Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Australia's Migration Trends 2011–12









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The department's website at www.immi.gov.au contains this publication and a wide variety of additional information on departmental activities.

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Australia: Recent changes in migration

In 2011–12, Australia's combined migration and humanitarian programs totalled 198 757, an increase of 8.9 per cent on the 2010–11 figure (182 452). Of this, 93.1 per cent came under the Migration Program (184 998)—68.0 per cent through the Skill Stream (125 755), 31.7 per cent through the Family Stream (58 604) and 0.3 per cent under Special Eligibility (639)—and 6.9 per cent through the Humanitarian Program (13 759).

For the first time India was the main source of new permanent migrants to Australia, accounting for 15.7 per cent of the 2011–12 Migration Program, up from 12.9 per cent on the previous year. It also reflected the trend towards an Asian Century with India and the People's Republic of China the two main source countries for permanent migrants through the Migration Program. Also reflecting the emergence of an Asian Century is that seven of the top 10 source countries in 2011–12 were located in the Asia region. In addition to this regulated migration, 44 304 New Zealand permanent settlers came under the Trans-Tasman Travel arrangement, 28.2 per cent more than in 2010–11.

For 2012–13, the overall size of the migration and humanitarian programs is set at 210 000 places, comprising 129 250 Skill Stream, 60 185 Family Stream, 565 Special Eligibility and 20 000 Humanitarian places.

After experiencing a mild downturn during the global financial crisis of 2008–09, the Australian economy continued its quick recovery into 2011–12. Yet rising global demand for commodities has led to regional skilled labour shortages in Australia. Business (Long Stay) visa grants grew by 38.8 per cent, and all top 10 source countries experienced increases in 2011–12 compared to the previous year. The Working Holiday Maker Program grew by 15.6 per cent to 222 992 grants, the highest number on record. An ongoing Seasonal Worker Program was established from 1 July 2012, building on the benefits of the Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot Scheme which concluded in June 2012. The new program will make 12 000 visa places available over the next four years for seasonal workers in certain Pacific island countries to work in low-skilled jobs for up to seven months in a 12-month period.

In 2011–12, inflows of international students increased by 1.0 per cent to 253 047 visa grants, the first rise since the peak in 2008–09. The decreases in Student visa numbers in 2009–10 and 2010–11 followed 11 consecutive years of growth in the visa program. Greater focus on integrity for applications from selected countries, increased financial requirements, global economic uncertainty, reforms to the Skilled Migration Program and the appreciation of the Australian dollar contributed to this decline.

Implementation of the recommendations from the Knight Review of Australia's Student visa program started in November 2011. Since then more than half of the review's 41 recommendations have been implemented including streamlined visa processing for eligible prospective university students, more flexible work conditions and a genuine temporary entry requirement.

In 2011–12, there were 7379 refugee status determination requests for asylum seekers who arrived to Australia by boat, a rise of 42.6 per cent on the previous year. Since 2006–07, this figure has grown substantially from only 23 requests to an average of 5715 requests in the last three years. In June 2012, the Australian Government announced the appointment of an expert panel to provide a report with advice and recommendations to prevent asylum seekers from risking their lives on dangerous boat journeys to Australia. The report was released in August 2012 and the Government agreed to all recommendations in principle. The implementation of these recommendations was immediate, including the increase of Australia's 2012–13 Humanitarian Program to 20 000 places, a rise of 45.5 per cent on the previous year.

Since September 2005, Net Overseas Migration (NOM) has overtaken natural increase as the main component of Australia's population growth. For the year March 2011 to March 2012, NOM added 197 200 people to Australia's population, or 59.5 per cent of growth, an increase of 18.2 per cent from the same period the previous year. There is an overall trend in Australia for increased workforce participation among Australia-born and migrants. Recent migrants were the main contributing factor to the rising participation rate of migrants overall. At the 12-month stage of settlement, the unemployment rate for recent skilled migrants was 2 per cent, substantially lower than the national rate of 5 per cent. Three-quarters of these migrants were in skilled work and more than eight in ten were in full-time employment.

In December 2011, the Australian Government announced it would legislate to reform the employer sanctions regime for businesses that allow or refer for work, non-citizens without the required lawful entitlement. The new laws are one component of a broader reformed employer sanctions framework, focused on preventing and deterring illegal work hire practices. The online skilled migration selection register, SkillSelect, was introduced in July 2012. SkillSelect is a major change to how Australia manages its Skilled Migration program, designed to give the Australian Government greater control over the composition and quality of skilled migration. In conjunction with SkillSelect reforms, the number of skilled migration visas was reduced from 27 to 11. The first Enterprise Migration Agreement—a temporary migration initiative to help address the skill needs of the resources sector—was also agreed to in principle in May 2012. This agreement will allow for the sponsorship of up to 1715 workers in an iron ore project in Western Australia's Pilbara region.

Key statistics

Population

Estimated resident population (ERP) of Australia (as at 30 March 2012)	22 596 500
ERP Australia-born population (as at 30 June 2011)	16 294 980
ERP overseas-born population (as at 30 June 2011)	6 029 070
Natural increase (at 30 March 2012)	149 600
Net Overseas Migration (NOM)—preliminary estimate for the year to March 2012	197 200
Australian citizen NOM departures—preliminary estimate for 2011–12	92 500

Migration

Permanent migrants	201 850
Migration Program	184 998
Skill Stream	125 755
Family Stream	58 604
Special Eligibility	639
New Zealand citizens	3 093
Humanitarian Program	13 759
Temporary entrants	4 216 984
Visitors (offshore)	3 537 651
International students	253 047
Working Holiday Program	222 992
Temporary Business (Long Stay)	125 070
Other	78 224

Citizenship

No. of people conferred Australian citizenship	84 183

Labour market outcomes

Unemployment rates—June quarter 2011	
Australia-born	5.1
Overseas-born	5.2
Participation rates—June quarter 2011	
Australia-born	68.3
Overseas-born	61.7

Contents

Australia: Recent changes in migration 4
Key statistics 5
Chapter 1: Migration policy and program developments 9
1.1 Changes to skilled migration 10
1.2 Student visa program reforms 13
1.3 Visa Simplification and Deregulation project 14
1.4 Refugees and asylum seekers 14
1.5 Reform of employer sanctions 16
1.6 Pacific Seasonal Worker program 17
1.7 National Anti-Racism Strategy 18
Chapter 2: The Migration Program 19
2.1 Overview 20
2.2 Australia's Migration Program 2011–12 22
2.3 Characteristics of permanent migrants 25
2.4 The Skill Stream 28
2.5 Family Stream 35
2.6 Migration Program planning levels for 2012–13 41
Chapter 3: Temporary entry 43
3.1 Overview 44
3.2 Visitor visa program 45
3.3 Working Holiday Maker Program 49
3.4 The Student visa program 53
3.5 Skilled temporary residents—Business (Long Stay) visa 60
3.6 Other temporary residence 64
3.7 Short-term intra-company transfers 67

Chapter 4: The Humanitarian Program 71
4.1 Overview 72
4.2 The Humanitarian Program 74
Chapter 5: Irregular migration and visa compliance 83
5.1 Overview 84
5.2 Unlawful Non-Citizens in Australia 86
5.3 Visa cancellations 89
5.4 Compliance-related departures 90
Chapter 6: Net Overseas Migration 93
6.1 Introduction 94
6.2 Net Overseas Migration and population growth 95
6.3 The components of Net Overseas Migration 96
6.4 Other aspects of NOM 101
6.5 NOM by birthplace 101
6.6 NOM departures by birthplace—Australian citizens 103
6.7 NOM departures by destination—Australian citizens 105
6.8 New Zealand movement 107
6.9 NOM forecasts 111
Chapter 7: Australia's population 113
7.1 Characteristics of Australia's population 114
7.2 Temporary residents in Australia 118
Chapter 8: Citizenship in Australia 126
8.1 Overview 127
8.2 Acquiring Australian citizenship 131
Chapter 9: Diversity and settlement 133
9.1 Multiculturalism in Australia 134
9.2 Settlement and integration in Australia 137

Chapter 10: Labour market 143
10.1 Introduction 144
10.2 Outcomes for Australia's migrant population 144
10.3 Outcomes for migrants from OECD member countries 148
10.4 Outcomes for recent migrants 150
10.6 Labour market outcomes of the children of migrants 154
Appendices 158
Data sources for Australia's Migration Trends 172
Glossary 173
Acronyms 178

Chapter 1: Migration policy and program developments

1.1 Changes to skilled migration

Since June 2011, many changes and reforms have been made to the Skilled Migration program in Australia. Driving these changes was the need to attract more skilled migrants to Australia to deliver economic benefits, fill acute skill shortages and offset an ageing population.

1.1.1 SkillSelect

The online skilled migration selection register, SkillSelect, was introduced in July 2012. SkillSelect is a major change to how Australia manages its Skilled Migration program, designed to give the Australian Government greater control over the composition and quality of skilled migration. All intending migrants interested in the independent skilled, family sponsored skilled, state/territory sponsored skilled, or business innovation and investment programs are now required to submit an online expression of interest (EOI) and receive an invitation to lodge a visa application. SkillSelect allows Australia to invite the best and brightest intending migrants by facilitating the ranking and selection of migrants based on factors such as qualifications, work experience and language abilities.

SkillSelect also provides a means for Australian employers to find overseas skilled workers to fill skilled vacancies that cannot be filled from within the Australian labour market.

To 1 October 2012, more than 17 000 skilled people completed an expression of interest in SkillSelect, and more than 3500 skilled people were invited to apply. This includes more than 550 skilled occupations, covering a broad range of skills in demand in Australia.

Further information on SkillSelect is available at: www.immi.gov.au/skills/skillselect

1.1.2 Employer Nomination and Regional Sponsored Migration schemes

The Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS) and Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS) allow Australian employers to sponsor workers for permanent residence to fill skilled full-time job vacancies in their businesses.

To improve the operation of these schemes, the following reforms started in July 2012:

- A decrease in the different types of Employer Sponsored visas, intended to make using and understanding the schemes more straightforward for employers.
- Reduced documentation for employers already sponsoring a skilled migrant on a subclass 457 visa, to provide a more efficient pathway to permanent residence for these workers.

1.1.3 Enterprise Migration Agreements

In May 2011, following the recommendation of the National Resources Sector Employment Taskforce, the Australian Government announced the implementation of Enterprise Migration Agreements (EMAs)—a new temporary migration initiative to help address the skill needs of the resources sector.

These agreements are a customised, project-wide migration arrangement for large-scale resource projects. They are designed to help ensure peak workforce needs are met, easing capacity constraints and ensuring a project's economic and employment benefits are realised.

In May 2012, the Australian Government announced in-principle agreement for the first Enterprise Migration Agreement. This was with the new iron ore mining Roy Hill project in the Pilbara Region of Western Australia, allowing the sponsorship of up to 1715 workers for the three-year construction phase.

Further information about these agreements is available at:
www.immi.gov.au/skilled/enterprise-migration-agreements.htm

1.1.4 Skilled American Workers Scheme

In April 2012, the Australian Government announced that action will be taken to help connect Australian employers with American skilled workers to fill skill shortages. The Skilled American Workers Scheme will provide information on skilled visa options to Americans with suitable qualifications, skills and experience to help them work in Australia under a temporary employer-sponsored visa. American workers in licensed occupations, such as electricians and plumbers, will be granted immediate access to provisional Australian licences on arrival. Under the new skills assessment process, American workers will be assessed against Australian regulatory requirements before entering Australia, cutting intermediate waiting times.

1.1.5 Business Innovation and Investment Program and the Significant Investor visa

Reforms to the Business Skills visa program started on 1 July 2012. These reforms are designed to better attract people with entrepreneurial talent and a successful business history to Australia. Included are:

- a reduction in the number of Business skills visas, intended to provide a clearer pathway to permanent residence
- an innovation points test, including points for financial metrics, registered patents, evidence of trademarks and evidence of export trade.

Further information about the Business Innovation and Investment Program is available at: www.immi.gov.au/skills/skillselect

In May 2012, the Australian Government announced the introduction of the Significant Investor visa which subsequently commenced in November 2012. This visa targets investors willing to invest at least $5 million in the Australian economy. To encourage investment in Australia from high net worth people seeking investment immigration, there are some concessions on visa requirements, such as no age or points test requirements and a reduced residence period in Australia. Applicants can submit an expression of interest through SkillSelect.

The Significant Investor visa aims to boost the economy and help Australia compete more effectively for people with significant fiscal resources.

Further information about the Significant Investor visa program is available at: www.immi.gov.au/skilled/business/_pdf/significant-investor.pdf

1.1.6 Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration

In July 2012 the new Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration (MACSM) met for the first time. MSCSM's mission is to provide the Government with expert, independent advice on the role of skilled migration in the Australian economy. The Council will offer fresh perspectives on how to best address Australia's current and future skill shortages.

1.2 Student visa program reforms

In December 2010 the Government commissioned the Strategic Review of the Student Visa Program by the Hon Michael Knight AO (the Knight Review). The Government announced its response to the review in September 2011, supporting all 41 recommendations, with some modifications.

Of the 41 Knight Review recommendations 22 have been implemented, another six will be implemented by early 2013 and work on the remaining 13 is ongoing as they involve future research or ongoing liaison between agencies.

The following key recommendations have been implemented since November 2011:

- Introduction of the Genuine Temporary Entrant requirement which explicitly addresses whether the individual circumstances of a Student visa applicant indicate that their intention is for a temporary stay in Australia.
- Introduction of streamlined visa processing for certain prospective students of participating universities where eligible students, regardless of their country of origin, are assessed as though they are lower risk and have reduced evidentiary requirements.

Another key recommendation of the Knight Review was that the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (the department) conduct a review of the Student Visa Assessment Level Framework, which currently forms the risk management approach to the Student visa program. The Government's response to this review is expected in 2013.

New post-study work visa arrangements are proposed to come into effect in early 2013 for certain higher education graduates.

Further information on the implementation of the Government's response to the Knight Review can be found at: www.immi.gov.au/students/knight/

1.3 Visa Simplification and Deregulation project

In June 2010, the Australian Government announced it would simplify Australia's visa system, which numbered 149 visas in a complex regulatory environment.
The commitment of the Visa Simplification and Deregulation project is to reduce by 50 per cent the number of Temporary Work visa subclasses by 2012 and target a 50 per cent reduction in the total number of visa subclasses by 2015.

In July 2012, in conjunction with the SkillSelect reforms (Section 1.1.), the Government reduced the number of skilled migration visas from 27 to 11, and created simpler, more standardised criteria and legislation as well as a skilled occupations list that is now standard across a number of skilled entry programs.

In November 2012, the Government reduced the number of Temporary Work visas from 17 to 8. This smaller visa group allows clients of the department to more easily select the appropriate visa as existing provisions have been consolidated to reflect the broader purpose of stay. A number of key criteria across all Temporary Work visas will be standardised and some sponsorship requirements removed.

Simplification of the Visitor visa program is under consideration. Discussion papers relating to this can be found at:
www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/discussion-papers/simpler-visas.htm

1.4 Refugees and asylum seekers

In November 2011, the Australian Government announced that irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) who do not pose risks following initial health, security and identity checks will be considered for community placement while their asylum claims are assessed. Bridging visa holders have the right to work and can access necessary health services.

In March 2012, the Government-endorsed Community Placement Network (CPN) program began, run by the Australian Homestay Network. It offers short-term transitional homestay-style accommodation with the objective of providing asylum seekers with Bridging visas the support to help establish themselves in the community. The Community Placement Network screens, trains, guides and supports volunteer hosts throughout their homestay experience.

In line with existing departmental programs, the approved Community Assistance Support service provider will provide transitional and ongoing support services to eligible asylum seekers on a needs basis. As of May 2012, more than 1400 host applications were received from people registering to host an asylum seeker in their home. Further information is available at: www.homestaynetwork.org/cpn

In June 2012, the Government announced the appointment of an expert panel to provide a report with advice and recommendations to prevent asylum seekers risking their lives on dangerous boat journeys to Australia. In August 2012, the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers released a report of recommendations, including:

- providing incentives for asylum seekers to seek protection through a managed regional system
- applying a 'no advantage' principle to ensure no benefit is gained through circumventing regular migration arrangements
- increasing the size of the Humanitarian Program to 20 000 places
- enhancing regional engagement through advancing and developing cooperation on asylum issues with Indonesia and Malaysia
- improving regional processing capacity by re-establishing facilities in Nauru and Papua New Guinea and by strengthening the safeguards and accountability associated with Australia's agreement with Malaysia on the transfer and resettlement of asylum seekers.
- changing family reunion arrangements for asylum seekers who arrived in Australia as Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs).

The full expert panel report is available at: http://expertpanelonasylumseekers.dpmc.gov.au/

In line with the expert panel recommendations, the Australian Government announced in August 2012 that Australia's Humanitarian Program will increase to 20 000 places in 2012–13.

That same month, the Government also announced that a memorandum of understanding had been signed by Australia and Nauru for a regional processing centre in Nauru. This follows the recommendation of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers to provide a strategic, comprehensive and integrated policy that provides no advantage to IMAs.

Further information is available at: www.minister.immi.gov.au/media/media-releases/_pdf/australia-nauru-mou-regional-processing.pdf

In September 2012, the Government announced that Australia and Papua New Guinea had entered into a new memorandum of understanding about regional processing arrangements on Manus Island. The memorandum contains new elements as outlined in recent changes to the *Migration Act 1958*, such as assurances relating to key elements of the Refugee Convention. This represented a significant step towards establishing a regional processing centre on Manus Island, as recommended by the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers.

Further information is available at: www.minister.immi.gov.au/media/cb/2012/cb189719.htm

The change to family reunion for IMAs, announced in September 2012, will remove concessions usually available to the family of humanitarian entrants and further discourage people from risking their lives at sea. Under these arrangements families of IMAs applying through the Family Stream of the Migration Program will be processed on the same basis as the family of other permanent residents and citizens. In recognition of these changes, the Family Stream of the Migration Program was increased by 4000 places.

In October 2012, the Australian Government announced legislative changes to remove the incentive for asylum seekers to undertake risky boat journeys to the Australian mainland. T*he Migration Amendment (Unauthorised Maritime Arrivals and Other Measures) Bill 2012* gives effect to recommendation 14 of the expert panel report, which recommended that boat arrivals should have the same legal status regardless of where they enter Australian territory. The proposed amendments mean a person will be subject to regional processing based on their status as an unauthorised maritime arrival, rather than the place of entry in Australia.

Further information is available at: www.minister.immi.gov.au/media/cb/2012/cb191155.htm

1.5 Reform of employer sanctions

In December 2011, the Australian Government announced it would legislate to reform the current employer sanctions regime for businesses that allow or refer for work, non-citizens without the required lawful entitlement. The subsequent Bill amends existing criminal offences and creates new evidence gathering powers specifically to investigate suspected breaches of these offences and civil penalty provisions. These measures are based largely on the recommendations of the independent *Report of the 2010 Review of the Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Act 2007.*

The new laws are one component of a broader reformed employer sanctions framework, focused on preventing and deterring illegal work hire practices. The reformed employer sanctions regime will include:

- a comprehensive employer awareness campaign
- enhanced tools to facilitate work entitlement checks
- administrative illegal worker warning notices
- a graduated tier of infringement notices, non-fault civil penalties, criminal offences and aggravated criminal offences.

The Government is working towards implementing the reforms in early to mid-2013, subject to the Bill's passage through Parliament.

The Migration Amendment (Reform of Employer Sanctions) Bill 2012 and its accompanying explanatory memorandum are available at: www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation/Bills_Search_Results/Result?bId=r4889

The 2010 review of the Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Act is available at: www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/compliance/review-employer-sanctions

1.6 Pacific Seasonal Worker program

The Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot Scheme (the pilot) was introduced in August 2008 and finished in June 2012. The pilot was designed to examine whether a seasonal worker program could contribute to economic development in Pacific countries through: seasonal workers' employment experience; remittances; and training. It also examined the benefits to growers in the Australian horticultural industry who demonstrate they cannot source local labour.

In December 2011, the Australian Government announced that the pilot will become an ongoing Seasonal Worker Program available for the horticulture industry and beginning on 1 July 2012. Seasonal workers who are citizens of East Timor, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu will be able to participate. The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations is the lead agency for the program.

Further information about the Pacific Seasonal Worker Program is in Chapter 3.

1.7 National Anti-Racism Strategy

Australia's National Anti-Racism Strategy was launched in August 2012 and is being implemented between 2012 and 2015. This followed the Australian Government's announcement of Australia's new multicultural policy in February 2011, which included the priority of establishing the strategy.

The strategy's aim is 'to promote a clear understanding in the Australian community of what racism is, and how it can be prevented and reduced.' It is intended to complement and reinforce existing laws, initiatives and policies.

The strategy is available at: http://itstopswithme.humanrights.gov.au/strategy.html



Chapter 2: The Migration Program

Permanent residence



2.1 Overview

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

The Migration Program is based on non-discriminatory principles relating to nationality, gender and religion. People can apply to migrate regardless of their ethnic origin, gender or religion provided they meet the criteria set out in the *Migration Act 1958*. Under the Migration Program visa structure, people can apply for an offshore visa before they come to Australia or for an onshore visa after they have arrived in Australia on a temporary visa.

The Migration Program has two major streams:

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

A small number of Special Eligibility visas are issued to people who meet specific criteria or to resolve the status of certain groups of people allowed to remain in Australia as long-term temporary residents on humanitarian grounds.

In reporting on the size of the Migration Program, three things should be noted:

1. Both the Primary Applicant—the person who applied to migrate—and their dependants are counted in the Migration Program. For the Family Stream most applicants intend to become a partner of an Australian resident and so relatively few dependants are involved (only 15.1 per cent of visa grants in 2011–12). For the Skill Stream many Primary Applicants are already in a family unit and include their spouse and children on their visa application (52.5 per cent of visa grants in 2011–12).

[1] Further information is in Chapter 4—The Humanitarian Program.

2. Under the 1973 Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement, New Zealand citizens can enter and leave Australia freely and live in Australia indefinitely. This means they are not counted under the Migration Program even if they have applied for and been granted a Skill Stream or Family Stream visa. In 2011–12, 3093 New Zealand citizens were granted a permanent visa through this process and a further 44 304 permanent settlers under the Trans-Tasman agreement. This was an increase of 34.6 per cent and 28.2 per cent respectively on the previous year and meant that New Zealand was the largest source of new migrants to Australia for that year.

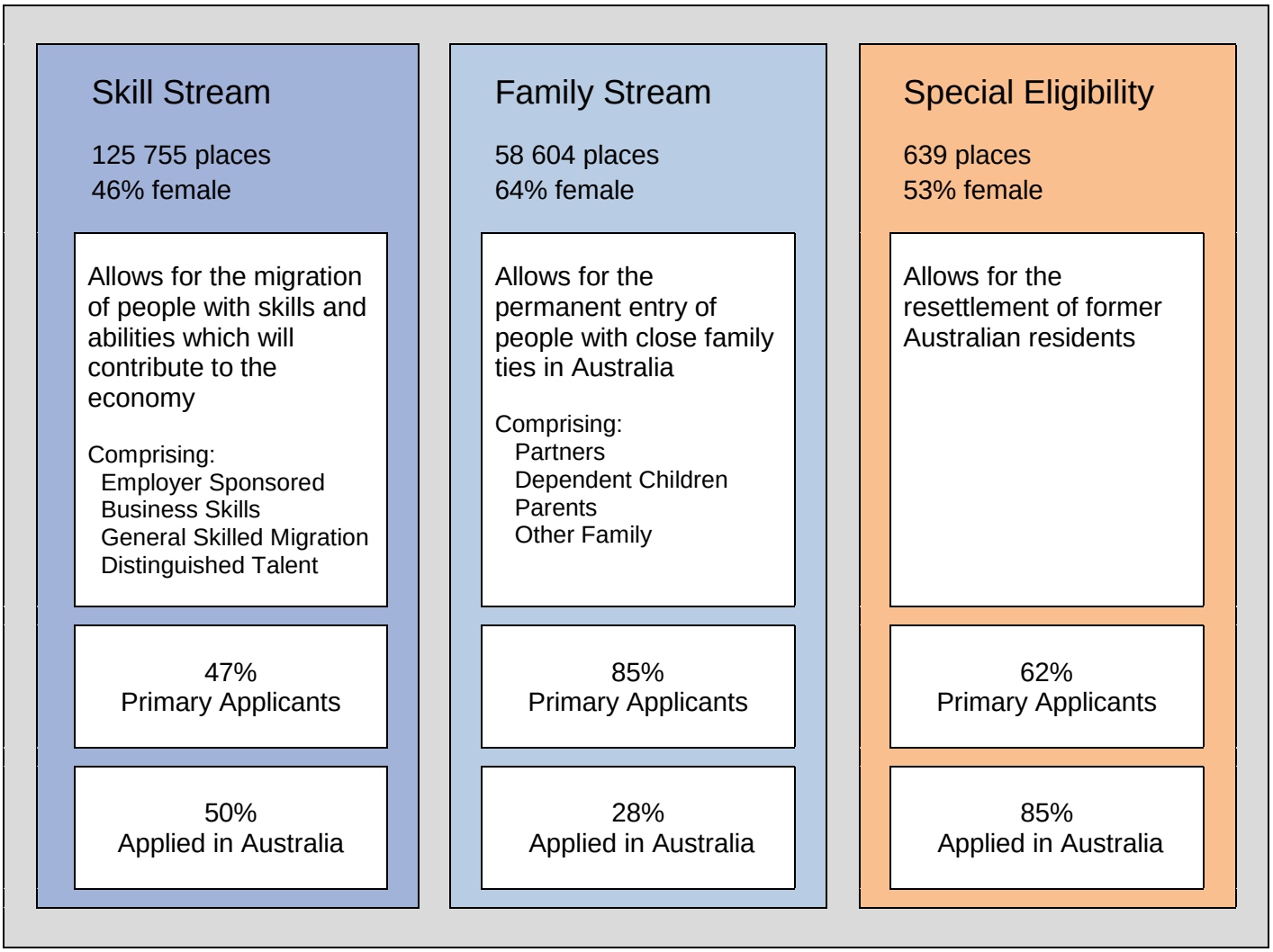
3. When referring to the number of visas granted in the Migration Program (also referred to as outcomes or places), the numbers reported take into account the cancellation of visas issued in previous years and cases where provisional or temporary visa holders did not subsequently obtain a permanent visa.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

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

The size and composition of the Skill Stream and Family Stream are closely managed. Planning levels are set annually and monthly monitoring of visa grants ensures that the number of visa grants in the Migration Program comes very close to planning levels. If there is a significant change in migration policy, the planning levels can be adjusted in the program year.

Details of the three categories of the Migration Program are in Figure 2-1.

Figure 2-1: Migration Program 2011–12 at a glance



2.2 Australia's Migration Program 2011–12

The Migration Program planning level for 2011–12 was 185 000 places and comprised 125 850 places in the Skill Stream, 58 600 in the Family Stream and 550 in Special Eligibility. These targets were closely met with 125 755 Skill Stream, 58 604 Family Stream and 639 Special Eligibility places—184 998 places for 2011–12 (Table 2-1).

Compared with the previous year, the 2011–12 Migration Program comprised 16 300 more places and was one of the largest programs on record. In the 2011–12 Migration Program, the Skill Stream was again the main component, marking the continuation of a longer-term trend. Since 1997–98, the Skill Stream has been larger than the Family Stream—increasing from 51.5 per cent in 1997–98 to 68.0 per cent in 2011–12.

In 2011–12, 42.9 per cent of Migration Program places went to migrants already in Australia on a temporary basis—compared to 48.1 per cent in 2010–11. This is significant for two reasons. It was the first time in more than a decade that the onshore share of the Migration Program fell. It was also only the second time since 1999–2000 that there was a drop in onshore numbers—down from 81 105 places in 2010–11 to 79 827 places in 2011–12. Nonetheless onshore migration remains strong and continues to be driven by former international students and Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa holders successfully applying to remain in Australia permanently through the Skill Stream.

Further information on the composition of the 2011–12 Migration Program is in Table 2-1 and Table 2-2.

Table 2-1: Migration Program outcomes 2002–03 to 2011–12[1]

Category	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2011–12 % female
Family Stream	40 794	42 229	41 736	45 291	50 079	49 870	56 366	60 254	54 543	58 604	63.5
Partner[2]	35 076	32 354	33 058	36 374	40 435	39 931	42 098	44 755	41 994	45 150	65.7
Parent	513	4 929	4 501	4 501	4 500	4 499	8 500	9 487	8 499	8 502	60.4
Child	2 681	2 662	2 491	2 547	3 008	3 062	3 238	3 544	3 300	3 700	47.4
Other Family[3]	2 524	2 284	1 686	1 869	2 136	2 378	2 530	2 468	750	1 252	52.5
% of total program	37.7	36.9	34.8	31.7	33.8	31.4	32.9	35.7	32.3	31.7	n/a
% female	59.8	59.8	60.9	62.1	62.9	63.4	63.7	63.4	64.7	63.5	n/a
% dependents	12.6	14.6	15.3	14.7	14.6	14.3	15.7	15.8	14.6	15.1	56.7
Skill Stream	66 053	71 243	77 878	97 336	97 922	108 540	114 777	107 868	113 725	125 755	46.0
(Offshore component)	47 775	47 921	49 118	65 342	59 759	66 475	65 818	61 196	46 616	63 381	47.4
(Onshore component)	18,278	23,322	28,760	31,994	38,163	42,065	48,959	46,672	67,109	62,374	44.6
Employer Sponsored[4]	9 741	10 398	13 024	15 226	16 585	23 762	38 026	40 987	44 345	46 554	46.6
Employer Nomination Scheme	6 787	7 077	8 414	9 693	10 058	15 482	27 150	30 268	33 062	29 604	47.6
Labour Agreement	1 216	1 138	1 444	2 079	2 743	3 218	2 065	506	163	479	46.2
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	1 738	2 183	3 166	3 454	3 784	5 062	8 811	10 213	11 120	16 471	45.0
Business Skills[5]	6 738	5 670	4 821	5 060	5 836	6 565	7 397	6 789	7 796	7 202	48.9
General Skilled Migration[6]	49 380	54 936	59 843	76 944	75 274	78 000	69 153	59 892	61 459	71 819	45.3
Independent	38 121	38 717	41 182	49 858	54 179	55 891	44 594	37 315	36 167	37 772	44.7
(Offshore component)	30 205	27 158	26 462	34 321	33 857	37 974	34 591	30 405	16 938	20 409	47.3
Family Sponsored	10 465	14 591	14 526	19 062	14 167	14 579	10 504	3 688	9 117	11 800	46.5
(Offshore component)	9 713	12 988	12 722	16 651	11 577	10 990	7 891	2 747	3 984	7 700	48.2
State/Territory Sponsored[7]	794	1 628	4 135	8 024	6 928	7 530	14 055	18 889	16 175	22 247	45.8
(Offshore component)	794	1 628	4 021	7 694	6 591	7 070	11 334	16 211	12 817	19 393	47.1
Distinguished Talent	179	234	188	99	227	211	201	199	125	180	45.0
1 November Onshore[8]	15	5	2	7	0	2	0	1	0	0	n/a
% of total program	61.1	62.3	64.9	68.1	66.1	68.4	67.0	64.0	67.4	68.0	n/a
% female	47.2	46.7	47.2	47.6	47.0	46.5	46.9	47.6	47.3	46.0	n/a
% dependents	53.1	50.4	49.4	51.7	50.0	51.7	55.8	56.9	50.6	52.5	59.1
Special Eligibility	1 225	890	450	306	199	220	175	501	417	639	52.7
% of total program	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	n/a
% female	48.6	48.0	48.7	45.8	53.3	45.0	49.1	48.1	50.4	52.7	n/a
% dependents	33.7	34.6	41.1	32.4	48.2	54.5	56.0	46.1	45.3	38.3	62.0
Total program	108 072	114 362	120 064	142 933	148 200	158 630	171 318	168 623	168 685	184 998	51.6
% female	52.0	51.5	52.0	52.2	52.4	51.8	52.4	53.3	53.0	51.6	n/a
% dependents	37.6	37.1	37.5	39.9	38.0	39.9	42.6	42.2	39.0	40.6	58.9

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC

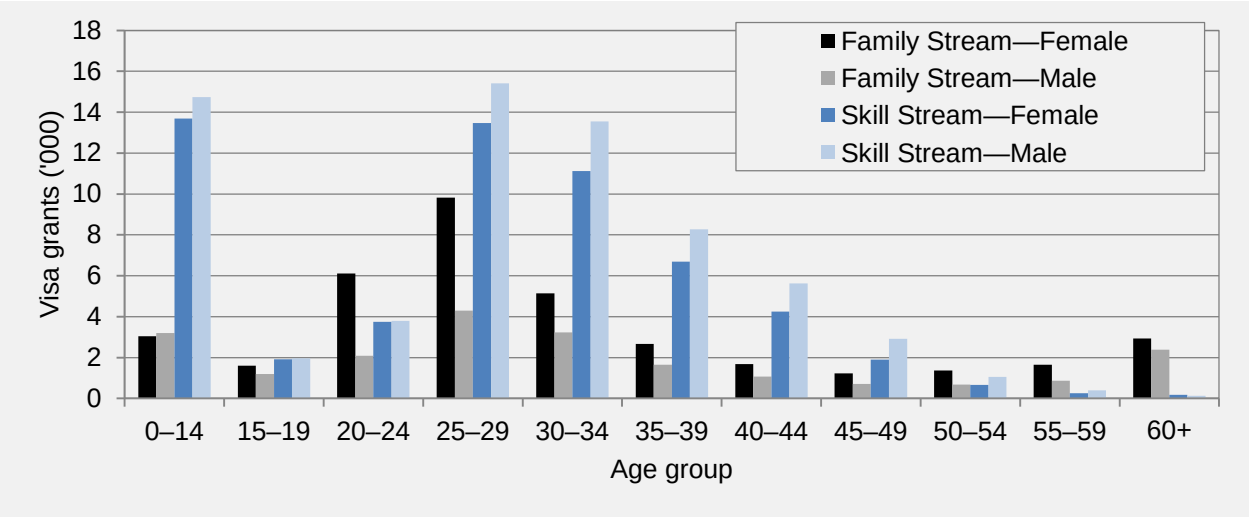
1. Program outcomes do not include New Zealand citizens or holders of selected Humanitarian visas such as Secondary Movement Offshore Entry (Temporary), Secondary Movement Relocation (Temporary) and Temporary Protection visas. Numbers are for net outcome. Places taken by provisional visa holders who do not subsequently obtain permanent visas due to refusal or withdrawal are returned to the program.
2. Includes Partner, Prospective Marriage, Spouse (defunct) and Interdependent (defunct) visa categories.
3. Includes Aged Dependent Relative, Carer, Special Need Relative and Remaining Relative visa categories.
4. Includes Employer Nomination Scheme, Labour Agreement and Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme.
5. Numbers are for net outcome. Cancelled visas are returned to the program in the year in which they are cancelled.
6. Includes Skilled Independent and Skilled Sponsored visa categories. Sponsorship can be by a family member or a state/territory government.
7. Includes Skilled Sponsored visa category (where migrant is nominated by a state/territory government) and defunct visa categories: State/Territory Nominated Independent; State/Territory Nominated Independent (Regional Study); Skilled Independent Regional (Provisional) and Skill Matching.
8. Named after an Australian Government announcement on 1 November 1993. This visa was primarily directed at People's Republic of China nationals who had earlier been granted four‑year temporary entry permits following the Tiananmen Square incident of 1989 in China.

2.3 Characteristics of permanent migrants

The proportion of dependants coming through the Migration Program has remained fairly constant over the past 10 years (Table 2-1). In 2011–12, dependants accounted for 15.1 per cent of the Family Stream, 52.5 per cent of the Skill Stream and 40.6 per cent of the overall Migration Program. The number of dependants in the Skill Stream is of particular relevance when setting annual planning levels based on the anticipated impact the Skill Stream will have on Australia's economy and labour market. Labour market outcomes for various migrant groups, including the spouses of skilled migrants, are discussed in Chapter 10.

The proportion of females in the Migration Program in each visa stream has also varied little over the past decade (Table 2-1). In 2011–12, the proportion of females in the Migration Program was 51.6 per cent, while in the Family Stream it was 63.5 per cent—primarily due to the large number of females entering on Partner visas. Among skilled migrants, however, the male-to-female ratio was much closer with 46.0 per cent females, but with a slightly higher proportion of females applying from outside Australia than from inside (47.4 per cent compared to 44.6 per cent).

Figure 2-2: Migration Program visa places by stream, 2011–12, age group and gender



Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC

The Migration Program predominantly comprises prime working age migrants and young migrants (Figure 2-1). In 2011–12, 58.5 per cent of migrants were 25 to 44 years of age, 31.0 per cent less than 25 years of age and only 3.1 per cent 60 years of age or older. Compared to the previous two years there has been:

- an increase in the share of migrants in the prime working age range of 25 to 44 years of age (from 54.1 per cent in 2009–10 and 56.2 per cent in 2010–11)
- a fall in the share of migrants under 25 years of age (33.3 per cent in 2009–10 and 32.5 per cent in 2010–11).

That migrants are relatively young is not surprising. More than three-quarters of the Family Stream is allocated to Partner visa migrants—who tend to be young—and less than 14.5 per cent to Parent visa migrants. Additionally, an essential criterion for most Skill Stream visas is that the Primary Applicant is less than 50 years of age. Therefore, both streams tend to attract younger migrants, many with children (Table 2-2).

Table 2-2: Migration Program visa places by age group, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Age group	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0–14	17 402	16 369	15 421	14 638	17 978	16 785
15–19	3 659	3 845	3 182	3 545	3 184	3 540
20–24	5 024	9 885	6 548	11 415	5 900	9 889
25–29	13 592	18 887	17 500	21 650	19 728	23 296
30–34	12 858	14 040	12 852	13 766	16 801	16 277
35–39	9 438	9 499	8 638	8 533	9 963	9 381
40–44	6 702	6 197	6 161	5 747	6 743	5 969
45–49	3 829	3 304	3 569	3 116	3 657	3 171
50–54	1 877	2 155	1 716	2 131	1 762	2 067
55–59	1 313	1 744	1 362	1 887	1 288	1 910
60 +	3 103	3 860	2 394	2 898	2 542	3 158
Unknown age	10	15	6	3	1	1
Total Migration Program[1]	78 807	89 800	79 349	89 329	89 547	95 444
	168 623		168 685		184 998	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes 16 gender not recorded visa grants in 2009–10, 7 in 2010–11 and 7 in 2011–12.

The top 10 migrant source countries for 2011–12 remained the same as in 2010–11 with some re-ordering. India (29 018 places) replaced the People's Republic of China (25 509 places) as the top source country in the Migration Program, and overtook the United Kingdom (25 274 places) (Table 2-3). There was also a distinct gap in the number of migrants from these top three source countries compared to the other top 10 source countries. Collectively, India, the People's Republic of China and the United Kingdom accounted for more than 4 in 10 Migration Program places, the next seven countries accounted for only 1 in 4. Among the top 10 source countries in 2011–12, there were virtually equal numbers of females and males (63 952 females and 62 086 males).

New Zealand nationals do not count towards the Migration Program but they have been included in Table 2-3 for comparative purposes. They are the largest citizenship group and contributed over 15 000 more permanent entrants than India in 2011–12.

Table 2-3: Migration Program visa places—top 10 source countries and New Zealand settlers, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
India	11 357	11 805	11 632	10 136	15 671	13 345
People's Republic of China	11 069	13 695	12 741	16 805	11 231	14 277
United Kingdom	13 307	12 430	12 577	11 354	13 259	12 014
Philippines	4 248	5 912	4 794	6 028	5 778	7 154
South Africa	5 631	5 450	4 302	4 308	3 840	3 800
Sri Lanka	2 501	2 581	2 379	2 218	2 827	2 750
Malaysia	2 482	2 738	2 381	2 749	2 622	2 886
Ireland	1 730	1 311	2 251	1 449	2 900	2 038
Republic of Korea	1 979	2 371	1 948	2 378	2 204	2 669
Vietnam	1 379	2 571	1 659	3 050	1 754	3 019
Total of top 10 countries	55 683	60 864	56 664	60 475	62 086	63 952
Proportion of Migration Program (%)	33.0	36.1	33.6	35.9	33.6	34.6
New Zealand settlers	12 363	12 084	17 597	16 971	22 383	21 921
Total Migration Program[1]	78 807	89 800	79 349	89 329	89 547	95 444
	168 623		168 685		184 998	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes 16 gender not recorded visa places in 2009–10, 7 in 2010–11 and 7 in 2011–12.
2. New Zealand nationals are not counted in the Migration Program and are included here for comparative purposes only.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

2.4 The Skill Stream

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

The Skill Stream has grown in size every year since 1997–98, apart from a decrease of 6.0 per cent in 2009–10 in response to the global financial crisis. In 2011–12, the Skill Stream came very close to planning levels, delivering 125 755 of the planned 125 850 places. This was a 10.5 per cent increase on the previous year's planning level of 113 850 places.

Australia's Skill Stream comprises four components (Figure 2-3). The largest of these is General Skilled Migration which accounted for 57.1 per cent of the stream and 38.8 per cent of the total Migration Program in 2011–12. This is followed by Employer Sponsored and Business Skills categories, accounting for 37.0 per cent and 5.7 per cent respectively. Distinguished Talent is the smallest component and represented only 0.1 per cent in 2011–12.

In absolute terms, most of the 10.6 per cent growth in 2011–12 was in State/Territory Sponsored visas (up 6072 places or 37.5 per cent), Family Sponsored visas (up 2683 places or 29.4 per cent) and Employer Sponsored visas (up 2209 places or 5.0 per cent). Only the Business Skills visa category fell, with a decrease of 594 places (7.6 per cent).

Figure 2-3: Components of the Skill Stream, visa places in 2011–12

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Skill Stream—125 755 visa places</th></tr>
<tr><td>General Skilled Migration
71 819 places</td><td>Employer Sponsored
46 554 places</td></tr>
<tr><td>Applicants are not sponsored by an employer but must have recent skilled work experience or a recently completed eligible Australian qualification. They must also pass a points test which awards higher points to prospective migrants with certain skills and characteristics.

Main visa categories:
• Independent—37 722 places
• State/Territory Sponsored—22 247 places
• Family Sponsored—11 800 places</td><td>Applicants must be sponsored by an Australian employer to fill a skilled job vacancy.

Main visa categories:
• Employer Nomination Scheme—29 604 places
• Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme—16 471 places
• Labour Agreements—479 places</td></tr>
<tr><td>Business Skills
7 202 places</td><td>Distinguished Talent
180 places</td></tr>
<tr><td>For suitably qualified business people. Most entrants are granted a four-year provisional visa to establish a business or undertake designated investments. Once fulfilled, the entrant can apply for permanent residence.

Main visa categories:
• Business Skills—247 places
• State/Territory Sponsored Business Skills— 6 955 places.</td><td>For people internationally recognised for exceptional and outstanding achievement in a profession, the arts, sport, or research and academia.</td></tr>
</table>

2.4.1 General Skilled Migration

There were 71 819 General Skilled Migration (GSM) places filled in 2011–12, with India the top source country (17 025 places) followed by the United Kingdom (9822 places) and the People's Republic of China (7895 places). These countries have been the top three source countries for GSM places since 2003–04, and in the top five since the category began in 1996–97. India overtook the United Kingdom as the top source country for GSM visas in 2007–08 and its share of GSM visas has generally been increasing over the past decade and a half—from 8.4 per cent in 1997–98 to 23.7 per cent in 2011–12 (Table 2-4).

The threshold criteria assessed through the GSM points test are a person's age, their English proficiency and their occupation. Applicants need to be younger than 50 years of age, possess at least a competent level of English and have an occupation that is on the Skilled Occupation List. Once these criteria are met, more points are awarded where a person: possesses relevant work experience; has a qualification; has a higher level of English proficiency; has studied in regional Australia; has interpreter level language skills in a designated language or has a partner who meets the three skilled threshold requirements mentioned above. Points are also awarded on the basis of age, with maximum points given to applicants in the 25 to 32 years of age range.

Table 2-4: General Skilled Migration visa places—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
India	7 874	5 450	8 064	4 669	10 610	6 415
United Kingdom	4 509	4 232	4 388	3 992	5 133	4 689
People's Republic of China	2 686	3 012	5 353	6 805	3 746	4 149
Sri Lanka	1 855	1 667	1 790	1 452	2 099	1 797
Malaysia	1 698	1 713	1 458	1 574	1 792	1 828
South Africa	2 307	2 185	1 373	1 389	1 568	1 450
Pakistan	590	422	606	387	1 701	1 112
Philippines	1 102	1 214	826	921	1 173	1 298
Iran	823	647	756	628	1 322	1 064
Bangladesh	839	619	745	494	1 058	669
Total of top 10 countries	24 283	21 161	25 359	22 311	30 202	24 471
Proportion of General Skilled Migration (%)	40.5	35.3	41.3	36.3	42.1	34.1
Total General Skilled Migration[1]	31 863	28 029	32 531	28 928	39 251	32 568
	59 892		61 459		71 819	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes 7 gender not recorded visa places for 2009–10.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

In the mid-1990s an onshore pathway to permanent residence was established for migrants studying in Australia which enabled them to remain here while their application for permanent residence was being processed. In 2011–12, 24 317 GSM places (33.9 per cent of all GSM places) were allocated to people living in Australia on a temporary visa, more than four in five of which were graduating international students. This represented a

12.3 per cent decrease in onshore GSM places compared to the 27 720 places in 2010–11. The fall in onshore visas is partly attributable to the new GSM points test introduced in July 2011 which increased the points awarded for overseas applications. This made the test more amenable to offshore applicants. Nonetheless the number of onshore GSM visas issued still remains high, with many being granted to former students who had transferred to a Skilled Graduate visa—a temporary visa giving people failing the points test the time needed to develop the attributes needed to succeed in the Australian labour market.

2.4.2 Employer Sponsored

Employer Sponsored migration allows employers who cannot find appropriately skilled and experienced Australian workers locally, to source the skilled workers they need from outside Australia, or from temporary visa holders living and working in Australia.

There were 46 554 Employer Sponsored places filled in 2011–12, representing 37.0 per cent of the Skill Stream and 25.2 per cent of the Migration Program. Employer Sponsored visas are not capped and receive higher priority under priority processing directions. This is in an effort to respond quickly to the needs of Australian employers.

In 2011–12, as in previous years, most (81.3 per cent) Employer Sponsored entrants applied from within Australia. Of these, 74.7 per cent came from the Temporary Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa program. The other main visa pathways were people who had been on a Student visa (9.9 per cent) and on a Working Holiday visa (3.0 per cent). Among the former student cohort, 87.5 per cent came directly from a Student visa while the remaining 12.5 per cent came from a Skilled Graduate (subclass 485) visa.

The Employer Sponsored program comprises three permanent residence visa categories: Employer Nomination Scheme; Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme; and Labour Agreements.

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

Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme—helps regional employers fill vacancies in their business by sponsoring skilled workers for permanent residence. The program aims to attract skilled migrants to communities in regional and low-population growth areas of Australia where their skills are most needed.

Labour Agreement—a formal arrangement which enables a business to employ specialised overseas workers when no other visa program meets its needs. Labour Agreements are most commonly used by businesses seeking semi-skilled labour or by those in the on-hire and meat industries.

Table 2-5 shows the breakdown of these categories over the past three years. Over the past few years the Australian Government increased its focus on supplying new labour to regional areas of Australia and in 2011–12 began allocating places to the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme in setting planning levels for the Migration Program. The allocation of 16 000 Regional Sponsored places in 2011–12 explains the scheme's 48.1 per cent growth between 2010–11 and 2011–12.

Table 2-5: Employer Sponsored visa places by category, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Category	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Employer Nomination Scheme	15 598	14 667	17 224	15 838	15 522	14 078
	30 268		33 062		29 604	
Labour Agreement	288	218	86	77	257	221
	506		163		479	
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	5 244	4 963	5 983	5 130	9 062	7 407
	10 213		11 120		16 471	
Total Employer Sponsored[1]	21 130	19 848	23 293	21 045	24 841	21 706
	40 987		44 345		46 554	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes 9 gender not recorded visa places in 2009–10, 7 in 2010–11 and 7 in 2011–12.

As in the previous program year, almost two-thirds of Employer Sponsored entrants in 2011–12 were from the United Kingdom, the Philippines, India, South Africa or the People's Republic of China. Reflecting the overall increase in the program, only two of the top 10 source countries—South Africa and the People's Republic of China—experienced falls in 2011–12. Grants for these two countries were down 25.6 per cent and 7.0 per cent respectively. In contrast, Nepal and Ireland demonstrated very strong growth with increases of 111.9 per cent and 53.2 per cent respectively.

Table 2-6: Employer Sponsored visa places—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
United Kingdom	4 839	4 487	4 934	4 348	4 913	4 444
Philippines	2 352	2 157	3 265	2 829	3 574	3 008
India	2 396	2 229	2 463	2 074	3 617	2 800
South Africa	2 563	2 366	2 303	2 194	1 685	1 664
People's Republic of China	2 256	2 240	1 742	1 737	1 675	1 559
Ireland	651	415	952	613	1 413	984
Republic of Korea	550	552	650	659	962	895
United States of America	343	355	384	386	446	462
Nepal	115	101	217	162	456	347
Sri Lanka	234	220	281	251	421	359
Total of top 10 countries	16 299	15 122	17 191	15 253	19 162	16 522
Proportion of Employer Sponsored (%)	39.8	36.9	38.8	34.4	41.2	35.5
Total Employer Sponsored[1]	21 130	19 848	23 223	21 045	24 841	21 706
	40 987		44 345		46 554	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes 9 gender not recorded visa places in 2009–10, 7 in 2010–11 and 7 in 2011–12.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

2.4.3 Business Skills

The Business visa program aims to attract skilled and experienced business owners and investors who are expected to contribute to the Australian economy by becoming actively involved as owners or part owners at a senior level in businesses, or through investment. The program's objectives are to contribute to the growth of the Australian economy by:

- generating employment
- increasing the production and export of Australian goods and services
- introducing new or improved technology
- increasing competition and commercial activity
- developing links with international markets
- increasing the dispersal of business migrants across Australia through state/territory government sponsorship.

Most entrants come to Australia initially on a provisional visa for four years and, after satisfactory evidence of a specified level of business or investment activity, may apply for permanent residence. For example, five years ago (between 2002–03 and 2006–07) two-thirds of provisional visa holders applied for a subsequent permanent business visa, of which around 90 per cent were successful. There were 7202 Business Skills visa places in 2011–12, representing 5.7 per cent of the Skill Stream. This was slightly down on the 7796 places in 2010–11.

Table 2-7: Business Skills visa places by category, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Category	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Business Skills	137	125	118	122	128	119
	262		240		247	
State/Territory Sponsored Business Skills	3 296	3 231	3 885	3 671	3 549	3 406
	6 527		7 556		6 955	
Total Business Skills	3 433	3 356	4 003	3 793	3 677	3 525
	6 789		7 796		7 202	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC

For the last three years, almost two-thirds of Business Skills visas went to nationals from the People's Republic of China (Table 2-8). Their overwhelming dominance of this visa category has been a fairly recent phenomenon, with proportions gradually increasing from 7.9 per cent in 2000–01 to 64.1 per cent in 2011–12. In contrast, Indonesia—which no longer appears in the top 10 source countries—was the top source country for Business Skills visas during the late 1990s and early 2000s.

Table 2-8: Business Skills visa places—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
People's Republic of China	2 165	2 129	2 457	2 334	2 339	2 275
Malaysia	160	134	212	202	189	174
South Africa	208	212	164	166	178	172
Republic of Korea	242	216	333	308	155	155
United Kingdom	184	195	202	189	140	116
Iran	19	18	38	39	97	77
Pakistan	5	4	66	49	78	79
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	51	51	68	58	55	49
Singapore	20	27	34	27	48	41
Vietnam	17	17	27	35	37	42
Total of top 10 countries	3 071	3 003	3 601	3 407	3 316	3 180
Proportion of Business Skills (%)	45.2	44.2	46.2	43.7	46.0	44.2
Total Business Skills	3 433	3 356	4 003	3 793	3 677	3 525
	6 789		7 796		7 202	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. SAR = Special Administrative Region.

2.5 Family Stream

The Family Stream of the Migration Program enables the entry of close family members of: Australian citizens; Australian permanent residents; and eligible New Zealand citizens. It focuses on the reunion of fiancés, partners and dependent children and also provides the opportunity for other family members, such as parents, aged dependent relatives, carers and last remaining relatives, to join their family in Australia.

The 2011–12 Family Stream was increased 7.4 per cent over the previous year, delivering 58 604 of the planned 58 600 places.

Australia's Family Stream comprises four components (Figure 2-3). The largest is the Partner category which accounted for 77.0 per cent of the stream and 24.4 per cent of the total Migration Program in 2011–12. This is followed by Parent and Child categories, accounting for 14.5 per cent and 6.3 per cent of the Family Stream respectively. The remaining components are significantly smaller and collectively only represented 2.1 per cent of the Family Stream in 2011–12.

Figure 2-3: Components of the Family Stream, visa places in 2011–12

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Family Stream—58 604 visa places</th></tr>
<tr><th>Partner
45 150 places</th><th>Child
3 700 places</th></tr>
<tr><td>Applicants must be married, intending to get married (fiancé) or in a de facto relationship (including those in a same-sex relationship) to an eligible Australian resident.

Main visa categories:
• Prospective marriage—6 496 places
• Partner—38 654 places.</td><td>Applicants must be a dependent child of an eligible Australian resident.

Main visa categories:
• Child—3 013 places
• Adoption—254 places
• Orphan Relative—433 places.</td></tr>
<tr><th>Parent
8 502 places</th><th>Other Family
1 252 places</th></tr>
<tr><td>For a parent who has a child that is an eligible Australian resident. The parent must be of equivalent age to a person who is eligible for an Australian Age pension. To help offset the cost to Australia of Parent visas a Contributory Parent visa is available which costs more but is generally processed faster.

Main visa categories:
• Parent—2 000 places
• Contributory Parent—6 502 places.</td><td>For people to join their remaining relative (a sibling or parent), or an aged relative who is dependent on an Australian relative for most of their living costs, or a carer needed to look after an Australian relative with a medical condition.

Main visa categories:
• Remaining Relative—278 places
• Aged Dependent Relative—34 places
• Carer—940 places.</td></tr>
</table>

In absolute terms, most growth in 2011–12 was in Partner visas (up 3156 places or 7.5 per cent). In contrast, Parent visas held at the previous year's level. In percentage terms, the Other Family category underwent the highest growth (up 502 places or 66.9 per cent). This was predominantly due to another 483 Carer places. The growth in the Other Family category goes only part way to offsetting the cut in the previous year of more than 1700 places, such that the 2011–12 level was still only half of what it was in 2009–10.

Table 2-9 contains information on the top 10 countries of citizenship for Partner visa places from 2009–10 to 2011–12. Collectively these 10 countries accounted for 58.7 per cent of the Partner category in 2011–12. The People's Republic of China overtook the United Kingdom as the top Partner source country in 2009–10 and has increased its share of this category relative to the United Kingdom each subsequent year. India has also been increasing its share of the Partner category. In 1998–99 it was only the ninth largest source country, whereas by 2005–06 it had moved up to third place, a position it has maintained.

Table 2-9: Partner visa places—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
People's Republic of China	1 871	3 620	1 480	3 472	1 517	3 623
United Kingdom	2 899	2 417	2 429	2 045	2 496	2 049
India	644	3 599	712	2 937	935	3 533
Philippines	525	2 154	487	2 005	737	2 550
Vietnam	667	1 763	666	1 941	790	2 017
United States of America	888	1 012	770	923	778	1 029
Thailand	258	1 645	202	1 552	226	1 514
Lebanon	339	452	313	550	519	422
Indonesia	258	791	215	746	239	684
Canada	357	630	296	512	304	561
Total of top 10 countries	8 706	18 083	7 570	16 683	8 541	17 982
Proportion of Partner (%)	19.5	40.4	18.0	39.7	18.9	39.8
Total Partner	15 159	29 596	13 787	28 207	15 465	29 685
	44 755		41 994		45 150	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Since 1996–97, the People's Republic of China and the Philippines have consistently been the two main providers of children migrating under the Child visa category. Since 2001–02, however, the People's Republic of China has been the main provider of these migrants. In 2011–12, it accounted for 17.3 per cent of migrants in this category—well ahead of the Philippines at 10.4 per cent (Table 2-10)

Table 2-10: Child visa places—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
People's Republic of China	275	247	263	251	328	312
Philippines	143	173	156	178	208	176
Thailand	114	128	139	112	160	135
United Kingdom	127	91	113	91	154	117
India	129	105	111	103	137	126
Ethiopia	55	61	53	59	48	82
Somalia	18	23	19	27	50	49
Vietnam	56	40	39	54	59	39
South Africa	46	36	60	48	44	38
Republic of Korea	56	28	41	33	46	34
Total of top 10 countries	1 019	932	994	956	1 234	1 108
Proportion of Child (%)	28.8	26.3	30.1	29.0	33.4	29.9
Total Child	1 932	1 612	1 732	1 568	1 946	1 754
	3 544		3 300		3 700	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Over the past two years the number of Parent visas granted has fallen by around a thousand places. However despite this downward trend, there has been growth among some source countries with grants to Indian, Vietnamese and Malaysian nationals growing by 39.8 per cent, 15.6 per cent and 5.1 per cent respectively over this period (Table 2-11).

In 2009–10, there was a large jump in the number of Parent visas granted to migrants from the People's Republic of China, from 28.7 per cent in 2008–09 to 40.5 per cent in 2009–10. China's share continues to be high, reaching 43.1 per cent in 2011–12. This increased share reflects the general growth in migration from China and the strong desire for these migrants to reunite with their parents. In addition, given that many Chinese families have only one child, the parents of Chinese migrants can easily meet the balance of family test that applies to all Parent visas. China's economy has also remained comparatively strong in recent years, which means Chinese parents have tended to be more likely to afford the cost of a Contributory Parent visa than migrants from other regions. In contrast, the United Kingdom's share of Parent visas fell from 22.4 per cent in 2008–09 to 10.8 per cent in 2011–12.

Table 2-11: Parent visa places—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
People's Republic of China	1 591	2 250	1 394	2 148	1 465	2 201
United Kingdom	626	883	448	627	374	547
India	215	312	230	320	314	423
Vietnam	204	258	218	292	228	306
South Africa	233	326	159	238	146	221
Malaysia	78	120	93	136	82	126
Sri Lanka	82	129	76	116	62	130
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	66	105	72	106	60	104
Republic of Korea	74	118	39	79	52	83
Fiji	89	121	40	79	44	72
Total of top 10 countries	3 258	4 622	2 769	4 141	2 827	4 213
Proportion of Parent (%)	34.3	48.7	32.6	48.7	33.3	49.6
Total Parent	3 853	5 634	3 389	5 110	3 371	5 131
	9 487		8 499		8 502	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Due to a doubling in the number of Carer visas issued in 2011–12, there was strong growth in the Other Family category—from 750 to 1252 places. Carer visas now dominate this category, accounting for 75.1 per cent of Other Family visas issued in 2011–12. This is in contrast to a decade ago when the Remaining Relative visa dominated with a share of between two-thirds to three-quarters of the category.

What has been consistent over the past decade is the dominance of the People's Republic of China in this category. With the exception of 2005–06 and 2010–11, it has been the main source country for Other Family visas. In 2011–12, 20.5 per cent of these visas went to Chinese nationals, slightly ahead of Vietnam's 19.6 per cent share but well ahead of the Philippines' 6.7 per cent share (Table 2-12).

Table 2-12: Other Family visa places—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
People's Republic of China	191	173	33	36	130	127
Vietnam	119	166	49	64	108	138
Philippines	75	137	24	50	41	43
Egypt	20	27	9	9	36	29
Iraq	30	25	10	12	30	33
Afghanistan	47	42	11	10	32	28
Lebanon	24	47	4	10	31	27
Republic of Korea	12	9	18	14	24	24
Syria	4	11	1	0	16	13
India	43	56	9	4	10	11
Total of top 10 countries	565	693	168	209	458	473
Proportion of Other Family (%)	22.9	28.1	22.4	27.9	36.6	37.8
Total Other Family	1 079	1 389	345	405	595	657
	2 468		750		1 252	

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

2.6 Migration Program planning levels for 2012–13

The Migration Program planning levels for 2012–13 represent a 2.7 per cent increase on 2011–12, with a maximum of 190 000 places comprising:

- 60 185 places under the Family Stream—1585 more than in 2011–12
- 129 250 places under the Skill Stream—3400 more than in 2011–12
- 565 Special Eligibility places—15 more than in 2011–12.

Table 2-13: Migration Program planning levels for 2011–12 and 2011–13

Category	2011–12	2012–13	Change (%)
Family Stream	58 600	60185	2.7
Partner	45 400	46 325	2.0
Child	3 450	3 850	11.6
Preferential/Other Family	1 250	1 285	2.8
Parent	8 500	8 725	2.6
Family as % of total program	31.7	31.7	0.0
Skill Stream	125 850	129 250	2.7
Employer Sponsored	46 000	47 250	2.7
RSMS (included in Employer Sponsored)[1]	*16 000*	*16 000*	*0.0*
Skilled Independent	44 350	45 550	2.7
State/Territory Sponsored	24 000	24 650	2.7
Skilled Family Sponsored	4 100	4 200	2.4
Distinguished Talent	200	200	0.0
Business Skills	7 200	7 400	2.8
Skill as % of total program	68.0	68.0	0.0
Special Eligibility	550	565	2.7
Special Eligibility as % of total program	0.3	0.3	0.0
Total Migration Program	185 000	190 000	2.7

Source data: Migration Program Statistics, www.immi.gov.au/media/statistics/statistical-info/visa-grants/migrant.htm

1. In 2011–12, for the first time a notional allocation of program places in the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme was made within the Employer Sponsored category.

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Chapter 3: Temporary entry

3.1 Overview

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

Visitor visas are mostly used by people visiting Australia for holidays, tourism, recreation or to see family and friends. People also use Visitor visas for short-term business visits or pre-arranged medical treatment.

Temporary resident visas comprise different visas designed for specific purposes such as study, work or working holidays. Temporary residents are generally required to pay taxes on income earned in Australia and do not normally have access to public welfare or public health programs.

There are four broad categories of temporary resident visas:

1. Working Holiday Makers—young adults having an extended holiday in Australia with short-term work and study rights. In 2011–12, Australia had 28 reciprocal Working Holiday Maker arrangements with partner countries.
2. Overseas Students—people studying full-time in registered courses in Australia on a Student visa valid for the length of their course.
3. Skilled temporary residents—people, mostly recruited by Australian companies, who enter as temporary skilled migrants for up to four years under the Temporary Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa.
4. Other temporary residence—a range of temporary residence visas allowing people to come to Australia for social, cultural, international relations and training purposes.

In 2011–12, more than 4.2 million temporary resident and Visitor visas were granted—up 2.6 per cent on 2010–11 and the highest number of temporary grants since 2007–08. Grants to OECD nationals, however, fell for the sixth consecutive year, with temporary resident and Visitor visa grants down 1.7 per cent on 2010–11 and 13.9 per cent on 2006–07 (Table 3-1).

Table 3-1: Temporary entry visa grants 2002–03 to 2011–12

Category	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12
Visitors[1]	3 238 237	3 469 420	3 594 763	3 580 305	3 652 215	3 627 350	3 355 311	3 421 109	3 518 588	3 537 651
Working Holiday Maker	88 796	93 898	105 051	115 444	136 805	157 830	194 582	183 168	192 922	222 992
Students	162 962	171 812	175 825	191 348	230 807	278 715	319 632	270 499	250 438	253 047
Business (Long Stay)	36 800	39 500	48 590	71 150	87 310	110 570	101 280	67 980	90 120	125 070
Skilled Graduate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	315	14 457	23 088	21 587	39 943
Other skilled[2]	11 522	8 612	7 103	3 510	2 092	1 793	1 494	1 166	446	488
International Relations	4 243	4 144	3 889	3 646	3 732	4 031	4 179	3 220	3 580	3 989
Social/Cultural	26 289	26 404	26 575	27 829	29 313	28 968	26 034	23 186	25 854	26 026
Training	6 945	7 699	7 561	7 091	6 696	6 051	5 728	4 260	3 971	4 268
Other[3]	7 724	9 131	8 245	6 168	5 624	5 851	3 409	3 056	3 315	3 510
Total OECD countries	2 628 299	2 735 535	2 816 339	2 819 907	2 855 573	2 777 812	2 528 370	2 527 095	2 501 167	2 459 153
Total[4]	3 583 518	3 830 620	3 977 602	4 006 491	4 154 594	4 221 474	4 026 106	4 000 732	4 110 821	4 216 984

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Excludes a small number of Visitor visas issued onshore to prevent double-counting.
2. Includes Business (Long Stay) (Independent Executive) (subclass 457) visa, Medical Practitioner (subclass 422) visa (closed to new applications July 2010), Educational (subclass 418) visa (closed to new applications September 2009) and Skilled Recognised Graduate (subclass 476) visa.
3. Includes New Zealand Citizenship Family Reunion (Temporary) (subclass 461) visa; Graduate Skilled (subclass 497) visa (closed to new applications July 2012) and Student Guardian (subclass 580) visa.
4. Excludes Bridging visas.

3.2 Visitor visa program

In 2011–12, 3 537 651 Visitor visas were granted to offshore applicants, with tourists accounting for 86.8 per cent of these and business visitors 13.1 per cent (Table 3-2). This was an increase of 0.5 per cent on 2010–11 but was 3.1 per cent down on the 2006–07 peak. A detailed statistical publication about the Visitor visa program is available at: www.immi.gov.au/media/statistics/visitor.htm

While Visitor visas overall have increased, tourist numbers fell slightly in 2011–12. This decline in tourism was especially pronounced among tourists from OECD member countries, with a decrease of 4.7 per cent. Falling tourism is largely because of continued economic uncertainty in many countries affected by the global financial crisis and the continuing high exchange rate of the Australian dollar.

Table 3-2: Offshore Visitor visas grants—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
United Kingdom	587 349	570 561	524 880	-8.0
People's Republic of China	244 598	323 007	393 988	22.0
United States of America	393 529	373 051	371 995	-0.3
Japan	325 688	324 215	306 097	-5.6
Malaysia	165 206	192 157	191 909	-0.1
Republic of Korea	162 433	175 502	166 918	-4.9
Singapore	131 959	141 684	139 625	-1.5
Germany	145 729	142 133	135 859	-4.4
France	124 535	122 872	121 384	-1.2
India	96 275	106 116	117 187	10.4
Other	1 043 808	1 047 290	1 067 809	2.0
Total OECD countries	2 233 312	2 193 533	2 115 022	-3.6
OECD—Tourism visas	2 042 203	1 977 896	1 884 568	-4.7
OECD—Business visitors	189 597	214 114	228 944	6.9
Total Tourism visas	3 038 783	3 073 535	3 071 782	-0.1
Total Business visitors	379 696	442 482	463 323	4.7
Total	3 421 109	3 518 588	3 537 651	0.5

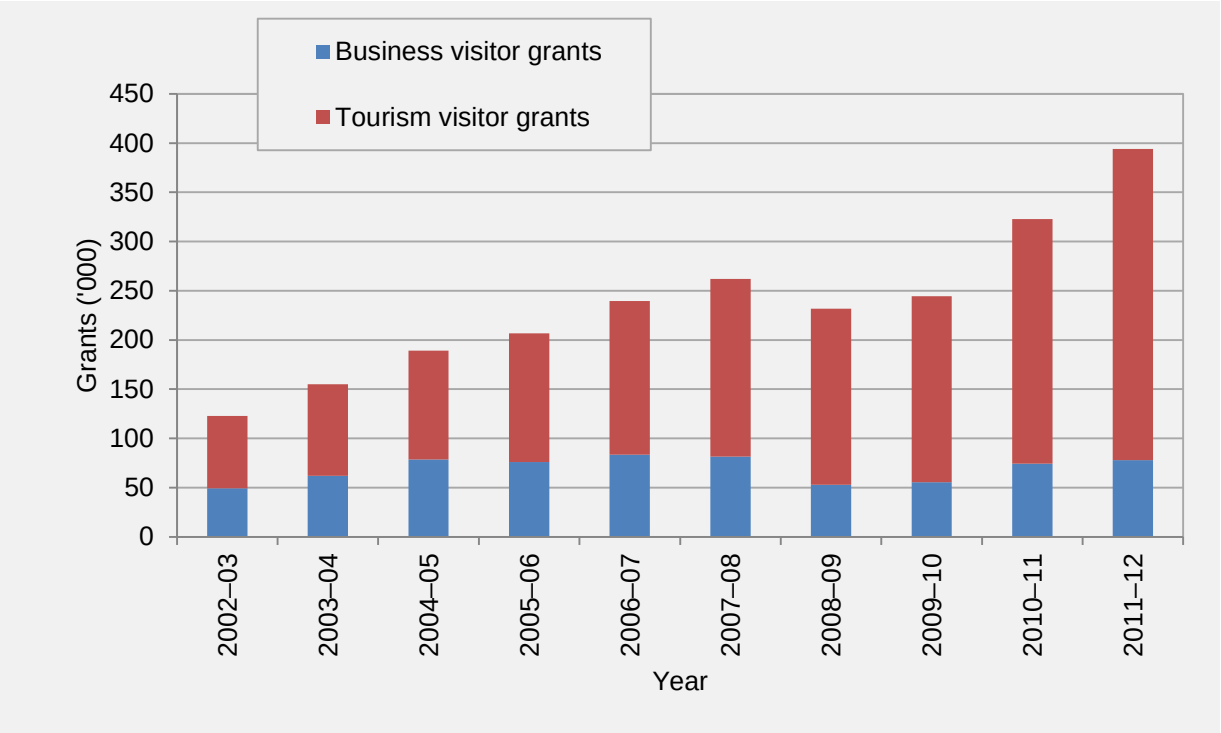
Source data: IMIRS, DIAC

Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. Visitor visa grants by gender for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available in Table A-2 of the Appendices.

In contrast to this low rate of growth, there was strong growth in tourism from the People's Republic of China—with grants for 2011–12 up 27.0 per cent (67 241 visas) on the previous year.

This led to a situation where tourists from the People's Republic of China accounted for 10.3 per cent of all tourism to Australia in 2011–12, a figure only surpassed by tourists from the United Kingdom. Figure 3-1 illustrates the significant increase in tourism from the People's Republic of China over the last 10 years, reflecting stronger business ties and a fast growing, more prosperous, middle class.

Figure 3-1: Tourism and business visa grants—People's Republic of China, 2002–03 to 2011–12



Source data: IMIRS, DIAC

Box 3-1: Types of Visitor visas

Electronic Travel Authorities (ETAs)—replace the visa label or stamp in a passport and are available to passport holders of 33 countries and locations. They allow multiple stays of up to three months and can include tourist and business visas.

eVisitor visas—comprise tourist and business visas and are available online to people from certain European countries. They are valid for stays of up to three months.

Tourist visas—enable people to visit Australia as tourists or to visit family and friends. They allow stays of up to three, six or 12 months.

Sponsored Family Visitor visas—enable Australian citizens and permanent residents to sponsor their relatives to visit Australia. They allow applicants for whom there are residual concerns about their intentions to be granted a visa to visit family in Australia. A security bond may be required if there is concern the applicant may not comply with their visa conditions.

Business (Short Stay) and Sponsored Business Visitor (Short Stay) visas—enable people to make short business trips to Australia. They allow some short-term work provided it is highly specialised, non-ongoing and does not adversely affect employment, training opportunities, or employment conditions of Australians.

Medical Treatment visas—allow people to travel to Australia for medical treatment or consultations. Comprise a short stay visa (valid for up to three months) and a long stay visa (valid for up to 12 months).

Superyacht Crew visas— allow the crew of superyachts to work on-board these vessels in Australia for up to one year.

Table 3-3: Offshore Visitor visas grants by category, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Category	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
ETA	2 216 719	2 164 341	2 091 205	-3.4
eVisitor	393 639	412 502	416 386	0.9
Tourist	612 475	708 256	794 142	12.1
Sponsored Family	22 778	15 445	13 802	-10.6
Business Visitor	172 868	215 473	219 570	1.9
Medical Treatment	2 366	2 328	2 311	-0.7
Superyacht Crew	264	243	235	-3.3
Total	3 421 109	3 518 588	3 537 651	0.5

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC

3.3 Working Holiday Maker Program

The Working Holiday Maker Program encourages cultural exchange and closer ties by allowing young adults from Australia and partner countries to have an extended holiday in each other's country, during which they can engage in short-term work and study. The program is a valuable provider of supplementary labour for industries needing short-term or seasonal workers, such as in hospitality and agriculture.

Two types of visas are available under the program—the Working Holiday visa and the Work and Holiday visa—and they work in similar ways. They:

- are for people between 18 and 30 years of age, with no accompanying dependent children
- allow a stay of 12 months from the date of initial entry to Australia
- permit up to four months study or training
- allow for up to six months work with any one employer.

Additionally, the Work and Holiday visa also requires applicants, not including applicants from the United States of America, to have functional-level English, tertiary qualifications and the support of their home government. Caps on the number of visa grants per program year are also generally applied to Work and Holiday visa arrangement partner countries.

Another difference, since November 2005, is that Working Holiday visa holders who have completed at least three months of specified work in agriculture, mining or construction in regional Australia, may apply for a second Working Holiday visa, whereas people on a Work and Holiday visa cannot. In 2011–12, 19 Working Holiday and eight Work and Holiday visa arrangements were in effect. Another Work and Holiday visa arrangement was also signed with Papua New Guinea, which was not yet in effect.

While the Working Holiday Maker Program has fluctuated in recent years, a record 222 992 Working Holiday visas were granted in 2011–12, 15.6 per cent more than the previous year and more than two and half times as many as a decade earlier. A detailed statistical publication about the Working Holiday Maker Program is available at: www.immi.gov.au/media/statistics/visitor.htm

3.3.1 The Working Holiday visa

In 2011–12, 214 644 Working Holiday visas were granted—the highest number on record and an increase of 15.7 per cent on the previous year (Table 3-4). Strong growth in grants was recorded for citizens of Taiwan, Italy and Hong Kong—up by, 8584, 3171 and 2967 grants respectively. Norway was the only country to record a fall in grants, from 836 visas in 2010–11 to 617 visas in 2011–12. Ireland, a country of only 4.5 million people, continued to be a major provider of Working Holiday Makers to Australia with 25 827 grants in 2011–12.

Second Working Holiday visas in 2011–12 grew strongly, up from 22 500 grants in 2010–11 to 30 501 grants in 2011–12. Since inception, the second Working Holiday visa grew from 5.8 per cent of all Working Holiday visa grants in 2006–07 (its first full year of operation) to 14.2 per cent in 2011–12.

Of all second Working Holiday visa grants in 2011–12, around 88 per cent of these were granted to people who qualified for this visa by working in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry. Another 10 per cent went to those who worked in the construction sector and the remaining 2 per cent of grants went to those who had qualified by previously working in the mining industry.

Table 3-4: Working Holiday visa grants, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
United Kingdom	36 995	38 974	41 712	7.0
Republic of Korea	34 863	30 527	32 591	6.8
Ireland	14 790	21 753	25 827	18.7
Germany	20 860	21 146	22 499	6.4
Taiwan	10 175	13 809	22 393	62.2
France	18 158	18 530	20 086	8.4
Italy	5 481	6 429	9 600	49.3
Japan	8 079	7 746	9 162	18.3
Canada	8 209	7 899	7 929	0.4
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	3 722	4 545	7 512	65.3
Sweden	4 208	4 121	4 772	15.8
Netherlands	4 036	3 821	3 879	1.5
Estonia	1 385	1 453	1 813	24.8
Denmark	1 294	1 260	1 484	17.8
Belgium	1 298	1 230	1 456	18.4
Finland	996	1 066	1 181	10.8
Norway	925	836	617	-26.2
Malta	67	88	99	12.5
Cyprus	15	18	32	77.8
Unknown	190	229	n/a	n/a
Total OECD countries	161 577	166 791	184 608	10.7
Total	175 746	185 480	214 644	15.7

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

3.3.2 The Work and Holiday visa

In 2011–12, 8348 Work and Holiday visas were granted. This was 12.2 per cent more than in 2010–11 (Table 3-5) and maintains a trend of continuous growth since the visa's inception in 2003–04. As in previous years, the United States of America remained the dominant source of Work and Holiday visa holders, accounting for 81.8 per cent of all those granted in 2011–12. Of the countries with a current Work and Holiday visa arrangement in effect, only Thailand experienced a fall in numbers—down 153 visas on the previous year.

Table 3-5: Work and Holiday visa grants, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12	Program cap
United States of America	6 149	6 219	6 831	9.8	No cap
Chile	446	513	639	24.6	1 500
Thailand	471	499	346	-30.7	500
Argentina	n/a	n/a	261	n/a	500
Malaysia	100	100	100	0.0	100
Indonesia	100	98	99	1.0	100
Bangladesh	n/a	n/a	49	n/a	100
Turkey	16	5	21	320.0	100
Iran[1]	140	8	2	-75.0	n/a
Total	7 422	7 442	8 348	12.2	n/a

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Australia's Work and Holiday arrangement with Iran was discontinued on 30 June 2007. Grants shown include subsequent Work and Holiday visa extensions, which were allowed for under the specifics of the arrangement with Iran.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

3.4 The Student visa program

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

Student visas may be granted offshore or onshore. Onshore grants are largely provided to international students already in Australia who, for example, may be changing their education provider or moving from one education sector to another. People who are in Australia on another temporary visa may also be eligible to apply for a Student visa.

Box 3-2: Types of Student visas

The range of visa categories in the Student visa program corresponds to the courses the applicants intend to undertake:

- English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) visa—for applicants intending to study stand-alone English language courses that lead to a certificate or non-formal Australian award.
- Schools visa—for applicants intending to study primary or secondary school courses and approved secondary school exchange programs.
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) visa—for applicants intending to study certificate, VET diploma, VET advanced diploma, vocational graduate certificate or vocational graduate diploma courses.
- Higher Education visa—for applicants intending to study tertiary coursework studies (Bachelor degree, associate degree, graduate certificate, graduate diploma, Higher Education diploma, Higher Education advanced diploma or Masters by coursework).
- Postgraduate Research visa—for applicants intending to study Masters by research or a doctoral degree.
- Non-award visa—for applicants intending to study non-award foundation studies, or other full-time courses or components of courses not leading to an Australian award.
- Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and Department of Defence visa—for students sponsored by AusAID or Defence to undertake full-time courses of any type.

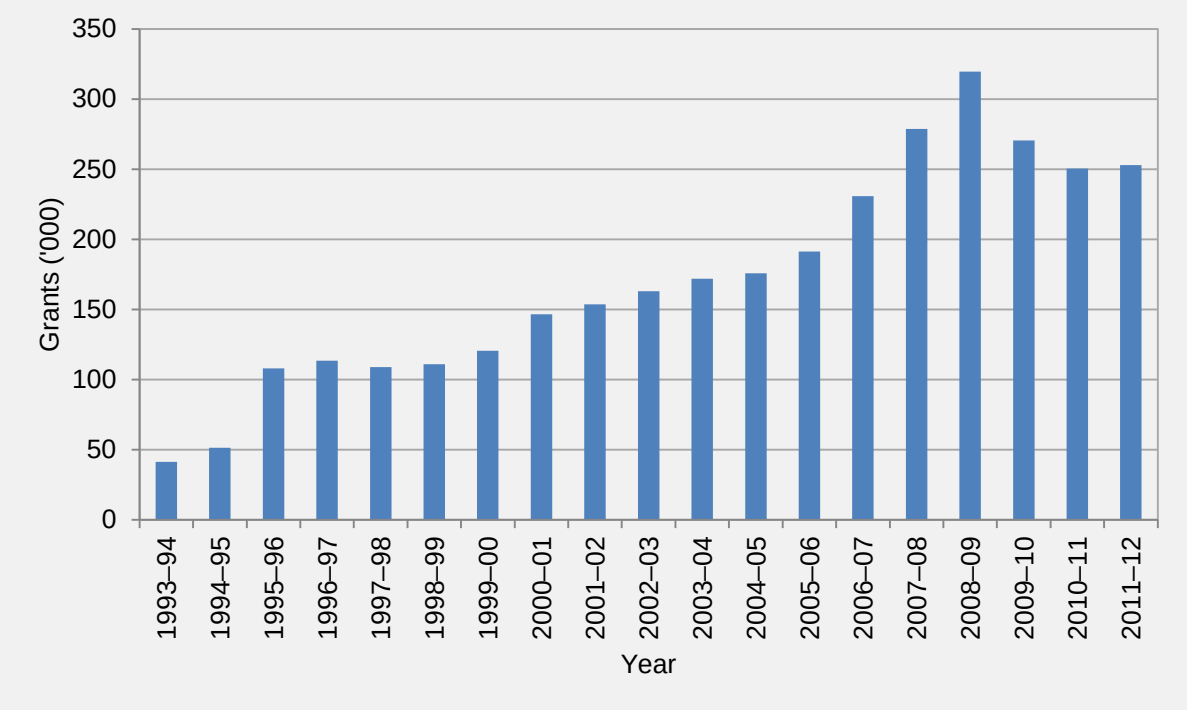
In addition, parents or relatives can apply for a visa to stay in Australia as the guardian of a student. This is known as the Student Guardian visa.

3.4.1 Student visa grants

In 2011–12, 253 047 visas were granted to international students. This was the first increase in Student visa grants since the peak in 2008–09 when 319 632 visas were granted, and is a 1.0 per cent increase on 2010–11 grants. The decreases in Student visa numbers in 2009–10 and 2010–11 followed 11 consecutive years of growth in the visa program (Figure 3-2). These decreases coincided with a number of factors including: ongoing global financial uncertainty; college closures; the rising value of the Australian dollar; changes to improve the integrity of the program; and reforms to the Skilled Migration program.

A detailed statistical publication about the Student visa program is available at: http://www.immi.gov.au/media/statistics/study/

Figure 3-2: Student visa grants, 1993–94 to 2011–12



Source data: IMIRS, DIAC

As Table 3-6 shows, only four of the top 10 source countries—India, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Vietnam—experienced an increase in Student visa grants in 2011–12. Falls in 2011–12 were most pronounced among nationals from Nepal (down 1990 grants) and Hong Kong (down 1225 grants). In comparison, the number of visas granted to Indian nationals increased significantly—up 4810 grants. This is in stark contrast to 2009–10 when there were 35 690 fewer grants to Indian nationals than in 2008–09.

Table 3-6: Student visa grants—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
People's Republic of China	54 541	49 852	49 592	-0.5
India	29 826	28 954	33 764	16.6
Republic of Korea	16 416	13 238	12 408	-6.3
Brazil	11 461	9 780	9 695	-0.9
Malaysia	10 643	9 709	9 316	-4.0
Thailand	11 742	9 273	8 760	-5.5
Saudi Arabia	7 318	7 798	8 517	9.2
Indonesia	8 729	8 088	8 211	1.5
Vietnam	8 399	7 131	8 161	14.4
United States of America	9 007	8 562	7 960	-7.0
Other[1]	102 417	98 053	96 663	-1.4
Total OECD countries	65 669	58 254	57 501	-1.3
Total	270 499	250 438	253 047	1.0

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. Student visa grants by gender for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available in Table A-3 of the Appendices

3.4.2 Offshore Student visa grants

In 2011–12, 125 119 Student visas were granted offshore, a decrease of 0.8 per cent compared to the previous year. This has been the trend for the past three years with offshore Student visa grants falling by 21.1 per cent since 2009–10 (Table 3-7). Over 2009–10 to 2011–12 there was a continual decline across all Student visa types with the exception of the AusAID/Defence visa and the Postgraduate Research visa. Between 2010–11 and 2011–12 falls were mainly in the ELICOS sector (down 1233 visa grants) and the Non-award sector (825 fewer grants).

In 2011–12, the People's Republic of China was the largest source country for offshore Student visas with 23 411 visas granted (Table 3-8). While this was the third year in a row that China has been the largest source of students to Australia, the number of visas granted to its nationals was 2416 less than the previous year and 11 994 less than the peak of 2008–09. Growth in offshore Student visa grants from India was strong—up almost two-thirds (62.6 per cent)—with 5519 grants. Although a far cry from the number one position it held in 2008–09 with 54 610 grants, it marks a turn-around from 2010–11, when for the first time in more than 10 years it dropped out of the top 10 source countries.

Table 3-7: Offshore Student visa grants by visa type, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Visa type	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
ELICOS[1]	25 414	20 332	19 099	-6.1
Schools	10 343	8 791	8 095	-7.9
VET	28 100	15 556	15 560	0.0
Higher Education	68 411	55 922	55 885	-0.1
Postgraduate Research	5 391	5 149	5 764	11.9
Non-award	17 160	16 254	15 429	-5.1
AusAID/Defence	3 827	4 182	5 287	26.4
Total	158 646	126 186	125 119	-0.8

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students.

Table 3-8: Offshore Student visa grants—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
People's Republic of China	32 123	25 827	23 411	-9.4
United States of America	8 255	7 846	7 163	-8.7
Malaysia	7 722	6 658	5 941	-10.8
Republic of Korea	8 604	6 515	5 731	-12.0
India	12 521	3 394	5 519	62.6
Indonesia	6 356	5 139	5 469	6.4
Brazil	5 917	5 069	5 119	1.0
Vietnam	6 225	4 487	4 624	3.1
Thailand	5 606	4 045	3 992	-1.3
Saudi Arabia	3 473	3 401	3 248	-4.5
Other[1]	61 844	53 805	54 902	2.0
Total OECD countries	44 073	38 239	36 504	-4.5
Total	158 646	126 186	125 119	-0.8

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

3.4.3 Onshore Student visa grants

For 2011–12, 127 928 onshore Student visas were granted, 2809 more than the 125 119 visas granted offshore and a 3.0 per cent increase on the previous year. This marked the first time that onshore grants exceeded offshore grants. The growth in onshore grants indicates that the proportion of international students extending their studies or changing their institution or course is growing. As Table 3-9 shows this increase is mostly occurring in the VET and Higher Education visa types.

Table 3-9: Onshore Student visa grants by visa type, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Visa type	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
ELICOS	9 828	8 730	8 699	-0.4
Schools	2 184	1 669	1 424	-14.7
VET	43 930	51 850	54 384	4.9
Higher Education	50 593	56 645	57 275	1.1
Postgraduate Research	3 950	4 054	4 841	19.4
Non-award	979	853	731	-14.3
AusAID/Defence	389	451	573	27.1
Total[1]	111 853	124 252	127 928	3.0

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Total for 2011–12 includes an additional single visa granted under an old visa code.

Grants to Indian nationals are driving much of this onshore growth. In 2011–12 this group was granted the highest number of onshore Student visas of all countries with 28 245 onshore visas (Table 3-10). This was up 10.5 per cent on 2010–11, 63.2 per cent on 2009–10 and 159.0 per cent on 2008–09.

There may be many reasons for the increase in the onshore component. This includes students extending their stay in Australia to delay returning to difficult economic circumstances in their home country or seeking to gain the benefits of additional qualifications.

More than one-third of Student visas granted to OECD nationals in 2011–12 were issued onshore. Given the difficult economic situations in their home country it is notable that nationals from Greece and Ireland had much higher onshore shares—75.6 per cent and 66.4 per cent respectively.

Table 3-10: Onshore Student visa grants—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
India	17 305	25 560	28 245	10.5
People's Republic of China	22 418	24 025	26 181	9.0
Republic of Korea	7 812	6 723	6 677	-0.7
Nepal	4 722	8 122	5 405	-33.5
Saudi Arabia	3 845	4 397	5 269	19.8
Thailand	6 136	5 228	4 768	-8.8
Brazil	5 544	4 711	4 576	-2.9
Vietnam	2 174	2 644	3 537	33.8
Malaysia	2 921	3 051	3 375	10.6
Japan	3 128	2 779	2 981	7.3
Other[1]	35 848	37 012	36 914	-0.3
Total OECD countries	21 596	20 015	20 997	4.9
Total	111 853	124 252	127 928	3.0

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

3.4.4 Student visa holders transitioning to permanent residence

While Student visas are only temporary visas, many international students apply for permanent residence at the completion of their course. A series of reforms over the past five years to the Skill Stream of the Migration Program have, however, affected the number of former students who obtained permanent residence over the past few years, and the types of visas issued. The reforms included a redesigned points test, a more targeted Skilled Occupation List and the allocation of more Employer Sponsored places.

Before these reforms were introduced, the Skilled Independent visa was the most common visa granted to former international students—accounting for 75.1 per cent of all grants to this cohort in 2006–07. Soon after, however, two factors led to a decrease in the number of Skilled Independent grants to former students.

The first factor began with the reforms to General Skilled Migration (GSM) in September 2007, which included a redesigned points test, higher English language requirements and a new Skilled Graduate (subclass 485) visa valid for 18 months. This visa targeted former international students interested in permanent skilled migration but who had no employer to

sponsor them and were unable to meet the pass mark for a permanent GSM visa. It provided these students with the opportunity to spend more time in Australia to: find an employer willing to sponsor them for a permanent visa; acquire the additional skills to meet the GSM points test (for example by improving their English or obtaining relevant work experience); or undergo further training.

Following on from this reform, many people on subclass 485 visas have successfully applied for GSM, Employer Sponsored and Partner visas (Table 3-11).

Table 3-11: Permanent residence visa grants to former Skilled Graduate (subclass 485) visa holders, 2008–09 to 2011–12

Visa category	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
General Skilled Migration	60	564	2 627	2 487	-5.3
Skilled Independent	36	439	2 347	2 115	-9.9
State/Territory Sponsored	24	118	184	222	20.7
Family Sponsored	0	7	96	150	56.3
Employer Sponsored	1	43	199	470	136.2
Employer Nomination Scheme	1	32	119	238	100.0
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	0	11	80	231	188.8
Labour Agreement	0	0	0	1	n/a
Partner	4	104	351	540	53.8
Other	0	1	2	20	900.0
Total OECD countries	5	70	299	292	-2.3
Total	65	712	3 179	3 517	10.6

Source data: MPMS, DIAC

The second factor, which had a significant effect, was increased emphasis from January 2009 on demand driven migration. This saw Skilled Independent visas given lower processing priority in favour of Employer Sponsored and State/Territory Sponsored visas. This resulted in a corresponding fall in former international student transitions to a Skilled Independent visa, which was only partially offset by the increase in Employer Sponsored and State/Territory Sponsored visa grants. Between 2008–09 and 2009–10, the number of former students obtaining permanent residence declined by 18.9 per cent. The following year, more of these applications were able to be processed and, as a result, the number of grants rose by 101.8 per cent. Since then the numbers have been maintained (Table 3-12).

Table 3-12: Permanent residence visa grants to former international students, 2007–08 to 2011–12

Visa category	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
General Skilled Migration	14 521	9 278	24 294	19 882	-18.2
Skilled Independent	9 649	6 139	16 883	14 183	-16.0
State/Territory Sponsored	2 368	2 320	2 847	2 283	-19.8
Family Sponsored	2 504	819	4 564	3 416	-25.2
Employer Sponsored	1 010	1 406	2 291	3 755	63.9
Employer Nomination Scheme	663	852	1 165	1 211	3.9
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	330	554	1 126	2 541	125.7
Labour Agreement	17	0	0	3	n/a
Partner	3 921	5 003	5 377	7 124	32.5
Other	148	208	111	217	95.5
Total OECD countries	3 094	2 163	3 393	4 011	18.2
Total[1]	19 600	15 895	32 073	30 978	-3.4

Source data: MPMS, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.

As intended, the January 2009 priority processing reform saw a substantial increase in former students transitioning to permanent residence by way of an Employer Sponsored visa. In 2008–09, of those students who obtained permanent residence, 5.2 per cent were granted an Employer Sponsored visa. This proportion gradually increased to 12.1 per cent in 2011–12. Another effect of the reform is the increase in former students being granted a Partner visa over this period, from 3921 visas in 2008–09 to 7124 visas in 2011–12.

3.5 Skilled temporary residents—Business (Long Stay) visa

The skilled temporary resident category is dominated by the Temporary Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa. In the past this category has also included specific visas for medical practitioners; however, due to the growing use of the subclass 457 visa by medical practitioners, the Medical Practitioner visa was closed at the end of 2009–10.

The Temporary Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa program allows skilled overseas workers to enter Australia to work for a sponsoring Australian employer—provided the employer has been unable to source workers through the domestic labour market.
The program can also be used by overseas businesses seeking to establish a branch in Australia, participate in joint ventures, transfer employees between branches, or fulfil a

specific contract. People on this visa can stay in Australia for up to four years depending on the job vacancy they are sponsored to fill.

Demand for subclass 457 visas continued to increase over 2011–12, with grants up more than one-third on 2010–11—an increase of 34 950 visas (Table 3-13). This growth was widespread, with all top 10 source countries experiencing an increase in grants. This is in sharp contrast to 2009–10, when the only increase was from the Irish cohort.

Table 3-13: Subclass 457 visa grants—top 10 source countries, 2007–09 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
United Kingdom	21 040	15 600	21 670	28 730	32.6
India	14 770	11 440	15 810	22 080	39.7
Ireland	3 130	3 370	5 820	10 130	74.1
Philippines	9 790	4 780	5 900	9 170	55.4
United States of America	5 560	5 310	7 020	8 670	23.5
People's Republic of China	4 970	2 910	2 980	4 800	61.1
South Africa	9 720	2 780	3 490	4 090	17.2
Canada	2 440	2 050	2 730	3 260	19.4
France	1 920	1 720	2 090	2 410	15.3
Other[1]	27 950	18 040	22 620	31 730	40.3
Total OECD countries	45 730	36 910	50 850	68 490	34.7
Total	101 280	67 980	90 120	125 070	38.8

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship unknown. Excludes Independent Executives. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. Subclass 457 visa grants by gender for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available in Table A-4 of the Appendices.

Demand for subclass 457 workers in 2011–12 was greatest in the construction industry, followed by health care and social assistance (Table 3-14). The overall gender distribution of subclass 457 workers in 2011–12 was heavily skewed towards males with a total share of 75.6 per cent of all primary grants.

OECD member countries made up 57.0 per cent of all subclass 457 visa grants for 2011–12 and were over-represented in construction (6969 grants), financial and insurance services (1854 grants), and the education and training industries (2343 grants). Among OECD member countries the heath care and social assistance industry was dominated by female workers (61.2 per cent), while males were most strongly represented in the construction industry (93.5 per cent).

Table 3-14: Subclass 457 visa grants to Primary Applicants—top 10 sponsor industries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Industry	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
Construction	3 330	5 920	9 160	54.6
Health care and social assistance	6 520	6 270	7 870	25.6
Information media and telecommunications	3 780	5 430	7 520	38.4
Mining	2 490	3 650	6 460	77.2
Professional, scientific and technical	950	2 550	4 890	92.0
Manufacturing	1 940	2 490	4 100	64.6
Accommodation and food services	990	1 540	3 660	137.6
Education and training	2 050	2 770	3 410	23.0
Financial and insurance services	2 040	2 620	2 510	-4.2
Retail trade	920	1 230	2 220	80.0
Other[1]	9 780	13 600	16 510	21.4
Total OECD countries	21 010	28 780	38 910	35.2
Total	34 790	48 080	68 310	42.1

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. Includes industry not recorded. Excludes a small number of visa grants to Independent Executives. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.
Note: Subclass 457 visa grants by gender and industry for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available in Table A-5 of the Appendices

Table 3-15 shows the 10 most common occupations for subclass 457 visa holders in 2011–12. Although almost 60 per cent of the subclass 457 cohort comes from an OECD member country, only four of these occupations appeared among the top 10 for visa holders from OECD member countries. These common occupations—with grant numbers pertaining to OECD member countries—were: program or project administrators (1470 grants), specialist managers (1377 grants), marketing specialists (1083 grants) and university lecturers (1030 grants).

Table 3-15: Subclass 457 visa grants to Primary Applicants—top 10 nominated occupations, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Nominated occupation	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
Program or project administrator	730	1 180	2 150	81.8
Developer programmer	1 460	1 980	2 030	2.7
Specialist managers	1 040	1 190	1 650	38.9
Management consultant	880	1 360	1 630	20.1
University lecturer	470	780	1 570	101.0
Cook	210	540	1 560	189.6
Marketing specialist	780	1 060	1 440	35.3
General medical practitioner	1 150	1 120	1 410	25.7
Resident medical officer	1 190	1 230	1 260	1.9
ICT business analyst	0	840	1 210	43.1
Other[1]	26 900	36 790	52 410	42.5
Total OECD countries	21 010	28 780	38 910	35.2
Total	34 790	48 080	68 310	42.1

Source data: IMIRS
1. Includes occupation unknown or not recorded. Excludes a small number of visa grants to Independent Executives. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.

The Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa also provides a pathway for skilled workers and their dependants to apply for permanent residence—usually through an employer's sponsorship. In 2011–12, 40 490 people transitioned from a subclass 457 visa to a permanent visa, a decrease of 2.9 per cent on the previous year (Table 3-16). Of these, 95.6 per cent were skilled and business migrants with migrants transitioning through to the Family Stream contributing 4.4 per cent.

Table 3-16: Permanent and provisional grants where a subclass 457 visa was the last visa held, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Visa type	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
Employer Nomination Scheme	25 980	28 430	24 470	-13.9
Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme	7 670	7 290	7 740	6.1
Labour Agreement	80	30	210	724.0
Skilled Independent	5 570	2 730	4 370	60.4
Other Skilled	1 950	1 640	1 960	19.3
Partner	1 890	1 390	1 530	9.9
Other Family	270	210	270	2.9
Total	43 390	41 710	40 490	-2.9

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS, DIAC
1. In determining the last visa held, bridging visas have been excluded. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.
2. Figures are subject to revision each year and therefore may vary from previously published reports.

3.6 Other temporary residence

Other temporary residence visas allow people to undertake a wide range of activities here that enrich social and cultural development, strengthen international relations or provide training opportunities of benefit to Australia.

Social/Cultural visas allow for the temporary entry of people to Australia to take part in sporting, entertainment, academic or cultural activities. In 2011–12, 26 026 of these visas were granted, an increase of 0.7 per cent compared with the 25 854 granted in 2010–11 (Table 3-17).

International Relations visas promote Australia's relations with other countries and foster goodwill. They allow people to enter who are: working for foreign governments; working for organisations funded by foreign governments and international organisations; or participating in an exchange program or an activity under a bilateral government agreement. In 2011–12, 3989 International Relations visas were granted, an increase of 11.4 per cent on the 3580 visas granted in 2010–11.

Training visas provide opportunities for occupational training and professional development. In 2011–12, 4268 training visas were granted, an increase of 7.5 per cent on the previous year.

Detailed statistics of other temporary visas granted by gender for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available in Table A-6 of the Appendices.

Table 3-17: Other temporary visa grants, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Visa type	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
Social/Cultural visas	23 186	25 854	26 026	0.7
Investor Retirement	80	133	136	2.3
Retirement	2 105	1 875	1 327	-29.2
Special Program[1]	2 150	2 563	2 964	15.6
Visiting Academic	1 952	2 602	2 219	-14.7
Entertainment	14 425	16 319	16 847	3.2
Sport	825	497	470	-5.4
Media and Film Staff	215	30	74	146.7
Religious Worker	1 434	1 835	1 989	8.4
International Relations visas	3 220	3 580	3 989	11.4
Government Agreement[2]	232	496	484	-2.4
Exchange	462	306	308	0.7
Foreign Government Agency	274	286	260	-9.1
Domestic Worker (Diplomatic or Consular)	127	145	148	2.1
Domestic Worker (Executive)	9	17	12	-29.4
Diplomatic	2 116	2 330	2 777	19.2
Training visas	4 260	3 971	4 268	7.5
Occupational Trainee	3 730	3 480	3 831	10.1
Professional Development	530	491	437	-11.0
Total OECD countries	19 520	22 198	21 381	-3.7
Total	30 666	33 405	34 283	2.6

Source data: IMIRS
1. Includes Pacific seasonal workers.
2. Introduced on 14 September 2009.

Box 3-3: Description of other temporary residence visas

Social/Cultural visas

- Retirement and Investor Retirement visas—for retirees who may not be eligible for permanent residence but who are self-sufficient and unlikely to impose a burden on Australia's health and welfare budget.
- Special Program visas—for participation in approved programs including reciprocal youth exchanges, cultural enrichment and community benefit programs.
- Visiting Academic visas—for academics with a significant record of achievement in their field who are sponsored by an Australian tertiary or research institution.
- Entertainment visas—for those wanting to work temporarily in Australia's entertainment industry.
- Sport visas—for amateur or professional sports people intending to participate in sporting activities.
- Media and Film Staff visas—for correspondents or reporters representing overseas news organisations, television or film crew.
- Religious Worker visas—for full-time religious workers undertaking activities that directly serve the religious objectives of a religious organisation in Australia.

International Relations visas

- Government Agreement visa—for people entering Australia under the terms and conditions of certain bilateral agreements between Australia and the government of another country.
- Exchange visa—for skilled people wanting to broaden their work experience and skills under reciprocal arrangements that allow Australian residents similar opportunities overseas.
- Foreign Government Agency—for non-accredited representatives of foreign governments and agencies and for certain foreign language teachers employed in Australia by their government.
- Domestic Worker (Diplomatic/Consular)—for full-time domestic workers employed exclusively in the private household of an accredited Diplomatic visa holder.
- Domestic Worker (Executive)—for experienced domestic workers for certain senior executives who are temporarily in Australia and holding a Business (Long Stay) visa.
- Diplomatic—for diplomats, consular staff, certain international representatives and other officials accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Training visas

- Occupational Trainee—to provide opportunities for people to improve skills in their present occupation or area of expertise through workplace-based training opportunities in Australia.
- Professional Development—to enable professionals, managers and government officials to enhance their professional and/or managerial skills by taking part in tailored training programs designed by an Australian sponsoring organisation.

3.6.1 Seasonal Worker Program

Within the Social/Cultural Stream, an ongoing Seasonal Worker Program was established from 1 July 2012 building on the benefits of the Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot Scheme which concluded in June 2012. The program's main objective is for seasonal workers to contribute to the economic development of their home country through skills transfers and remittances, while helping to meet the labour needs of Australian employers. As with the pilot, the program is led by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

The program allows seasonal workers from East Timor, Nauru, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to work in low-skilled jobs for up to seven months in a 12-month period. Seasonal work is available in the horticulture sector nationally in Australia as well as in limited locations in the trial industry sectors of: tourism (accommodation); agriculture (sugar cane, cotton); and fisheries (aquaculture). The program is demand driven by Australian employers with 12 000 visa places available over the next four years—10 450 in the horticulture sector and 1550 in the trial industries.

Of the 2500 visas available during the pilot, 1633 were granted which included 12 visas to seasonal workers from East Timor employed in the tourism (accommodation) sector in Broome, Western Australia. Of the visas granted to seasonal workers in the horticulture sector, 1331 were from Tonga, 117 from Vanuatu, 82 from Papua New Guinea, 42 from Kiribati and 39 from Samoa. In this sector, 280 seasonal workers returned for their second season, 45 for their third season and 12 for their fourth season.

3.7 Short-term intra-company transfers

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

Short-term intra-company transfers are an under-studied aspect of international trade. They can be difficult to measure in the Australian context. This is due to the limited availability of data collected for some visas that could be used to travel to Australia under an intra-corporate transfer arrangement. The analysis in this report is therefore restricted to the Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa where a person's visa application indicated they were travelling on an internal company transfer arrangement. It does not include all

intra-corporate transfers, as some individuals who meet this definition will come to Australia on other visas, including short-term business visitors.

3.7.1 Business (Long Stay) intra-corporate flows

In 2011–12, 10 120 subclass 457 visas were granted to Primary Applicants identified as an intra-company transfer—an increase on the previous year of 18.9 per cent. This represented 4.8 per cent of all subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants for 2011–12.
By comparison, of the 38 910 subclass 457 visas granted to Primary Applicants from OECD member countries, 3250 (8.4 per cent) were identified as an intra-company transfer.

Of the top 10 source countries, India dominated with 5850 visas granted to Primary Applicants in 2011–12. This represented an increase of 43.0 per cent on 2010–11 and a 57.9 per cent share of all visas issued. It was also 2600 more visas than the total number granted to nationals from OECD member countries (Table 3-18).

Table 3-18: Subclass 457 primary visa grants for intra-company transfers—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12
India	2 830	4 090	5 850	43.0
United Kingdom	740	1 040	1 000	-3.1
United States of America	700	920	880	-5.0
Philippines	80	160	230	44.7
Japan	150	160	230	43.9
People's Republic of China	150	230	200	-13.3
Canada	170	220	190	-14.7
Germany	150	180	190	1.6
France	140	160	150	-8.6
Malaysia	70	100	100	7.2
Other[1]	850	1 260	1 110	-11.8
Total OECD countries	2 560	3 420	3 250	-4.8
Total	6 010	8 510	10 120	18.9

Source data: IMIRS
1. Includes citizenship unknown. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. A detailed breakdown of subclass 457 intra-corporate transfers for OECD member countries is in Attachment A-7.

The vast majority of intra-company transfers of subclass 457 visa Primary Applicants are for stays of one year or more, and accounted for 81.5 per cent of total intra-company transfers in 2011–12 (Table 3-19). India accounted for 4290 of the 8250 visas in this category, followed by the United Kingdom and the United States of America with 950 and 820 primary visa grants respectively.

Table 3-19: Subclass 457 primary visa grants—intra-company transfers by length of stay in Australia, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Length of stay	2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	OECD total	Total	OECD total	Total	OECD total	Total
Less than one year	1 010	2 560	1 620	4 240	3 050	8 250
One year or more	1 470	2 990	1 660	3 380	10	20
Total[1]	2 560	6 010	3 420	8 510	3 250	10 120

Source data: IMIRS
1. Total includes a small number of people who had not travelled on the visa.
2. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.

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Chapter 4: The Humanitarian Program

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 Australia's commitment to international refugee protection

Australia contributes to international refugee protection and demonstrates its commitment in several ways, including by:

- participating in international policy-making and working with other governments and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to resolve refugee situations
- providing international development assistance to ease the plight of refugees and their host countries
- offering refugees new lives in Australia through the Humanitarian Program.

The Humanitarian Program realises Australia's obligation under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees to provide asylum to refugees in Australia. Australia then goes beyond this obligation by offering resettlement to people outside the country who are in great humanitarian need. Australia is one of a small group of countries operating well-established resettlement programs and, based on UNHCR assessments of total number of refugees resettled, consistently ranks in the top three resettlement countries in the world, alongside Canada and the United States of America.

4.1.2 Australia's Humanitarian Program structure

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

The offshore resettlement component is for people outside of Australia who need humanitarian assistance. It has two categories:

1. Refugee—for people identified by the UNHCR as a refugee in need of resettlement. The visa subclasses in this category are:
    - Refugee—for applicants who have fled persecution in their home country and who are living outside their home country.
    - In-Country Special Humanitarian—for applicants living in their home country who are subject to persecution.
    - Emergency Rescue—for applicants 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.

- Woman at Risk—for female applicants and their dependants living outside their home country, without the protection of a male relative, who are in danger of being victimised, harassed or seriously abused because of their gender.

2. Special Humanitarian Program—for people outside their home country and subject to substantial discrimination amounting to gross violation of their human rights in their home country. These applicants must be proposed for resettlement by an Australian citizen, permanent resident or organisation that can support them through the settlement process.

The onshore protection component is for people seeking asylum in Australia to have their claims assessed in Australia. It operates through these three processes:

1. Determining if people already in Australia are refugees as defined under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees—or who are owed protection under other international treaties.
2. Considering—through Refugee Status Assessment arrangements—the claims of people who arrive at an excised offshore place such as Christmas Island.
3. Considering the circumstances of requests for ministerial intervention under section 417 of the *Migration Act 1958* by failed asylum seekers.

People in Australia subsequently found to be refugees and who satisfy health and character assessments are granted Protection visas which provide for permanent residence in Australia.

4.2 The Humanitarian Program

4.2.1 Summary

Australia's 2011–12 Humanitarian Program granted 13 759 visas—6718 under the offshore resettlement component and 7041 under the onshore protection component (Table 4-1).

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

The 10 countries of citizenship for people granted a Permanent Protection visa onshore were, in descending order, Afghanistan, Iran, Stateless, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, the People's Republic of China, Egypt, Myanmar and Zimbabwe.

In 2011–12, 7036 applications for asylum were made by people who originally arrived by air and 7379 requests for refugee status determination by people who originally arrived by sea. The number of people who originally arrived by air and then sought protection in Australia continued to rise from 2004–05, with recent increases coinciding with strong growth in the number of international students.

Table 4-1: Offshore Humanitarian Program visa grants and onshore Protection visa grants, 2002–03 to 2011–12

Category	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12
Refugee	3 996	3 851	5 289	5 699	5 924	5 951	6 446	5 988	5 998	6 004
Special Humanitarian Program	7 212	8 912	6 684	6 739	5 157	4 721	4 471	3 234	2 973	714
Total offshore component	11 208	12 763	11 973	12 438	11 081	10 672	10 917	9 222	8 971	6 718
% of total program	92.5	94.2	92.6	90.9	86.7	84.7	81.4	67.0	65.0	48.8
Total onshore component	911	784	952	1 247	1 707	1 932	2 495	4 535	4 828	7 041
% of total program	7.5	5.8	7.4	9.1	13.3	15.3	18.6	33.0	35.0	51.2
Total Humanitarian Program	12 119	13 547	12 925	13 685	12 788	12 604	13 412	13 757	13 799	13 759

Source data: MPMS and ICSE, DIAC
Note: Table 4.1 sets out visa grants that are countable towards Australia's Humanitarian Program. More detailed information about the components over the past five years is available in the following publications available on the DIAC website: Australia's offshore Humanitarian Program: 2011–12; Asylum Trends 2011–12; Ministerial Intervention Statistics 2011–12 and in the DIAC annual reports.
http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/

4.2.2 Offshore Humanitarian Program

A total of 6718 visas were granted under the offshore resettlement component of the Humanitarian Program in 2011–12, compared to 8947 in the previous year, a decrease of 24.9 per cent (Table 4-2). Offshore humanitarian visa grants represented 48.8 per cent of all places in the program and comprised:

- 6004 Refugee visas (89.4 per cent)
- 714 Special Humanitarian visas (10.6 per cent).

Of the Refugee visas granted, 13.7 per cent were Woman at Risk visas, exceeding the program's target (12.0 per cent of the refugee category allocation). Almost 12 000 vulnerable women and their dependants have been resettled under this visa category since it was introduced in 1989.

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

In 2011–12 most offshore humanitarian visa grants were to young people, with 64.5 per cent under 30 years of age (Table 4-3). Almost one-third (32.4 per cent) of grants were made to children 14 years of age and under.

Table 4-2: Offshore humanitarian visa grants by citizenship, 2007–08 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2007–08		2008–09		2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Myanmar	1 417	1 511	1 193	1 209	992	959	732	711	811	1 049
Iraq	1 197	1 001	1 511	1 355	863	822	1 081	1 066	786	686
Afghanistan	625	538	476	364	519	426	521	505	349	363
Bhutan	97	108	303	311	560	581	498	503	346	349
Ethiopia	70	55	212	259	203	188	185	188	177	153
DRC[1]	178	164	224	233	292	291	295	270	163	137
Eritrea	53	35	71	60	75	68	99	84	114	107
Iran	146	156	125	99	98	86	139	128	99	117
Somalia	78	64	238	201	154	157	100	90	91	79
Republic of Congo	4	5	23	43	20	26	83	76	50	50
Others	1 503	1 651	1 208	1 156	984	844	838	755	322	320
Total	5 368	5 288	5 584	5 290	4 760	4 448	4 571	4 376	3 308	3 410
Grand Total	10 656		10 874		9 208		8 947		6 718	

Source data: MPMS, DIAC
1. Democratic Republic of Congo

Table 4-3: Offshore humanitarian visa grants by age groups, 2007–08 to 2011–12

Age Group	2007–08		2008–09		2009–10		2010–11		2011–12	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0–14	1 905	2 026	1 828	1 907	1 589	1 654	1 532	1 593	1 047	1 129
15–19	681	786	714	786	607	562	561	542	357	389
20–24	533	574	632	607	490	433	490	452	348	367
25–29	522	450	494	417	477	390	452	370	347	350
30–34	422	366	437	372	407	342	352	307	294	305
35–39	397	335	404	326	321	276	341	267	226	219
40–44	306	238	331	274	230	235	262	222	204	191
45–49	224	174	239	184	191	147	186	202	147	134
50–54	136	122	158	140	132	104	127	164	96	110
55–59	83	85	134	115	109	107	95	90	82	61
60 +	159	132	213	162	207	198	173	167	160	155
Total	5 368	5 288	5 584	5 290	4 760	4 448	4 571	4 376	3 308	3 410
Grand Total	10 656		10 874		9 208		8 947		6 718	

Source data: MPMS, DIAC

Citizens from Myanmar were the top recipients of humanitarian visas in 2011–12, with 1860 grants or 27.7 per cent of total offshore humanitarian grants. Citizens from Myanmar and Eritrea are the only countries in the top 10 to have experienced increases in grant numbers. All other countries fell as the overall offshore component decreased (Table 4-3).

In regional terms the highest number of offshore visas granted in 2011–12 was to applicants from Asia (41 per cent), followed by the Middle East (37 per cent) and Africa (21 per cent). The remaining 1 per cent of visas were granted to applicants from Europe and the Americas.

4.2.3 Protection visas (onshore)

People seeking protection in Australia are either irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) or people who arrived by air (non-IMAs). As of 24 March 2012, most claimants are considered through the Protection visa process regardless of the mode of arrival. A non-statutory assessment refugee status determination process has applied to IMAs who arrived before 24 March 2012 and who had not been interviewed by that date.

In 2011–12, 14 415 Protection visa applications and refugee status determination requests from people seeking asylum in Australia were made, an increase of 25.2 per cent on the previous year (Table 4-4). This comprised:

- 7036 Protection visa applications from non-IMAs
- 7379 refugee status determination requests from IMAs.

Table 4-4: Asylum seekers by program year, 2001–02 to 2011–12

Program year	Protection visa applications lodged (non-IMA)	Refugee status determination requests (IMA)[1]	Total
2001–02	7 026	2 223	9 249
2002–03	4 960	60	5 020
2003–04	3 485	87	3 572
2004–05	3 062	146	3 208
2005–06	3 191	101	3 292
2006–07	3 723	23	3 746
2007–08	3 987	21	4 008
2008–09	5 072	690	5 762
2009–10	5 986	4 579	10 565
2010–11	6 337	5 174	11 511
2011–12	7 036	7 379	14 415

Source data: ICSE and CCMDS, DIAC
1. Refugee status determination requests counted by people screened into a determination process for IMAs. Figures before 2008–09 were 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 1578 were transferred in 2001–02.

As a result of applications and refugee status determination requests, 7038[2] Protection visas were granted to IMAs and non-IMAs in 2011–12 (Table 4-5). This represented a 46.0 per cent increase compared with 2010–11 and comprised:

- 2272 Protection visa grants to non-IMAs, 171 more than in 2010–11
- 4766 Protection visa grants to IMAs, an increase of 2047 on 2010–11.

[2] This figure does not include the 9 Resolution of Status grants.

Table 4-5: Final Protection visa and resolution of status grants, 2011–12 and 2010–11

Grant type	2010–11[1]	2011–12
Protection visa grants to non-IMAs	2 101	2 272
Protection visa grants to IMAs	2 719	4 766
Total Protection visa grants	4 820	7 038
Resolution of status grants[2]	28	9

Source data: ICSE and CCMDS, DIAC

1. Protection visa figures relating to 2010–11 are as officially revised at the end of 2011–12 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published.
2. Resolution of Status visas are available as a permanent visa to current and former Temporary Protection visa or Temporary Humanitarian visa holders.

Nationals from Afghanistan and Iran comprised more than half of the visa grant recipients for 2011–12 (Table 4-6).

Table 4-6: Number of final Protection visa grants by top 10 countries of citizenship[1], 2011–12

Citizenship	2011–12
Afghanistan	2 020
Iran	1 623
Stateless	653
Iraq	494
Sri Lanka	424
Pakistan	403
People's Republic of China	264
Egypt	204
Myanmar	101
Zimbabwe	101
Other	751
Total	7 038

Source: ICSE and CCMDS, DIAC

1. The top 10 countries of citizenship are based on 2011–12 grants.

4.2.4 Outcomes for Non-IMAs

The top 10 countries of citizenship for non-IMAs applying for Protection visas in 2011–12, in descending order, were the People's Republic of China, India, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, Iraq, Fiji, Nepal, Malaysia and Lebanon. There was a significant increase in lodgements from citizens of India (an increase of 63 per cent), while the number of applications from citizens of Egypt decreased by 16 per cent.

Non-IMAs seeking protection have their claims considered and decided in the first instance by officials. They may then appeal against an adverse decision to the Refugee Review Tribunal. The final grant rate takes into account visas issued through the application and any subsequent appeals process.

In 2011–12, Iran was the top source country for final Protection visa grants at 351, closely followed by Pakistan and the People's Republic of China. Final Protection visa grant rates varied widely, however, ranging from less than 30 per cent for Fijian and Chinese nationals, to more than 90 per cent for Iranian and Iraqi nationals (Table 4-7).

Table 4-7: Final[1] Protection visa grants and grant rates by key countries of citizenship (non-IMA), 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	Final grant rate (%)	2010–11	Final grant rate (%)	2011–12[2]	Final grant rate (%)
Iran	279	98.6	368	91.6	351	94.1
Pakistan	218	85.2	208	80.3	309	74.1
People's Republic of China	494	42.2	315	29.8	264	26.9
Egypt	79	71.8	143	66.5	204	66.4
Iraq	322	97.3	114	95.0	146	96.1
Sri Lanka	505	88.1	118	77.6	125	64.4
Zimbabwe	254	86.1	172	76.8	101	66.0
Turkey	31	72.1	55	80.9	70	70.0
Fiji	38	16.2	88	18.3	68	27.9
Lebanon	34	36.2	64	0.4	54	43.2
Other	2 262	66.4	456	0.3	580	27.4
Total	4 516	51.0	2 101	43.4	2 272	44.0

Source data: ICSE and CCMDS, DIAC
1. Final Protection visa grants include grants made at the conclusion of all merits and judicial review processes.
2. Protection visa figures relating to 2009–10 and 2010–11 are as officially revised at the end of 2011–12 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published.

4.2.5 Outcomes for IMAs

A total of 7379 refugee status determination requests were submitted by IMAs in 2011–12, an increase of 42.6 per cent from 2010–11 (Table 4-8). This growth was consistent with the rise in the number of IMAs entering Australia. Nationals from Afghanistan made the most requests in 2011–12 (3179). This represented 43.1 per cent of all requests for the year and was almost double the figure for 2010–11.

Table 4-8: Refugee status determination requests received by top five countries of citizenship[1], 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11[3]	2011–12
Afghanistan	2 642	1 621	3 179
Iran	198	1 563	1 553
Iraq	907	359	825
Sri Lanka	17	70	618
Stateless[2]	460	854	576
Other	355	707	628
Total	4 579	5174	7 379

Source data: ICSE and CCMDS, DIAC
1. Top five countries of citizenship are based on 2011–12 refugee status determination requests from IMAs received.
2. A stateless person is an individual 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. Statelessness is established where no country recognises the person as holding its citizenship.
3. Protection visa figures relating to 2009–10 and 2010–11 are as officially revised at the end of 2011–12 and therefore may differ from statistics previously published.

Final Protection visa grants have been increasing steadily since 2009–10. In 2011–12, 4766 final Protection visas were granted to asylum seekers who arrived by sea, a significant increase of 75.3 per cent. Consistent with the fact that they made more refugee status determination requests than any other nationality, nationals from Afghanistan were also the main recipients of Protection visas in 2011–12, accounting for more than two-fifths of total grants for the year.

4.2.6 Size and composition of the 2012–13 Humanitarian Program

The Government has increased the size of Australia's humanitarian visa program to 20 000 places in 2012–13, in line with the recommendation of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers. This increase is targeted to those who are most in need—vulnerable people offshore.

This represents a 45.5 per cent increase to Australia's humanitarian intake and the biggest boost to our refugee intake in 30 years. This maintains Australia's ranking among the top three resettlement countries in the world according to the UNHCR and the largest on a per capita basis.

As part of this increase to 20 000 places, the Government specifically allocated another 400 places in 2012–13 for UNHCR-mandated refugees in Indonesia in need of resettlement. This allocation will help asylum seekers in Australia's region to pursue regular migration options and be safely referred to resettlement countries as part of an orderly Humanitarian Program.

In addition, Australia will be resettling another 1000 refugees from Syria who have been affected by the conflict there. These additional places under the Humanitarian Program will be predominantly made up of Iraqi refugees who have been living in Syria. This builds on Australia's existing commitment to the resettlement of Iraqi minorities and other vulnerable groups in the Middle East who have been referred for resettlement by the UNHCR.

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Chapter 5: Irregular migration and visa compliance

5.1 Overview

The Australian Government defines irregular migration as people who:

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

Australian citizens and permanent residents have the unrestricted right to live in Australia and travel freely in and out of the country.[3] Australia also has a universal visa system, meaning that all non-citizens, including those from New Zealand, need a visa to enter and stay in Australia.[4]

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

While most people in Australia comply with immigration rules, entering and remaining here lawfully, an immigration compliance model is in place for controlling irregular migration (Box 5-1).

[3] Permanent residents living overseas need to obtain a resident return visa on a five-year basis.
[4] New Zealand citizens may be granted a Special Category (subclass TY 444) visa on arrival, which entitles them to work and live in Australia indefinitely.

Box 5-1: Australia's immigration compliance model

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

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

5.2 Unlawful Non-Citizens in Australia

Australia's Unlawful Non-Citizen (UNC) population is the total number of people at a given point in time who are still in Australia after their temporary visa has expired or been cancelled. On 30 June 2012, it was estimated that around 60 900 people were in Australia unlawfully following the expiration or cancellation of their visa. While this figure is an estimate accumulated from more than 60 years of regulated migration, most UNCs only overstay their visa for a short period and then depart voluntarily. There is constant movement into the UNC pool as people overstay their visas and out of the pool as peoples' status is resolved, for example through departure or removal.

Overall compliance with Australia's immigration system remains very high, with more than 99 per cent of more than 4.8 million temporary entrants complying with the requirement to leave Australia before their visa expires.

Table 5-1 shows the number of UNCs in Australia at 30 June of 2010, 2011 and 2012. The table shows a 4.3 per cent increase in the number of UNCs at June 2012 compared to the previous year. Compositionally there has been little change in Australia's UNC population in recent years. Visitors remain the largest group, accounting for three-quarters of UNCs at June 2012 followed by students and temporary residents.

Table 5-1: Unlawful Non-Citizens by visa category at 30 June, 2010 to 2012

Category	2010	2011	2012	Change (%) 2011 to 2012	Proportion (%) of 2012 total
Visitors	41 080	42 070	43 510	3.4	71.4
Students	7 480	10 130	10 600	4.6	17.4
Temporary residents	3 290	3 920	4 060	4.1	6.7
Other	2 000	2 330	2 720	17.2	4.5
Total	53 900	58 400	60 900	4.3	100.0

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. This information is provided as an estimate. Figures rounded to the nearest 10. Some clients included may have since resolved their immigration status. As a result of updates to departmental systems, the figures provided may differ from figures previously published.

Table 5.2 shows the distribution of most significant citizenship in each annual UNC estimate, from 30 June 2010 to 30 June 2012. As visitors and students make up the vast majority of UNCs, countries that provided a significant number of these temporary migrants feature in this table. This is why the People's Republic of China—which was the second largest provider of visitors and the largest provider of international students in 2011–12—heads the table. Similarly the United Kingdom and the United States of America appear because they

are the largest and third largest providers of visitors to Australia respectively. India, a country which in previous years has provided large numbers of international students, also features prominently.

Malaysian nationals have emerged recently as the second largest cohort in Australia's UNC population. When compared with the People's Republic of China, Malaysia has in recent years only provided about one-third the number of visitors and about one-fifth the number of students. The size of the Malaysian UNC cohort is however more than two-thirds the size of the Chinese cohort.

Table 5-2: Top 10 countries of citizenship for Unlawful Non-Citizens at 30 June, 2010, 2011 and 2012

Citizenship	2010	2011	2012	Change (%) 2011 to 2012	Proportion (%) of 2012 total
People's Republic of China	7 490	8 070	7 800	-3.3	12.8
Malaysia	3 890	4 260	5 270	23.7	8.7
United States of America	5 030	5 100	5 140	1.2	8.4
United Kingdom	3 470	3 610	3 720	3.0	6.1
India	2 200	3 290	3 550	7.9	5.8
Indonesia	2 460	2 580	2 750	6.6	4.5
Republic of Korea	2 570	2 730	2 740	0.4	4.5
Philippines	2 430	2 400	2 410	0.4	4.0
Thailand	1 660	1 790	1 950	8.9	3.2
Vietnam	1 550	1 670	1 790	7.2	2.9
Other	21 160	23 010	23 760	3.3	39.0
Total	53 900	58 400	60 900	4.3	100.0

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. This information is provided as an estimate. Figures rounded to the nearest 10. Some clients included may have since resolved their immigration status. As a result of updates to departmental systems, the figures provided may differ from figures previously published.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. Detailed statistics of unlawful non-citizens in Australia at 30 June 2012, by citizenship is available in Table A-8 of the Appendices.

The characteristics of Australia's UNC population at 30 June of 2010, 2011 and 2012 are shown in Table 5-3. Males outnumber females by almost two-to-one. Furthermore the male cohort is growing at a faster rate—increasing 4.9 per cent between 2011 and 2012 compared with only 3.0 per cent for the female cohort. Almost two-thirds (63.1 per cent) of UNCs are between 21 and 50 years of age. Across most age groups there was an increase in Australia's UNC population between June 2011 and June 2012. The one exception was the 11 to 20 years of age group which decreased by 13.1 per cent, to 1730 people.

Table 5-3: Characteristics of Unlawful Non-Citizens at 30 June, 2010, 2011 and 2012

Category	2010	2011	2012	Change (%) 2011 to 2012
Gender				
Male	33 910	37 570	39 400	4.9
Female	19 870	20 860	21 490	3.0
Not stated	80	0	0	n/a
Age (years)				
0–10	880	1 020	1 090	6.9
11–20	2 300	1 990	1 730	-13.1
21–30	10 210	13 260	14 200	7.1
31–40	10 260	10 820	11 300	4.4
41–50	12 350	12 660	12 910	2.0
51–60	8 220	8 730	9 230	5.7
61–70	4 790	4 960	5 290	6.7
Over 70	4 830	4 990	5 140	3.0
Not stated	20	0	0	n/a
Total	53 900	58 400	60 900	4.3

Source data: IMIRS, DIAC
1. This information is provided as an estimate. Figures rounded to the nearest 10. Some clients included may have since resolved their immigration status. As a result of updates to departmental systems, the figures provided may differ from figures previously published.
2. The age of the UNC is at 30 June of each financial year and not their age when they became an UNC.

5.3 Visa cancellations

Visa cancellations are a last resort in Australia (Box 5-2). Table 5-4 shows visa cancellations by the top 10 source countries from 2009–10 to 2011–12. In 2011–12, 34 796 visas were cancelled, a decrease of 12.2 per cent from 2010–11. Almost half (47.7 per cent) of these cancellations were for nationals from OECD member countries, representing a 1.9 per cent decrease from 2010–11. India was again the top source country for visa cancellations in 2011–12 with 5754 cancellations, a significant decrease (41.7 per cent) from the 9871 cancellations in 2010–11. Citizens from the United Kingdom were a close second to India with 4749 visa cancellations in 2011–12, a 1.6 per cent increase from the previous year. The United States of America and the People's Republic of China were the third and fourth top source countries for visa cancellations in 2011–12, with increases from the previous year of 8.5 per cent and 5.8 per cent respectively. Vietnamese nationals had the greatest rise in visa cancellations from 2010–11 to 2011–12, at 73.1 per cent (848 visas).

Table 5-4: Visa cancellations—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12	Proportion (%) of 2011–12 total
India	8 156	9 871	5 754	-41.7	16.5
United Kingdom	5 951	4 674	4 749	1.6	13.6
United States of America	2 479	2 414	2 620	8.5	7.5
People's Republic of China	2 076	2 343	2 480	5.8	7.1
Republic of Korea	2 145	2 657	2 347	-11.7	6.7
Malaysia	1 258	1 279	1 344	5.1	3.9
Canada	1 391	1 193	1 122	-6.0	3.2
Ireland	1 175	999	935	-6.4	2.7
Germany	1 088	903	861	-4.7	2.5
Vietnam	365	490	848	73.1	2.4
Other[1]	12 549	12 796	11 736	-8.3	33.7
Total OECD countries	18 449	16 915	16 597	-1.9	47.7
Total	38 633	39 619	34 796	-12.2	100.0

Source data: Compliance Statistics, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship 'Not recorded' and 'Unknown'.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. Detailed statistics of visa cancellations for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available in Table A-9 in the Appendices.

Box 5-2: Cancelling visas

Under the *Migration Act 1958*, visas can be cancelled for non-compliance with visa conditions, including overstaying, working without authority, or for character concerns (such as committing serious criminal offences). When a person's visa is cancelled, the person becomes an unlawful non-citizen and arrangements are subsequently made for detention and removal from Australia. Visa cancellation is a last resort, and the department seeks to assist in resolving a person's immigration status in the first instance through the Community Status Resolution Service. Further information on the Community Status Resolution Service can be found at: www.immi.gov.au/managing-australias-borders/compliance/community-status-resolution.

5.4 Compliance-related departures

The department facilitates the departure of people who have no entitlement to remain in Australia. These people either leave voluntarily as an assisted voluntary return or monitored departure, or they are removed under section 198 of the *Migration Act 1958*.

These formally known 'returns' and 'removals' departures apply to the following categories of unlawful non-citizens:

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

In recent years these types of departures have increased, reflecting the expansion of strategies to engage clients in the community and support voluntary resolutions where this is feasible (Table 5-5). There were 10 785 returns and removals from Australia in 2011–12, representing an increase of 6.0 per cent on the 10 175 departures in 2010–11.
OECD member countries contributed to 27.1 per cent of compliance-related departures in 2011–12, a modest decrease from their 29.3 per cent share in 2010–11. The People's Republic of China was the top source country of compliance-related departures for 2011–12, with 1666 departures, an increase of 20.1 per cent from the previous year and 15.4 per cent of total compliance-related departures.

Table 5-5: Compliance-related departures—top 10 source countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	Change (%) 2010–11 to 2011–12	Proportion (%) of 2011–12 total
People's Republic of China	1 006	1 387	1 666	20.1	15.4
India	623	959	1 158	20.8	10.7
Malaysia	893	850	1 003	18.0	9.3
Indonesia	470	432	641	48.4	5.9
United Kingdom	657	673	599	-11.0	5.6
Republic of Korea	541	569	522	8.3	4.8
Ireland	353	350	348	0.6	3.2
Philippines	278	363	294	-19.0	2.7
Vietnam	213	258	286	10.9	2.7
United States of America	208	246	264	7.3	2.4
Other[1]	3 583	4 088	4 004	-2.1	37.1
Total OECD countries	2 923	2 979	2 926	-1.8	27.1
Total[2]	8 825	10 175	10 785	6.0	100.0

Source data: Compliance Statistics, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
2. Includes Illegal Maritime Arrivals, Illegal Foreign Fishers and Other Unauthorised Arrivals.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. Detailed table for compliance-related departures for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available in Table A-10 of the Appendices.

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Chapter 6: Net Overseas Migration

6.1 Introduction

So far this report has focused on the granting of visas. While the number of visas issued has a strong influence on levels of migration in Australia and is something the department needs to closely manage, it is not how population change is measured. This is because people granted a permanent visa may delay their arrival in Australia or give up on the idea of migration. There is also the issue of how long migrants live in Australia. People granted a permanent visa may find Australia is not to their liking and choose to return to their home country. Similarly someone on a temporary visa may switch to another type of visa, thereby prolonging their stay. In addition there are other aspects of migration which the department does not control. This includes the free movement of New Zealand citizens in and outside Australia and the emigration and return-migration of Australian residents.

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

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

This chapter reports on NOM's impact on population. It increases understanding of recent movements in NOM by examining its various components and analysing NOM by birthplace to gain a better appreciation of how migration is changing the face of Australia's population. The chapter concludes by forecasting NOM forecasts for the next four years.

Box 6-1 Understanding Net Overseas Migration

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

NOM arrivals—the number of incoming travellers who stay in Australia for 12 months or more over a 16-month period, who are not currently counted in the population

NOM departures—the number of outgoing travellers (Australian residents and long-term visitors to Australia) who leave Australia for 12 months or more over a 16-month period, who are currently counted in the population.

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

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

6.2 Net Overseas Migration and population growth

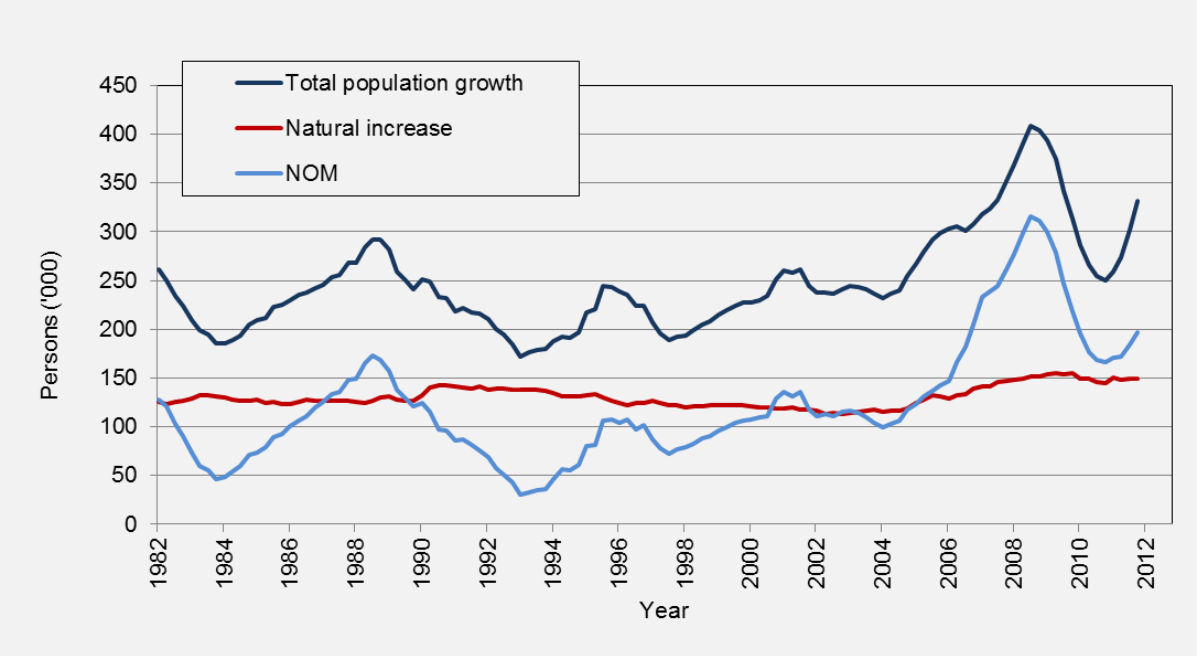
Population growth is the result of two factors:

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

Over the past 30 years it has been fairly uncommon for NOM to exceed natural increase (Figure 6-1). For most of the 1980s and all of the 1990s natural increase was the main component of population growth. Through the early 2000s, however, the significance of NOM grew and NOM and natural increase were at about the same levels. NOM subsequently overtook natural increase and has been the main component of population growth since September 2005. It peaked in the year ending December 2008 when it reached 315 700 and contributed 77.2 per cent to Australia's population growth.

For the year ending March 2012, preliminary NOM had fallen to 197 200 and its contribution to population growth stood at 59.5 per cent—the lowest since the new NOM methodology was introduced in the September quarter of 2006.

Figure 6-1: Components of Australia's population growth, 1982 to 2012



Source data: ABS Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0)
1. NOM estimates contain a break in series. Estimates for September 2006 quarter onwards use an improved methodology and are not comparable with NOM estimates from earlier periods.

6.3 The components of Net Overseas Migration

As well as being the difference between arrivals and departures (Box 6-1), NOM has three broad components:

1. net permanent movement—arrivals and departures under the Migration and Humanitarian Program
2. net temporary movement—arrivals and departures of Visitors, Students, long-term temporary skilled workers, and Working Holiday Makers
3. net other movements—returning and emigrating Australian citizens, permanent residents, New Zealand citizens and other visas not included elsewhere.[5]

[5] Other visas mostly comprise Bridging visas, which are temporary visas enabling people to remain in Australia when they do not hold a substantive visa, and Skilled Graduate visas, which are temporary visas issued to former international students enabling them to do further work and study in Australia, and provide a potential pathway to permanent residence.

Of these components, net temporary movement is the largest, accounting for a 56.2 per cent share of the department's estimate of preliminary NOM in 2011–12 (Table 6-1). In comparison, net permanent movement contributed 38.8 per cent to NOM. The net other movement component contributed 5.0 per cent to total NOM. It should be noted that this analysis of NOM is based on the initial category of travel. This means, for example, that a Working Holiday Maker who stays in Australia for an initial 12 months and then stays on and transitions to a subclass 457 visa and then a Skilled Independent visa will be added to NOM under the temporary movement category even though they have been granted a skilled visa under the Migration Program.

Since December 2008, NOM has been decreasing, mostly due to a fall in international students. This fall coincided with: the ongoing impact of the global economic crisis in some countries; the high value of the Australian dollar; and increased competition in the global education market. Also contributing were a series of Australian Government reforms to the Skilled Migration program and strengthened student integrity measures. In-depth discussion on recent trends in Student visa grants is in Chapter 3.

Also evident from Table 6-1 is the fall in humanitarian NOM arrivals which occurred for two reasons. First, the size of Australia's Humanitarian Program has changed little in recent years. Second, due to growth in irregular migration, the number of people granted Protection visas onshore increased. These people are counted in NOM's 'other arrivals' category. The growth in Working Holiday Makers mostly results from an increase in second Working Holiday visas. These allow Working Holiday Makers to stay an extra year in Australia if they have worked in agriculture, mining or construction while on their first Working Holiday visa.

While net other movements are only a small part of NOM, they are the result of a large number of inflows and outflows which partially cancel each other out. For example, since 2003–04:

- there has been an average annual loss of 16 200 Australian citizens each year, a net effect of 90 100 departures and 73 900 return arrivals of Australian citizens
- the number of New Zealand citizens arriving each year averaged 44 500, almost two-and-a-half times more than the number departing each year.

Table 6-1: Migration components of Net Overseas Migration, 2003–04 to 2011–12

Category	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12
	People ('000)								
NOM Arrivals									
Skilled	25.8	34.8	41.7	46.1	49.8	46.6	39.4	27.1	44.1
Family	20.4	27.5	29.5	31.6	32.2	34.1	34.6	31.9	35.0
Humanitarian	6.7	13.2	12.1	12.2	9.4	11.5	9.8	9.2	7.6
Total Permanent	52.9	75.4	83.2	89.9	91.4	92.3	83.8	68.2	86.7
International Students	70.9	66.2	73.1	103.7	133.7	152.8	106.7	83.9	85.7
Subclass 457	16.3	17.1	27.7	35.8	43.9	44.0	26.2	28.9	35.7
Working Holiday Makers	10.2	12.9	17.1	21.6	29.1	34.3	33.0	41.4	53.8
Tourists	32.0	30.6	31.5	31.9	43.3	37.6	35.9	40.7	37.0
Total Temporary	129.3	126.8	149.3	193.1	250.1	268.6	201.8	195.0	212.2
Australian citizens	55.7	69.4	73.4	75.5	76.0	80.6	79.0	75.3	79.9
New Zealand citizens	30.1	38.1	39.9	46.0	52.4	47.7	39.7	48.0	58.4
Other	29.4	31.7	32.1	33.0	31.6	30.6	33.6	37.5	39.4
Total Other	115.2	139.2	145.3	154.6	159.9	158.9	152.3	160.8	177.7
Total NOM Arrivals	297.4	341.4	377.9	437.5	501.3	519.8	437.9	423.9	476.6
NOM Departures									
Skilled	3.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.8	3.5	3.9
Family	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.4
Humanitarian	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Total Permanent	5.5	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.1	5.3	6.4	6.0	6.3
International Students	17.9	21.2	26.1	25.5	26.0	30.7	41.8	44.4	46.9
Subclass 457	6.4	7.2	8.5	9.4	10.6	13.6	14.6	13.8	16.0
Working Holiday Makers	1.9	3.5	2.9	4.7	7.8	10.5	15.0	16.6	19.1
Tourists	18.7	12.7	14.4	10.4	19.1	19.5	15.2	13.2	13.5
Total Temporary	44.9	44.6	51.8	49.9	63.5	74.3	86.6	88.0	95.5
Australian citizens	89.6	90.9	92.3	92.7	96.3	83.1	83.3	89.9	92.5
New Zealand citizens	15.9	17.5	16.8	16.2	16.3	17.4	18.5	24.4	29.2
Other	36.9	41.4	41.0	41.3	42.8	39.8	47.0	45.4	45.6
Total Other	142.5	149.9	150.2	150.2	155.4	140.4	148.9	159.7	167.3
Total NOM Departures	192.9	198.9	206.4	204.7	224.0	219.9	241.9	253.6	269.1
Total NOM (Arrivals less Departures)									
Skilled	22.1	32.1	38.9	43.4	46.9	43.6	35.7	23.6	40.2
Family	18.7	25.8	27.8	29.7	30.1	31.9	32.0	29.5	32.6
Humanitarian	6.7	13.1	12.0	12.2	9.3	11.5	9.8	9.1	7.6
Total Permanent	47.5	71.0	78.8	85.3	86.3	87.0	77.4	62.2	80.4
% of total NOM	45.4	49.8	45.9	36.6	31.1	29.0	39.5	36.5	38.8
International Students	53.0	44.9	47.0	78.2	107.7	122.1	64.9	39.5	38.8
Subclass 457	9.9	9.8	19.2	26.4	33.3	30.4	11.6	15.1	19.7
Working Holiday Makers	8.2	9.4	14.2	17.0	21.4	23.8	18.0	24.9	34.7
Tourists	13.3	18.0	17.1	21.5	24.2	18.0	20.7	27.4	23.4
Total Temporary	84.4	82.2	97.5	143.2	186.6	194.4	115.2	107.0	116.7
% of total NOM	80.7	57.6	56.9	61.5	67.3	64.8	58.8	62.8	56.2
Australian citizens	-34.0	-21.5	-19.0	-17.2	-20.3	-2.5	-4.3	-14.6	-12.6
New Zealand citizens	14.2	20.6	23.1	29.8	36.1	30.2	21.1	23.7	29.2
Other	-7.5	-9.7	-8.9	-8.3	-11.3	-9.2	-13.5	-8.0	-6.2
Total Other	-27.3	-10.6	-4.8	4.3	4.5	18.5	3.4	1.1	10.4
% of total NOM	-26.1	-7.5	-2.8	1.9	1.6	6.2	1.7	0.7	5.0
Total NOM	104.6	142.5	171.5	232.8	277.3	299.9	196.1	170.3	207.5

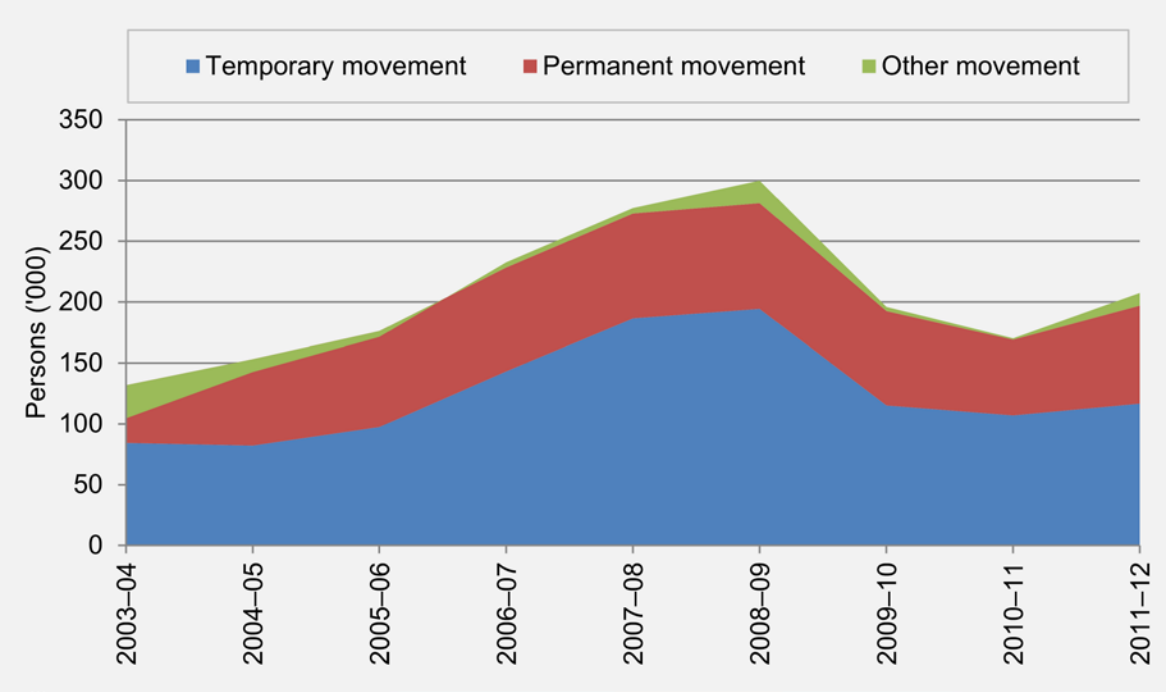
Source data: ABS and DIAC, August 2012

Notes: In 2005–06 the method for calculating NOM changed in 2006 with the introduction of the 12/16 rule 2005–06, up to 2009–10 this table is based on final NOM data calculated by the ABS, data for later years is based on DIAC forecasts of the components of NOM and preliminary NOM estimates from the ABS.

Box 6-2: The changing composition of Net Overseas Migration

Between 2005 and 2012, NOM ranged between 150 000 and 315 000 per year. Almost all of this fluctuation is due to changes in the temporary migration component which peaked at 205 500 for the year to December 2008. By comparison, the permanent component—based on offshore arrivals through the Migration Stream—varied little over this period.

Figure 6-2: The changing composition of NOM by broad group, 2003–04 to 2011–12



Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, and *The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration*, DIAC, August 2012

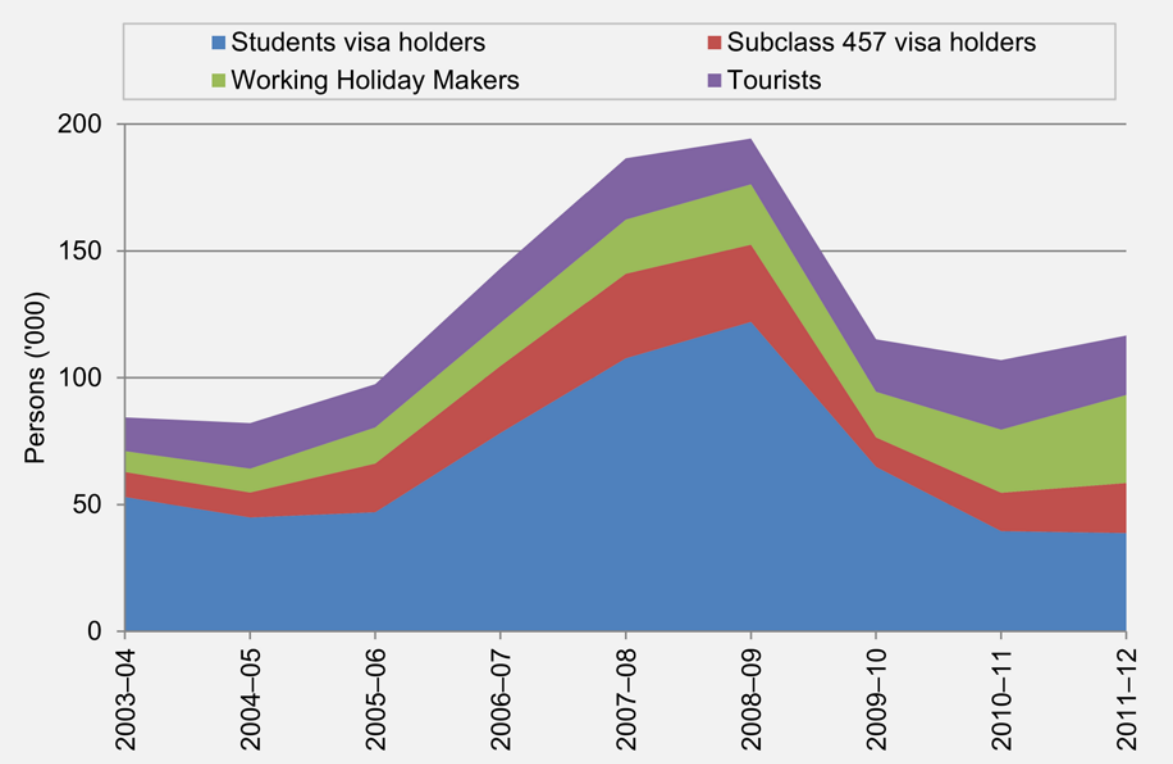
As Figure 6-3 shows, the international student component drove most of this growth. For the year ending June 2009, a record 152 800 international students counted as a NOM arrival. For the same year, only 30 700 students counted as a NOM departure. This meant an overall impact on NOM of 122 100 people, equivalent to 62.8 per cent of the temporary component of NOM or 40.7 per cent of NOM overall.

Since then many of these international students have returned to their home country after completing their studies and the number of new international students coming to Australia has fallen. As a result, NOM departures of international students are on an upward trajectory, while NOM arrivals are down. The net effect is that the impact of international students on NOM for the year ended June 2012, is estimated by the department at only 38 800. This is less than one-third of the number three years earlier, and only 18.7 per cent of total NOM.

Box 6-2: The changing composition of NOM (continued)

With the fall in international student numbers, other components of NOM are now more significant. For the year ending June 2012, the largest single component of NOM is permanent Skill Stream migrants at 40 200, or 19.4 per cent of total NOM.

Figure 6-3: The changing composition of NOM—temporary visa holders, 2003–04 to 2011–12



Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, and *The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration*, DIAC, August, 2012

6.4 Other aspects of NOM

So far, this chapter has examined NOM from a high-level perspective. In the next three sections, the chapter examines NOM in more detail. This includes:

- NOM by birthplace—reporting on the main source countries for people having an impact on our population through migration.
- Emigration—reporting on the birthplaces, destinations and other characteristics of citizens who have left Australia for 12 months or more.
- New Zealand movement—analysing the characteristics and movements of New Zealand citizens.

The information in this analysis is based on the Travellers' Characteristics Database, a tool owned and developed by the ABS which uses departures and arrival information to determine if an individual is in or out of NOM, based on the rules given in Box 6-1.

While the database is an accurate measure of NOM, there is considerable delay in the release of the data—it takes at least 12 months for a person arriving in Australia to be counted as a NOM arrival and a similar amount of time for a person leaving Australia to be counted as a NOM departure. The result is that the detailed information from the Travellers' Characteristics Database lags the rest of NOM data and is only available through to December 2010.

6.5 NOM by birthplace

In this analysis NOM departures are subtracted from NOM arrivals to determine which countries are making the greatest contribution to population growth in Australia. To provide more insight into the differences between these migrant cohorts, information on age and gender is also provided.

Using this method, the People's Republic of China with a 14.4 per cent share of total NOM (Table 6-2) was the main provider of new migrants in 2009–10. This was followed by India (12.1 per cent) and the United Kingdom (10.3 per cent).

These recent additions to the population are relatively young with an average age of 25.0 years—the very beginning of the prime working age group. Of the top 10 countries, the youngest were from the Philippines, with an average age of 22.6 years, while the oldest were from South Africa (29.0 years). As a group, the age of OECD members was slightly above the overall average with 27.1 years. In comparison, the United Kingdom, a major component of the OECD, was below the average, with 24.7 years.

NOM for 2009–10 reported a greater proportion of new female additions to the population (52.7 per cent) than males. OECD member countries are the exception to this, with females representing less than half (47.5 per cent). This under-representation was even more pronounced among those OECD member countries that were in the top 10—Ireland (43.4 per cent), United Kingdom (45.0 per cent) and New Zealand (45.7 per cent females).

Table 6-2: Characteristics of NOM by birthplace—top 10 source countries, 2009–10

Country of birth	2009–10	Average age	Proportion female
People's Republic of China	28 212	24.6	56.4
India	23 684	24.2	53.2
United Kingdom	20 273	24.7	45.0
New Zealand	19 804	24.0	45.7
Philippines	8 889	22.6	70.3
Vietnam	6 778	23.6	60.1
South Africa	5 513	29.0	50.6
Malaysia	5 355	22.7	52.3
Sri Lanka	4 587	27.8	49.6
Ireland	3 781	24.4	43.4
Other	69 180	26.1	53.2
Total OECD countries	58 117	27.1	47.5
Total[1]	196 056	25.0	52.7

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, August 2012
1. Includes country of birth 'Unknown'.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Table 6-3 reports on NOM arrivals and NOM departures for each of these major source countries and shows by how much arrivals exceeded departures. In the case of those born in Malaysia, arrivals and departures were relatively close, with 78.2 per cent more arrivals than departures. For the Sri Lanka born and those born in the Philippines however the ratio of arrivals to departures was almost four to one.

The table also shows that with almost a quarter share of the total, students were the largest single contributor to NOM Arrivals. Students were also the largest component among those born in China, India, Vietnam and Malaysia. Among other major source countries the main component varied. For those born in Sri Lanka and South Africa, permanent skilled migrants were the largest single contributor to NOM arrivals. For those born in the Philippines, subclass 457 migrants were the main NOM component, with Working Holiday Makers being the main contributor for the Irish and United Kingdom-born.

Table 6-3: NOM Arrivals and Departures by birthplace—top 10 source countries, 2009–10

Country of birth	NOM arrivals	Largest component as a (%) of arrivals	NOM departures	Largest component as a (%) of departures
People's Republic of China	48 822	Students—62.2	20 610	Students—40.6
India	36 151	Students—45.0	12 467	Students—37.0
United Kingdom	41 142	Working Holiday—20.8	20 869	Australian citizens—25.4
New Zealand (NZ)	37 846	NZ citizens—96.6	18 042	NZ citizens—93.2
Philippines	12 360	Subclass 457—29.2	3 471	Subclass 457—21.5
Vietnam	9 597	Students—55.2	2 819	Students—43.0
South Africa	7 889	Skill Stream—36.3	2 376	Australian citizens—37.7
Malaysia	12 201	Students—43.5	6 846	Students—39.9
Sri Lanka	6 136	Skill Stream—37.3	1 549	Australian citizens—26.9
Ireland	7 639	Working Holiday—58.9	3 858	Working Holiday—45.9
Other	218 144	Australian citizens—30.4	148 960	Australian citizens—46.2
Total[1]	437 928	Students—24.4	241 872	Australian citizens—34.5

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, August 2012
1. Includes country of birth 'Unknown'.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Table 6-3 also shows that in most instances the main component for departures and arrivals are the same. The main exception to this is among those born in the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka where the return migration of overseas-born Australian citizens is the main component.

6.6 NOM departures by birthplace—Australian citizens

According to the 2011 Census of Population and Housing, just more than one-quarter (26.9 per cent) of people with Australian citizenship were born overseas. These former migrants, however, made up 35.2 per cent of all NOM departures of Australian citizens in 2009–10, up 3.1 percentage points on their share two years earlier and 4.6 percentage points more than their 30.6 per cent share in 2004–05. This indicates that not only are former migrants more likely to emigrate, but the rate of emigration relative to the Australian born is increasing.

Of the overseas-born cohort departing Australia, the main birthplaces were the United Kingdom, the People's Republic of China and India, collectively accounting for one-third (33.5 per cent) of all overseas-born Australian citizen NOM departures (Table 6-4). While departures of those born in the United Kingdom varied little in the past five years,

there was strong growth in the number of Indian and Chinese born Australian citizens departing—up 79.6 per cent and 41.6 per cent respectively over this period.

Also evident from Table 6-4, is the relatively young age of these emigrants. With an average age of 31.0 years, an Australian citizen NOM departure was significantly younger than the average Australian citizen (38.1 years). Among these emigrants the youngest cohort was the Australia-born departures, with an average age of 26.2 years, and the oldest was those from Lebanon, with an average age of 43.8 years. For those born in OECD member countries, the average age was 29.0 years. However, the two largest components in the OECD cohort were older with those born in the United Kingdom and New Zealand averaging 42.4 years of age and 40.3 years of age respectively.

Table 6-4: Characteristics of NOM departures—Australian citizens—top 10 source countries, 2009–10

Country of birth	2009–10	Average age	Proportion female
Australia	54 036	26.2	47.7
United Kingdom	5 297	42.4	44.0
People's Republic of China	3 000	35.5	56.0
India	1 514	35.1	40.2
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1 178	35.3	51.4
New Zealand	1 155	40.3	48.6
South Africa	895	33.7	47.2
United States of America	862	31.0	51.2
Taiwan	778	36.8	54.6
Lebanon	735	43.8	45.4
Other	13 890	41.6	47.3
Total OECD countries	65 905	29.0	47.4
Total	83 340	31.0	47.7

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, August 2012
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Among Australian citizens leaving Australia there were less females (47.7 per cent) than males. However, among those born in the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Hong Kong (SAR of China) and the United States of America the number of females departing exceeded the number of males.

6.7 NOM departures by destination—Australian citizens

As Table 6-5 shows, more than 4 in 10 (41.3 per cent) of NOM departures were to the United Kingdom, the United States of America, New Zealand or Canada. While this was a significant proportion of all departures it is well down on the 49.7 per cent share recorded in 2004–05.

Table 6-5: Main destinations of NOM departures by birthplace—Australian citizens, 2009–10

Country of stay	Australia-born	Overseas-born	Total	Proportion overseas-born	Average age
United Kingdom	11 902	4 085	15 987	25.6	28.6
United States of America	6 059	2 151	8 210	26.2	29.6
New Zealand	4 252	1 757	6 009	29.2	30.7
Canada	3 427	775	4 202	18.4	27.2
People's Republic of China	1 893	1 965	3 858	50.9	27.9
Singapore	2 372	1 442	3 814	37.8	30.6
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1 323	1 775	3 098	57.3	32.8
Indonesia	2 191	778	2 969	26.2	32.0
Thailand	1 784	914	2 698	33.9	36.3
India	830	1 027	1 857	55.3	26.8
Other[1]	18 003	12 635	30 638	41.2	33.0
Total OECD countries	32 933	13 059	45 992	28.4	29.8
Total	54 036	29 304	83 340	35.2	31.0

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, August 2012
1. Includes country of stay 'Unknown'.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

The main reason for this falling share is the significant decline in departures to the United Kingdom—falling 37.6 per cent from 25 640 departures in 2004–05 to 15 987 departures in 2009–10.

This decline in numbers to the United Kingdom is a combination of a longer-term trend and an accentuated fall brought about by the onset of the global financial crisis. The fall is particularly apparent among those born in Australia, with far fewer young Australians going to the United Kingdom to live and work. Between 2004–05 and 2009–10, the number of Australia-born departures to the United Kingdom fell by 43.1 per cent. In comparison, the fall in overseas-born departures was relatively modest at 13.6 per cent.

Over this same period, NOM departures to New Zealand fell by almost a quarter—from 7872 in 2004–05 to 6009 in 2009–10. As with the United Kingdom, economic reasons explain this fall. However, unlike the United Kingdom, there were comparable drops among Australia-born (down 26.0 per cent) and overseas-born (down 17.4 per cent).

While there was an overall decline of 8.3 per cent in NOM departures between 2004–05 and 2009–10, there was some growth in emigration to individual countries. For example, the number of NOM departures to Canada increased 25.0 per cent, from 3361 in 2004–05 to 4202 in 2009–10, mostly due to strong growth among the Australia-born cohort of 27.5 per cent. Migration to the People's Republic of China and India exhibited strong growth and were up 29.6 per cent and 99.5 per cent respectively. Unlike Canada, however, most of this growth was driven by the overseas-born component returning to their countries of birth, and was largely a delayed effect of increased migration into Australia from India and the People's Republic of China in recent years.

Departures to OECD member countries fell 20.3 per cent since 2004–05—from 57 714 to 45 992 in 2009–10. Most of this fall was due to 24.5 per cent fewer Australia-born departures, whereas the decline among the overseas-born component was far more modest at 7.2 per cent.

Table 6-5 also shows that for most destinations Australia-born outnumbered overseas-born. This was particularly the case with the United Kingdom, the United States of America, New Zealand and Canada. For these destinations Australia-born outnumbered overseas-born by at least three to one. Among main overseas destinations, Hong Kong (SAR of China) and India were significant exceptions with a 57.3 per cent and 55.3 per cent share of overseas-born departures respectively.

Among migrant groups there was considerable variation in the numbers returning to their country of birth (Table 6-6). In terms of extremes, migrants from Lebanon and Taiwan had a repatriation rate of around 70 per cent, whereas the rate for migrants from South Africa was only 20 per cent.

For those born in OECD member countries, 48.7 per cent of people emigrated to their country of birth with another 24.2 per cent emigrating to another OECD member country. A detailed breakdown of OECD member country repatriation rates is in Table A-11 of the Appendices.

Table 6-6: Repatriation rates for overseas-born Australian citizen NOM departures, 2009–10

Country of birth	Destination persons		Repatriation rate (%)
	Country of birth	Other countries	
United Kingdom	2 542	2 744	48.1
People's Republic of China	1 506	1 494	50.2
India	788	723	52.2
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	748	427	63.7
New Zealand	464	680	40.6
South Africa	179	714	20.0
United States of America	445	416	51.7
Taiwan	533	245	68.5
Lebanon	537	197	73.2
Philippines	367	344	51.6

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, August 2012
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

6.8 New Zealand movement

In terms of migration, New Zealand is a special case as its citizens can enter and leave Australia freely. These movements are not counted as part of Australia's annual Migration Program but—provided the citizens stay in or depart from Australia long enough—they are included in NOM data.[6]

The scale of this movement is largely a result of relative economic conditions in the two countries. For example, there was a large increase in New Zealand arrivals before new residence and citizenship rules for New Zealand citizens were introduced in February 2001 (Box 6-3). These rules made it more difficult for newly arrived New Zealanders to obtain social security payments, and arrivals fell away sharply.

[6] Although New Zealanders have free movement to and from Australia, they are still eligible to apply for permanent residence through Australia's Migration Program. The take-up of these visas is, however, quite low, with only 3093 permanent grants in 2011–12.

Box 6-3: Arrangements for New Zealanders

Under the Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement, New Zealand citizens can enter Australia freely to visit, live and work provided they satisfy health and character requirements.

In February 2001, the Australian Government introduced new residence and citizenship rules for New Zealand citizens. Under these rules, New Zealand citizens who wish to access certain social security payments, obtain Australian citizenship or sponsor their family members for permanent residence, can do so only if they have been granted Australian permanent residence.

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

More recently, Australia's relatively good economic conditions have led to a steady increase in New Zealanders migrating. For 2011–12, the department estimates that the NOM of New Zealand citizens to Australia will be 29 200 people—comprising 58 400 NOM arrivals and 29 200 NOM departures. This represents the third annual increase in a row but it is still 19.1 per cent lower than the levels reported in 2007–08, just before the global financial crisis (Table 6-7).

Table 6-7: NOM arrivals and departures—New Zealand citizens, 2003–04 to 2011–12

Year	NOM arrivals	Nom departures	NOM
2003–04	30 094	15 932	14 162
2004–05	38 142	17 515	20 627
2005–06	39 897	16 811	23 086
2006–07	45 983	16 149	29 834
2007–08	52 415	16 327	36 088
2008–09	47 669	17 445	30 224
2009–10	39 693	18 535	21 158
2010–11	48 000	24 400	23 700
2011–12	58 400	29 200	29 200

Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, and *The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration*, DIAC, August 2012
Note: Data for 2010–11 and 2011–12 are forecasts only. Figures rounded to the nearest 100.

6.8.1 Characteristics of New Zealand citizens

As Table 6-8 shows, New Zealanders counted in Australia's population in 2009–10 were mostly New Zealand-born, mostly male and mostly young. More than 9 in 10 (93.3 per cent) were born in New Zealand; males outnumbered females 54.2 per cent to 45.8 per cent; and almost two-thirds (66.3 per cent) were less than 30 years of age.

Across all age categories, NOM arrivals outnumbered NOM departures, however, apart from a slight increase among the 10 to 19 year old and 40 to 49 year old cohorts, the ratio of arrivals to departures decreased with age. While NOM arrivals and NOM departures are based on different New Zealand cohorts, this age-related decrease is repeated in earlier years and is consistent with people's life stages. For instance, to ensure a stable education environment, young people and their parents are less likely to leave Australia.
On the other hand people in their twenties and thirties—when less tied down by responsibilities—may leave the country to seek job opportunities overseas. Similarly, many reaching retirement have greater freedom and choose to return to their country of origin.

Queensland received the most New Zealand migrants, accounting for 35.8 per cent of NOM in 2009–10. This was well ahead of Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia with 23.0, 22.3 and 15.4 per cent respectively.

Table 6-8: Characteristics of New Zealand citizens in Australia—NOM arrivals and departures, 2009–10

Category	NOM arrival	NOM departure	NOM
Gender			
Male	21 350	9 890	11 460
Female	18 343	8 645	9 698
Age (years)			
0–9	5 694	2 158	3 536
10–19	5 456	2 048	3 408
20–29	12 317	5 227	7 090
30–39	6 890	3 422	3 468
40–49	4 799	2 314	2 485
50–59	2 965	1 854	1 111
60–69	1 104	1 075	29
70+	468	437	31
State/Territory of residence			
NSW	9 677	4 951	4 726
Vic.	8 041	3 166	4 875
Qld	14 671	7 090	7 581
SA	771	371	400
WA	5 578	2 317	3 261
Tas.	240	157	83
NT	349	270	79
ACT	366	213	153
Top 10 countries of birth			
New Zealand	36 554	16 810	19 744
South Africa	226	91	135
Samoa	277	172	105
India	151	49	102
Fiji	145	47	98
Philippines	111	16	95
People's Republic of China	175	81	94
United Kingdom	422	343	79
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	120	57	63
Cook Islands	119	61	58
Other	1 393	808	585
Total persons	39 693	18 535	21 158

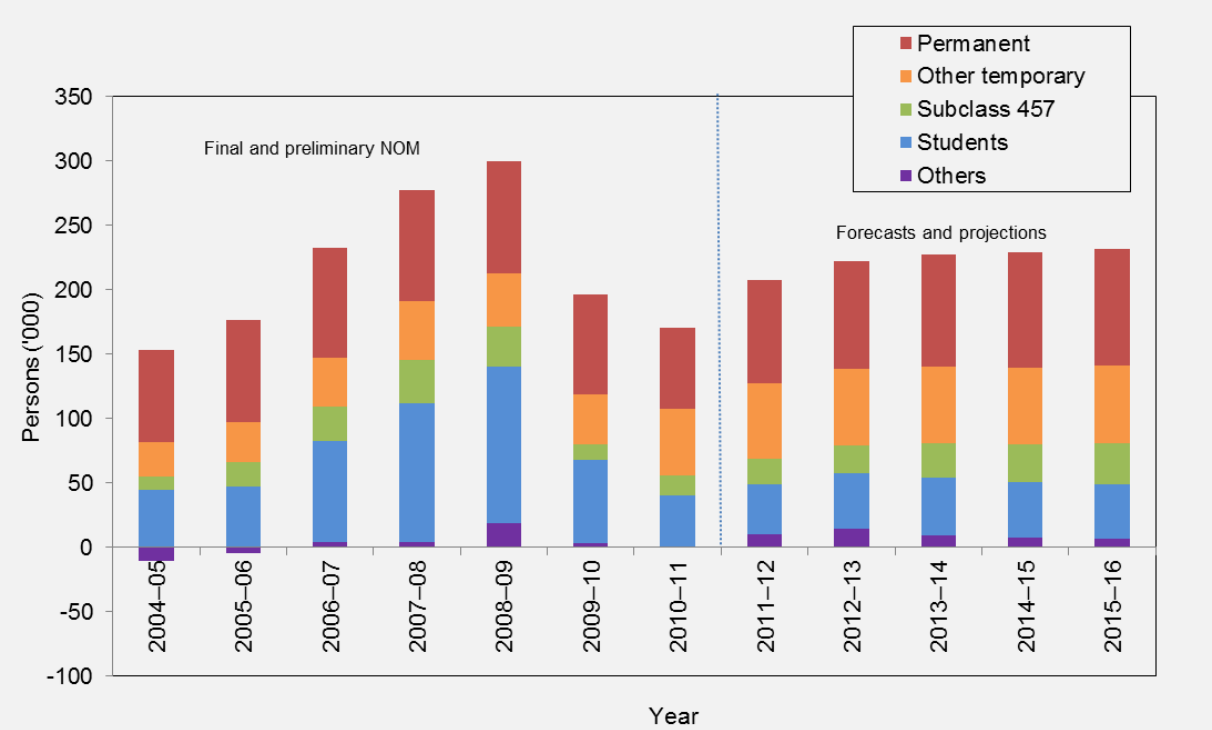
Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, August 2012

6.9 NOM forecasts

Beyond 2011–12, the department forecasts that NOM will slowly increase to 2015–16 to around 232 000. This takes into account the expected effects of announced policy decisions up until July 2012, combined with the assumption of no policy change into the future. The forecast also takes into account visa grants as well as domestic and international economic growth forecasts.

Temporary migration, an area of strong growth in recent years, is expected to experience only modest growth over the next four years. As Australia's economy continues to grow employers will continue to look to immigration to address skill shortages, pushing up the demand for Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa holders. Improvements in the global economy should also result in—to a lesser extent—increased numbers of Working Holiday Makers. The contribution of Student visa holders to NOM is expected to moderately increase from 2012–13 to 2013–14 before stabilising as the key recommendations of the Knight Review come fully into effect (Figure 6-4).

Figure 6-4: Contribution of temporary and permanent migrants to NOM, 2004–05 to 2015–16



Source data: Travellers' Characteristics Database, ABS, and *The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration*, DIAC

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Chapter 7: Australia's population



7.1 Characteristics of Australia's population

Between June 1996 and June 2011, Australia's resident population grew 21.9 per cent, from 18.3 million to 22.3 million people (Table 7-1). Over this period, Australia's overseas-born population grew by 41.6 per cent, from 4.3 million to 6.0 million. This growth rate far exceeded the population growth of Australia-born residents (16.0 per cent).

Since June 1996, Australia's median age has increased from 34.0 years to 37.3 years. At 30 June 2011, the median age of Australia-born residents was 33.7 years, while the median age of overseas-born residents was 44.9 years. Between June 1996 and June 2011, the median age of Australia-born residents increased more than overseas-born residents—3.8 years compared to 0.8 years.

Table 7-1: Characteristics of Australia's estimated resident population by residential status, 1996 to 2011

Year at 30 June	Australia-born				Overseas-born				Total		
	Male ('000)	Female ('000)	Female (%)	Median age	Male ('000)	Female ('000)	Female (%)	Median age	Persons ('000)	Overseas -born (%)	Median age
1996	6 967.1	7 085.0	50.4	30.0	2 140.9	2 117.8	49.7	44.2	18 310.7	23.3	34.0
1997	7 039.6	7 163.5	50.4	30.2	2 163.5	2 151.0	49.9	44.6	18 517.6	23.3	34.4
1998	7 125.2	7 253.9	50.4	30.5	2 169.5	2 162.8	49.9	45.1	18 711.3	23.2	34.8
1999	7 212.0	7 344.5	50.5	30.8	2 184.6	2 184.9	50.0	45.5	18 925.9	23.1	35.1
2000	7 302.5	7 438.9	50.5	31.1	2 202.9	2 209.3	50.1	45.8	19 153.4	23.0	35.4
2001	7 396.3	7 534.9	50.5	31.4	2 234.4	2 247.7	50.1	46.0	19 413.2	23.1	35.7
2002	7 468.5	7 598.2	50.4	31.7	2 284.6	2 300.3	50.2	46.2	19 651.4	23.3	35.9
2003	7 540.0	7 661.2	50.4	32.0	2 334.4	2 359.9	50.3	46.3	19 895.4	23.6	36.1
2004	7 610.3	7 720.5	50.4	32.3	2 382.5	2 414.3	50.3	46.4	20 127.4	23.8	36.3
2005	7 684.6	7 783.2	50.3	32.6	2 443.5	2 483.7	50.4	46.4	20 394.8	24.2	36.5
2006	7 760.5	7 847.3	50.3	32.9	2 522.1	2 568.2	50.5	46.2	20 697.9	24.6	36.6
2007	7 825.0	7 909.7	50.3	33.1	2 619.9	2 661.6	50.4	45.9	21 015.9	25.1	36.8
2008	7 892.6	7 975.2	50.3	33.3	2 741.7	2 775.1	50.3	45.4	21 384.4	25.8	36.9
2009	7 970.0	8 048.6	50.2	33.4	2 866.5	2 893.9	50.2	44.9	21 778.9	26.4	36.9
2010	8 044.7	8 119.5	50.2	33.6	2 929.6	2 971.8	50.4	44.9	22 065.3	26.7	37.1
2011	8 113.2	8 181.8	50.2	33.7	2 986.5	3 042.7	50.5	44.9	22 323.9	27.0	37.3

Source data: ABS Migration, Australia (3412.0)

The substantial growth in overseas-born residents is changing Australia's ethnic composition (Table 7-2 and Table 7-3). In the past 15 years the number of China-born Australian residents more than tripled, from 121 150 people in June 1996 to 391 060 in June 2011. This growth rate was surpassed by the number of India-born residents which increased fourfold, from 84 780 to 343 070 people, over this same period. The People's Republic of China and India are now the third and fourth largest contributors to Australia's overseas-born population—up from sixth and tenth positions respectively in 1996.

Between June 1996 and June 2011, the median age of China-born residents decreased from 39.8 years to 33.9 years, while for the India-born it decreased from 40.6 years to 31.3 years—a fall of almost 10 years. This is the result of the increased influx of Overseas Students and younger skilled migrants.

Not only was the median age of Australia's China-born residents lower in 2011 than in 1996, but there were increasingly more females—a sex ratio of 83.4 males per 100 females in 2011 compared to 95.6 in 1996. In contrast, the typical Indian migrant was increasingly male—134.4 males per 100 females in 2011 compared with 107.0 in 1996.

The strong growth in Australia's overseas-born population was not reflected across all source countries. There was, for example, only moderate growth in the number of migrants born in the United Kingdom. In 1996, the United Kingdom dominated Australia's migrant population at 27.3 per cent. Over the following 15 years this share gradually decreased and by June 2011 had fallen to 19.6 per cent. Despite this, the United Kingdom remained the top source country. Over this same period the median age of migrants born in the United Kingdom increased slightly. This suggests that the substantial numbers of mostly young United Kingdom-born migrants coming to Australia each year was largely offsetting the effects of an ageing migrant cohort.

The offsetting effects of continued migration do not always apply. In 1996, there were 259 130 Italy-born in Australia with a median age of 58.1 years—a relatively old migrant cohort. Fifteen years later the Italian-born population decreased by around 50 000, down to 209 750 people, and the median age increased by almost 10 years, up to 68.0 years. This demonstrates what can happen to an older, more established migrant cohort when new migrant numbers are low.

German-born migrants are another ageing cohort. In 1996 the median age of Australia's German-born population was 51.2 years and by 2011 this increased to 62.0 years. Unlike Italy, however, there was some modest growth in this cohort due to higher migration levels.

However, as with the United Kingdom-born, the German-born too had a decreasing share of Australia's population.

Details of Australia's estimated residential population, by OECD member country of birth and gender, and the median age of Australia's population by country of birth, are available in Table A-12 and Table A-13 of the Appendices.

Table 7-2: Country of birth of Australia's overseas-born resident population, 1996 and 2011

Country of birth	1996	2011	Proportion of total (%) 1996	Proportion of total (%) 2011	Change in proportion
United Kingdom	1 164 140	1 180 160	27.3	19.6	-7.8
New Zealand	315 050	564 920	7.4	9.4	2.0
People's Republic of China	121 150	391 060	2.8	6.5	3.7
India	84 780	343 070	2.0	5.7	3.7
Vietnam	164 160	212 070	3.9	3.5	-0.3
Italy	259 130	209 750	6.1	3.5	-2.6
Philippines	102 680	183 010	2.4	3.0	0.6
South Africa	61 750	157 630	1.4	2.6	1.2
Malaysia	83 040	137 690	1.9	2.3	0.4
Germany	120 760	126 050	2.8	2.1	-0.7
Other	1 782 090	2 523 660	41.8	41.9	0.0
Total	4 258 730	6 029 070	100.0	100.0	n/a

Source data: ABS Migration, Australia (3412.0)
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Table 7-3: Changes in population characteristics—top 10 countries of birth, 1996 to 2011

Country of birth	1996		2011		Change	
	Median age	Sex ratio[1]	Median age	Sex ratio[1]	Median age	Sex ratio[1]
United Kingdom	48.8	101.9	53.8	103.5	5.0	1.6
New Zealand	35.2	104.9	39.4	106.0	4.2	1.1
People's Republic of China	39.8	95.6	33.9	83.4	-5.9	-12.2
India	40.6	107.0	31.3	134.4	-9.3	27.4
Vietnam	33.4	101.1	42.8	87.3	9.4	-13.8
Italy	58.1	114.7	68.0	106.4	9.9	-8.3
Philippines	35.1	54.7	39.8	58.4	4.6	3.7
South Africa	37.9	96.5	39.4	99.3	1.5	2.8
Malaysia	34.5	91.5	37.6	86.9	3.2	-4.6
Germany	51.2	95.2	62.0	91.6	10.9	-3.6
Overseas-born	44.2	101.1	44.9	98.2	0.8	-2.9
Australia-born	30.0	98.3	33.7	99.2	3.8	0.9
Total	34.0	99.0	37.3	98.9	3.3	-0.1

Source data: ABS Migration, Australia (3412.0)
1. Number of males per 100 females.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

7.2 Temporary residents in Australia

Temporary residents include visitors, Overseas Students, Working Holiday Makers, business people and executives, and entrants for social, cultural, international relations and training purposes. They also include people who hold a Bridging visa awaiting the outcome of an application for a permanent or other substantive visa, such as asylum seekers.
Temporary residents are included in this chapter because they are considered to be part of Australia's resident population if they have lived here for 12 months or more. For this reason, this chapter also discusses in detail Students, Business (Long Stay) visa holders and Working Holiday Makers—temporary residents who can legitimately stay in Australia for more than 12 months.

At 30 June 2012, there were 989 250 people in Australia on a temporary visa—an increase of 81 200 people or 8.9 per cent from the same time the previous year (Table 7-4). Of these, 216 920 (21.9 per cent) had been in Australia for 12 months or more. Most of this increase in temporary residents was due to a greater number of overseas visitors (up by 36 260 people), Business (Long Stay) residents (up by 30 800 people) and Working Holiday Maker visa holders (up by 24 600 people). A reduction in grants of Student visas over the past three years resulted in a further fall of Overseas Students (down by 25 660 people).

Of the top nationalities, sizable increases were recorded from the United Kingdom (up by 13 770 people), Ireland (up by 10 480 people) and the United States of America (up by 5160 people). The number of Indian nationals continued to fall. Again, this was largely an effect of a reduction in grants of Student visas.

From 30 June 2010 to 30 June 2012, Australia's temporary residents increased by 7.0 per cent. Similar to the previous two years, at 30 June 2012 there were more male temporary residents than female—517 990 compared to 470 700. However, the growth of temporary residents over this same period was greater for females than for males, by 3.6 percentage points—5.3 per cent compared to 8.9 per cent.

Table 7-4: Characteristics of temporary residents in Australia at 30 June, 2010 to 2012

Category	2010	2011	2012
Gender			
Male	492 090	480 350	517 990
Female	432 200	427 610	470 700
Length of stay			
Less than three months	291 720	294 030	313 040
Between three and 12 months	389 300	388 820	404 410
Between 12 months and 10 years	237 770	218 710	213 730
10 years and over	2 270	2 120	3 190
Visa type			
Student	382 710	332 700	307 040
Visitor	174 910	166 750	203 010
Business (Long Stay)	127 650	131 340	162 140
Working Holiday Maker	103 010	111 990	136 590
Bridging	83 000	112 380	113 800
Skilled Graduate	25 750	24 420	34 940
Social, Cultural and International Relations	16 770	17 260	18 320
Other[1]	10 720	11 210	13 410
Major citizenship			
India	143 840	131 890	127 210
People's Republic of China	126 270	122 760	122 520
United Kingdom	83 720	86 890	100 660
Republic of Korea	58 950	54 360	55 170
United States of America	35 180	35 290	40 450
Ireland	21 680	28 350	38 830
Other[2]	454 880	448 520	504 420
Total[3]	924 520	908 050	989 250

Source: Stock of Temporary Entrants, DIAC
1. Includes a small number of Transit visas.
2. Includes citizenship not stated.
3. This table excludes unknown responses—for example, in 2011 there were 90 people with 'gender not stated'. As a result, totals for each category may not match total people.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

7.2.1 Students present in Australia

At 30 June 2012, there were 307 040 Overseas Students present in Australia, 25 660 less than the previous year and 75 670 less than at 30 June 2010 (Table 7-4). This decline was due to large falls in Student visa grants. The fall was particularly affected by strengthened Student visa integrity measures, a high Australian dollar and changes to the Skilled Migration program, to better target Australia's labour market needs and more effectively select people with the skills and qualifications most needed by Australia's employers.

Of the top 10 Student visa nationalities at 30 June 2012, only Pakistani students had significant growth, with 14.7 per cent more than at the same time in 2011 (Table 7-5). The People's Republic of China continued its slight downward trend from the previous year, but still maintained almost double the number of international students in Australia than did India, the next largest source country.

Of all the caseloads affected by recent changes to migration policy, none is more apparent than that of Student visa holders from India, where the substantial increase in students extending their study was overshadowed by a much larger fall in new students. In 2008–09, grants to Indian nationals peaked at 65 516 visas, comprising 54 610 offshore visa grants and 10 906 onshore visa grants. In 2010–11, this offshore component dropped by 93.8 per cent, to 3394 visa grants, and the onshore component increased by 134.4 per cent, to 25 560 visa grants. In 2011–12, there was a slight improvement in offshore visa grants to Indian nationals and continued growth in their onshore visa grants (Chapter 3 contains more detail). The sharp falls in overall grant numbers, followed by only a modest recovery, explains the marked drop in Indian student numbers in Australia.

Table 7-5 illustrates the narrowing gap between male and female international students in Australia. Overall, there are more male than female international students in Australia. What is interesting is that as the levels of students in Australia decreased, the relative gap became between males and females became smaller, suggesting that the recent changes to migration have had a greater effect on males than females. For instance, at the end of June 2010, there were 28.6 per cent more males than females. At the end of June 2012 this gap decreased to 17.9 per cent.

With OECD member countries the situation is different. While the relative gap between male and female Student visa holders has been decreasing over the past few years, females outnumber males.

Table 7-5: Top 10 Student visa nationalities in Australia at 30 June, 2010, 2011 and 2012

Citizenship	2010		2011		2012		Change (%) 2011 to 2012
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
People's Republic of China	38 820	41 180	36 880	38 850	34 900	36 330	-5.9
India	56 750	23 680	35 310	15 890	25 280	12 740	-25.7
Republic of Korea	10 780	10 940	9 500	9 380	8 430	8 430	-10.7
Vietnam	7 830	8 620	7 910	8 430	7 490	8 010	-5.1
Malaysia	8 200	8 340	7 850	7 690	7 390	6 910	-8.0
Nepal	11 520	6 370	8 460	4 940	7 550	4 730	-8.4
Indonesia	6 510	5 730	6 170	5 410	6 230	5 440	0.8
Thailand	5 610	7 560	4 980	6 840	4 490	6 400	-7.8
Saudi Arabia	6 400	3 430	6 000	3 310	5 780	3 260	-2.9
Pakistan	4 740	850	5 420	1 040	6 140	1 270	14.6
Other[1]	58 100	50 650	54 220	48 200	52 410	47 380	-2.6
Total OECD countries	27 070	29 360	24 910	26 750	24 050	25 490	-4.1
Total[2]	215 250	167 340	182 690	149 980	166 080	140 920	-7.7

Source data: The Stock of Temporary Entrants, DIAC
1. Includes citizenship not stated.
2. Excludes a small number of gender unknown and New Zealand citizens.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Between June 2010 and June 2012, large falls in student levels were recorded across all education sectors, with the exception of Postgraduate Research and AusAID/Defence sectors—which increased by 3820 and 1530 visa holders respectively. In absolute terms, however, the Higher Education sector continued to have the largest share of international students with 55.2 per cent enrolled in this sector, followed by the Vocational Education and Training sector with 26.0 per cent (Table 7-6).

Table 7-6: Student visa holders in Australia by educational sector at 30 June, 2010, 2011 and 2012

Educational sector	2010		2011		2012		Change (%) 2011 to 2012
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
ELICOS[1]	9 060	8 250	7 780	7 170	7 550	7 020	-2.5
Schools	8 610	7 340	7 460	6 810	6 020	5 400	-20.0
Vocational Education and Training	74 250	47 860	55 990	38 260	46 410	33 440	-15.3
Higher Education	109 540	90 310	96 530	83 560	89 970	79 380	-6.0
Postgraduate Research	8 150	7 430	9 190	8 150	10 260	9 140	11.9
Non Award	2 970	3 520	2 660	3 130	2 410	3 170	-3.6
AusAID[2]/Defence	2 660	2 640	3 080	2 910	3 460	3 370	14.0
Total OECD countries	27 070	29 360	24 910	26 750	24 050	25 490	-4.1
Total[3]	215 250	167 340	182 690	149 980	166 080	140 920	-7.7

Source data: The Stock of Temporary Entrants, DIAC
1. English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students.
2. Australian Agency for International Development.
3. Excludes New Zealand citizens—includes citizenship not stated and other educational sector not stated. Excludes a small number of gender unknown.

7.2.2 Business (Long Stay) visa holders present in Australia

At 30 June 2012, 162 140 Temporary Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa holders were in Australia, 23.5 per cent more than at the same time in 2011 (Table 7-4). Most of this growth (around two-thirds) was from the top three nationalities on this visa—the United Kingdom, India and Ireland. Growth among OECD-member countries was above average at 29.7 per cent—reflecting increased business confidence and the need for skilled labour in Australia resulting from the main impact of the global financial crisis.

As Table 7-7 shows, although there were significant changes in the total level of Business (Long Stay) visas from 30 June 2010, there was very little change in gender or nationality distribution. The share of females fell slightly from 44.0 per cent at 30 June 2010 to 42.7 per cent at 30 June 2012. There was also a similar fall in the female share among OECD member countries, from 44.3 per cent to 43.1 per cent.

Table 7-7: Top 10 Temporary Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa nationalities in Australia at 30 June, 2010, 2011 and 2012

Citizenship	2010		2011		2012		Change (%) 2011 to 2012
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
United Kingdom	16 010	12 920	18 080	14 230	23 340	17 930	27.7
India	8 710	5 900	9 970	6 750	13 240	8 990	32.9
Ireland	3 300	2 190	4 980	3 200	8 380	5 280	67.0
Philippines	8 060	4 720	6 770	4 170	7 470	3 880	3.7
United States of America	3 700	3 020	4 500	3 610	5 730	4 660	27.8
South Africa	4 800	4 550	3 770	3 520	3 700	3 380	-3.0
People's Republic of China	3 380	2 940	2 820	2 300	3 340	2 590	16.0
Canada	1 640	1 430	1 870	1 610	2 110	1 830	13.8
France	1 580	1 140	1 750	1 220	2 020	1 480	18.2
Japan	1 800	1 530	1 750	1 520	1 790	1 540	1.8
Other[1]	18 520	15 790	17 880	15 060	21 760	17 710	19.8
Total OECD countries	35 010	27 880	40 190	31 230	52 730	39 890	29.7
Total[2]	71 490	56 110	74 130	57 180	92 860	69 270	23.5

Source data: The Stock of Temporary Entrants, DIAC
1. Excludes New Zealand citizens—includes citizenship not stated.
2. Excludes a small number of gender unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

7.2.3 Working Holiday Makers present in Australia

Most people in Australia on a Working Holiday Maker Program visa are from OECD member countries. At 30 June 2012, 136 590 visa holders were in Australia—a 22.0 per cent increase on 30 June 2011—of which 84.0 per cent were from OECD member countries (Table 7-4). Strong growth occurred from 30 June 2010 among nationals from Taiwan, Ireland and Hong Kong (SAR of China), which grew by 9030, 8070 and 3510 visa holders respectively (Table 7-8).

As Table 7-8 shows, there were more male visa holders in Australia on this program than females and for OECD member countries the gap was wider still. At 30 June 2012, 8.1 per cent more males than females were on Working Holiday visas. For visa holders from OECD member countries this difference was 19.9 per cent.

Table 7-8: Top 10 Working Holiday Maker Program visa nationalities in Australia at 30 June 2010, 2011 and 2012

Citizenship	2010		2011		2012		Change (%) 2011 to 2012
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
United Kingdom	11 570	9 570	12 830	9 950	14 510	11 160	12.8
Republic of Korea	12 480	10 110	11 710	9 160	13 220	9 720	9.9
Ireland	7 010	4 360	9 260	5 420	12 000	7 440	32.4
Taiwan	2 160	4 820	3 140	6 440	5 820	10 190	67.1
France	5 270	4 000	5 590	4 140	6 390	4 740	14.5
Germany	3 440	4 570	3 950	4 820	3 920	4 880	0.2
Japan	1 930	3 950	1 940	3 640	2 380	4 240	18.6
Italy	1 930	980	2 390	1 210	3 830	1 870	57.9
Hong Kong (SAR of China)[1]	690	1 040	1 070	1 540	2 350	2 880	100.4
Canada	1 420	2 230	1 570	2 240	1 500	2 420	2.9
Other[2]	4 150	5 350	4 420	5 560	5 050	6 080	11.5
Total OECD countries	48 780	44 370	53 320	45 460	62 580	52 180	16.2
Total[3]	52 040	50 960	57 860	54 120	70 970	65 630	22.0

Source data: The Stock of Temporary Entrants, DIAC
1. Includes passport holders Hong Kong – British National Overseas.
2. Excludes New Zealand citizens—includes citizenship not stated.
3. Excludes a small number of gender unknown.
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

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Chapter 8: Citizenship in Australia



8.1 Overview

Many people acquire Australian citizenship automatically, for example those born in Australia to an Australian citizen or permanent resident parent. Eligible non-citizens need to apply for Australian citizenship.

Citizenship by conferral is the most common method for migrants to acquire Australian citizenship. The other modes of acquisition are citizenship by descent (for those born overseas to an Australian citizen), citizenship by adoption (for those adopted by an Australian citizen) and citizenship by resumption (for those who previously lost or gave up their Australian citizenship).

Migrants seeking citizenship by conferral are required to satisfy a range of criteria.
The General Eligibility provisions—under which most migrants apply—require applicants to:

- hold an Australian permanent residence visa
- have been resident in Australia for a prescribed period of time[7]
- be of good character
- have an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizenship, demonstrated through the successful completion of a citizenship test
- be likely to reside, or continue to reside in Australia or maintain a close and continuing association with Australia
- possess a basic knowledge of English
- understand the nature of the application they are submitting.

People who may meet the criteria under General Eligibility include permanent residents who are spouses or partners of Australian citizens, skilled migrants, New Zealand citizens living in Australia since 26 February 2001, Commonwealth Child Migration Scheme arrivals[8] and refugee or humanitarian entrants. Other criteria-based conferral pathways exist, including for children born to former Australian citizens or born in Papua before its independence in 1975.

Most migrants between the ages of 18 and 60 years who apply for Australian citizenship for conferral are required to pass the Australian citizenship test. The Australian citizenship test plays a valuable role in encouraging people to find out more about Australia, as well as understanding the responsibilities and privileges of being an Australian citizen.

[7] To meet the residence requirement, people who apply for Australian citizenship on or after 1 July 2007 must have been lawfully resident in Australia for four years immediately before applying, including 12 months as a permanent resident immediately before applying.
[8] Unaccompanied children, mostly from the United Kingdom and Malta, arrived in Australia under this scheme between 22 September 1947 and 31 December 1967.

The citizenship test resource, *Australian Citizenship: Our Common Bond* book and DVD, includes all the information applicants need to pass the test

Box 8-1: Promoting Australian citizenship

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

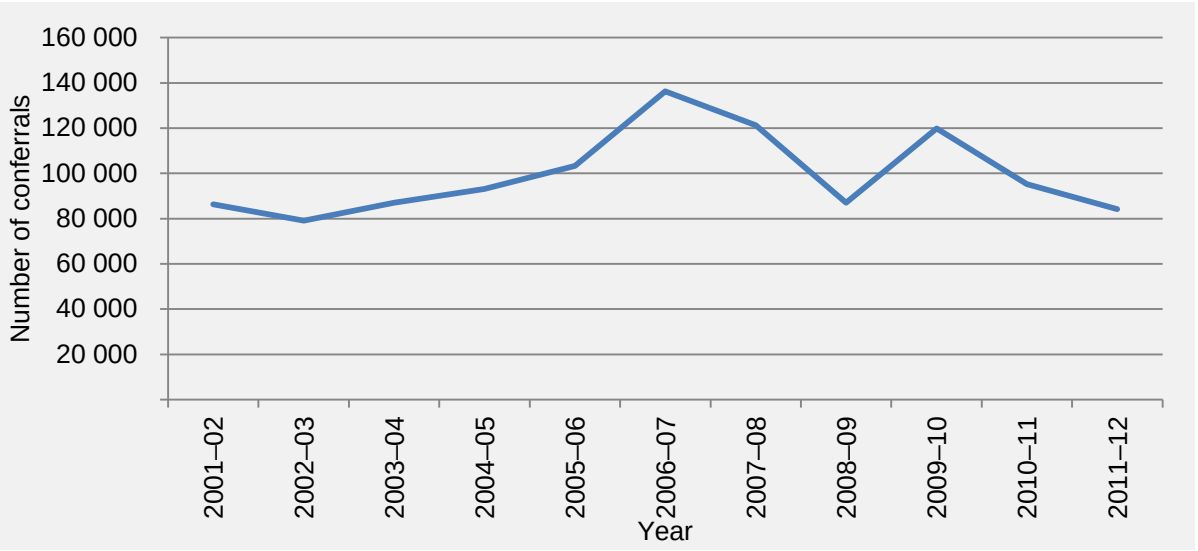
The promotion of Australian citizenship and the rights and responsibilities it entails is an ongoing priority of the Australian Government. This is achieved through national days such as Australia Day and Australian Citizenship Day which are celebrated with special citizenship and affirmation ceremonies.

8.1.1 Conferrals in Australia

A total of 84 183 people were conferred Australian citizenship in 2011–12. This is a decrease of 11.7 per cent from 2010–11 and the lowest number of conferrals since 2002–03. The pattern of decreasing conferral numbers since 2009–10 is due to the people who sought to apply for citizenship under the old arrangements before the transitional arrangements ended in June 2010 (Figure 8.1). The new arrangements require applicants to have lived in Australia lawfully for four years, including 12 months as a permanent resident immediately before applying for citizenship.

Figure 8.1 also shows the earlier peak and subsequent trough before the introduction of the citizenship test in October 2007. The average number of citizenship conferrals in the last five years (2007–08 to 2011–12) is 101 492.

Figure 8-1: Conferrals of Australian citizenship 2001–02 to 2011–12



Source data: Citizenship Program Management, DIAC

Table 8-1 shows the top 15 nationalities of people conferred Australian citizenship in 2011–12. The United Kingdom continued to provide the highest number of new citizens in Australia, followed by India and the People's Republic of China. The proportion of conferees from each of these countries fell in 2011–12, however, and as a result only accounted for 39.6 per cent of all conferees in that year. This was a slight decrease from their 43.0 per cent share in 2010–11.

Table 8-1: Australian citizenship conferrals—top 15 countries of original citizenship, 2011–12

Original citizenship of conferees	Males	Females	Total conferees	Proportion of all conferees (%)	Proportion female (%)
United Kingdom	8 509	7 892	16 401	19.5	48.1
India	5 574	4 502	10 076	12.0	44.7
People's Republic of China	2 943	3 933	6 876	8.2	57.2
Philippines	2 468	3 124	5 592	6.6	55.9
South Africa	2 157	2 049	4 206	5.0	48.7
New Zealand	1 726	1 732	3 458	4.1	50.1
Vietnam	643	1 286	1 929	2.3	66.7
Sri Lanka	885	786	1 671	2.0	47.0
Republic of Korea	696	874	1 570	1.9	55.7
Malaysia	703	784	1 487	1.8	52.7
United States	654	702	1 356	1.6	51.8
Bangladesh	598	585	1 183	1.4	49.5
Ireland	640	505	1 145	1.4	44.1
Zimbabwe	564	579	1 143	1.4	50.7
Thailand	286	839	1 125	1.3	74.6
Other countries	11 759	12 721	24 480	29.1	52.0
Unstated	n/a	n/a	485	0.6	n/a
Total OECD countries	15 143	14 837	29 906	35.50	50.0
Total all countries	40 805	42 893	84 183	100	51.2

Source data: Citizenship Program Management, DIAC
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange. Detailed statistics of Australian citizenship conferrals for OECD member countries for 2011–12 is available at Appendix A-14.

As conferrals in 2011–12 were lower than the previous year, there was also a drop in numbers across most source countries. Among the top 15 source countries only Vietnam, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe provided an increased number of new citizens in 2011–12. Of these countries, the Philippines recorded the most substantial growth, moving

ahead of South Africa and New Zealand to become the fourth ranked source country for new Australian citizens. The proportion of Australian citizenship conferees from the Philippines increased to 6.6 per cent of all conferees in 2011–12, up from 4.3 per cent in 2010–11 (Table 8-2).

Box 8-2: Changing source countries of new citizens

Data from the past five years show that the United Kingdom continued to be the main provider of new citizens to Australia. However, due to a 40.0 per cent drop in conferrals over this period the significance of the United Kingdom as a source country of new citizens is decreasing. Five years ago, almost one-quarter of Australia's new citizens were from the United Kingdom. Today it is less than one-fifth. In 2007–08, there were more than three times as many new citizens from the United Kingdom than from second placed India. In 2011–12 the gap was down to slightly more than 60.0 per cent.

Table 8-2: Australian citizenship conferrals from 2007–08 to 2011–12

Original citizenship of conferees	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12
United Kingdom	27 369	18 510	22 832	19 101	16 401
India	9 053	9 088	17 781	12 948	10 076
People's Republic of China	8 402	6 697	11 103	8 898	6 876
Philippines	3 827	3 450	4 503	4 051	5 592
South Africa	5 490	4 128	5 207	4 389	4 206
New Zealand	6 806	3 744	4 164	4 304	3 458
Vietnam	2 185	1 519	2 000	1 688	1 929
Sri Lanka	2 921	2 196	3 411	2 520	1 671
Republic of Korea	2 388	1 211	2 409	2 321	1 570
Malaysia	2 717	1 771	2 211	2 207	1 487
Other and unstated countries	50 063	34 667	44 170	32 857	30 917
Total OECD countries	48 746	31 488	39 788	35 630	29 943
OECD proportion of total (%)	40.2	36.2	33.2	37.4	35.6
Total all countries	121 221	86 981	119 791	95 284	84 183

Source data: Citizenship Program Management, DIAC
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Conferrals from OECD member countries also fell over this period. In 2011–12, OECD nationals represented 35.6 per cent of all citizenship conferrals, down from 40.2 per cent in 2007–08 and about 14.1 percentage points lower than the 2001–02 share. This decline in the proportion of OECD nationals reflected increased numbers of conferrals from non-OECD member countries such as India and the People's Republic of China.

8.2 Acquiring Australian citizenship

8.2.1 Rates of citizenship acquisition

At the time of the 2011 Census, 3.3 million migrants were living in Australia who had acquired citizenship, representing an overall citizenship rate of 63.7 per cent. This was a substantial decrease from the 68.1 per cent citizenship rate recorded in the 2006 Census, and a consequence of a decline in conferrals.

Table 8-3 shows the number of overseas-born Australian citizens counted in the 2006 and 2011 Census. The United Kingdom remained the top country of birth of overseas-born Australian citizens followed by New Zealand, Vietnam and the People's Republic of China. Among the top 10 there was also substantial growth in citizens born in the People's Republic of China (28.3 per cent), India (66.3 per cent), the Philippines (19.8 per cent) and South Africa (32.6 per cent).

Table 8-3: Overseas-born Australian citizens living in Australia, 2006 and 2011 Census

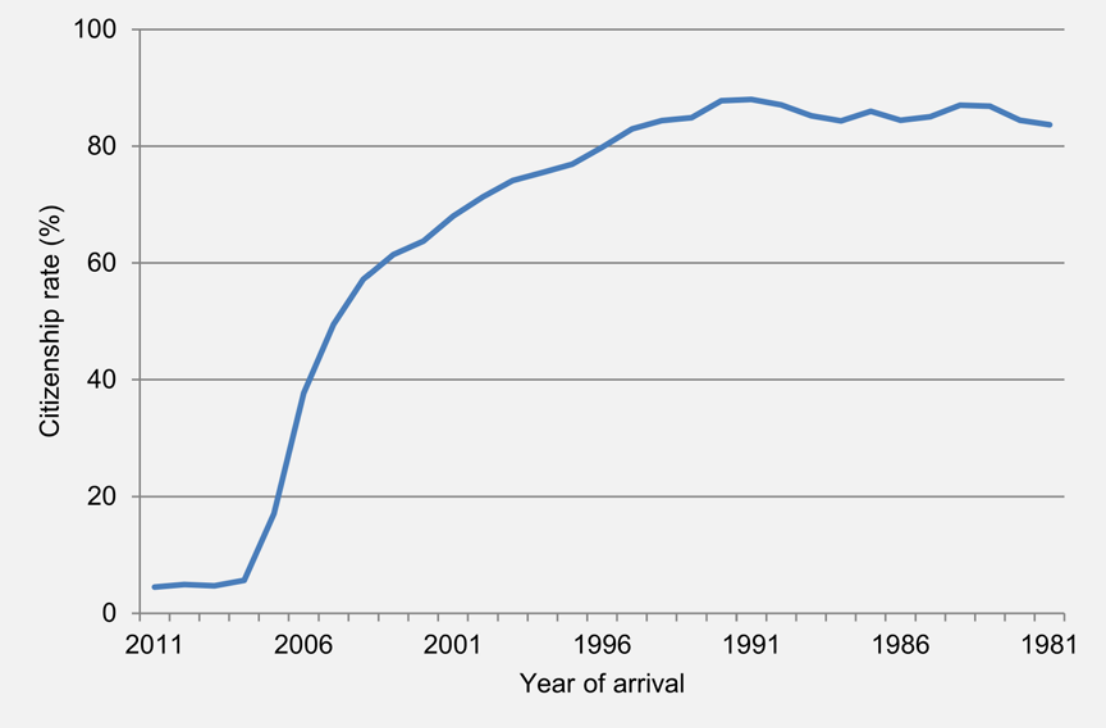
Country of birth	2006		2011	
	Australian citizens	Rank	Australian citizens	Rank
United Kingdom	681 927	1	738 773	1
New Zealand	139 392	4	157 114	2
Vietnam	142 276	3	151 349	3
People's Republic of China	117 769	5	150 726	4
Italy	157 209	2	146 194	5
India	79 025	8	131 446	6
Philippines	96 188	7	115 277	7
Greece	104 950	6	96 124	8
South Africa	70 631	10	93 684	9
Germany	75 622	9	74 375	10
Total overseas-born Australian citizens	2 953 183		3 308 890	

Source data: ABS 2006 and 2011 Census of Population
Note: OECD member countries are highlighted in orange.

Box 8-3: The acquisition of citizenship

Currently, clients must live in Australia lawfully for four years as a resident to be eligible for Australian citizenship. Data from the 2011 Census, however, showed that most migrants do not apply for citizenship immediately after meeting the residence requirement (Figure 8-2). It is necessary to go back to the 2004 migrant cohort before seeing Australian citizens start to outnumber non-citizens, and back another seven years before citizenship rates approach 75 per cent in that year's migrant cohort. The rate of citizenship then plateaus at around the 20-year mark, at a rate of about 85 per cent.

Figure 8-2: Rate of citizenship by year of arrival in Australia



Source data: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing



Chapter 9: Diversity and settlement

An introduction to Australia's multicultural and settlement policies



9.1 Multiculturalism in Australia

Since its launch in February 2011, the Australian Government has significantly progressed the key initiatives in its multicultural policy, *The People of Australia.* This policy celebrates and values the benefits of cultural diversity for all Australians in the broader aims of national unity, community harmony and maintenance of the country's democratic values. The policy also confirms Australia's opposition to all forms of racism, discrimination, intolerance and prejudice.

The key policy initiatives, described in this chapter, aim to deliver on the enduring theme that Australia's successful multicultural society is built around shared rights and responsibilities which are fundamental to living here.

9.1.1 The National Anti-Racism Partnership and Strategy

Led by the Australian Human Rights Commission, the National Anti-Racism Partnership met several times in 2011 and 2012, to develop a new national anti-racism campaign and strategy. The strategy focuses on five key areas: research and consultation; education resources; public awareness; youth engagement; and ongoing evaluation.

Following extensive national consultations, the new national anti-racism campaign and strategy was launched in August 2012; and will be implemented over three years.
The national campaign—*Racism. It stops with me*—invites all Australians to reflect on what they can do to counter racism wherever it happens.

The aim of both the campaign and strategy is to promote a clear understanding in the Australian community of what racism is, and how it can be prevented and reduced.

The strategy's key objectives are to:

- create awareness of racism and how it affects individuals and the broader community
- identify, promote and build on good practice initiatives to prevent and reduce racism
- empower communities and individuals to take action to prevent and reduce racism and seek redress when it occurs.

Further information is available at: http://itstopswithme.humanrights.gov.au/

9.1.2 Strengthened Access and Equity Strategy

A cornerstone of Australian multiculturalism is the principle that all Australians should be able to access government programs and services equitably. A key initiative of the multicultural policy is to strengthen the access and equity framework.

In November 2011, an independent panel undertook an inquiry into the responsiveness of Australian Government services to the nation's culturally and linguistically diverse population. The panel received written submissions from a broad range of individuals and organisations, including Australian Government departments, state and local government agencies and community organisations.

The panel delivered its final report and 20 recommendations to the Government in June 2012.

The recommendations included that the:

1. Australian Government reaffirm its commitment to its Access and Equity Policy as the primary vehicle for ensuring its responsiveness to Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) population.
2. Access and Equity policy encompass not only responsiveness in service delivery, but require all government agencies, whether or not performing service delivery activities, when they engage and communicate with the broader community, to also ensure that they include effective communication and engagement with Australia's population.

The department has started coordinating and developing a whole-of-government response which is anticipated in 2013.

The independent panel's report and its recommendations are available at: www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/a-multicultural-australia/Government-approach/Government-services/AandEreport.pdf

9.1.3 The Australian Multicultural Council

The independent, non-partisan Australian Multicultural Council (AMC) was launched in August 2011. Since its establishment, the Council has provided advice to Government, including as a partner in the development and implementation of the National Anti-Racism Strategy and a member of the independent Access and Equity Inquiry panel.

In September 2012, the inaugural Australian Multicultural Council lecture was hosted to help promote the benefits of a culturally diverse Australia. The lecture, Australia and the Multicultural Experience*,* was delivered by distinguished Australian businessman, Mr Frank Lowy AC. The Council also manages the People of Australia Ambassadors Program. In 2012, 40 community ambassadors were selected from more than 350 applicants to provide the Minister for Multicultural Affairs with grassroots community advice about issues of concern to migrant groups.

Further information is available at: www.amc.gov.au

9.1.4 Multicultural Arts and Festivals Grants

The Multicultural Arts and Festivals Grants (MAFG) provide funding assistance for multicultural arts or festivals projects, providing opportunities for Australians of all backgrounds to come together and share diverse cultural experiences and showcase their cultures to the broader community. This encourages social cohesion and mutual understanding. In 2011–12, 36 projects were funded through the grants program involving various communities, including new and emerging ones.

9.1.5 Multicultural Youth Sports Partnership Program

The objective of the Multicultural Youth Sports Partnership (MYSP) Program is to create sustainable opportunities for youth from new and emerging communities and culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to participate in sport and physical activity.

Grants are available to eligible organisations demonstrating capacity to deliver sustainable sport participation programs for youth from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

9.2 Settlement and integration in Australia

9.2.1 The Australian Cultural Orientation program

The Australian Cultural Orientation (AUSCO) program is the beginning of the settlement journey for refugee and humanitarian visa holders preparing to live in Australia. This five-day orientation course is delivered overseas to visa holders before they travel to Australia. The course provides an initial introduction to aspects of Australian life and culture to enhance entrants' settlement prospects by helping create realistic expectations for life in Australia. The program complements the Onshore Orientation Program provided through the department's Humanitarian Settlement Service (HSS).

In 2011–12, 293 AUSCO courses were delivered to more than 4500 participants, in their own languages, in Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Malawi, Nepal, Pakistan, Rwanda, the Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

9.2.2 National Settlement Framework

A National Settlement Framework is being developed in 2012 by the Select Council on Immigration and Settlement, which operates under the auspices of the Council of Australian Governments.

The Framework is a tripartite intergovernmental agreement recognising the importance of all tiers of government working in partnership to deliver settlement support. It will seek to provide guiding principles and focus action in planning, delivery and outcomes so:

- informed planning decisions are made through collaborative information and data sharing and supportive planning structures
- coordinated, client-centric services are delivered in priority areas
- focus is maintained on national outcomes, research and evaluation.

The Framework is intended to provide greater clarity around the roles and responsibilities of government partners and the importance of engaging other key stakeholders, such as service delivery agencies and settlement sector peak bodies.

9.2.3 Humanitarian Settlement Services

Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS) provides intensive settlement support, through a coordinated case management approach, to humanitarian clients throughout their initial settlement period. Program support is tailored to individual needs, including the specific needs of young people. HSS endeavours to strengthen the ability of humanitarian clients to participate in Australia's economic and social life, and equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to independently access services beyond their initial settlement period.

Services are provided based on need. Generally, not all clients need all services. HSS providers assess and identify client needs and deliver a tailored package of services to meet those needs.

In 2011–12, 14 512 humanitarian clients were assisted under HSS, an increase of 12.3 per cent on 2010–11 when 12 718 clients were assisted.

9.2.4 Adult Migrant English Program

The Australian Government encourages eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants to take free English language tuition through the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP).

The program supports migrants in their transition to life in Australia by delivering settlement-focused English language tuition to help migrants:

- participate socially and economically in the Australian community
- negotiate everyday life situations
- build capability and confidence.

The AMEP is delivered flexibly, meeting individual needs and removing barriers to participation wherever possible. It complements the AUSCO and HSS programs and is available to eligible migrants from the humanitarian, family and skilled visa streams who do not have functional English. All clients have access to up to 510 hours of English language courses in their first five years of settlement in Australia.

In 2011–12, the program provided services to 54 154 clients. Of the 2011–12 client group, 64.0 per cent were women and 73.3 per cent were from 15 to 44 years of age. Family entrants comprised 53.5 per cent, humanitarian entrants 28.7 per cent and dependents of skilled migrant entrants 17.8 per cent. Forty nine per cent had significantly low levels of formal education or written literacy in their first language.

Clients came from 188 countries and the most common first languages spoken were Mandarin, Arabic and Vietnamese.

9.2.5 Diversity and Social Cohesion Program

The Diversity and Social Cohesion Program (DSCP) aims to provide an environment in which all Australians can develop a sense of belonging by providing opportunities to participate and contribute to Australian society. This work is undertaken through initiatives addressing cultural, racial and religious intolerance by promoting respect, fairness and a sense of belonging for everyone. It also includes projects which develop the community capacity—building skills of specific community groups under significant pressure due to their cultural, religious or racial diversity.

9.2.6 Settlement Grants Program

The Settlement Grants Program (SGP)—a national grants program—aims to help eligible migrants become self-reliant and participate equitably in Australian society as soon as possible after their arrival. In addition to providing settlement services for eligible migrants, it encourages referrals and cooperation among other government services to achieve better client outcomes.

In 2011–12, settlement service providers delivered the following generalist services:

- Orientation to Australia—services to promote self-reliance in individuals and families through the development of knowledge, settlement life skills and familiarity with Australian norms and way of life (cultural, social and legal). Orientation activities aim to equip clients with settlement life skills and the information they need to operate independently and access mainstream services and opportunities.
- Participation in Australian society—activities to encourage collaboration between mainstream Australian communities and government organisations to enable better settlement outcomes. This two-way process assists new arrivals to interact with and understand the broader community and encourages the broader community to be responsive to new arrivals.

Immigration assistance, housing assistance and ethno-specific capacity building for newly arrived communities were some of the specialist services delivered by settlement service providers during the year. These services targeted assistance in areas of high need where there was no other service provider or program operating in the area.

9.2.7 Complex Case Support

Some humanitarian entrants have significant and particularly complex needs that affect their settlement and participation in Australian society. These migrants are eligible to receive specialised and intensive case management services under the Complex Case Support (CCS) Program.

Like the HSS program, eligibility for CCS services extends to all humanitarian entrants, including Refugee and Protection visa holders. These clients are eligible for CCS services for up to five years after arrival in Australia, and there is provision to extend in exceptional circumstances.

In 2011–12, 311 cases were referred to the program with 188 being accepted to receive CCS services. Services to these clients were delivered by a panel of 35 service providers throughout Australia known as the Humanitarian Services Panel. The top six countries of birth for CCS clients in 2011–12 were Iraq, Sudan, Iran, Afghanistan, Somalia and Myanmar. Most referrals to the CCS program come from settlement service providers, government agencies (such as health services and child protection services), and church and community groups.

9.2.8 Translating and Interpreting Services (TIS National)

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

TIS National has access to more than 2300 contracted interpreters, speaking more than 170 languages and dialects. TIS National is accessible from anywhere in Australia and provides telephone interpreting services 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

In 2011–12, TIS National provided more than one million telephone interpreting services and 65 040 on-site interpreting services, 18 per cent more than in 2010–11. The main languages for which an interpreter was requested in 2011–12 are in Table 9-1.

Table 9-1: Interpreting services provided 2011–12: top 10 languages

Language	Services provided[1]	Proportion (%)
Mandarin	186 416	15.8
Arabic	167 814	14.2
Vietnamese	115 876	9.8
Persian	114 862	9.7
Cantonese	64 147	5.4
Korean	62 417	5.3
Hazaragi	39 698	3.4
Dari	31 524	2.7
Tamil	30 376	2.6
Turkish	30 222	2.6
Other	336 433	28.5
Total	1 179 785[1]	100.0

Source data: TIS statistics, DIAC

1. Includes reconciliations made in Quarter One of 2012–13.

Fee-free interpreting services are provided through TIS National to approved individuals and organisations to help them communicate with non-English speaking migrants and humanitarian entrants who are Australian citizens or permanent residents.

Organisations and individuals eligible for these services include:

- private medical practitioners providing services under Medicare
- non-profit, non-government, community-based organisations providing casework and emergency services (subject to their funding arrangements)
- members of Parliament for constituency purposes
- local government authorities
- trade unions
- Emergency Management Australia
- pharmacies for the purpose of dispensing Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme medications.

During 2011–12, 196 323[9] free interpreting services were provided, compared to 160 490 in 2010–11. This represented a 22.3 per cent increase over the number provided in 2010–11. Of these free services, 157 438 were for telephone interpreting and 38 885 for on-site interpreting.

Free translations of personal settlement-related documents are provided to Australian citizens, permanent residents and some temporary visa holders, within the first two years of arriving to settle permanently in Australia. In 2011–12, 6773 applications for free translating services were received, for 8741 documents. This compares to 2010–11, when 6553 applications were received for 8649 documents.

[9] The department's 2011–12 annual report notes that 188 172 fee-free interpreting services were provided (152 607 cases of telephone interpreting and 35 565 cases of onsite interpreting). The variation between the two figures is a result of two organisations not being included in the annual report data for TIS.



Chapter 10: Labour market

Outcomes for migrants and their children



10.1 Introduction

This chapter uses a range of sources to report on the labour market outcomes of four migrant groups:

- all migrants who are of working age
- migrants from OECD member countries
- migrants who have recently come to Australia through the Skill Stream and Family Stream components of the Migration Program
- children of migrants.

The measures used to report on these labour market outcomes include rates of unemployment, rates of participation, rates of full-time employment, likelihood of skilled employment and median earnings.

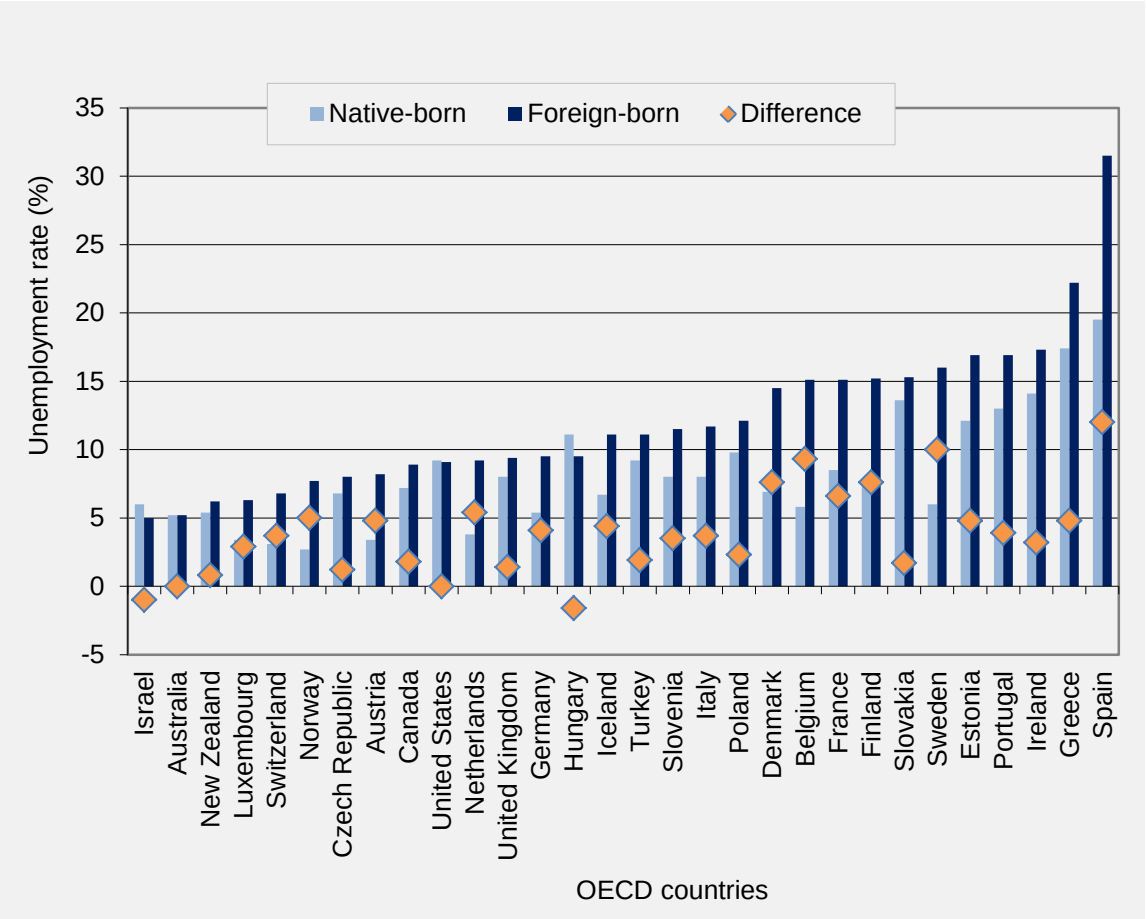
10.2 Outcomes for Australia's migrant population

In contrast to many other countries, migrant unemployment in Australia is low and very similar to that of the native-born population (Figure 10-1). With an unemployment rate of 5.2 per cent, Australia's migrants have the same rate of unemployment as those born in Australia and (after Israel) the second lowest rate of unemployment of all OECD member countries.

While this overall finding is very positive, it hides a wide variation in employment outcomes among Australia's migrant population. This variation can be put down to three main factors:

- how long a migrant has been in Australia
- a migrant's English proficiency
- a migrant's level of education.

Figure 10-1: Unemployment for native-born and foreign-born, OECD member countries, 2011



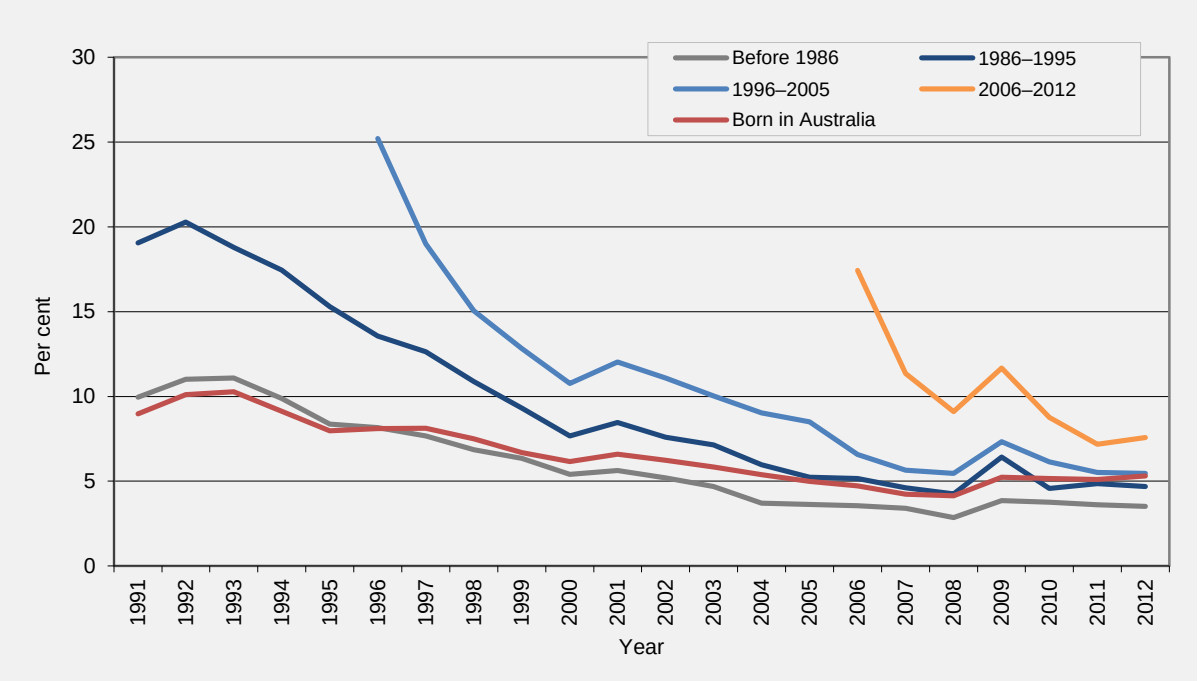
Source data: OECD (2012), International Migration Outlook 2012, OECD Publishing http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/migr_outlook-2012-en, Table I.B1.2

10.2.1 How long a migrant has been in Australia

The early years of settlement can be difficult for a new migrant. As Figure 10-2 shows, migrant unemployment is initially very high, and it currently takes four to five years for migrant unemployment to be comparable with that of the general population.

Figure 10-2 also shows that new migrants appear to be assimilating into the labour market at a faster pace. For example, it took about eight years for the unemployment rate of the 1986–1995 migrant cohort to be comparable with that of the general population. This period of adjustment is down to four years for the 2006–2012 cohort. This increased rate of assimilation is largely due to the growing proportion of well-educated migrants coming to Australia through the Skill Stream.

Figure 10-2: Unemployment rate by year of arrival, 1991 to 2012



Source data: ABS Labour Force (6291.0)

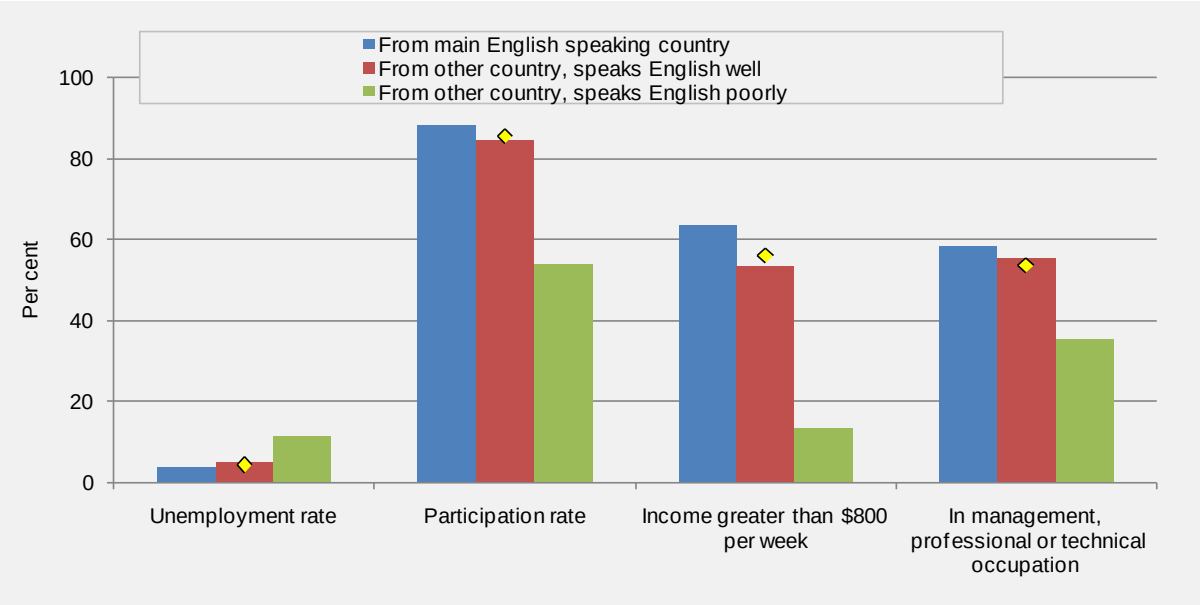
Due to their more tenuous attachment to the labour market, recent migrants were more adversely affected by the difficult economic conditions that occurred throughout 2009 (Figure 10.2). These difficult circumstances proved to be relatively short lived and diminished the longer the migrant had been in Australia.

10.2.2 A migrant's English ability

The recent release of employment, income and occupation data from the 2011 Census enables comparison of a range of labour market outcomes based on English ability. To make the various groups more comparable, this analysis is limited to people in the 25 to 44 year age range who have been in Australia five years or more and who are no longer in full-time study.

As can be seen from Figure 10-3 there is a clear benefit from better English. Migrants who speak English well, or were born in an English speaking country, have a participation rate 30 percentage points higher than those with poor English and have about one-third the rate of unemployment. They are also four to five times more likely to earn $800 or more a week, and about one-and-a half times more likely to be employed in a skilled management, professional or technical field. Figure 10-3 also shows that a migrant with good English has labour market outcomes comparable with the Australia-born population.

Figure 10-3: Labour market outcomes, by English proficiency, people 25 to 44 years of age and not in full-time education, 2011



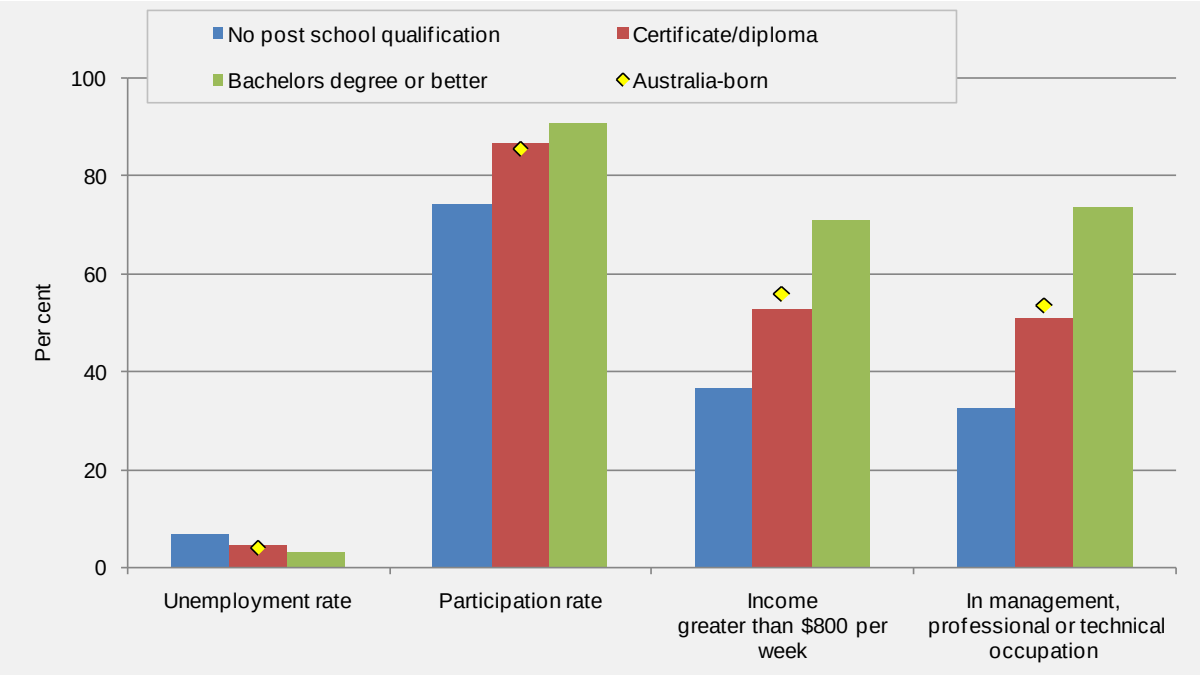
Source data: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing

10.2.3 A migrant's level of education

The most obvious benefits of a better education are in the quality of employment (Figure 10-4). In comparison to an overseas-born person without a post school qualification, a migrant with a tertiary qualification is three times more likely to be in a skilled management, professional or technical job and twice as likely to be earning $800 a week or more.

With 73 per cent in management, professional or technical roles and 71 per cent earning $800 a week or more, these more qualified migrants also perform substantially better than the Australia-born population against these criteria. Their outcomes are also highly comparable to people who are born in Australia and have tertiary qualifications. For this latter group, 74 per cent are working in management, professional or technical fields and 76 per cent earn $800 a week or more.

Figure 10-4: Labour market outcomes, by Education Attainment, people 25 to 44 years of age and not in full-time education, 2011



Source data: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing

10.3 Outcomes for migrants from OECD member countries

On average, migrants coming from OECD member countries have better labour outcomes than those from other countries, and perform better than the local-born population in some respects (Table 10-1). For example, the unemployment rate for males from an OECD member country was 4.7 per cent compared to the Australia-born rate of 5.5 per cent, while for females the rates were equal at 5.1 per cent. This strong result is a combination of higher level of education and the fact that these migrants are generally well established in Australia. For example, of those in the working-age group of 15 years to 64 years:

- 26.2 per cent have a tertiary degree—a rate 7.1 percentage points higher than the Australia-born population; and
- they have been in Australia for 16 years on average—9 years longer than the average for non-OECD migrants.

Table 10-1: Employment outcomes of Australia's population by birth group, 2011 Census

Employment outcome	Overseas-born		Australia-born
	OECD	Non-OECD	
	Per cent (%)		
Males			
Working full-time	81.9	77.2	81.0
Working part-time	18.1	22.8	19.0
Unemployment rate	4.7	7.0	5.5
Participation rate	65.2	71.1	72.8
Females			
Working full-time	54.1	58.6	51.0
Working part-time	45.9	41.4	49.0
Unemployment rate	5.1	8.9	5.1
Participation rate	52.3	55.8	61.8

Source data: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing

The lower rate of workforce participation among the OECD-born cohort can largely be put down to an age effect. The average age of a migrant born in an OECD member country is 50 years, 10 years older than non-OECD migrants and 16 years older than the Australia-born population.

Although the differences in the labour force characteristics between sub-groups are only small, Table 10-2 shows some of the interesting differences that emerge when job characteristics are analysed, including:

- Migrants from OECD member countries are more likely to be found in a skilled occupation than other migrants or Australia-born—53.4 per cent, 49.3 per cent and 48.6 per cent respectively. Again this is a consequence of their higher education levels.
- Consistent with their greater propensity for skilled employment, the earnings of OECD-born migrants are higher than other migrants or Australia-born, with 32.1 per cent of OECD-born having gross earnings of $1000 or more a week compared to 28.7 per cent for other migrants and 31.4 per cent for the Australia-born.

Table 10-2: Employment characteristics of Australia's population by birth group, 2011 Census

Characteristic	Overseas-born		Australia-born
	OECD	Non-OECD	
	Per cent (%)		
Occupation			
Skilled[1]			
Managers	14.6	10.4	13.4
Professionals	24.1	26.3	20.5
Technicians and trades workers	14.7	12.6	14.7
Other			
Community and personal service workers	9.2	9.7	10.0
Clerical and administrative workers	14.6	13.3	15.5
Sales workers	7.4	7.6	10.3
Machinery operators and drivers	6.5	7.3	6.6
Labourers	8.9	12.8	9.0
Earnings[2]			
$1000 or more per week	32.1	28.7	31.4

Source data: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing
1. A skilled occupation is defined as an occupation from Major Groups 1 to 3 of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations.
2. Data excludes income recorded as nil and not stated.

10.4 Outcomes for recent migrants

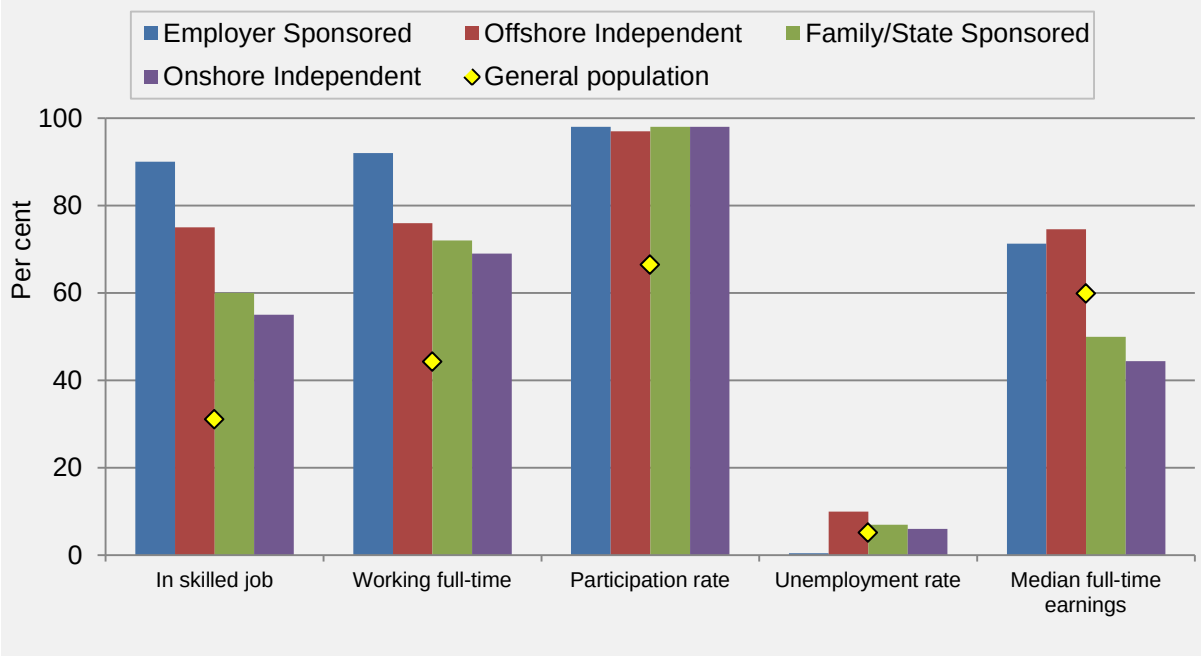
This analysis uses results from the department's Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (CSAM). The benefit of the survey compared to other data collections is that the reporting is more targeted. It focuses on recent migrants, and because the migrants were selected from the department's administrative records, labour market outcomes by category of entry can be analysed.

In general terms the survey showed that the employment outcomes of skilled migrants were good. At the six-month stage of the survey, skilled Primary Applicants had an unemployment rate of 5 per cent. This was comparable with Australia's unemployment rate of around 5.2 per cent over the same period and is especially favourable given that these migrants are new to Australia and have had to compete for jobs in a soft labour market. The participation rate for skilled migrants at this stage was 96 per cent, far higher than the national rate of

65 per cent and their rate of full-time work was 8 percentage points higher than the national average.

Figure 10-5 takes this analysis to a deeper level looking at the employment outcomes of the Skill Stream migrants.

Figure 10-5: Labour market outcomes of skilled migrants at the six-month settlement stage



Source data: Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants, DIAC
1. All categories are based on information for the Primary Applicant only.
2. Total of 'In skilled job', 'In other job' and 'Not working' may not equal 100 per cent due to rounding.

This figure shows that at the six-month settlement stage the unemployment rate for skilled migrants varied from less than 1 per cent for those sponsored by an employer for skilled migration up to 10 per cent for offshore Independent migrants. The relatively high rate of unemployment for offshore Independent migrants in the early period of settlement is to be expected as most of these people have come to Australia without a job offer and may take some time to find suitable employment. Many of these migrants are also still focused on settling affairs in their home country, which also slows down their assimilation into the Australian labour market.

Box 10-1: The Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants

The Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (CSAM) is a departmental survey primarily designed to produce information on the labour market outcomes of recent migrants from the Family and Skill Stream.

Migrants are surveyed on two occasions. The first survey is conducted six months after arrival (in the case of offshore migrants) or six months after visa grant (in the case of onshore migrants). The migrant then takes part in a follow-up survey six months later, to capture changes in their labour market performance and economic situation over that period.

The data presented in this section is based on the average of five cohorts of migrants who arrived in Australia (or were granted their onshore permanent visa) between January 2008 and January 2010.

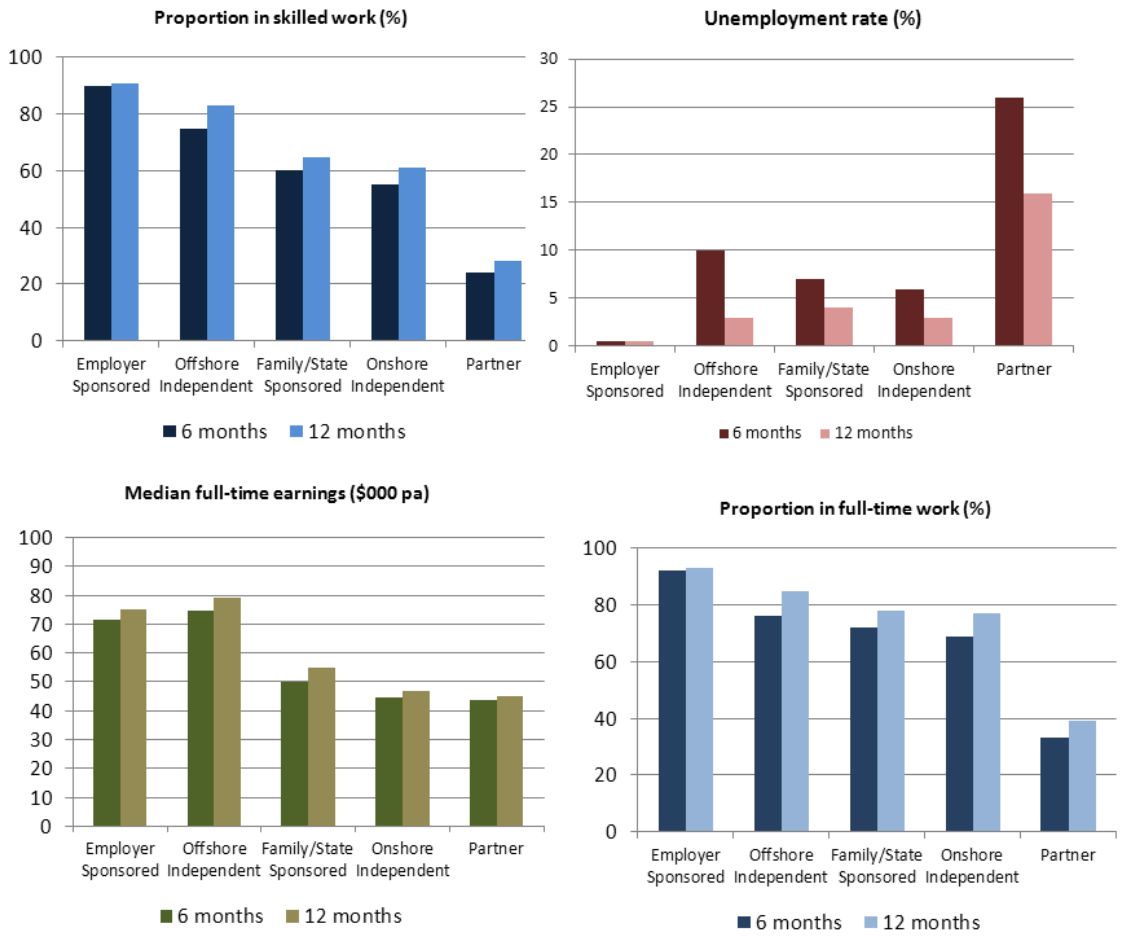
More details about the survey and its findings are on the department's website at: http://www.immi.gov.au/media/research/

The proportion in full-time work for skilled migrants varies from about 70 per cent for onshore Independent migrants—former international students most of whom (more than 90 per cent) were sponsored by an employer. With skilled employment—working in a management, professional or technical field—the Employer Sponsored category led the way with 90 per cent in skilled employment and median earnings of $72 000. This was well ahead of the onshore Independent category which had a skilled employment rate of 55 per cent and median earnings of $44 000. These sorts of findings are to be expected. Onshore Independent migrants are relatively young and inexperienced, and while they may find work quite easily, they struggle to find a well-paying, full-time job commensurate with their skills. In contrast to their higher rate of unemployment, the offshore Independent migrants enjoy the highest median earnings. This is largely because of their greater skills and experience, meaning that when they find a job it is more likely a better one.

Figure 10-6 demonstrates the significant improvement in outcomes brought about by another six months living in Australia. Unemployment rates are around half the previous level—with offshore Independent migrants showing the most marked improvement with unemployment falling from 9 per cent to 3 per cent.

The proportion in full-time work improved with most skilled migrant categories having close to 80 per cent full-time employment. The proportion in skilled work was also slightly higher, however even at this later settlement stage, only around half of Family and State Sponsored migrants (a group with a reduced pass-mark in the GSM points test) and onshore Independent were in skilled work. The overall increase in skilled employment resulted in a $5000 per year increase in average wages over the period, as migrants switched to better paying, more skilled jobs.

Figure 10-6: Comparison of outcomes at the six and 12-month stage of settlement



Source data: Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants, DIAC

The employment situation also improved for people other than skilled migrants, with Figure 10-6 showing the unemployment rate for Partner visa holders dropping from 26 per cent to 16 per cent and modest improvements in full-time and skilled employment.

The spouses of skilled migrants also recorded improvements in their labour market situation, with unemployment falling from 15 per cent to 11 per cent. While this set of outcomes is substantially worse than the Australian average it should be remembered that these people were not selected for migration on the basis of employment potential. As spouses, they are likely to have other priorities such as looking after children, managing the household and providing some financial support through part-time work.

10.6 Labour market outcomes of the children of migrants

This analysis uses data from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing to compare labour market performance and return to education for these three groups of people:

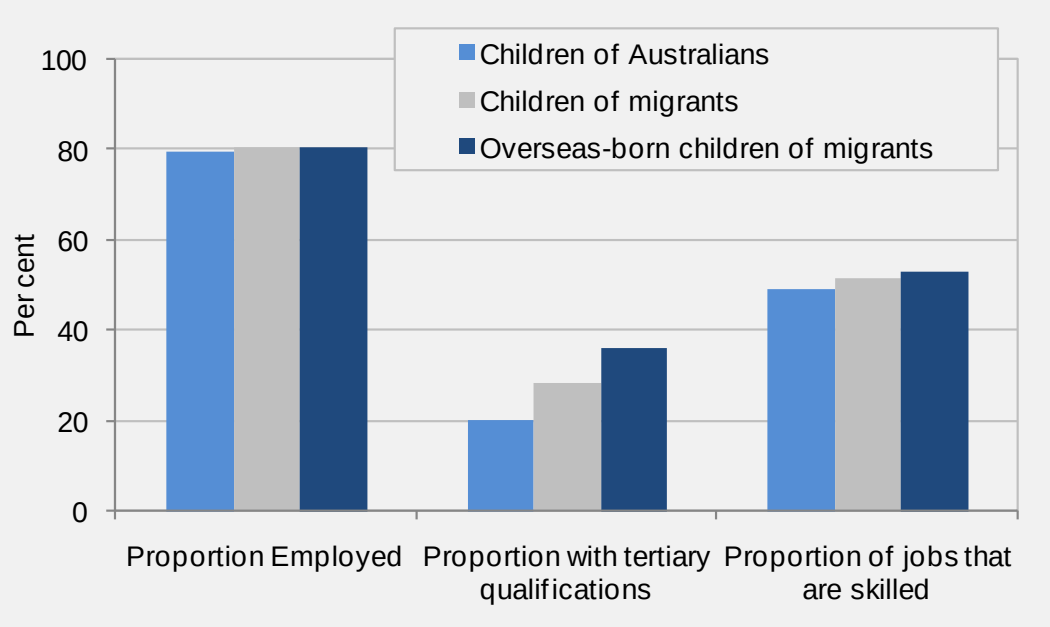
- Children of Australians—people born in Australia with at least one Australia-born parent.
- Australia-born children of migrants—people born in Australia with both parents born overseas.
- Overseas-born children of migrants—people born overseas who arrived before 15 years of age.

In these three groups only the relatively young—between 15 and 34 years of age—were selected. This is because with older age cohorts, a person's migrant background has less influence on their labour market participation. Also excluded are people who arrived in Australia after 15 years of age and those in full-time study.

As Figure 10-7 shows, with human capital overseas-children of migrants have the highest educational attainment, with 36 per cent tertiary qualified (Bachelor degree or higher). The rate among children of Australians is only about half this level, at 20 per cent, while among Australia-born children of migrants the rate is approximately half way at 29 per cent.

The reason why overseas-born children of migrants are better educated is because of the emphasis on skilled migration over the past decade. Skilled workers tend to have a higher level of education than the general population and tend to place greater value on education. This encourages their children to attain higher education.

Figure 10-7: Education and employment outcomes, children of Australians and children of migrants 15 to 34 years of age



Source data: Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants, DIAC

As Figure 10-7 shows, returns on this additional human capital for overseas-born children of migrants are not particularly strong.

- They are no more likely to be in employment—across all three cohorts around 80 per cent had a job.
- They are only slightly more likely to be in a skilled job—among overseas-born children of migrants 53 per cent of those employed were in a management, professional or technical occupation. Among Australia-born children of migrants and children of Australians the rates of skilled employment are 52 and 49 per cent respectively.

One possible factor explaining these returns is that some among the two Australia-born cohorts will have acquired enough work experience to end up in a skilled occupation even though they do not have a tertiary qualification. This is less likely to happen among overseas-born children since this cohort contains those who arrived from a non-English speaking country in their teens with poorer English and therefore fewer opportunities to obtain skilled employment.

Another factor may be underlying economic conditions. According to the OECD, economic downturns have a disproportionate effect on youth employment, particularly among migrant youth who have a more tenuous attachment to the labour market.[10] Young migrants are in this situation because they are unfamiliar with English and the local labour market. They also lack work experience, and tend to work in more casual employment and in more volatile sectors such as manufacturing and retail.

For Australia, the modest effects of the global financial crisis on the domestic labour market may have been magnified among the children of migrants. These impacts are much more apparent in countries that fared poorly during the crisis. For example, migrant youth employment fell by 28 percentage points in Ireland between 2008 and 2011, while the gap between migrant and non-migrant youth employment increased by 11 percentage points. In Spain the impact of the crisis has been so pervasive that all youth, irrespective of their origin, have experienced very sharp falls in employment.

[10] Source: International Migration Outlook: SOPEMI 2011, OECD 2011



Appendices, data sources, glossary and acronyms



Appendices

Table A-1: Migration Program 2011–12—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	80	86	166
Belgium	96	106	202
Canada	865	1 144	2 009
Chile	110	123	233
Czech Republic	86	112	198
Denmark	64	88	152
Estonia	20	44	64
Finland	39	116	155
France	733	668	1 402
Germany	802	1 102	1 904
Greece	204	121	325
Hungary	165	196	361
Iceland	7	13	20
Ireland	2 900	2 038	4 938
Israel	195	186	381
Italy	546	372	918
Japan	431	1 231	1 662
Republic of Korea	2 204	2 669	4 874
Luxembourg	2	4	6
Mexico	188	154	342
Netherlands	423	444	867
Norway	64	70	134
Poland	212	356	568
Portugal	156	126	282
Slovakia	51	84	135
Slovenia	40	42	82
Spain	137	168	305
Sweden	167	251	418
Switzerland	111	145	256
Turkey	310	219	529
United Kingdom	13 259	12 014	25 274
United States of America	1 547	1 808	3 355
OECD total	26 214	26 300	52 517
Non-OECD total[2]	63 321	69 128	132 453
Total[3]	89 547	95 444	184 998

Source data: MPMS and IMIRS
1. Includes gender 'Unknown' in total.
2. Excludes citizenship 'Unknown'.
3. Total includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
4. New Zealand permanent arrivals are not counted as part of Australia's Migration Program.

Table A-2: Visitor visas granted 2011–12—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	7 875	6 858	14 733
Belgium	7 395	5 310	12 705
Canada	53 500	53 155	106 655
Chile	3 727	3 278	7 005
Czech Republic	3 423	3 335	6 758
Denmark	10 776	9 565	20 341
Estonia	609	704	1 313
Finland	5 314	5 358	10 672
France	64 240	57 144	121 384
Germany	71 254	64 605	135 859
Greece	4 775	3 163	7 938
Hungary	1 943	2 030	3 973
Iceland	331	342	673
Ireland	23 885	25 942	49 827
Israel	3 892	2 584	6 476
Italy	30 874	21 851	52 725
Japan	141 995	164 098	306 097
Republic of Korea	81 004	85 913	166 918
Luxembourg	292	261	553
Mexico	2 512	2 154	4 666
Netherlands	28 646	24 193	52 839
New Zealand	332	52	384
Norway	7 636	7 548	15 184
Poland	5 632	5 761	11 393
Portugal	4 026	3 399	7 425
Slovakia	1 316	1 497	2 813
Slovenia	1 034	981	2 015
Spain	11 536	8 848	20 384
Sweden	15 080	14 421	29 501
Switzerland	17 909	16 727	34 636
Turkey	2 343	1 948	4 291
United Kingdom	264 505	260 374	524 880
United States of America	200 504	171 491	371 995
OECD total	1 080 115	1 034 890	2 115 011
Non-OECD total[2]	670 731	751 837	1 422 568
Total[3]	1 750 857	1 786 730	3 537 651

Source data: IMIRS
1. Includes gender 'Not Stated' in total.
2. Excludes citizenship 'Unknown'.
3. Total includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
4. New Zealand visitor arrivals would not enter Australia on this visa. The figure therefore does not accurately reflect the number of New Zealand citizens visiting in Australia. The numbers above may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but could be permanent residents of a third country.

Table A-3: Student visas 2011–12—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	140	236	376
Belgium	83	140	223
Canada	1 077	1 569	2 646
Chile	741	632	1 373
Czech Republic	569	564	1 133
Denmark	333	446	779
Estonia	60	87	147
Finland	62	168	230
France	1 247	1 303	2 550
Germany	1 607	2 151	3 758
Greece	407	180	587
Hungary	281	242	523
Iceland	8	9	17
Ireland	325	320	645
Israel	134	97	231
Italy	1 528	1 102	2 630
Japan	2 163	3 873	6 036
Republic of Korea	6 147	6 261	12 408
Luxembourg	5	11	16
Mexico	568	526	1 094
Netherlands	257	337	594
New Zealand	7	0	7
Norway	566	893	1 459
Poland	556	524	1 080
Portugal	285	235	520
Slovakia	316	318	634
Slovenia	50	42	92
Spain	986	852	1 838
Sweden	411	718	1 129
Switzerland	410	585	995
Turkey	595	280	875
United Kingdom	1 382	1 534	2 916
United States of America	3 079	4 880	7 960
OECD total	26 385	31 115	57 501
Non-OECD total[2]	106 512	89 030	195 542
Total[3]	132 898	120 147	253 047

Source data: IMIRS
1. Includes gender 'Not Stated' in total.
2. Excludes citizenship 'Unknown'.
3. Total includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
4. New Zealand citizens do not generally need to obtain Student visas to undertake study in Australia. The figure therefore does not accurately reflect the number of New Zealand citizens studying in Australia. The numbers above may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but could be permanent residents of a third country.

Table A-4: Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visas 2011–12—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	140	100	240
Belgium	450	160	610
Canada	1 760	1 490	3 260
Chile	170	130	300
Czech Republic	110	100	200
Denmark	220	140	360
Estonia	50	40	90
Finland	200	150	350
France	1 390	1 030	2 410
Germany	1 410	940	2 350
Greece	90	70	160
Hungary	120	110	240
Iceland	10	10	10
Ireland	6 020	4 110	10 130
Israel	190	140	330
Italy	890	490	1 380
Japan	960	890	1 850
Republic of Korea	980	830	1 810
Luxembourg	< 5	< 5	< 5
Mexico	100	100	200
Netherlands	990	510	1 490
New Zealand	50	50	90
Norway	170	80	250
Poland	260	250	510
Portugal	160	130	290
Slovakia	80	90	170
Slovenia	40	20	60
Spain	490	370	860
Sweden	260	260	530
Switzerland	210	150	360
Turkey	140	90	220
United Kingdom	16 300	12 430	28 730
United States of America	4 950	3 720	8 670
OECD total	39 340	29 150	68 490
Non-OECD total[2]	32 400	24 140	56 540
Total[3]	71 760	53 310	125 070

Source data: IMIRS
1. Includes gender 'Not Stated' in total.
2. Excludes citizenship 'Unknown'.
3. Total includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
4. New Zealand citizens do not generally need to obtain a visa to undertake work in Australia. The figure therefore does not accurately reflect the number of New Zealand citizens working in Australia. The numbers above may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but could be a permanent resident of a third country.
5. Excludes a small number of Independent Executives. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.

Table A-5: Subclass 457 visa grants to OECD Primary Applicants by sponsor industry and gender, 2011–12

Sponsor industry	Male	Female	Total[1]
Construction	6 520	450	6 970
Health care and social assistance	1 590	2 520	4 110
Mining	3 400	470	3 870
Professional, scientific and technical	2 060	810	2 870
Information media and telecommunications	1 680	670	2 360
Education and training	1 330	1 010	2 340
Manufacturing	1 750	260	2 000
Financial and insurance services	1 220	630	1 850
Accommodation and food services	990	430	1 420
Retail trade	930	450	1 380
Wholesale trade	740	170	910
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	750	80	830
Arts and recreation services	470	270	740
Transport postal and warehousing	470	100	570
Public administration and safety	240	150	390
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	300	60	360
Rental, hiring and real estate services	230	130	350
Administrative and support services	120	110	220
Other services	3 280	1 350	4 630
Not recorded	670	80	750
OECD total	28 730	10 180	38 910
Non-OECD total	22 910	6 490	29 400
Total	51 640	16 670	68 310

Source data: IMIRS
1. The financial year total did not report unspecified genders.
2. Excludes a small number of Independent Executives. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.

Table A-6: Other temporary visas granted, 2011–12—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender[1]

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[2]
Austria	132	37	169
Belgium	122	53	175
Canada	732	421	1 153
Chile	69	29	98
Czech Republic	59	43	102
Denmark	143	125	268
Estonia	8	5	13
Finland	58	28	86
France	688	352	1 040
Germany	663	436	1 099
Greece	140	77	217
Hungary	49	29	78
Iceland	11	8	19
Ireland	251	109	360
Israel	104	48	152
Italy	239	135	374
Japan	428	342	770
Republic of Korea	487	416	903
Luxembourg	1	1	2
Mexico	40	29	69
Netherlands	212	137	349
New Zealand	10	7	17
Norway	95	39	134
Poland	36	24	60
Portugal	24	17	41
Slovakia	8	11	19
Slovenia	17	10	27
Spain	142	117	259
Sweden	202	86	288
Switzerland	151	87	238
Turkey	88	55	143
United Kingdom	3 511	1 324	4 835
United States of America	6 013	1 828	7 841
OECD total	14 933	6 465	21 398
Non-OECD total	8 214	4 671	12 885
Total	23 147	11 136	34 283

Source data: IMIRS

1. Other temporary visas granted are those defined in Table 3-17 as belonging to the Social/Cultural, International Relations and Training visas.
2. The financial year total did not report unspecified genders.
3. New Zealand citizens do not generally need to obtain a visa to live, study or work in Australia. The figure therefore does not accurately reflect the number of New Zealand citizens in Australia for like purposes. The numbers above may reflect people who have come from New Zealand, but could be permanent residents of a third country.

Table A-7: Subclass 457 primary visa grants for intra-company transfers—OECD member countries, 2009–10 to 2011–12

Citizenship	2009–10[3]	2010–11[3]	2011–12[3]	Change(%) 2010–11 to 2011–12[4]
Austria	10	10	10	40.0
Belgium	20	30	40	50.0
Canada	170	220	190	-14.7
Chile	10	20	10	-37.5
Czech Republic	< 5	10	< 5	-50.0
Denmark	20	20	30	47.8
Estonia	< 5	< 5	< 5	0.0
Finland	20	20	50	206.7
France	140	160	150	-8.6
Germany	150	180	190	1.6
Greece	< 5	10	10	60.0
Hungary	10	10	10	-37.5
Iceland	0	< 5	0	-100.0
Ireland	90	100	100	-4.9
Israel	10	20	10	-40.0
Italy	50	50	60	14.3
Japan	150	160	230	43.9
Republic of Korea	30	50	40	-22.6
Luxembourg	0	< 5	0	-100.0
Mexico	10	10	10	-27.3
Netherlands	130	210	80	-62.3
New Zealand	< 5	< 5	< 5	100.0
Norway	20	20	10	-39.1
Poland	10	20	20	-5.6
Portugal	< 5	< 5	20	300.0
Slovakia	10	< 5	10	25.0
Slovenia	0	< 5	< 5	-50.0
Spain	20	50	40	-24.0
Sweden	20	40	50	16.7
Switzerland	40	30	30	-12.5
Turkey	10	10	10	-50.0
United Kingdom	740	1 040	1 000	-3.1
United States of America	700	920	880	-5.0
OECD total	2 560	3 420	3 250	-4.8
Non-OECD total[1]	3 440	5 090	6 870	34.8
Total[2]	6 010	8 510	10 120	18.9

Source data: IMIRS
1. Excludes citizenship 'Unknown'.
2. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
3. Figures rounded to the nearest 10.
4. Percentages represent the changes from the actual figures.

Table A-8: Estimate of unlawful non-citizens in Australia at 30 June 2012

Citizenship	Estimate of unlawful non-citizens at 30 June 2012[1]
People's Republic of China	7 800
Malaysia	5 270
United States of America	5 140
United Kingdom	3 720
India	3 550
Indonesia	2 750
Republic of Korea	2 740
Philippines	2 410
Thailand	1 950
Vietnam	1 790
Germany	1 460
Japan	1 300
France	1 290
Ireland	1 250
Fiji	1 110
Tonga	1 090
Nepal	1 010
Canada	970
Italy	770
Netherlands	680
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	620
Pakistan	460
Taiwan	460
Greece	440
Sri Lanka	440
Spain	420
Russian Federation	390
Sweden	390
Bangladesh	370
Singapore	360
Switzerland	340
Lebanon	330
South Africa	330
Papua New Guinea	300
Brazil	290
Cambodia	280
Poland	280
Samoa	280
Denmark	220
Austria	210
Norway	210
Portugal	210
Israel	200
Turkey	200
Former Yugoslavia	200
Iran	180
Egypt	140
Mauritius	140
Chile	130
Peru	130
Laos	120
Belgium	110
Mexico	110
Argentina	100
Colombia	100
Ghana	100
Solomon Islands	100
Other[2]	3 140
Total	60 900

Source data: IMIRS
1. Due to known errors in overstayer data, figures are provided as estimates only and are rounded to the nearest 10. Therefore the total is not the same as the sum of data presented.
2. 'Other' includes all citizenships where the total number of unlawful non-citizens is less than 100.

Table A-9: Visa cancellations, 2011–12—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	34	17	51
Belgium	64	37	101
Canada	589	533	1 122
Chile	41	33	74
Czech Republic	53	51	104
Denmark	70	48	118
Estonia	26	12	38
Finland	27	29	56
France	435	333	768
Germany	486	375	861
Greece	60	7	67
Hungary	43	28	71
Iceland[4]	< 5	0	< 5
Ireland	522	413	935
Israel	44	39	84
Italy	231	99	330
Japan	347	302	649
Republic of Korea	1 359	988	2 347
Luxembourg[4]	< 5	0	< 5
Mexico	32	24	56
Netherlands	280	127	407
New Zealand	109	7	116
Norway	58	31	89
Poland	78	45	123
Portugal	36	19	55
Slovakia	21	16	37
Slovenia[4]	< 5	< 5	8
Spain	73	58	131
Sweden	108	102	210
Switzerland	77	29	106
Turkey	74	22	96
United Kingdom	2 781	1 968	4 749
United States of America	1 543	1 077	2 620
OECD total	9 709	6 873	16 583
Non-OECD total[2]	11 305	6 830	18 137
Total[3]	21 052	13 741	34 796

Source data: Compliance Statistics, DIAC
1. Includes gender not stated in total.
2. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
3. Total includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
4. Citizenship breakdowns of totals less than 5 are represented with < 5. This is to protect the privacy of the individuals.

Table A-10: Compliance related departures, 2011–12—OECD member countries, citizenship by gender

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total[1]
Austria	8	2	10
Belgium	12	3	15
Canada	81	57	138
Chile	24	21	45
Czech Republic	21	5	26
Denmark	7	6	13
Estonia	31	10	41
Finland	< 5	< 5	6
France	101	42	143
Germany	63	43	106
Greece	51	9	60
Hungary	18	10	28
Iceland[4]	< 5	0	< 5
Ireland	261	87	348
Israel	12	7	19
Italy	86	25	111
Japan	28	37	65
Republic of Korea	328	194	522
Luxembourg	0	0	0
Mexico	19	6	25
Netherlands	18	14	32
New Zealand	125	7	132
Norway[4]	< 5	< 5	5
Poland	16	8	24
Portugal	14	4	18
Slovakia	6	2	8
Slovenia[4]	< 5	< 5	6
Spain	15	20	35
Sweden	17	18	35
Switzerland	12	8	20
Turkey	17	10	27
United Kingdom	409	190	599
United States of America	164	100	264
OECD total	1 974	953	2 927
Non-OECD total[2]	5 205	2 392	7 604
Total[3]	7 383	3 395	10 785

Source data: Compliance Statistics, DIAC
1. Includes gender not stated in total.
2. Includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
3. Total includes citizenship 'Unknown'.
4. Citizenship breakdowns of totals less than 5 are represented with < 5. This is to protect the privacy of the individuals.

Table A-11: Repatriation rates for overseas-born Australian citizen departures—OECD member countries, 2009–10

Country of birth	Destination persons			Return rates (%)	
	Country of birth	Other OECD	Other countries	Repatriation rate	Other OECD
Austria	6	26	31	9.5	41.3
Belgium	10	14	9	30.3	42.4
Canada	213	128	92	49.2	29.6
Chile	116	44	25	62.7	23.8
Czech Republic	0	0	0	n/a	n/a
Denmark	13	11	13	35.1	29.7
Estonia	1	1	2	25.0	25.0
Finland	30	14	13	52.6	24.6
France	121	62	80	46.0	23.6
Germany	92	108	117	29.0	34.1
Greece	295	33	64	75.3	8.4
Hungary	65	27	23	56.5	23.5
Iceland	0	3	0	0.0	100.0
Ireland	112	128	83	34.7	39.6
Israel	101	38	41	56.1	21.1
Italy	150	73	89	48.1	23.4
Japan	62	22	29	54.9	19.5
Republic of Korea	160	89	79	48.8	27.1
Luxembourg	0	0	0	n/a	n/a
Mexico	12	14	6	37.5	43.8
Netherlands	31	65	68	18.9	39.6
New Zealand	464	349	331	40.6	30.5
Norway	8	7	8	34.8	30.4
Poland	167	95	64	51.2	29.1
Portugal	47	13	19	59.5	16.5
Slovakia	0	0	0	n/a	n/a
Slovenia	17	4	2	73.9	17.4
Spain	41	18	22	50.6	22.2
Sweden	48	13	19	60.0	16.3
Switzerland	85	42	28	54.8	27.1
Turkey	306	46	74	71.8	10.8
United Kingdom	2 542	1 153	1 591	48.1	21.8
United States of America	445	219	197	51.7	25.4
Total	5 760	2 859	3 219	48.7	24.2

Source data: Travellers Characteristics Database, ABS

Table A-12: Estimated resident population—OECD member countries, at 30 June 2011, country of birth by gender

Country of birth	Male	Female	Total
Austria	10 480	9 390	19 870
Belgium	3 330	3 400	6 730
Canada	21 230	23 620	44 860
Chile	13 740	14 590	28 330
Czech Republic	6 590	7 010	13 590
Denmark	5 680	5 130	10 810
Estonia	1 480	1 600	3 080
Finland	4 100	5 430	9 530
France	16 490	15 080	31 570
Germany	60 280	65 780	126 050
Greece	60 830	63 040	123 870
Hungary	11 030	10 900	21 930
Iceland	320	300	620
Ireland	41 690	34 910	76 590
Israel	5 980	4 770	10 760
Italy	108 100	101 640	209 750
Japan	18 140	31 910	50 050
Republic of Korea	46 600	51 000	97 600
Luxembourg	120	130	250
Mexico	1 860	1 850	3 700
Netherlands	44 060	42 330	86 390
New Zealand	290 680	274 240	564 920
Norway	2 120	2 360	4 480
Poland	25 000	31 660	56 660
Portugal	9 350	8 890	18 240
Slovakia	2 530	2 870	5 390
Slovenia	3 590	3 610	7 200
Spain	7 910	7 640	15 560
Sweden	4 930	5 980	10 900
Switzerland	7 600	7 050	14 650
Turkey	20 660	19 140	39 800
United Kingdom	600 370	579 790	1 180 160
United States of America	43 770	42 880	86 650
OECD total	1 500 640	1 479 920	2 980 540
Total Overseas-born	2 986 500	3 042 650	6 029 070
Total Australia-born	8 113 240	8 181 750	16 294 980
Total	11 099 620	11 224 320	22 323 930

Source data: ABS Migration, Australia (3412.0)

Table A-13: The median age of Australia's population by country of birth, at 30 June 2011

Country of birth	Median age
Afghanistan	29.5
Argentina	46.5
Austria	64.3
Bangladesh	31.6
Bosnia and Herzegovina	48.1
Brazil	31.3
Myanmar	41.0
Cambodia	42.6
Canada	38.7
Chile	47.7
Colombia	32.0
Croatia	60.3
Cyprus	60.3
Czech Republic	58.1
Denmark	52.1
East Timor	46.4
Egypt	55.9
El Salvador	41.0
Fiji	41.8
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	55.4
France	38.2
Germany	62.0
Greece	67.2
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	37.2
Hungary	65.8
India	31.3
Indonesia	33.2
Iran	37.3
Iraq	36.9
Ireland	43.6
Israel	38.8
Italy	68.0
Japan	32.9
Kenya	33.7
Laos	45.9
Lebanon	47.8
Malaysia	37.6

Country of birth	Median age
Malta	64.0
Mauritius	46.7
Nepal	26.8
Netherlands	63.8
New Zealand	39.4
Pakistan	30.6
Papua New Guinea	40.5
People's Republic of China	33.9
Philippines	39.8
Poland	57.4
Portugal	52.7
Republic of Korea	30.0
Romania	45.9
Russian Federation	40.4
Samoa	45.0
Saudi Arabia	24.7
Serbia (includes Kosovo)	54.2
Singapore	35.1
South Africa	39.4
Spain	54.6
Sri Lanka	41.6
Sudan	27.7
Sweden	38.7
Switzerland	47.3
Taiwan	30.9
Thailand	30.9
Tonga	43.9
Turkey	45.5
Ukraine	56.2
United Kingdom	53.8
United States of America	37.7
Uruguay	55.3
Vietnam	42.8
Zimbabwe	37.7
Total Overseas-born	44.9
Total Australia-born	33.7
Total	37.3

Source data: ABS Migration, Australia (3412.0)
1. Countries of birth selected with ERP more than 10 000 people.

Table A-14: Conferrals of Australian citizenship by former nationality and gender, 2011–12—OECD member countries

Citizenship	Male	Female	Total
Austria	46	36	82
Belgium	61	66	127
Canada	369	466	835
Chile	108	91	199
Czech Republic	23	40	63
Denmark	17	22	39
Estonia	12	15	27
Finland	23	56	79
France	290	290	580
Germany	403	440	843
Greece	62	37	99
Hungary	77	95	172
Iceland	3	5	8
Ireland	640	505	1 145
Israel	164	134	298
Italy	303	210	513
Japan	42	84	126
Republic of Korea	696	874	1 570
Luxembourg	2	1	3
Mexico	61	64	125
Netherlands	200	190	390
New Zealand	1 726	1 732	3 458
Norway	2	5	7
Poland	115	192	307
Portugal	49	54	103
Slovakia	26	43	69
Slovenia	24	23	47
Spain	48	61	109
Sweden	105	145	250
Switzerland	69	97	166
Turkey	177	170	347
United Kingdom	8 509	7 892	16 401
United States of America	654	702	1 356
OECD total	15 106	14 837	29 943
Non-OECD total	25 699	28 056	53 755
Total[1]	40 805	42 893	84 183

Source data: IMIRS
1. The sum total includes 485 people with gender not specified.

Data sources for Australia's Migration Trends

Australian Bureau of Statistics

- Census of Population and Housing, 2011 and 2006
- Australian Demographic Statistics cat. no. 3101.0
- Education and Training Experience, cat. no. 6278.0
- Employee Earnings and Hours, May 2010, cat. no. 6306.0
- Labour Force, Australia, Detailed—Electronic Delivery, cat. no. 6291.0
- Migration, Australia, 2010–11 cat. no. 3412.0
- Travellers' Characteristics Database

Department of Immigration and Citizenship

- Citizenship Program Management
- Compliance, Case Management, Detention and Settlement
- Compliance Statistics
- Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (CSAM)
- Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS) Statistics
- Immigration Management Information Reporting System (IMIRS)
- Integrated Client Service Environment (System) – (ICSE)
- Migration Program Management System (MPMS)
- Overseas Arrivals and Departures (OAD) Statistics
- Stock of Temporary Entrants
- The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration, July 2012
- Translating and Interpreting Services (TIS) Statistics

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

- International Migration Outlook 2012

Glossary

Administrative Appeals Tribunal—provides an independent merits review of administrative decisions made by Australian Government ministers, departments, agencies, authorities and other tribunals. In limited circumstances, the Tribunal can also review administrative decisions made by state government and non-government bodies.

Census—refers to the Australian Government's 2011 Census of Population and Housing. The Census is conducted every five years.

Citizenship by conferral—process of naturalisation whereby an applicant, after meeting all other criteria, becomes an Australian citizen at a formal citizenship ceremony.

Competent English—an IELTS band score of at least six for the four test components (speaking, reading, listening and writing).

Contributory parent category visa—a permanent visa for aged parents with children living in Australia. This visa costs more than the Aged Parent visa but is generally processed faster.

Dependent—a person is a dependent if they are included on a visa application and wholly or substantially rely on the primary applicant for financial, psychological or physical support. See also Primary Applicant.

Electronic Travel Authority—an electronically-stored authority for travel to Australia for short-term visits or business entry. It replaces the visa label or stamp in a passport and removes the need for application forms.

Family Stream—categories of the Migration Program where the core eligibility criteria are based on a close family relationship with a sponsor who is an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen. The immediate accompanying families of principal applicants in the Family Stream (for example, children of spouses) are also counted as part of the Family Stream.

Functional English—an IELTS band score of at least an average of 4.5 for the four test components (speaking, reading, listening and writing).

Humanitarian Program—provides protection to refugees and resettlement to those for whom it may be the appropriate durable solution. In line with Australia's international obligations, the onshore component of this program provides protection to refugees in Australia whose claims meet the criteria of the *1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* and its 1967 Protocol. The offshore component resettles refugees and others who are in great humanitarian need.

Independent Executive visa—is part of the Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457) visa category and caters for individuals wishing to establish a new business or buy an interest in an existing business in Australia and actively manage that business daily. Since 1 March 2003, people can no longer make an application for an Independent Executive visa offshore.

International student—see Overseas Student.

Irregular maritime arrival—A person who arrives in Australia by boat at a place outside of Australia's regular migration zone (including Christmas Island), without a valid visa. Also referred to as an 'offshore entry person'.

Labour force—the population 15 years of age or over who are employed or unemployed.

Main English speaking countries—other than Australia, comprise Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. See also non-English speaking countries.

Migration Program—annual planned permanent intake determined by the Australian Government in the Budget context which governs the number of visas granted for permanent entry from offshore and for permanent resident status onshore, not including New Zealand citizens intending to live permanently in Australia.

Migration Review Tribunal—provides an independent and final merits review of decisions made about general visas, such as visitor, student, family, business and skilled visas.

Net Overseas Migration—net gain or loss of population through people arriving in and departing from Australia:

- based on an international travellers' duration of stay being in or out of Australia for 12 months or more
- the difference between the number of:
    1. incoming international travellers who stay in Australia for 12 months or more, who are not currently counted in the population, are added to the population (NOM arrivals)
    2. outgoing international travellers (Australian residents and long-term visitors to Australia) who leave Australia for 12 months or more, who are currently counted in the population, are subtracted from the population (NOM departures).

Under the current method for estimating final NOM, this term is based on a traveller's actual duration of stay or absence during a 16-month period. Preliminary NOM estimates are modelled on patterns of traveller behaviours observed in final NOM estimates for the same period one year earlier.

Non-English speaking countries—all countries other than those listed under Main English speaking countries.

Offshore—location outside Australia. Thus, offshore components of the Migration Program refer to visas that cater for the migration of people who are outside of Australia. Certain offshore visas can, however, be applied for by people in Australia, but they must be outside Australia for the granting of the visa.

Onshore—location in Australia. Thus, onshore components of the Migration Program refer to visas that cater for the migration of people who are in Australia.

Outcome—the number of visas granted net of Business Skills provisional visas cancelled and net of places taken by provisional Partner category visa holders who do not subsequently obtain a permanent visa. It also excludes grants to people who have been previously counted towards the Migration Program or Humanitarian Program and New Zealand citizens.

Overseas Student (or international student)—temporary migrant in Australia who is studying at an Australian educational institution in a course approved by the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students.

Passenger Card—completed by all passengers arriving in or departing from Australia. Information collected includes occupation, nationality, intended length of stay, state/territory of intended residence is collected.

Planning levels—notional number of places available in the Migration Program for the financial year, as set by the Australian Government. Levels do not always precisely match outcomes due to the way the outcomes are measured. See also Outcome.

Primary Applicant—the person who applied for the visa. Other people included on the visa are referred to as dependents or secondary applicants.

Program year—aligns with the Australian financial year, for example 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

Refugee—defined by the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, as amended by the 1967 Protocol, as a person who:

- owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of, race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion;
- is outside the country of their nationality and is unable or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of their former habitual residence, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.

Refugee Review Tribunal—an independent statutory body which provides a review of decisions about onshore applicants for refugee status.

Settlement—refers to the experience of adapting to life in Australia for newly arrived permanent settlers, roughly equivalent to 'integration'.

Settler arrivals—people arriving in Australia who hold permanent migration visas, New Zealand citizens who indicate an intention to live in Australia, and those otherwise eligible to live here (for example, overseas-born children of Australian citizens). Data is based on statistics obtained from visa information and supplemented by information obtained from incoming passenger cards.

Short-term intra-corporate transfers—also known as 'posted workers', includes employees whose employer temporarily transfers them to another country to provide services for a limited period. In the Australian context, these include certain people arriving on one of Australia's five short-term business visitor visas or Electronic Travel Authorities, and some holders of a Business (Long Stay) visa.

Skill Stream—consists of the categories of the Migration Program where the core eligibility criteria are based on the applicant's employability or capacity to invest and/or do business in Australia. The immediate accompanying families of Skill Stream principal applicants are also counted as part of the Skill Stream.

Stateless—refers to 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.

Stock of temporary entrants—the number of temporary entrants in Australia at a point in time. Stock data is not used to report on visitors because the number of visitors in Australia at any one time is relatively small and subject to large seasonal variations.

Subclass—a unique three-digit numerical code associated with each visa. For example, the Business (Long Stay) visa is also known as the subclass 457 visa.

Temporary entry—refers to temporary visas granted under four main categories—visitors, students, Working Holiday Makers and temporary residents.

Visa—permission or authority granted by the Australian Government for foreign nationals to travel and stay in Australia.

Acronyms

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AMC	Australian Multicultural Council
AMEP	Adult Migrant English Program
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
AUSCO	Australian Cultural Orientation (program)
CALD	Culturally and linguistically diverse
CCMDS	Compliance, Case Management, Detention and Settlement
CCS	Complex Case Support
CPN	Community Placement Network
CSAM	Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants
DIAC	Department of Immigration and Citizenship
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ELICOS	English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students
EMA	Enterprise Migration Agreement
ENS	Employer Nomination Scheme
EOI	Expression of interest
ETA	Electronic Travel Authority
GSM	General Skilled Migration
HSS	Humanitarian Settlement Services
ICSE	Integrated Client Service Environment (System)
IMA	Irregular Maritime Arrival
IMIRS	Immigration Management Information Reporting System
MACSM	Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration

MPMS	Migration Program Management System
n/a	not applicable
NOM	Net Overseas Migration
NZ	New Zealand
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
RSMS	Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme
SAR	Special Administrative Region
TIS	Translating and Interpreting Service
UNC	Unlawful Non-Citizen
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
VET	Vocational Education and Training