

Australian Government

Department of Home Affairs

Australia's Offshore Humanitarian Program: 2023–24

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Executive summary

For 2023–24, Australia's annual Humanitarian Program was set at 20,000 places.

A total of 20,000 resettlement visas were granted, comprising:

- 16,750 offshore humanitarian visas
    - 9,762 Refugee category visas
    - 5,475 Global Special Humanitarian (SHP) visas
    - 1,513 Community Support Program (CSP) visas
- 3,250 permanent Protection visas

Of the 16,750 visas granted offshore, 58.3 per cent were granted under the Refugee category, 32.7 per cent were granted under the SHP and 9.0 per cent were granted under the CSP.

In 2023–24, 53.1 per cent of all offshore visas were granted to persons originating from Asia, 28.4 per cent to persons from the Middle East, 14.6 per cent to persons from Africa, and 3.9 per cent to persons from the Americas.

Afghan citizens were prioritised in the Humanitarian Program, with 6,961 visas (41.6 per cent of all offshore visas) granted to Afghan nationals in 2023–24.

The main groups resettled were:

- Afghans located in Pakistan, Iran and Türkiye;
- Iraqis predominantly located in Jordan, Lebanon and Türkiye;
- Myanmar citizens located in camps along the Thai–Myanmar border, Malaysia and India;
- Citizens of the Democratic Republic of the Congo located in Malawi, Kenya and Burundi; and
- Syrians located in Iraq, Lebanon and Türkiye.

In 2023–24, the resettlement of highly vulnerable women and their families continued to be a priority, with 2,159 visas granted to vulnerable women and their families.

Of the 1,513 visas granted under the CSP, which falls under the SHP, 55 per cent were granted to Afghan nationals.

In 2023–24, 84,913 applicants lodged applications. Of these, 67 per cent were from persons originating from Asia (including Afghanistan), 20.1 per cent from the Middle East, 10.9 per cent from Africa, and less than 1 per cent from the Americas.

Around 64 per cent of all persons who lodged applications in 2023–24 were under 30 years of age.

The gender balance has remained relatively unchanged over the past five program years with 49.9 per cent of applicants in 2023–24 being female.

Overview

Process for setting the Humanitarian Program

Each year, the Australian Government undertakes a comprehensive consultation process to formulate the composition of the Humanitarian Program. This includes:

- Engaging with the Australian community, by publishing a discussion paper seeking the views of the Australian public;
- Consulting with state and territory governments and Commonwealth agencies;
- Holding a meeting between the Minister for Home Affairs and peak refugee and humanitarian interest groups and community organisations; and
- Considering advice on global resettlement need and priorities from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

In planning the program, the Government also considers Australia's capacity to facilitate the entry and settlement of humanitarian entrants to ensure they are successfully integrated into Australian society.

Program components

The Humanitarian Program has two components:

- The offshore component of the program provides for the resettlement of people who were subject to persecution or discrimination that amounts to a gross violation of their human rights.
- The onshore component provides protection for people who have arrived in Australia lawfully and who are found to be a refugee and meet other visa criteria for permanent stay in Australia.

The focus of this report is the offshore component of the Humanitarian Program.

Refugee and Humanitarian (Class XB) visa processing

Australia's Offshore Humanitarian Program includes the following categories:

Refugee category

For people who are subject to persecution in their home country and are in need of resettlement. The majority of applicants are referred by UNHCR, but people may also self-refer. Applications are lodged at Australian missions overseas.

Refugee visas include:

- Refugee (Subclass 200)
- In-country Special Humanitarian (Subclass 201)
- Emergency Rescue Visa (Subclass 203)
- Woman at Risk (Subclass 204)

In accordance with Australian government policy, those who are outside their home country and are either, referred by UNHCR or who meet Afghan Locally Engaged Employee (LEE) requirements are prioritised within the program.

Special Humanitarian Program (SHP)

For people who are subject to substantial discrimination amounting to gross violation of human rights in their home country and have a link to Australia. The SHP also includes the CSP.

Applications must be lodged at the Special Humanitarian Processing Centre (SHPC) in Sydney and be proposed by an Australian citizen, permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen, or an Australian organisation. CSP applications must be proposed by an approved proposing organisation (APO).

Applications assessed as eligible for further processing are referred to an Australian processing centre which may be in Australia or overseas.

There is only one SHP visa subclass:

- Global Special Humanitarian (Subclass 202)

The stages of processing a visa application through to visa grant are:

Initial Assessment

- An initial assessment is undertaken on the basis of information provided in the application form, Government resettlement priorities and visa criteria.
- The application will be finalised or proceed to next stage of processing.

Further Assessment

- Applicants who proceed to the next stage are then further assessed by an Australian visa processing officer, who considers the application against requirements in the Migration Regulations, and may include an interview.
- The assessment explores identity, family composition, humanitarian claims, character / national security and settlement information.

Public Interest Criteria Assessments

- Character and security checks are undertaken. These include checks relating to national security, criminality, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The Department works closely with other Australian agencies and international partners in conducting checks.
- Health checks are also conducted to identify any health concerns, including those that may need to be treated or monitored.

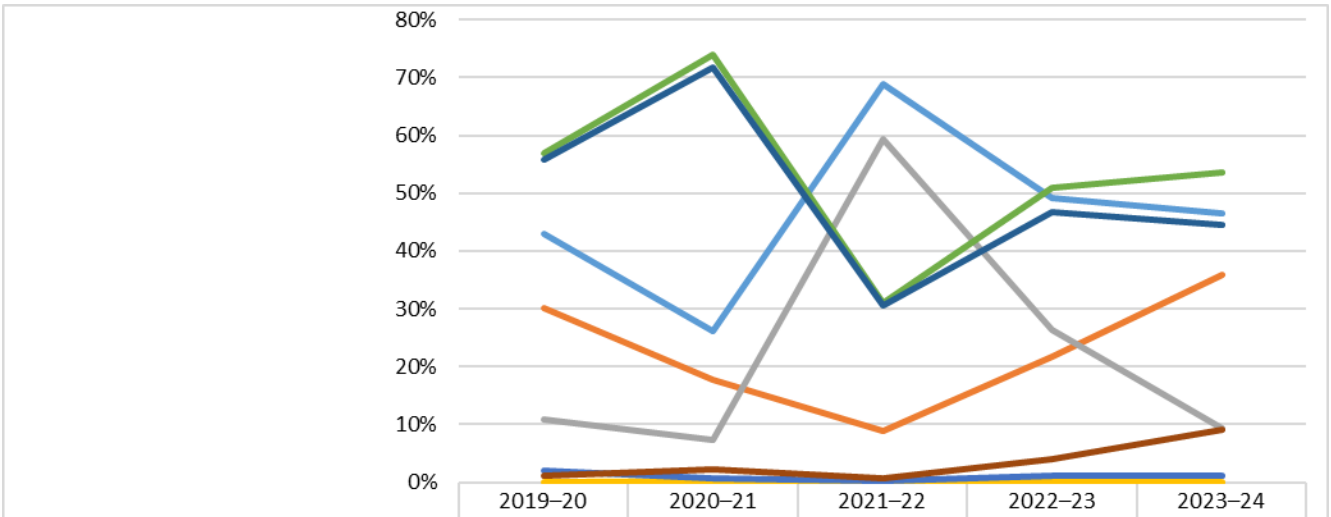
Visa grant

- Travel to Australia
- Humanitarian Settlement Program on arrival

Offshore Humanitarian Lodgements

Of the 84,913 applicants that lodged applications in 2023–24, 46.4 per cent were for the Refugee category, 44.5 per cent for the SHP and 9.1 per cent for the CSP.

Figure 1: Number of persons lodging visa applications by visa category and year of lodgement, 2019–20 to 2023–24



	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
Refugee	43.0%	26.1%	68.9%	49.2%	46.5%
Subclass 200	30.1%	17.8%	9.0%	21.7%	35.8%
Subclass 201	10.8%	7.4%	59.4%	26.3%	9.4%
Subclass 203	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Subclass 204	2.1%	0.8%	0.3%	1.2%	1.2%
Global Special Humanitarian	57.0%	73.9%	31.1%	50.8%	53.6%
Subclass 202 (SHP)	55.9%	71.7%	30.5%	46.8%	44.5%
Subclass 202 (CSP)	1.1%	2.2%	0.6%	4.0%	9.1%

Notes:

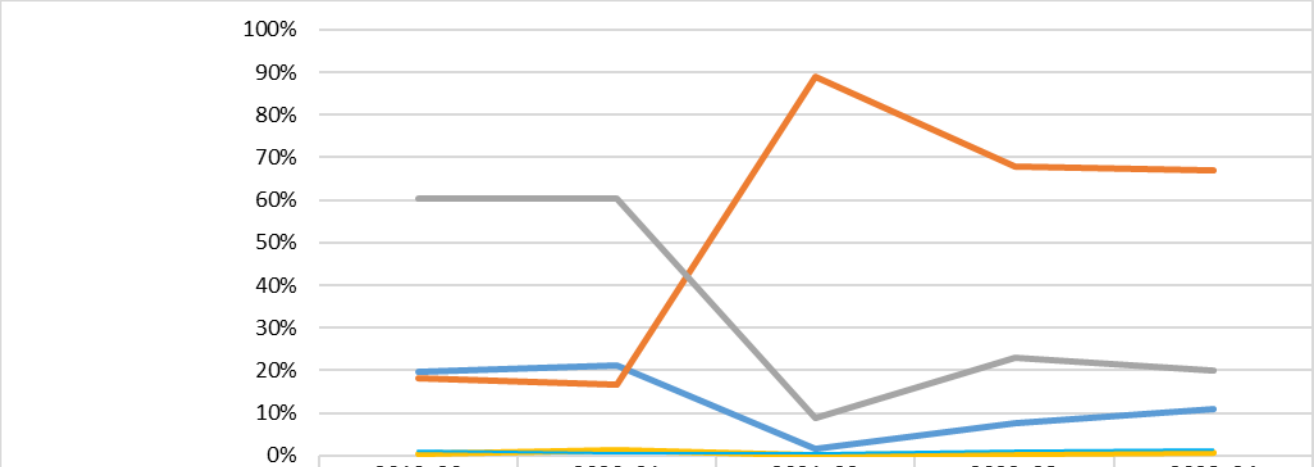
1. Refugee includes subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). Global Special Humanitarian includes subclass 202 (Special Humanitarian) and subclass 202 (Community Support Program).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Over the past five years, the number of persons lodging applications has varied (see Figure 1):

- There was a decrease in lodgements for Refugee category visas in the 2023-24 program year compared to the 2022-23 program year.
- There was an increase in SHP lodgements, with the highest number of CSP lodgments since the CSP's inception in 2018.
- The 386 per cent increase in lodgements in 2021–22, as compared to 2020–21, was due to the Afghan crisis.
- The 44 per cent decrease in lodgements in 2020–21 compared to 2019–20 was likely due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lodgements by region of origin

Figure 2: Persons lodging visa applications by region of citizenship and year of lodgement, 2019–20 to 2023–24



	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
Africa	19.8%	21.2%	1.5%	7.6%	10.9%
Asia	18.1%	16.8%	89.0%	68.0%	67.0%
Middle East	60.3%	60.3%	8.8%	23.1%	20.1%
Americas	0.5%	1.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%
Other & Not recorded	1.3%	0.6%	0.5%	1.0%	1.5%

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Lodgements by country of origin

Table 1: Top ten citizenships of persons lodging visa applications, 2023–24

Citizenship	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23 per cent
	Number	Per cent		
Afghanistan	50,371	59.3%	56.0%	53.8%
Syria	9,606	11.3%	10.1%	13.6%
Myanmar	5,983	7.0%	5.8%	8.2%
Iraq	5,423	6.4%	12.0%	7.6%
Sudan	4,079	4.8%	1.9%	5.2%
Iran	1,654	1.9%	4.1%	3.3%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,284	1.5%	1.2%	0.7%
Ethiopia	1,249	1.5%	2.0%	1.3%
South Sudan	1,184	1.4%	0.5%	1.1%
Stateless	851	1.0%	0.5%	0.3%
Other	3,229	3.8%	5.8%	4.9%
Total	**84,913**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee),
201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian),
202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on
3 July 2024.

Lodgements by residence country

Table 2: Top ten residence countries of persons lodging visa applications, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23 Per cent
	Number	Per cent		
Iran	25,458	30.0%	9.9%	9.0%
Pakistan	11,181	13.2%	9.0%	8.1%
Türkiye	5,314	6.3%	4.7%	8.9%
Iraq	5,273	6.2%	6.2%	6.9%
Afghanistan	5,036	5.9%	27.5%	18.5%
Egypt	4,749	5.6%	4.2%	6.1%
Malaysia	4,668	5.5%	4.7%	8.5%
Lebanon	3,669	4.3%	7.3%	7.7%
Jordan	2,982	3.5%	5.9%	3.9%
India	2,592	3.1%	2.4%	5.4%
Other	13,991	16.5%	18.2%	16.9%
Total	**84,913**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian Program), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian Program), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The residence country of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 3: Top ten citizenships and top residence countries of persons lodging visa applications, 2023–24

Citizenship and residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23 Per cent
	Number	Per cent		
Afghans in Iran	25,199	29.7%	9.8%	30.8%
Syrians in Iraq	3,135	3.7%	2.8%	4.5%
Myanmarese in Malaysia	3,542	4.2%	3.6%	5.4%
Iraqis in Jordan	2,101	2.5%	4.8%	2.4%
Sudanese in Egypt	2,988	3.5%	1.5%	4.4%
Iranians in Türkiye	1,355	1.6%	3.9%	3.1%
Congolese in Uganda	347	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%
Ethiopians in Egypt	864	1.0%	1.4%	0.6%
South Sudanese in Egypt	478	0.6%	0.2%	0.6%
Stateless in Bangladesh	670	0.8%	0.2%	0.1%
Other	44,234	52.1%	71.7%	48.0%
Total	**84,913**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The residence country of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Other characteristics of persons included in visa applications

Figure 3: Number of persons included in visa applications by age range and gender, 2023–24

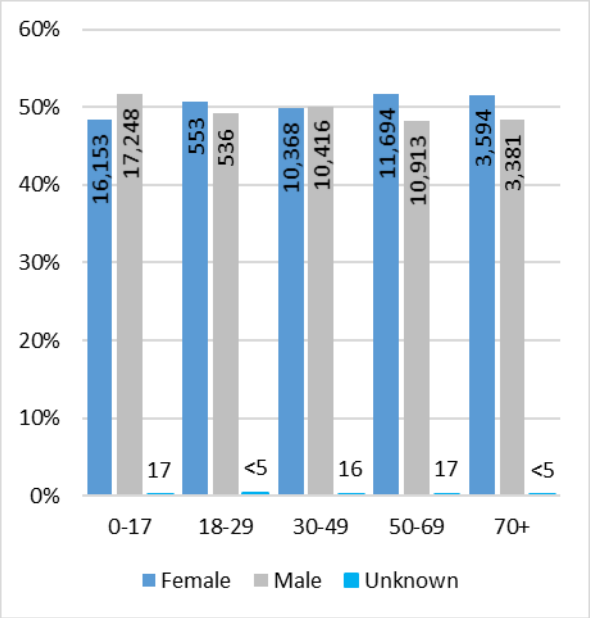
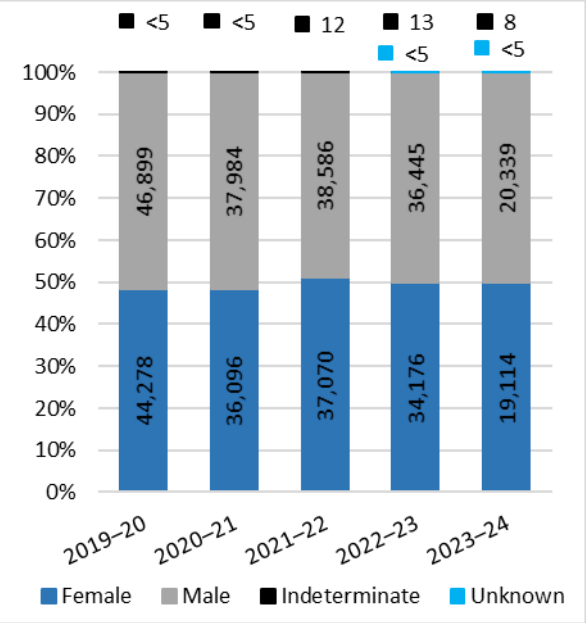


Figure 4: Number of persons included in visa applications by gender, 2019–20 to 2023–24



Notes:

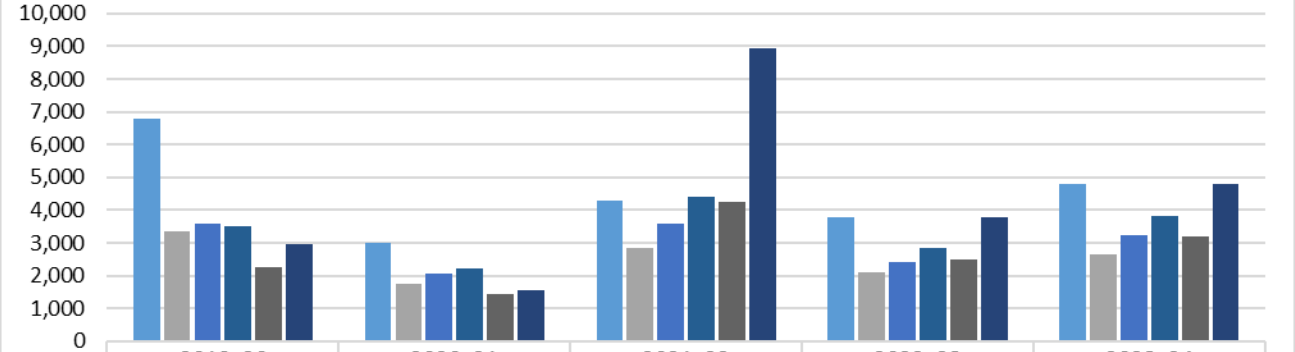
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024

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Lodgements by case size

Figure 5: Cases lodged by case size and year of lodgement, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Applications lodged for family groups with 6 or more family members were the largest group in 2023–24, with Afghan citizens comprising 67.3 per cent of this group.



	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
1	6,785	3,018	4,306	3,781	4,785
2	3,363	1,747	2,845	2,099	2,671
3	3,572	2,066	3,572	2,434	3,248
4	3,514	2,208	4,412	2,844	3,821
5	2,269	1,439	4,248	2,481	3,217
6+	2,973	1,567	8,933	3,791	4,800

Notes:

1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Offshore Humanitarian Finalisations

The finalisation of an application refers to a decision to grant or refuse the visa, or to the application being withdrawn or otherwise finalised.

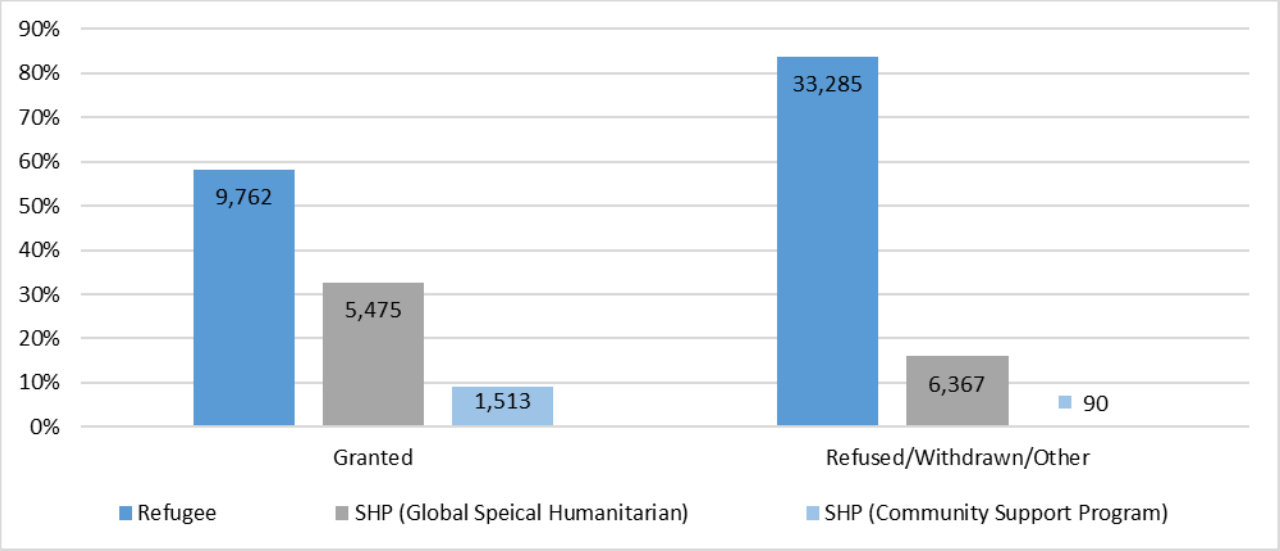
Table 4: Number of persons receiving a finalisation by visa category, decision type and year of finalisation, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Visa category	Finalisation	Program year of finalisation				
		2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
Refugee	Granted	6,422	2,053	7,233	9,760	9,762
	Refused	23,081	18,652	8,042	44,207	31,502
	Withdrawn/Other	447	326	686	1,123	1,783
	Total	*29,950*	*21,031*	*15,961*	*55,090*	*43,047*
SHP - Global Special Humanitarian	Granted	4,682	2,298	3,889	4,824	5,475
	Refused	46,616	24,998	5,371	1,645	4,754
	Withdrawn/Other	1,069	522	559	1,032	1,613
	Total	*52,367*	*27,818*	*9,819*	*7,501*	*11,842*
SHP - Community Support Program	Granted	417	207	423	1,291	1,513
	Refused	84	27	9	35	0
	Withdrawn/Other	33	24	17	53	90
	Total	*534*	*258*	*449*	*1,379*	*1,603*
All categories	Granted	11,521	4,558	11,545	15,875	16,750
	Refused	69,781	43,677	13,422	45,887	36,256
	Withdrawn/Other	1,549	872	1,262	2,208	3,486
	Total	**82,851**	**49,107**	**26,229**	**63,970**	**56,492**
Refugee	Granted	7.8%	4.2%	27.6%	15.3%	17.3%
	Refused	27.9%	38.0%	30.7%	69.1%	55.8%
	Withdrawn/Other	0.5%	0.7%	2.6%	1.8%	3.2%
	Total	*36.1%*	*42.8%*	*60.9%*	*86.1%*	*76.2%*
SHP - Global Special Humanitarian	Granted	5.7%	4.7%	14.8%	7.5%	9.7%
	Refused	56.3%	50.9%	20.5%	2.6%	8.4%
	Withdrawn/Other	1.3%	1.1%	2.1%	1.6%	2.9%
	Total	*63.2%*	*56.6%*	*37.4%*	*11.7%*	*21.0%*
SHP - Community Support Program	Granted	0.5%	0.4%	1.6%	2.0%	2.7%
	Refused	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
	Withdrawn/Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
	Total	*0.6%*	*0.5%*	*1.7%*	*2.2%*	*2.8%*
All categories	Granted	13.9%	9.3%	44.0%	24.8%	29.7%
	Refused	84.2%	88.9%	51.2%	71.7%	64.2%
	Withdrawn/Other	1.9%	1.8%	4.8%	3.5%	6.2%
	Total	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:

1. Refugee visas include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). SHP visas include subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian) and 202 (Community Support Program).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
3. Any discrepancies between per cent totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

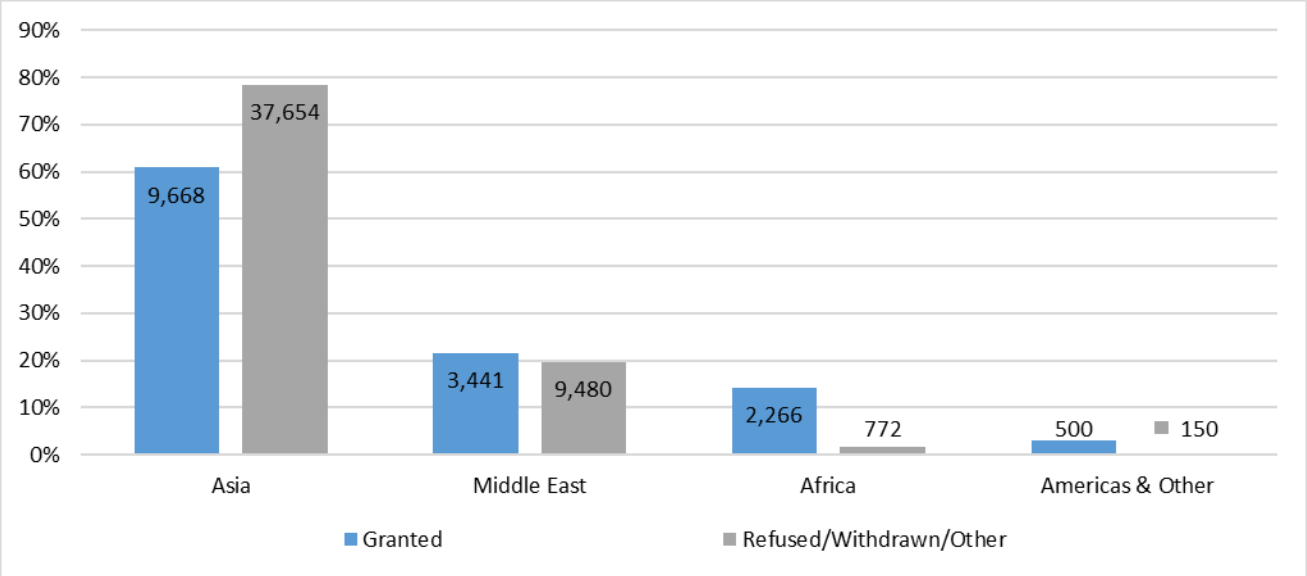
Figure 6: Persons receiving finalisations by visa category and decision, 2023–24



Notes:
1. Refugee visas include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). SHP visas include subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian) and 202 (Community Support Program).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Finalisations by region of origin

Figure 7: Persons receiving finalisations by region of origin, 2023–24



Notes:
1. Refugee visas include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). SHP visas include subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian) and 202 (Community Support Program).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
3. The region of origin of the principal visa applicants is applied also to secondary visa applicants.

Offshore Humanitarian Grants

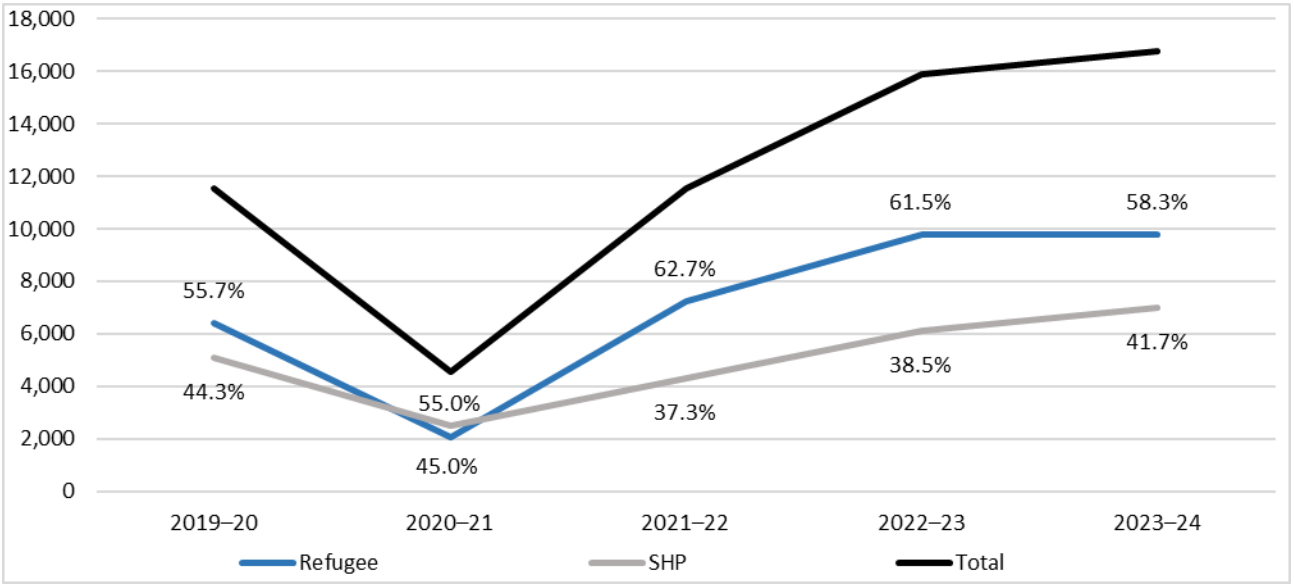
Table 5: Number of persons granted visas by subclass and year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Subclass	Program year of grant				
	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
	Number				
Refugee					
Subclass 200 (Refugee)	4,326	1,157	2,946	4,773	7,555
Subclass 201 (In–country Special Humanitarian)	1195	518	3,549	3,242	1,143
Subclass 203 (Emergency Rescue)	20	29	246	45	30
Subclass 204 (Woman at Risk)	881	349	492	1,700	1,034
Total Refugee	*6,422*	*2,053*	*7,233*	*9,760*	*9,762*
SHP					
Subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian)	4,682	2,298	3,889	4,824	5,475
Subclass 202 (Community Support Program)	417	207	423	1,291	1,513
Total also	*5,099*	*2,505*	*4,312*	*6,115*	*6,988*
Total	**11,521**	**9,738**	**11,545**	**15,875**	**16,750**
	Per cent				
Refugee					
Subclass 200 (Refugee)	37.5%	25.5%	25.5%	30.1%	45.1%
Subclass 201 (In–country Special Humanitarian)	10.4%	30.7%	30.7%	20.4%	6.8%
Subclass 203 (Emergency Rescue)	0.2%	2.1%	2.1%	0.3%	0.2%
Subclass 204 (Woman at Risk)	7.6%	4.3%	4.3%	10.7%	6.2%
Total Refugee	*55.7%*	*62.7%*	62.7%	61.5%	58.3%
SHP					
Subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian)	40.6%	23.6%	33.7%	30.4%	32.7%
Subclass 202 (Community Support Program)	3.6%	2.1%	3.7%	8.1%	9.0%
Total Special Humanitarian Program	*44.3%*	*37.3%*	*37.3%*	*38.5%*	*41.7%*
Total	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:

1. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
2. Any discrepancies between per cent totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Figure 8: Number of persons granted visas by visa category and year of grant, 2014–15 to 2023–24



Notes:

1. Refugee visas include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). SHP visas include subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian) and 202 (Community Support Program).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Over the past five years, the number of persons granted has varied (see Figure 8):

- The 2023-24 Program was delivered in full, with a total of 16,750 visas granted in the Offshore Program. This was the highest number of visas granted under the Offshore Program in over a decade. This year also marked the first time that the CSP allocation within the Offshore Program was delivered in full, and the highest number of CSP grants since its inception in 2018.
- Reflecting Australia's sustained commitment following two decades of operations in Afghanistan and in response to the Afghan crisis, the 2023–24 program also continued to see Australia deliver its commitment to support and resettle people from Afghanistan with 6,961 humanitarian visas granted to Afghans, with a focus on certified former LEE and their immediate family members as well as women and girls, ethnic minorities, LGBTQI+ and other identified minority groups.

Grants by region of origin

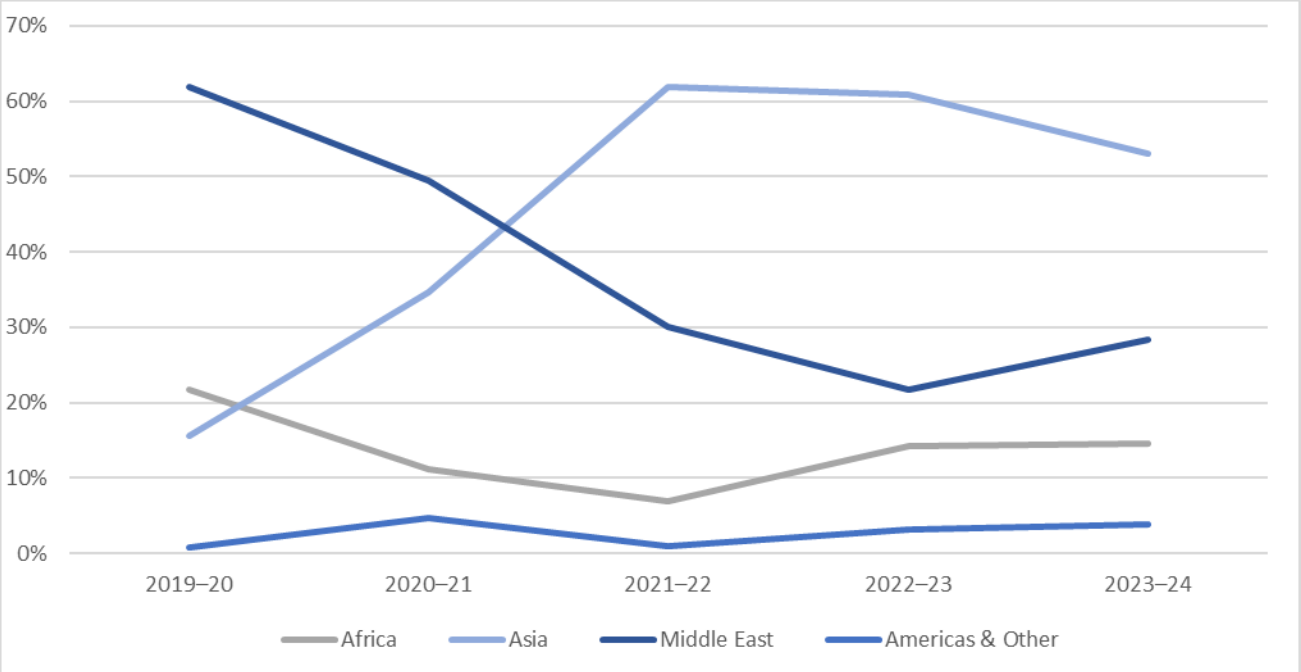
Table 6: Number of persons granted visas by year of grant and region of citizenship, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Program year	Africa	Asia	Middle East	Americas & other
2019–20	2,054	1,801	7,132	84
2020–21	512	1,576	2,255	215
2021–22	805	7,145	3,475	120
2022–23	2,266	9,668	3,441	500
2023–24	2,451	8,884	4,756	659

Notes:

1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Figure 9: Proportion of visa grants by region of citizenship and year of grant, 2014–15 to 2023–24



Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

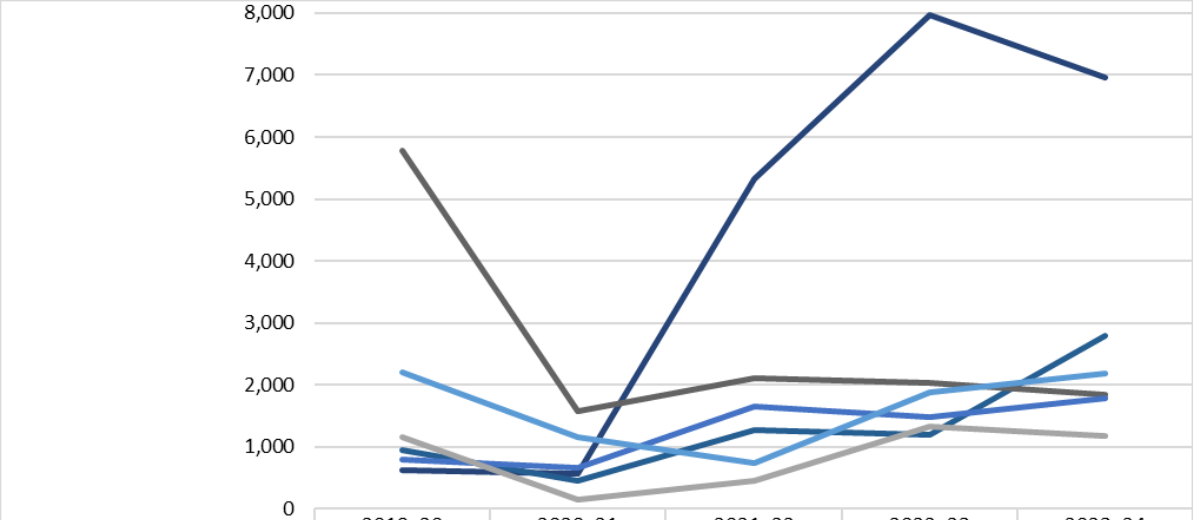
Grants by country of origin

Table 7: Top ten citizenships of persons granted visas, 2023–24

Citizenship	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Afghanistan	6,961	41.6%	35.6%	50.2%
Syria	2,804	16.7%	11.1%	7.5%
Iraq	1,843	11.0%	22.2%	12.8%
Myanmar	1,778	10.6%	10.5%	9.3%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1178	7.0%	7.1%	8.4%
Stateless	390	2.3%	1.4%	0.4%
Eritrea	371	2.2%	2.1%	0.8%
Ethiopia	334	2.0%	2.2%	3.0%
Venezuela	164	1.0%	0.8%	1.1%
Sudan	129	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%
Other	798	4.8%	6.8%	6.6%
Total	**16,750**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Figure 10: Number of persons granted visas by top five citizenships, 2019–20 to 2023–24



	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
Afghanistan	619	562	5,326	7,962	6,961
Syria	947	450	1,268	1,192	2,804
Iraq	5,785	1,585	2,111	2,028	1,843
Myanmar	796	656	1,645	1,475	1,778
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1165	154	455	1332	1,178
Other	2,209	1,151	740	1,886	2,186

Notes:
1. This graph is based on the top 5 countries of origin for grants in 2023–24.
2. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
3. The citizenship of the principal visa applicants is applied also to secondary visa applicants.
4. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Grants by residence country

Table 8: Top ten residence countries of persons granted visas, 2023–24

Residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Pakistan	2,814	16.8%	10.8%	16.7%
Türkiye	1,895	11.3%	5.4%	8.6%
Iran	1,627	9.7%	3.9%	3.9%
Lebanon	1,367	8.2%	10.8%	5.1%
Iraq	1,208	7.2%	7.8%	6.1%
Malaysia	1,196	7.1%	6.3%	6.6%
Thailand	1,064	6.4%	6.2%	6.0%
India	890	5.3%	4.8%	5.3%
Jordan	604	3.6%	9.2%	3.5%
Uganda	476	2.8%	1.1%	0.3%
Other	3,609	21.5%	33.7%	37.8%
Total	**16,750**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Residence country refers to the country in which the applicant was residing during the processing of their application.
3. The residence country of principal visa applicants is applied also to secondary visa applicants.
4. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 9: Top ten citizenships and top residence countries of persons granted visas, 2023-24

Citizenship and residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Afghans in Pakistan	2,808	16.8%	10.8%	16.6%
Syrians in Lebanon	1,222	7.3%	4.2%	2.4%
Iraqis in Türkiye	756	4.5%	2.4%	4.4%
Myanmarese in Thailand	970	5.8%	5.3%	5.1%
Congolese in Uganda	255	1.5%	0.7%	0.1%
Stateless in Bangladesh	348	2.1%	0.6%	0.0%
Eritreans in Ethiopia	188	1.1%	0.4%	0.1%
Ethiopians in Kenya	197	1.2%	1.5%	2.8%
Venezuelans in Peru	83	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%
Sudanese in Egypt	61	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%
Other	9,862	58.9%	73.9%	68.5%
Total	**16,750**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The residence country of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Other characteristics of persons granted visas

Table 10: Number of persons granted visas by age group, gender and program year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24

	2019–20		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2023–24	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Age group										
0–17	4,526	39.3%	1,591	34.9%	4,428	38.4%	5,968	37.6%	6,719	42.3%
18–29	2,528	21.9%	1,034	22.7%	2,715	23.5%	4,265	26.9%	3,970	25.0%
30–49	3,022	26.2%	1,377	30.2%	3,159	27.4%	3,994	25.2%	4,346	27.4%
50–69	1,227	10.7%	483	10.6%	1,079	9.3%	1,407	8.9%	1,471	9.3%
70+	218	1.9%	73	1.6%	164	1.4%	241	1.5%	244	1.5%
Total	**11,521**	**100%**	**4,558**	**100%**	**11,545**	**100%**	**15,875**	**100%**	**16,750**	**106%**
Gender										
Male	5,549	48.2%	2,249	49.3%	5,745	49.8%	<7,710	48.5%	<8,080	48.2%
Female	5,972	51.8%	2,309	50.7%	5,800	50.2%	8,169	51.5%	8,674	51.8%
Indeterminate	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	<5	<0.1%	<5	<0.1%
Total	**11,521**	**100%**	**4,558**	**100%**	**11,545**	**100%**	**15,875**	**100%**	**16,750**	**100%**

Notes:

1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

In 2023–24, 42.3 per cent of all persons granted visas were in the age group 0 to 17 years. Persons in this age group have been granted the majority of Humanitarian visas in each year from 2019–20 to 2023–24.

The proportion of males and females granted visas has remained steady at around 50 per cent

Figure 11: Number of persons granted visas by age range and gender, 2023–24

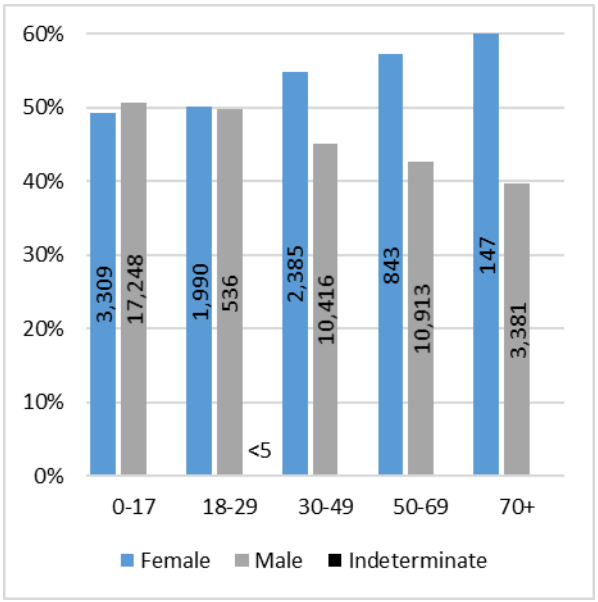
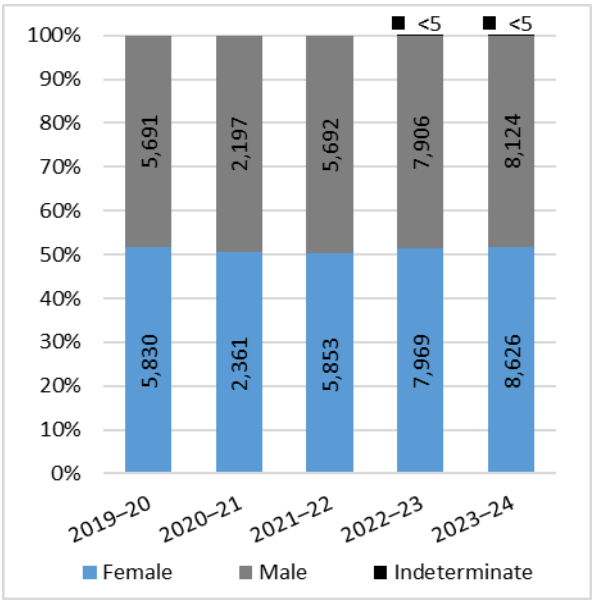


Figure 12: Number of persons granted visas by gender, 2019–20 to 2023–24



Notes:

1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 202 (Community Support Program), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Processing Times

Table 11: Average processing time (in weeks) of finalised cases by visa category, decision type and year of finalisation, 2023–24

Visa category	Decision type	Program year of finalisation				
		2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
Refugee	Granted	51.4	70.3	42.5	72.0	70.2
	Refused/Withdrawn/Other	26.6	49.1	38.8	77.9	95.6
	Total	*30.7*	*51.4*	*40.4*	*76.6*	*88.4*
SHP - Global Special Humanitarian	Granted	71.4	104.9	131.1	127.0	134.4
	Refused/Withdrawn/Other	25.7	24.4	32.1	97.2	104.4
	Total	*29.4*	*31.2*	*70.1*	*117.2*	*122.2*
SHP - Community Support Program	Granted	49.3	88.8	125.8	112.7	97.8
	Refused/Withdrawn/Other	59.8	75.4	114.1	107.4	n/a
	Total	*51.4*	*87.3*	*125.0*	*112.4*	*97.8*
All visa categories	Granted	59.7	87.8	74.1	90.9	93.6
	Refused/Withdrawn/Other	26.1	24.8	37.3	79.2	96.8
	Total	**30.1**	**39.9**	**52.0**	**82.8**	**95.6**

Notes:
1. Refugee visas include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). SHP visas include subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian) and 202 (Community Support Program).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Vulnerable Women and Children

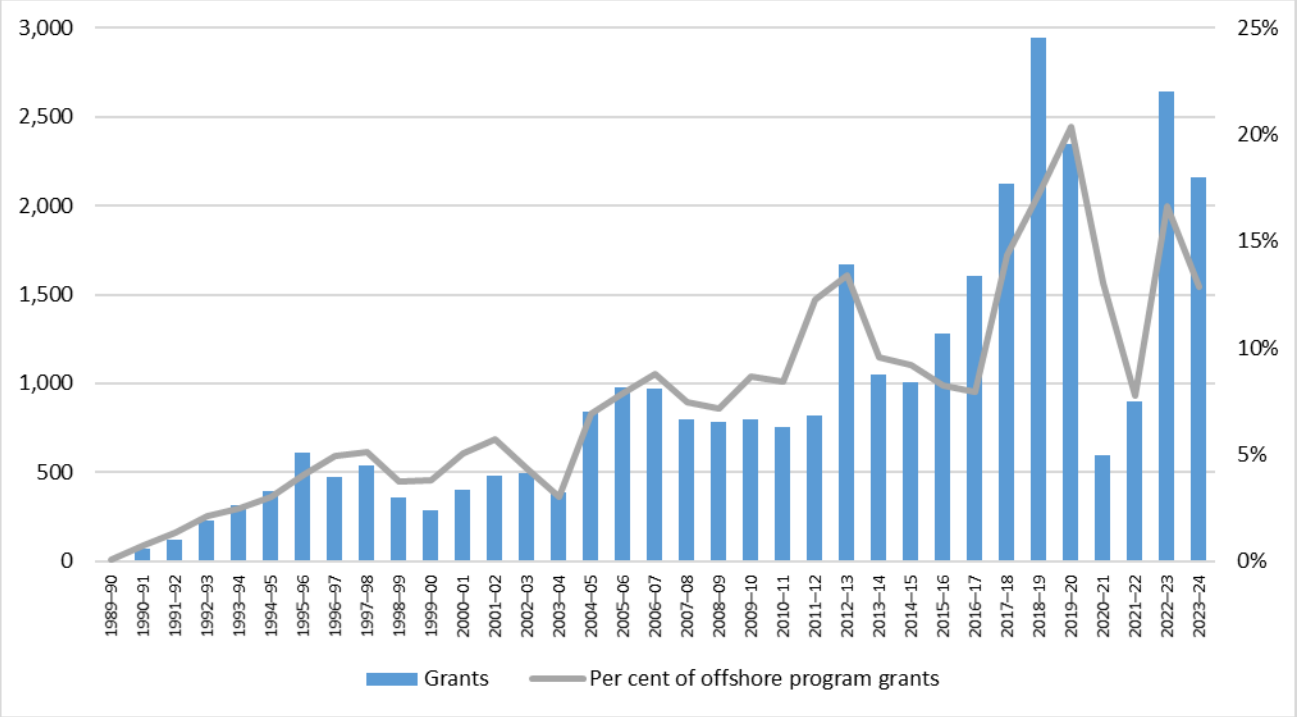
The Woman at Risk visa subclass was established in recognition of the priority given by UNHCR to the protection of refugee women in particularly vulnerable situations. Its introduction was intended to provide a pathway for the resettlement of vulnerable women refugees and their dependants living without the effective protection of male relatives.

Woman at Risk visa applicants may be unmarried, divorced or widowed and have no male relative who can provide effective protection, or separated from their partners or male relatives due to conflict or other circumstances.

Over 32,200 visas have been granted to vulnerable women and their dependants since the establishment of the Woman at Risk visa in 1989.

In 2023–24, 2,159 visas were granted to vulnerable women and children. Reflecting the priority placed on Afghan refugees in the overall program, 40 per cent of visas granted to vulnerable women and children were to Afghan citizens.

Figure 13: Number of visas granted to vulnerable women and children by year of grant, 1989–90 to 2023–24



Notes:

1. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
2. The 2015–16 and 2016–17 statistics in this graph includes visas granted towards the annual offshore resettlement component of the Humanitarian Program, and the additional 12,000 places for people displaced by conflict in Syria and Iraq.

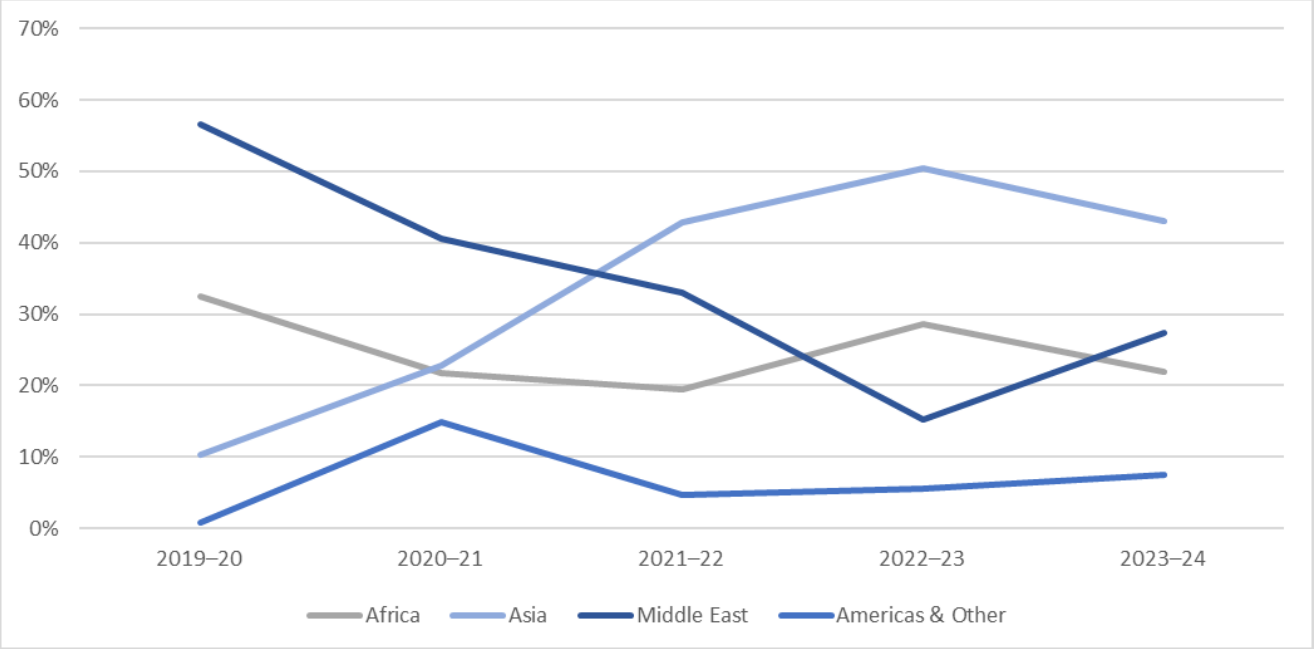
Table 12: Number of visas granted to vulnerable women and children by age group and year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Age group	Program year of grant				
	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
Number					
0–17 years	1,057	238	340	1,087	847
18–29 years	560	132	230	759	554
30–49 years	504	151	202	577	529
50–69 years	179	64	94	180	184
70+ years	45	10	31	42	45
Total	**2,345**	**595**	**897**	**2,645**	**2,159**
Per cent					
0–17 years	45.1%	5.2%	37.9%	41.1%	39.2%
18–29 years	23.9%	2.9%	25.6%	28.7%	25.7%
30–49 years	21.5%	3.3%	22.5%	21.8%	24.5%
50–69 years	7.6%	1.4%	10.5%	6.8%	8.5%
70+ years	1.9%	0.2%	3.5%	1.6%	2.1%
Total	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:

1. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
2. Any discrepancies between per cent totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Figure 14: Proportion of grants to vulnerable women and children by region of citizenship and year of grant, 2014–15 to 2023–24



Notes:
1. The region of origin of principal visa applicants is applied to secondary visa applicants.
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 13: Top ten citizenships of vulnerable women and children, 2023–24

Citizenship	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Afghanistan	860	39.8%	29.8%	44.7%
Iraq	417	19.3%	25.0%	8.5%
Democratic Repuplic of Congo	266	12.3%	15.6%	19.1%
Syria	162	7.5%	6.4%	5.6%
Venezuela	105	4.9%	3.4%	3.2%
Ethiopia	79	3.7%	3.9%	4.9%
Myanmar	63	2.9%	3.9%	3.7%
Eritrea	61	2.8%	2.5%	<1%
Stateless	34	1.6%	0.5%	<1%
Colombia	19	0.9%	0.9%	1.5%
Other	93	4.3%	8.0%	8.3%
Total	**2,159**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 14: Top ten residence countries of vulnerable women and children, 2023–24

Residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Pakistan	434	20.1%	13.6%	16.4%
Iraq	372	17.2%	21.7%	14.1%
Iran	327	15.1%	8.6%	12.4%
Kenya	117	5.4%	9.0%	4.4%
Türkiye	112	5.2%	3.5%	4.2%
Lebanon	107	5.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Malaysia	77	3.6%	4.6%	2.9%
Burundi	64	3.0%	4.1%	2.4%
Malawi	61	2.8%	4.5%	2.3%
Ethiopia	55	2.5%	0.7%	2.1%
Other	433	20.1%	25.7%	34.7%
Total	**2,159**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is applied also to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from Departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 15: Top ten citizenships and top residence countries of vulnerable women and children, 2023-24

Citizenship and residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Afghans in Pakistan	434	20.1%	13.5%	20.1%
Iraqis in Iraq	342	15.8%	19.1%	6.5%
Congolese in Burundi	64	3.0%	4.0%	4.8%
Syrians in Lebanon	103	4.8%	2.4%	1.7%
Venezuelans in Peru	53	2.5%	2.4%	0.1%
Ethiopia in Kenya	51	2.4%	2.9%	1.9%
Myanmarese in Malaysia	33	1.5%	2.1%	1.6%
Eritreans in Egypt	26	1.2%	2.1%	<1%
Stateless in Bangladesh	20	0.9%	0.2%	0%
Columbians in Ecuador	17	0.8%	0.7%	1.5%
Other	1,016	47.1%	50.6%	61.8%
Total	**2,159**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is also applied to secondary visa applicants.
3. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Community Support Program (CSP)

The CSP is intended to provide a sustainable model for private sponsorship for humanitarian entrants that complements existing resettlement pathways.

To ensure CSP entrants are well positioned to enter the workforce shortly after arrival in Australia, they must:

- be aged 18–50
- have adequate English language, and
- have an offer of employment or a pathway to achieve self-sufficiency within 12 months of arrival.

Under the CSP, Approved Proposing Organisations (APOs) are responsible for managing the visa application lodgement process, securing employment, and overseeing the settlement of CSP entrants.

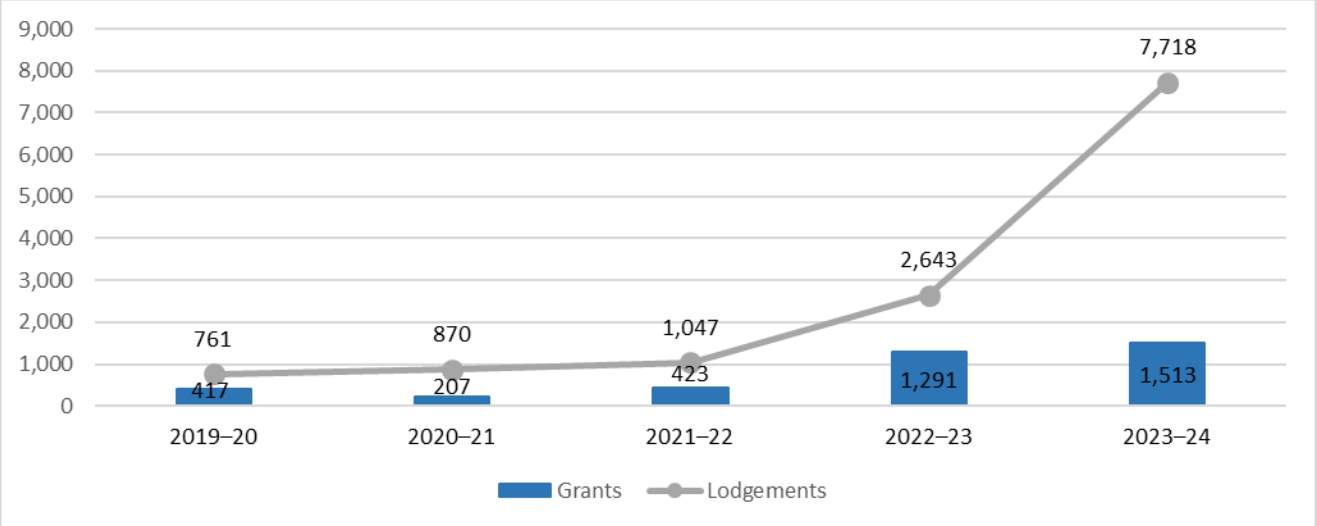
The 12 appointed APOs are:

- AMES Australia
- Assyrian Australian Association
- Australian Migrant Resource Centre
- Australian Refugee Association
- *The Brotherhood of St Laurence (before 1 February 2022)*
- Cultura (formerly known as Diversitat)
- Eastern Christian Welfare Australia
- Illawarra Multicultural Services
- International Organization for Migration
- Multicultural Australia (formerly known as Multicultural Development Australia)
- Settlement Services International
- Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre

The 2018–19 program year was the CSP's first full year of operation. Legislation for the CSP commenced on 1 July 2017, with APOs entering into Deeds of Agreement with the Department in March 2018. 1,500 places were allocated to the CSP in 2023–24, and this allocation was delivered in full with 1, 513 visas granted under the CSP.

The top five citizenships of people who applied and were granted visas through the CSP in 2023–24 were Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Eritrea, and Myanmar.

Figure 15: CSP lodgements and grants 2019–20 to 2023–24



Notes:

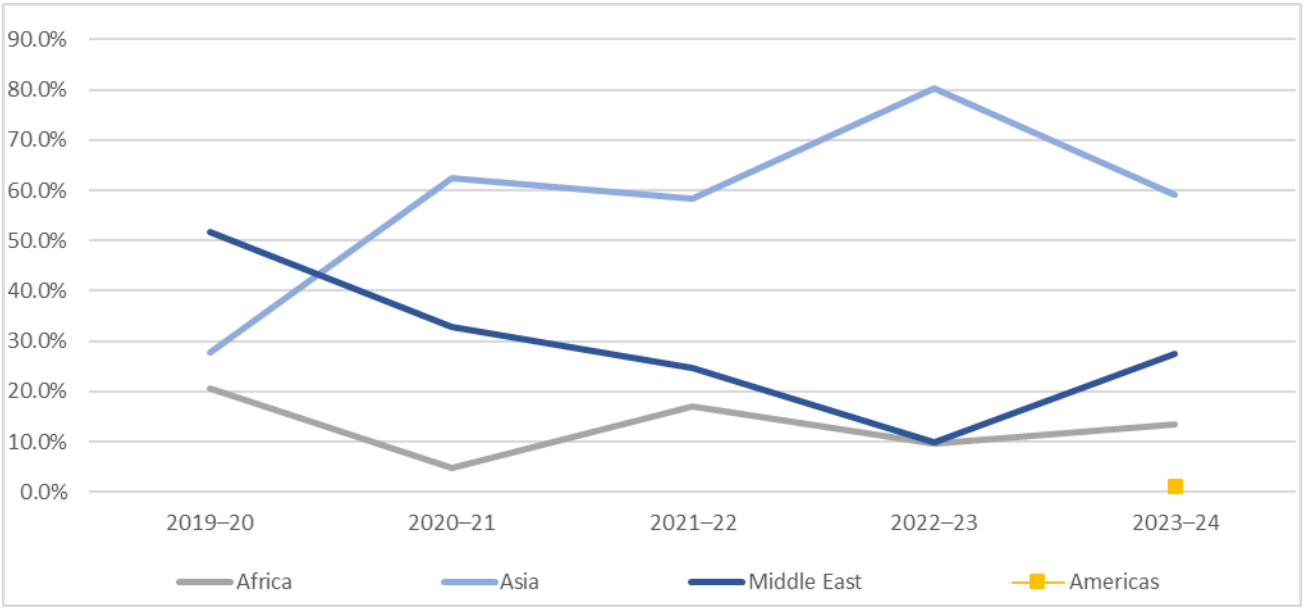
1. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
2. Applications lodged in one program year may not be finalised in the same program year. Therefore, data relating to lodgements and finalisations (grants and refusals) in a program year cannot be directly compared.

Table 16: Number of visas granted to CSP applicants by age group, year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24

	2019–20		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2023–24	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Age group										
0–17	145	34.8%	71	34.3%	125	29.6%	399	30.9%	465	30.7%
18–29	112	26.9%	56	27.1%	136	32.2%	432	33.5%	430	28.4%
30–49	129	30.9%	66	31.9%	124	29.3%	347	26.9%	482	31.9%
50–69	<30	6.5%	<15	6.3%	<40	8.3%	100	7.7%	120	7.9%
70+	<5	1.0%	<5	0.5%	<5	0.7%	13	1.0%	16	1.1%
Total	**417**	**100%**	**207**	**100%**	**423**	**100%**	**1,291**	**100%**	**1,513**	**100%**
Gender										
Male	210	50.4%	108	52.2%	221	52.2%	671	52.0%	775	51.2%
Female	207	49.6%	99	47.8%	202	47.8%	620	48.0%	738	48.8%
Indeterminate	0	0%	0	0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	**417**	**100%**	**207**	**100%**	**423**	**100%**	**1,291**	**100%**	**1,513**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
2. Any discrepancies between per cent totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Figure 16: Proportion of CSP grants by region of citizenship and year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24



Notes:
1. The region of birth of principal visa applicants is applied to secondary visa applicants.
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 17: Top five citizenships of CSP applicants, 2023–24

Citizenship	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Afghanistan	834	55.1%	60.3%	79.6%
Iraq	209	13.8%	16.6%	7.8%
Syria	201	13.3%	7.1%	2.1%
Eritrea	170	11.2%	11.4%	8.5%
Myanmar	55	3.6%	2.4%	0.9%
Other	44	2.9%	2.2%	1.2%
Total	**1,513**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is applied also to secondary visa applicants.
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 18: Top five residence countries of CSP applicants, 2023–24

Residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Pakistan	672	44.4%	52.0%	71.9%
Türkiye	151	10.0%	5.6%	4.9%
Lebanon	121	8.0%	5.8%	1.8%
Malaysia	92	6.1%	3.9%	2.2%
Uganda	69	4.6%	2.1%	0.2%
Other	408	27.0%	30.6%	18.9%
Total	**1,513**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is applied to secondary visa applicants.
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024

Table 19: Top ten citizenships and top residence countries of CSP applicants, 2023 -24

Citizenship and residence country	2023–24		5 year average	2022–23
	Number	Per cent		
Afghans in Pakistan	672	44.4%	52.0%	71.9%
Iraqis in Türkiye	127	8.4%	4.9%	4.7%
Syrians in Lebanon	108	7.1%	4.3%	1.7%
Eritreans in Ethiopia	68	4.5%	2.4%	0.5%
Myanmarese in Malaysia	55	3.6%	2.4%	0.8%
Other	483	31.9%	34.0%	20.4%
Total	**1,513**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. The citizenship of principal visa applicants is applied also to secondary visa applicants.
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024

Afghanistan

Australia has been resettling Afghans through the Humanitarian Program since the late 1990's. Grants to Afghan nationals formed over 41 per cent of total visa grants in the 2023-24 Humanitarian Program.

Following the fall of Kabul on 15 August 2021, the Australian Government conducted a military air evacuation operation.

- Between 18 and 26 August 2021, over 4,100 people were evacuated on 32 flights from Kabul.

Since the initial evacuation phase, Australia has continued to facilitate the movement of Afghan nationals to Australia, from Pakistan and other countries. In total, over 7,400 subclass 449 visas were granted to Afghan evacuees, with almost 6,200 having arrived in Australia as at 30 June 2023.

As at 30 June 2024, over 5,600 Class XB visas had been granted to Afghan citizens in Australia who had previously held a Subclass 449 visa.

The Afghan LEE Program offers resettlement to eligible LEE at risk of harm as a result of their employment by the Australian Defence Force, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australian Agency for International Development or the Australian Federal Police in Afghanistan. Eligibility extends to immediate family members of the LEE.

- Since the announcement of this program, more than 2,500 visas have been granted to Afghan LEE and their family members, with almost 250 granted in 2023–24.

There were 10,000 places allocated to Afghan nationals within the offshore Humanitarian Program between 2021–22 and 2024–25. Further, an additional 16,500 places for Afghan nationals have been allocated and will be delivered over four years (4,125 places per year between 2023–24 and 2025–26). This brings the total number of places available to Afghan nationals to 31,500, which comprise 26,500 places under the Humanitarian Program and 5,000 under the Family stream of the Migration Program.

The Australian Government has established policy to guide decisions on which applications ought generally to be given priority. For Afghans, this policy includes people who are outside Afghanistan who are:

- certified former LEE and their immediate family members (spouses and children under 18)
- immediate family members (spouse, children under 18) of holders of Refugee and Humanitarian (Class XB) visas
- refugees who have been referred by UNHCR to Australia for resettlement
- members of identified minority groups (such as women and girls, ethnic minorities and LGBTQI+) who are referred by UNHCR or proposed by a close family member in Australia.

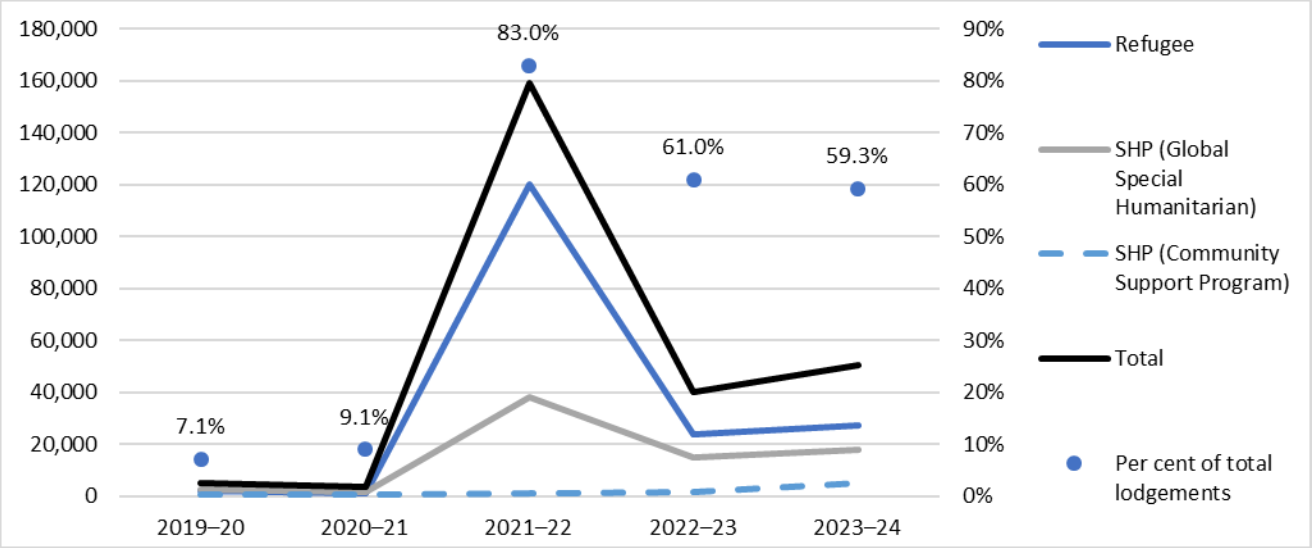
Lodgements

Table 20: Number of Afghans lodging visa applications by subclass and year of lodgement, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Subclass	Program year of lodgement				
	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
	Number				
Refugee					
Subclass 200 (Refugee)	1,220	791	8,256	7,273	21,869
Subclass 201 (In–country Special Humanitarian)	555	446	111,329	16,148	5,200
Subclass 203 (Emergency Rescue)	11	0	<5	<5	<5
Subclass 204 (Woman at Risk)	78	13	<480	<575	<380
Total Refugee	*1,864*	*1,250*	*120,065*	*23,996*	*27,448*
SHP					
Global Special Humanitarian Program	2,729	1,745	38,343	14,740	17,933
Community Support Program	435	591	940	1,647	4,990
Total Special Humanitarian Program	*3,164*	*2,336*	*39,283*	*16,387*	*22,923*
Total	**5,028**	**3,586**	**159,348**	**40,383**	**50,371**
	Per cent				
Refugee					
Subclass 200 (Refugee)	24.3%	22.1%	5.2%	18.0%	43.4%
Subclass 201 (In–country Special Humanitarian)	11.0%	12.4%	69.9%	40.0%	10.3%
Subclass 203 (Emergency Rescue)	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Subclass 204 (Woman at Risk)	1.6%	0.4%	0.3%	1.4%	0.8%
Total Refugee	*37.1%*	*34.9%*	75.3%	59.4%	54.5%
SHP					
Global Special Humanitarian Program	54.3%	48.7%	24.1%	36.5%	35.6%
Community Support Program	8.7%	16.5%	0.6%	4.1%	9.9%
Total Special Humanitarian Program	*62.9%*	*65.1%*	*24.7%*	*40.6%*	*45.5%*
Total	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:
1. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
2. Any discrepancies between per cent totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Figure 17: Number of Afghans lodging visa applications by visa category and year of lodgement, 2014–15 to 2023–24



Notes:

1. Refugee visas include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). SHP visas include subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 21: Number of Afghans included in visa applications by age group, gender and year of lodgement, 2019–20 to 2023–24

	2019–20		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2023–24	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Age group										
0–17	2,039	40.6%	1,475	41.1%	65,489	41.1%	16,431	40.7%	19,909	39.5%
18–29	1,450	28.8%	972	27.1%	41,376	26.0%	10,525	26.1%	13,219	26.2%
30–49	1,054	21.0%	822	22.9%	34,355	21.6%	9,593	23.8%	12,638	25.1%
50–69	409	8.1%	271	7.6%	15,365	9.6%	3,341	8.3%	3,938	7.8%
70+	76	1.5%	46	1.3%	2,763	1.7%	493	1.2%	667	1.3%
Total	**5,028**	**100%**	**3,586**	**100%**	**159,348**	**100%**	**40,383**	**100%**	**50,371**	**100%**
Gender										
Male	<2,420	48.1%	1,761	49.1%	77,021	48.3%	20,016	49.6%	25,149	49.9%
Female	2,609	51.9%	1,825	50.9%	82,278	51.6%	20,344	50.4%	25,178	50.0%
Indeterminate	<5	0.0%	0	0.0%	<50	<0.1%	12	<0.1%	0	<0.1%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	<5	<0.1%	11	<0.1%	44	<0.1%
Total	**5,028**	**100%**	**3,586**	**100%**	**159,347**	**100%**	**40,383**	**100%**	**50,371**	**100%**

Notes:

1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
3. Any discrepancies between per cent totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Grants

Table 22: Number of Afghans granted visas by subclass and year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24

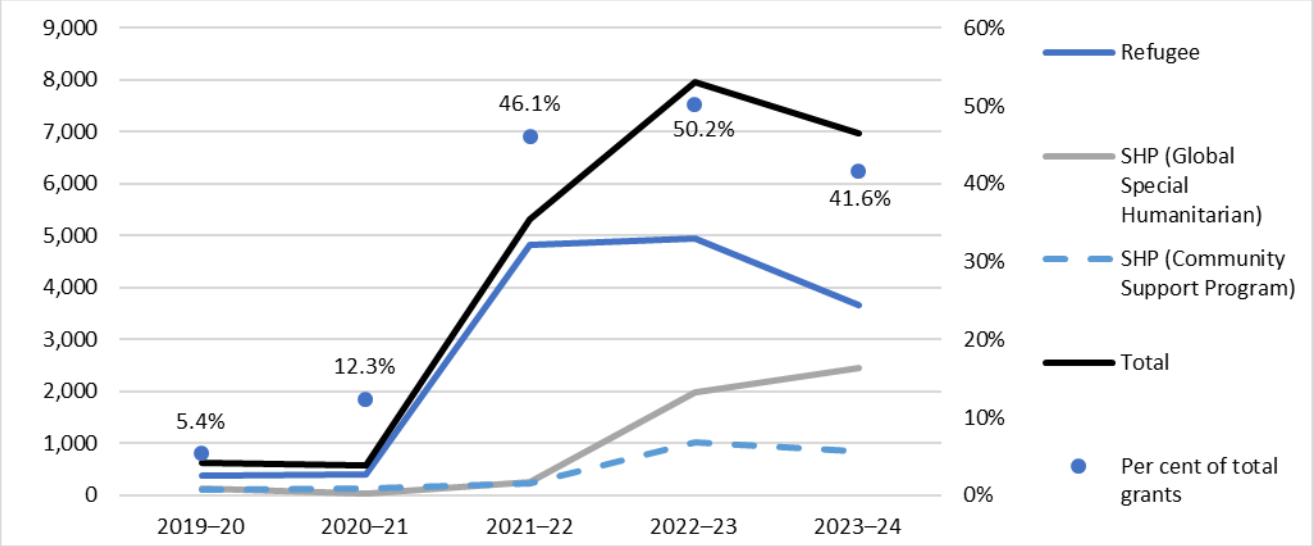
Subclass	Program year of grant				
	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
	Number				
Refugee					
Subclass 200 (Refugee)	157	99	1,167	1,593	2,782
Subclass 201 (In–country Special Humanitarian)	123	268	3,439	2,639	573
Subclass 203 (Emergency Rescue)	11	0	<5	0	0
Subclass 204 (Woman at Risk)	95	34	<220	712	319
Total Refugee	*386*	*401*	*4,825*	*4,944*	*3,674*
SHP					
Global Special Humanitarian Program	128	43	261	1,991	2,453
Community Support Program	105	118	240	1,027	834
Total Special Humanitarian Program	*233*	*161*	*501*	*3,018*	*3,287*
Total	**619**	**562**	**5,326**	**7,962**	**6,961**
	Per cent				
Refugee					
Subclass 200 (Refugee)	25.4%	17.6%	21.9%	20.0%	40.0%
Subclass 201 (In–country Special Humanitarian)	19.9%	47.7%	64.6%	33.1%	8.2%
Subclass 203 (Emergency Rescue)	1.8%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Subclass 204 (Woman at Risk)	15.3%	6.0%	4.0%	8.9%	4.6%
Total Refugee	*62.4%*	*71.4%*	*90.6%*	*62.1%*	52.8%
SHP					
Global Special Humanitarian Program	20.7%	7.7%	4.9%	25.0%	35.2%
Community Support Program	17.0%	21.0%	4.5%	12.9%	12.0%
Total Special Humanitarian Program	*37.6%*	*28.6%*	*9.4%*	*37.9%*	*47.2%*
Total	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Notes:

1. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.
2. Any discrepancies between per cent totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Figure 18: Number of Afghans granted visas by visa category and year of grant, 2014–15 to 2023–24

Between 2014–15 and 2023–24, more than 29,300 Class XB visas had been granted to Afghan citizens.



Notes:

1. Refugee visas include subclass 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk). SHP visas include subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Table 23: Number of Afghans granted visas and grant rate by age group and year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24

Program Year		Age Range					Total
		0–17	18–29	30–49	50–69	70+	
2019–20	Number	239	184	139	44	13	**619**
	Per cent	38.6%	29.7%	22.5%	7.1%	2.1%	**100%**
	Grant Rate	15.5%	16.4%	15.8%	12.9%	22.8%	**15.7%**
2020–21	Number	251	126	160	22	3	**562**
	Per cent	44.7%	22.4%	28.5%	3.9%	0.5%	**100%**
	Grant Rate	24.8%	19.9%	26.9%	11.5%	8.8%	**22.8%**
2021–22	Number	2,146	1,408	1,332	395	45	**5,326**
	Per cent	40.3%	26.4%	25.0%	7.4%	0.8%	**100%**
	Grant Rate	92.2%	92.8%	92.4%	91.4%	93.8%	**92.4%**
2022–23	Number	2,974	2,359	1,869	662	98	**7,962**
	Per cent	37.4%	29.6%	23.5%	8.3%	1.2%	**100%**
	Grant Rate	19.0%	20.5%	18.7%	14.5%	10.0%	**18.7%**
2023–24	Number	2,517	1,882	1,818	653	91	**6,961**
	Per cent	36.2%	27.0%	26.1%	9.4%	1.3%	**100%**
	Grant Rate	16.3%	16.7%	18.1%	15.2%	11.4%	**16.6%**

Notes:

1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

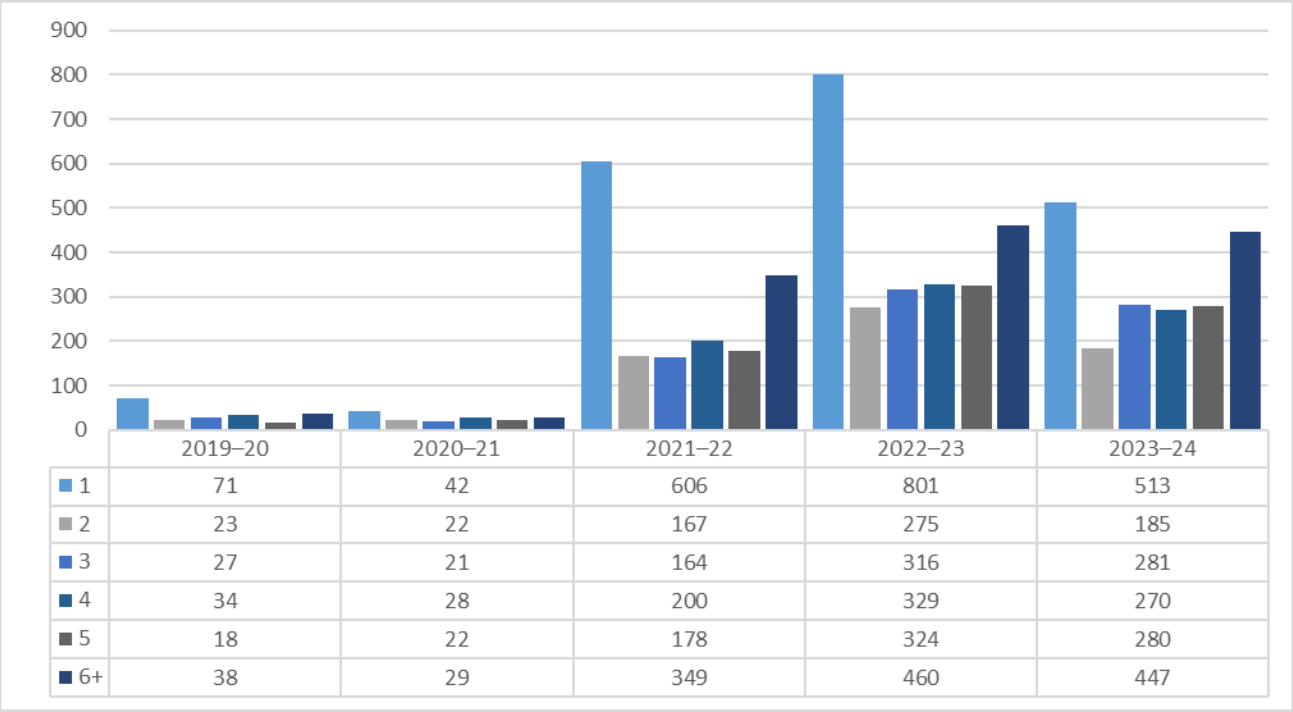
Table 24: Number of Afghans granted visas by gender and year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24

	2019–20		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2022–24	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Male	275	44.4%	297	52.8%	2,650	49.8%	4,181	52.5%	3,266	46.9%
Female	344	55.6%	265	47.2%	2,676	50.2%	3,780	47.5%	3,695	53.1%
Indeterminate	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	**619**	**100%**	**562**	**100%**	**5,326**	**100%**	**7,962**	**100%**	**6,961**	**100%**

Notes:

3. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
4. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Figure 19: Afghan cases granted by family size and year of grant, 2019–20 to 2023–24



	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24
1	71	42	606	801	513
2	23	22	167	275	185
3	27	21	164	316	281
4	34	28	200	329	270
5	18	22	178	324	280
6+	38	29	349	460	447

Notes:

1. Subclasses included are 200 (Refugee), 201 (In–Country Special Humanitarian), 202 (Global Special Humanitarian), 203 (Emergency Rescue) and 204 (Woman at Risk).
2. Data was extracted from departmental systems on 3 July 2024.

Reference Material

Glossary

Term	Definition
ABS	The Australian Bureau of Statistics.
Class XB Subclasses	There are five permanent visas under the offshore component of the Humanitarian Program. The four visa subclasses under the Refugee category are: • Subclass 200 (Refugee)—for applicants who have fled persecution in their home country and are living outside their home country. Most are referred by UNHCR. • Subclass 201 (In–country Special Humanitarian)—for applicants living in their home country who are subject to persecution. • Subclass 203 (Emergency Rescue)—for applicants who are living in or outside their home country and who are in urgent need of protection because there is an immediate threat to their life and security. • Subclass 204 (Woman at Risk)—for female applicants and their dependants who are subject to persecution or are people of concern to UNHCR, are living outside their home country without the protection of a male relative and are in danger of victimisation, harassment or serious abuse because of their gender. This subclass recognises the priority given by UNHCR to the protection of refugee women who are in particularly vulnerable situations. The only subclass under the SHP is: Subclass 202 (Global Special Humanitarian) —the applicant must be subject to substantial discrimination amounting to gross violation of their human rights in their home country, living outside their home country at the time of application and have links with Australia. If the application is successful, SHP proposers help the applicant organise and pay for their travel to Australia and assist with their accommodation and initial orientation in Australia. SHP proposers must be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen over the age of 18, or an organisation operating in Australia.
Program year	The period beginning from 1 July to 30 June of the following year.
Refugee	Individuals recognized under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees; its 1967 Protocol; the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa; those recognized in accordance with the UNHCR Statute; individuals granted complementary forms of protection; or, those enjoying temporary protection. The refugee population also includes people in a refugee–like situation. A person who has been found to be a refugee as defined in the Refugee Convention. Article 1 of the 1951 Refugee Convention defines a 'refugee' as: 'a person who is outside their country of nationality and unable or unwilling to return because of a well–founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion. It obliges signatories not to expel or return refugees to a country where their life or freedom would be threatened on account of their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion'
Refugee Convention	The United Nations 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.
Refusal	A decision that an applicant does not meet the legal criteria for the grant of a visa.

Term	Definition
SHPC	Special Humanitarian Processing Centre. The SHPC in Sydney contributes to the delivery of the offshore Humanitarian Program, supporting the operations of Australia's missions overseas. The SHPC registers and acknowledge all new applications with an Australian proposer. Refugee applications referred by UNHCR are lodged directly with Australian missions overseas. SHPC makes a preliminary assessment against legislative requirements.
Split Family	Applications made by immediate family members of a person who holds or held a permanent Humanitarian Program visa are commonly referred to as 'split family' applications. For an applicant to be eligible for a visa under 'split family' provisions: • the main applicant must be a member of the proposer's immediate family, and • the proposer must have declared this relationship to the department before the grant of their visa, and • the application must be made within five years of the grant of the proposer's visa. To propose an immediate family member under the 'split family' provisions of the SHP, the proposer must have been granted one of the following visas within the last five years: • SHP visa (subclass 202) • Protection visa (subclass 866)*, or • Resolution of Status visa (subclass 851)*. * IMAs who arrived on or after 13 August 2012 are not eligible to propose. A member of the proposer's 'immediate family' may include: • their spouse or de facto partner • dependent children • parents (if the proposer is under 18 years of age). A dependent child is the proposer's biological, adopted or step child who is: • not married, in a de facto relationship or engaged to be married; and • under 18 years of age, or • aged 18 years or over and wholly or substantially reliant on the main applicant for financial, psychological or physical support.
Subclass 449 – Humanitarian Stay (Temporary)	Humanitarian Stay (Temporary) (subclass 449) visa is a subclass of the Temporary Safe Haven (Class UJ) visa which can be utilised to respond to emergency humanitarian situations, where people face, or have faced, a strong likelihood of being displaced from their residence, and are in grave fear of their personal safety because of their personal circumstances. These visas facilitate the movement of people under imminent threat of harm. Application for this visa is made by accepting an offer from the Australian Government (usually made by the Minister responsible for immigration) for temporary stay in Australia.
The Department	The Department of Home Affairs.
The Offshore Program	Australia's Offshore Humanitarian program, comprising: • Refugee category: provides resettlement in Australia to people outside their home country who are subject to persecution in their home country • Special Humanitarian Program: provides resettlement to people who are subject to substantial discrimination amounting to gross violation of their human rights in their home country, are living outside their home country and have links to Australia. Substantial discrimination involves the deprivation of basic human rights such as access to education and employment, freedom of speech and freedom to practice one's religion.
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. UNHCR leads and coordinates international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly on 14 December 1950.

Term	Definition
Visa process	All offshore visa applications are registered and then assessed against visa criteria. Following assessment, applications are finalised, either being granted or refused. At any stage a visa application may be withdrawn by the applicant. Delays in processing may be caused by circumstances in the country of residence, the need for additional or specialist health and character checks and other variables.

Appendix A: Country of origin regions

Africa			
Algeria	Burundi	Cameroon	Central African Republic
Chad	Congo	Cote D'Ivoire	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Egypt	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Gambia
Ghana	Guinea	Kenya	Liberia
Libya	Malawi	Mali	Nigeria
Rwanda	Senegal	Sierra Leone	Somalia
South Africa	South Sudan	Sudan	Tunisia
Uganda	Zambia	Zimbabwe	

Americas			
Canada	Colombia	Cuba	El Salvador
Guatemala	Haiti	Honduras	Jamaica
St Vincent & The Grenadines	Trinidad & Tobago	United States	Venezuela

Asia			
Afghanistan	Bangladesh	Bhutan	China
Hong Kong	India	Laos	Malaysia
Myanmar	Nepal	Pakistan	Philippines
Sri Lanka	Thailand	Vietnam	

Middle East			
Gaza Strip	Iran	Iraq	Israel
Jordan	Lebanon	Palestinian Authority	Saudi Arabia
Syria	Türkiye	Yemen	

Other			
British Overseas Territories Citizen	Estonia	Greece	Morocco
Norway	Russian Federation	Slovakia	Spain
United Kingdom			