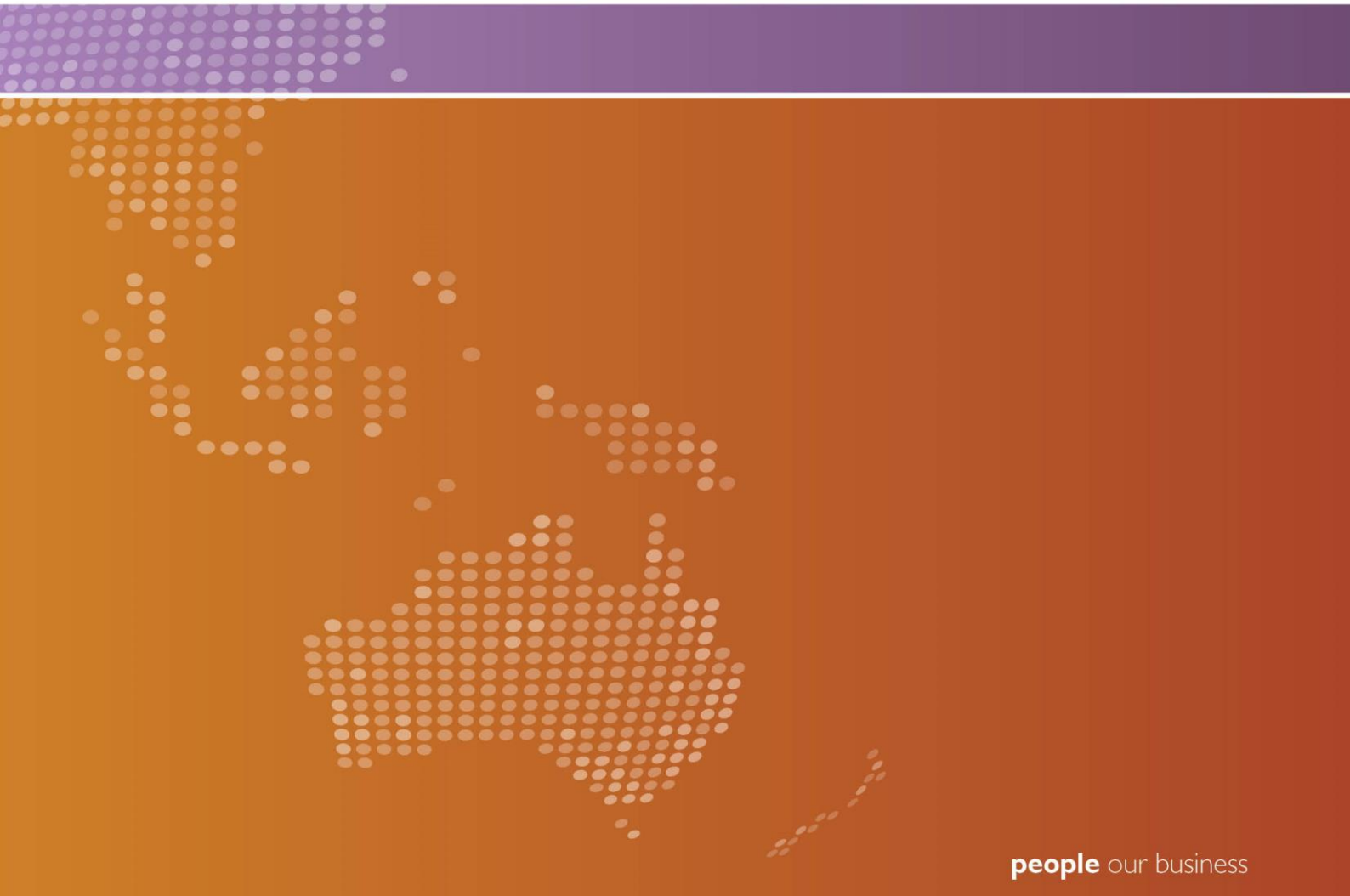
Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Asylum Trends

Australia

2012-13 – Annual Publication



people our business

Asylum Trends – Australia: 2012-13 Annual Publication was prepared by Protection Moring and Analysis Section of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) in Australia.

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All figures in this publication (including RRT statistics) are as revised at the end of the 2012-13 program year and hence may differ from previously published figures.

Background

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

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

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

Asylum seekers – the numbers in context

When the Refugees Convention was established in 1951 there were approximately 1.5 million refugees globally. According to UNHCR, at the end of 2012 an estimated 45.2 people worldwide were considered forcibly displaced due to conflict and persecution, including 15.4 million refugees, close to one million asylum seekers and 28.8 million internally displaced people**.**

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

Table 1: People seeking Australia's protection

Program Year	Non-IMA[1] Protection visa (PV) applications[2] lodged	IMA refugee status determination requests received[3]	Total
2003-04	3485	87	3572
2004-05	3062	146	3208
2005-06	3191	101	3292
2006-07	3723	23	3746
2007-08	3987	21	4008
2008-09	5072	678	5750
2009-10	5981	4597	10578
2010-11	6335	5166	11501
2011-12	7063	7373	14436
2012-13	8308	18119	26427

Source: DIBP Systems

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

Section 1
Non Illegal maritime arrivals

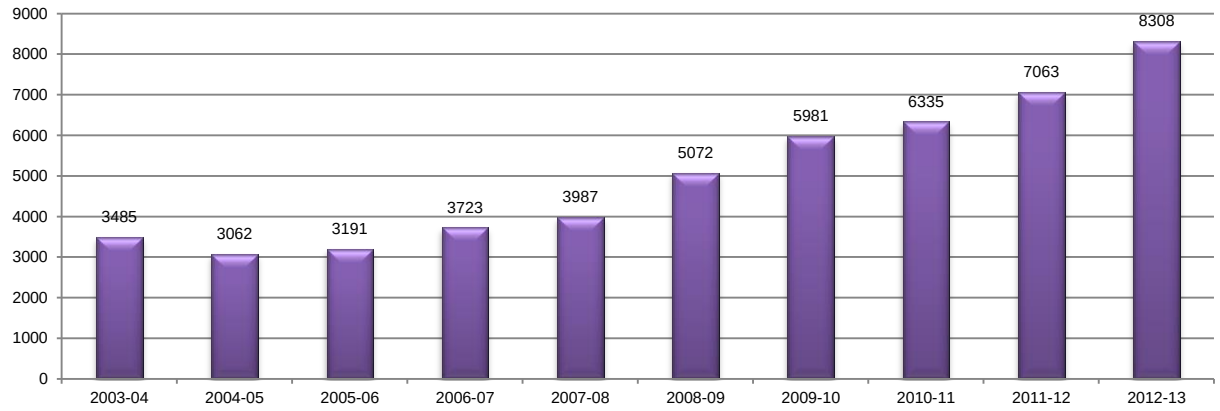
Non Illegal maritime arrivals (non-IMA)

Applications – overall

In 2012-13 there were 8308 applications for asylum by people who originally arrived by air, an increase of 18 per cent on 2011-12.

The number of people arriving by air and seeking protection has been rising since 2004-05 as shown in the chart below drawing on figures set out in Table 1.

Figure 1: Protection visa applications lodged



Applications for protection by international students were largely static, accounting for 41 per cent of the total, following significant growth in recent years reflecting a build-up in the stock of international students in the country.

Table 2: Protection visa applications lodged by major visa groups (arrival visa)

Visa Group	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Students	1114	2116	2666	3331	3422
Visitors and Working Holiday Makers	2996	2832	2615	2503	3140
Bridging Visa	31	45	65	140	360
Temporary Residents (Economic)	235	222	151	176	278
Family Migration	103	89	110	130	151
Temporary Residents (Non-Economic)	62	73	58	91	94
Other	531	604	670	692	863
Total	**5072**	**5981**	**6335**	**7063**	**8308**

Source: ICSE

Applications – regions of citizenship

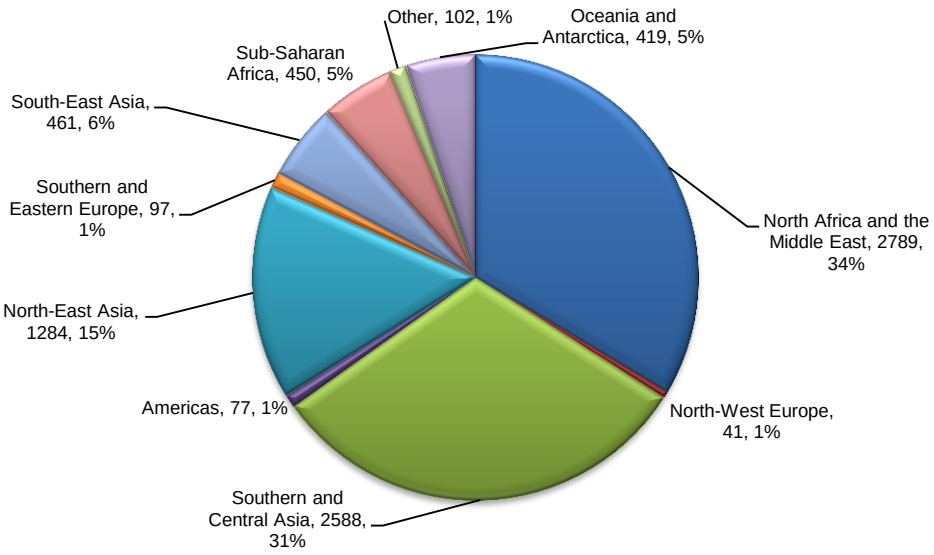
Around eight out of ten applicants in 2012-13 came from Southern and Central Asia, North Africa and the Middle East or North East Asia, up slightly on previous years.

Table 3: Protection visa applications lodged by region (non-IMA)

Region	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
North Africa and the Middle East	813	1158	1551	1798	2789
Southern and Central Asia	1290	1279	1715	2232	2588
North-East Asia	1381	1424	1276	1338	1284
South-East Asia	502	589	658	505	461
Sub-Saharan Africa	634	600	402	456	450
Oceania and Antarctica	167	649	445	426	419
Southern and Eastern Europe	70	75	72	91	97
Americas	67	75	90	94	77
North-West Europe	36	24	17	34	41
Other	112	108	109	89	102
Total	**5072**	**5981**	**6335**	**7063**	**8308**

Source: ICSE

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



Applications – countries of citizenship

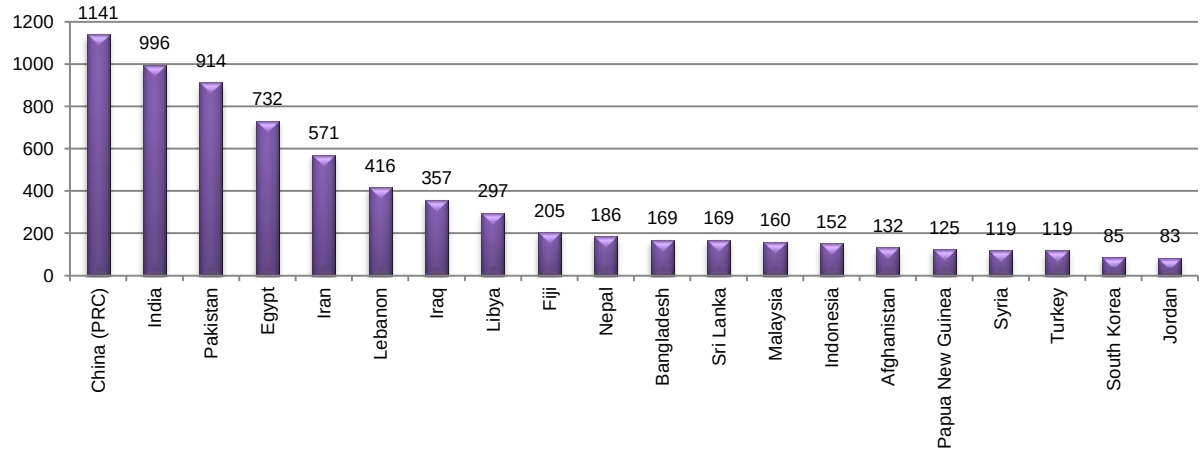
The top five countries of citizenship for applications in 2012-13 were China, India, Pakistan, Egypt and Iran which accounted for 52 per cent of all lodgements. Applications by citizens of India, Pakistan, Egypt and Lebanon were significantly higher than in previous years.

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

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
China (PRC)	1187	1293	1128	1228	1141
India	353	303	557	905	996
Pakistan	221	348	548	668	914
Egypt	113	208	427	358	732
Iran	203	378	386	462	571
Lebanon	103	157	176	177	416
Iraq	232	222	221	302	357
Libya	7	6	66	165	297
Fiji	116	564	331	270	205
Nepal	42	89	228	241	186
Bangladesh	116	87	105	119	169
Sri Lanka	478	328	160	138	169
Malaysia	206	257	212	196	160
Indonesia	211	178	196	133	152
Afghanistan	71	110	97	140	132
Papua New Guinea	24	43	77	63	125
Syria	17	19	31	128	119
Turkey	49	76	118	77	119
South Korea	154	89	94	72	85
Jordan	30	30	27	46	83
Others	1139	1196	1150	1175	1180
Total	**5072**	**5981**	**6335**	**7063**	**8308**

Source: ICSE

Figure 3: Protection visa applications lodged by top 20 countries of citizenship in 2012-13 (non-IMA)



[4] Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2012-13 program year lodgements.

Applications – demographics

Most non-IMA applicants for asylum are unaccompanied. Sole applicants accounted for 83 per cent of principal applicants in 2012-13, a proportion that has remained largely steady for the past five years.

Table 5: Protection visa applications by type of applicants (non-IMA)

Program Year	Principal Applicants			Dependants	Total
	Sole Applicants	Accompanied applicants	Total		
2008-09	3242	666	3908	1164	**5072**
2009-10	3756	813	4569	1412	**5981**
2010-11	3833	919	4752	1583	**6335**
2011-12	4257	995	5252	1811	**7063**
2012-13	4378	1295	5673	2635	**8308**

Source: ICSE

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

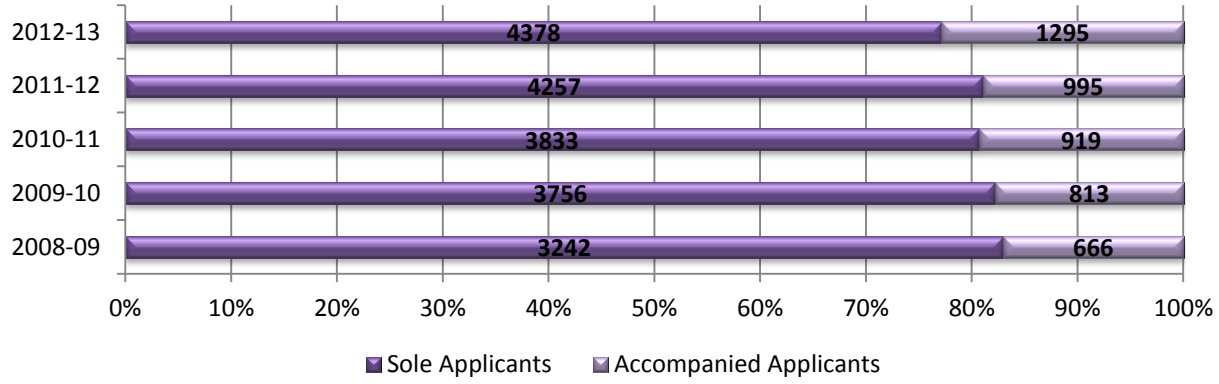


Table 6: Protection visa applications lodged by age group and role of applicant (non-IMA)

Age at lodgement	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
0-17 years	621	764	877	1061	1528
18-30 years	1899	2504	2894	3308	3445
31-40 years	1264	1393	1344	1429	1783
41-50 years	806	839	716	733	865
51-60 years	265	295	305	302	383
60+ years	217	186	199	230	304
Total	**5072**	**5981**	**6335**	**7063**	**8308**
Principal applicants					
0-17 years	62	103	105	118	112
18-30 years	1650	2151	2517	2889	2871
31-40 years	1110	1199	1121	1208	1419
41-50 years	711	727	620	629	736
51-60 years	217	247	247	245	307
60+ years	158	142	142	163	228
Total	**3908**	**4569**	**4752**	**5252**	**5673**
Dependants					
0-17 years	559	661	772	943	1416
18-30 years	249	353	377	419	574
31-40 years	154	194	223	221	364
41-50 years	95	112	96	104	129
51-60 years	48	48	58	57	76
60+ years	59	44	57	67	76
Total	**1164**	**1412**	**1583**	**1811**	**2635**

Source: ICSE

The age profile of the non-IMA caseload reflects the weight of the student component in the caseload. In 2012-13 around 60 per cent of applicants were 30 years of age or younger.

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

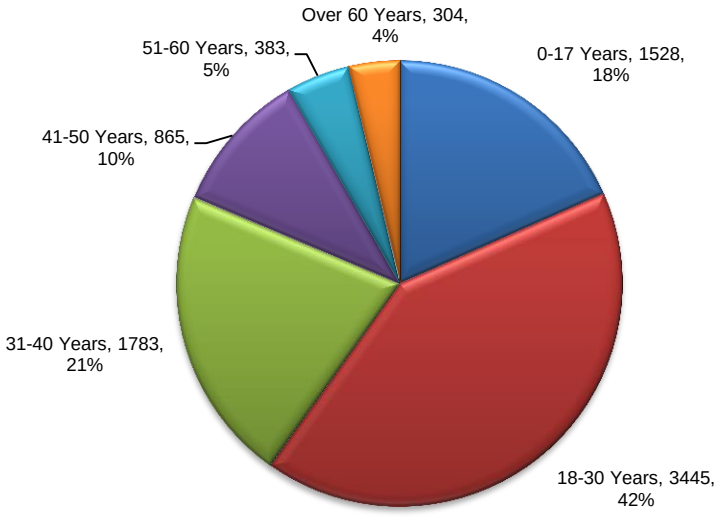


Table 7: Protection visa applications lodged by sex (non-IMA)

Sex	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
Female	1851	2290	2331	2545	3252
Male	3221	3691	4004	4518	5056
Total	**5072**	**5981**	**6335**	**7063**	**8308**
Principal applicants					
Female	1181	1504	1428	1556	1744
Male	2727	3065	3324	3696	3929
Total	**3908**	**4569**	**4752**	**5252**	**5673**
Dependants					
Female	670	786	903	989	1508
Male	494	626	680	822	1127
Total	**1164**	**1412**	**1583**	**1811**	**2635**

Source: ICSE

The proportions of the caseload comprised by male and female applicants have been relatively constant over the past half-decade at both the aggregate level and by role type. In 2012-13, almost 31 per cent of principal applicants and 57 per cent of dependants were female.

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

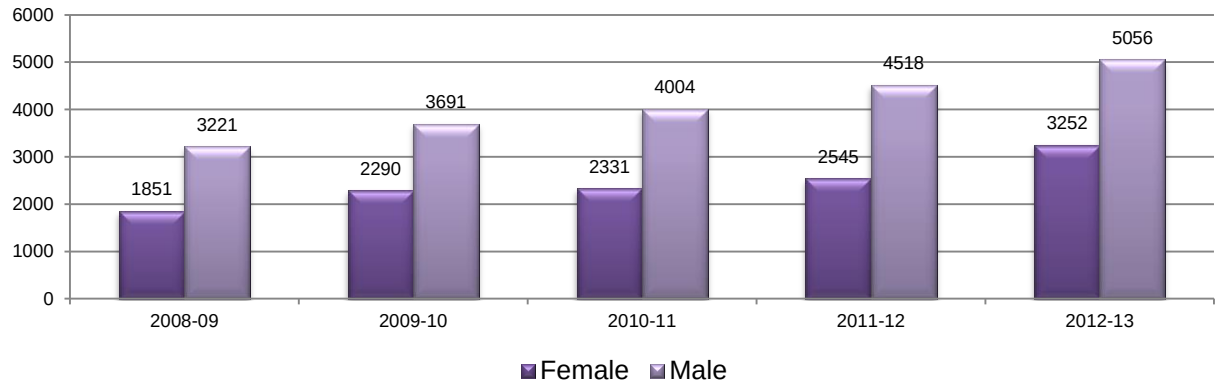
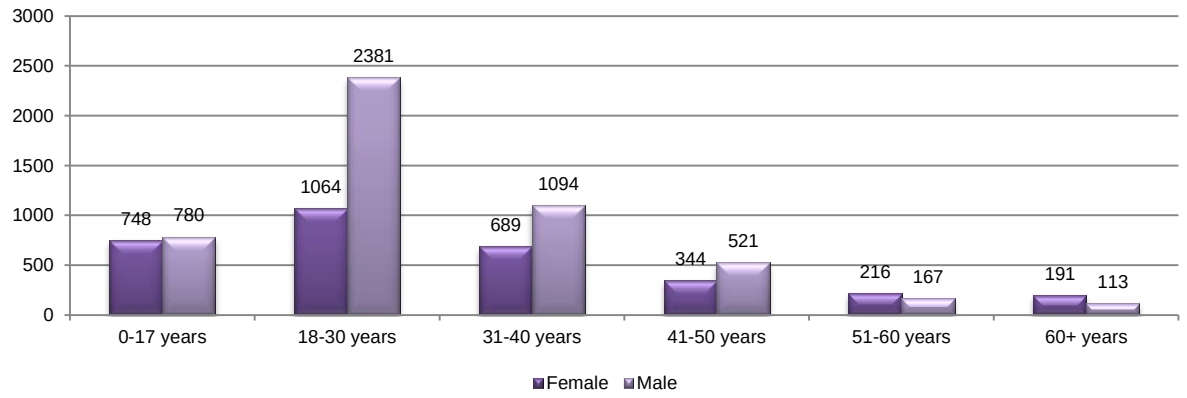


Table 8: Protection visa applications lodged by age group and sex (non-IMA)

Age at lodgement	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
0-17 Years	621	764	877	1061	1528
18-30 Years	1899	2504	2894	3308	3445
31-40 Years	1264	1393	1344	1429	1783
41-50 Years	806	839	716	733	865
51-60 Years	265	295	305	302	383
60+ Years	217	186	199	230	304
Total	**5072**	**5981**	**6335**	**7063**	**8308**
Female					
0-17 years	285	352	437	511	748
18-30 years	540	756	850	934	1064
31-40 years	437	525	463	485	689
41-50 years	314	396	321	307	344
51-60 years	142	157	155	173	216
60+ years	133	104	105	135	191
Total	**1851**	**2290**	**2331**	**2545**	**3252**
Male					
0-17 years	336	412	440	550	780
18-30 years	1359	1748	2044	2374	2381
31-40 years	827	868	881	944	1094
41-50 years	492	443	395	426	521
51-60 years	123	138	150	129	167
60+ years	84	82	94	95	113
Total	**3221**	**3691**	**4004**	**4518**	**5056**

Source: ICSE

Figure 7: Protection visa applications lodged by age group and sex in 2012-13 (non-IMA)



Primary decisions - overall

There were 5094 applications considered and decided in the first instance by officials in 2012-13, a decrease of 12 per cent on 2011-12.

Table 9: Primary decisions and primary grant rates (non-IMA)

Decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Grants	1598	1707	1388	1469	1691
Refusals	2982	3033	4104	4333	3403
Total primary decisions	**4580**	**4740**	**5492**	**5802**	**5094**
Primary grant rate	34.9%	36.0%	25.3%	25.3%	33.2%

Source: ICSE

The percentage of applicants who were found to be refugees at the primary stage was 33 per cent, consistent with historical levels after lower than usual rates during the previous two years.

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

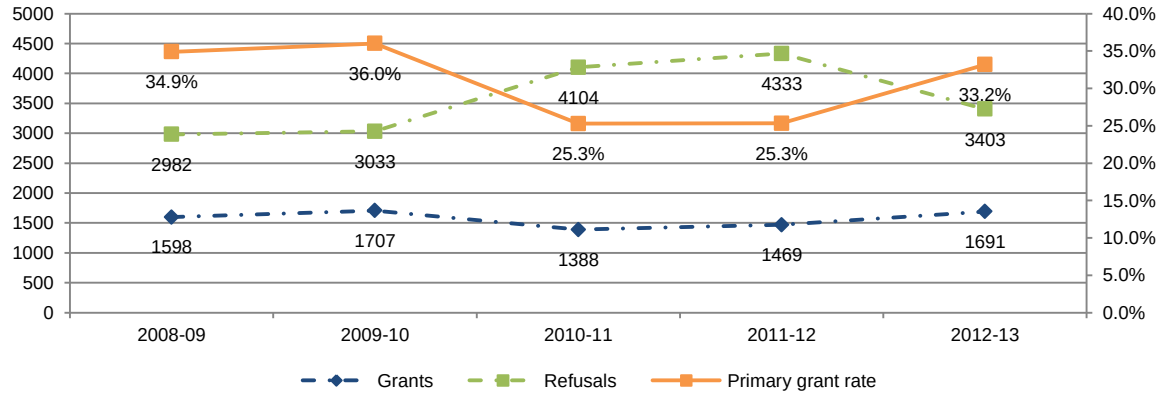


Table 10: Primary grant rate by major visa groups (non-IMA)

Visa Group	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Students	44.0%	40.0%	28.5%	21.6%	34.9%
Visitors and Working Holiday Makers	30.8%	29.5%	23.2%	28.2%	32.1%
Family Migration	60.0%	38.7%	39.5%	38.3%	34.0%
Temporary Residents (Economic)	31.9%	49.0%	30.8%	35.5%	29.8%
Bridging Visa	26.9%	38.2%	27.3%	15.1%	13.3%
Temporary Residents (Non-Economic)	44.2%	57.1%	17.3%	40.3%	32.5%
Other	38.4%	44.8%	20.0%	27.7%	36.0%

Source: ICSE

Primary decisions – countries of citizenship

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

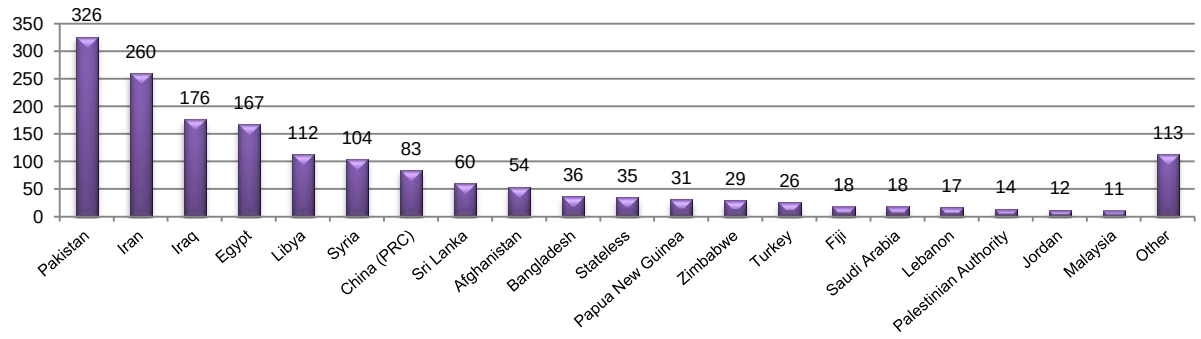
For the top five countries by volume of primary (or first instance) grants in 2012-13, the primary grant rates were Pakistan (59 per cent), Iran (72 per cent), Iraq (83 per cent), Egypt (59 per cent), and Libya (58 per cent).

Table 11: Primary grants and primary grant rates by top 20 countries of citizenship[5] in 2012-13 (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate
Pakistan	138	65.7%	183	72.0%	170	54.0%	260	40.1%	326	58.5%
Iran	133	83.6%	199	88.1%	313	78.4%	291	70.1%	260	71.6%
Iraq	153	88.4%	175	91.1%	97	66.9%	128	77.6%	176	82.6%
Egypt	38	41.8%	62	45.9%	101	28.5%	72	23.3%	167	59.0%
Libya	0	0.0%	7	100.0%	0	0.0%	13	27.7%	112	58.0%
Syria	7	38.9%	0	0.0%	<5	18.8%	38	71.7%	104	94.5%
China (PRC)	176	14.5%	229	19.9%	121	10.6%	98	9.7%	83	10.2%
Sri Lanka	334	80.3%	164	67.8%	97	45.5%	89	51.7%	60	46.2%
Afghanistan	47	92.2%	74	86.0%	53	68.8%	42	72.4%	54	76.1%
Bangladesh	38	35.2%	21	30.4%	16	16.5%	16	19.3%	36	27.7%
Stateless	13	76.5%	14	82.4%	14	46.7%	24	66.7%	35	77.8%
Papua New Guinea	18	72.0%	17	68.0%	20	42.6%	40	60.6%	31	62.0%
Zimbabwe	191	75.8%	224	74.2%	120	50.4%	60	35.5%	29	34.1%
Turkey	14	38.9%	23	51.1%	32	32.0%	40	37.0%	26	35.6%
Fiji	10	9.6%	14	3.4%	23	5.8%	30	12.6%	18	11.6%
Saudi Arabia	0	na	<5	100.0%	8	88.9%	7	87.5%	18	94.7%
Lebanon	20	20.8%	9	9.7%	25	13.2%	18	14.5%	17	6.5%
Palestinian Authority	9	69.2%	16	69.6%	8	42.1%	7	46.7%	14	73.7%
Jordan	10	41.7%	8	30.8%	5	19.2%	5	19.2%	12	25.0%
Malaysia	0	0.0%	<5	1.3%	<5	0.5%	6	3.8%	11	10.0%
Other	117	…	183	…	205	…	118	…	113	…
Totals	**1598**	**34.9%**	**1707**	**36.0%**	**1388**	**25.3%**	**1469**	**25.3%**	**1691**	**33.2%**

Source: ICSE

Figure 9: Primary grants and primary grant rates by top 20 countries of citizenship in 2012-13 (non-IMA)



[5] Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2012-13 program year grants.

Primary decisions – demographics

Table 12: Primary decisions and primary grant rates by sex (non-IMA)

Sex and decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Decisions					
Female grants	623	697	545	641	730
Female refusals	1059	1157	1463	1417	1179
Total	**1682**	**1854**	**2008**	**2058**	**1909**
Male grants	975	1010	843	828	961
Male refusals	1923	1876	2641	2916	2224
Total	**2898**	**2886**	**3484**	**3744**	**3185**
Grant rates					
Female grant rate	37.0%	37.6%	27.1%	31.1%	38.2%
Male grant rate	33.6%	35.0%	24.2%	22.1%	30.2%

Source: ICSE

Table 13: Primary grants by age group and role of applicant (non-IMA)

Age at decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All asylum seekers					
0-17 years	213	296	231	297	394
18-30 years	658	725	582	580	550
31-40 years	315	322	312	295	377
41-50 years	156	172	127	125	135
51-60 years	127	89	54	94	108
60+ years	129	103	82	78	127
Total	**1598**	**1707**	**1388**	**1469**	**1691**
Principal applicants					
0-17 years	23	29	16	15	9
18-30 years	555	594	491	480	440
31-40 years	273	271	265	233	280
41-50 years	141	144	103	100	112
51-60 years	103	71	43	71	85
60+ years	88	77	59	54	92
Total	**1183**	**1186**	**977**	**953**	**1018**
Dependants					
0-17 years	190	267	215	282	385
18-30 years	103	131	91	100	110
31-40 years	42	51	47	62	97
41-50 years	15	28	24	25	23
51-60 years	24	18	11	23	23
60+ years	41	26	23	24	35
Total	**415**	**521**	**411**	**516**	**673**

Source: ICSE

Reviews by Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT)

Asylum seekers arriving by air whose applications have been refused may appeal to the Refugee Review Tribunal. In 2012-13, just over 90 per cent of refused applicants sought such review, a rate that has been largely constant for the past half-decade. Note that DIBP statistics count all individuals on an application whereas RRT statistics count cases which may cover several people.

Table 14: Primary refusals and RRT take up rate[6] (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2011-12		2012-13	
	Number of primary refusals	Take up rate (%)	Number of primary refusals	Take up rate (%)
Bangladesh	67	95.5%	94	92.6%
China (PRC)	915	91.7%	732	92.8%
Egypt	237	96.6%	114	93.9%
Fiji	208	88.5%	137	88.3%
India	645	85.1%	542	85.8%
Iran	124	94.4%	103	93.2%
Lebanon	106	99.1%	245	96.3%
Malaysia	154	84.4%	99	79.8%
Nepal	235	90.6%	142	93.7%
Pakistan	388	96.1%	231	96.5%
Other	1254	…	964	…
Total	**4333**	**90.4%**	**3403**	**90.4%**

Source: DIBP ICSE

Table 15: Cases lodged with RRT (non-IMA)

RRT cases by Country of Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
China (PRC)	1000	751	819	690	610
India	287	139	222	435	434
Pakistan	57	53	102	307	213
Lebanon	80	84	127	94	206
Nepal	25	28	107	184	123
Egypt	39	52	181	184	104
Fiji	60	243	253	130	98
Bangladesh	121	50	57	46	92
Malaysia	165	201	172	112	83
Iran	17	27	58	88	67
Others	687	643	870	877	681
Total	**2538**	**2271**	**2968**	**3147**	**2711**

Source: RRT

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

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

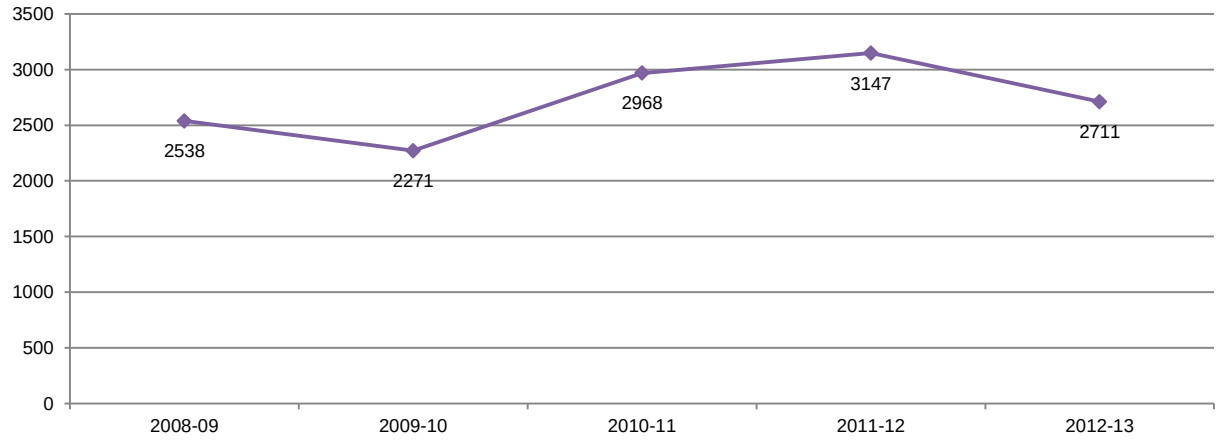
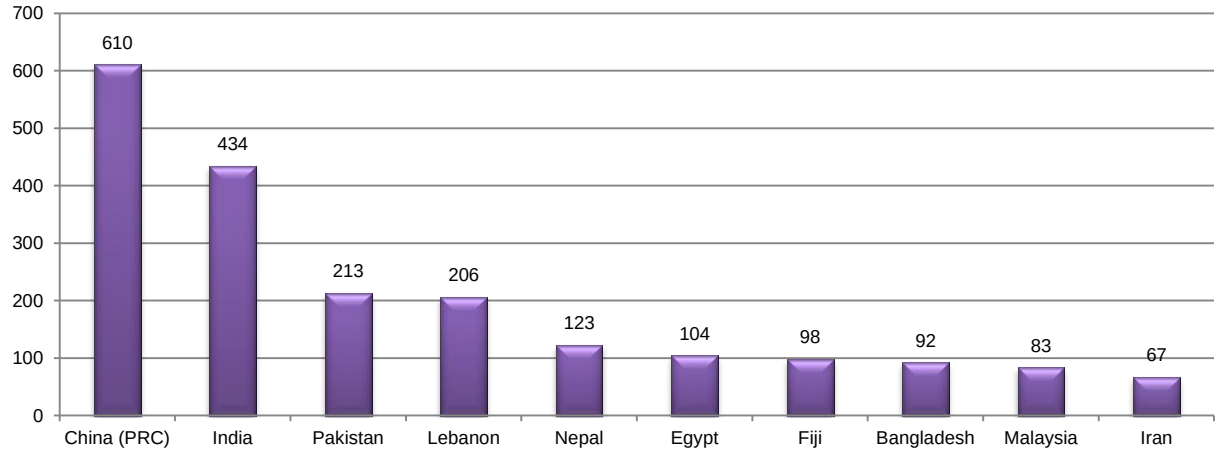


Figure 11: Cases lodged with RRT by country of citizenship in 2012-13 (non-IMA)



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

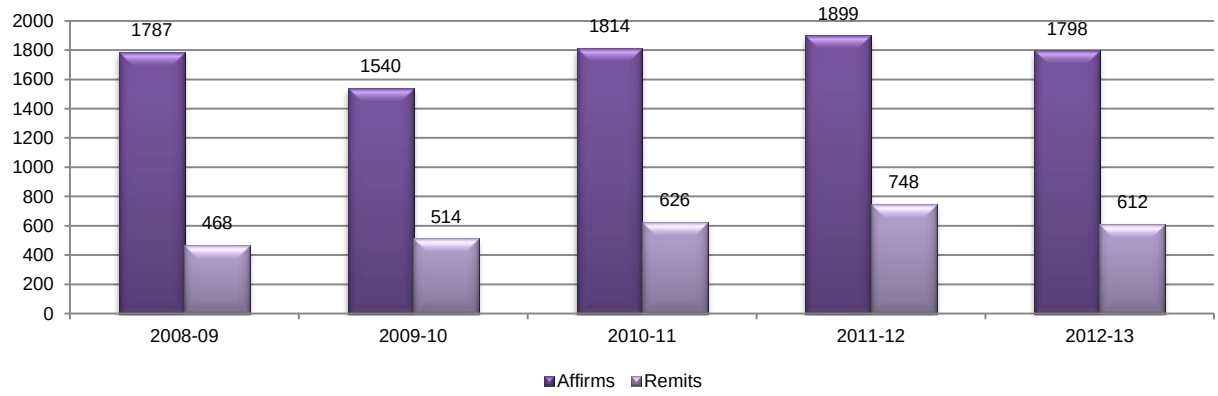
The reasons for remittal vary and can be for reasons such as the provision by applicants of new information to substantiate their claims and changes in circumstances in the country of origin.

Table 16: RRT outcomes (non-IMA)

RRT outcomes	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Affirms	1787	1540	1814	1899	1798
Remits	468	514	626	748	612
Withdrawals	29	21	53	86	83
No jurisdiction to review	178	82	110	69	89
Total	**2462**	**2157**	**2603**	**2802**	**2582**

Source: RRT

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



Around 25 per cent of RRT reviews in 2012-13 resulted in remittal of the case back to DIBP for reconsideration.

Figure 13: Remit rates (non-IMA)

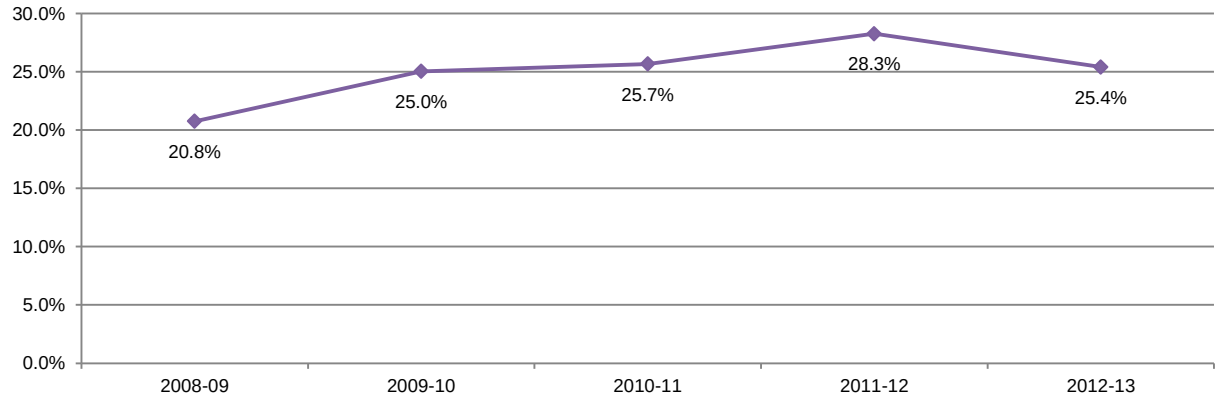


Table 17: RRT remit rate by countries of citizenship (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2012-13		
	Remits	Affirms	Remit rate (%)
Pakistan	120	89	57.42%
China (PRC)	102	424	19.39%
Egypt	54	54	50.00%
Iran	49	18	73.13%
Lebanon	30	80	27.27%
India	26	377	6.45%
Turkey	22	18	55.00%
Zimbabwe	20	26	43.48%
Iraq	16	5	76.19%
Nigeria	14	12	53.85%
Others	159	695	…
Total	**612**	**1798**	**25.4%**

Source: RRT

Finally determined decisions - overall

Table 18: Finally determined decisions and final grant rates (non-IMA)

Decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Grants	2173	2364	2099	2274	2555
Refusals	2616	2266	2737	2826	2719
Total final decisions	**4789**	**4630**	**4836**	**5100**	**5274**
Final grant rate	45.4%	51.1%	43.4%	44.6%	48.4%

Source: ICSE

In 2012-13 there were 5274 Protection visa applications finally determined following a primary decision, review by the RRT and/or consideration by the courts

.

The average final grant rate in 2012-13 was 48 per cent, slightly above levels in recent years reflecting the volume of cases remitted following merits review during a period when the primary rate was lower than usual.

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

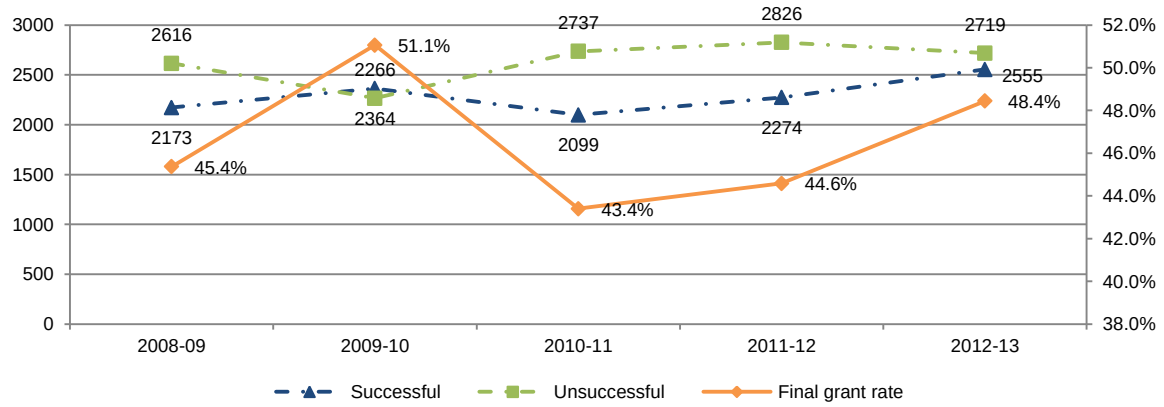


Table 19: Final grant rate by major visa groups (non-IMA)

Visa Group	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Students	60.8%	58.6%	49.3%	42.7%	49.6%
Visitors and Working Holiday Makers	40.3%	42.5%	38.4%	44.2%	46.4%
Temporary Residents (Economic)	39.1%	61.3%	50.4%	51.9%	55.3%
Bridging Visa	69.7%	59.4%	51.9%	65.2%	52.9%
Family Migration	73.7%	75.6%	59.3%	60.7%	70.0%
Temporary Residents (Non-Economic)	38.5%	40.5%	48.5%	37.1%	25.6%
Other	43.8%	61.8%	41.2%	48.1%	51.0%

Source: ICSE

Final decisions – countries of citizenship

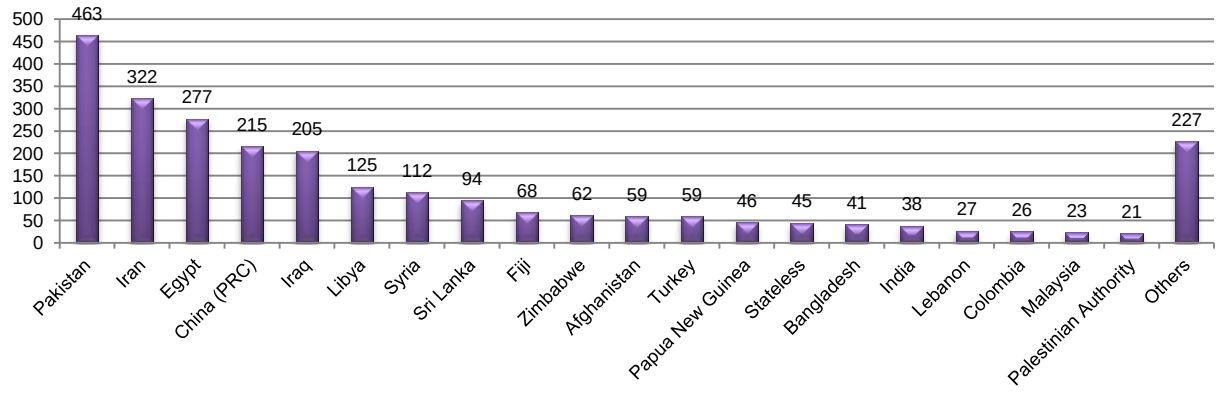
For the top five countries by volume of final grants, the final grant rates in 2012-13 were Pakistan (80 per cent), Iran (91 per cent), Egypt (79 per cent), China (26 per cent), and Iraq (91 per cent).

Table 20: Final grants and final refusals by top 20 countries of citizenship of grants in 2012-13 (non-IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate
Pakistan	158	76.3%	212	84.8%	208	80.9%	310	75.6%	463	80.4%
Iran	143	88.8%	210	97.7%	368	96.1%	351	93.6%	322	91.0%
Egypt	45	56.3%	79	71.8%	143	66.5%	204	66.2%	277	78.7%
China (PRC)	427	31.6%	494	42.2%	315	29.9%	264	27.6%	215	25.8%
Iraq	157	95.7%	183	95.8%	113	94.2%	146	96.1%	205	91.1%
Libya	0	na	8	100.0%	0	na	19	70.4%	125	78.6%
Syria	10	58.8%	<5	80.0%	5	35.7%	46	92.0%	112	97.4%
Sri Lanka	358	89.9%	189	76.5%	118	77.1%	125	64.1%	94	63.9%
Fiji	27	29.7%	38	16.2%	88	18.3%	68	27.6%	68	33.3%
Zimbabwe	215	90.7%	254	86.1%	172	76.8%	101	67.3%	62	63.9%
Afghanistan	48	94.1%	74	94.9%	58	78.4%	48	92.3%	59	90.8%
Turkey	25	64.1%	31	72.1%	55	80.9%	70	73.7%	59	70.2%
Papua New Guinea	22	75.9%	17	70.8%	22	62.9%	41	65.1%	46	86.8%
Stateless	15	83.3%	16	94.1%	18	75.0%	28	90.3%	45	91.8%
Bangladesh	49	33.3%	37	43.5%	31	48.4%	30	31.6%	41	42.7%
India	23	6.2%	34	13.2%	22	7.5%	34	7.0%	38	6.3%
Lebanon	36	37.5%	34	36.2%	65	41.7%	55	45.1%	27	19.9%
Colombia	13	48.1%	17	47.2%	13	48.1%	13	54.2%	26	56.5%
Malaysia	10	4.3%	14	6.2%	7	3.0%	7	5.2%	23	15.5%
Palestinian Authority	16	94.1%	18	90.0%	12	85.7%	10	100.0%	21	100.0%
Others	376	…	401	…	266	…	304	…	227	…
Totals	**2173**	**45.4%**	**2364**	**51.1%**	**2099**	**43.4%**	**2274**	**44.6%**	**2555**	**48.4%**

Source: ICSE

Figure 15: Final grants by top 20 countries of citizenship 2012-13 (non-IMA)



Final decisions – demographics

Table 21: Final decisions and final grant rates by sex (non-IMA)

Sex and decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Final decision					
Female grants	869	962	841	958	1059
Female refusals	879	843	948	895	897
Total	**1748**	**1805**	**1789**	**1853**	**1956**
Male grants	1304	1402	1258	1316	1496
Male refusals	1737	1423	1789	1931	1822
Total	**3041**	**2825**	**3047**	**3247**	**3318**
Final grant rate					
Female grant rate	49.7%	53.3%	47.0%	51.7%	54.1%
Male grant rate	42.9%	49.6%	41.3%	40.5%	45.1%

Source: ICSE

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

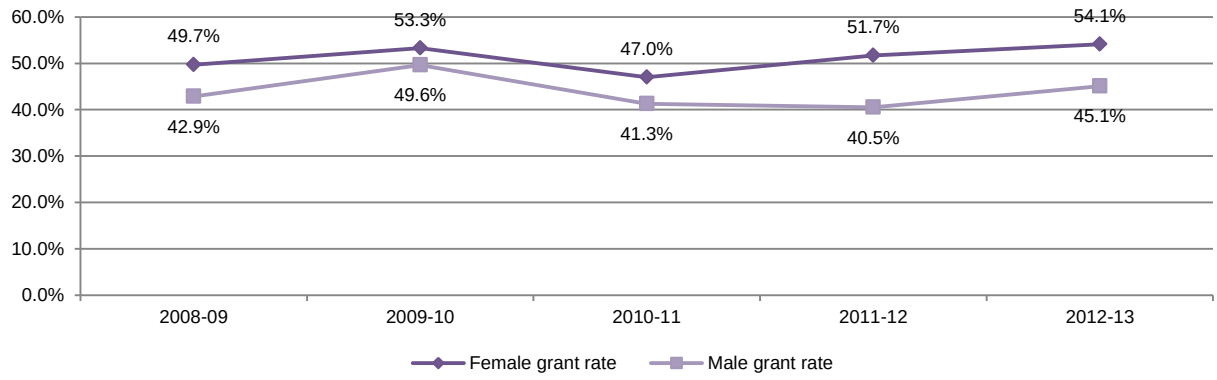
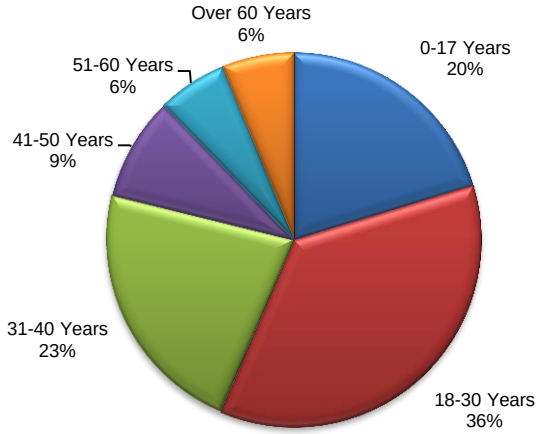


Table 22: Final grants by age group and role of applicant (non-IMA)

Age at decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All non-IMA asylum seekers					
0-17 years	264	390	343	400	519
18-30 years	830	951	841	927	923
31-40 years	472	488	466	475	572
41-50 years	291	291	253	218	228
51-60 years	170	115	96	140	154
60+ years	146	129	100	114	159
Total	**2173**	**2364**	**2099**	**2274**	**2555**
Principal applicants					
0-17 years	31	40	33	25	22
18-30 years	687	776	719	778	751
31-40 years	412	419	394	378	443
41-50 years	253	250	206	175	188
51-60 years	140	91	77	113	127
60+ years	101	97	72	76	118
Total	**1624**	**1673**	**1501**	**1545**	**1649**
Dependants					
0-17 years	233	350	310	375	497
18-30 years	143	175	122	149	172
31-40 years	60	69	72	97	129
41-50 years	38	41	47	43	40
51-60 years	30	24	19	27	27
60+ years	45	32	28	38	41
Total	**549**	**691**	**598**	**729**	**906**

Source: ICSE

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



Section 2
Illegal maritime arrivals

Illegal maritime arrivals (IMA)

Refugee status determination requests received

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

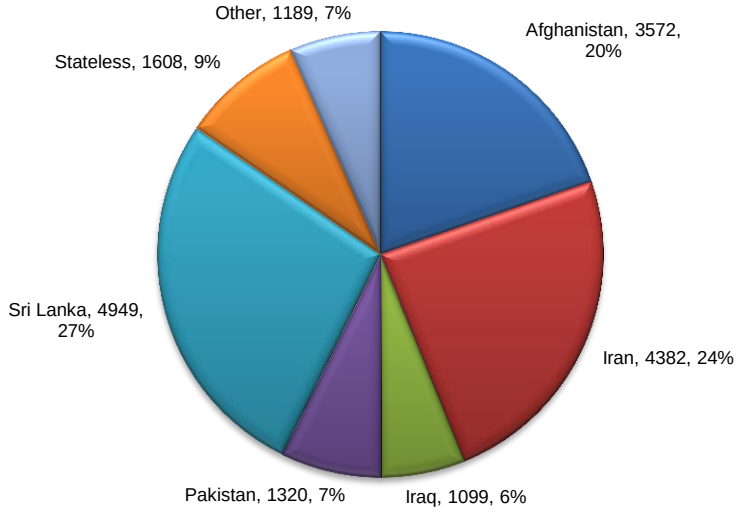
In 2012-13, a total of 18119 people who arrived by sea were screened into a refugee status determination process.

Table 23: Refugee status determination requests received by top 5 countries of citizenship[7] (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Sri Lanka	41	911	362	820	4949
Iran	13	201	1565	1547	4382
Afghanistan	530	2648	1610	3153	3572
Stateless	24	463	861	603	1608
Pakistan	3	18	71	646	1320
Iraq	62	251	560	373	1099
Other	5	105	137	231	1189
Total	**678**	**4597**	**5166**	**7373**	**18119**

Source: DIBP Systems

Figure 18: Refugee status determination requests received (IMA)



[7] Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2012-13 program year refugee status determination requests from IMAs received.

Refugee status determination requests received - demographics

About 85 per cent of those screened into a refugee status determination process in 2012-13 were male, compared to 88 per cent in 2011-12.

Table 24: Refugee status determination requests received by sex (IMA)

Sex	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Female	40	323	866	867	2682
Male	638	4274	4300	6506	15437
Total	**678**	**4597**	**5166**	**7373**	**18119**

Source: DIBP Systems

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

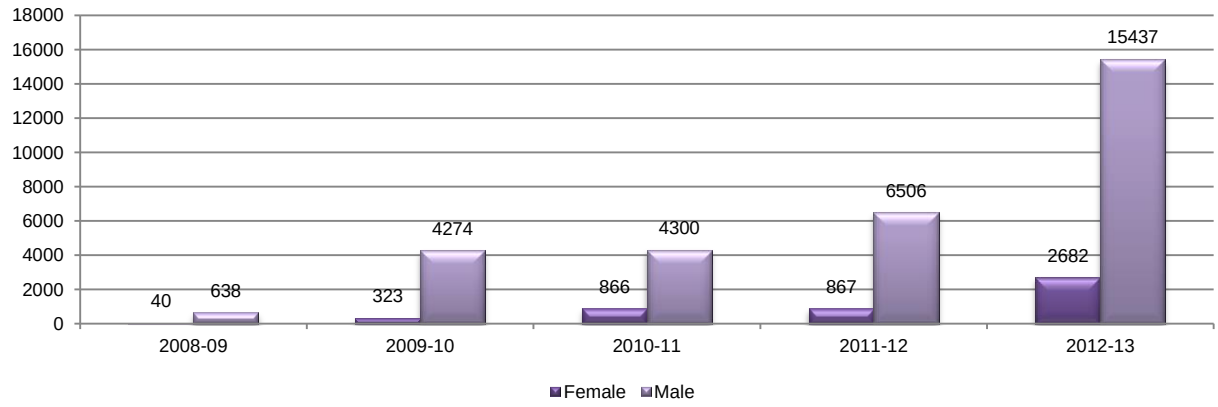


Table 25: Refugee status determination requests received by age group (IMA)

Age at request	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
0-17 years	139	613	1048	1390	2710
18-30 years	288	2048	2323	3409	9281
31-40 years	162	1288	1237	1703	4342
41-50 years	65	506	390	635	1373
51-60 years	20	121	146	182	323
60+ years	4	21	22	54	90
Total	**678**	**4597**	**5166**	**7373**	**18119**

Source: DIBP Systems

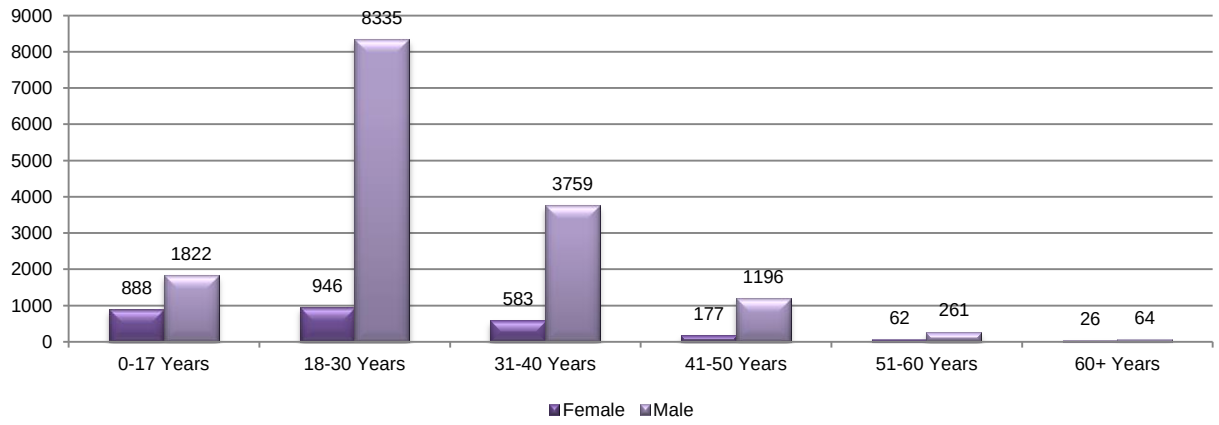
About 66 per cent of those screened in to a refugee determination process in 2012-13 were aged 30 years or younger. This ratio has remained fairly steady during the past five program years.

Table 26: Refugee status determination requests received in 2012-13 by age group and sex (IMA)

Age at request	Female	Male	Total
0-17 years	888	1822	2710
18-30 years	946	8335	9281
31-40 years	583	3759	4342
41-50 years	177	1196	1373
51-60 years	62	261	323
60+ years	26	64	90
Total	**2682**	**15437**	**18119**

Source: DIBP Systems

Figure 20: Refugee status determination requests received in 2012-13 by age group and by sex (IMA)



Primary decisions

The 2012-13 program year saw the continuation of higher levels of primary Protection visa grant rates. About 68 per cent of asylum seekers who arrived by sea whose claims were considered and decided in the first instance by officials were found to be refugees.

Table 27: Primary Protection visa grants[8] and refusals by top 5 countries of citizenship[9] (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Grant	Refusal	Grant	Refusal	Grant	Refusal	Grant	Refusal	Grant	Refusal
Afghanistan	176	0	1440	402	863	1422	952	225	1850	505
Iran	4	0	58	49	277	720	853	579	545	237
Pakistan	0	0	6	11	9	32	73	46	377	118
Stateless	5	0	173	79	373	503	298	122	297	41
Sri Lanka	5	10	315	95	233	265	192	84	161	680
Iraq	15	0	135	85	183	282	201	69	155	71
Other	4	0	7	18	56	35	139	80	90	18
Total	**209**	**10**	**2134**	**739**	**1994**	**3259**	**2708**	**1205**	**3475**	**1670**

Source: DIBP Systems

For the top five countries by volume of primary (or first instance) grants in 2012-13, the primary grant rates were Afghanistan (79 per cent), Iran (70 per cent), Pakistan (76 per cent), Sri Lanka (19 per cent) and Iraq (69 per cent).

Table 28: Primary Protection visa grant rates[10] (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Afghanistan	100.0%	78.2%	37.8%	80.9%	78.6%
Iran	100.0%	54.2%	27.8%	59.6%	69.7%
Pakistan	na	35.3%	22.0%	61.3%	76.2%
Stateless	100.0%	68.7%	42.6%	71.0%	87.9%
Sri Lanka	33.3%	76.8%	46.8%	69.6%	19.1%
Iraq	100.0%	61.4%	39.4%	74.4%	68.6%
Total	**95.4%**	**74.3%**	**38.0%**	**69.2%**	**67.5%**

Source: DIBP Systems

[8] A primary Protection visa grant to an IMA is a Protection visa granted to an Illegal maritime arrival following a positive refugee status determination made by a departmental delegate.
[9] Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2012-13 program year Protection visa grants to IMAs.
[10] The percentage of IMAs who were found to be a refugee and granted a Protection visa expressed as a proportion of all primary decisions (grants and refusals) in a given period.

Figure 21: Primary decisions (IMA)

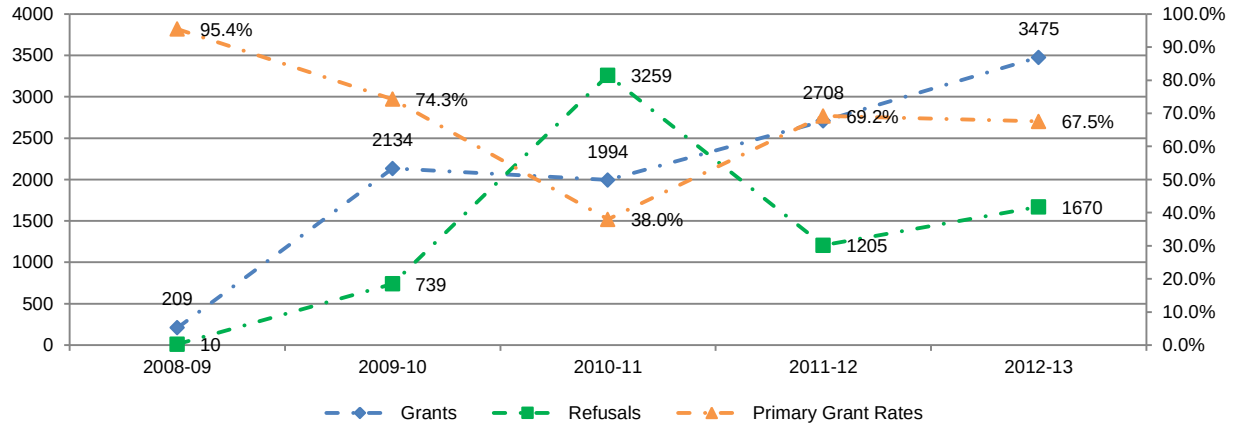


Table 29: Protection visa grants after primary processing by sex (IMA)

Sex	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Female	7	140	263	525	419
Male	202	1994	1731	2183	3056
Total	**209**	**2134**	**1994**	**2708**	**3475**

Source: DIBP Systems

Table 30: Protection visa grants after primary processing by age group (IMA)

Age at decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
0-17 years	50	318	392	826	661
18-30 years	91	960	843	966	1503
31-40 years	44	530	529	628	822
41-50 years	18	251	164	215	332
51-60 years	5	65	50	62	114
60+ years	1	10	16	11	43
Total	**209**	**2134**	**1994**	**2708**	**3475**

Source: DIBP Systems

Figure 22: Primary grants in 2012-13 by age group and sex (IMA)

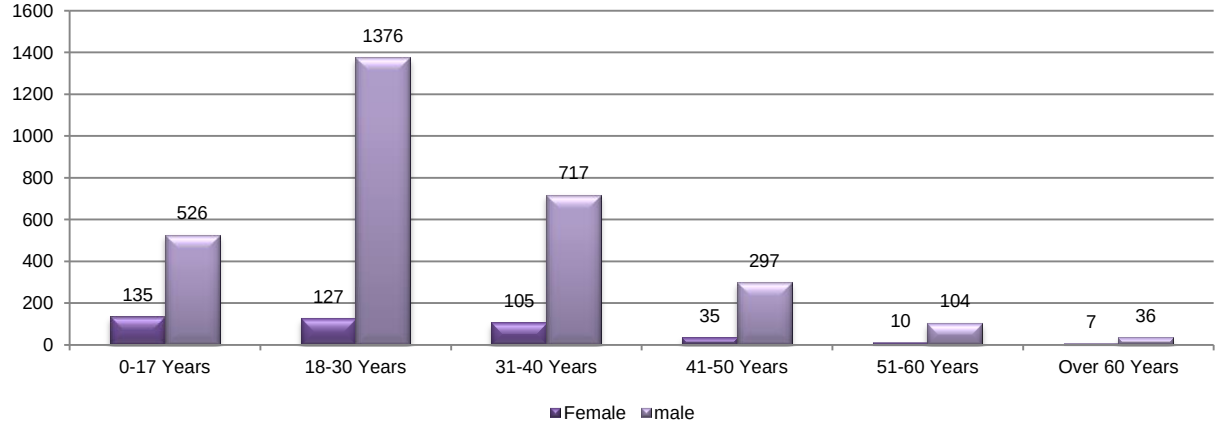


Table 31: Primary Protection visa grants by role type (IMA)

Program Year	Principal applicants	Dependants	Total
2008-09	193	16	**209**
2009-10	2001	133	**2134**
2010-11	1741	253	**1994**
2011-12	2158	550	**2708**
2012-13	2968	507	**3475**

Source: DIBP Systems

Review process

A review process known as Independent Merits Review/Independent Protection Assessment applied to IMAs who arrived and were interviewed before 24 March 2012. All reviews under that process were concluded by the end of 2012.

The review outcomes reported here combine information available in DIBP systems on both non-statutory and statutory review processes and are based on counts of persons rather than cases. The methodologies employed are different from those used in official Refugee Review Tribunal statistics where cases are counted. Future releases of this publication will include RRT information (based on cases) only.

Table 32: Review recommendations by countries of citizenship (IMA)

Citizenship	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Refugees	Not refugees	Refugees	Not refugees	Refugees	Not refugees	Refugees	Not refugees
Afghanistan	0	0	617	63	1089	85	536	98
Iran	13	0	73	14	702	186	305	183
Sri Lanka	15	23	70	26	205	44	192	244
Pakistan	2	1	10	3	30	8	118	24
Stateless	10	0	132	11	406	52	81	32
Iraq	13	1	81	17	192	55	72	48
Other	2	1	6	7	34	27	20	40
Total	**55**	**26**	**989**	**141**	**2658**	**457**	**1324**	**669**

Source: DIBP Systems

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

Table 33: Overturn rate[11] by countries of citizenship (IMA)

Citizenship	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Afghanistan	na	90.7%	92.8%	84.5%
Iran	100.0%	83.9%	79.1%	62.5%
Sri Lanka	39.5%	72.9%	82.3%	44.0%
Pakistan	66.7%	76.9%	78.9%	83.1%
Stateless	100.0%	92.3%	88.6%	71.7%
Iraq	92.9%	82.7%	77.7%	60.0%
Total	**67.9%**	**87.5%**	**85.3%**	**66.4%**

Source: DIBP Systems

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

Final decisions

A total of 4949 Protection visas were granted to Illegal maritime arrivals in 2012-13 representing 66 per cent of all Protection visa grants. Afghan citizens accounted for more than 40 per cent of grantees.

Table 34: Final Protection visa grants and refusals by top 5 countries of citizenship[12] (primary and review processes completed) (IMA)

Citizenship	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate	Grants	Grant Rate
Afghanistan	176	100.0%	1440	100.0%	1336	95.9%	1972	95.9%	2352	96.0%
Iran	4	100.0%	67	100.0%	333	96.2%	1269	87.3%	1020	84.8%
Pakistan	0	na	6	85.7%	14	82.4%	94	92.2%	469	94.9%
Stateless	5	100.0%	176	100.0%	482	97.8%	628	92.4%	459	93.5%
Sri Lanka	5	100.0%	316	93.2%	241	90.3%	299	87.2%	269	52.1%
Iraq	15	100.0%	140	99.3%	255	93.8%	347	87.0%	266	83.6%
Other	4	…	7	…	60	…	157	…	114	…
Total	**209**	**100.0%**	**2152**	**98.8%**	**2721**	**95.3%**	**4766**	**91.3%**	**4949**	**88.0%**

Source: DIBP Systems

Table 35: Final Protection visa grants by sex (IMA)

Sex	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Female	7	141	327	757	613
Male	202	2011	2394	4009	4336
Total	**209**	**2152**	**2721**	**4766**	**4949**

Source: DIBP Systems

Table 36: Final Protection visa grants by age group (IMA)

Age at decision	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
0-17 years	50	318	527	1044	821
18-30 years	91	972	1119	1853	2197
31-40 years	44	536	728	1260	1232
41-50 years	18	251	251	448	491
51-60 years	5	65	75	139	153
60+ years	1	10	21	22	55
Total	**209**	**2152**	**2721**	**4766**	**4949**

Source: DIBP Systems

[12] Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2012-13 program year refugee status determination Protection visa grants to IMAs.

Figure 23: Final Protection visa grants in 2012-13 by sex (IMA)

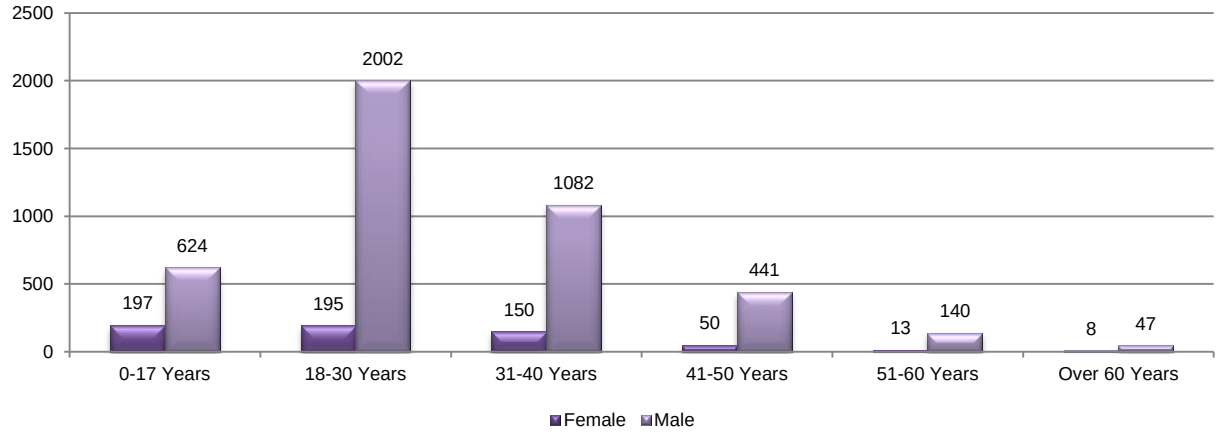


Table 37: Final Protection visa grants by role type (IMA)

Program Year	Principal applicants	Dependants	Total
2008-09	193	16	**209**
2009-10	2017	135	**2152**
2010-11	2400	321	**2721**
2011-12	3962	804	**4766**
2012-13	4239	710	**4949**

Source: DIBP Systems

Supplement

Complementary Protection

Complementary protection, which considers claims for protection under intenation conventions and treaties other than the Refugees Convention, was introduced into the assessment process on 24 March 2012.

Both refugee claims and complementary protection claims are considered as part of the primary or review assessment.

There were a total of 46 Protection visa grants made on Complementary protection grounds in 2012-13, the first year in which such grants occurred.

Table 38: Protection visa grants to non-IMAs in 2012-13 on Complementary protection grounds

Citizenship	Primary grants	Post review grants	Total grants
Albania	1	2	**3**
China	0	2	**2**
El Salvador	0	1	**1**
India	0	2	**2**
Iran	0	3	**3**
Mexico	0	1	**1**
Nigeria	0	1	**1**
Pakistan	2	2	**4**
Tonga	1	0	**1**
Vietnam	0	1	**1**
Total	**4**	**15**	**19**

Table 39: Protection visa grants to IMAs in 2012-13 on Complementary protection grounds

Citizenship	Primary grants	Post review grants	Total grants
Afghanistan	6	4	**10**
Iran	1	9	**10**
Stateless	1	6	**7**
Total	**8**	**19**	**27**

Protection visa grant rates and refugee recognition rates

Australian refugee status determination primary outcomes are reported in terms of Protection visa grant rates rather than refugee recognition rates. The grant of a visa occurs after the determination of protection status when security, health and character checks are complete.

The reason why Australia follows this practice, which is different to that followed by other countries, is because the success of an application is based on a decision to grant or refuse a Protection visa. Moreover, there are technical constraints in distinguishing between the dates of refugee status findings at the primary and review stages, whereas this is not a problem with respect to visa grants and refusals.

A careful examination of available information about grant and recognition rates at the primary stage over the past five years indicates, however, that there is little divergence between the two at the aggregate and key citizenship levels.

Table 40: Non-IMA primary grant and recognition rates for the past five years for selected citizenships

	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
Citizenship	**Grant**	**Recog**	**Grant**	**Recog**	**Grant**	**Recog**	**Grant**	**Recog**	**Grant**	**Recog**
Pakistan	66%	67%	72%	68%	54%	56%	40%	39%	59%	54%
Iran	84%	87%	88%	88%	78%	79%	70%	72%	72%	71%
Iraq	88%	94%	91%	90%	67%	70%	78%	85%	83%	83%
Egypt	42%	43%	46%	47%	28%	30%	23%	28%	59%	58%
China	15%	12%	20%	18%	11%	10%	10%	8%	10%	8%
Total	**35%**	**36%**	**36%**	**34%**	**25%**	**26%**	**25%**	**26%**	**33%**	**30%**

Figure 24: Non-IMA primary grant and recognition rates (total all citizenships)

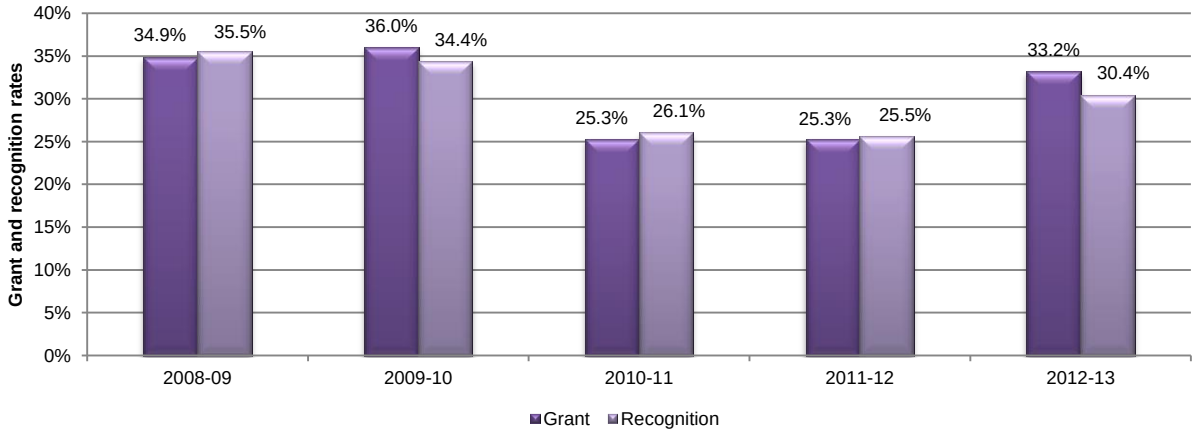
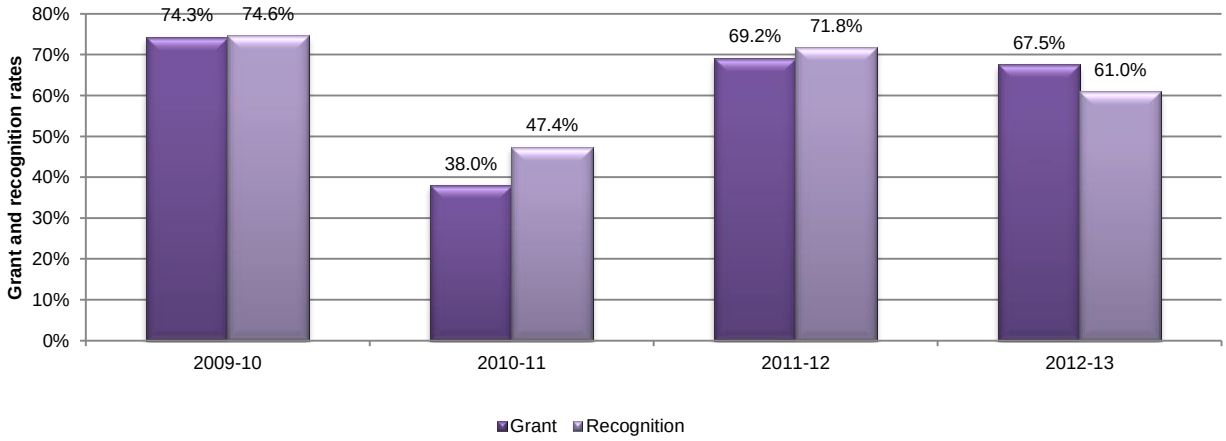


Table 41: IMA primary grant and recognition rates for the past five years for selected citizenships

Citizenship	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Grant	Recog	Grant	Recog	Grant	Recog	Grant	Recog	Grant	Recog
Afghanistan	n/a	n/a	78%	74%	38%	49%	81%	86%	79%	73%
Iran	n/a	n/a	54%	52%	28%	42%	60%	58%	70%	54%
Iraq	n/a	n/a	61%	58%	39%	49%	74%	74%	69%	59%
Sri Lanka	n/a	n/a	77%	86%	47%	42%	70%	50%	19%	24%
Stateless	n/a	n/a	69%	71%	43%	50%	71%	68%	88%	90%
Total	**n/a**	**n/a**	**74%**	**75%**	**38%**	**47%**	**69%**	**72%**	**68%**	**61%**

Figure 25: IMA primary grant and recognition rates (total all citizenships)



Glossary

Asylum seeker

A person who has left their country of origin, has applied for recognition as a refugee or sought protection on Complementary Protection grounds and is awaiting a decision on their application.

Citizenship

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

Complementary Protection

Complementary protection is the term used to describe a category of protection for people who are not refugees but cannot be returned to their home country, in line with Australia's international obligations, because there is a real risk that the person will suffer certain types of harm.

Departmental delegate

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

Dependant

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

DIBP

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

Finally determined decision

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

Finally determined grant

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

Finally determined grant rate

Final grants expressed as a percentage of all final decisions (grants and refusals) made in a given period.

IMA

Illegal Maritime Arrival.

Lodgement

The receipt of a Protection visa application.

Primary decision

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

Primary grant

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

Primary grant rate

Primary grants expressed as a percentage of all primary decisions (grants and refusals) made in a given period.

Principal applicant

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

Program Year

The period from 1 July to 30 June in the following calendar year.

Protection visa

A visa issued to a non-citizen in Australia to whom the Minister is satisfied Australia has protection obligations under the Refugees Convention or otherwise owed protection, as defined in s36 of the Migration Act.

Refugee

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

Refusal

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

Stateless

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

Valid application

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

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<5 Not published

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

N/A Not applicable