention.

See: MCASD re-launched.

1.8.1.3 Community sponsorship programme

In June 2015, the Government announced a proposal for the feasibility of a community sponsorship programme for refugees and others in humanitarian need overseas—notionally called a Community Support Programme. This programme could provide communities in Australia with an extra option for identifying and proposing their family and community members overseas for resettlement in Australia.

In return, the programme would harness the willingness and capacity of families and communities in Australia to make a heavier social and financial investment in the end-to-end resettlement process. In doing so, it could provide the Government with a lower cost option for resettling some humanitarian entrants without compromising their settlement prospects.

The Community Support Programme will leverage off the experience and knowledge gained through the earlier Community Proposal Pilot programme.

See: Community Support Programme Discussion Paper.

1.9. Australia and Cambodia—new immigration agreement

A new agreement between Australia and Cambodia will create a framework to guide cooperation between the two countries covering a range of areas of immigration including technical assistance, exchange of experts, bilateral projects and activities. It also provides for regular consultation and information sharing on transnational criminal issues that affect the two countries.

The agreement follows on from the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2014 on the settlement of refugees in Cambodia.

See joint media release—The Hon Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection and His Excellency Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, Cambodia (26 March 2015)—Australia and Cambodia sign new immigration agreement.

Chapter 2: The Migration Programme

2.1 Overview

Australia's permanent Migration Programme incorporates economic and family migration and is the main pathway to permanent residence. The only other way for migrants to obtain permanent residence is to be accepted into Australia on humanitarian grounds.[1]

A fundamental principle of Australia's Migration Programme is that it is non-discriminatory. As a result, all people applying for a particular type of visa, who meet the criteria set out in the *Migration Act 1958,* can apply to migrate regardless of their ethnic origin, gender or religion.

The Migration Programme has two major streams:

1. **Skill stream**—focuses on economic migration by facilitating the migration of people who have skills, proven entrepreneurial capability or outstanding abilities that will contribute to the Australian economy.
2. **Family stream**—enables family formation and reunion by allowing the migration of family members such as spouses, children, parents and certain other members of extended families.

In addition to these two major streams, a small number of Special Eligibility visas are granted. These cater for the resettlement of former Australian residents who meet specific criteria, or are issued to resolve the status of certain groups of people who have been allowed to remain in Australia as long-term temporary residents for humanitarian reasons.

All applicants for permanent entry to Australia must meet health and character requirements. Primary Applicants for Skill stream visas must also demonstrate they have the skills and attributes needed in the Australian labour market.

In reporting on the size of the Migration Programme, three points should be noted:

1. Both the Primary Applicant (person who applied to migrate) and Secondary Applicants (other person's included on the application such as spouses or children) are counted in the Migration Programme. For the Family stream most applicants apply for permanent residence through the Partner category. As a result, relatively few Secondary Applicants are involved (only 15.1 per cent of visas granted in 2014–15). For the Skill stream, many Primary Applicants are already in a family unit and so include their spouse and children on their visa application (53.4 per cent of visas granted in 2014–15 were for Secondary Applicants).
2. Under the 1973 Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement, New Zealand citizens can enter and leave Australia freely and live in Australia indefinitely. In 2014–15, 23,365 permanent settlers arrived under this arrangement—a decrease of 14.3 per cent on the previous year.
   New Zealand citizens are also eligible to apply for Skill stream or Family stream visas through the permanent Migration Programme. In 2014–15, 2530 New Zealand citizens were granted permanent residence through this approach.[2]

[1] More information is in Chapter 4—The Humanitarian Programme.
[2] While New Zealanders are eligible for permanent visas, grants of these visas are not counted as part of Australia's permanent Migration Programme.

3. When referring to the number of visas granted under the Migration Programme (also referred to as outcomes or places), the numbers reported take into account, for certain visa subclasses, the cancellation of visas granted in previous years and cases where provisional or temporary visa holders did not subsequently obtain a permanent visa. To prevent double-counting, people granted these provisional or temporary visas are not counted again on the grant of their permanent visa. More information on the definition of Migration Programme outcomes is in the Glossary.

Details of the three streams of the Migration Programme are in Figure 2.1.

The size and composition of the Skill stream and Family stream are closely managed. If there is a significant change in migration policy or in prevailing economic conditions, the planning levels can be adjusted during the programme year.

Figure 2.1: Migration Programme outcome 2014–15 at a glance

Skill stream	**Family stream**	**Special Eligibility**
127,774 places Allows for the migration of people with skills and abilities that will contribute to the economy. Comprising: • Permanent Employer Sponsored • Business Innovation and Investment • Distinguished Talent • Points Tested Skilled Migration 47% Primary Applicants 55% applied in Australia 48% female	61,085 places Allows for the permanent entry of people with close family ties in Australia. Comprising: • Partner • Child • Parent • Other Family[1] 85% Primary Applicants 33% applied in Australia 64% female	238 places Allows for the resettlement of former Australian residents or the resolution of the status of people who have been allowed to remain in Australia as long-term temporary residents for humanitarian reasons. Comprising: 64% Primary Applicants 90% applied in Australia 51% female

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes Aged Dependent Relative, Carer, and Remaining Relative visa categories.

2.2 Australia's Migration Programme 2014–15

The Migration Programme outcome for 2014–15 was 189,097 places—slightly lower than the 190,000 places in the previous year. The 2014–15 Programme comprised 127,774 places in the Skill stream, 61,085 in the Family stream and 238 Special Eligibility places (Table 2.1). Since 1997–98, the Skill stream has been the main component of the Migration Programme, increasing from a 51.5 per cent share in 1997–98 to a 67.6 per cent share in 2014–15.

Australia has experienced an increase in temporary migration numbers over the past two decades. There has also been a corresponding increase in the proportion of migrants who progress to permanent migration from a temporary visa (onshore migration component) compared to those who apply from outside Australia (offshore migration component). In 1996–97, 22.5 per cent of Migration Programme places went to people already in Australia on a temporary basis. By 2014–15, this had increased to almost half (48.3 per cent).

Onshore migration is driven by graduating international students and the holders of a Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457), who apply for permanent residence through the Skill stream. A smaller number of these temporary migrants apply for permanent residence through the Family stream. SkillSelect, the online methodology for managing Points Tested Skilled Migration, no longer has separate visa subclasses for onshore and offshore applicants, although the applicant can still be onshore when they apply.

The SkillSelect methodology has become the dominant pathway for permanent residence visas, accounting for more than 9-in-10 (94.6 per cent) of Points Tested Skilled Migration visas granted in 2014–15.

Table 2.1 provides detailed information on the composition of the Australia's Migration Programme between 2005–06 and 2014–15. Within this table, outcomes are reported by migrant category, with the final column showing the percentage of females for 2014–15. Given the growing importance of onshore migration, an onshore-offshore split is provided for selected migrant categories. The table also provides information on the proportion of female migrants and the proportion of Secondary Applicants.

Table 2.1: Migration Programme outcomes 2005–06 to 2014–15[1]

Category	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2014–15 % female
Family stream	45,291	50,079	49,870	56,366	60,254	54,543	58,604	60,185	61,112	61,085	63.8
Partner[2]	36,374	40,435	39,931	42,098	44,755	41,994	45,150	46,325	47,752	47,825	65.9
Parent	4,501	4,500	4,499	8,500	9,487	8,499	8,502	8,725	8,925	8,675	60.0
Child	2,547	3,008	3,062	3,238	3,544	3,300	3,700	3,850	3,850	4,135	48.0
Other Family[3]	1,869	2,136	2,378	2,530	2,468	750	1,252	1,285	585	450	49.3
% of total programme	31.7	33.8	31.4	32.9	35.7	32.3	31.7	31.7	32.2	32.3	n/a
% female	62.1	62.9	63.4	63.7	63.4	64.7	63.5	64.7	63.9	63.8	n/a
% Secondary Applicants	14.7	14.6	14.3	15.7	15.8	14.6	15.1	14.2	14.9	15.1	56.0
Skill stream	97,336	97,922	108,540	114,777	107,868	113,725	125,755	128,973	128,550	127,774	47.8
(Offshore component)	*65,342*	*59,759*	*66,475*	*65,818*	*61,196*	*46,616*	*63,381*	*55,605*	*53,329*	*57,023*	*49.3*
(Onshore component)	*31,994*	*38,163*	*42,065*	*48,959*	*46,672*	*67,109*	*62,374*	*73,368*	*75,221*	*70,751*	*46.5*
Employer Sponsored	15,226	16,585	23,762	38,026	40,987	44,345	46,554	47,740	47,450	48,250	47.1
Employer Nomination Scheme	9,693	10,058	15,482	27,150	30,268	33,062	29,604	25,964	30,903	35,867	47.0
Labour Agreement[4]	2,079	2,743	3,218	2,065	506	163	479	1,266	9	<5	66.7
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	3,454	3,784	5,062	8,811	10,213	11,120	16,471	20,510	16,538	12,380	47.4
Business Innovation and Investment[5]	5,060	5,836	6,565	7,397	6,789	7,796	7,202	7,010	6,160	6,484	49.4
Points Tested Skilled Migration	76,944	75,274	78,000	69,153	59,892	61,459	71,819	74,020	74,740	72,840	48.1
Independent	49,858	54,179	55,891	44,594	37,315	36,167	37,772	44,251	44,984	43,990	48.0
(Offshore component)	*34,321*	*33,857*	*37,974*	*34,591*	*30,405*	*16,938*	*20,409*	*19,220*	*21,404*	*25,002*	*48.4*
Skilled Regional[6]	19,062	14,167	14,579	10,504	3,688	9,117	11,800	8,132	5,100	2,800	46.7
(Offshore component)	*16,651*	*11,577*	*10,990*	*7,891*	*2,747*	*3,984*	*7,700*	*2,889*	*1,779*	*1,704*	*48.9*
State/Territory Nominated[7]	8,024	6,928	7,530	14,055	18,889	16,175	22,247	21,637	24,656	26,050	48.3
(Offshore component)	*7,694*	*6,591*	*7,070*	*11,334*	*16,211*	*12,817*	*19,393*	*15,267*	*16,496*	*17,492*	*49.3*
Distinguished Talent	99	227	211	201	199	125	180	200	200	200	44.5
1 November Onshore[8]	7	0	<5	0	<5	0	0	<5	0	0	n/a
% of total programme	68.1	66.1	68.4	67.0	64.0	67.4	68.0	67.9	67.7	67.6	n/a
% female	47.6	47.0	46.5	46.9	47.6	47.3	46.0	46.2	47.3	47.8	n/a
% Secondary Applicants	51.7	50.0	51.7	55.8	56.9	50.6	52.5	51.1	52.1	53.4	41.9
Special Eligibility	306	199	220	175	501	417	639	842	338	238	50.8
% of total programme	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	n/a
% female	45.8	53.3	45.0	49.1	48.1	50.4	52.7	48.0	48.8	50.8	n/a
% Secondary Applicants	32.4	48.2	54.5	56.0	46.1	45.3	38.3	36.7	37.3	36.1	41.9
Total programme	142,933	148,200	158,630	171,318	168,623	168,685	184,998	190,000	190,000	189,097	52.9
% female	52.2	52.4	51.8	52.4	53.3	53.0	51.6	52.0	52.7	52.9	n/a
% Secondary Applicants	39.9	38.0	39.9	42.6	42.2	39.0	40.6	39.4	40.1	41.1	58.6

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Programme outcomes do not include New Zealand citizens or selected Humanitarian visas, such as Secondary Movement Offshore Entry (Temporary), Secondary Movement Relocation (Temporary) and Temporary Protection visas. Numbers are net outcome as places taken by provisional visa holders who do not subsequently obtain permanent visas due to refusal or withdrawal are returned to the programme.

2. Includes Partner, Prospective Marriage, Spouse (defunct) and Interdependent (defunct) visa categories.

3. Includes Aged Dependent Relative, Carer, and Remaining Relative visa categories.

4. From 1 July 2012, Labour Agreement permanent visas were replaced with new arrangements made available in other categories of Permanent Employer Sponsored visas.

5. In effect 1 July 2012, replacing the Business Skills Programme. Numbers are net outcome. Cancelled visas are returned to the programme in the year in which they are cancelled.

6. In effect 1 July 2012, replacing the Family Sponsored and Skilled Independent Regional (Provisional) visas.

7. Includes Skilled Sponsored visa category (migrant is nominated by a state or territory government) and defunct visa categories: State/Territory Nominated Independent; State/Territory Nominated Independent (Regional Study); Skilled Independent Regional (Provisional) and Skill Matching.

8. Named after an Australian Government announcement on 1 November 1993. Visa primarily directed at the People's Republic of China nationals who had earlier been granted four-year temporary entry permits following the Tiananmen Square incident in China in 1989.

2.3 Characteristics of permanent migrants

The proportion of Secondary Applicants coming through the Migration Programme has remained fairly constant over the past 10 years (Table 2.1). In 2014–15, Secondary Applicants accounted for 15.1 per cent of the Family stream, 53.4 per cent of the Skill stream and 41.1 per cent of the overall Migration Programme.

The number of Secondary Applicants in the Skill stream is of particular relevance when setting annual planning levels based on the anticipated effect the stream will have on Australia's economy and labour market. This is because Primary Applicants are selected for migration on the basis that they have the skills and capabilities needed to contribute to the Australian economy and succeed in the labour market. In comparison, Secondary Applicants of skilled migrants—many of whom are children—are not assessed in economic terms. However, they, along with Family stream migrants, provide a demographic dividend by, among other things:

- balancing the male-to-female ratio by having a larger proportion of females, which offsets the larger proportion of males in the Skill stream
- being a source of migrants in the prime of their working life, and the main source of a substantial number of younger people who represent the workforce of the future.

Labour market outcomes for migrant groups, including Skill stream Secondary Applicants, are discussed in Chapter 10.

2.3.1 Top source countries

In 2014–15, the top three nationalities granted a Migration Programme visa were India (34,874 places), the People's Republic of China (27,872 places) and the United Kingdom (21,078 places), as shown in Table 2.2. Compared with 2013–14, the number of visa grants were lower for nationals of India (10.6 per cent decrease) and nationals of the United Kingdom (9.2 per cent decrease), whereas grants to nationals of the People's Republic of China grew modestly (4.1 per cent increase).

Pakistan (8281 grants) and Nepal (4130 grants) continued to rate in the top 10 migrant source countries for 2014–15, with Pakistan recording strong growth (up 32.0 per cent on 2013–14).

New Zealand nationals do not count towards the Migration Programme but they have been included in Table 2.2 for comparative purposes. In 2014–15, they were the third largest citizenship group after the People's Republic of China and contributed 23,365 permanent entrants, 4507 less than China.

Table 2.2: Migration Programme outcomes—top 10 source countries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
India	40,051	39,026	34,874	-10.6
People's Republic of China	27,334	26,776	27,872	4.1
United Kingdom	21,711	23,220	21,078	-9.2
Philippines	10,639	10,379	11,886	14.5
Pakistan	3,552	6,275	8,281	32.0
Ireland	5,209	6,171	6,187	0.3
Vietnam	5,339	5,199	5,100	-1.9
South Africa	5,476	4,908	4,284	-12.7
Nepal	4,107	4,364	4,130	-5.4
Malaysia	5,151	4,207	3,977	-5.5
Other[1]	61,431	59,475	61,428	3.3
Total OECD countries	50,365	51,114	48,010	-6.1
Total	190,000	190,000	189,097	-0.5
New Zealand settlers[2]	41,230	27,274	23,365	-14.3

Source data: Migration Reporting and Overseas Arrivals and Departures Statistics, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship Unknown.

2. New Zealand nationals are not counted in the Migration Programme and are included in this table for comparative purposes only.

Note: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member countries are highlighted in grey. The Migration Programme outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.1. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

2.4 Skill stream

The Skill stream is designed for workers who have the skills, qualifications and entrepreneurship most needed in the Australian economy. These skilled migrants help the Australian economy directly through increased productivity and by filling labour market needs and shortages. They also provide an indirect benefit through increased demand for goods and services, creating more jobs and reducing unemployment.

In 2014–15, the Skill stream delivered 127,774 places, representing a slight decrease from the previous year of 0.6 per cent.

Australia's Skill stream comprises four components (Figure 2.2). The largest is Points Tested Skilled Migration, which accounted for 57.0 per cent of the Skill stream. This was followed by Employer Sponsored visas (37.8 per cent) and the Business Innovation and Investment visas (5.1 per cent). Distinguished Talent is the smallest visa component, representing 0.2 per cent of the Skill stream in 2014–15.

Figure 2.2: Components of the Skill stream outcomes in 2014–15

Skill stream—127,774 visa outcomes	
Points Tested Skilled Migration 72,840 places	Permanent Employer Sponsored 48,250 places
Applicants are not sponsored by an employer but must: be invited to apply; be under 50 years of age; have competent English; have relevant skills and qualifications for an occupation on a designated list; and have their skills assessed by the relevant assessing authority. They must also pass a point's test that awards higher points to prospective migrants with certain skills and characteristics. Visa categories: • Independent—43,990 places • State/Territory Nominated—26,050 places • Skilled Regional—2800 places.	Applicants must be sponsored by an Australian employer to fill a genuine vacancy in the employer's business. The programme caters for migrants in Australia on a Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457), those applying from outside Australia or already in Australia on a temporary visa other than the subclass 457 visa, and those sponsored through a tailored and negotiated Labour Agreement. Visa categories: • Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS)—35,867 places • Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS)—12,380 places • Labour Agreement—< 5 places.[1]
Business Innovation and Investment 6484 places	Distinguished Talent 200 places
Applicants must have a demonstrated history of success in innovation and business and want to own and manage a new or existing business in Australia, or maintain business and investment activity in Australia after making an investment in Australia. Once the initial stage provisional visa requirements are fulfilled, the migrant can apply for a second stage permanent visa.	Applicants must have special or unique talents of benefit to Australia. This visa is typically granted to individuals internationally recognised for exceptional and outstanding achievement in a profession, the arts, sport, or research and academia.

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. From 1 July 2012, Labour Agreement visas were replaced with new arrangements made available in the ENS and RSMS.

Between 2012–13 and 2013–14, each of the Skill stream's four components remained similar in overall size, although some changes took place in the component categories. For instance, from 1 July 2012, Labour Agreement visas were replaced with new arrangements made available in other categories of Permanent Employer Sponsored visas. There was a fall of 4158 places (25.1 per cent) in the RSMS category. This was offset by an increase of 4964 places in the ENS category. Similarly, with the Points Tested Skilled Migration component, a fall of 2300 places (45.1 per cent) in the Skilled Regional category was offset by an increase of 1394 (5.7 per cent) in the State/Territory Nominated category.

2.4.1 Points Tested Skilled Migration visas

The threshold eligibility requirements for the points test are based around a person's age, their English proficiency and their nominated occupation being on either the Skilled Occupation List or Consolidated Skilled Occupation List. Applicants need to be less than 50 years of age when they are invited to apply, have at least a competent level of English and have their skills assessed by the relevant assessing authority for their nominated occupation. Once these criteria have been met further points may be awarded. For more information, see Appendix B, Section B.1—Points Tested Migration.

In 2014–15, 72,840 Points Tested Skilled Migration places were filled, a decrease of 1900 places (2.5 per cent) compared to the previous year (Table 2.3). India, with 20,290 places, contributed the most migrants to this component of the Skill stream, but was down 17.4 per cent (4278 places) on the previous programme year. India has now been the top source country for points tested migrants since 2007–08.

Table 2.3: Points Tested Skilled Migration outcomes—top 10 source countries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
India	24,812	24,568	20,290	-17.4
People's Republic of China	8,034	8,339	8,584	2.9
Pakistan	2,061	4,263	6,495	52.4
United Kingdom	6,668	6,647	5,744	-13.6
Philippines	2,072	2,991	3,478	16.3
Iran	1,405	1,343	2,836	111.2
Bangladesh	1,833	1,635	2,455	50.2
Sri Lanka	3,228	2,528	2,432	-3.8
Nepal	2,467	2,946	2,285	-22.4
Malaysia	3,164	2,342	2,032	-13.2
Other[1]	18,276	17,138	16,209	-5.4
Total OECD countries	13,502	12,912	11,253	-12.8
Total	74,020	74,740	72,840	-2.5

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship Unknown.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Points Tested Skilled Migration outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.2. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

Strong growth was also recorded for nationals of Iran (111.2 per cent increase), Pakistan (52.4 per cent increase) and Bangladesh (50.2 per cent increase)—with Iran and Bangladesh moving into the top 10 source countries for 2014–15. By contrast, Ireland and South Africa had a decrease in the number of visa places (5.9 per cent and 16.2 per cent respectively) and moved out of the top 10 countries for this programme year. There were also decreases in visas granted to people from the United Kingdom (13.6 per cent) and Nepal (22.4 per cent). Visa places to OECD member countries fell by 12.8 per cent and the United Kingdom was the only OECD member country in the top 10 source countries for 2014–15.

Intending points tested skilled migrants can apply outside Australia or in Australia depending on the type of visa they hold. In 2014–15, 28,642 Points Tested Skilled Migration places (39.3 per cent) went to people living in Australia on a temporary visa.[3] Of these, 7603 went to graduating international students who had applied directly after graduating—down from 7941 in the previous year. Another 10,287 (down from 17,050 in the previous year) went to holders of a Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485)—who are also former international students—or a Skilled Recognised Graduate visa (subclass 476), with the vast majority going to subclass 485 visa holders. These large changes are attributed to these two factors:

1. A series of reforms to the Skill stream during the past six years, which had an impact on the number of students eligible to apply for permanent residence immediately after graduation. The primary effect of this was a fall in the number of Skilled Independent visas granted to graduating students.
2. A corresponding increase in demand for the Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485). This visa, first introduced on 1 September 2009 and altered substantially in 2013, allows graduating international students the opportunity to live and work in Australia for up to four years. While this visa does not offer a direct pathway to permanent residence, the visa holder may go on to permanent residence through employer sponsorship or by successfully applying for a Points Tested Skilled Migration visa.

For more information, see Section 3.4.4—Student visa pathways.

2.4.2 Permanent Employer Sponsored visas

Permanent Employer Sponsored migration allows businesses to employ the skilled workers they need to fill genuine job vacancies. These workers can be from outside Australia or they can be temporary visa holders living in Australia. Permanent Employer Sponsored visas are not capped and receive higher processing priority, to respond quickly to the needs of Australian employers. In 2014–15, 48,250 permanent Employer Sponsored places were filled (Table 2.4), equivalent to 37.8 per cent of the Skill stream and 25.5 per cent of the overall Migration Programme.

Most permanent Employer Sponsored entrants apply from within Australia and the 2014–15 programme year was no exception, with 85.7 per cent of visas granted to onshore applicants. This was 2.2 percentage points higher than the previous year, but still consistent with the long-term average of 83.1 per cent over the past 10 years. Of these onshore visas, 83.6 per cent were granted to former holders of a Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457), followed by recent Student graduates (5.8 per cent), then former holders of a Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485) or Skilled Recognised Graduate visa (subclass 476) (4.3 per cent).

[3] A total of 39.3 per cent onshore Points Tested Skilled Migration places. This should not be confused with the previously mentioned 55.0 per cent onshore (in Australia) Skilled Migration places and 48.3 per cent onshore Migration Programme places.

The permanent Employer Sponsored programme comprises two permanent residence visa categories—ENS and RSMS. For more information, see Appendix B, Section B.2—Permanent Employer Sponsored.

Over the past decade, the ENS share of the Skill stream almost tripled from 10.0 per cent in 2005–06 to 28.1 per cent in 2014–15. Over the same period, the RSMS share has also almost tripled, from 3.5 per cent to 9.7 per cent. The strong rate of growth in both schemes is a consequence of their being demand-driven and an increasing share of the Migration Programme being allocated to employer sponsorship, to better meet the labour needs of Australian businesses.

Table 2.4: Permanent Employer Sponsored outcomes—top 10 source countries 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
United Kingdom	9,196	11,180	10,429	-6.7
India	8,645	8,104	8,260	1.9
Philippines	4,736	3,464	4,640	33.9
Ireland	2,752	3,469	3,692	6.4
People's Republic of China	3,718	3,476	3,365	-3.2
South Africa	2,377	2,138	1,869	-12.6
Republic of Korea	2,073	1,274	1,502	17.9
Nepal	1,113	798	1,164	45.9
United States of America	1,009	1,216	1,108	-8.9
France	658	843	791	-6.2
Other[1]	11,463	11,488	11,430	-0.5
Total OECD countries	19,433	21,968	21,962	0.0
Total	47,740	47,450	48,250	1.7

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship Unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Employer Sponsored outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.3. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

2.4.3 Business Innovation and Investment visas

The Business Innovation and Investment Programme (BIIP) aims to attract skilled and experienced business owners and investors who have demonstrated experience and success in business or investment. Migrants under this programme are expected to contribute to the Australian economy by becoming actively involved as owners or part owners at a senior level in business or through investment. The programme superseded the Business Skills programme on 1 July 2012.

BIIP is a state and territory-nominated programme made up of these three subclasses:

1. Business Talent (Permanent) visa.
2. Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa.
3. Business Innovation and Investment (Permanent) visa.

For more information, see Appendix B, Section B.3—Business Innovation and Investment stream.

There were 6484 BIIP visa places in the 2014–15 Migration Programme—representing 5.1 per cent of the Skill stream. This was an increase of 5.3 per cent (324 more places) on the 6160 places in 2013–14. Table 2.5 shows the number of BIIP visas under the three categories for 2012–13 to 2014–15, separating those granted under the previous Business Skills programme. More than 600 permanent visas were granted in 2014–15, mainly Business Talent (Permanent) visas, with the remainder progressing from a Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa to a Business Innovation and Investment (Permanent) visa.

Table 2.5: BIIP outcomes by category, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Category	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15
Business Talent (Permanent) visa	339	265	600
Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa	168	2,475	4,964
Business Innovation and Investment (Permanent) visa	0	5	< 5
Business Skills Programme (closed to new applications)	6,503	3,415	919
Total	7,010	6,160	6,484

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

As Table 2.6 shows, Chinese nationals continued to be the main recipients of BIIP visas, with their share of each year's total, increasing from 72.2 per cent in 2012–13 to 75.1 per cent in 2014–15. Most Chinese nationals in 2014–15 were granted BIIP visas under the Business Innovation stream (39.6 per cent) and the Significant Investor stream (33.4 per cent).

Table 2.6: BIIP outcomes—top 10 source countries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	5,058	4,614	4,870	5.5
Iran	194	274	312	13.9
Malaysia	421	170	244	43.5
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	145	154	214	39.0
Vietnam	150	130	167	28.5
Republic of Korea	159	89	65	-27.0
South Africa	126	93	56	-39.8
Taiwan	41	17	52	205.9
Singapore	36	31	49	58.1
India	48	40	48	20.0
Other[1]	632	548	407	-25.7
Total OECD countries	436	213	191	-10.3
Total	7,010	6,160	6,484	5.3

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship Unknown.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. SAR = Special Administrative Region. BIIP outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.4. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

2.5 Family stream

The Family stream of the Migration Programme allows the permanent migration of close family members of: Australian citizens; permanent residents; and eligible New Zealand citizens. It focuses on immediate family members—fiancés, partners and dependent children—and provides the opportunity for other family members, such as parents, aged dependent relatives, carers and remaining relatives, to join their family in Australia. In 2014–15, the Family stream fully delivered on its planning level of 61,085 places—27 places fewer than the previous year.

Broadly, Australia's Family stream comprises four categories: Partner, Child, Parent and Other Family (Figure 2.3). The largest is the Partner category which accounted for 78.3 per cent of the Family stream (25.3 per cent of the Migration Programme) in 2014–15, followed by Parent (14.2 per cent), Child (6.8 per cent) and Other Family (0.7 per cent) categories.

Figure 2.3: Categories of the Family stream outcomes in 2014–15

Family stream—61,085 outcomes	
Partner 47,825 places	Child 4135 places
Applicants must be married, intending to get married (fiancé) or be in a de facto relationship (including those in a same-sex relationship) to an eligible Australian resident. Main visa categories: • Partner (spouse/de facto)—43,080 places • Prospective marriage—4745 places.	Applicants must be a dependent child of an eligible Australian resident. Main visa categories: • Child—3541 places • Orphan Relative—404 places • Adoption—190 places.
Parent 8675 places	Other Family[1] 450 places
Applicant must have a child who is an eligible Australian resident. To help offset the cost to Australia of Parent visas, the Contributory Parent visa costs more, but is generally processed faster. Main visa categories: • Contributory Parent—7175 places • Parent—1500 places[1].	Applicant must be joining their remaining relative (a sibling or parent), or an aged relative who depends on an Australian relative for most of their living costs, or a carer needed to look after an Australian relative with a medical condition. Main visa categories: • Carer—370 places • Remaining Relative—76 places • Aged Dependent Relative—< 5 places.

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Closed to new applications on 2 June 2014 and reinstated on 25 September 2014.

2.5.1 Partner visas

In 2014–15, the number of Partner visas granted increased slightly by 73 places (0.2 per cent) on 2013–14—up from 47,752 places to 47,825 places. Strong growth was recorded for partners from Afghanistan which had a significant increase of 1281 places (230.0 per cent increase) compared with 2013–14. As shown in Table 2.7, nearly 40 per cent of Partner visas were granted to just four countries: nationals from the People's Republic of China (11.8 per cent), India (10.9 per cent), the United Kingdom (8.3 per cent) and the Philippines (5.4 per cent). Nationals from the People's Republic of China have, for the fifth year in a row, exceeded the United Kingdom, which before 2009–10 was the main source country for this visa category.

Table 2.7: Partner outcomes—top 10 source countries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	5,343	5,366	5,631	4.9
India	5,389	5,175	5,233	1.1
United Kingdom	4,643	4,339	3,979	-8.3
Philippines	3,137	3,331	3,191	-4.2
Vietnam	2,707	2,832	2,581	-8.9
Afghanistan	253	557	1,838	230.0
Thailand	1,925	1,816	1,696	-6.6
United States of America	1,920	1,966	1,681	-14.5
Pakistan	913	1,360	1,192	-12.4
Republic of Korea	1,025	1,058	996	-5.9
Other[1]	19,070	19,952	19,807	-0.7
Total OECD countries	14,832	14,204	12,944	-8.9
Total	46,325	47,752	47,825	0.2

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship Unknown.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Partner outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.5. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

2.5.2 Child visas

In 2014–15, 4135 Child visas were granted, a 7.4 per cent increase on 2013–14. Since 1996–97, the People's Republic of China and the Philippines have been the largest source countries for children migrating under the Child visa category. In 2014–15, the People's Republic of China accounted for 687 migrants (16.6 per cent) in this category—well ahead of the Philippines at 447 migrants (10.8 per cent) (Table 2.8).

Table 2.8: Child outcomes—top 10 source countries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	673	601	687	14.3
Philippines	459	430	447	4.0
India	397	362	407	12.4
Thailand	278	261	318	21.8
United Kingdom	195	180	177	-1.7
Vietnam	142	138	142	2.9
Malaysia	85	112	140	25.0
Ethiopia	107	136	103	-24.3
South Africa	122	81	97	19.8
South Sudan	31	38	96	152.6
Other[1]	1,361	1,511	1,521	0.7
Total OECD countries	493	430	487	13.3
Total	3,850	3,850	4,135	7.4

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship Unknown.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Child outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.6. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

2.5.3 Parent visas

The Parent visa category comprises contributory and non-contributory visas, with contributory visas having higher costs and significantly lower processing times. In 2013–14, in line with the Family stream's policy of focusing on close family, the non-contributory Parent and Aged Parent visa categories permanently closed to new applications on 2 June 2014. However, the repeal legislation that removed these visas was disallowed in the Australian Senate on 25 September 2014, meaning these visas came back into effect.

Parent outcomes for 2014–15 fell by 2.8 per cent on last year's level, at 8675 places (Table 2.9), and were down 8.6 per cent on the peak in 2009–10 of 9487 visa places.

Nationals from the People's Republic of China have been the main recipients of Parent visas since 2008–09, receiving more than half (53.7 per cent) of all visas granted in 2014–15. This increased share reflects the general growth in migration from Chinese nationals in other visa categories, the desire for migrants to reunite with their parents and increasing use of the Contributory Parent visa. In contrast to the growth from the People's Republic of China, the United Kingdom's share of Parent visas continued to fall from 7.9 per cent (705 places) in 2013–14 to 7.3 per cent (629 places) for 2014–15.

Table 2.9: Parent outcomes—top 10 source countries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	4,264	4,329	4,658	7.6
Vietnam	502	604	636	5.3
United Kingdom	715	705	629	-10.8
India	663	745	621	-16.6
South Africa	268	222	249	12.2
Malaysia	222	278	225	-19.1
Sri Lanka	171	190	142	-25.3
Republic of Korea	158	139	137	-1.4
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	185	142	111	-21.8
Indonesia	125	170	100	-41.2
Other[1]	1,452	1,401	1,167	-16.7
Total OECD countries	1,186	1,096	991	-9.6
Total	8,725	8,925	8,675	-2.8

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship Unknown.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Parent outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.7. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

2.5.4 Other Family visas

For 2014–15, the waiting time for applicants for Other Family visas—Remaining Relative, Aged Dependent Relative and Carer—was between four and 16 years. Recent applicants have extensive wait times, with Carer visa applicants receiving priority. In line with the Family stream focusing on family reunion, the Other Family visa category closed to new applications on 2 June 2014, but was reopened on 25 September 2014 because the legislation was disallowed.

Other Family outcomes fell by 23.1 per cent in 2014–15, from 585 places to 450 places (Table 2.10). Carer visas comprised the bulk of the Other Family category, with an 82.2 per cent share (370 places). This was followed by Remaining Relative visas (16.9 per cent) and Aged Dependent Relative visas (0.9 per cent).

Table 2.10: Other Family outcomes—top 10 source countries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Vietnam	365	109	109	0.0
Afghanistan	14	31	79	154.8
People's Republic of China	148	31	49	58.1
Philippines	101	55	43	-21.8
Iraq	29	37	30	-18.9
Lebanon	41	8	24	200.0
Pakistan	< 5	< 5	19	533.3
Egypt	14	15	10	-33.3
Sri Lanka	22	8	9	12.5
South Sudan	0	0	7	n/a
Other[1]	547	288	71	-75.3
Total OECD countries	185	94	19	-79.8
Total	1,285	585	450	-23.1

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Other Family outcomes by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.8. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 outcomes.

2.6 Migration Programme planning levels for 2015–16

While the composition of the Migration Programme has varied slightly, the overall planning level for 2015–16 of 190,000 places remained unchanged from the previous year. As Table 2.11 shows, this comprises:

- 57,400 places under the Family stream
- 128,550 places under the Skill stream (the same as 2014–15)
- 565 Special Eligibility places (the same as 2014–15).

Table 2.11: Migration Programme planning levels for 2014–15 and 2015–16[1]

Category	2014–15	2015–16	% change
Family stream	61,085	57,400	-6.0
Partner	47,825	47,825	0.0
Child[2]	4,135	3,485	n/a
Other Family	450	900	100.0
Parent	8,675	8,675	0.0
Family as % of Migration Programme	32.2	30.2	n/a
Skill stream[3]	128,550	128,550	0.0
Employer Sponsored[4]	48,250	48,250	0.0
Skilled Independent	43,990	43,990	0.0
State/Territory and Regional Nominated	28,850	28,850	0.0
Distinguished Talent	200	200	0.0
Business Innovation and Investment[5]	7,260	7,260	0.0
Skill as % of total programme	67.7	67.7	n/a
Special Eligibility	365	565	54.8
Special Eligibility as % of Migration Programme	0.2	0.3	n/a
Total Migration Programme	190,000	190,000	0.0

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Planning levels can be revised during the programme year so they may vary from those previously published.
2. For 2015–16, at least 3485 places will be provided for Child category (excluding Orphan Relative) migrants outside the managed Migration Programme. Orphan Relative visas will continue to be subject to the Migration Programme planning levels and be included with Other Family visas.
3. Includes 1 November Onshore.
4. Includes RSMS.
5. Known as Business Skills before July 2012.

Chapter 3: Temporary entry

3.1 Overview

Depending on the purpose and duration of their visit, people can come to Australia on a Visitor visa or through an appropriate temporary resident visa.

Visitor visas are mostly used by people visiting Australia for holidays, tourism and recreation, or to see family and friends. People may also use Visitor visas for certain short-term business visitor activities.

Temporary resident visas are designed for specific purposes, for example, study, working holidays or other specialist activities. Temporary residents are generally required to pay taxes on income earned in Australia and do not normally have access to public welfare or public health programmes.

There are four broad categories of temporary resident visas:

1. **Working Holiday Maker**—young adults having an extended holiday in Australia with short-term work and study rights. In 2014–15, Australia had 31 reciprocal Working Holiday Maker arrangements in effect with partner countries.
2. **International students**—people studying full-time in registered courses in Australia on a Student visa.
3. **Skilled temporary residents**—people, mostly recruited by Australian companies, entering as temporary skilled migrants for up to four years under the Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457).
4. **Other temporary residents**—people to coming to Australia for social, cultural, international relations, training and research purposes, and people undertaking highly specialised short-stay work.

In 2014–15, for the first time more than 5 million temporary resident and Visitor visas granted—an increase of 322,257 or 6.8 per cent on 2013–14. The passing of 5 million temporary resident and Visitor visas is a significant milestone, the last such milestone being in 2005–06 when grants passed the 4 million mark.

Most of this growth was due to people visiting Australia, followed by short-stay temporary workers and international students. Grants to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nationals for 2014–15 were at their highest levels since 2007–08—up 4.2 per cent on the previous year with more than 2.6 million Visitor and temporary resident visas granted. Still, this is down 8.7 per cent on the peak reached in 2006–07 of more than 2.8 million Visitor and temporary resident visas granted to OECD nationals (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Temporary entry visas granted—2005–06 to 2014–15

Category	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15
Visitor[1]	3,580,305	3,652,215	3,627,350	3,355,311	3,421,109	3,518,588	3,537,651	3,728,879	3,969,215	4,283,920
Student	191,348	230,807	278,715	319,632	270,499	250,438	253,047	259,278	292,060	299,540
Working Holiday Maker	115,444	136,805	157,830	194,316	183,168	192,922	222,992	258,248	239,592	226,812
Temporary Work (Skilled)[2]	71,149	87,313	110,567	101,284	67,979	90,119	125,070	126,348	98,571	96,084
Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity)[3]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6,224	40,894	54,688
Temporary Graduate[4]	n/a	n/a	315	14,457	23,088	21,587	39,943	35,223	22,867	22,895
Training and Research	7,091	6,696	6,051	5,509	4,260	3,971	4,268	5,251	6,910	7,678
Other[5]	41,154	40,758	40,646	34,225	30,629	33,196	34,013	34,471	35,230	35,979
Total OECD countries	2,820,540	2,856,417	2,778,613	2,529,005	2,527,683	2,501,542	2,459,525	2,487,288	2,503,812	2,607,956
Total[6]	4,006,491	4,154,594	4,221,474	4,024,734	4,000,732	4,110,821	4,216,984	4,453,922	4,705,339	5,027,596

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Excludes Visitor visas granted where the client is onshore.
2. The Temporary Business (Long Stay) visa (subclass 457) from 24 November 2012 was renamed the Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457). Data excludes Business (Long Stay) (Independent Executive) visa.
3. The Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) visa (subclass 400) was introduced on 23 March 2013.
4. The Temporary Skilled Graduate visa (subclass 485) from 23 March 2013 was renamed the Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485).
5. Includes Business (Long Stay) (Independent Executive) visa, Medical Practitioner visa (subclass 422) (closed to new applications from July 2010), Skilled Recognised Graduate visa (subclass 476), New Zealand Citizenship Family Relationship (Temporary) visa (subclass 461), Graduate Skilled visa (subclass 497) (closed to new applications from July 2012), Student Guardian visa (subclass 580), other Temporary Work visas introduced 23 March 2013, and former visas for social, cultural and international relations purposes.
6. Excludes Bridging visas, Special Category visa (subclass 444), Transit visa (subclass 771), Border visa (subclass 773) and Maritime Crew visa (subclass 988).

3.2 Visitor visa programme

In 2014–15, a record 4.3 million Visitor visas were granted to applicants outside Australia, an increase of 7.9 per cent on the previous year (Table 3.2). Tourists accounted for 89.5 per cent of these and business visitors 10.4 per cent. A detailed statistical publication about the Visitor visa programme is available at Visitor visa programme statistics.

As with Visitor visas as a whole, tourist visas increased in 2014–15—up 8.6 per cent (302,921 grants) for the year on the back of an 8.3 per cent increase the previous year. Business visitors also increased—up 2.7 per cent, on the previous year but still down, although marginally, on the number granted in 2012–13. Tourism and Business visitors from OECD member countries also continued to increase, up by 5.0 and 3.9 per cent respectively.

Table 3.2: Visitor visas granted to applicants outside Australia—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

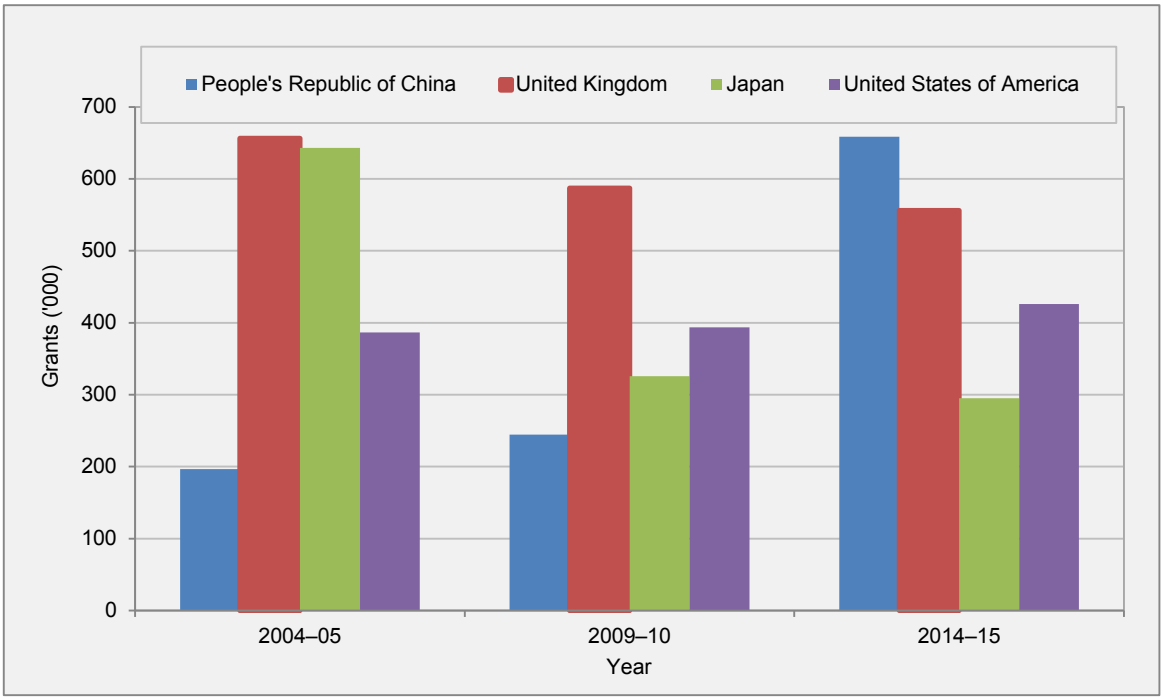
Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	473,206	549,458	658,430	19.8
United Kingdom	543,495	546,911	556,094	1.7
United States of America	380,086	389,086	425,922	9.5
Japan	300,899	288,191	295,193	2.4
Malaysia	214,817	266,434	291,190	9.3
Singapore	169,812	194,170	203,065	4.6
Republic of Korea	161,317	164,610	184,009	11.8
India	130,497	148,276	171,585	15.7
Germany	139,386	145,121	150,536	3.7
France	113,317	120,855	130,912	8.3
Other[1]	1,102,047	1,156,103	1,216,984	5.3
Total OECD countries	2,126,595	2,156,213	2,260,880	4.9
OECD—Tourism visas	*1,907,355*	*1,940,125*	*2,036,217*	*5.0*
OECD—Business visitors[2]	*217,762*	*214,562*	*222,916*	*3.9*
Total Tourism visas	*3,262,866*	*3,532,764*	*3,835,685*	*8.6*
Total Business visitors[2]	*463,559*	*434,024*	*445,685*	*2.7*
Total[3]	3,728,879	3,969,215	4,283,920	7.9

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
2. Excludes Superyacht Crew visa (subclass 488).
3. Includes Superyacht Crew visa (subclass 488) and Medical Treatment visas.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. The number of Visitor visas by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 is available in Appendix A, Table A.9. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

The main driver of growth in Visitor visas for 2014–15 was the People's Republic of China (658,430 grants) which was responsible for more than one-third (34.6 per cent) of all growth in Visitor visa grants to applicants outside Australia—almost 109,000 more visas granted than in the previous year. Solid growth was also recorded for nationals of India (up 15.7 per cent), the Republic of Korea (up 11.8 per cent) and United States of America (up 9.5 per cent).

Not since the early to mid-2000s has there been a single nationality to rival the number of Visitor visas granted to Chinese nationals in 2014–15. Over the past 10 years, these have been the United Kingdom with 680,120 visas granted in 2006–07 and Japan with 643,099 visas granted in 2004–05. The United States of America, while not reaching the same level of visa grants as these other countries, has nonetheless been a steady source of international visitors (Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Visitor visas granted to applicants outside Australia—selected nationalities, 2004–05, 2009–10 and 2014–15



Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

3.2.1 Types of Visitor visas

Visitor visa programme numbers comprise these visa types (Table 3.3):

Electronic Travel Authority—allows visits to Australia for tourism or business visitor activities, and is available to passport holders of 34 countries or regions. It is valid for 12 months from date of issue and allows multiple visits of up to three months each stay.

Visitor visa—allows visits to Australia for tourism or business visitor activities. Validity and stay periods are determined by the purpose of stay—stays of up to three, six or 12 months are allowed. The visa has four streams:

- **Tourist stream**—for people who wish to travel to Australia for a holiday, recreation or to visit family and friends.
- **Business Visitor stream**—for people travelling to Australia for short-term business visits. This includes participating in conferences, business negotiations and general business or employment enquiries.
- **Sponsored Family stream**—for Australian citizens and permanent residents to sponsor their relatives to visit Australia. This allows applicants, for whom there are residual concerns about their intentions, to be granted a visa to visit family in Australia. A security bond may be required if there is concern the applicant may not comply with their visa conditions.
- **Approved Destination Status stream**—for people from the People's Republic of China travelling in an organised tour group.

eVisitor visa—allows visits to Australia for tourism or business visitor activities and is available online to people from certain European countries. It is valid for 12 months from date of issue and allows multiple visits of up to three months stay.

Medical Treatment visa—allows people to travel to Australia for medical treatment or consultations. It is valid for stays of up to 12 months.

Superyacht Crew visa—allows the crew of superyachts to work on-board these vessels in Australia. It is valid for up to one year. Although not part of the Visitor visa programme, these numbers count towards the total.

Table 3.3: Visitor visas granted to applicants outside Australia by category, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Category	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Electronic Travel Authority	2,079,642	2,135,851	2,225,769	4.2
Visitor	1,162,167	1,243,344	1,401,984	12.8
eVisitor	484,616	587,593	653,617	11.2
Medical Treatment	2,112	2,152	2,133	-0.9
Superyacht Crew	342	275	417	51.6
Total	3,728,879	3,969,215	4,283,920	7.9

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

3.3 Working Holiday Maker Programme

The Working Holiday Maker Programme encourages cultural exchange and closer ties between Australia and partner countries. It does so by allowing young adults to have an extended holiday in each other's country and engage in short-term work and study. The programme also provides incidental supplementary labour to employers in industries needing short-term or seasonal workers, such as the agricultural sector.

The programme includes two visa subclasses—Working Holiday visa (subclass 417) and Work and Holiday visa (subclass 462). In 2014–15, 19 Working Holiday visa and 12 Work and Holiday visa arrangements were in effect. Most of the requirements and entitlements for these visas are similar. These visas:

1. are for people between 18 and 30 years of age, with no accompanying dependent children
2. allow for a stay of 12 months from the date of initial entry to Australia
3. permit up to four months study or training
4. allow for up to six months work with any one employer unless certain criteria are met for an extension.

The two visas have some differences. Unlike the Working Holiday visa, the Work and Holiday visa generally requires applicants to meet education and language eligibility requirements and demonstrate support from their home government. Work and Holiday visa arrangements are also usually subject to a quota limiting the overall number that can be granted each year.

Another difference between the two visas is that Working Holiday visa holders who have completed at least three months of specified work in regional Australia in agriculture, mining or construction, may apply for a second Working Holiday visa, whereas people on a Work and Holiday visa cannot.

In 2014–15, 226,812 Working Holiday Maker visas were granted, a decrease of 5.3 per cent compared with the previous year. This marked the second year in a row where a fall was recorded and was down 12.2 per cent on the peak of 258,248 grants in 2012–13. Detailed statistical publications about the Working Holiday Maker Programme are available at Working Holiday Maker Programme reports.

3.3.1 Working Holiday visa

In 2014–15, 214,830 Working Holiday visas were granted—a decrease of 6.3 per cent on the 229,378 visa granted the previous year (Table 3.4). While there was some growth in 2014–15 in grants to countries such as Japan (up 902 grants), Canada (up 531 grants) and the Netherlands (up 225 grants), the overall trend was downwards. The most significant falls in 2014–15 were from Ireland (down 4203 grants), Taiwan (down 2718 grants), France (down 2359 grants), Italy (down 1907 grants) and the Republic of Korea (down 1304 grants). These five countries accounted for 85.9 per cent of the total fall in Working Holiday visa grants in 2014–15.

Table 3.4: Working Holiday visas granted, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
United Kingdom	46,131	45,208	44,730	-1.1
Taiwan	35,761	29,366	26,648	-9.3
Germany	26,184	26,819	26,327	-1.8
Republic of Korea	35,220	26,893	25,589	-4.8
France	24,788	25,734	23,375	-9.2
Italy	15,973	16,045	14,138	-11.9
Japan	9,957	10,579	11,481	8.5
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	11,454	11,667	9,720	-16.7
Ireland	19,117	11,996	7,793	-35.0
Canada	7,489	7,174	7,705	7.4
Sweden	5,364	5,464	4,995	-8.6
Netherlands	4,306	4,293	4,518	5.2
Belgium	1,785	2,012	2,188	8.7
Estonia	2,185	2,206	1,736	-21.3
Finland	1,278	1,510	1,624	7.5
Denmark	1,516	1,672	1,576	-5.7
Norway	504	530	503	-5.1
Malta	89	98	103	5.1
Cyprus	128	110	78	-29.1
Total OECD countries	201,797	188,135	178,278	-5.2
Total[1]	249,231	229,378	214,830	-6.3

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey.

The total number of Working Holiday visas granted comprised an initial Working Holiday visa and a second Working Holiday visa. In 2014–15, 173,491 initial Working Holiday visas were granted, a decrease of 5.4 per cent on 2013–14. More than half of initial Working Holiday visas granted went to nationals of the United Kingdom (36,257 grants), Germany (24,561 grants), the Republic of Korea (20,661 grants) and France (20,246 grants).

Grants of second Working Holiday visas fell for the first time since their inception in 2005–06; dropping from 45,950 in 2013–14 to 41,339 in 2014–15. Most of these visas went to citizens from Taiwan (8975 grants), the United Kingdom (8473 grants), the Republic of Korea (4928 grants) and Italy (3387 grants).

Of all second Working Holiday visas granted in 2014–15, 93.0 per cent went to people who qualified for this visa by working in agriculture, or in forestry and fishing. Another 6.3 per cent went to those who had worked in the construction industry and the remaining 0.8 per cent to those who had qualified by previously working in the mining industry.

3.3.2 Work and Holiday visa

In 2014–15, 11,982 Work and Holiday visas were granted. This was 17.3 per cent more than in 2013–14 (Table 3.5) and maintained the trend of continuous growth since the visa's inception in 2003–04. As in previous years, the United States of America—which has no limits on visas granted—remained the dominant source of Work and Holiday visa holders, accounting for 69.7 per cent of the total granted in 2014–15.

Table 3.5: Work and Holiday visas granted—2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15	Programme cap
United States of America	6,878	7,499	8,347	11.3	No cap
Chile	808	1,004	1,388	38.2	1,500
Argentina	417	500	500	0.0	500
Thailand	464	471	466	-1.1	500
Spain	n/a	n/a	419	n/a	500
Indonesia	176	437	288	-34.1	1,000
Poland	n/a	n/a	200	n/a	200
Turkey	102	100	100	0.0	100
Malaysia	100	100	100	0.0	100
Portugal	n/a	n/a	82	n/a	200
Uruguay	9	40	47	17.5	200
Bangladesh	62	63	44	-30.2	100
Total OECD countries	7,788	8,603	10,536	22.5	n/a
Total[1]	9,017	10,214	11,982	17.3	n/a

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey.

3.4 Student visa programme

International students are important to Australia's economic and cultural wellbeing. They make a significant contribution to the economy, facilitate the development of trade and commercial links, and promote goodwill and understanding of Australia. The Student visa programme enables international students to come to Australia to study full-time.

Under the programme, Student visas may be granted to applicants both inside and outside Australia. Grants to applicants in Australia are largely provided to international students already in Australia who, for example, may be changing their education provider or moving from one education sector to another. People in Australia on another temporary visa may also be eligible to apply for a Student visa.

3.4.1 Types of Student visas

The range of visa categories in the Student visa programme corresponds to the courses applicants intend to undertake. The visa categories are as follows:

- **English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) visa**—for applicants intending to study stand-alone English language courses leading to a certificate or non-formal Australian award.
- **Schools visa**—for applicants intending to study primary or secondary school courses and approved secondary school exchange programmes.
- **Vocational Education and Training (VET) visa**—for applicants intending to study certificate, VET diploma, VET advanced diploma, vocational graduate certificate or vocational graduate diploma courses.
- **Higher Education visa**—for applicants intending to study tertiary coursework studies (bachelor degree, associate degree, graduate certificate, graduate diploma, higher education diploma, higher education advanced diploma, or masters by coursework).
- **Postgraduate Research visa**—for applicants intending to study masters by research or a doctoral degree.
- **Non-award visa**—for applicants intending to study non-award foundation studies, or other full-time courses or components of courses not leading to an Australian award.
- **Foreign Affairs or Defence visa**—for applicants sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Department of Defence to undertake full-time courses of any type. This was formerly known as the Australian Agency for International Development or Defence visa.

In addition, parents or relatives can apply for a visa to stay in Australia as the guardian of a student. This is known as the Student Guardian visa.

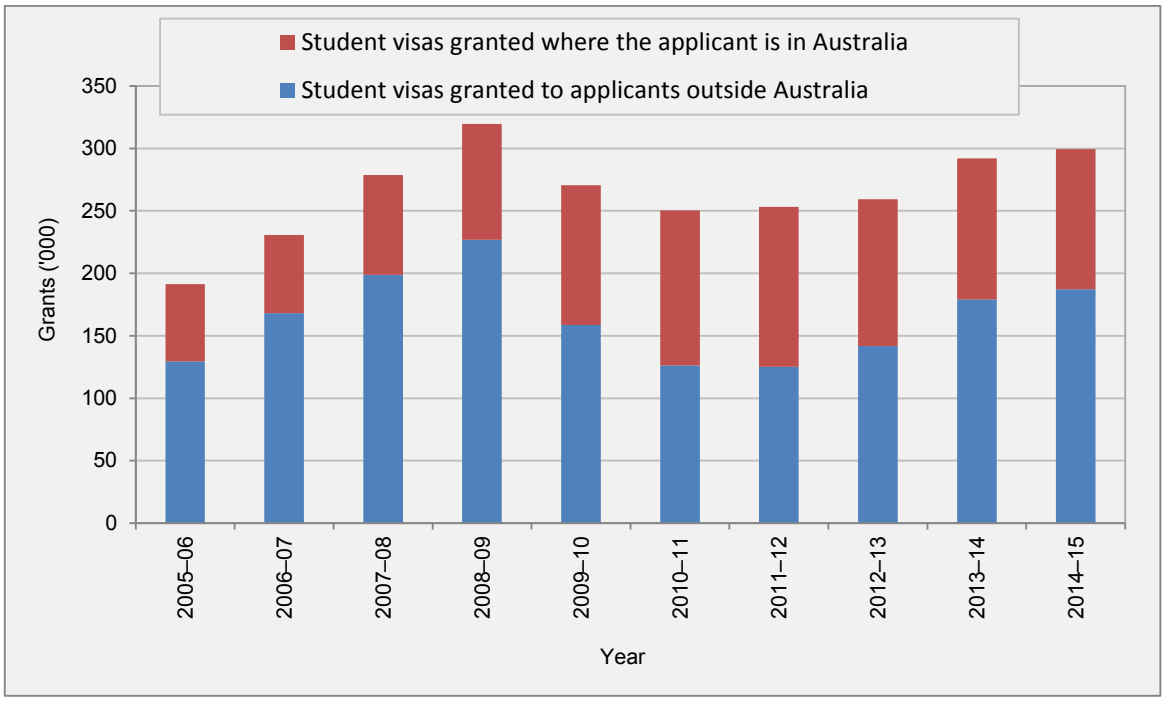
3.4.2 Student visas granted

In 2014–15, there was modest growth in the number of Student visas granted—up 2.6 per cent on the previous programme year, recording the second highest level of 299,540 grants. Growth in Student visas was driven by a 4.5 per cent increase in offshore grant numbers, from 179,147 in 2013–14 to 187,242 grants for 2014–15. Following the implementation of new streamlined visa processing arrangements in March 2012, and expanded post-study work arrangements in March 2013; this was the second year in row where the number of Student visas granted increased to levels approaching the 2008–09 peak of 319,632 grants.

Before these recent increases, there were decreases in Student visa numbers in 2009–10 and 2010–11 (Figure 3.2). These coincided with a number of factors affecting the international student industry, including: ongoing global financial uncertainty; college closures; rising value of the Australian dollar; changes to improve the integrity of the programme; and reforms to Australia's Skilled Migration programme.

A detailed statistical publication about the Student visa programme is available at Student visa statistics.

Figure 3.2: Student visas granted—2005–06 to 2014–15



Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

Strong growth in 2014–15 was recorded for the People's Republic of China (up 5422 grants), Brazil (up 919 grants) and Malaysia (up 822 grants) (Table 3.6). There were also substantial falls among nationals from India (down 4557 grants), Vietnam (down 2212 grants) and Nepal (down 1664 grants). Nationals from OECD member countries increased for the fourth year in a row—up from 62,356 grants in 2013–14 to 66,811 grants in 2014–15 (an increase of 4455 grants).

Table 3.6: Student visas granted—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	54,015	60,315	65,737	9.0
India	24,808	34,130	29,573	-13.4
Republic of Korea	12,942	12,883	13,229	2.7
Brazil	10,682	12,115	13,034	7.6
Thailand	9,274	11,245	11,686	3.9
Malaysia	9,143	9,592	10,414	8.6
Vietnam	10,725	12,495	10,283	-17.7
Indonesia	8,060	8,862	9,178	3.6
Nepal	7,112	10,651	8,987	-15.6
Saudi Arabia	8,084	8,164	8,739	7.0
Other[1]	104,433	111,608	118,680	6.3
Total OECD countries	59,728	62,356	66,811	7.1
Total	259,278	292,060	299,540	2.6

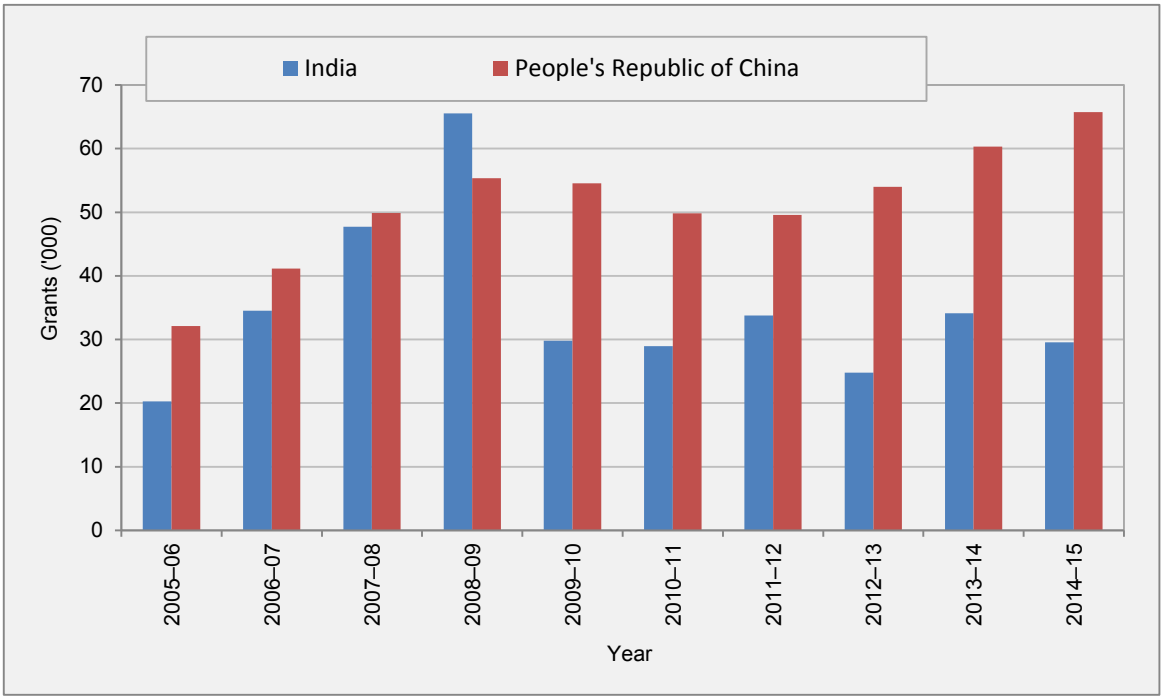
Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship unknown.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. The number of Student visas granted by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 is available in Appendix A, Table A.10. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

One consequence of this recent growth is that grants to nationals from the People's Republic of China (65,737) are now at their highest level, surpassing the peak figure of 65,516 visas granted to Indian nationals in 2008–09 (Figure 3.3).

Figure 3.3: Student visas granted to Chinese and Indian nationals, 2005–06 to 2014–15



Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

3.4.3 Student visas granted to applicants outside Australia

In 2014–15, 187,242 Student visas were granted to applicants outside Australia, an increase of 4.5 per cent on the 179,147 granted the previous year, and the largest figure since 2008–09 when 226,898 visas were granted.

For the sixth year in a row, nationals from the People's Republic of China were the largest source of Student visas granted to applicants outside Australia, with 42,127 granted in 2014–15 (Table 3.7). Although there was strong growth among Chinese nationals (up 7269 grants), there were also falls from those that recorded strong growth in the previous year—Vietnam (down 2076 grants), Nepal (down 1210 grants) and India (down 1176 grants).

Table 3.7: Student visas granted to applicants outside Australia—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	27,494	34,858	42,127	20.9
India	9,392	21,467	20,291	-5.5
Brazil	6,107	8,013	8,632	7.7
United States of America	6,872	6,844	7,320	7.0
Thailand	4,896	7,131	7,029	-1.4
Vietnam	6,896	8,585	6,509	-24.2
Indonesia	5,123	5,842	6,261	7.2
Malaysia	5,627	5,885	6,080	3.3
Nepal	2,786	6,669	5,459	-18.1
Republic of Korea	4,107	4,359	4,613	5.8
Other[1]	62,510	69,494	72,921	4.9
Total OECD countries	34,872	37,753	41,087	8.8
Total	141,810	179,147	187,242	4.5

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

As Table 3.8 shows, there was strong growth in Student visas granted to applicants outside Australia among most visa types in 2014–15, particularly in the Schools and Higher Education sectors—up 22.6 and 18.7 per cent respectively on 2013–14. Grants in the Higher Education visa are now at their highest level—up 1848 grants 2013–14 and 29,409 grants on 2012–13.

The main nationalities in 2014–15 by sector were:

- ELICOS—Brazil (5740 grants) and Colombia (3523 grants)
- Schools—the People's Republic of China (5168 grants) and Germany (1002 grants)
- VET—the Republic of Korea (1842 grants) and Indonesia (1601 grants)
- Higher Education—the People's Republic of China (34,504 grants) and India (18,641 grants)
- Postgraduate Research—the People's Republic of China (976 grants) and Iraq (549 grants)
- Non-award—United States of America (5511 grants) and Germany (1782 grants)
- Foreign Affairs or Defence—Indonesia (1441 grants) and Vietnam (580 grants).

Table 3.8: Student visas granted to applicants outside Australia by visa type, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Visa type	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
ELICOS[1]	19,258	21,468	23,905	11.4
Schools	8,033	8,931	10,950	22.6
VET[2]	13,638	16,566	19,669	18.7
Higher Education	72,051	99,612	101,460	1.9
Postgraduate Research	6,059	6,775	6,509	-3.9
Non-award	16,466	19,341	18,698	-3.3
Foreign Affairs or Defence	6,305	6,454	6,051	-6.2
Total	141,810	179,147	187,242	4.5

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS).
2. Vocational Education and Training (VET).

3.4.4 Student visas granted to applicants in Australia

In 2014–15, Student visas granted to applicants in Australia fell by 0.5 per cent—from 112,913 grants in 2013–14 to 112,298 grants in 2014–15 (Table 3.9).

During the last few years, Chinese nationals have consistently been a major cohort for applicants in Australia. This trend continued in 2014–15, with Chinese nationals recording 23,610 Student visas granted to applicants in Australia, down 7.3 per cent on the previous year. The largest growth was among nationals from Malaysia (up 16.9 per cent), Saudi Arabia (up 14.9 per cent) and Thailand (up 13.2 per cent).

Table 3.9: Student visas granted to applicants in Australia—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	26,521	25,457	23,610	-7.3
India	15,416	12,663	9,282	-26.7
Republic of Korea	8,835	8,524	8,616	1.1
Saudi Arabia	4,589	4,326	4,971	14.9
Thailand	4,378	4,114	4,657	13.2
Brazil	4,575	4,102	4,402	7.3
Malaysia	3,516	3,707	4,334	16.9
Vietnam	3,829	3,910	3,774	-3.5
Nepal	4,326	3,982	3,528	-11.4
Colombia	3,139	3,325	3,297	-0.8
Other[1]	38,344	38,803	41,827	7.8
Total OECD countries	24,856	24,603	25,724	4.6
Total	117,468	112,913	112,298	-0.5

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

Of the 25,724 Student visas granted to OECD national applicants in Australia for 2014–15, more than half (55.8 per cent) came from the Republic of Korea (8616 grants), Italy (3103 grants) or Japan (2637 grants). Compared to the 24,603 visas granted in 2013–14, growth to OECD nationals increased by 1121 visas (4.6 per cent).

Numerically, in 2014–15 the largest growth occurred in the VET sector, increasing by 1939 grants on the previous year. The largest fall was recorded for the Higher Education visa category, decreasing by 2479 grants on 2013–14 (Table 3.10).

Table 3.10: Student visas granted to applicants in Australia by visa type—2012–13 to 2014–15

Visa type	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
ELICOS	10,349	9,496	9,310	-2.0
Schools	1,156	1,028	1,061	3.2
VET	44,925	44,082	46,021	4.4
Higher Education	55,218	52,732	50,253	-4.7
Postgraduate Research	4,656	4,546	4,599	1.2
Non-award	613	592	505	-14.7
Foreign Affairs or Defence	551	437	549	25.6
Total	117,468	112,913	112,298	-0.5

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

The main nationalities in 2014–15 by sector were:

- ELICOS—Colombia (1508 grants) and Saudi Arabia (1264 grants)
- Schools—the Republic of Korea (289 grants) and the People's Republic of China (202 grants)
- VET—the Republic of Korea (5482 grants) and India (4871 grants)
- Higher Education—the People's Republic of China (18,733 grants) and India (4185 grants)
- Postgraduate Research—Saudi Arabia (826 grants) and the People's Republic of China (661 grants)
- Non-award—Saudi Arabia (61 grants) and United States of America (54 grants)
- Foreign Affairs or Defence—Indonesia (186 grants) and Vietnam (81 grants).

3.4.5 Student visa pathways

3.4.5.1 Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485)

The subclass 485 visa was introduced on 1 September 2007. As a temporary visa, it provided these former students with the opportunity to spend more time in Australia to gain employment experience in their nominated profession, or to acquire extra skills (including improving their English language proficiency).

In March 2013, the subclass 485 visa was amended and renamed the Temporary Graduate (subclass 485) visa. It is now a temporary visa designed to provide students with an opportunity to obtain work experience, helping to make them more employable on their return to their home country.

This visa has two streams:

- **Graduate Work stream**—for international students with an eligible qualification who graduate with skills and qualifications relating to an occupation on the Skilled Occupation List. A visa in this stream is granted for 18 months from the date of grant.
- **Post-Study Work stream**—for international students who graduate with a higher education degree from an Australian education provider, regardless of their field of study. This stream is only available to students who were granted their first Student visa to Australia on or after 5 November 2011. A visa in this stream can be granted for up to four years from the date the visa is granted, depending on the visa applicant's qualification.

To be eligible, graduates must have met the two-year Australian study requirement, completed their studies in Australia while on a qualifying Student visa within six months of applying, and be in Australia and be under 50 years of age.

In 2014–15, 22,895 subclass 485 visas were granted—a marginal increase on the 22,867 granted the previous year (Table 3.11). More than half of all grants in 2014–15 were to nationals of the People's Republic of China (33.3 per cent) and India (17.3 per cent). As shown in Table 3.11, there have been steep falls in subclass 485 grants since 2012–13. A likely reason is the expiry of transitional arrangements (on 31 December 2012) that allowed former students to apply for the subclass 485 visa using the Skilled Occupation List in effect on 8 February 2010. This list contained more than double the number of occupations on the Skilled Occupation List than is currently available to subclass 485 visa applicants in the Graduate Work stream.

Of the 22,895 visas granted in 2014–15, 14,066 were in the Graduate Work stream and 8586 in the Post-Study Work stream. The remainder (243) went to international students processed under the former Skilled Graduate (subclass 485) visa. In the Graduate Work stream, the top nationalities were the People's Republic of China (5117 grants) and India (1592 grants). These two nationalities were also the major source of those under the Post-Study Work stream—China with 2506 visas granted and India with 2253 visas granted.

Table 3.11: Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485) grants—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
People's Republic of China	7,682	7,006	7,635	9.0
India	10,445	3,772	3,960	5.0
Nepal	2,602	2,373	1,947	-18.0
Pakistan	1,123	1,075	1,194	11.1
Vietnam	979	793	858	8.2
Philippines	601	717	759	5.9
Malaysia	1,466	1,002	718	-28.3
Sri Lanka	1,296	588	580	-1.4
Indonesia	1,096	638	572	-10.3
Bangladesh	771	522	538	3.1
Other[1]	7,162	4,381	4,134	-5.6
Total OECD countries	2,773	1,641	1,517	-7.6
Total	35,223	22,867	22,895	0.1

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

In 2014–15, grants to subclass 485 visa Primary Applicants (17,828) accounted for 77.9 per cent of total subclass 485 visa grants. Of those that specified an occupation, a large majority worked in professional occupations. As Table 3.12 shows, the most popular occupations for Primary Applicants on a subclass 485 visa in 2014–15 were accountants (5176 or 48.8 per cent), registered nurses (832 or 7.8 per cent) and software and applications programmers (561 or 5.3 per cent).

Table 3.12: Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485) grants to Primary Applicants—top 10 occupations, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Occupation[1]	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Accountants	8,055	7,490	5,176	-30.9
Registered nurses	891	1,208	832	-31.1
Software and applications programmers	1,297	1,082	561	-48.2
ICT business and systems analysts[2]	1,745	972	525	-46.0
Civil engineering professionals	394	492	410	-16.7
Industrial, mechanical and production engineers	446	389	264	-32.1
Computer network professionals	186	341	238	-30.2
Auditors, company secretaries and corporate treasurers	120	125	220	76.0
Motor mechanics	620	243	184	-24.3
Other engineering professionals	240	208	155	-25.5
Other occupations[3]	11,956	4,563	9,263	103.0
Total OECD countries	2,119	1,251	1,164	-7.0
Total	25,950	17,113	17,828	4.2

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Occupation is based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations.
2. ICT—Information and communication technology.
3. Includes occupation unknown.
Top 10 occupations are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

3.4.5.2 Students moving onto permanent residence

Student visas are only temporary visas and offer no guarantee of future permanent residence. However, many international students apply for permanent residence at course completion. During the past seven years, a series of reforms to the Skill stream of the Migration Programme have had an impact on the number of former students who obtained permanent residence and the types of visas granted. These include a redesigned points test, a more targeted Skilled Occupation List, increased recognition of higher English language skills and allocation of more Employer Sponsored places in the Migration Programme.

The main effect of the reforms has been on the granting of Skilled Independent visas. Before the reforms, the Skilled Independent visa was the most common granted to former international students—accounting for three-quarters of all grants in 2006–07. In the early years after the reforms, demand for these visas fell considerably, from 27,198 grants in 2006–07 to 20,141 grants in 2008–09 and 13,286 grants in 2009–10.

In its place was a small increase in the number of students sponsored for permanent residence by an Australian employer and the introduction of the new Skilled Graduate (subclass 485) visa described earlier.

Smaller numbers of Skilled Independent visas continued to be granted to former students through to 2009–10, a situation accentuated by the lower processing priority they were given relative to Employer Sponsored and State/Territory Nominated visas. In 2010–11, however, applications for these visas progressed and the number of grants rose by 124.0 per cent from 13,286 in 2009–10 to 29,755 in 2010–11. These numbers were maintained during the following two years (Table 3.13). Between 2012–13 and 2013–14, grants fell yet again (from 30,170 to 18,100). This largely was a result of the introduction of the genuine temporary entry requirement in November 2011—an integrity measure designed to ensure that the Student visa programme is used as intended and not by international students to maintain de facto permanent residence in Australia. The numbers have since remained steady with 17,638 visa grants in 2014–15, marginally down by 2.6 per cent.

Table 3.13: Permanent residence visas granted to former international students, 2011–12 to 2014–15

Visa category	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Points Tested Skilled Migration	18,115	17,808	7,941	7,603	-4.3
Skilled Independent	12,549	11,752	4,239	4,748	12.0
Skilled Regional	3,405	3,900	2,039	512	-74.9
State/Territory Nominated	2,161	2,156	1,663	2,343	40.9
Employer Sponsored	3,443	3,906	2,650	2,403	-9.3
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	2,437	3,096	2,138	1,954	-8.6
Employer Nomination Scheme	1,004	801	512	449	-12.3
Labour Agreement	< 5	9	0	0	n/a
Partner	6,689	8,011	7,179	7,173	-0.1
Other	226	445	330	2,806	39.1
Total OECD countries	4,086	4,339	2,884	2,806	-2.7
Total[1]	28,473	30,170	18,100	17,638	-2.6

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

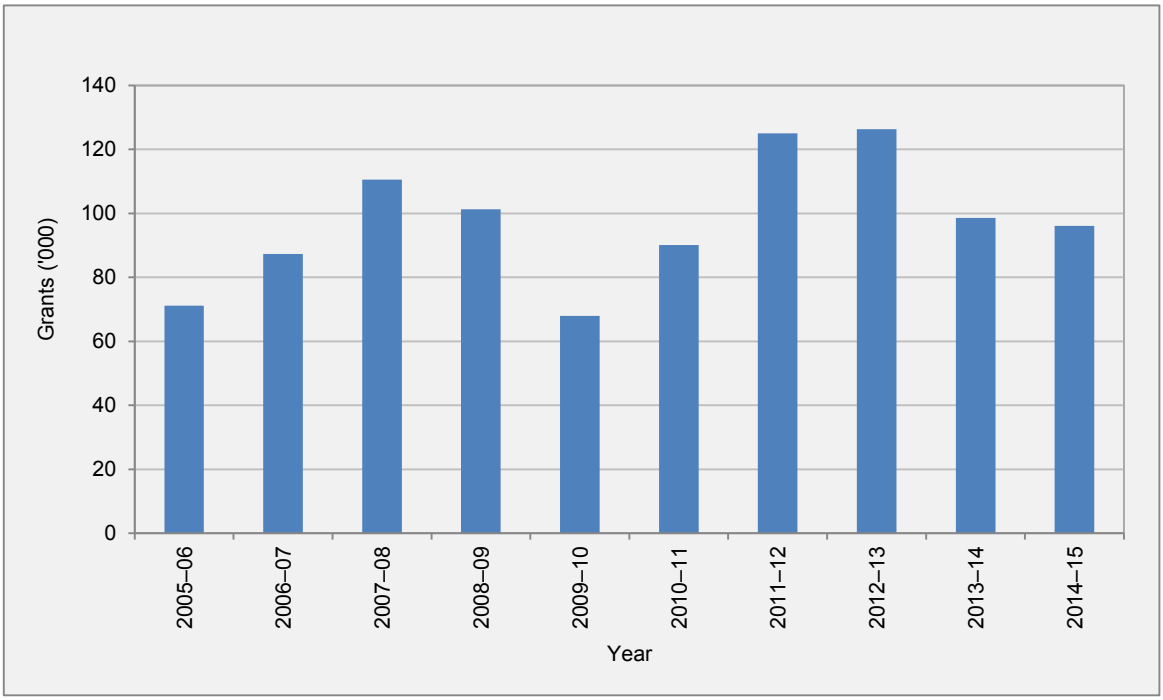
1. Includes citizenship unknown.

3.5 Temporary Work (Skilled) visa

The Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) allows skilled overseas workers to enter Australia to work for a sponsoring Australian employer—provided the employer has been unable to source appropriate skilled workers through the domestic labour market. The programme can also be used by overseas businesses seeking to establish, or help establish, a branch in Australia, or fulfil a specific contract. People on this visa can stay in Australia for up to four years depending on the job vacancy they are sponsored to fill.

In 2014–15, 96,084 subclass 457 visas were granted—down 2.5 per cent on the 98,571 visas granted in 2013–14. Demand for this visa reflects changing labour market conditions. As shown in Figure 3.4, demand for these visas grew steadily from 2005–06 to 2007–08, lifting from 71,149 visa grants to 110,567 visa grants, before falling in line with the downturn in the global economy (67,979 visa grants in 2009–10). The following three years saw solid growth. Grants in subclass 457 visas reached their highest level in 2012–13 at 126,348 visa grants before falling below 100,000 grants in the following two years.

Figure 3.4: Subclass 457 visa grants, 2005–06 to 2014–15



Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

Before 2012–13, nationals of the United Kingdom were the main source of subclass 457 visa grants. However in 2012–13, visa grants to Indian nationals surpassed the United Kingdom and since then India has been the main source of these migrants. In 2014–15, more than one-quarter (26.3 per cent) of subclass 457 visa grants went to Indian nationals (25,244 grants)—an increase of 2.9 per cent on the previous year. This was followed by the United Kingdom (14,729 visa grants)—falling 11.8 per cent—and the People's Republic of China (6,653 visa grants), which grew by 8.0 per cent (Table 3.14)

Table 3.14: Subclass 457 visas granted—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
India	27,211	24,521	25,244	2.9
United Kingdom	24,147	16,708	14,729	-11.8
People's Republic of China	6,609	6,159	6,653	8.0
United States of America	7,063	5,718	5,464	-4.4
Philippines	8,000	5,465	5,084	-7.0
Ireland	10,291	5,947	4,119	-30.7
France	2,421	2,007	2,386	18.9
Italy	1,706	1,608	2,105	30.9
Republic of Korea	2,816	2,316	2,015	-13.0
Canada	2,668	2,090	1,998	-4.4
Other[1]	33,416	26,032	26,287	1.0
Total OECD countries	62,860	45,711	42,466	-7.1
Total	126,348	98,571	96,084	-2.5

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship Unknown.
2. Excludes Independent Executives.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.
Subclass 457 visa grants by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 is available in Appendix A, Table A.11.

3.5.1 Subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants

Subclass 457 visas are granted to both Primary Applicants and Secondary Applicants.
This section provides more detail about Primary Applicant grants as these reflect the number of skilled overseas workers granted visas under the subclass 457 visa programme.

In 2014–15, grants to subclass 457 visa Primary Applicants (51,125) accounted for 53.2 per cent of total subclass 457 visa grants. As was the case in Table 3.14, the top nationalities were India (12,447 visa grants), the United Kingdom (8794 visa grants), and the People's Republic of China (3522 visa grants). Collectively these three nationalities accounted for almost half (48.4 per cent) of all Primary Applicant subclass 457 visa grants (Table 3.15).

Strong growth was recorded for Italian and French nationals (up 35.2 per cent and 18.9 per cent respectively). Grants to Irish nationals fell 30.9 per cent on 2013–14 levels, continuing the trend of the last couple of years. The continued fall in demand from Ireland and the United Kingdom has contributed to a marked fall in demand from OECD member countries. Between 2012–13 and 2014–15, grants to OECD nationals fell by 45.8 per cent.

Table 3.15: Subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
India	14,247	12,120	12,447	2.7
United Kingdom	13,305	9,511	8,794	-7.5
People's Republic of China	3,727	3,358	3,522	4.9
United States of America	4,062	3,241	3,172	-2.1
Ireland	6,569	3,764	2,601	-30.9
Philippines	4,072	2,351	2,308	-1.8
France	1,372	1,145	1,361	18.9
Italy	1,102	982	1,328	35.2
Canada	1,675	1,361	1,262	-7.3
Republic of Korea	1,456	1,031	1,041	1.0
Other[1]	16,894	13,075	13,289	1.6
Total OECD countries	36,198	26,216	24,831	-5.3
Total	68,481	51,939	51,125	-1.6

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
2. Excludes Independent Executives.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

The subclass 457 visa may be granted to applicants both inside and outside Australia. In 2014–15, of the 51,125 visas granted to Primary Applicants almost half (48.9 per cent) were granted in Australia (Table 3.16). Almost 6-in-10 (58.7 per cent) of subclass 457 visas granted in Australia were to Primary Applicants who last held a Student visa (30.5 per cent), Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485) (4.5 per cent), or Working Holiday visa (subclass 417) (23.7 per cent). The share of subclass 457 visas granted in Australia has increased in recent years pointing to the changing nature of migration, as more and more migrants extend their stay by transitioning to various temporary visas.

Table 3.16: Subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants in Australia by last visa held, 2010–11 to 2014–15

Visa type	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15
Student	2,964	6,018	9,590	7,976	7,624
Working Holiday	5,622	8,547	9,437	6,600	5,927
Visitor	4,101	4,867	4,165	2,728	2,427
Temporary Graduate	178	648	2,263	2,651	1,126
Other[1]	6,949	8,320	7,986	6,477	7,908
Onshore total	19,814	28,400	33,441	26,432	25,012

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes primary applications granted where the last visa held was a subclass 457 visa.
2. Excludes Independent Executives.

Table 3.17 shows that demand in most industries fell in 2014–15, with particularly large falls in mining (down 819 visa grants) and construction (down 766 visa grants). There was, however, strong growth in information media and telecommunications (up 1169 visa grants) and other services (up 1072 visa grants).

Almost half (48.6 per cent) of subclass 457 visa grants to Primary Applicants in 2014–15 came from OECD member countries. These migrants were over-represented in construction (2931 grants), mining (1267 grants), financial and insurance services (1084 grants) and the education and training industries (1752 grants).

Table 3.17: Subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants—top 10 sponsor industries, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Sponsor industry	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Other services	8,435	7,209	8,281	14.9
Information media and telecommunications	6,695	5,817	6,986	20.1
Accommodation and food services	6,789	6,269	6,053	-3.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	5,576	5,074	5,816	14.6
Health care and social assistance	7,432	5,145	4,632	-10.0
Construction	7,871	4,735	3,969	-16.2
Education and training	3,459	2,855	2,813	-1.5
Manufacturing	3,795	2,349	2,411	2.6
Retail trade	3,073	2,443	1,875	-23.3
Mining	4,629	2,670	1,851	-30.7
Other[1]	10,727	7,373	6,438	-12.7
Total OECD countries	36,198	26,216	24,831	-5.3
Total	68,481	51,939	51,125	-1.6

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes sponsor industry not recorded.
2. Excludes Independent Executives.

Note: Subclass 457 visa grants by gender and industry for OECD member countries for 2014–15 is available in Appendix A, Table A.12. Top 10 sponsor industries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

Table 3.18 shows the 10 most common occupations for subclass 457 visas granted in 2014–15. While there was strong growth in demand for developer programmers (up 589 visa or 31.1 per cent) and software engineers (up 390 visas or 36.8 per cent), there were moderate falls in the demand for cooks (down 307 visas or 11.3 per cent) and general practitioners (down 138 visas or 10.9 per cent).

The Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) also provides a pathway for skilled workers and their dependants to apply for permanent residence, usually through employer sponsorship. In 2014–15, 50,020 people transitioned from a subclass 457 visa to a permanent or provisional visa, an increase of 10.5 per cent on the previous year (Table 3.19).

Table 3.18: Subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants—top 10 nominated ANZSCO[1] occupations, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Nominated occupation	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Developer programmer	1,793	1,896	2,485	31.1
Cook	3,041	2,715	2,408	-11.3
Cafe or restaurant manager	1,903	2,071	2,037	-1.6
Marketing specialist	1,602	1,471	1,557	5.8
ICT business analyst[2]	1,307	1,202	1,483	23.4
Software engineer	1,020	1,061	1,451	36.8
University lecturer	1,599	1,286	1,284	-0.2
Management consultant	1,159	1,039	1,224	17.8
Chef	1,091	1,052	1,176	11.8
General practitioner	1,508	1,271	1,133	-10.9
Other occupations[3]	52,458	36,875	34,887	-5.4
Total OECD countries	36,198	26,216	24,831	-5.3
Total	68,481	51,939	51,125	-1.6

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
2. ICT—Information and communication technology.
3. Includes occupation unknown.

Note: Excludes Independent Executives. Top 10 nominated occupations are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

Table 3.19: Permanent and provisional grants where a subclass 457 visa was the last visa held, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Visa type	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Employer Nomination Scheme	21,230	26,390	31,840	20.7
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	7,780	6,990	6,120	-12.5
Labour Agreement	1,050	10	< 5	-66.7
Skilled Independent	6,310	7,340	7,460	1.6
Other Skilled	1,930	2,700	2,870	6.1
Partner	1,740	1,660	1,550	6.7
Other Family	220	160	180	13.1
Total	40,270	45,250	50,020	10.5

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

Note: In determining the last visa held, Bridging visas were excluded. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Figures are subject to revision each year and may vary from previously published reports.

3.5.2 Temporary Work (Skilled) intra-company transfers

Intra-company transfers—also known as intra-corporate transfers or posted workers—are movements of employees in the same company who are temporarily transferred to a different country to provide services for a limited period. In contrast to ordinary labour migration, these workers (if salaried) are employees of a company in the country of origin rather than of a domestic company or—if self-employed—are based in the country of origin rather than the country in which the service is carried out.

In 2014–15, 11,917 subclass 457 visas were granted that were identified as an intra-company transfer, representing a 12.4 per cent share of all subclass 457 visas granted for that year. Of these, 7828 visas were granted to Primary Applicants of which 2143 were granted to nationals of OECD member countries.

Primary Applicants identified as an intra-company transfer are predominantly male at 81.1 per cent. This is slightly higher than the percentage of male Primary Applicants for the subclass 457 cohort as a whole (71.7 per cent). Of the Primary Applicants granted a subclass 457 visa identified as an intra-company transfer, more than three-quarters fell between the ages of 25 to 39 years and almost two-thirds were granted a period of stay between 36 and 48 months.

As shown in Table 3.20, more than two-thirds were granted to Indian nationals (5005 grants), followed by the United States of America (550 grants) and the United Kingdom (479 grants).

Table 3.20: Intra-company transfer subclass 457 Primary Applicant visas granted—top 10 citizenships, 2014–15

Citizenship	Intra-company transfers	Total primary 457 grants	% share of primary grants	% of total intra-company transfers
India	5,005	12,447	40.2	67.6
United States of America	550	3,172	17.3	7.0
United Kingdom	479	8,794	5.4	6.5
People's Republic of China	170	3,522	4.8	2.2
Japan	160	833	19.2	2.2
Philippines	139	2,308	6.0	1.9
Canada	128	1,262	10.1	1.7
France	128	1,361	9.4	1.7
Germany	120	972	12.3	1.6
Netherlands	102	619	16.5	1.3
Other[1]	704	18,460	3.8	9.5
Total OECD countries	2,143	24,831	8.6	27.4
Total	7,828	51,125	15.3	100.0

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey.

In 2014–15, the top three sponsor industries for recipients of an intra-company transfer were: information media and telecommunications (3449 visas); other services (1512 visas); and professional, scientific and technical services (1403 visas). Collectively, these three industries accounted for 81.3 per cent of all sponsoring industries (Table 3.21).

Table 3.21: Intra-company transfer subclass 457 Primary Applicant visas granted by sponsor industry, 2014–15

Sponsor industry	Intra-company transfers	Total primary 457 grants	% share of primary grants	% of total intra-company transfers
Information media and telecommunications	3,449	6,986	49.4	44.1
Other services	1,512	8,281	18.3	19.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,403	5,816	24.1	17.9
Financial and insurance services	316	1,707	18.5	4.0
Construction	305	3,969	7.7	3.9
Manufacturing	210	2,411	8.7	2.7
Mining	163	1,851	8.8	2.1
Retail trade	86	1,875	4.6	1.1
Transport postal and warehousing	83	793	10.5	1.1
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	75	569	13.2	1.0
All other industries[1]	226	16,867	1.3	2.9
Total OECD countries	2,143	24,831	8.6	27.4
Total	7,828	51,125	15.3	100.0

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes sponsor industry not recorded.

Table 3.22 shows the 10 most common occupations for recipients of an intra-company transfer in 2014–15. More than half of these recipients were software and applications programmers (37.3 per cent) or ICT business and systems analysts (13.3 per cent).

Table 3.22: Intra-company transfer subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants by ANZSCO unit group—top 10 nominated occupations, 2014–15

Nominated occupation	Intra-company transfers	Total primary 457 grants	% share of primary grants	% of total intra-company transfers
Software and applications programmers	2,919	5,231	55.8	37.3
ICT business and systems analysts[1]	1,041	2,098	49.6	13.3
ICT managers	477	939	50.8	6.1
Management and organisation analysts	439	1,445	30.4	5.6
ICT support and test engineers	346	767	45.1	4.4
Accountants	201	1,260	16.0	2.6
Database and systems administrators, and ICT security specialists	182	383	47.5	2.3
ICT sales professionals	155	527	29.4	2.0
Advertising, public relations and sales managers	153	1,078	14.2	2.0
Mechanical engineering draftspersons and technicians	141	960	14.7	1.8
Other occupations[2]	1,774	36,437	4.9	22.7
Total OECD countries	2,143	24,831	8.6	27.4
Total	7,828	51,125	15.3	100.0

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. ICT—Information and communication technology.
2. Includes occupation unknown.

3.6 Other temporary residence

Other temporary residence visas allow people to undertake a wide range of activities in Australia that allow short-term, non-ongoing highly specialised work, enrich social and cultural development, strengthen international relations or provide training opportunities of benefit to Australia.

3.6.1 Other temporary visas

The visas considered in this section are those shown in Table 3.23. See Appendix B, Section B.4—Other temporary visas, for a detailed description of these visas.

In 2014–15, 93,139 visas were granted in this group—an increase of 15,266 on the previous year. The vast majority of this growth was due to Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) visas—up by more by than one-third (33.7 per cent), from 40,894 visas granted in 2013–14 to 54,688 visa grants in 2014–15.

Almost half (48.8 per cent) of these visas were granted to OECD nationals. The largest recipients were from the United States of America (13,290), United Kingdom (9350), Germany (2738), Japan (2224) and Canada (2190). Of particular note is the growth in grants to nationals of the United Kingdom (up 1370), Spain (up 700) and Italy (up 687)—mainly due to the Short Stay Activity visa which contributed 4894, 1165 and 1545 visa grants respectively.

Detailed statistics of Other temporary visas granted by gender for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.13.

Table 3.23: Other temporary visas granted, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Visa type/stream[1]	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
Short Stay Activity[2]	6,224	40,894	54,688	33.7
In Australia's interest	10	52	97	86.5
Short-term highly specialised work	4,587	32,984	41,999	27.3
Invited participant	1,627	7,858	12,592	60.2
Long Stay Activity	2,764	2,864	2,606	-9.0
Exchange	211	186	189	1.6
Sport	615	730	595	-18.5
Religious Worker	1,931	1,937	1,810	-6.6
Domestic Worker (Executive)	7	11	12	9.1
Training and Research	6,560	6,910	7,678	11.1
Occupational Trainee	3,641	3,533	4,415	25.0
Research	2,609	2,914	3,083	5.8
Professional Development	310	463	180	-61.1
International Relations	1,172	1,095	1,212	10.7
Government Agreement	725	525	688	31.0
Foreign Government Agency	318	430	405	-5.8
Domestic Worker (Diplomatic or Consular)	105	97	85	-12.4
Privileges and Immunities	24	43	34	-20.9
Entertainment	18,056	19,271	19,116	-0.8
Special Programme	3,334	3,931	5,026	27.9
Seasonal Worker Programme	1,492	2,014	3,177	57.7
Other programmes	1,842	1,917	1,849	-3.5
Diplomatic	2,949	2,908	2,813	-3.3
Total OECD countries	23,203	39,108	45,489	16.3
Total[3]	41,059	77,873	93,139	19.6

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes previous visa subclasses that correspond to the new Temporary Work visa streams introduced on 24 November 2012.

2. The Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) visa (subclass 400) was introduced on 23 March 2013.

3. Excludes: Investor Retirement visa (subclass 405); Retirement visa (subclass 410)—no longer available to new applicants; Medical Practitioner (Temporary) visa (subclass 422)—closed to new applications from 1 July 2010; Supported Dependant visa (subclass 430)—closed to new applications from 1 November 2005; Special Category visa (subclass 444); Temporary Business (Long Stay) (Independent Executive) visa (subclass 457); New Zealand Citizen Family Relationship (Temporary) visa (subclass 461); Graduate Skilled visa (subclass 497)—closed to new applications from July 2012; Student Guardian visa (subclass 580); Special Category visa (subclass 444), Transit visa (subclass 771); Border visa (subclass 773); Maritime Crew visa (subclass 988) and Bridging visas.

Chapter 4: The Humanitarian Programme

4.1 Overview

Australia's Humanitarian Programme has an offshore resettlement component and an onshore protection component.

The offshore component of the Humanitarian Programme has these two categories:

- Refugee
- Special Humanitarian Programme (SHP).

The Refugee category assists people who are subject to persecution in their home country and for whom resettlement in Australia is the best durable solution. Australia works closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) which identifies refugees in need of resettlement and refers applicants for resettlement in Australia under this category.

The Refugee category has four subclasses:

- **Refugee (subclass 200)**—for people who have fled persecution in their home country and are living outside their home country.
- **In-country Special Humanitarian Programme (subclass 201)**—for people living in their home country who are subject to persecution. These applicants are not referred by UNHCR as they remain in their home country and fall outside UNHCRs mandate. Only a small number of visas are granted under this subclass.
- **Emergency Rescue (subclass 203)**—for people living in or outside their home country and who are in urgent need of protection because there is imminent threat to their life and security. All applicants for this subclass are referred by UNHCR. Only a small number of visas are granted under this subclass.
- **Woman at Risk (subclass 204)**—for women and their dependants subject to persecution in their home country or registered as being 'of concern' to UNHCR, living outside their home country without the protection of a male relative and in danger of victimisation, harassment or serious abuse because of their gender.

The SHP (subclass 202) is for people subject to substantial discrimination amounting to gross violation of their human rights who are living outside their home country.

Applications for SHP visas must be accompanied by a proposal from an eligible Australian citizen or permanent resident, an eligible New Zealand citizen, or an organisation operating in Australia. If the SHP application is successful, proposers help the applicant pay for their travel to Australia and assist with their accommodation and initial orientation in Australia.

The onshore protection component is for people seeking asylum in Australia who have their claims assessed in Australia.

Illegal Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) and Unauthorised Air Arrivals found to engage in Australia's non-refoulement obligations will be granted a Temporary Protection visa. These grants are not counted towards the programme but are in addition to current places available.

4.2 The Humanitarian Programme

4.2.1 Summary

In 2014–15, 13,756 visas were granted under the Humanitarian Programme—11,009 under the offshore resettlement component and 2747 under the onshore protection component (Table 4.1).

The top 10 countries of birth for people granted offshore visas in 2014–15, in descending order, were Iraq, Syria, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Bhutan, Iran, Somalia and Ethiopia.

Those granted onshore visas entered Australia as IMAs or non-IMAs (unauthorised air arrivals or legally on valid visas).

The top 10 countries of citizenship for non-IMAs granted a permanent Protection visa in 2014–15, in descending order, were Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, the People's Republic of China, Egypt, Libya, Afghanistan, Syria, Papua New Guinea and Turkey.

One permanent Protection visa was granted to an IMA in 2014–15 following a High Court ruling. In general, however, permanent Protection visas were not granted to IMAs in this period due to changes in Australian Government policies.

In 2014–15, 8587 Protection visa applications were lodged by non-IMAs and 261 by IMAs.

Table 4.1: Offshore Humanitarian Programme visas granted and onshore Protection visas granted, 2005–06 to 2014–15

Category	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15
Refugee	5,717	5,926	5,949	6,437	5,954	5,984	5,988	11,985	6,499	6,002
Special Humanitarian Programme	6,686	5,133	4,696	4,438	3,228	2,966	714	503	4,507	5,007
Total offshore component	12,403	11,059	10,645	10,875	9,182	8,950	6,702	12,488	11,006	11,009
% of total programme	90.8	86.6	84.6	82.0	67.0	65.0	48.8	62.4	80.0	80.0
Total onshore component[1]	1,250	1,707	1,932	2,381	4,516	4,820	7,041	7,510	2,753	2,747
% of total programme	9.2	13.4	15.4	18.0	33.0	35.0	51.2	37.6	20.0	20.0
Total Humanitarian Programme	13,653	12,766	12,577	13,256	13,698	13,770	13,743	19,998	13,759	13,756

Source data: DIBP

1. Includes a small number of visas granted through ministerial intervention counted against the Programme.

Note: Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published.

4.2.2 Offshore Humanitarian Programme

In 2014–15, 11,009 visas were granted under the offshore resettlement component of the Humanitarian Programme (Table 4.2). Offshore humanitarian visas granted represented 80.0 per cent of all places, comprising:

- 6002 Refugee visas (54.5 per cent)
- 5007 Special Humanitarian visas (45.5 per cent).

Table 4.2: Offshore humanitarian visas granted—top 10 countries of birth, 2010–11 to 2014–15

Age group	2010–11		2011–12		2012–13		2013–14		2014–15	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Iraq	1,081	1,066	788	688	2,056	2,007	1,195	1,166	1,154	1,181
Syria	< 5	< 5	< 5	5	46	52	522	485	1,134	1,098
Myanmar	731	711	809	1,047	1,119	1,232	929	890	1,066	963
Afghanistan	521	504	347	363	1,177	1,253	1264	1487	953	860
DRC[1]	295	270	163	137	261	228	158	167	198	186
Eritrea	99	84	114	107	99	85	141	136	171	191
Bhutan	498	503	346	349	504	507	260	247	174	180
Iran	138	125	99	117	212	256	230	201	137	194
Somalia	105	96	84	74	194	202	117	117	141	146
Ethiopia	185	188	177	153	92	90	112	109	150	132
Others	919	830	367	364	391	425	519	554	277	323
Total top 10	3,653	3,547	2,927	3,040	5,760	5,912	4,928	5,005	5,278	5,131
Grand total	8,949		6,698		12,488		11,006		11,009	

Source data: DIBP

1. Democratic Republic of Congo.

Note: Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

Of the Refugee visas granted, 1009 (16.8 per cent) were Woman at Risk visas, exceeding the programme's target of 1000 visas under the refugee category allocation. More than 15,600 vulnerable women and their dependants have been resettled under this visa category since it was introduced in 1989.

The Government continues to work closely with the UNHCR, other resettlement countries and countries of first asylum—particularly those in the region in which Australia sits—to ensure comprehensive, integrated responses to a number of refugee situations.

In 2014–15, most offshore humanitarian visas granted were to young people, with 62.1 per cent under 30 years of age (Table 4.3). Almost one-third (32.8 per cent) of grants were made to children 14 years of age and under.

Table 4.3: Offshore humanitarian visas granted by age group, 2010–11 to 2014–15

Age group	2010–11		2011–12		2012–13		2013–14		2014–15	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0–14	1,536	1,596	1,042	1,129	1,957	2,121	1,734	1,840	1,789	1,817
15–19	564	548	360	391	650	770	613	677	597	604
20–24	490	448	346	369	634	591	532	530	503	533
25–29	450	369	348	345	558	569	499	548	491	503
30–34	356	309	288	305	510	511	463	420	457	405
35–39	339	267	234	218	470	423	397	383	386	357
40–44	267	218	198	191	392	378	339	321	348	330
45–49	179	205	146	136	297	310	246	249	283	250
50–54	128	161	95	107	194	239	195	200	190	212
55–59	92	89	83	59	160	151	144	121	170	164
60 +	172	167	158	154	329	274	285	270	341	279
Total	4,573	4,377	3,298	3,404	6,151	6,337	5,447	5,559	5,555	5,454
Grand total	8,950		6,702		12,488		11,006		11,009	

Source data: DIBP
Note: Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published.

People born in Iraq were ranked highest among recipients of offshore humanitarian visas in 2014–15, with 2335 grants or 21.2 per cent of total offshore humanitarian visas granted.
In regional terms, the highest number of offshore visas granted in 2014–15 was to applicants from the Middle East (around 45 per cent), followed by Asia and the Pacific (around 40 per cent) and Africa (around 15 per cent).

4.2.3 Protection visas (onshore)

People seeking protection in Australia arrived as IMAs or non-IMAs.

In 2014–15, 8848 Protection visa applications were lodged—a decrease of 17.3 per cent on the previous year (Table 4.4). This comprised 8587 Protection visa applications from non-IMAs and 261 from IMAs.

In 2014–15, people seeking protection had their claims considered and their protection status decided by departmental officials. They were able to appeal negative decisions to the Refugee Review Tribunal (now the Migration and Refugee Division of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal). The final grant rate reflects all visa grants, including those made after review processes.

Table 4.4: Protection visa applications lodged by programme year, 2013–14 and 2014–15

Programme year	Protection visa applications lodged (non-IMA)	Protection visa applications lodged (IMA)[1]	Total
2013–14	9,688	1,007	10,695
2014–15	8,587	261	8,848

Source data: DIBP
Figures from 2008-09 to 2013-14 previously provided were refugee status requests counted as people screened into a determination process for IMAs. Past figures for refugee status determination requests and total asylum seekers can be obtained from previous publications.
Note: Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published.

In 2014–15, 2747 permanent Protection visas were granted to IMAs and non-IMAs, similar to the previous year where 2753 permanent Protection visas were granted (Table 4.5).

There were 2746 permanent Protection visas granted to non-IMAs in 2014–15, 539 more than the previous year. Very few permanent Protection visas were granted to IMAs in 2014–15, largely due to changes in government policy on IMA processing arrangements.

Table 4.5: Final permanent Protection visa grants, 2013–14 and 2014–15

Grant type	2013–14	2014–15
Permanent Protection visas granted to non-IMAs	2,207	2,746
Permanent Protection visas granted to IMAs	546	< 5
Total permanent Protection visas granted	2,753	2,747
Temporary Protection visas granted	23	44

Source data: DIBP

Non-IMA applications in 2014–15 were 11.4 per cent lower than in 2013–14. The top five countries of citizenship for applications in 2014–15, in descending order, were Malaysia, the People's Republic of China, Pakistan, India and Iraq. These nationalities accounted for 54.9 per cent of all lodgements.

For IMA applications in 2014–15, the top countries of citizenship (including being stateless) were Iraq, Iran, Stateless, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka.

As shown in Table 4.6, the final grant rates for non-IMAs in 2014–15 varied widely, ranging from 23.7 per cent for citizens of the People's Republic of China through to 99.2 per cent for Afghan nationals.

Table 4.6: Final permanent Protection visas granted[1] and grant rates—top 10 countries of citizenship (non-IMA), 2013–14 and 2014–15

Citizenship	2013–14	Final grant rate (%)	2014–15	Final grant rate (%)[2]
Pakistan	382	74.6	430	63.2
Iraq	100	84.1	355	96.7
Iran	309	88.5	340	95.0
People's Republic of China	144	20.7	239	23.7
Egypt	342	83.4	239	53.5
Libya	191	91.0	183	88.0
Afghanistan	85	97.5	123	99.2
Syria	49	96.0	89	95.7
Papua New Guinea	53	89.8	70	76.9
Turkey	39	66.1	57	70.4
Others	513	n/a	621	n/a
Total	2,207	49.9	2,746	44.2

Source data: DIBP

Final permanent Protection visas include grants made at the conclusion of all merits and judicial review processes.
The final grant rate for 2013–14 includes only decisions made before 5 March 2014 when a cap was introduced that prevented further Protection visas from being granted during the year.
Note: Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 visas granted.

Chapter 5: Visa non-compliance

5.1 Overview

The Australian Government defines irregular migration as people who:

- enter Australia without authority, for example through entry with fraudulent or no documents
- overstay their visas
- gain visas fraudulently, for example through contrived marriages
- breach their visa conditions
- have people smugglers or traffickers facilitate their entry to Australia.

Australian citizens and permanent residents have the unrestricted right to live in Australia and travel freely in and out of the country.[4] Australia also has a universal visa system, meaning that all foreign nationals, including those from New Zealand, need a visa to enter and stay in Australia.[5]

Australia's universal visa system acts as a screening method to prevent the entry and stay of people identified as having a character, security or health risk to the Australian community. Health and character checking—in the form of police clearances, health clearances or declaratory statements—are undertaken as part of a standard visa application process.

While most people in Australia comply with immigration rules, and enter and remain in the country lawfully, an immigration compliance model is in place for controlling irregular migration (Figure 5.1). To facilitate compliance, the Department provides visa holders with details of their visa and associated conditions as part of the visa grant notification. This information is also available to employers through the Department's Visa Entitlement Verification Online service.

Figure 5.1: Australia's immigration compliance model

1. Preventative activities	These activities aim to maximise voluntary compliance, such as raising awareness of Australia's immigration laws, and engaging early with people through the Department's Community Status Resolution Service.
2. Deterrence activities	These activities target those who might be considered non-compliant and who are opportunistic in their exploitation of Australia's migration programmes.
3. Detection activities	These activities include information provided by other organisations, and by the Australian community through the Immigration Dob-in Service.
4. Enforcement activities	These activities target those who are deliberately non-compliant and who seek to exploit Australia's migration programmes. The Department has the authority to locate people, cancel visas and ultimately detain and remove people who refuse to regularise their status or depart Australia voluntarily when they no longer have the legal basis to remain.

[4] Permanent residents living overseas must obtain resident return visas on a five-year basis.

[5] New Zealand citizens may be granted a Special Category visa (subclass 444) on arrival, which entitles them to work and live in Australia indefinitely.

The Department has also implemented a status-resolution approach as the most efficient and effective way to resolve immigration status. This responsive, regulatory-based approach sees immigration officers working with clients towards an immigration outcome. The status-resolution approach involves early engagement and intervention, provision of timely and accurate information about the case and pathway options, voluntary return and counselling services and, in some instances, targeted health and welfare assistance. At times of non-compliance, the Department provides a proportionate response, with enforcement—such as cancellation or refusal of visas, detention and removal—being a last resort.

5.2 Unlawful Non-Citizens in Australia

Australia's Unlawful Non-Citizen (UNC) population is the number of people at a given point in time in Australia after their temporary visa has expired or been cancelled. It is estimated that around 62,000 people were in Australia unlawfully at 30 June 2015, following the expiration or cancellation of their visa. This figure is an estimate of accumulated UNCs from almost 70 years of regulated migration with most UNCs only overstaying their visa for a short period before departing voluntarily. There is constant movement into the UNC pool as people overstay their visas, and movement out of the pool as peoples' status is resolved, for example through departure or removal.

Over the last three years, the UNC population has remained relatively constant—an estimated 62,700 at 30 June 2013 and estimated 62,000 at 30 June 2015. In comparison to 2014, the number of UNCs in Australia at 30 June 2015 has decreased by 0.2 per cent

Table 5.1 indicates that most UNCs are from the Visitors category. Since before 2013, this visa category has remained the largest group, accounting for almost three-quarters (72.2 per cent) of all UNCs at 30 June 2015; followed by students (15.4 per cent) and those on a working holiday (3.3 per cent).

Table 5.1: Unlawful Non-Citizens in Australia by visa category at 30 June, 2013, 2014 and 2015

Visa category	2013	2014	2015	Change (%) 2014 to 2015	Proportion (%) of 2015 total
Visitor	44,800	44,840	44,780	-0.1	72.2
Student	10,720	10,060	9,540	-5.2	15.4
Working Holiday	1,980	1,900	2,030	6.8	3.3
Other temporary residents	2,140	1,860	2,150	15.6	3.5
All other categories	3,060	3,430	3,490	1.7	5.6
Total[2]	62,700	62,100	62,000	-0.2	100.0

Source data: DWARS and CARS, DIBP
Note: There are known errors in the Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens and numbers are provided as an estimate only. Numbers are rounded which can result in rounding errors and Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens numbers are only provided yearly. Some people included may have since resolved their immigration status and further interrogation of DIBP systems is required to ascertain an individual's actual current status. Figures are sorted on 30 June 2015.

Table 5.2 provides a breakdown of UNCs in Australia by Citizenship. Malaysia features prominently for 2015 with 7080 UNCs (an increase of 1.4 per cent) while in previous years it was the People's Republic of China who had the most UNCs in Australia. Despite there being a 5.1 per cent drop in UNCs from the People's Republic of China between June 2014 and June 2015, Chinese nationals continue to account for one of the highest proportions of UNCs. This is to be expected with the People's Republic of China being the largest provider of visitors and international students to Australia. In contrast, the share of Malaysian UNCs continues to increase despite Malaysia supplying less than half the number of Chinese visitors to Australia and less than a fifth of international students.

Table 5.2: Unlawful Non-Citizens by citizenship at 30 June, 2013, 2014 and 2015

Citizenship	2013	2014	2015	Change (%) 2014 to 2015	Proportion (%) of 2015 total
Malaysia	6,420	6,980	7,080	1.4	11.4
People's Republic of China	7,690	7,020	6,660	-5.1	10.7
United States of America	5,220	5,240	5,180	-1.1	8.4
United Kingdom	3,780	3,660	3,760	2.7	6.1
Indonesia	2,790	2,860	2,850	-0.3	4.6
India	3,430	3,010	2,770	-8	4.5
Republic of Korea	2,780	2,690	2,620	-2.6	4.2
Philippines	2,390	2,370	2,310	-2.5	3.7
Vietnam	2,030	2,150	2,260	5.1	3.6
Thailand	2,000	2,050	2,030	-1	3.3
All other countries[1]	12,154	15,346	18,561	21.0	32.1
Total OECD countries	23,670	23,260	23,320	0.3	37.6
Total	62,700	62,100	62,000	-0.2	100.0

Source data: DWARS and CARS, DIBP

1. Includes countries of citizenship recorded as unknown.

Note: There are known errors in the Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens and numbers are provided as an estimate only. Numbers are rounded which can result in rounding errors and Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens numbers are only provided yearly. Some people included may have since resolved their immigration status and further interrogation of DIBP systems is required to ascertain an individual's actual current status. OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Top 10 citizenships are based on 30 June 2015. See Appendix A, Table A.14 for OECD nationals.

Table 5.3 provides the demographic characteristics of UNCs. Almost two-thirds (65.6 per cent) are male. The most significant ages are; 21 to 30 years at 20.6 per cent, 31 to 40 years at 19.4 per cent and 41 to 50 years at 20.0 per cent. Almost two-thirds (60.0 per cent) of the UNC population are in the age range of 21 to 50 years. Those aged 51 to 60 years also feature prominently at 16.9 per cent.

Table 5.3: Characteristics of Unlawful Non-Citizens in Australia at 30 June, 2013, 2014 and 2015

Category	2013	2014	2015	Change (%) 2014 to 2015	Proportion (%) of 2015 total
Gender					
Male	40,920	40,690	40,670	0.0	65.6
Female	21,770	21,400	21,310	-0.4	34.4
Age (years)					
>10	1,160	1,230	1,350	9.8	2.2
11–20	1,720	1,600	1,670	4.4	2.7
21–30	14,460	13,620	12,800	-6.0	20.6
31–40	11,800	11,970	12,010	0.3	19.4
41–50	13,050	12,700	12,390	-2.4	20.0
51–60	9,650	10,040	10,460	4.2	16.9
61–70	5,560	5,670	5,890	3.9	9.5
70+	5,290	5,260	5,430	3.2	8.8
Total	62,700	62,100	62,000	-0.2	100.0

Source data: DWARS and CARS, DIBP

1. Includes countries of citizenship recorded as unknown.

Note: There are known errors in the Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens and numbers are provided as an estimate only. Numbers are rounded which can result in rounding errors and Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens numbers are only provided yearly. Some people included may have since resolved their immigration status and further interrogation of DIBP systems is required to ascertain an individual's actual current status.

5.3 Visa cancellations

Under the *Migration Act 1958*, visas can be cancelled for a range of reasons, including where a visa holder breaches a condition of their visa, provides incorrect information to the Department or engages in certain criminal activity. When a person's visa is cancelled, the person generally becomes a UNC and arrangements are made for their detention and removal from Australia.

5.3.1 Visa cancellations by citizenship

In 2014–15, 57,865 visas were cancelled—up 16.6 per cent on the previous year. A considerable proportion of these were voluntary in nature, with non-citizens requesting the cancellation of their temporary visa. This includes, for example, when a person holding a Temporary Work visa has departed Australia at the end of their contract and no longer requires their visa, or is seeking to access their superannuation entitlements accrued while working in Australia.

More than half (57.5 per cent) of visa cancellations were for nationals from OECD-member countries—up 13.7 per cent on 2013–14. As Table 5.4 indicates, the top source country for visa cancellations in 2014–15 was the United Kingdom (9525), followed by India (7039) and the United States of America (4281).

Table 5.4: Visa cancellations—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	Change (%) 2013–14 to 2014–15	Proportion (%) of 2014–15 total
United Kingdom	6,298	9,248	9,525	3.0	16.5
India	5,777	6,208	7,039	13.4	12.2
United States of America	3,201	4,262	4,281	0.4	7.4
Ireland	1,375	2,850	3,561	24.9	6.2
People's Republic of China	2,689	2,367	3,488	47.4	6.0
Republic of Korea	2,734	2,913	3,404	16.9	5.9
Malaysia	1,475	1,841	2,187	18.8	3.8
France	930	1,332	2,023	51.9	3.5
Germany	1,018	1,629	1,999	22.7	3.5
Canada	1,300	1,622	1,797	10.8	3.1
All other countries[1]	12,154	15,346	18,561	21.0	32.1
Total OECD countries	20,569	29,272	33,296	13.7	57.5
Total[2]	38,951	49,618	57,865	16.6	100.0

Source data: CARS, DIBP

1. Includes countries of citizenship recorded as unknown.

2 Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Detailed statistics of visa cancellations for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.15. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 numbers.

5.4 Compliance-related departures

The Department facilitates the departure of non-citizens who have no entitlement to remain in Australia. These non-citizens either leave voluntarily with the assistance of the Assisted Voluntary Return programme, as a monitored departure from the community, or are removed from detention under s.198 of the *Migration Act 1958*.

These departures, formally known as 'returns' or 'removals', apply to:

- people who have overstayed their visa
- people who have been refused a further visa or had their visa cancelled, including those whose visas were cancelled on the basis of their criminal conduct
- crews of vessels caught fishing illegally in Australian waters
- people who arrived in Australia without authorisation and have not been granted a visa to remain in Australia.

In recent years, voluntary departures have increased, reflecting the expansion of strategies to engage with people in the community to assist them in voluntarily resolving their immigration status (Table 5.5).

Table 5.5: Departures—top 10 citizenships, 2012–13 to 2014–15

Citizenship	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	Change (%) 2013–14 to 2014–15	Proportion (%) of 2014–15 total
Malaysia	1,302	1,904	2,083	9.4	13.5
People's Republic of China	1,654	1,613	1,733	7.4	11.3
India	1,413	1,857	1,704	-8.2	11.1
United Kingdom	626	782	801	2.4	5.2
Republic of Korea	525	648	664	2.5	4.3
Ireland	355	478	494	3.3	3.2
Indonesia	1,100	396	474	19.7	3.1
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	324	400	430	7.5	2.8
Taiwan	228	302	423	40.1	2.8
Vietnam	314	548	401	-26.8	2.6
All other countries[1]	5,645	6,762	6,171	-8.7	40.1
Total OECD countries	2,998	3,760	4,009	6.6	26.1
Total[2]	13,486	15,690	15,378	-2.0	100.0

Source data: DWARS, DIBP

1. Includes countries of citizenship recorded as unknown.

2. Includes IMAs, IMA crew, IMA Bridging visa E, illegal foreign fishers and other unauthorised arrivals.

Note: Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published. OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. A detailed table for compliance-related departures for OECD member countries for 2014–15 is available in Appendix A, Table A.16. Top 10 countries are based on 2014–15 numbers.

There were 15,378 returns and removals from Australia in 2014–15, representing a decrease of 2.0 per cent on the 15,690 departures in 2013–14. More than one-quarter (26.1 per cent) were nationals of OECD member countries—up 6.6 per cent on the previous year. Malaysia was the top source country for all departures in 2014–15, with 2083 departures, followed by the People's Republic of China (1733) and India (1704). Nationals from these three countries collectively accounted for more than one-third (35.9 per cent) of departures.

Chapter 6: Net Overseas Migration

6.1 Introduction

So far this report has focused on the granting of temporary and permanent visas. While the number of visas granted has a strong influence on levels of migration in Australia and is something the Department needs to closely manage, it is not how population change is measured. This is because people granted a permanent visa may delay their arrival in Australia, migrate elsewhere, or give up on the idea of migration altogether. The length of time migrants stay in Australia is also a factor, as is the free movement of New Zealand citizens into and out of Australia, and the emigration and return-migration of Australian residents.

Net Overseas Migration (NOM) is used to account for all these movements and it measures the net gain or loss of population through migration into and outside of Australia.

The compilation of NOM is a joint exercise between the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Department. The ABS is responsible for calculating preliminary and final NOM estimates and the Department is responsible for NOM forecasts.

This chapter reports on NOM's effect on population. It examines the components of NOM and analyses NOM by citizenship to gain a better appreciation of how migration is changing the face of Australia's population. The chapter concludes with official forecasts of NOM over the next four years.

6.1.1 Understanding Net Overseas Migration

NOM is based on an international traveller's duration of stay and is the difference between:

- **NOM arrivals**—the number of incoming travellers who stay in Australia for 12 months or more during a 16-month period, who are not currently counted in the population
- **NOM departures**—the number of outgoing travellers (Australian residents and long-term visitors to Australia) who leave Australia for 12 months or more during a 16-month period, who are currently counted in the population.

Short-term movements (less than 12 months) are not included when calculating NOM. However, a '12-in-16 month rule' applies when counting NOM arrivals. This means that people who are not permanent residents of Australia can be counted as NOM arrivals, even if they leave Australia briefly, provided their time in Australia adds up to at least 12 months in a 16-month window. It therefore includes permanent and temporary migrants, as well as New Zealand and Australian citizens. The same 12-in-16 month rule applies to NOM departures.

NOM data is not comparable with visa grants as there is a difference between when and how a visa is granted and its effect on NOM. Only offshore grants can lead to a NOM arrival. For example, someone granted a visa in one year but who does not arrive in Australia until the following year means they may be counted in NOM a year later. Also, someone granted a permanent visa might only stay in Australia for a short time, meaning they are not counted in NOM at all. It is also very common for someone to be granted a permanent visa while in Australia on a temporary visa. These cases are recorded in the temporary arrival component of NOM, based on their offshore visa grant, but as a permanent visa in the Migration Programme based on their onshore visa grant.

6.2 Net Overseas Migration and population growth

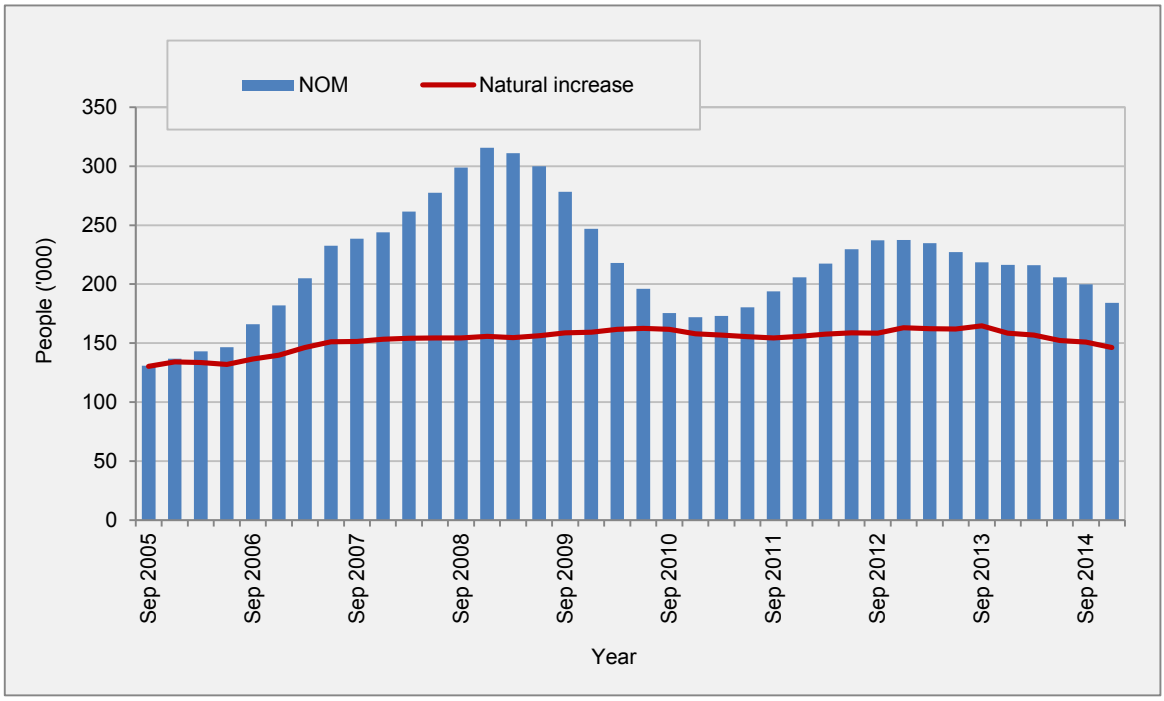
Population growth in Australia is the result of two factors:

1. **natural increase**—the number of births less the number of deaths
2. **NOM**—the net gain or loss-of-population through people entering and leaving Australia for 12 months or more in a 16-month period.

Since September 2005, NOM has been the main component of population growth and has consistently exceeded natural increase. NOM peaked in the year ending December 2008 when it reached 315,700 and contributed 68.7 per cent to Australia's overall population growth. For the year ending December 2014, preliminary NOM fell to 184,100 and its contribution to population growth stood at 55.8 per cent (Figure 6.1).

A consequence of the elevated levels of NOM has been more rapid increases in population growth. Between June 2005 and June 2015, Australia's population grew by 3.6 million (from 20.2 to 23.8). Over the previous decade, Australia's population only increased by 2.2 million. High levels of NOM have also contributed to the overseas-born share of Australia's population increasing from 23 per cent in June 2000 to 28 per cent in June 2014.

Figure 6.1: Components of Australia's population growth, September 2005 to December 2014



Source data: Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0), ABS

1. NOM estimates contain a break in series. Estimates for the September 2006 quarter onwards use an improved methodology and are not comparable with NOM estimates from earlier periods. Data points are based on one year of NOM or natural increase at quarterly intervals.

6.3 The components of Net Overseas Migration

NOM can be analysed in many ways. It is based on an international traveller's duration of stay, and is the difference between arrival and departure movements that obey a 12-in-16 month rule—that is, NOM arrivals less NOM departures. In addition, these movements can be broken down by visa category and analysed under these three broad components:

1. **permanent movement**—sourced from the Migration and Humanitarian Programme
2. **temporary movement**—from Student visas, Temporary Work (Skilled) visas (subclass 457), Working Holiday Maker visas, Visitor visas and other temporary entrant visas
3. **other movements**—from returning and emigrating Australian citizens, permanent residents, New Zealand citizens and other visas not included elsewhere.

Under the 1973 Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement, New Zealand citizens can enter Australia freely to visit, live and work, provided they satisfy health and character requirements. These movements are not counted as part of Australia's annual Migration Programme but they are included in NOM data provided these citizens stay in or depart from Australia long enough.

More recently, as part of the Australian Government's September 2007 reforms to Points Tested Skilled Migration, specific New Zealand permanent residence visas were abolished. Now, New Zealand citizens seeking permanent residence in Australia must apply for the same range of visas as applicants from other countries.

6.3.1 Classifying Net Overseas Migration arrivals and departures

Three examples designed to increase awareness of how a person might be classified as a NOM arrival or departure are provided here.

Example 1

Anika arrived on a Student visa in September 2012 and stayed until December 2015. During this time she did not leave Australia or obtain any other visas. Anika's NOM arrival was categorised as a Student, as was her NOM departure.

Example 2

John arrived on a subclass 457 visa in March 2010. He has made small trips overseas, but has been in Australia long enough to be counted as a NOM arrival—he would be categorised as a Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) and would be included in NOM arrival statistics for March 2010. In September 2013, John received his Skilled permanent residence visa. In March 2015, he accepted an intercompany transfer to Germany for two years. As John has been outside Australia for 12-in-16 months, he was counted in the NOM departure statistics as a permanent resident. Note how John's categorisation between his NOM arrival on a Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) and his NOM departure on a permanent skilled visa have changed.

Example 3

Jane arrived on a tourist visa in June 2008 to have a holiday, but also looked at universities because she planned to study in Australia. She departed Australia after two weeks and returned in July 2008 on a Student visa. She studied in Australia from that time, returning home during the university holidays. In December 2010, while studying, Jane married an Australian and obtained permanent residence through a Spouse visa. In January 2015, she became an Australian citizen. In March 2015, Jane and her husband moved to the United Kingdom for three years of postgraduate studies. Jane's NOM arrival was categorised as a Visitor because her initial arrival on a tourist visa began the 12-in-16 month period. Her NOM departure was categorised as an Australian citizen.

6.3.2 Net Overseas Migration arrivals

In the year ending December 2008, NOM arrivals peaked at 536,000, with the Temporary component accounting for a 53.7 per cent share of these arrivals. By comparison, Permanent arrivals accounted for significantly less with a share of 19.1 per cent, while Other entrants—mainly Australian and New Zealand citizens—accounted for 27.2 per cent. The temporary component of NOM arrivals was dominant at that time because of the large numbers of students in Australia.

NOM arrivals fell sharply over the next two years, so that for the year ending September 2010, there were 111,100 less arrivals—a 20.7 per cent decrease. Most of this was due to a fall of 41.0 per cent in international student arrivals—from 149,200 for the year ending December 2008 to 88,100 for the year ending September 2010. This fall coincided with: the ongoing effect of the global economic crisis in some countries; the high value of the Australian dollar; and increased competition in the global education market. It also coincided with a series of Government reforms to the Skilled Migration programme and strengthened student integrity measures.

NOM arrivals then gradually increased through to December 2013 when they reached 500,200 before falling. For the year ending June 2015, they are forecast to be 473,800 (Table 6.1). What is most significant is the 39.0 per cent rise in Student visa NOM arrivals between 2012–13 and 2014–15. This is a result of the Department's new Student visa streamlined processing arrangements which also included a reduction in the financial requirements required from those in a higher risk category.

Table 6.1: Net Overseas Migration arrivals by category, 2006–07 to 2014–15

Category—measure people ('000)	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15
Temporary movement									
Student	103.7	133.7	152.8	106.7	75.4	73.5	86.6	114.7	120.4
Subclass 457	35.9	44.0	44.1	26.3	35.6	48.5	44.0	33.6	32.7
Working Holiday Maker	21.6	29.1	34.3	33.0	43.5	55.0	59.6	58.3	54.9
Visitor	37.6	50.0	42.3	40.3	41.7	47.3	51.9	45.1	43.0
Other temporary entrant	6.7	6.8	5.7	5.3	5.9	7.1	7.7	7.1	6.2
Total temporary	205.5	263.7	279.2	211.5	202.0	231.5	249.8	258.8	257.1
Permanent movement									
Skilled	47.5	51.6	48.4	41.1	33.0	41.1	38.2	38.0	38.4
Family	32.5	33.1	35.1	35.6	33.7	35.2	35.9	34.9	33.6
Humanitarian	12.2	9.4	11.6	9.8	9.1	7.6	8.4	13.1	12.0
Other permanent	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.5	5.2	5.4	5.6
Total permanent	96.1	98.1	99.0	90.6	80.2	88.4	87.7	91.4	89.6
Other movement									
Australian citizens	75.1	75.7	80.3	78.7	78.8	78.1	81.1	81.6	81.8
New Zealand citizens	44.4	51.7	46.9	38.6	53.6	61.5	55.4	43.2	35.0
All other visas	16.2	12.2	14.4	18.5	17.2	21.8	22.9	13.6	10.2
Total other	135.8	139.6	141.6	135.8	149.6	161.4	159.3	138.5	127.0
Total NOM arrivals	437.4	501.3	519.8	437.9	431.8	481.2	496.7	488.6	473.8

Source data: ABS and DIBP, September 2015

Note: Data from 2006–07 to 2012–13 are final NOM arrival figures from the ABS. NOM arrivals for 2013–14 are ABS preliminary NOM-arrival estimates and subject to revision. All component-level data from 2013–14 are DIBP forecasts (including part of 2014–15 NOM-arrival totals) and subject to revision.). Final NOM arrival component-level data for 2013–14 are scheduled for release in the September 2016 publication of *The Outlook for Net overseas Migration*. All figures are rounded to the nearest hundred.

6.3.3 Net Overseas Migration departures

Generally, the largest component of NOM departures is the 'Other movements' category, in particular departures of Australian citizens. This is to be expected as the pool of Australian citizens from which these departures can be drawn is very large—more than 18 million people at the time of the 2011 Australian Census of Population and Housing. When looked at this way, NOM departures of Australian citizens represent only a very small fraction of all Australian citizens. This fraction becomes even smaller when the arrivals of returning Australian citizens are taken into account.

Among the Permanent and Temporary components of NOM departures, the largest category is Students (Table 6.2). Student NOM departures peaked at 50,300 for the year ending June 2011 and since then have remained fairly steady—a lag effect of the modest changes in Student visa grants before 2013–14—(see Chapter 3 for details on Student visa grants). By contrast, there have been relatively large increases in Working Holiday Maker departures reflecting increased numbers moving on to second Working Holiday visas, and subclass 457 departures. This was largely a lag effect of the increased subclass 457 NOM arrivals in 2011–12 and 2012–13.

Table 6.2: Net Overseas Migration departures by category, 2006–07 to 2014–15

Category—measure people ('000)	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15
Temporary movement									
Student	25.5	26.0	30.7	41.8	50.3	47.7	45.1	44.6	46.4
Subclass 457	9.4	10.6	13.6	14.6	12.7	13.5	18.4	19.9	20.0
Working Holiday Maker	4.6	7.8	10.5	15.0	15.6	15.9	21.0	24.1	25.5
Visitor	11.7	21.0	20.8	16.2	16.4	18.1	19.2	20.1	19.4
Other temporary entrant	10.6	11.4	14.2	17.1	19.1	20.8	23.1	21.1	21.1
Total temporary	61.9	76.8	89.8	104.7	114.1	116.0	126.8	129.8	132.4
Permanent movement									
Skilled	7.1	7.4	7.2	8.9	7.8	7.5	7.4	7.6	7.9
Family	4.5	4.8	4.8	5.5	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.6
Humanitarian	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Other permanent	4.7	4.8	4.4	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.6	6.1	6.1
Total permanent	16.3	17.1	16.5	19.7	19.0	18.9	18.8	19.5	19.8
Other movement									
Australian citizens	92.3	95.8	82.8	83.0	87.6	84.6	88.4	89.1	92.6
New Zealand citizens	15.5	15.4	16.9	18.0	16.8	17.0	21.5	25.3	25.6
All other visas	18.6	18.8	14.0	16.5	13.9	15.3	14.1	19.2	17.2
Total other	126.4	130.0	113.7	117.5	118.3	116.9	124.0	133.5	135.4
Total NOM departures	204.6	224.0	219.9	241.9	251.4	251.8	269.6	282.8	287.5

Source data: ABS and DIBP, September 2015

Note: Data from 2006–07 to 2012–13 are final NOM departure figures from the ABS. NOM departures for 2013–14 are ABS preliminary NOM-departure estimates and subject to revision. All component-level data from 2013–14 are DIBP forecasts (including part of 2014–15 NOM-departure totals) and subject to revision.). Final NOM departure component-level data for 2013–14 are scheduled for release in the September 2016 publication of *The Outlook for Net overseas Migration*. All figures are rounded to the nearest hundred.

6.3.4 Net Overseas Migration (arrivals less departures)

Since the peak of 315,700 for the year ending December 2008, NOM decreased to a low of 172,000 for the year ending December 2010. After this, NOM began to increase again and for the year ending December 2012 reached 237,400. Since then NOM has trended down and according to departmental forecasts, for the year ending June 2015 is expected to fall to 186,300 (Table 6.3).

Table 6.3: Net Overseas Migration by category, 2006–07 to 2014–15

Category—measure people ('000)	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15
Temporary movement									
Student	78.2	107.7	122.1	64.9	25.0	25.8	41.4	70.0	74.1
Subclass 457	26.5	33.4	30.5	11.7	22.9	35.0	25.5	13.7	12.7
Working Holiday Maker	17.0	21.4	23.8	18.0	27.9	39.1	38.6	34.3	29.3
Visitor	25.9	28.9	21.5	24.0	25.3	29.2	32.8	25.0	23.6
Other temporary entrant	-3.9	-4.6	-8.5	-11.8	-13.2	-13.7	-15.4	-14.0	-14.9
Total temporary	143.7	186.9	189.4	106.8	87.9	115.5	123.0	129.0	124.8
Permanent movement									
Skilled	40.4	44.2	41.1	32.2	25.2	33.6	30.8	30.4	30.4
Family	28.0	28.3	30.2	30.1	27.9	29.5	30.1	29.2	28.0
Humanitarian	12.2	9.3	11.5	9.8	9.1	7.5	8.4	13.0	11.9
Other permanent	-0.8	-0.8	-0.4	-1.2	-1.0	-1.1	-0.4	-0.7	-0.5
Total permanent	79.8	81.0	82.5	70.9	61.2	69.5	68.9	71.9	69.9
Other movement									
Australian citizens	-17.2	-20.1	-2.5	-4.3	-8.8	-6.5	-7.3	-7.5	-10.8
New Zealand citizens	29.0	36.3	30.0	20.6	36.8	44.5	33.9	18.0	9.4
All other visas	-2.4	-6.6	0.5	2.0	3.3	6.5	8.7	-5.6	-7.0
Total other	9.3	9.5	28.0	18.4	31.3	44.4	35.3	4.9	-8.4
Total NOM	232.8	277.3	299.9	196.1	180.4	229.4	227.1	205.8	186.3

Source data: ABS and DIBP, September 2015

Note: Data from 2006–07 to 2012–13 are final NOM figures from the ABS. NOM totals for 2013–14 are ABS preliminary-NOM estimates and subject to revision. All component-level data from 2013–14 are DIBP forecasts and subject to revision (including part of 2014–15 totals).). Final NOM component-level data for 2013–14 are scheduled for release in the September 2016 publication of *The Outlook for Net overseas Migration*. All figures are rounded to the nearest hundred.

6.4 Other aspects of Net Overseas Migration

The data used in this analysis is from the Travellers' Characteristics Database—owned and developed by the ABS. The database contains information about all travellers along with their final NOM status. Information is derived from Overseas Arrivals and Departures data, which can be used to determine if an individual is in or out of Australia's population, based on the rules discussed in s.6.1.1.

As the compilation of final NOM requires many months of overseas arrival and departures data, final NOM data is not available until 21 months after the reference quarter. At the time of writing, the latest final NOM data available is for the September quarter 2013.

6.4.1 Net Overseas Migration by citizenship

This section analyses NOM by citizenship to determine which nationalities are making the greatest contribution to population growth in Australia. To provide more insight into the composition of these migrant cohorts, information by gender is also provided.

Using this method, New Zealand, with a 15.4 per cent share of NOM (Table 6.4), was the main source of migrants to Australia in 2012–13. This was followed by the United Kingdom (11.3 per cent) and India (9.5 per cent).

Of the countries shown in Table 6.4, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam had relatively few NOM departures compared with NOM arrivals (their departures are less than one-third of their arrivals). In contrast, nationals of the People's Republic of China, Ireland and the United Kingdom all had NOM departures exceeding 40.0 per cent of their NOM arrivals for 2012–13.

Table 6.4: Characteristics of Net Overseas Migration by citizenship—top 10 nationalities, 2012–13

Citizenship	Arrivals	Departures	NOM	% female arrivals	% female departures
New Zealand	57,100	22,100	35,000	48.0	46.3
United Kingdom	43,300	17,500	25,700	44.7	43.9
India	32,700	11,100	21,500	49.8	33.3
People's Republic of China	42,800	22,100	20,700	53.2	50.2
Philippines	15,300	2,900	12,400	53.7	36.5
Taiwan	13,000	5,000	8,000	58.0	62.0
Vietnam	10,300	2,700	7,600	55.7	46.4
Ireland	12,000	5,500	6,400	45.7	37.3
Pakistan	6,800	800	5,900	34.5	26.5
Sri Lanka	6,100	1,200	4,900	46.7	38.3
Other	257,500	178,500	79,000	48.2	46.4
Total OECD nationalities	270,800	182,500	88,300	47.3	46.6
Total	496,700	269,600	227,100	48.7	45.9

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, July 2015, ABS
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 100.
Detailed statistics for OECD member countries for 2012–13 are available in Appendix A, Tables A.17 and A.18.

For most countries, the proportion of females arriving was about the same as the proportion of males—the main exception being Pakistan (34.5 per cent). The ratio of male-to-female departures was less balanced, which reflects differences between gender on propensities to stay, and the acquisition of Australian citizenship. As shown earlier in this chapter, in Example 3, an individual who has acquired Australian citizenship will be counted as an overseas national on arrival and an Australian citizen on departure.

Table 6.5 also shows the diversity of arrival and departure categories among the major citizenships. For New Zealand, the main arrival and departure category was New Zealand citizens, for those entering and leaving Australia on a Special Category visa. For nationals from the United Kingdom, Taiwan and Ireland, the main arrival category was Working Holiday; for nationals from the People's Republic of China, Vietnam and Pakistan it was Students, and for nationals from India and the Philippines it was subclass 457. Departures do not always mirror arrivals. For instance, the main arrival category for the United Kingdom was Working Holiday, but the main departure category was a subclass 457 visa.

Table 6.5: Net Overseas Migration arrivals and departures by citizenship—top 10 nationalities, 2012–13

Citizenship	NOM arrivals	Largest component as a (%) of arrivals	NOM departures	Largest component as a (%) of departures
New Zealand	57,100	SCV[2]—96.9	22,100	SCV[2]—96.9
United Kingdom	43,300	Working Holiday—30.1	17,500	Subclass 457—24.3
India	32,700	Subclass 457—24.9	11,100	All other visas[1]—33.3
People's Republic of China	42,800	Student—53.4	22,100	Student—55.7
Philippines	15,300	Subclass 457—32.0	2,900	Other temporary entrant—36.5
Taiwan	13,000	Working Holiday—85.3	5,000	Working Holiday—68.1
Vietnam	10,300	Student—57.1	2,700	Student—63.0
Ireland	12,000	Working Holiday—61.9	5,500	Working Holiday—47.0
Pakistan	6,800	Student—48.9	800	Student—43.5
Sri Lanka	6,100	Skill—34.0	1,200	All other visas[1]—36.1
Other	257,500	Australian citizens—31.5	178,500	Australian citizens—49.5
Total	496,700	Student—17.4	269,600	Australian citizens—32.8

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, July 2015, ABS

1. All other visas include Bridging visas.

2. SCV—Special Category visa (subclass 444) for New Zealand citizens to live and work in Australia for as long as they remain a New Zealand citizens.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 100.

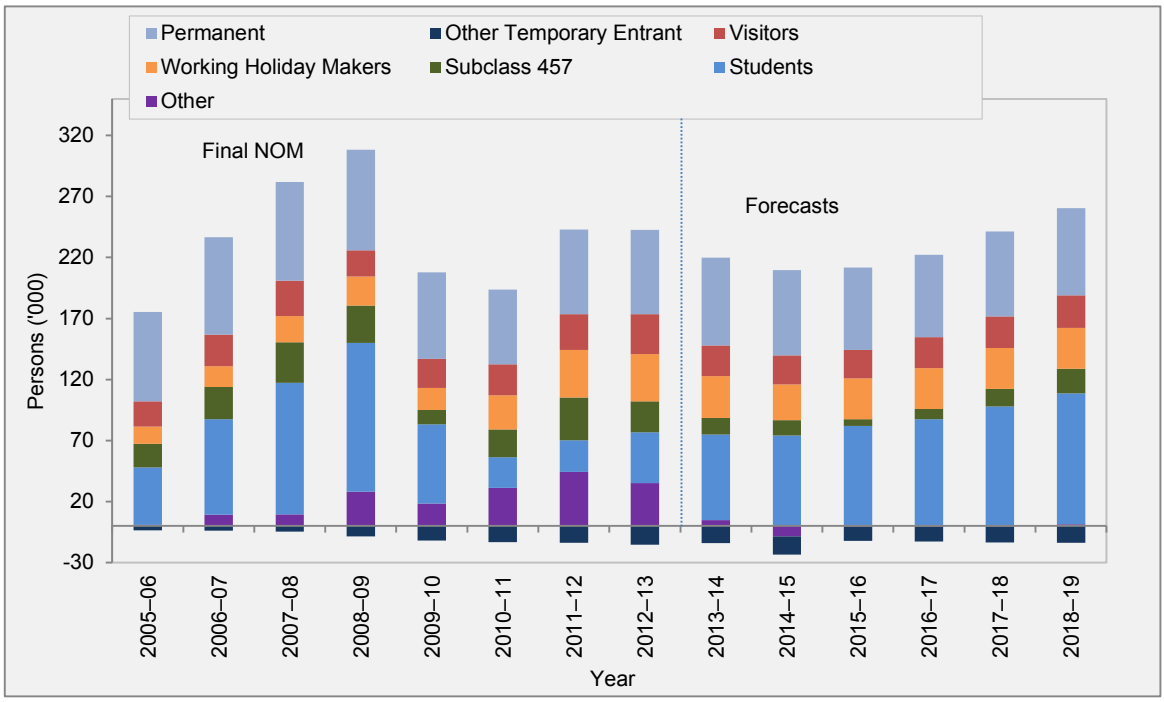
6.5 Net Overseas Migration forecasts

The Department forecasts growth in NOM, from 186,300 in 2014–15 to 199,400 in 2015–16. This forecast takes into account the expected effects of announced policy decisions that include: a new pilot 10–year Chinese Visitor visa; new Working Holiday Maker agreements with the People's Republic of China, Slovenia and Vietnam; implementation of a new Student visa framework; and announcements from the 2015–16 Government Budget. For more information, visit The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration—June 2015.

Over the next four years, from 2014–15, NOM arrivals are expected to increase from 473,800 to 525,500 in 2018–19. Most of this forecast growth is expected to be due to a larger Student visa programme, with Student NOM arrivals forecast to grow from 120,400 in 2014–15 to 167,900 in 2018–19. NOM departures, however, are expected to decrease marginally over this same period, from 287,500 in 2014–15 to 279,000 in 2018–19. Student visa NOM departures are forecast to increase, but at a much slower rate than those arriving—from 46,400 in 2014–15 to 60,600 in 2018–19.

NOM for all permanent migrant categories is forecast to remain largely unchanged during the next four years, reflecting consistent Migration Programme sizes. New Zealand NOM is also expected to remain steady during this period (Figure 6.2).

Figure 6.2: Contribution of temporary and permanent migrants to Net Overseas Migration, 2005–06 to 2018–19



Source data: ABS and DIBP, September 2015

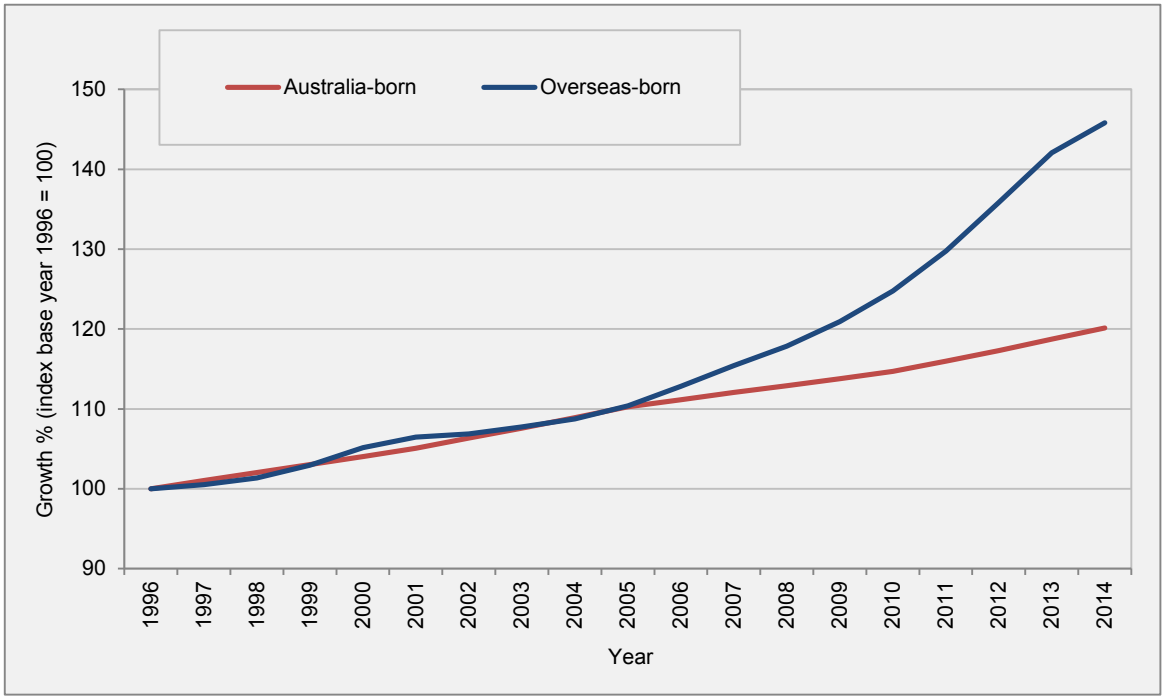
Chapter 7: Australia's population

7.1 Characteristics of Australia's population

7.1.1 Population growth

Between June 1996 and June 2014, Australia's resident population grew 28.9 per cent, from 18.2 million to 23.5 million people. Over this period, Australia's overseas-born population grew by 55.7 per cent, from 4.2 million to 6.6 million—far exceeding the growth of Australia-born residents (20.8 per cent). Although the rate of growth of overseas-born residents over this period appears to be quite high, it is only since September 2005 that the rate of growth has exceeded the growth rate of the Australia-born (Figure 7.1).

Figure 7.1: Growth in Australia's estimated residential population by birth group, at 30 June, 1996 to 2014



Source data: Migration, Australia (3412.0), ABS

7.1.2 Changes in Australia's demographic composition

Australia's population is ageing—since June 1996, Australia's median age has increased from 34.0 years to 37.3 years. Disaggregating by birth group shows that the Australia-born are the main contributors to Australia's ageing population.

Growth in overseas-born residents is changing Australia's ethnic composition. In the past 18 years, the number of Chinese-born Australian residents more than tripled, from 118,640 in June 1996 to 447,370 in June 2014—up from seventh position to third behind New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Similarly, the number of Indian-born residents grew more than four-fold, from 80,480 to 397,180 (Table 7.1)—up from eleventh position to fourth.

Table 7.1: Country of birth of Australia's overseas-born resident population—top 10 countries of birth at 30 June, 1996 and 2014

Country of birth	1996	2014	Proportion of total (%) 1996	Proportion of total (%) 2014	Change in proportion
United Kingdom	1,164,390	1,221,260	27.5	18.5	-9.0
New Zealand	312,240	616,960	7.4	9.3	2.0
People's Republic of China	118,640	447,370	2.8	6.8	4.0
India	80,480	397,180	1.9	6.0	4.1
Philippines	104,820	225,110	2.5	3.4	0.9
Vietnam	158,740	223,180	3.7	3.4	-0.4
Italy	250,370	201,830	5.9	3.1	-2.8
South Africa	61,810	176,340	1.5	2.7	1.2
Malaysia	82,540	153,870	1.9	2.3	0.4
Germany	121,910	129,040	2.9	2.0	-0.9
Other	1,784,320	2,808,610	42.1	42.5	0.5
Total	4,240,260	6,600,750	100.0	100.0	n/a

Source data: Migration, Australia (3412.0), ABS
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Top 10 countries are based on numbers at 30 June 2014. A detailed breakdown of Australia's residential population by gender for OECD member countries is available in Appendix A, Table A.19.

Between June 1996 and June 2014, the median age of Chinese-born residents decreased from 39.8 years to 35.5 years, while the median age for Indian-born residents decreased from 40.6 years to 33.2 years—a fall of more than seven years (Table 7.2). This is the result of an increased influx of overseas students and younger skilled migrants from these countries.

Not only was the median age of Australia's Chinese-born residents lower in 2014 than in 1996, there were increasingly more females—a sex ratio of 81.9 males per 100 females in 2014 compared with 95.6 in 1996. In contrast, the typical Indian migrant was increasingly more likely to be male—119.7 males per 100 females in 2014 compared with 107.0 in 1996.

The strong growth in Australia's overseas-born population was not reflected across all source countries. There was, for example, only moderate growth in the number of migrants born in the United Kingdom. In 1996, the United Kingdom dominated Australia's migrant population at 27.5 per cent of all overseas-born. Over the following 18 years, however, this gradually decreased and by June 2014 it was 18.5 per cent. Despite this, the United Kingdom remained the top source country. Over this same period, the median age of migrants born in the United Kingdom increased slightly. This suggests that the substantial numbers of mostly young migrants born in the United Kingdom coming to Australia each year was partially offsetting the effects of an ageing migrant cohort.

Not all migrant cohorts are contributing to offset Australia's aging population. In 1996, 250,370 Italian-born were in Australia with a median age of 58.1 years—a relatively old migrant cohort. Eighteen years later the Italian-born population decreased by around 48,500, down to 201,830 people, and the median age increased by almost 11 years, up to 68.8 years. This demonstrates what can happen to an older, more established migrant cohort when inflows of new migrants are low.

German-born migrants are another ageing cohort. In 1996, the median age of Australia's German-born population was 51.1 years. By 2014 this increased to 62.9 years. Unlike Italy, there was some modest growth in this cohort due to higher migration levels. As with those born in the United Kingdom, the German-born comprised a decreasing share of Australia's population.

Table 7.2: Changes in population characteristics—top 10 countries of birth at 30 June, 1996 to 2014

Country of birth	Median age 1996	Sex ratio[1] 1996	Median age 2014	Sex ratio[1] 2014	Change in Median age	Change in Sex ratio[1]
United Kingdom	48.8	101.9	54.4	104.6	5.6	2.7
New Zealand	35.2	104.9	39.7	105.2	4.5	0.3
People's Republic of China	39.8	95.6	35.5	81.9	-4.3	-13.7
India	40.6	107.0	33.2	119.7	-7.4	12.7
Philippines	35.2	54.8	39.5	63.7	4.3	8.9
Vietnam	33.4	101.1	44.5	85.0	11.1	-16.1
Italy	58.1	114.8	68.8	108.5	10.7	-6.3
South Africa	37.9	96.5	40.9	99.8	3.0	3.3
Malaysia	34.5	91.5	38.7	88.3	4.2	-3.2
Germany	51.1	95.2	62.9	92.4	11.8	-2.8
Overseas-born	44.1	101.1	44.5	97.5	0.4	-3.6
Australia-born	30.0	98.3	33.6	99.8	3.7	1.5
Total	34.0	99.0	37.3	99.1	3.3	0.1

Source data: Migration, Australia (3412.0), ABS
1. Number of males per 100 females.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Top 10 countries are based on numbers at 30 June 2014. Detailed statistics on the characteristics of Australia's population at 30 June 2014 are available in Appendix A, Table A.20.

7.2 Temporary visa holders in Australia

Temporary visa holders in Australia include New Zealand citizens in Australia on a Special Category visa, visitors, overseas students, working holiday makers, business people and executives, as well as entrants for social, cultural, international relations and training purposes. They also include people who hold a Bridging visa and are awaiting the outcome of an application for a permanent or other substantive visa, such as asylum seekers.

Temporary visa holders are included in this chapter because they are considered to be part of Australia's resident population if they have lived here for 12 months or more in a 16-month period (see Chapter 6: Net Overseas Migration for more detail). For this reason, this chapter also includes Students, Temporary Work (Skilled) visa holders and Working Holiday Maker—temporary entrants who can legitimately stay in Australia for more than 12 months. This chapter does not identify actual numbers of temporary visa holders counted in Australia's resident population, but instead provides a snapshot of all temporary visa holders in Australia at a point in time, regardless of their length of stay. Although a New Zealand citizen may arrive in Australia on a temporary visa, they are not necessarily temporary entrants as they may stay in Australia as long as they choose.

At 30 June 2015, there were 1,765,270 people in Australia on a temporary visa—an increase of 65,330 people or 3.8 per cent on 30 June 2014 (Table 7.3). Most of this increase was due to a greater number of Student visa holders (up 34,800) and Visitor visa holders (up 25,660). Falls were recorded for those on a Working Holiday Maker visa (down 7280) and Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (down 7080).

Of the top 10 nationalities for temporary visa holders in Australia at 30 June 2015, the most significant increase was for citizens of India (up 12.5 per cent), followed by nationals of the People's Republic of China (up 12.1 per cent). Collectively, these two nationalities accounted for more than half the increase in the number of temporary visa holders in Australia at 30 June 2015.

Table 7.3: Characteristics of temporary visa holders in Australia at 30 June, 2013, 2014 and 2015

Category	2013	2014	2015
Applicant type			
Primary applicant	1,534,710	1,551,740	1,614,570
Secondary applicant	144,690	148,190	150,700
Visa type			
New Zealand citizen Special Category	640,770	649,090	653,830
Student	304,250	339,760	374,560
Visitor	198,690	200,730	226,400
Temporary Work (Skilled)[1]	191,220	195,080	188,000
Working Holiday Maker	160,500	151,200	143,920
Bridging	104,670	94,630	102,220
Other temporary[2]	66,720	57,700	61,800
Crew and Transit	12,580	11,740	14,530
Major citizenship			
New Zealand	641,050	649,340	654,070
People's Republic of China	127,780	144,210	161,600
India	119,930	128,370	144,470
United Kingdom	120,140	97,750	93,320
Republic of Korea	55,630	50,160	50,760
Philippines	34,130	37,850	40,170
United States of America	37,140	36,590	39,370
Taiwan	33,850	33,810	32,620
Vietnam	25,060	29,290	32,430
Malaysia	27,610	27,560	30,530
Other[2]	457,070	465,010	485,910
Total OECD countries	1,044,580	1,020,390	1,022,530
Total temporary visa holders[3]	1,679,390	1,699,930	1,765,270

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes secondary applicants and Independent Executives.
2. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.

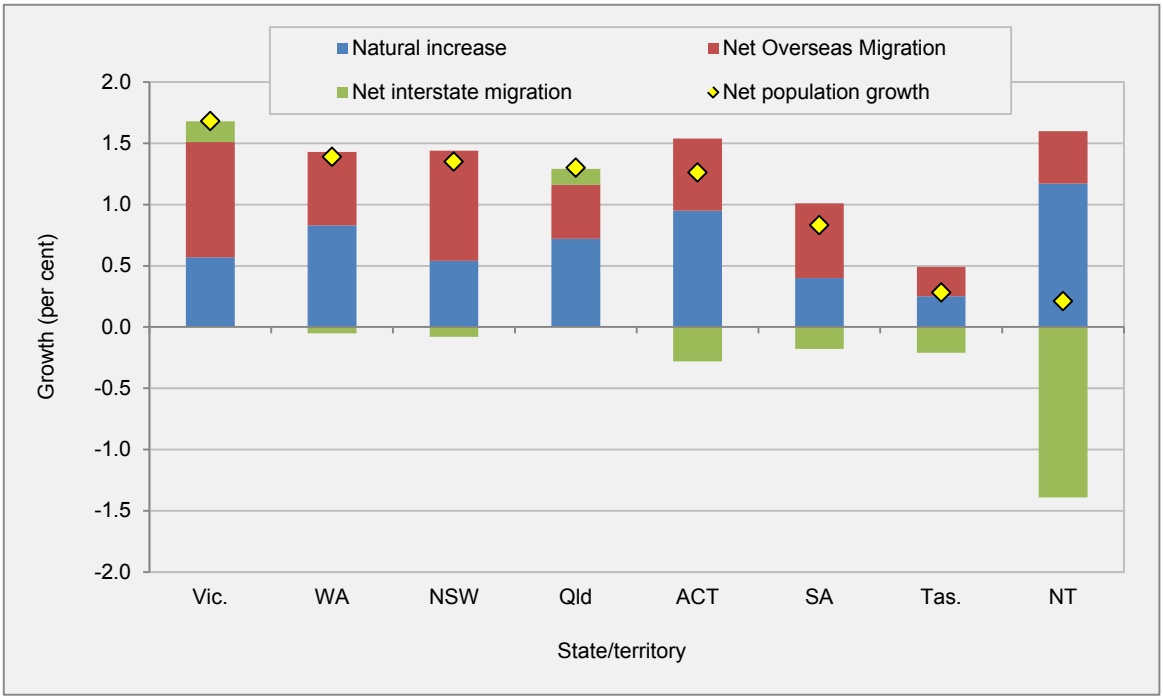
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Detailed statistics on the number of temporary residents in Australia by citizenship and category for holders of a Student visa, Working Holiday Maker and Temporary Work (Skilled) visa are available in Appendix A, tables A.21, A.22 and A.23.

7.3 Migration to Australia's states and territories

7.3.1 State and territory population growth

All states and territories grew in population between March 2014 and March 2015. The highest rate of growth was recorded for Victoria with a growth rate of 1.7 per cent, followed by Western Australia (1.4 per cent) and New South Wales (1.4 per cent). The Northern Territory with a growth of 0.2 per cent, recorded the lowest rate of growth of all state or territories (Figure 7.2).

Figure 7.2: Population growth rates—components by state and territory at March 2015



Source data: Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0), ABS

Net Overseas Migration was the main component of population growth. As can be seen from Table 7.4, the population of the Northern Territory would have contracted if it was not for Net Overseas Migration—owing to the large outflow of people migrating interstate.

Table 7.4: Population growth across Australia's states and territories by component, 31 March 2015

State/territory	Natural increase	Net Overseas Migration	Net interstate migration	Net population growth
NSW	40,116	67,272	-6,195	101,193
Vic.	32,993	54,745	9,774	97,512
Qld	34,083	20,857	6,195	61,135
WA	21,234	15,383	-1,269	35,348
SA	6,677	10,211	-2,966	13,922
ACT	3,640	2,284	-1,077	4,847
Tas.	1,277	1,250	-1,069	1,458
NT	2,853	1,041	-3,393	501

Source data: Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0), ABS

7.3.2 Permanent migration

There are often substantial lag times between when an applicant outside Australia (referred to as an offshore applicant) is granted a visa, and when they and their family arrive in Australia. **Permanent additions** is another measure of migration that includes the number of settlers arriving in Australia from overseas plus the number of people granted permanent residence while in Australia (onshore) on a temporary visa.

7.3.2.1 Permanent additions to the states and territories

In 2014–15, there were 226,092 new permanent additions to Australia—a 4.3 per cent decrease on the 236,284 the previous year. Almost 6-in-10 of these migrants were new settlers who arrived from outside Australia. As Table 7.5 shows, this was the case for all states and territories with the exception of the Northern Territory where just over half of new permanent migrants were already established in Australia.

Table 7.5: Permanent additions to Australia's states and territories by client location, 2014–15

State/territory of intended residence	Onshore	Offshore	Total	% onshore
NSW	31,890	43,698	75,588	42.2
Vic.	21,484	39,762	61,246	35.1
Qld	13,873	20,486	34,359	40.4
WA	15,796	17,277	33,073	47.8
SA	4,129	8,882	13,011	31.7
ACT	1,640	2,372	4,012	40.9
NT	1,391	1,330	2,721	51.1
Tas.	697	872	1,569	44.4
Australia[1]	91,411	134,681	226,092	40.4

Source data: Permanent additions, DIBP

1. Includes other territories and location not stated—excludes permanent Protection visas.

As Table 7.6 shows, the composition of permanent additions varies substantially by jurisdiction.

The proportion of Family stream migrants in 2014–15 was highest in New South Wales (30.2 per cent) and Tasmania (29.6 per cent). In contrast, the Northern Territory (22.3 per cent) and Western Australia (21.0 per cent) had the lowest proportions of Family stream migrants.

The Northern Territory (69.6 per cent) was slightly ahead of Western Australia (67.2 per cent) and South Australia (66.0 per cent) in having the greatest proportion of Skill stream migrants among its permanent additions. The share of Skill stream migrants in all other jurisdictions ranged from 46.6 per cent for Queensland to 64.5 per cent for the Australian Capital Territory.

Tasmania received the highest proportion of Humanitarian Programme entrants in 2014–15, with almost 1-in-5 of its migrants entering under this stream. In contrast, shares across the other jurisdictions ranged between 1.0 per cent for the Northern Territory to 6.0 per cent for New South Wales.

Almost one-quarter of permanent additions to Queensland were New Zealand citizens. This was between two and seven times greater than the proportions for the other states and territories.

Table 7.6: Permanent additions to Australia's states and territories by category, 2014–15

State/territory of intended residence	Family stream	Skill stream	Humanitarian Programme[1]	Special and other categories[2]	New Zealand citizens
NSW	22,809	42,026	4,569	822	5,362
Vic.	17,836	33,076	3,507	642	6,185
Qld	8,671	16,016	1,334	373	7,965
WA	6,936	22,216	709	250	2,962
SA	3,131	8,593	730	131	426
ACT	1,051	2,586	148	34	193
NT	608	1,893	26	30	164
Tas.	465	687	287	23	107
Australia[3]	60,707	128,191	11,310	2,519	23,365

Source data: Permanent additions, DIBP
1. Excludes permanent Protection visas.
2. Special Eligibility and other non-programme migrants.
3. Includes other territories and location not stated.

As is to be expected, the main migration category for permanent additions in 2014–15 was the Skill stream (128,191 people), of which 70,751 people (55.2 per cent) were granted their visa while in Australia. The main visa categories for permanent additions within the Skill stream for 2014–15 were:

- Employer Sponsored (37.4 per cent), of which 86.3 per cent were granted their visa while in Australia
- Skilled Independent (34.7 per cent), of which 57.4 per cent were settlers who arrived from outside Australia
- State/Territory and Regional Nominated (22.6 per cent), of which 66.6 per cent were settlers who arrived from outside Australia.

Within the Skill stream, the Business Innovation and Investment Programme ranged from 0.4 per cent in the Northern Territory to 11.9 per cent in Victoria. Employer Sponsored visa grants were lowest in South Australia (18.5 per cent) and highest in Queensland (53.6 per cent), followed by Western Australia (53.4 per cent). Skilled Independent—the second most popular Skill stream visa category—ranged from a 12.8 per cent share for the Northern Territory to a 41.7 per cent share for New South Wales (Table 7.7).

Table 7.7: Skill stream permanent additions to Australia's states and territories by category, 2014–15

State/territory of intended residence	Business Innovation and Investment	Employer Sponsored	Skilled Independent	State/Territory and Regional Nominated[1]	Distinguished Talent
NSW	1,530	14,793	17,510	8,152	41
Vic.	3,927	9,119	13,173	6,841	16
WA	452	11,866	5,419	4,470	9
Qld	380	8,579	4,992	2,057	8
SA	208	1,590	1,730	5,056	9
ACT	36	742	518	1,284	6
NT	7	885	242	759	0
Tas.	14	292	150	231	0
Australia[1]	6,586	47,930	44,541	28,916	218

Source data: Permanent additions, DIBP
1. Includes location not stated.

7.3.3 Temporary migration

This section reports on the three major categories of temporary migration—visitors, subclass 457 workers and international students. The methods of reporting are dependent on the visa category:

1. **Arrivals**—a measure of movements into Australia. As people can arrive in Australia more than once in a given year, this data has only been used to report on visitors.
2. **Stock of temporary entrants**—an estimate of the number of people present in Australia on a particular day. This section uses stock data to report on the Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) and international students at state and territory levels. Stock data is not used to report on visitors because the number of visitors in Australia at any one time is relatively small and subject to large seasonal variations.

7.3.3.1 Overseas visitor arrivals to the states and territories

In 2014–15, more than 4.6 million visitors came to Australia, a 7.1 per cent increase on the 4.3 million visitors who arrived the previous year and a 23.7 per cent increase on the 3.7 million who arrived in 2011–12. The Australian Capital Territory, Tasmania, Victoria and the Northern Territory all recorded growth above the national average (Table 7.8). In 2014–15, the major destinations of visitors, as indicated on incoming passenger cards, were New South Wales (40.0 per cent), Victoria (24.0 per cent) and Queensland (19.8 per cent).

Table 7.8: Overseas visitor arrivals to Australia's states and territories, 2011–12 to 2014–15

State/territory of intended residence	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	% change 2013–14 to 2014–15
NSW	1,492,531	1,565,973	1,765,038	1,845,578	4.6
Vic.	807,617	866,178	971,942	1,107,861	14.0
Qld	814,235	883,051	872,828	912,883	4.6
WA	422,706	431,982	473,843	501,686	5.9
SA	100,867	111,808	130,605	136,700	4.7
ACT	34,445	38,378	35,938	42,316	17.7
NT	32,659	35,044	32,809	36,297	10.6
Tas.	26,215	27,816	28,569	33,903	18.7
Australia[1]	3,731,286	3,960,257	4,311,636	4,617,367	7.1

Source data: Overseas Arrival and Departure Statistics, DIBP
1. Includes location not stated.
Note: The order of the state/territories are based on 2014–15.

From 2013–14, Victoria has surpassed Queensland to be second only to New South Wales as a visitor destination (Table 7.8). An analysis of the past 10 years reveals that Victoria has undergone substantial growth, increasing by 79.0 per cent on the 619,078 visitor arrivals in 2005–06. This is the strongest growth among all states and territories for the period. Queensland fell by 10.3 per cent on 2005–06, from in excess of 1 million to 912,883. It should be noted, however, that visitors to Queensland increased 12.1 per cent over the past four years.

7.3.3.2 Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) residents

The number of subclass 457 visa holders in Australia at 30 June 2015 was 188,000—3.6 per cent down on the 195,070 visa holders at 30 June 2014. Of these, 104,750 (55.7 per cent) were primary visa holders (Table 7.9). Almost four-fifths of subclass 457 visa holders were located in New South Wales (37.1 per cent), Victoria (23.5 per cent) or Western Australia (17.7 per cent).

Table 7.9: Subclass 457 visa holders in Australia at 30 June 2015 by applicant type and nominated position location

Nominated position location	Primary visa holders	Secondary visa holders	Total
NSW	40,710	28,960	69,670
Vic.	24,430	19,670	44,100
WA	17,980	15,320	33,300
Qld	14,990	13,520	28,510
SA	3,090	3,030	6,120
NT	1,700	960	2,660
ACT	1,360	1,170	2,530
Tas.	400	370	760
Australia[1]	104,750	83,250	188,000

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes nominated state/territory not stated.

Based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations Major Group, the demand for subclass 457 workers is centred on professionals (42.7 per cent), technicians and trades workers (30.3 per cent) and managers (20.4 per cent). Representation in these occupations is well above that of Australia's general population (Table 7.10). Table 7.10 also shows that there is considerable variation between the states and territories within these occupations, with managers ranging from 13.9 per cent of subclass 457 primary visa holders in Tasmania to 23.3 per cent in Queensland, professionals ranging from 24.7 per cent of subclass 457 primary visa holders in the Northern Territory to 68.1 per cent in Tasmania, and technicians and trades workers ranging from 13.9 per cent in Tasmania to 52.9 per cent in the Northern Territory.

Table 7.10: Distribution of subclass 457 Primary Applicant workers by occupation at 30 June 2015

Nominated position location[1]	Managers	Professionals	Technicians and trades workers	Clerical and administrative workers	Other[2]
NSW	22.5	49.9	21.0	3.5	3.1
Vic.	18.4	44.4	32.6	1.8	2.8
WA	17.2	30.2	46.2	2.7	3.8
Qld	23.3	36.6	31.0	2.5	6.6
SA	17.4	39.2	31.6	1.5	10.2
NT	16.9	24.7	52.9	2.6	2.8
ACT	16.1	53.4	24.3	2.1	4.1
Tas.	13.9	68.1	13.9	0.3	3.8
Subclass 457 %	20.4	42.7	30.3	2.7	3.9
General population	13.1	23.1	14.6	13.8	35.3

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP and Labour Force, Australia (6291.0.55.003), ABS
1. Includes nominated state/territory not stated.
2. Includes not stated, community and personal service workers, sales workers, machine operators and drivers, labourers and skilled meat workers.

More than half of subclass 457 primary visa holders worked in one of five sponsoring industries: accommodation and food services (14.9 per cent); other services (14.0 per cent); construction (9.6 per cent); information media and telecommunications (9.5 per cent); and health care and social assistance (8.9 per cent).

As Table 7.11 shows, Western Australia received the largest share of workers sponsored in mining (58.6 per cent), construction (35.4 per cent) and manufacturing (25.5 per cent). New South Wales received the largest share across all other sponsored industries.

Table 7.11: Distribution of subclass 457 primary visa holders in Australia at 30 June 2015 by sponsor industry and nominate position location

Sponsor industry	NSW	Vic.	WA	Qld	SA	NT	ACT	Tas.
Accommodation and food services	35.8	28.6	13.0	17.1	2.4	1.3	1.6	0.3
Other services	42.6	25.2	14.7	12.5	2.0	1.2	1.5	0.2
Construction	29.6	12.5	35.4	14.2	2.2	5.0	1.0	0.1
Information media and telecommunications	64.2	23.4	4.2	6.3	1.0	0.3	0.6	0.1
Health care and social assistance	32.3	23.3	15.2	18.6	5.4	0.7	2.8	1.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	43.9	34.0	10.4	8.5	1.9	0.6	0.7	0.0
Manufacturing	25.4	23.0	25.5	16.1	6.5	2.9	0.2	0.3
Retail trade	41.7	24.8	13.9	14.3	2.1	1.5	1.4	0.2
Education and training	34.6	26.9	9.7	17.0	5.8	0.5	4.9	0.6
Mining	6.4	4.4	58.6	24.3	3.9	1.7	0.0	0.4
Total other industries	44.3	21.0	13.5	14.9	3.0	1.9	0.6	0.5

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
Note: Includes nominated state/territory and sponsor industry not stated.

7.3.3.3 Student visa holders

At 30 June 2015, 374,560 international students were in Australia, with New South Wales (131,740), Victoria (101,500) and Queensland (57,600) being the largest recipients (Table 7.13).

Growth on 30 June 2014 varied between the jurisdictions. New South Wales increased by 13.7 per cent (15,920 students) and was responsible for the largest share of growth in student numbers across Australia—45.7 per cent share of the overall increase of 34,800 students.

Table 7.12: Student visa holders in Australia by state or territory of the registered education provider at 30 June 2013, 2014, and 2015

State/territory	2013	2014	2015	% change 2014 to 2015
NSW	105,460	115,810	131,740	13.7
Vic.	86,310	95,260	101,500	6.5
Qld	43,740	53,070	57,600	8.5
WA	23,400	25,440	27,970	9.9
SA	19,700	21,200	22,410	5.7
ACT	6,280	8,200	9,610	17.3
Tas.	2,980	3,060	3,870	26.7
NT	1,130	1,760	2,590	47.0
Total[1]	304,250	339,760	374,560	10.2

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP
1. Includes registered state/territory of education provider not known.

Chapter 8: Citizenship in Australia

8.1 Overview

Australian citizenship is the unifying bond for all Australians and is fundamental to a cohesive, multicultural society with shared rights and responsibilities. It is also an important step in a migrant's journey to becoming a full member of the Australian community.

Most people who acquire Australian citizenship do so automatically, for example by being born in Australia to an Australian citizen or permanent-resident parent, by being born in Australia and being ordinarily resident in Australia throughout the first 10 years of their life, or by being a permanent resident who is adopted in Australia by an Australian citizen.

Non-citizens who wish to acquire Australian citizenship must lodge an application, meet certain legal requirements, and be approved to acquire Australian citizenship. The legal requirements that must be met are different for each Australian citizenship application pathway, and each pathway caters for particular categories of noncitizens:

- Citizenship by Conferral (for migrants and certain non-visa holders with specific circumstances). There are different Conferral pathways, each with different requirements that cater for people with different ages and circumstances.
- Citizenship by Descent (for people born overseas to an Australian citizen parent).
- Citizenship by Adoption (for people adopted overseas by an Australian citizen under certain types of adoption processes).
- Citizenship by Resumption (for people who previously lost or gave up their Australian citizenship).

Most migrants aged 18 to 59 years obtain Australian citizenship through the Conferral – General Eligibility pathway. To acquire Australian citizenship through this pathway, a person must:

- be aged 18 years or over at the time of application
- be an Australian permanent resident
- meet a residence requirement by being resident in Australia for a prescribed period[6]
- pass a citizenship test to show they have an adequate knowledge of Australia, an understanding of the responsibilities and privileges of Australian citizenship, a basic knowledge of English, and an understanding of the nature of the application they are making
- be likely to reside, or continue to reside, in Australia or maintain a close and continuing association with Australia
- be of good character
- make a Pledge of Commitment at an Australian citizenship ceremony.

[6] There are different residence requirements for different categories of people. Most people are required to meet the general residence requirement. To meet the general residence requirement, a person must have been lawfully present in Australia for four years immediately before applying for citizenship and must have held a permanent resident visa for at least 12 months immediately before applying.

Other people will gain Australian citizenship through one of the other conferral pathways. The other conferral pathways are used by:

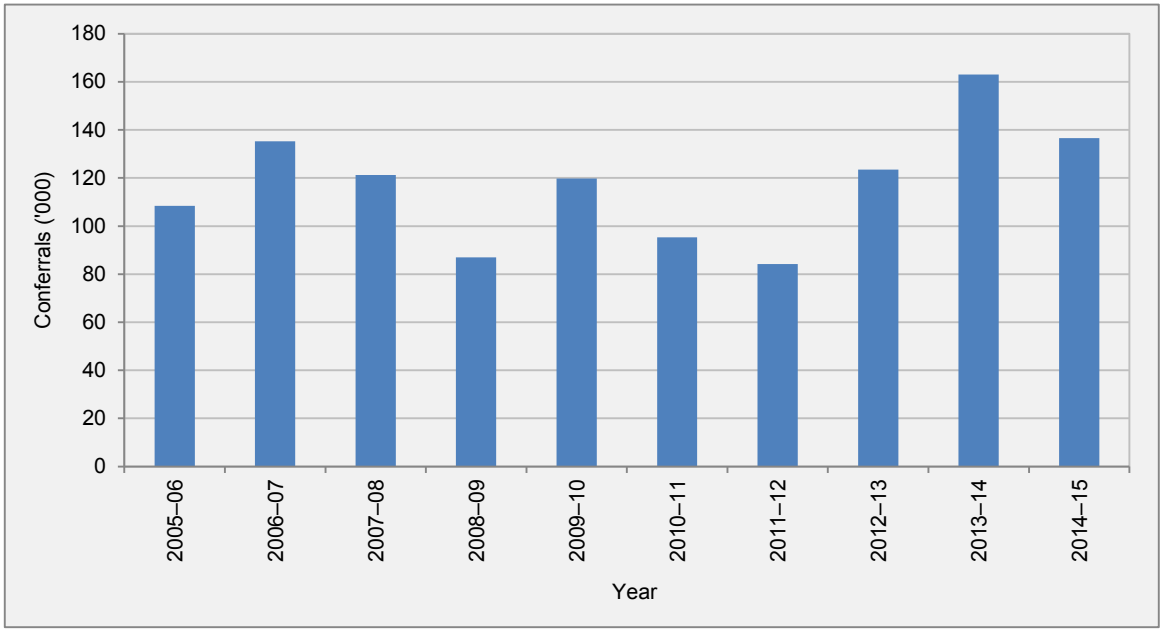
- migrants aged under 18 years
- migrants aged 18 years or over who have an enduring physical or mental incapacity
- migrants aged 18 years or over who suffer from a permanent loss or substantial impairment of hearing, speech or sight at the time of application
- migrants aged 60 years or over
- people born overseas to a parent who formerly held Australian citizenship
- people born in Papua before Papua New Guinea independence in 1975
- people born in Australia who are stateless.

The promotion of Australian citizenship and the rights and responsibilities it entails is an ongoing priority of the Australian Government. This is achieved through national days such as Australia Day and Australian Citizenship Day which are celebrated with special citizenship and affirmation ceremonies. The Department engages with key citizenship stakeholders, including local government councils, sporting organisations, schools, youth groups, and community organisations, to participate in celebrations, and uses traditional media as well as social media to promote these events.

8.2 Conferrals in Australia

In 2014–15, 136,572 people were conferred Australian citizenship—down 16.2 per cent on last year's record of 163,017 conferrals. Figure 8.1 shows the number of conferrals of Australian citizenship from 2005–06 to 2014–15. The high number of conferrals in 2006–07 preceded changes to the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007,* including the introduction of the citizenship test, the change in the residence requirement from two years to four years, and fee changes. More recent variations in the rate of conferral relate to the transitional provisions associated with the change to residence requirements and increases to the permanent migration programme.

Figure 8.1: Conferrals of Australian citizenship 2005–06 to 2014–15



Source data: Citizenship Programme Management, DIBP

Table 8.1 shows the top 15 nationalities of people conferred Australian citizenship in 2014–15. The highest number was from India (24,236), which for the second consecutive year displaced the United Kingdom (20,583) as the main source of Australia's new citizens.

Table 8.1: Australian citizenship conferrals—top 15 countries of original citizenship, 2014–15

Country of original Citizenship	Males	Females	Total conferees[1]	Proportion of all conferees (%)	Proportion female (%)
India	13,794	10,441	24,236	17.7	43.1
United Kingdom	10,650	9,933	20,583	15.1	48.3
Philippines	3,796	5,200	8,996	6.6	57.8
People's Republic of China	3,236	4,313	7,549	5.5	57.1
South Africa	3,101	3,110	6,211	4.5	50.1
New Zealand	2,012	2,079	4,091	3.0	50.8
Vietnam	1,357	2,477	3,835	2.8	64.6
Sri Lanka	1,750	1,428	3,179	2.3	44.9
Ireland	1,754	1,338	3,092	2.3	43.3
Bangladesh	1,282	1,191	2,473	1.8	48.2
Nepal	1,315	1,086	2,401	1.8	45.2
Pakistan	1,364	977	2,341	1.7	41.7
Republic of Korea	1,093	1,214	2,307	1.7	52.6
Malaysia	1,047	1,166	2,213	1.6	52.7
Iran	1,129	1,069	2,198	1.6	48.6
Other countries[1]	19,176	21,691	40,867	29.9	53.1
Total OECD countries	20,452	20,074	40,526	29.7	49.5
Total	67,856	68,713	136,572	100.0	50.3

Source data: Citizenship Programme Management, DIBP

1. Includes not stated former nationality.

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in grey. Detailed statistics of Australian citizenship conferrals for OECD member countries for 2014–15 are available in Appendix A, Table A.24.

8.3 Australian citizenship acquired through other pathways

People born outside of Australia, who at the time of their birth had a parent who was an Australian citizen (or the parent later became an Australian citizen on 26 January 1949), may apply for Australian citizenship by descent regardless of their age.[7] During 2014–15, 19,471 people became Australian citizens by descent. This represents a small decrease over the previous year when 19,072 people acquired Australian citizenship by descent.

In 2014–15, 243 children reported to have been born through surrogacy arrangements were approved as Australian citizens by descent. The main countries involving surrogacy arrangements have been India, Thailand, the United States of America, Nepal and Mexico. Australia continues to monitor this caseload carefully.

People who previously renounced their Australian citizenship, or lost it automatically under historical provisions, may apply to resume Australian citizenship if they are of good character. In 2014–15, 133 people resumed Australian citizenship.

[7] Before 26 January 1949, the concept of Australian citizenship did not exist. Before that date, people born in Australia were British subjects. They became Australian citizens on 26 January 1949, when the *Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948* came into effect.

8.4 Cessation of Australian citizenship

During 2014–15, 164 people chose to renounce their Australian citizenship. Previous citizens of the People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore represented the most common previous countries of citizenship.

A person may also have their citizenship revoked. This can happen when a person has committed criminal offences before they acquired Australian citizenship, for which they are later convicted, or when they or a third party acting on their behalf have been convicted for fraud in relation to their migration or citizenship applications.

Chapter 9: Diversity and settlement

9.1 Settlement services and multicultural affairs

The Australian Government Department of Social Services administers the majority of settlement services and multicultural affairs policies and programmes, including:

- Humanitarian Settlement Services
- The Settlement Grants Programme
- Complex Case Support
- The Diversity and Social Cohesion Programme
- Multicultural Arts and Festivals Grants.

This work reaches well into Australian society, providing support to the most vulnerable migrants, particularly humanitarian entrants. It also builds socially cohesive communities to benefit all Australians. Largely, this chapter was provided by, and updates the work of, the Department of Social Services for 2014–2015.

For more information about the Department's settlement services and multicultural affairs policies and programmes, visit policy and programmes.

Settlement services are also administered by the Department of Education and Training, which is responsible for the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP), and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection reporting on Translating and Interpreting Services (TIS National).

9.2 Settlement in Australia

The Government seeks to maximise the benefits of Australia's diversity through the economic and social participation of migrants and humanitarian entrants, by enabling them to become fully functioning members of Australian society as soon as possible.

Australia's settlement services incorporate a suite of programmes that assist recent migrants to become self-reliant. These services focus on economic wellbeing, independence, personal wellbeing, and community connectedness. Settlement services are designed to provide needs-based support in a welcoming environment.

Settlement services are designed to assist eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants in the first five years following arrival in Australia.

9.2.1 Australian Cultural Orientation programme

The Australian Cultural Orientation programme is the beginning of the settlement journey for refugee and humanitarian visa holders preparing to live in Australia. It is delivered over a period of up to five days overseas before departure to Australia. The programme provides an initial introduction to aspects of Australian life and culture, to enhance entrants' settlement prospects by helping create realistic expectations about life in Australia.

In 2014–15, 310 Australian Cultural Orientation courses were delivered in 18 countries to around 5700 participants, in their own languages.

9.2.2 Humanitarian Settlement Services programme

The Humanitarian Settlement Services programme provides early practical support designed to build the independence of refugee and humanitarian entrants, generally for the first six to 12 months following arrival to Australia.

Services are provided based on need, and generally include meeting clients when they arrive in Australia, providing links to mainstream services and the community, help in finding suitable accommodation, providing orientation to life in Australia, and providing basic household goods, such as simple furnishings, linen, some white goods and kitchen equipment.

The programme's orientation component builds on and reinforces messages provided to clients through the Australian Cultural Orientation programme.

The Humanitarian Settlement Services programme endeavours to strengthen the ability of humanitarian clients to participate in Australia's economic and social life, and equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to independently access services beyond their initial settlement period.

In 2014–15, 11,130 humanitarian entrants were assisted under the Humanitarian Settlement Services programme.

9.2.3 Settlement Services Grants

Settlement Services Grants deliver core settlement support for humanitarian entrants and other eligible migrants in their first five years of life in Australia. These grants complement other settlement services programmes, for example the Humanitarian Settlement Services and Complex Case Support programmes, in promoting pathways to social and economic participation. They do so through:

- casework, coordination and the provision of settlement-related information
- community coordination and development services that assist new arrivals to make social connections and support the development of new and emerging community organisations
- targeted services to young migrants and refugees to assist with specific challenges faced in their settlement, including specific support to access education, employment opportunities
- referral services for new entrants to connect with existing networks, support groups and services
- support for ethno-specific communities.

In 2013–14, 42,530 individual clients accessed a service delivered under a Settlement Services Grant, which remained largely consistent with client numbers in previous years.

9.2.4 Complex Case Support programme

Some humanitarian entrants have significant and particularly complex needs that affect their settlement and participation in Australian society. The Complex Case Support (CCS) programme delivers specialised and intensive case management services to humanitarian entrants with exceptional needs.

Eligibility for CCS services extends to all humanitarian entrants, including refugee, protection and Temporary Protection visa holders, where their needs extend beyond the scope of other settlement programmes. CCS services are available to these visa holders for up to five years after their arrival or visa grant in Australia.

In 2014–2015, 264 cases were referred to the programme with 234 being accepted to receive CCS services. Services were delivered by the Humanitarian Services Panel, comprising 35 service providers throughout Australia. Most referrals to CCS come from settlement service providers, community and health organisations and government agencies (such as health services and child protection services).

9.2.5 Adult Migrant English Program

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) provides eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants with 510 hours of free English language tuition in their first five years of settlement in Australia.

The programme is designed to help newly-arrived migrants and humanitarian entrants learn foundation English language skills to assist with their successful settlement. English language skills are essential to the social participation of newly-arrived migrants by providing them with support in:

- securing employment
- accessing further education and training
- connecting with the Australian community.

While the AMEP's main focus is to help migrants and humanitarian entrants develop their English language skills, for many, successful settlement means not only being able to negotiate daily activities and build confidence, but also to gain meaningful employment.

The AMEP is delivered through flexible learning options to meet individual needs, including distance learning, home tutoring and evening classes. Free childcare is also provided to clients with children under school age to help facilitate their attendance in AMEP classes.

In 2014–15, almost 63,000 clients participated in the AMEP, with students from around 180 countries of origin choosing to call Australia their new home.

Learning English is one of the most important steps migrants and humanitarian entrants can take towards successfully settling in Australia. An independent evaluation of AMEP was completed in 2015. This evaluation forms part of the Government's review of AMEP which will inform a new AMEP business model.

For more information, visit Department of Education and Training—Adult Migrant English Program.

9.2.6 Translating and Interpreting Services

Through the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National), the Government provides interpreting services for people who do not speak English and for English speakers who need to communicate with them.

TIS National was established as the Telephone Interpreter Service in 1972. It now provides immediate telephone interpreting, automated telephone interpreting and pre-booked telephone interpreting services to non-English speaking people, and to agencies and businesses needing to communicate with non-English speaking clients. The service ensures that accessibility and high-quality communication is available. It is used by the Department's clients and by government agencies, non-government organisations, service providers and private businesses.

TIS National has access to more than 2600 contracted interpreters who, together, speak more than 160 languages. The service is accessible from anywhere in Australia and provides telephone interpreting services 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

In 2014–15, TIS National provided 1,254,167 telephone interpreting services and 92,722 on-site interpreting services. The top 10 languages for which an interpreter was requested in 2014–15 are in Table 9.1.

Table 9.1: Interpreting services provided 2014–15—top 10 languages

Language	Services provided	Proportion (%)
Mandarin (Chinese)	217,106	16.1
Arabic	192,605	14.3
Farsi (Persian)	164,861	12.2
Vietnamese	111,240	8.3
Tamil (India, Sri Lanka)	70,131	5.2
Korean	58,307	4.3
Cantonese (Chinese)	57,061	4.2
Hazaragi (Dialect of Persian, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan)	45,611	3.4
Dari (Dialect of Persian, Afghanistan, Iran, Tajikistan)	42,033	3.1
Turkish	24,573	1.8
Other	363,361	27.0
Total	1,346,889	100.0

Source data: TIS National statistics, DIBP

9.2.6.1 Free Interpreting Service

The Free Interpreting Service is provided through TIS National on behalf of the Department of Social Services. It is provided to approved individuals and organisations to help them communicate with non-English-speaking migrants and humanitarian entrants who are primarily Australian citizens or permanent residents.

Organisations and individuals eligible for these services include:

- private medical practitioners providing services under Medicare
- incorporated not-for-profit, non-government and community-based organisations providing casework and emergency services (subject to their funding arrangements)
- Members of Parliament for constituency purposes
- local government authorities
- trade unions
- pharmacies for the purpose of dispensing Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme medications.

During 2014–15, 236,665 free interpreting services were provided, compared to 241,737 in 2013–14. Of these free services, 183,540 were for telephone interpreting and 53,125 for on-site interpreting.

The Department of Social Services provides free translations of personal settlement-related documents to Australian citizens, permanent residents and some temporary visa holders in the first two years of arriving to live permanently in Australia. People eligible for the service can apply for the Free Translating Service at AMEP learning centres around Australia.

9.2.6.2 TIS National's digital transformation

The introduction of the new TIS Online booking system in February 2015 has transformed the way the Department provides on-site interpreting services with a transition from a manual booking process to an automated online self-service platform, TIS Online.

TIS Online provides an automated booking request and allocation system which allows agency clients and interpreters to log into their personal TIS Online portal to self-manage their on-site interpreter bookings and update their details.

TIS Online plays an important role in helping Government departments and agencies to fulfil the access and equity obligations outlined in their agency multicultural plans. Accessing interpreting services through the new digital channel ensures that government programmes and services respond to the needs of the nation's culturally and linguistically diverse population.

The system provides many benefits for TIS National's more than 2600 interpreters, including instant access to available jobs and an easier way to manage and control their work schedule. Agency clients can manage their bookings online, giving them access to government services at a time that is convenient to them.

TIS Online is an innovative self-help service that delivers on Government policies to provide better access and equity for non-English speakers. It also reduces the cost of providing key government services and adopts digital first strategies to service real-time community needs. It has transformed TIS National's service capability and channel offering, providing faster and better services for clients at a lower cost per service.

TIS Online has led to remarkable improvements in service delivery. Booking requests are now assigned to interpreters within hours, where previously it could take up to 21 days to manually register, source and allocate an interpreter.

The system also provides a better assurance of quality by offering assignments to most highly credentialed interpreters first—ensuring users consistently receive the most qualified available interpreter.

9.3 Multicultural Australia

Australia's approach to multicultural affairs embraces its people's shared values and cultural traditions and recognises that a multicultural character gives a country a competitive edge in an increasingly globalised world.

The approach articulates the rights and responsibilities that are fundamental to living in Australia and supports the rights of all Australians to celebrate, practise and maintain their cultural traditions within the law and free from discrimination.

9.3.1 Multicultural Access and Equity Policy

The Government is committed to ensuring that all Australians have the opportunity to participate fully in society, regardless of their cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Australia's Multicultural Access and Equity Policy recognises that government departments and agencies are obliged to ensure that their policies, programmes and engagement practices are responsive to Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse population.

The policy acknowledges that Australia is a multicultural society and is about ensuring that all Australians can access government programmes and services equitably, regardless of cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

9.3.2 Settlement and multicultural affairs advisory bodies

The Government receives advice about cultural diversity and settlement issues from two ministerial advisory bodies—the Australian Multicultural Council and the Refugee Resettlement Advisory Council (RRAC). RRAC was established in 1997 to advise the Government on matters about the settlement of refugees and the adequacy of Government services. Since that time, it has become a well-established body and one that provides advice about Australia's Humanitarian Programme, refugee resettlement and the delivery of settlement services. The Australian Multicultural Council was re-established in 2011 and provides advice on multicultural affairs policy.

During 2013–14, the Senior Officials Settlement Outcomes Group (SOSOG) was established. SOSOG works to improve settlement-related services and outcomes for eligible recently-arrived permanent migrants and longer-term temporary entrants. SOSOG provides a collaborative forum for senior officials from the three tiers of government (national, state and territory, and local) to discuss a range of settlement-related issues. It also allows exchange of information to facilitate appropriate planning for infrastructure and service delivery and ensure the effective use of resources across government.

9.3.3 Multicultural Arts and Festivals Grants

The Multicultural Arts and Festivals Grants provide funding assistance for multicultural arts projects or festivals with opportunities for Australians of all backgrounds to come together, share their diverse cultural experiences and showcase their cultures to the broader community. This encourages social cohesion and mutual understanding. In 2014–15, 30 projects were funded through the grants programme involving various communities, including new and emerging ones.

9.3.4 Diversity and Social Cohesion Programme

The Diversity and Social Cohesion Programme provides an environment in which all Australians can develop a sense of belonging by providing opportunities to participate in and contribute to Australian society. This work is undertaken through initiatives addressing cultural, racial and religious intolerance by promoting respect, fairness and a sense of belonging for everyone. It also includes projects which develop community capacity—building skills of specific community groups under significant pressure due to their cultural, religious or racial diversity. In 2014–15, 23 projects were offered funding.

9.3.5 Harmony Day

Harmony Day, celebrated on or around 21 March each year, continues to be a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home—from the First People of Australia to those who have come from many countries around the world. Community-driven events remain the backbone of Harmony Day celebrations, firmly embedding in community the message that everyone belongs.

9.3.6 National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022

The *National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022* (the National Plan), released in February 2011, is the overarching mechanism bringing together the efforts of governments and communities across Australia to make a real and sustained reduction in the levels of violence against women and their children. It demonstrates Australia's commitment to upholding the human rights of Australian women and has been recognised internationally as a best-practice policy framework for responding to violence against women and their children.

The second phase of the National Plan—the Second Action Plan—was launched on 27 June 2014. As a priority, it has a strong focus on deepening the understanding of culturally and linguistically diverse women's experience of violence so it can be stopped, and on improving support available across services and systems to women from diverse backgrounds. Under the Second Action Plan, governments will deliver new and ongoing initiatives to improve women's safety, including:

- funding White Ribbon Australia to increase engagement in diverse communities
- targeting support for women on partner visas
- strengthening focus on diverse communities through the work of the Foundation to Prevent Violence against Women and their Children, the Line Social Marketing Campaign, and Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety
- responding to harmful cultural practices affecting women and their children.

Australian governments will also work with multicultural groups to inform the implementation of the Second Action Plan.

Chapter 10: Labour market

10.1 Overview

This chapter uses information from two separate sources to report on the labour market outcomes of both new and established migrants. The first source is the labour force survey by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), which provides estimates for Australia's migrant population. The second source is the Department's Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants, which reports on outcomes for recently arrived migrants.

10.2 The importance of new migrants in our labour market

New migrants have underpinned growth in the Australian workforce. In June 2015, there were almost 800,000 more people employed in Australia than five years earlier. As can be seen from Table 10.1, recent migrants accounted for 63.0 per cent of these additional jobs. For full-time employment, the impact is even more pronounced with recent migrants accounting for 72.4 per cent of jobs growth.

The main reason these new migrants make such a strong contribution to workforce growth is their high rate of employment, which occurs because of a strong emphasis on skilled migration and because of their age-profile. Between June 2010 and June 2015, almost 60 per cent of those counted in the Migration Programme were aged between 25 and 44 years, a stage in life when labour market participation is at its peak. Among the general Australian population, only 28.4 per cent of the population are between these ages.

Another factor is an increase in the scale of migration to Australia. Australia's Migration Programme for 2014–15 was about 12 per cent larger than it was in 2009–10 and 58 per cent larger than in 2004–05.

Table 10.1: Employment growth by Australia-born and overseas-born

	Australia-born	Established migrants (arrived before 2011)	Recent migrants (arrived 2011 to 2015)	Total growth
Employed at June 2010	8,005.0	3,004.3	0	11,009.3
Employed at June 2015	8,354.2	2,947.9	499	11,801.1
Growth	349.2	-56.4	499	791.8
Percent growth (%)	4.4	-1.9	n/a	7.2
Growth as proportion of total growth (%)	44.1	-7.1	63.0	n/a

Source data: Labour Force, Australia (6291.0.55.001), June 2015, LM7 cube, ABS

10.3 Outcomes of Australia's migrant population stock

The migrant unemployment rate was slightly below that of Australia-born (0.2 percentage points on average) for the period July 2014 to June 2015. As can be seen from Figure 10.1, this is not especially unusual as the rate of unemployment among migrants and Australia-born has been operating in close alignment for the last five years.

More detailed analysis of labour force data shows considerable variation in unemployment across migrant groups, with migrants from countries where English is the main language spoken having lower unemployment rates than other migrants and the Australia-born. In contrast, rates of unemployment are higher for migrants from the People's Republic of China and India, although the gap is narrowing (Figure 10.2).

Explanations for these differences between migrant groups include the:

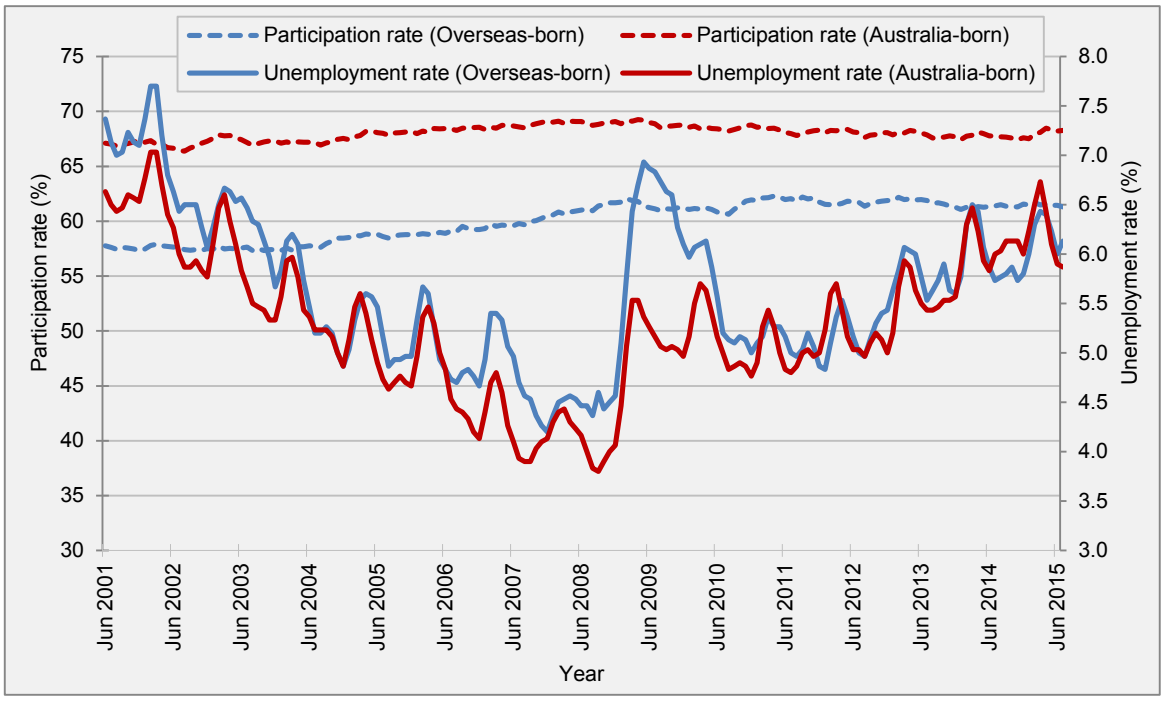
- relationship between improved English proficiency and improved job prospects—cohorts from the United Kingdom and Ireland have a higher level of English proficiency on average
- strong improvement in outcomes over the first few years in Australia—more established cohorts will tend to have better employment outcomes than newly arrived groups
- impact on employment of a higher level of educational attainment—skilled migrants receive a better return on increased human capital than other migrants, thus cohorts with a greater share of skilled migrants will tend to have better outcomes.

These issues have been previously explored in the 2011–12 and 2012–13 editions of this report available on the Department's Migration Programme statistics website page.

Figure 10.1 shows that the labour force participation rate of Australia's migrant stock is consistently lower than that of the Australia-born. In 2014–15, for example, 61.5 per cent of migrants aged 15 years and over were working or looking for work, compared to 67.9 per cent of those born here. This is because of the age profile of the existing Australia-born and overseas-born populations. The median age of Australia's total migrant population was 45 years, while for those born in Australia it was just 34 years. New migrants are, however, typically younger than the existing migrant population. These differences become even more evident around the ages at which people typically retire. In 2015, for example, 19.9 per cent of Australia's migrants were aged 65 years and over, compared with just 13.1 per cent of the Australia-born.

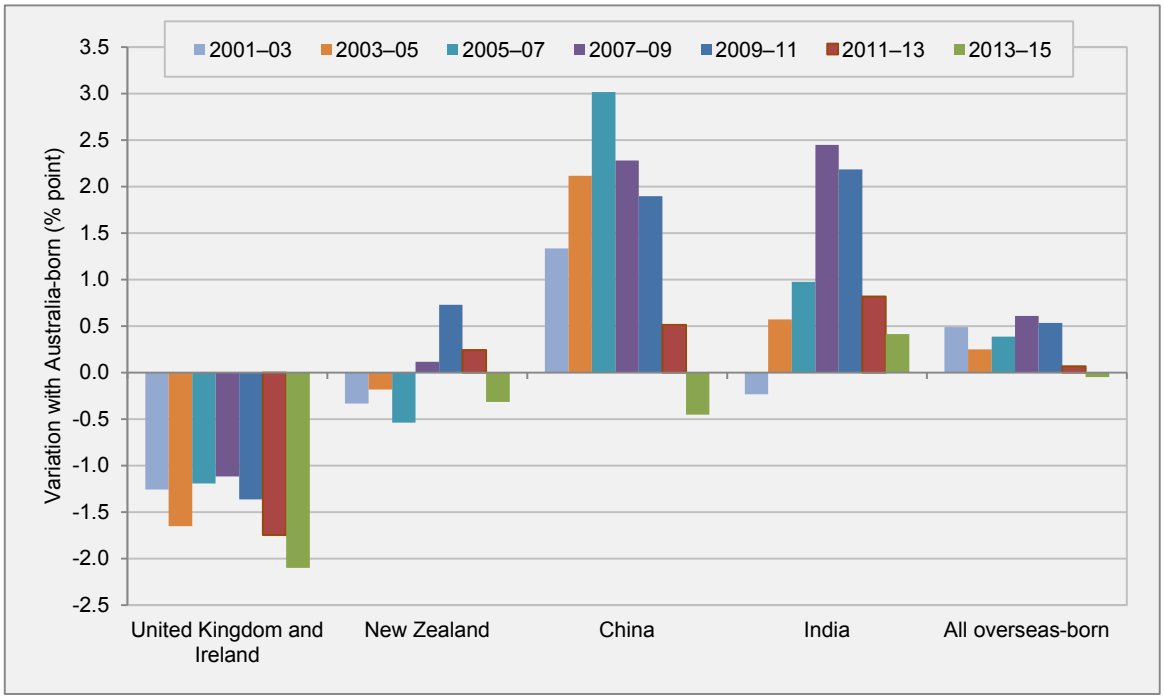
While this gap in labour force participation is substantial, it is important to observe that it has been narrowing due to the increasing share of skilled migrants coming through the Migration Programme. This has had the combined effect of increasing participation among migrants and reducing the age gap between migrants and non-migrants. For example, the 6.4 percentage point gap in participation and the 11 year difference in median ages for 2014–15 are somewhat smaller than the 9.8 percentage point gap in participation and the 14 year difference in median ages for 2002–03.

Figure 10.1: Labour market outcomes of Australia-born and overseas-born, June 2004 to June 2015



Source: Labour Force, Australia (6291.0.55.001), June 2015, LM6 cube, ABS; (three-month averages)

Figure 10.2: Unemployment rate, variation with Australia-born by selected country of birth, June 2001 to June 2015



Source: Labour Force, Australia (6291.0.55.001), June 2015, LM6 cube, ABS

10.4 Outcomes for recent migrants

10.4.1 The Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants

The information presented in this section comes from the Department's Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (CSAM)—an ongoing set of surveys primarily designed to provide information on labour market outcomes of recent migrants from the Skill stream of Australia's permanent Migration Programme, across different visa categories.

The CSAM also provides employment outcome data for the Partner category of the Migration Programme's Family stream. Other categories of the Family stream are not included in the CSAM. This is because they represent only a small fraction (less than one-quarter) of the total Family stream and because they cover child and parent categories and are therefore most likely to be too old or too young to be participants in the labour market.

Groups surveyed within the CSAM are:

- Skill stream Primary Applicants—migrants granted a visa through the Skill stream of Australia's Migration Programme, based on their skills and qualifications.
- Migrating-Unit Spouses—spouses of Skill stream Primary Applicants who came to Australia as part of the same migrating-unit.
- Partner visa migrants—migrants granted a Partner visa through the Family stream of Australia's Migration Programme, enabling them to marry their Australian resident fiancé, or to settle with their Australian resident spouse or de facto partner in Australia.

Information was also collected on:

- Non Migrating-Unit Spouses of skilled migrants—spouses of Skill stream Primary Applicants who had migrated to Australia at another time or were born in Australia.
- Non Migrating-Unit Spouses of Partner visa migrants—spouses and de facto partners of Partner visa migrants, who sponsored their migration to Australia.

In terms of timing, migrants are surveyed six months after arrival (in the case of offshore migrants) or after visa grant (in the case of onshore migrants). A follow-up survey is conducted 12 months later to examine how outcomes for a given cohort have changed.

The analysis in this report focuses on employment levels, earnings and the skill level at which the migrant is employed.[8] The CSAM reports, however, go much further and investigate migrants': demographics; industries and occupations of employment; unpaid work; number of jobs held; English proficiency; family composition; housing arrangement; educational attainment; and reasons for migrating.

For more information, visit Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants.

[8] Categorised as highly skilled, semi-skilled and low skilled. A migrant is classified as having highly skilled employment if working in occupations defined in skill level 1 or 2 in the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), which requires an Associate Degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma level qualification or higher. A migrant is classified as having semi-skilled employment if working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill level 3 or 4, which requires a Certificate III or IV level qualification. A migrant is classified as having low-skilled employment if working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill level 5, which requires Certificate II level qualification or lower.

10.4.2 Outcomes at six-month settlement stage

This section examines labour market outcomes at the six-month settlement stage. These outcomes are based on the 2014 CSAM introductory survey of migrants who arrived in Australia between January and July of 2014, or who were granted their permanent visa in this period after having lived in Australia as a temporary resident.

10.4.2.1 Skill stream and Partner visa migrants—six-month settlement stage

At the six-month settlement stage (that is, six months after arrival or six months after being granted a visa if already in Australia on a temporary visa), Skill stream Primary Applicants had an unemployment rate of 8.0 per cent. This was higher than the national unemployment rate of 6.3 per cent in November 2014 (around the time of the survey), reflecting the fact that most skilled migrants enter Australia without a job offer, and that finding a job commensurate with their skills and experience will take time. The participation rate of skilled migrants was 96.3 per cent, indicating a strong level of labour market engagement.

Despite Skill stream Primary Applicants having lower median annual full-time earnings than Australian workers ($64,200 compared to $69,600), their median annual earnings were higher ($60,000 compared to $52,100). This was because, compared with Australian workers, they had a much greater proportion in full-time employment (85.7 per cent compared to 69.3 per cent).

The CSAM introductory survey also showed that Partner visa migrants from the Family stream did not fare as well as Skill stream Primary Applicants, with an unemployment rate of 22.0 per cent and median annual full-time earnings of $50,000 for Partner visa migrants—well below the national average of $69,600. This was not unexpected as these migrants were not selected on the basis of employment potential and were more likely to have domestic priorities, while potentially providing some financial support through part-time work. This is evident in the relatively high proportion (22.2 per cent) of Partner visa migrants not in the labour force and from the relatively low proportion (62.3 per cent) working full-time. One further explanation is that at the six-month stage of settlement, Partner visa migrants are still in a period of adjustment.

Table 10.2 also demonstrates the extent to which Skill stream migrants are more likely to be in a skilled occupation, with 62.4 per cent of Primary Applicants and 24.8 per cent of Migrating-Unit Spouses in a highly skilled occupation—compared to 21.8 per cent for the Family stream Partner visa migrants.

In summary, Skill stream Primary Applicants experienced strong employment outcomes at the six-month stage of their settlement. These outcomes were significantly better than those of the spouses who migrated with them, and in many respects were better than those of Australian workers. From the data there also appear to be similarities in employment outcomes between Migrating Unit Spouses and Family stream Partner visa migrants.

Table 10.2: Employment outcomes by visa stream, 2014 Cohort—six-month settlement period

Variables	All surveyed migrants[1]	Skill stream			Family stream		General population[2]
		Primary Applicant	Migrating-Unit Spouse	Non Migrating-Unit Spouse	Primary Applicant	Non Migrating-Unit Spouse	
Employment outcomes (%)							
Employed	70.6	88.6	61.2	75.6	60.7	84.5	60.6
Highly skilled[3]	*36.6*	*62.4*	*24.8*	*40.8*	*21.8*	*42.1*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[4]	*22.4*	*19.5*	*21.7*	*24.5*	*24.9*	*31.0*	*n/a*
Low skilled[5]	*11.0*	*6.4*	*13.2*	*5.2*	*13.6*	*9.2*	*n/a*
Unemployed	13.7	7.7	16.7	6.3	17.1	6.6	4.0
Not in labour force	15.7	3.7	22.1	18.2	22.2	8.9	35.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	16.3	8.0	21.4	7.7	22.0	7.2	6.3
Participation rate	84.3	96.3	77.9	81.8	77.8	91.1	64.6
Proportion in full-time work[6]	72.7	85.7	63.1	74.3	62.3	78.3	69.3
Earnings and hours							
Median annual full-time earnings ($'000)	55.0	64.2	50.0	64.0	50.0	58.0	69.6
Median annual part-time earnings ($'000)	26.0	31.2	25.8	23.4	24.0	30.6	26.6
Median annual earnings ($'000)	49.0	60.0	41.6	56.0	39.5	52.0	52.1
Median hours per week (hours/week)	38.0	40.0	38.0	40.0	38.0	40.0	n/a
Median hourly rate of pay ($/hour)	25.3	29.4	23.7	27.9	22.6	26.3	n/a

Source data: CSAM, DIBP and ABS

1. 'All surveyed migrants' includes these sub-groups: Primary Applicant and Migrating-Unit Spouse from the Skill stream; and Partner visa migrant from the Family stream. Non Migrating-Unit Spouses of skilled migrants and of Partner visa migrants are excluded as they were either born in Australia or migrated here as part of a different migrating-unit. Note: n=13 Partner responses missing in this table due to unknown Migrating-Unit Spouse status. The total number of responses (n=9038) is the sum of Skill stream Primary Applicants and Family stream Partner visa migrants.
2. General Pop. = General population. Employment outcome figures for Australian civilian population aged 15 years and over sourced from ABS 6202.0 November 2014 (Trended); except Proportion self-employed sourced from ABS 6291.0.55.003 November quarter 2014. Earnings figures for Australian employees sourced from ABS 6306.0 May 2014.
3. Working in occupations defined in Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupation (ANZSCO) skill levels 1 or 2, which require an Associate Degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma level qualification or higher.
4. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill levels 3 or 4, which require Certificate III or IV level qualification.
5. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill level 5, which requires Certificate II level qualification or lower.
6. As a proportion of the total number employed.

10.4.2.2 Skill stream, a closer look—six-month settlement stage

At the six-month stage, skilled migrants from all categories had achieved mostly better employment outcomes than the general population, with Employer Sponsored migrants (sponsored by an Australian business to fill an identified skills shortage) reporting especially strong outcomes (Table 10.3). This includes a near full employment rate (97.6 per cent), especially in highly skilled and full-time jobs, and a high participation rate in the labour force (98.4 per cent). Median annual full-time earnings for Employer Sponsored migrants ($72,800) were almost $4000 higher than the median figure for the Australian workforce ($68,900).

Onshore Independent migrants (selected for skilled migration while living in Australia) also reported high rates of employment (89.5 per cent), with almost two-thirds (64.8 per cent) in highly skilled jobs and 78.0 per cent in full-time employment. With an unemployment rate of 7.3 per cent and median annual full-time earnings of $59,800, other outcomes were lower than the general population.

Offshore Independent migrants (selected using similar criteria to Onshore Independent migrants but applying outside of Australia) reported high rates of employment (77.2 per cent) and participation in the labour force (97.3 per cent) compared to the general population (60.6 per cent and 64.6 per cent respectively). Median annual full-time earnings for Offshore Independent migrants ($75,000) were also well above that of the general population ($68,900). The higher average earnings of Offshore Independent migrants indicate their high level of human capital. For example, 83.1 per cent had a university degree compared to 74.8 per cent for other skilled Primary Applicant migrants in the survey. In contrast to these positive results, the unemployment rate of this group was very high, at 20.6 per cent. This is due to a number of factors, including that they:

- applied offshore, and therefore they had not been in Australia as long as many other skilled Primary Applicant migrants
- did not have a job waiting for them in Australia and had to compete for work in the Australian labour market (unlike Employer Sponsored migrants)
- were only in Australia for six months, and in a competitive labour force market it can take longer than this to find suitable employment, particularly if the person has specialised skills.

State/Territory Nominated migrants reported a high participation rate (97.0 per cent), employment rate (82.8 per cent) and proportion in full-time employment (64.4 per cent). Unemployment was, however, high among State/Territory Nominated migrants (14.6 per cent) and median full-time earnings tended to be low ($60 000). Part of the reason for this was differences in the way points are allocated to these migrants in the skilled migration points test. These differences meant that these migrants did not have to score as highly as other points tested skilled migrants on criteria based around educational qualifications, English ability or work experience, but they gained points for having skills of particular value to the nominating state or territory.

'Other' skilled migrants (includes Regional Sponsored and Business migrants) had somewhat poorer labour market outcomes, as seen in Table 10.3. Around three-in-four (77.4 per cent) were employed at the six-month settlement stage. Around one-in-eight (12.2 per cent) were unemployed and actively looking for work at the time of the survey. At $47,800, median annual full-time earnings were $21,100 below that of the general population. There are two aspects to this story. The first is that a substantial share of these migrants came to Australia as Regional Sponsored migrants, who were awarded additional points towards the visa points test because they worked and lived in regional areas. As a result, they required fewer points in other components of the points test and their level of human capital thus tended to be lower compared to that of other recently arrived skilled migrants. The other aspect is that more than half of this category comprised business migrants, which accounts for the high rate of self-employment among this group—20.9 per cent compared to the national average of 10.5 per cent. Many of these migrants will also make a deliberate decision to step away from employment while establishing their business.

Table 10.3: Employment outcomes of Skill stream Primary Applicant migrants by visa category, 2014 Cohort—six-month settlement period

Variables	All Primary Applicants	Employer Sponsored	State/ Territory Nominated	Offshore Independent	Onshore Independent	Other Skilled[1]	General population[2]
Employment outcomes (%)							
Employed	88.6	97.6	82.8	77.2	89.5	77.4	60.6
Highly skilled[3]	*62.4*	*72.8*	*55.1*	*59.3*	*64.8*	*39.7*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[4]	*19.5*	*22.3*	*16.8*	*11.4*	*17.5*	*24.7*	*n/a*
Low skilled[5]	*6.4*	*2.1*	*10.7*	*5.6*	*7.1*	*12.3*	*n/a*
Unemployed	7.7	0.8	14.2	20.1	7.1	10.8	4.0
Not in labour force	3.7	1.6	3.0	2.7	3.5	11.8	35.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	8.0	0.9	14.6	20.6	7.3	12.2	6.3
Participation rate	96.3	98.4	97.0	97.3	96.5	88.2	64.6
Proportion self employed	5.3	1.9	3.3	3.7	3.8	20.9	10.5
Proportion in full-time work[6]	85.7	96.3	77.7	84.4	78.0	76.1	69.3
Earnings and hours							
Median annual full-time earnings ($'000)	64.2	72.8	60.0	75.0	59.8	47.8	68.9
Median annual part-time earnings ($'000)	31.2	39.0	30.0	27.3	31.2	28.6	26.6
Median annual earnings ($'000)	60.0	72.0	52.0	70.0	52.0	44.2	52.1
Median hours per week (hours/week)	40.0	40.0	38.0	40.0	38.0	38.0	n/a
Median hourly rate of pay ($/hour)	29.4	33.7	27.8	34.6	28.0	23.0	n/a

Source data: CSAM, DIBP and ABS

1. 'Other Skilled' category includes family sponsored skilled migrants.
2. Employment outcome figures for Australian civilian population aged 15 years and over sourced from ABS Labour Force, Australia (6202.0), November 2014 (Trended). Earnings figures for Australian employees sourced from ABS Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia (6306.0), May 2014.
3. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill levels 1 or 2, which require an Associate Degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma level qualification or higher.
4. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill levels 3 or 4, which require Certificate III or IV level qualification.
5. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill level 5, which requires Certificate II level qualification or lower.
6. As a proportion of the total number employed.

10.4.3 Change in outcomes by 18-month settlement stage

This section reports on data from CSAM's introductory and follow-up surveys, which is used to examine the change in labour market outcomes of the 2013 Cohort between the six and 18-month settlement stages. These migrants arrived in Australia between January and July 2013, or were granted their permanent visa in this period after having lived in Australia as a temporary resident.

10.4.3.1 Skill stream and Partner visa migrants—18-month settlement stage

Skill stream Primary Applicants reported improved employment outcomes between the six-month settlement stage and the 18-month settlement stage (Table 10.4). These improved employment outcomes included:

- an increase in the proportion employed—up 3.3 percentage points
- an increase in the proportion in highly skilled employment—up 4.0 percentage points
- a decrease in the unemployment rate—down 3.3 percentage points
- growth in median annual full-time earnings—up $5000.

These improvements in employment outcomes surpassed that of the general population. In the 12 months between November 2013 and November 2014, unemployment, which fell sharply for Skill stream Primary Applicants, increased nationally by 0.5 percentage points. Also, median full-time earnings for Skill stream Primary Applicants increased by $5000 over this period—about double the increase in median earnings for the Australian workforce. These findings demonstrate that even in a softer labour market the vast majority of skilled migrants eventually find work and their earnings improve over time as they find better jobs in fields commensurate with their skills.

Among other groups, Non Migrating-Unit Spouses of Partner visa migrants also reported improved employment outcomes between the six-month and 18-month settlement stages, including a 2.0 percentage point decrease in the unemployment rate, and higher median annual full-time earnings (up $6800). Results were mixed for Non Migrating-Unit Spouses of skilled migrants, who reported a 3.6 percentage point increase in the unemployment rate—partly explained by a 2.4 percentage point increase in the participation rate. They also exhibited a 1.3 percentage point decrease in highly skilled employment with a corresponding increase in low-skilled employment, which would help account for their median annual full-time earnings remaining unchanged between the six and 18-month settlement stages. The fact that these two cohorts mostly comprise established Australian residents means that they do not experience the same changes in outcomes as recent migrants.

Employment outcomes improved greatly for Migrating-Unit Spouses and Partner visa migrants between the six and 18-month settlement stages. The proportion employed was up by 5.0 percentage points for Migrating-Unit Spouses, and 4.7 percentage points for Partner visa migrants. Highly skilled employment was up around 2 percentage points and the unemployment rate down more than 6 percentage points for both migrant groups. Median annual full-time earnings were up $5200 for Migrating-Unit Spouses and up $3200 for Partner visa migrants, despite participation in the labour force being down slightly for both groups.

Table 10.4: Employment outcomes by visa stream, 2013 Cohort—six and 18-month settlement periods

Variables	All surveyed migrants[1]	Skill stream			Partner visa Migrant		General population[2]
		Primary Applicant	Migrating-Unit Spouse	Non Migrating-Unit Spouse	Primary Applicant	Non Migrating-Unit Spouse	
Employment outcomes (%) at six-month settlement stage							
Employed (%)	70.6	89.9	63.4	72.9	58.0	83.8	61.0
Highly skilled[3]	*35.7*	*58.9*	*27.0*	*39.6*	*20.5*	*43.7*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[4]	*23.7*	*22.7*	*22.9*	*21.4*	*24.8*	*29.1*	*n/a*
Low skilled[5]	*9.1*	*5.1*	*12.4*	*9.2*	*11.1*	*7.6*	*n/a*
Unemployed	13.0	5.9	14.4	6.7	18.1	6.7	3.7
Not in labour force	16.4	4.2	22.2	20.5	23.9	9.5	35.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	15.5	6.1	18.5	8.4	23.8	7.4	5.8
Participation rate	83.6	95.8	77.8	79.5	76.1	90.5	64.8
Earnings ($'000)							
Median annual full-time earnings	52.0	60.0	49.8	60.0	46.8	57.2	n/a
Employment outcomes (%) at the 18-month settlement stage							
Employed	74.8	93.2	68.4	72.1	62.7	83.5	60.6
Highly skilled[3]	*38.3*	*62.9*	*29.0*	*38.3*	*22.6*	*44.5*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[4]	*24.9*	*24.1*	*24.7*	*22.1*	*25.7*	*29.2*	*n/a*
Low skilled[5]	*11.2*	*5.9*	*13.9*	*10.5*	*14.3*	*9.3*	*n/a*
Unemployed	8.1	2.7	9.1	9.8	12.0	4.7	4.0
Not in labour force	17.1	4.1	22.5	18.1	25.3	11.8	35.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	9.8	2.8	11.8	12.0	16.0	5.4	6.3
Participation rate	82.9	95.9	77.5	81.9	74.7	88.2	64.6
Earnings ($'000)							
Median annual full-time earnings	60.0	65.0	55.0	60.0	50.0	64.0	69.6
Change in employment outcomes (%)							
Employed	4.1	3.3	5.0	-0.8	4.7	-0.3	-0.5
Highly skilled[3]	*2.6*	*4.0*	*2.0*	*-1.3*	*2.1*	*0.8*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[4]	*1.2*	*1.4*	*1.8*	*0.8*	*0.9*	*0.1*	*n/a*
Low skilled[5]	*2.0*	*0.8*	*1.5*	*1.3*	*3.2*	*1.7*	*n/a*
Unemployed	-4.9	-3.2	-5.3	3.2	-6.1	-2.0	0.3
Not in labour force	0.7	-0.1	0.4	-2.4	1.4	2.3	0.1
Total	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**
Unemployment rate	-5.8	-3.3	-6.8	3.6	-7.8	-2.0	0.5
Participation rate	-0.7	0.1	-0.4	2.4	-1.4	-2.3	-0.1
Earnings ($'000)							
Median annual full-time earnings	8.0	5.0	5.2	0.0	3.2	6.8	n/a

Source data: CSAM, DIBP and ABS

1. All surveyed migrants' includes these sub-groups: Primary Applicant and Migrating-Unit Spouse from the Skill stream, and Partner visa migrant from the Family stream. Non Migrating-Unit Spouses of skilled migrants and of Partner visa migrants are excluded as they were either born in Australia or migrated here as part of a different migrating-unit. Note: n=8 Partner responses missing in this table due to unknown Migrating-Unit Spouse status. The total number of responses (n=7070) is the sum of Skill stream Primary Applicants and Family stream Partner Migrants.
2. General Pop. = General Population. Employment outcome figures for Australian civilian population aged 15 years and over sourced from ABS 6202.0 November 2013 and November 2014 (Trended); Earnings figures for Australian employees sourced from ABS 6306.0 May 2014. Employment outcomes for the general population are not necessarily calculated based on the same population at both points in time.
3. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill levels 1 or 2, which require an Associate Degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma level qualification or higher.
4. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill levels 3 or 4, which require Certificate III or IV level qualification.
5. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill level 5, which requires Certificate II level qualification or lower.

10.4.3.2 Skill stream, a closer look—18-month settlement stage

By the 18-month settlement stage, the overall employment outcomes of skilled migrants improved substantially. This reflects that many migrants need time to adjust to a new and unfamiliar labour market, and secure a job commensurate with their skills and experience. The most notable findings between the six and 18-month settlement stages, were a decrease in the overall rate of unemployment among skilled migrants from 6.1 per cent to 2.8 per cent, and an increase in the proportion employed in highly skilled positions from 58.9 per cent to 62.9 per cent (Table 10.5). This improvement resulted in the median annual full-time earnings rising by $5000 for Skill steam migrants over this period. That being said, one-quarter were still employed in positions at a lower skill level than that of their nominated occupation at the 18-month stage. These rates of underemployment were highest for migrants in the Other skilled visa category, and lowest for Employer Sponsored migrants.

The migrants who experienced the most substantial improvements were those in the Offshore Independent category. They had the largest decrease in unemployment, from 14.4 per cent to 3.7 per cent, and their rate of skilled employment improved markedly from 64.8 per cent to 73.3 per cent, with a corresponding increase of $5000 in their median earnings. These improvements in outcomes reflect the higher human capital of this cohort—they are on average three years older and thus more experienced than the typical skilled migrant and are 60 per cent more likely to have a tertiary qualification. Due to their skills and experience they would also be in a better position to wait until the right sort of job comes along.

By contrast, skilled migrants granted an Employer Sponsored visa recorded less variation in outcomes between the six and 18-month settlement stages. This is because under the conditions of their visa, these migrants must be sponsored by an Australian employer to work full-time in a skilled field. As a result, they continued to have extremely high participation rates (98.3 per cent), extremely low unemployment rates (1.5 per cent) and a high proportion working within their nominated occupation or at a higher skill level (67 per cent and 19 per cent respectively). Due to their increased experience and stability in employment, Employer Sponsored migrants had the largest increase in the median annual full-time earnings—up $8600 between the six and 18-month settlement stages.

The CSAM also investigates other employment-related issues. For example, the Skill stream is designed to meet labour needs in particular occupations, so it is of interest to Australia when these migrants are not working in their nominated field. Among the one-in-four Skill stream Primary Applicants not working in their nominated field at the 18-month settlement stage, the main reasons cited for not doing this type of work were: lack of job opportunities; insufficient work experience; and losing interest in working in their nominated field.

Table 10.5: Employment outcomes for Skill stream Primary Applicant migrants by visa category, 2013 Cohort—six and 18-month settlement periods

Variables	All Primary Applicants	Employer Sponsored	State/ Territory Nominated	Offshore Independent	Onshore Independent	Other Skilled[1]	General population[1]
Employment outcomes (%) at six-month settlement stage							
Employed (%)	89.9	97.1	87.3	82.6	89.6	80.8	61.0
Highly skilled[2]	*58.9*	*67.1*	*51.0*	*64.8*	*60.6*	*39.6*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[3]	*22.7*	*25.4*	*23.3*	*11.8*	*21.2*	*26.2*	*n/a*
Low skilled[4]	*5.1*	*1.4*	*9.6*	*4.8*	*4.4*	*11.2*	*n/a*
Unemployed	5.9	0.9	9.9	13.9	5.6	8.8	3.7
Not in labour force	4.2	2.0	2.8	3.5	4.8	10.3	35.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	6.1	0.9	10.2	14.4	5.8	9.9	5.8
Participation rate	95.8	98.0	97.2	96.5	95.2	89.7	64.8
Earnings ($'000)							
Median annual full-time earnings	60.0	66.4	56.8	80.0	55.0	44.7	65.0
Employment outcomes (%) at the 18-month settlement stage							
Employed	93.2	96.8	92.9	92.9	92.5	86.2	60.6
Highly skilled[3]	*62.9*	*67.6*	*58.8*	*73.3*	*65.5*	*43.4*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[4]	*24.1*	*26.7*	*24.5*	*13.5*	*21.9*	*28.8*	*n/a*
Low skilled[5]	*5.9*	*2.3*	*9.5*	*5.7*	*5.0*	*13.0*	*n/a*
Unemployed	2.7	1.5	3.9	3.6	2.7	3.7	4.0
Not in labour force	4.1	1.7	3.2	3.5	4.9	10.0	35.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	2.8	1.5	4.0	3.7	2.8	4.1	6.3
Participation rate	95.9	98.3	96.8	96.5	95.1	90.0	64.6
Earnings ($'000)							
Median annual full-time earnings	65.0	75.0	65.0	85.0	60.0	50.0	69.6
Change in employment outcomes (%)							
Employed	3.3	-0.3	5.6	10.3	2.8	5.4	-0.5
Highly skilled[3]	*4.0*	*0.5*	*7.8*	*8.4*	*4.9*	*3.9*	*n/a*
Semi-skilled[4]	*1.4*	*1.3*	*1.2*	*1.7*	*0.7*	*2.6*	*n/a*
Low skilled[5]	*0.8*	*0.9*	*-0.2*	*0.9*	*0.6*	*1.7*	*n/a*
Unemployed	-3.2	0.6	-6.0	-10.3	-2.9	-5.1	0.3
Not in labour force	-0.1	-0.3	0.4	0.0	0.1	-0.3	0.1
Total	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/**	**n/a**	**n/a**
Unemployment rate	-3.3	0.6	-6.2	-10.7	-3.1	-5.7	0.5
Participation rate	0.1	0.3	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.3	-0.1
Earnings ($'000)							
Median annual full-time earnings	5.0	8.6	8.2	5.0	5.0	5.3	4.6

Source data: CSAM, DIBP and ABS

1. General Pop. = General Population. Employment outcome figures for Australian civilian population aged 15 years and over sourced from ABS 6202.0 November 2013 and November 2014 (Trended); Earnings figures for Australian employees sourced from ABS 6306.0 May 2012 and May 2014. Employment and earnings outcomes for the general population are not necessarily calculated based on the same population at both points in time.
2. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill levels 1 or 2, which require an Associate Degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma level qualification or higher.
3. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill levels 3 or 4, which require Certificate III or IV level qualification.
4. Working in occupations defined in ANZSCO skill level 5, which requires Certificate II level qualification or lower.

Appendix A

Table A.1: Migration Programme—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	41	61	102
Belgium	123	108	231
Canada	852	1,126	1,978
Chile	122	120	242
Czech Republic	81	148	229
Denmark	71	79	150
Estonia	55	79	134
Finland	49	101	150
France	859	749	1,608
Germany	615	882	1,497
Greece	258	228	486
Hungary	153	207	360
Iceland	< 5	< 5	5
Ireland	3,517	2,670	6,187
Israel	180	162	342
Italy	832	539	1,371
Japan	279	825	1,105
Republic of Korea	1,406	1,964	3,370
Luxembourg	< 5	< 5	5
Mexico	128	143	271
Netherlands	346	323	669
Norway	66	69	134
Poland	237	369	606
Portugal	155	155	310
Slovakia	78	99	177
Slovenia	21	30	51
Spain	275	281	556
Sweden	166	271	436
Switzerland	89	119	208
Turkey	291	212	503
United Kingdom	11,277	9,801	21,078
United States of America	1,654	1,804	3,459
OECD total	24,279	23,731	48,010
Non-OECD total[2]	64,705	76,331	141,042
Total[3]	89,003	100,088	189,097

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Where gender has not been specified, it is included in the total.
2. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
4. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.2: Points Tested Skilled Migration visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	14	13	27
Belgium	33	26	59
Canada	213	202	415
Chile	17	13	30
Czech Republic	18	14	32
Denmark	10	8	18
Estonia	5	< 5	8
Finland	12	16	28
France	144	110	254
Germany	129	139	268
Greece	13	12	25
Hungary	57	59	116
Iceland	0	< 5	< 5
Ireland	973	802	1,775
Israel	67	59	126
Italy	103	68	171
Japan	57	98	156
Republic of Korea	266	323	589
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	50	35	85
Netherlands	72	69	141
Norway	9	5	14
Poland	71	80	151
Portugal	43	46	89
Slovakia	18	24	42
Slovenia	5	< 5	9
Spain	62	60	122
Sweden	30	29	59
Switzerland	16	21	37
Turkey	79	52	131
United Kingdom	3,038	2,705	5,744
United States of America	275	255	531
OECD total	5,899	5,351	11,253
Non-OECD total[2]	31,927	29,630	61,564
Total[3]	37,835	34,995	72,840

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Where gender has not been specified, it is included in the total.
2. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
4. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.3: Employer Sponsored visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	15	17	32
Belgium	48	41	89
Canada	336	322	658
Chile	47	38	85
Czech Republic	41	47	88
Denmark	36	28	64
Estonia	36	28	64
Finland	23	32	55
France	435	356	791
Germany	300	299	599
Greece	50	37	87
Hungary	69	71	140
Iceland	0	< 5	< 5
Ireland	2,150	1,542	3,692
Israel	76	52	128
Italy	386	250	636
Japan	117	202	319
Republic of Korea	729	773	1,502
Luxembourg	< 5	< 5	< 5
Mexico	41	39	80
Netherlands	133	140	273
Norway	10	10	20
Poland	106	124	230
Portugal	56	61	117
Slovakia	38	35	73
Slovenia	11	8	19
Spain	141	137	278
Sweden	47	63	110
Switzerland	37	44	81
Turkey	65	45	110
United Kingdom	5,601	4,828	10,429
United States of America	565	543	1,108
OECD total	11,747	10,215	21,962
Non-OECD total[2]	13,765	12,510	26,275
Total[3]	25,518	22,732	48,250

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Where gender has not been specified, it is included in the total.
2. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
4. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.4: Business Innovation and Investment visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total
Austria	0	0	0
Belgium	< 5	0	< 5
Canada	< 5	< 5	5
Chile	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	0	0
Denmark	0	0	0
Estonia	0	0	0
Finland	0	0	0
France	5	5	10
Germany	< 5	0	< 5
Greece	0	0	0
Hungary	0	0	0
Iceland	0	0	0
Ireland	0	0	0
Israel	0	0	0
Italy	6	< 5	8
Japan	8	11	19
Republic of Korea	39	26	65
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	0	0	0
Netherlands	< 5	< 5	5
Norway	0	0	0
Poland	0	0	0
Portugal	0	0	0
Slovakia	0	0	0
Slovenia	0	0	0
Spain	0	0	0
Sweden	< 5	< 5	< 5
Switzerland	< 5	< 5	7
Turkey	0	0	0
United Kingdom	24	19	43
United States of America	14	10	24
OECD total	111	80	191
Non-OECD total	3,172	3,121	6,293
Total	3,283	3,201	6,484

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.5: Partner visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	11	29	40
Belgium	35	36	71
Canada	286	573	859
Chile	52	64	116
Czech Republic	21	87	108
Denmark	22	40	62
Estonia	14	48	62
Finland	12	51	63
France	256	264	520
Germany	171	421	592
Greece	194	174	368
Hungary	20	69	89
Iceland	< 5	< 5	< 5
Ireland	369	304	673
Israel	25	38	63
Italy	321	200	521
Japan	77	490	567
Republic of Korea	276	720	996
Luxembourg	0	< 5	< 5
Mexico	30	63	93
Netherlands	120	104	224
Norway	39	48	86
Poland	53	150	203
Portugal	52	46	98
Slovakia	20	37	57
Slovenia	< 5	18	22
Spain	68	80	148
Sweden	85	171	255
Switzerland	31	48	79
Turkey	137	108	245
United Kingdom	2,229	1,751	3,979
United States of America	741	940	1,681
OECD total	5,772	7,175	12,944
Non-OECD total[2]	10,521	24,362	34,882
Total[3]	16,292	31,537	47,825

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Where gender has not been specified, it is included in the total.
2. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
4. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.6: Child visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total
Austria	0	< 5	< 5
Belgium	< 5	0	< 5
Canada	5	10	15
Chile	6	< 5	9
Czech Republic	0	0	0
Denmark	< 5	< 5	5
Estonia	0	0	0
Finland	< 5	< 5	< 5
France	8	< 5	10
Germany	< 5	< 5	8
Greece	< 5	< 5	5
Hungary	5	5	10
Iceland	0	0	0
Ireland	16	6	22
Israel	< 5	< 5	7
Italy	< 5	< 5	6
Japan	14	9	23
Republic of Korea	38	32	70
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	< 5	< 5	5
Netherlands	5	< 5	8
Norway	< 5	< 5	7
Poland	< 5	0	< 5
Portugal	< 5	0	< 5
Slovakia	0	0	0
Slovenia	< 5	0	< 5
Spain	< 5	< 5	6
Sweden	< 5	< 5	< 5
Switzerland	0	< 5	< 5
Turkey	6	< 5	7
United Kingdom	92	85	177
United States of America	43	31	74
OECD total	270	217	487
Non-OECD total[1]	1,874	1,764	3,638
Total[2]	2,149	1,986	4,135

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
2. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.7: Parent visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total
Austria	0	0	0
Belgium	< 5	< 5	6
Canada	8	13	21
Chile	0	< 5	< 5
Czech Republic	< 5	0	< 5
Denmark	0	< 5	< 5
Estonia	0	0	0
Finland	0	0	0
France	5	9	14
Germany	8	17	25
Greece	0	< 5	< 5
Hungary	< 5	< 5	5
Iceland	0	0	0
Ireland	5	10	15
Israel	8	10	18
Italy	7	11	18
Japan	5	12	17
Republic of Korea	52	85	137
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	< 5	< 5	< 5
Netherlands	9	< 5	13
Norway	< 5	< 5	< 5
Poland	< 5	13	17
Portugal	< 5	< 5	5
Slovakia	< 5	< 5	< 5
Slovenia	0	0	0
Spain	0	< 5	< 5
Sweden	0	< 5	< 5
Switzerland	< 5	< 5	< 5
Turkey	< 5	< 5	5
United Kingdom	251	378	629
United States of America	10	20	30
OECD total	386	605	991
Non-OECD total	3,084	4,600	7,684
Total	3,470	5,205	8,675

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.8: Other Family visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total
Austria	0	0	0
Belgium	0	0	0
Canada	0	0	0
Chile	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	0	0
Denmark	0	0	0
Estonia	0	0	0
Finland	0	0	0
France	0	0	0
Germany	0	0	0
Greece	0	0	0
Hungary	0	0	0
Iceland	0	0	0
Ireland	0	0	0
Israel	0	0	0
Italy	0	0	0
Japan	0	0	0
Republic of Korea	< 5	< 5	< 5
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	0	0	0
Netherlands	< 5	0	< 5
Norway	< 5	< 5	< 5
Poland	0	0	0
Portugal	0	0	0
Slovakia	0	0	0
Slovenia	0	0	0
Spain	0	0	0
Sweden	< 5	< 5	6
Switzerland	0	0	0
Turkey	< 5	< 5	< 5
United Kingdom	< 5	0	< 5
United States of America	0	0	0
OECD total	12	7	19
Non-OECD total	216	215	431
Total	228	222	450

Source data: Migration Reporting, DIBP

1. New Zealand citizens granted permanent visas are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Programme.

Table A.9: Visitor visas granted for applicants outside Australia—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	8,412	7,838	16,250
Belgium	7,999	6,501	14,500
Canada	53,387	55,639	109,027
Chile	4,433	4,206	8,640
Czech Republic	3,759	3,677	7,436
Denmark	10,659	10,298	20,957
Estonia	949	1,047	1,996
Finland	5,201	5,595	10,796
France	67,418	63,494	130,912
Germany	76,719	73,817	150,536
Greece	3,979	2,750	6,729
Hungary	2,518	2,722	5,241
Iceland	475	457	932
Ireland	23,406	26,667	50,074
Israel	3,545	2,778	6,323
Italy	31,417	23,546	54,963
Japan	138,775	156,417	295,193
Republic of Korea	87,749	96,260	184,009
Luxembourg	367	335	702
Mexico	3,137	3,044	6,183
Netherlands	27,081	23,617	50,698
New Zealand	290	47	337
Norway	7,446	8,087	15,533
Poland	7,773	7,936	15,709
Portugal	4,802	4,412	9,214
Slovakia	1,506	1,748	3,254
Slovenia	1,034	1,025	2,059
Spain	12,598	10,625	23,223
Sweden	15,903	16,638	32,541
Switzerland	19,927	19,563	39,490
Turkey	2,922	2,483	5,405
United Kingdom	277,425	278,667	556,094
United States of America	221,536	204,384	425,922
OECD total	1,134,547	1,126,320	2,260,878
Non-OECD total[2]	914,356	1,108,622	2,023,012
Total[3]	2,048,922	2,234,953	4,283,920

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Where gender has not been specified, it is included in the total.
2. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
4. Most New Zealand citizens obtain the Special Category visa (subclass 444) to enter Australia for the purpose of visiting, studying, working or residing permanently. The figure in the table does not reflect people who have come from New Zealand. This number may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but who could be permanent residents of a third country.

Table A.10: Student visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	131	248	379
Belgium	130	191	321
Canada	964	1,457	2,421
Chile	872	800	1,672
Czech Republic	680	746	1,426
Denmark	331	485	816
Estonia	109	149	258
Finland	73	226	299
France	1,448	1,652	3,100
Germany	1,703	2,342	4,045
Greece	392	250	642
Hungary	224	215	439
Iceland	18	26	44
Ireland	304	337	641
Israel	93	78	171
Italy	3,357	2,245	5,602
Japan	2,186	4,402	6,588
Republic of Korea	6,716	6,513	13,229
Luxembourg	6	7	13
Mexico	772	790	1,562
Netherlands	296	470	766
New Zealand	< 5	0	< 5
Norway	497	1,004	1,501
Poland	646	632	1,278
Portugal	343	285	628
Slovakia	302	329	631
Slovenia	83	75	158
Spain	1,625	1,469	3,094
Sweden	422	856	1,278
Switzerland	508	686	1,194
Turkey	497	230	727
United Kingdom	1,784	2,038	3,822
United States of America	2,936	5,127	8,063
OECD total	30,451	36,360	66,811
Non-OECD total[2]	123,831	108,894	232,728
Total[3]	154,282	145,255	299,540

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Where gender has not been specified, it is included in the total.
2. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
4. Most New Zealand citizens obtain the Special Category (subclass 444) visa to enter Australia for the purpose of visiting, studying, working or residing permanently. The figure in the table does not reflect people who have come from New Zealand. This number may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but who could be permanent residents of a third country.

Table A.11: Temporary Work (Skilled) (subclass 457) visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	114	66	180
Belgium	232	138	370
Canada	1,070	928	1,998
Chile	99	76	175
Czech Republic	92	68	160
Denmark	166	103	269
Estonia	97	66	163
Finland	88	112	200
France	1,347	1,039	2,386
Germany	906	678	1,584
Greece	110	89	199
Hungary	90	82	172
Iceland	8	< 5	10
Ireland	2,250	1,869	4,119
Israel	143	123	266
Italy	1,337	768	2,105
Japan	988	847	1,836
Republic of Korea	1,055	960	2,015
Luxembourg	< 5	0	< 5
Mexico	89	73	162
Netherlands	677	350	1,027
New Zealand	22	15	37
Norway	192	56	248
Poland	224	199	423
Portugal	147	90	237
Slovakia	55	62	117
Slovenia	27	26	53
Spain	515	387	902
Sweden	230	215	445
Switzerland	153	111	264
Turkey	83	64	147
United Kingdom	8,248	6,481	14,729
United States of America	3,141	2,323	5,464
OECD total	23,999	18,466	42,466
Non-OECD total[2]	29,004	24,507	53,513
Total[3]	53,045	43,036	96,084

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Where gender has not been specified, it is included in the total.
2. Non-OECD total figures exclude a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
3. Total figures include a small number of cases where the applicant's citizenship country was incorrectly recorded.
4. Most New Zealand citizens obtain the Special Category visa (subclass 444) to enter Australia for the purpose of visiting, studying, working or residing permanently. The figure in the table does not reflect people who have come from New Zealand. This number may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but who could be permanent residents of a third country.

Table A.12: Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) Primary Applicant visas granted—OECD by sponsor industry and gender, 2014–15

Sponsor industry	Male	Female	Total
Other services	2,876	1,167	4,043
Construction	2,757	174	2,931
Professional, scientific and technical	1,748	869	2,617
Health care and social assistance	1,138	1,431	2,569
Accommodation and food services	1,345	621	1,966
Information media and telecommunications	1,281	513	1,794
Education and training	966	786	1,752
Mining	1,151	116	1,267
Manufacturing	988	184	1,172
Financial and insurance services	698	386	1,084
Retail trade	598	381	979
Wholesale trade	351	106	457
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	385	36	421
Arts and recreation services	297	123	420
Transport postal and warehousing	323	56	379
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	289	69	358
Administrative and support services	193	91	284
Public administration and safety	84	80	164
Rental, hiring and real estate services	60	46	106
Not recorded	49	19	68
OECD total	17,577	7,254	24,831
Non-OECD total	19,067	7,227	26,294
Total	36,644	14,481	51,125

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

Table A.13: Other temporary visas granted—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total
Austria	263	83	346
Belgium	274	70	344
Canada	1,569	621	2,190
Chile	128	50	178
Czech Republic	135	44	179
Denmark	346	165	511
Estonia	87	8	95
Finland	183	53	236
France	1,379	508	1,887
Germany	2,186	552	2,738
Greece	181	102	283
Hungary	108	42	150
Iceland	41	6	47
Ireland	450	136	586
Israel	844	243	1,087
Italy	1,796	252	2,048
Japan	1,748	476	2,224
Republic of Korea	1,070	383	1,453
Luxembourg	9	< 5	11
Mexico	296	106	402
Netherlands	1,117	199	1,316
New Zealand	27	13	40
Norway	369	74	443
Poland	319	81	400
Portugal	250	43	293
Slovakia	101	27	128
Slovenia	50	60	110
Spain	1,362	294	1,656
Sweden	402	186	588
Switzerland	270	86	356
Turkey	396	128	524
United Kingdom	7,805	1,545	9,350
United States of America	10,186	3,102	13,290
OECD total	35,747	9,740	45,489
Non-OECD total	32,897	14,752	47,650
Total	68,644	24,492	93,139

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Other temporary visas granted are those defined in Table 3.18 and include previous visa subclasses that correspond to the new Temporary Work visa streams.
2. Most New Zealand citizens obtain the Special Category visa (subclass 444) to enter Australia for the purpose of visiting, studying, working or residing permanently. The figure in the table does not reflect people who have come from New Zealand. This number may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but who could be permanent residents of a third country.

Table A.14: Estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens in Australia—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	130	80	210
Belgium	70	30	110
Canada	640	330	970
Chile	80	50	130
Czech Republic	40	30	70
Denmark	130	90	220
Estonia	80	< 10	90
Finland	50	40	90
France	830	550	1,380
Germany	870	630	1,500
Greece	310	200	510
Hungary	50	30	80
Iceland	0	< 10	< 10
Ireland	870	250	1,120
Israel	130	50	180
Italy	470	310	770
Japan	630	710	1,340
Republic of Korea	1,620	1,000	2,620
Luxembourg	< 10	< 10	10
Mexico	90	40	120
Netherlands	360	310	660
New Zealand	60	20	90
Norway	140	70	210
Poland	190	110	300
Portugal	130	70	200
Slovakia	20	< 10	20
Slovenia	20	< 10	20
Spain	280	160	440
Sweden	240	170	400
Switzerland	180	150	330
Turkey	130	50	180
United Kingdom	2,350	1,410	3,760
United States of America	3,280	1,900	5,180
OECD total	14,450	8,870	23,320
Non-OECD total	26,220	12,450	38,670
Total	40,670	21,310	62,000

Source data: DWARS and CARS, DIBP

1. The financial year data did not report any unspecified genders.

2. There are known errors in the estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens and the numbers are provided as an estimate only. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 10 which can result in rounding errors, and estimate of Unlawful Non-Citizens are only provided yearly.

Table A.15: Visa cancellations—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	41	42	83
Belgium	283	120	403
Canada	1,012	784	1,797
Chile	99	86	186
Czech Republic	67	57	124
Denmark	133	91	225
Estonia	105	69	174
Finland	89	95	184
France	1,202	818	2,023
Germany	1,178	820	1,999
Greece	105	46	152
Hungary	53	38	92
Iceland	< 10	< 10	< 10
Ireland	2,013	1,543	3,561
Israel	73	49	122
Italy	612	270	882
Japan	512	505	1,018
Republic of Korea	2,135	1,266	3,404
Luxembourg	< 10	0	< 10
Mexico	58	58	116
Netherlands	582	275	858
New Zealand	329	32	361
Norway	111	83	194
Poland	93	70	164
Portugal	73	35	109
Slovakia	27	30	57
Slovenia	< 10	< 10	< 10
Spain	260	175	435
Sweden	253	264	517
Switzerland	74	55	129
Turkey	74	33	107
United Kingdom	5,341	4,176	9,524
United States of America	2,436	1,843	4,281
OECD total	19,433	13,833	33,296
Non-OECD total[2]	15,085	9,383	24,522
Total[3]	34,549	23,232	57,865

Source data: CARS, DIBP

1. Includes gender not stated in total.
2. Excludes citizenship Unknown.
3. Total includes citizenship Unknown.
4. Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and, therefore, may differ from statistics previously published.

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Table A.16: Compliance-related departures—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	< 10	< 10	14
Belgium	12	11	23
Canada	99	75	174
Chile	21	13	34
Czech Republic	23	16	39
Denmark	< 10	< 10	12
Estonia	43	17	60
Finland	< 10	< 10	10
France	170	87	257
Germany	102	68	170
Greece	40	25	65
Hungary	29	15	44
Iceland	< 10	0	< 10
Ireland	381	113	494
Israel	13	< 10	21
Italy	152	49	201
Japan	33	47	80
Republic of Korea	396	268	664
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	11	< 10	19
Netherlands	27	17	44
New Zealand	184	12	197
Norway	< 10	< 10	< 10
Poland	33	19	52
Portugal	22	13	35
Slovakia	< 10	< 10	10
Slovenia	< 10	< 10	10
Spain	33	44	77
Sweden	36	19	55
Switzerland	< 10	< 10	14
Turkey	48	15	63
United Kingdom	554	247	801
United States of America	160	100	260
OECD total	2,662	1,346	4,009
Non-OECD total[2]	6,942	3,384	11,368
Total[3]	9,877	4,811	15,378

Source data: DWARS, DIBP

1. Includes gender Unknown in total.
2. Excludes citizenship Unknown.
3. Total includes citizenship Unknown.
4. Figures are as officially revised at the end of 2014–15 and, therefore, may differ from statistics previously published. Includes IMAs, IMA crew, IMA BVE, IFFs and other unauthorised arrivals.

Table A.17: Characteristics of Net Overseas Migration by citizenship—OECD member countries, 2012–13

Citizenship	Arrivals	Departures	NOM	% female arrivals	% female departures
Austria	300	200	100	44.1	46.2
Belgium	700	400	300	44.2	38.9
Canada	5,600	4,100	1,500	53.3	53.4
Chile	800	600	200	46.5	43.8
Czech Republic	600	300	300	53.2	49.0
Denmark	700	500	200	47.5	49.6
Estonia	900	400	500	46.9	38.1
Finland	500	300	100	65.8	58.7
France	6,700	3,900	2,700	43.3	41.8
Germany	5,200	3,700	1,500	48.7	49.8
Greece	1,500	200	1,300	41.1	30.8
Hungary	600	200	500	53.2	48.1
Iceland	< 100	< 100	< 100	56.5	40.0
Ireland	12,000	5,500	6,400	45.7	37.3
Israel	500	200	300	47.0	42.1
Italy	6,500	1,800	4,700	32.9	34.5
Japan	6,800	5,100	1,600	56.5	58.1
Republic of Korea	14,300	9,900	4,300	46.5	46.3
Luxembourg	< 100	< 100	< 100	30.8	55.6
Mexico	600	300	300	52.4	57.1
Netherlands	2,100	1,200	900	43.6	43.3
New Zealand	57,100	22,100	35,000	48.0	46.3
Norway	600	600	< 100	51.5	51.5
Poland	1,100	400	700	55.9	48.0
Portugal	700	300	500	43.5	39.1
Slovakia	400	200	200	55.0	47.5
Slovenia	100	< 100	100	50.0	50.0
Spain	1,700	600	1,100	45.3	44.1
Sweden	1,600	1,000	600	60.6	55.0
Switzerland	700	500	200	46.7	44.2
Turkey	800	400	400	43.4	36.0
United Kingdom	43,300	17,500	25,700	44.7	43.9
United States of America	14,300	11,100	3,200	45.5	46.1
OECD total	189,400	93,800	95,600	46.7	46.0
Non-OECD total	225,900	87,100	138,800	50.5	44.4
Total[1]	496,700	269,600	227,100	48.7	45.9

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, July 2015, ABS
1. Total includes Australia.

Table A.18: Net Overseas Migration by category—top 10 OECD member countries, 2012–13

Citizenship	Permanent visas[1]	Subclass 457	Working Holiday Maker	Visitors	New Zealand citizens[2]	Other visas[3]	Total[4]
Arrivals							
New Zealand	< 100	< 100	< 100	< 100	55,400	1,600	57,100
United Kingdom	10,000	10,600	13,000	6,000	< 100	3,600	43,300
Ireland	1,200	2,000	7,400	1,000	0	400	12,000
United States of America	1,100	2,600	1,300	5,800	0	3,500	14,300
Republic of Korea	1,200	500	7,500	2,600	0	2,500	14,300
Italy	200	400	4,200	1,000	0	600	6,500
France	300	700	3,500	1,100	0	1,000	6,700
Canada	600	900	1,300	1,700	0	1,200	5,600
Germany	500	600	2,000	1,000	0	1,000	5,200
Japan	500	700	2,300	1,300	0	1,900	6,800
Other	71,900	25,000	17,100	30,300	0	99,800	244,100
Total arrivals	87,700	44,000	59,600	51,900	55,400	117,100	415,700
Departures							
New Zealand	100	< 100	0	< 100	21,400	500	22,100
United Kingdom	3,500	4,300	3,700	2,100	< 100	3,900	17,500
Ireland	500	1,200	2,600	300	0	1,000	5,500
United States of America	900	2,600	400	4,200	< 100	2,900	11,100
Republic of Korea	600	200	4,000	500	0	4,600	9,900
Italy	100	200	600	300	0	600	1,800
France	200	700	1,400	600	0	1,000	3,900
Canada	500	800	600	1,100	0	1,100	4,100
Germany	600	500	1,000	700	0	900	3,700
Japan	700	800	1,300	600	0	1,700	5,100
Other	11,100	7,100	5,400	8,700	< 100	64,000	96,300
Total departures	18,800	18,400	21,000	19,200	21,500	82,300	181,200
Net Overseas Migration							
New Zealand	> -100	< 100	< 100	< 100	33,900	1,000	35,000
United Kingdom	6,500	6,400	9,300	3,900	> -100	-300	25,700
Ireland	700	900	4,800	700	0	-600	6,400
United States of America	200	> -100	900	1,600	> -100	600	3,200
Republic of Korea	600	300	3,500	2,100	0	-2,100	4,300
Italy	< 100	100	3,600	700	0	< 100	4,700
France	< 100	< 100	2,100	500	0	< 100	2,700
Canada	100	< 100	700	600	0	< 100	1,500
Germany	> -100	< 100	1,000	400	0	100	1,500
Japan	-100	> -100	1,000	700	0	200	1,600
Other	60,800	17,900	11,700	21,700	> -100	35,700	147,800
Total[4]	68,900	25,500	38,600	32,800	33,900	34,800	234,500

Source data: Travellers Characteristics Database, July 2015, ABS

1. Includes Skill Stream, Family Stream, Special Eligibility, Humanitarian and other permanent entrants.
2. New Zealand citizen Special Category visa (subclass 444).
3. Includes Students, other temporary entrants, Bridging visas and other visas.
4. Excludes those who NOM as Australian citizens.

Table A.19: Estimated resident population—OECD member countries, country of birth by gender, at 30 June 2014

Country of birth	Male	Female	Total
Austria	10,050	9,190	19,240
Belgium	4,030	3,780	7,810
Canada	23,980	26,960	50,940
Chile	14,430	15,330	29,760
Czech Republic	6,560	7,120	13,680
Denmark	5,860	5,320	11,180
Estonia	1,770	2,140	3,910
Finland	4,110	5,710	9,820
France	21,280	18,670	39,950
Germany	61,990	67,050	129,040
Greece	58,820	61,130	119,950
Hungary	10,800	10,900	21,700
Iceland	380	350	730
Ireland	50,550	42,630	93,180
Israel	6,630	5,110	11,740
Italy	105,030	96,800	201,830
Japan	19,370	35,460	54,830
Republic of Korea	49,320	52,900	102,220
Luxembourg	130	150	280
Mexico	2,420	2,540	4,960
Netherlands	43,740	41,910	85,650
New Zealand	316,230	300,730	616,960
Norway	2,190	2,580	4,770
Poland	24,600	31,760	56,360
Portugal	9,920	9,370	19,290
Slovakia	3,040	3,390	6,430
Slovenia	4,070	3,990	8,060
Spain	9,120	8,830	17,950
Sweden	5,570	6,940	12,510
Switzerland	8,210	7,510	15,720
Turkey	21,040	19,620	40,660
United Kingdom	624,440	596,820	1,221,260
United States of America	52,330	51,750	104,080
OECD total	1,582 010	1,554 440	3,136 450
Total overseas-born	3,257,950	3,342,800	6,600,750
Total Australia-born	8,434,650	8,455,600	16,890,250
Total	11,692,600	11,798,400	23,491,000

Source data: Migration, Australia (3412.0), ABS

Table A.20: Characteristics of Australia's population at 30 June 2014

Country of birth	Median age	Sex ratio[1]	ERP[2]
United Kingdom	54.4	104.6	1,221,260
New Zealand	39.7	105.2	616,960
People's Republic of China	35.5	81.9	447,370
India	33.2	119.7	397,180
Philippines	39.5	63.7	225,110
Vietnam	44.5	85.0	223,180
Italy	68.8	108.5	201,830
South Africa	40.9	99.8	176,340
Malaysia	38.7	88.3	153,870
Germany	62.9	92.4	129,040
Greece	69.6	96.2	119,950
Sri Lanka	41.4	106.2	110,520
United States of America	37.0	101.1	104,080
Republic of Korea	32.6	93.2	102,220
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	38.2	93.4	94,420
Ireland	39.2	118.6	93,180
Lebanon	49.9	108.8	92,220
Netherlands	65.9	104.4	85,650
Indonesia	35.1	79.4	81,140
Singapore	34.6	88.0	70,100
Fiji	43.2	88.8	69,940
Croatia	62.7	102.1	65,420
Iraq	37.5	106.7	63,860
Thailand	33.0	48.8	61,910
Poland	58.7	77.5	56,360
Taiwan	29.9	74.7	55,960
Japan	34.4	54.6	54,830
Canada	39.2	88.9	50,940
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	57.5	101.4	50,610
Iran	35.9	115.3	50,370
Pakistan	30.6	148.5	49,770
Malta	66.7	103.7	45,920
Egypt	56.6	109.5	43,890
Turkey	47.7	107.2	40,660
France	34.8	114.0	39,950
Afghanistan	30.9	139.2	39,790
Bosnia and Herzegovina	50.7	98.9	38,930
Bangladesh	33.2	126.8	37,950
Zimbabwe	39.5	100.2	37,700

Continued—Table A.20: Characteristics of Australia's population at 30 June 2014

Country of birth	Median age	Sex ratio[1]	ERP[2]
Nepal	28.6	129.8	36,940
Cambodia	44.0	84.2	35,000
Serbia	55.5	98.8	34,410
Papua New Guinea	42.7	84.4	33,100
Chile	49.2	94.1	29,760
Myanmar	39.6	98.4	29,300
Mauritius	48.6	99.0	27,140
Samoa	43.9	99.2	26,980
Russian Federation	40.5	61.9	24,170
Sudan	30.1	105.1	23,090
Brazil	32.7	89.9	22,050
Hungary	66.4	99.0	21,700
Cyprus	62.7	97.2	20,780
Portugal	54.2	105.8	19,290
Austria	66.6	109.3	19,240
Spain	52.5	103.3	17,950
Kenya	34.7	100.7	17,620
Romania	46.9	93.5	17,300
Ukraine	51.1	70.7	16,370
Colombia	33.5	87.6	15,990
Switzerland	48.3	109.2	15,720
Argentina	46.4	94.3	15,200
Czech Republic	57.4	92.1	13,680
Sweden	37.9	80.2	12,510
Saudi Arabia	24.5	124.7	12,310
Tonga	45.6	111.5	11,780
Israel	40.5	129.8	11,740
Ethiopia	35.2	95.3	11,590
Laos	48.2	89.2	11,520
Syria	45.7	93.9	11,270
Denmark	52.8	110.3	11,180
El Salvador	43.7	94.5	11,040
Timor-Leste	48.7	100.2	10,750
Uruguay	57.2	92.1	10,390
Peru	41.7	77.7	10,380
Total Overseas-born	44.5	97.5	6,600,750
Total Australia-born	33.6	99.8	16,890,250
Total	37.3	99.1	23,491,000

Source data: Migration, Australia (3412.0), ABS

1. Number of males per 100 females.
2. Estimated residential population.
3. Countries of birth selected with estimated residential population more than 10,000 people.

Table A.21: Student visa holders in Australia—top 33 citizenships at 30 June 2013, 2014 and 2015

Citizenship	2013	2014	2015
People's Republic of China	71,200	76,150	82,570
India	30,400	40,600	48,590
Vietnam	17,160	20,050	20,690
Republic of Korea	16,090	16,030	17,150
Nepal	11,130	14,040	16,450
Thailand	11,150	13,620	15,490
Malaysia	14,080	13,670	14,470
Indonesia	11,670	11,840	12,800
Pakistan	8,750	10,300	11,500
Brazil	6,520	8,620	10,070
Philippines	6,670	8,130	8,500
Saudi Arabia	8,620	8,400	8,420
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	7,210	7,520	8,160
Colombia	5,530	5,880	6,590
Taiwan	3,550	4,480	6,340
Japan	5,380	5,330	5,860
Sri Lanka	4,170	4,570	5,480
Bangladesh	4,570	4,790	5,030
Singapore	5,010	4,740	4,730
Italy	2,030	3,210	4,420
United Kingdom	3,260	3,370	3,620
United States of America	3,720	3,700	3,560
Canada	2,640	2,750	2,730
Iran	3,010	2,890	2,700
France	1,820	1,980	2,260
Germany	2,010	2,180	2,210
Kenya	1,410	1,660	1,960
Spain	1,470	1,800	1,960
Bhutan	810	1,480	1,860
Iraq	700	1,340	1,830
Mauritius	1,570	1,580	1,710
Nigeria	780	1,240	1,680
Chile	1,320	1,410	1,540
Other[1]	28,850	30,410	31,660
OECD total	50,420	52,980	56,810
Total	304,250	339,760	374,560

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
2. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 and sorted in descending order based on 30 June 2015 data.

Table A.22: Working Holiday Maker visa holders in Australia by citizenship at 30 June 2013, 2014 and 2015

Citizenship	2013	2014	2015
United Kingdom	29,550	28,590	29,030
Taiwan	25,270	23,840	20,400
Republic of Korea	24,670	19,110	18,560
France	13,980	14,710	14,270
Germany	9,820	10,140	10,780
Italy	9,660	11,020	9,930
Japan	7,350	7,740	8,430
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	7,840	8,920	7,370
Ireland	15,850	9,390	5,700
United States of America	3,740	4,010	4,520
Canada	3,690	3,720	4,110
Netherlands	2,030	2,140	2,380
Sweden	1,830	1,820	1,910
Estonia	1,560	1,560	1,270
Belgium	870	1,030	1,210
Chile	490	670	990
Finland	570	660	740
Denmark	460	500	510
Argentina	360	370	430
Thailand	370	390	360
Indonesia	50	380	270
Norway	200	190	180
Spain	n/a	n/a	110
Poland	n/a	n/a	110
Malaysia	70	60	70
Malta	60	50	70
Cyprus	70	70	60
Turkey	60	60	60
Bangladesh	40	30	40
Portugal	n/a	n/a	40
Uruguay	< 5	30	30
OECD total	126,370	117,050	114,830
Total[1]	160,500	151,200	143,920

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
2. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 and sorted in descending order based on 30 June 2015 data.

Table A.23: Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) visa holders in Australia—top 33 citizenships at 30 June 2013, 2014 and 2015

Citizenship	2013	2014	2015
India	30,910	37,340	40,880
United Kingdom	45,410	39,790	33,350
Philippines	12,890	13,810	12,650
Ireland	18,500	16,630	12,560
People's Republic of China	7,800	9,790	11,650
United States of America	10,270	9,290	8,310
Republic of Korea	3,990	5,010	5,180
South Africa	6,520	5,360	4,360
Nepal	2,460	3,880	4,290
France	3,770	3,670	3,920
Japan	3,470	3,590	3,650
Italy	2,410	2,940	3,550
Canada	4,050	3,800	3,220
Germany	3,190	2,830	2,630
Brazil	2,400	2,130	2,290
Malaysia	2,380	2,350	2,210
Pakistan	1,640	1,910	2,050
Vietnam	1,100	1,520	1,960
Sri Lanka	1,580	1,720	1,920
Thailand	1,250	1,630	1,740
Indonesia	1,710	1,800	1,600
Netherlands	1,810	1,680	1,590
Bangladesh	1,010	1,460	1,540
Spain	1,220	1,230	1,270
Singapore	930	1,030	1,000
Colombia	820	910	950
Poland	720	810	820
Iran	730	810	800
Taiwan	550	620	780
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	420	560	750
Mauritius	640	700	690
Russian Federation	580	560	570
Sweden	630	600	560
Other[1]	13,490	13,340	12,710
OECD total	105,470	97,750	86,280
Total[2]	191,200	195,070	188,000

Source data: Visa Reporting, DIBP

1. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.

2. Excludes Independent Executives. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 and sorted in descending order based on 30 June 2015 data.

Table A.24: Conferrals of Australian citizenship—OECD member countries, by former nationality and gender, 2014–15

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	40	33	73
Belgium	61	102	163
Canada	496	627	1,123
Chile	115	121	236
Czech Republic	135	203	338
Denmark	19	14	33
Estonia	12	24	36
Finland	41	71	112
France	508	497	1,005
Germany	498	566	1,064
Greece	74	53	127
Hungary	123	134	257
Iceland	< 5	< 5	8
Ireland	1,754	1,338	3,092
Israel	197	149	346
Italy	471	353	824
Japan	73	106	179
Republic of Korea	1,093	1,214	2,307
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	103	118	221
Netherlands	237	247	484
New Zealand	2,012	2,079	4,091
Norway	5	7	12
Poland	182	316	498
Portugal	92	74	166
Slovakia	28	52	80
Slovenia	25	19	44
Spain	109	113	222
Sweden	121	170	291
Switzerland	86	85	171
Turkey	287	220	507
United Kingdom	10,650	9,933	20,583
United States of America	801	1,032	1,833
OECD total	20,452	20,074	40,526
Non-OECD total[2]	46,868	48,199	95,070
Total[3]	67,856	68,713	136,572

Source data: Citizenship Programme Management, DIBP

1. Includes gender not stated.
2. Excludes citizenship not stated.
3. Total includes citizenship not stated.

Appendix B

Introduction

Appendix B provides more detailed information on:

- Points Tested Skilled Migration
- Permanent Employer Sponsored
- Business Innovation and Investment stream
- Other temporary visa category.

B.1 Points Tested Skilled Migration

Applicants applying for Points Tested Skilled Migration must be less than 50 years of age, have at least a competent level of English and have their skills assessed by the relevant assessing authority for their nominated occupation. Once these criteria are met, more points are awarded where the person:

- is between the ages of 18 to 44
- has been found proficient or better in a prescribed English language test
- has relevant work experience (more points awarded if gained in Australia)
- has a higher-level tertiary qualification (more points awarded for higher education courses such as bachelors, masters and doctorates)
- has completed a professional-year course approved by the Department where prescribed for certain occupation types
- meets the Australian study requirement, for example completed a total of at least 16 calendar months of study:
    - as a result of at least two years academic study at a recognised Australian educational institution
    - where all instruction was in English
    - undertaken in Australia as the holder of a visa permitting study in Australia.
- meets the Australian study requirement and lived and studied in a regional or low population-growth metropolitan area of Australia
- has high-level proficiency in languages other than English and the language is accredited by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters
- has a skilled partner, who is less than 50 years of age, who has been found competent in the International English Language Testing System and who has a suitable skills assessment for an occupation on the same skilled occupation list as the Primary Applicant.

For certain visa subclasses, points are also awarded where the person:

- is nominated for a skilled visa by an Australian state or territory government, or
- is willing to live in a Designated Area—typically regions in Australia other than some major metropolitan areas—and is:
- nominated for a Skilled Regional visa by an Australian state or territory government, or
- sponsored by a family member also living in a Designated Area.

B.2 Permanent Employer Sponsored

The Permanent Employer Sponsored programme has two permanent residence visa categories—Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS) and Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS).

ENS—for approved Australian employers who want to sponsor overseas skilled workers to work in their business in a genuine job vacancy. The prospective migrant can be a skilled worker from overseas or on a temporary visa in Australia. They must choose an occupation listed on the Consolidated Sponsored Occupation List and comply with Australian standards and workplace legislation for wages and working conditions.

RSMS—for approved employers in regional or low-population growth areas of Australia, to fill vacancies in their businesses by sponsoring skilled workers for permanent residence. The programme aims to attract skilled migrants to communities in regional and low population-growth areas where their skills are most needed to help businesses grow their operations.

A third category, **Labour Agreement**, was closed to new applications from 1 July 2012, when reforms to the Permanent Employer Sponsored visa programme came into effect and a new Agreement stream was created for ENS and RSMS.

Effective from 1 July 2012, ENS and RSMS have three streams for which a potential migrant can apply:

- **Temporary Residence Transition stream**—for Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457) holders who have worked for two of the last three years in their nominated occupation with their nominating employer, who has offered them a permanent position.
- **Direct Entry stream**—for applicants from outside or inside Australia, who have never, or only have briefly, worked in Australia, or temporary residents who do not qualify for the Temporary Residence Transition stream.
- **Agreement stream**—for applicants sponsored by an employer through a tailored and negotiated Labour Agreement. This constitutes a formal arrangement between an Australian employer and the Australian Government allowing for a specified number of skilled workers to be recruited from overseas to fill identified skills shortages. The Agreement stream is designed to ensure that overseas recruitment supports the longer-term improvement of employment and training opportunities for Australians, as employers must commit to the employment, education, training and career opportunities of Australians as part of obtaining a Labour Agreement.

B.3 Business Innovation and Investment stream

The **Business Talent visa** has two streams:

- **Significant Business History stream**—for people with significant assets and a successful business career who want to own and maintain a management role in a business in Australia.
- **Venture Capital Entrepreneur stream**—for people who have at least $1 million in funding from an Australian venture capital firm for: start-up; product commercialisation; or business development of a promising high-value business idea.

The **Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa** has four streams:

- **Business Innovation stream**—for people wanting to own and manage a new or existing business in Australia.
- **Investor stream**—for people wanting to make a designated investment of at least $1.5 million in an Australian state or territory and maintain business and investment activity in Australia after the original investment has matured.
- **Significant Investor stream**—for people willing to invest at least $5 million into complying significant investments in Australia and maintaining business and investment activity in Australia after the original investment has matured.
- **Premium Investor stream**—for people willing to invest at least $15 million into complying premium investments. This stream is designed to attract a small number of highly talented and entrepreneurial high net-worth individuals who can translate their skills and talents into areas that will deliver a long-term economic benefit to Australia.

Holders of a Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa in the Business Innovation, Investor and Significant Investor streams may apply for permanent residence after four years and with satisfactory evidence of a specified level of business or investment activity. Holders of a Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa in the Premium Investor stream may apply for permanent residence after 12 months.

B.4 Other temporary visas

The Other temporary visa category (Section 3.6.1, Table 3.18) comprises these visas.

Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) visa:

- Provides for short-term, highly specialised, non-ongoing work for up to three months.
- Allows for participation in events on a non-ongoing basis at the invitation of an Australian organisation.
- Enables participation in limited circumstances, in an activity or work relating to Australia's interests.

Temporary Work (Long Stay Activity) visa—four streams:

- **Exchange stream**—for skilled people wanting to broaden their work experience and skills under reciprocal arrangements that allow Australian residents similar opportunities overseas.
- **Sport stream**—for amateur or professional sports people intending to participate in sporting activities.
- **Religious Worker stream**—for full-time religious workers undertaking activities directly serving the religious objectives of a religious organisation in Australia.
- **Domestic Worker (Executive) stream**—for experienced domestic workers required to work full-time in the household of certain senior executives.

Training and Research visa—three streams:

- **Occupational Trainee stream**—for people wanting to improve their skills in their present occupation or area of expertise through workplace-based training opportunities in Australia.
- **Research stream**—for professional academics needing to visit Australia to observe or participate in an Australian research project.
- **Professional Development stream**—for professionals, managers and government officials wanting to enhance their professional and/or managerial skills by taking part in tailored training programmes in Australia that have been arranged by an employer outside Australia.

Temporary Work (International Relations) visa—four streams:

- **Government Agreement stream**—for people entering Australia under the terms and conditions of certain bilateral agreements between Australia and the government of another country.
- **Foreign Government Agency stream**—for non-accredited representatives of foreign governments and agencies and for certain foreign language teachers employed in Australia by their government.
- **Domestic Worker (Diplomatic or Consular) stream**—for full-time domestic workers employed exclusively in the private household of an accredited Diplomatic visa holder.
- **Privileges and Immunities stream**—for the temporary entry of people who have privileges and immunities accorded under the *International Organisations (Privileges and Immunities) Act 1963* or the *Overseas Missions (Privileges and Immunities) Act 1995*.

Temporary Work (Entertainment) visa:

- For people wanting to work temporarily in Australia's entertainment industry in film, television or live productions, as performers or in behind-the-scenes roles such as directors, producers, film crews and other production and support personnel.

Special Programme visa:

- For people wanting to participate in approved programmes, including reciprocal youth exchanges, cultural enrichment programmes, community benefit programmes and the Seasonal Worker Programme.

Diplomatic (Temporary) visa:

- For diplomats, consular staff, certain international representatives and other officials accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Data sources

Australian Bureau of Statistics

- Australian Demographic Statistics, December 2014 and March 2015 cat. no. 3101.0
- Employee Earnings and Hours, May 2012, and May 2014 cat. no. 6306.0
- Labour Force, Australia, November 2013, and November 2014 cat. no. 6202.0
- Labour Force, Australia, Detailed—Electronic Delivery, June 2015 cat. no. 6291.0.55.001
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- Migration, Australia, 2013–14, cat. no. 3412.0
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- Citizenship Programme Management
- Compliance Analysis, Research and Statistics
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- Migration Reporting
- Overseas Arrivals and Departures Statistics
- Humanitarian Programme Reporting and Analysis
- The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration, June 2015
- Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) statistics
- Visa Reporting

Department of Social Services

- Multicultural policy and settlement

Department of Education and Training

- Adult Migrant English Program

Glossary

Census—the Australian Government's 2011 Census of Population and Housing, conducted every five years.

Citizenship by conferral—the process of naturalisation whereby an applicant, after meeting all other criteria, becomes an Australian citizen at a formal citizenship ceremony.

Competent English—an International English Language Testing System band score of at least six for the four test components (speaking, reading, listening and writing).

Contributory parent category visa—a permanent visa for aged parents with children living in Australia. This visa costs more than the Aged Parent visa but is generally processed faster.

Dependant—a person included on a visa application who wholly or substantially relies on the Primary Applicant for financial, psychological or physical support. See also Primary Applicant.

Electronic Travel Authority—an electronically-stored authority for travel to Australia for short-term visits or business entry. It replaces the visa label or stamp in a passport and removes the need for application forms.

Family stream—the categories of the Migration Programme for which core eligibility criteria is based on a close family relationship with a sponsor who is an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen. Immediate accompanying families of principal applicants in the Family stream (for example, children of spouses) are also counted as part of the Family stream.

Humanitarian Programme—provides protection to refugees and resettlement to those for whom it may be the appropriate durable solution. In line with Australia's international obligations, the onshore component of this programme provides protection to refugees in Australia whose claims meet the criteria of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. The offshore component resettles refugees and others who are in great humanitarian need.

International student—see Overseas student.

Illegal Maritime Arrival—a person who arrives in Australia by boat at a place outside Australia's regular migration zone (including Christmas Island), without a valid visa. Also referred to as an Unauthorised Maritime Arrival.

Labour force—the population 15 years of age or more who are employed or unemployed.

Migration Programme—the annual planned permanent intake determined by the Australian Government in the Budget context which governs the number of visas granted for permanent entry from offshore and for permanent resident status onshore, not including New Zealand citizens intending to live permanently in Australia.

Net Overseas Migration—the net gain or loss of population through people arriving in and departing from Australia:

- based on an international traveller's duration of stay being inside or outside Australia for 12 months or more
- the difference between the number of:
    1. incoming international travellers who stay in Australia for 12 months or more, who are not currently counted in the population, are added to the population (NOM arrivals)
    2. outgoing international travellers (Australian residents and long-term visitors to Australia) who leave Australia for 12 months or more, who are currently counted in the population, are subtracted from the population (NOM departures).

Under the current method for estimating final NOM, this term is based on a traveller's actual duration of stay or absence during a 16-month period. Preliminary NOM estimates are modelled on patterns of traveller behaviours observed in final NOM estimates for the same period one year earlier.

Offshore—location outside Australia. Thus, offshore components of the Migration Programme refer to visas that cater for the migration of people who are outside Australia. Certain offshore visas can, however, be applied for by people in Australia, but they must be outside Australia for the granting of the visa.

Onshore—location in Australia. Thus, onshore components of the Migration Programme refer to visas that cater for the migration of people who are in Australia.

Outcome—the number of visas granted net of Business Innovation and Investment provisional visas cancelled and net of places taken by provisional Partner category visa holders who do not subsequently obtain a permanent visa. It also excludes grants to people who have been previously counted towards the Migration Programme or Humanitarian Programme and New Zealand citizens.

Overseas student (or international student)—a temporary migrant in Australia who is studying at an Australian educational institution in a course approved by the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students.

Planning levels—the notional number of places available in the Migration Programme for the financial year, as set by the Australian Government. Levels do not always precisely match outcomes due to the way outcomes are measured. See also Outcome.

Primary Applicant—the person who applied for the visa. Other people included on the visa are referred to as Dependants or Secondary Applicants.

Programme year—aligns with the Australian financial year (for example, 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012).

Refugee—defined by the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, as amended by the 1967 Protocol, as a person who:

- owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of, race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion
- is outside the country of their nationality and owing to such fear, is unable or unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of their former habitual residence, and owing to such fear, is unable or unwilling to return to it.

Refugee Review Tribunal (now the Migration and Refugee Division of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal)—an independent statutory body that reviews decisions about onshore applicants for refugee status.

Settlement—the experience of adapting to life in Australia for newly arrived permanent settlers, roughly equivalent to 'integration'.

Settler arrivals—people arriving in Australia who hold permanent migration visas, New Zealand citizens who indicate they intend to live in Australia, and those otherwise eligible to live here (for example, overseas-born children of Australian citizens). Data is based on statistics obtained from visa information and supplemented by information obtained from incoming passenger cards.

Skill Stream—comprises the categories of the Migration Programme where the core eligibility criteria are based on the applicant's employability or capacity to invest and/or do business in Australia. The immediate accompanying families of Skill Stream principal applicants are also counted as part of the Skill Stream.

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

Stock of temporary entrants—the number of temporary entrants in Australia at a point in time. Stock data is not used to report on visitors because the number of visitors in Australia at any one point in time is relatively small and subject to large seasonal variations.

Subclass—a unique three-digit numerical code associated with each visa. For example, the Temporary Work (Skilled) (subclass 457) visa is also known as the subclass 457 visa.

Temporary entry—temporary visas granted under four main categories—Visitors, Students, Working Holiday Maker and temporary work residents.

Visa—permission or authority granted by the Australian Government for foreign nationals to travel and stay in Australia.

Acronyms

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AMEP	Adult Migrant English Program
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
AUSCO	Australian Cultural Orientation
BIIP	Business Innovation and Investment Programme
CARS	Compliance Analysis, Research and Statistics (DIBP)
CCS	Complex Case Support
CSAM	Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants
DIBP	Department of Immigration and Border Protection
DWARS	Data Warehouse and Reporting Support
ELICOS	English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students
ENS	Employer Nomination Scheme
ERP	Estimated resident population
ICT	Information and communication technology
IMAs	Illegal Maritime Arrivals
MCASD	Minister's Council on Asylum Seekers and Detention
NOM	Net Overseas Migration
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
RRAC	Refugee Resettlement Advisory
RSMS	Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme
SAR	Special Administrative Region
SHP	Special Humanitarian Programme
SOSOG	Senior Officials Settlement Outcomes Group
SSVF	Simplified international student visa framework
TIS	Translating and Interpreting Services
UNC	Australia's Unlawful Non-Citizen
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
VET	Vocational education and training