Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Asylum statistics - Australia

Quarterly tables – March Quarter 2011



people our business

Asylum Statistics – Australia: Quarterly tables – March Quarter 2011 was prepared by Systems, Program Evidence and Knowledge Section of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) in Australia.

For enquiries about the contents of this publication please write to:

Systems, Program Evidence and Knowledge Section
Department of Immigration and Citizenship
PO Box 25
Belconnen ACT 2616
Australia

Email: pv.analysis@immi.gov.au

© Commonwealth of Australia 2011
This work is copyright. Apart from any use permitted under the Copyright ACT 1968, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

Contents

Applications lodged/Requests received 2
Table 1: Number of Protection visa applications lodged (irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) and non-IMAs) 2
Table 2: Number of Protection visa applications lodged (excluding IMAs) 2
Table 3: Number of Refugee Status Determination (RSD) requests received 3
Table 4: Number of Protection visa applications lodged (non-IMA) by top 20 countries of citizenship 4
Table 5: Number of RSD requests received by top 5 countries of citizenship 5
Primary decisions 6
Table 6: Number of primary Protection visa decisions and primary grant rates (non-IMA) 6
Table 7: Number of primary Protection visa grants by top 20 countries of citizenship (non-IMA) 6
Table 8: Primary Protection visa grant rates by top 20 countries of citizenship (non-IMA) 7
Table 9: Number of primary RSD Protection visa grants by top 5 countries of citizenship 8
Final decisions 9
Table 10: Number of final Protection visa decisions and final grant rates (non-IMA) 9
Table 11: Number of final Protection visa grants by top 20 countries of citizenship (non-IMA) 9
Table 12: Final Protection visa grant rates by top 20 countries of citizenship (non-IMA) 10
Table 13: Number of final RSD Protection visa grants by top 5 countries of citizenship 11
Table 14: Final RSD Protection visa grant rates 11
Glossary 12
Explanatory notes 14

Protection visa figures relating to 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 program years are as officially revised at the end of the 2009-10 (data extracted from departmental systems on 2 July 2010).

Figures relating to 2010-11 Protection visas and all figures relating to refugee status determination for IMAs are provisional and subject to change.

Applications lodged/Requests received

Table 1: Number of Protection visa (PV) applications[1] lodged (IMA[2] and non-IMA[3])

Program Year	Quarter	Principal applicants	Dependants	Total
2007-08		3124	885	4009
2008-09		4123	1179	5302
2009-10		6600	1550	8150
	Mar Qtr	*2024*	*415*	*2439*
	Jun Qtr	*1619*	*393*	*2012*
2010-11				
	Sep Qtr	*1564*	*416*	*1980*
	Dec Qtr	*1414*	*437*	*1851*
	Mar Qtr	*1661*	*436*	*2097*

Source: ICSE

The number of PV applications lodged in the March quarter of 2010-11 program year rose by 13.3 per cent compared to the December quarter. There were 14.0 per cent fewer applications lodged in the March quarter of 2010-11 program year compared to the same quarter in 2009-10. The total PV applications as at the end of the March quarter for the 2010-11 program year (5928) is 72.7 per cent of the 2009-10 program year total (8150).

Table 2: Number of Protection visa (PV) applications[1] lodged (non-IMA[3])

Program Year	Quarter	Principal applicants	Dependants	Total
2007-08		3108	880	3988
2008-09		3911	1163	5074
2009-10		4576	1402	5978
	Mar Qtr	*1244*	*378*	*1622*
	Jun Qtr	*1215*	*359*	*1574*
2010-11				
	Sep Qtr	*1166*	*366*	*1532*
	Dec Qtr	*1137*	*397*	*1534*
	Mar Qtr	*1272*	*391*	*1663*

Source: ICSE

The total number of PV applications lodged by applicants other than irregular maritime arrivals as at the end of the March quarter for the 2010-11 program year is 4729. This is 79.1 per cent of the 2009-10 program year total (5978). The number of PV applications from non-IMAs remained stable in the March quarter of the 2010-11 program year compared to the same quarter in 2009-10.

---

1. Number of PV applications refers to the number of people (including family members) who made a valid application claiming protection in Australia.

2. This publication uses the term IMA to refer to irregular maritime arrivals who have been allowed to apply for a Protection visa. In general, only those irregular maritime arrivals who have been found to be refugees are allowed to apply for a Protection visa.

3. Non irregular maritime arrivals. Non-IMA generally refers to Protection visa applicants who arrived by air and are already in Australia's migration zone.

Table 3: Number of Refugee Status Determination (RSD) requests[4] received

Program Year	Quarter	Requests received
2008-09		686
2009-10		4597
	Mar Qtr	*756*
	Jun Qtr	*2186*
2010-11		
	Sep Qtr	*1735*
	Dec Qtr	*1606*
	Mar Qtr[5]	*727*

Source: DIAC Systems

The total number of RSD requests received in the March quarter of 2010-11 program year remained stable compared to the same quarter in the 2009-10 program year. 2010-11 program year total requests received as at the end of March quarter is (4068) 88.5 per cent of the total number of RSD requests received for the 2009-10 program year.

4. RSD requests counted by people screened into the RSD process.

5. Mar Qtr data includes applicants in both the Refugee Status Assessment (RSA) process and the Protection Obligations Determination (POD) process. The POD process applies to those that arrived at an excised offshore place from 1 March 2011. Existing IMAs who did not have a RSA interview before 1 March 2011 are also included in the POD process.

Table 4: Number of Protection visa applications[1] lodged (non-IMA[3]) by top 20 countries of citizenship[6]

Citizenship	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
				Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*
China (PRC)	1249	1183	1288	*284*	*319*	*293*	*290*	*293*
Fiji	44	116	559	*221*	*145*	*97*	*84*	*106*
Iran	115	204	376	*93*	*118*	*88*	*89*	*107*
Zimbabwe	140	317	371	*111*	*104*	*53*	*30*	*68*
Pakistan	180	222	342	*102*	*87*	*111*	*129*	*138*
Sri Lanka	397	478	327	*97*	*41*	*45*	*28*	*40*
India	196	353	301	*76*	*105*	*122*	*107*	*128*
Malaysia	219	207	254	*66*	*63*	*78*	*47*	*45*
Iraq	186	232	221	*59*	*40*	*60*	*62*	*50*
Egypt	53	113	206	*54*	*70*	*88*	*116*	*142*
Indonesia	219	210	175	*39*	*48*	*61*	*38*	*48*
Lebanon	84	102	157	*29*	*66*	*47*	*61*	*37*
Afghanistan	20	71	114	*47*	*11*	*21*	*31*	*14*
Nepal	35	42	93	*39*	*28*	*40*	*55*	*71*
Bangladesh	82	116	87	*26*	*23*	*24*	*29*	*34*
Burma	71	95	78	*25*	*17*	*21*	*13*	*12*
Turkey	39	49	76	*31*	*18*	*33*	*33*	*28*
Philippines	16	28	75	*22*	*23*	*16*	*12*	*23*
South Korea	90	143	71	*16*	*30*	*19*	*16*	*13*
Colombia	14	30	47	*17*	*6*	*..*	*10*	*9*
Other	539	763	760	*168*	*212*	*..*	*254*	*257*
Total	**3988**	**5074**	**5978**	***1622***	***1574***	***1532***	***1534***	***1663***

Source: ICSE

1. Number of PV applications refers to the number of people (including family members) who made a valid application claiming protection in Australia.

3. Non irregular maritime arrivals. Non-IMA generally refers to Protection visa applicants who arrived by air and are already in Australia's migration zone.

6. Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year lodgements.

Table 5: Number of RSD requests[4] received by top 5 countries of citizenship[7]

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
			Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr[5]*
Afghanistan	507	2654	*490*	*1399*	*773*	*339*	*188*
Sri Lanka	77	920	*58*	*266*	*120*	*125*	*19*
Stateless	25	457	*49*	*255*	*291*	*361*	*130*
Iraq	59	252	*116*	*93*	*172*	*231*	*73*
Iran	9	198	*17*	*109*	*304*	*496*	*297*
Other	9	116	*26*	*64*	*75*	*54*	*20*
Total	**686**	**4597**	***756***	***2186***	***1735***	***1606***	***727***

Source: DIAC Systems

Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Iraq and Iran are among the top five countries of citizenship of this client cohort for almost all time periods. The order of the countries of citizenship in the above table was based on 2009-10 program year RSD requests.

4. RSD requests counted by people screened into the RSD process.

5. Mar Qtr data includes applicants in both the Refugee Status Assessment (RSA) process and the Protection Obligations Determination (POD) process. The POD process applies to those that arrived at an excised offshore place from 1 March 2011. Existing IMAs who did not have a RSA interview before 1 March 2011 are included in the POD process.

7. Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year RSD requests.

Primary decisions

Table 6: Number of primary Protection visa decisions[8] and primary grant rates[9] (non-IMA[3])

Decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
				Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*
Grants	1295	1598	1710	*361*	*376*	*276*	*295*	*504*
Refusals	2413	2983	3042	*732*	*842*	*1027*	*936*	*951*
Total	**3708**	**4581**	**4752**	***1093***	***1218***	***1303***	***1231***	***1455***
Primary grant rate	34.9%	34.9%	36.0%	*33.0%*	*30.9%*	*21.2%*	*24.0%*	*34.6%*

Source: ICSE

Table 7: Number of primary Protection visa grants by top 20 countries of citizenship[10] (non-IMA[3])

Citizenship	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
				Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*
China (PRC)	186	175	229	*62*	*56*	*40*	*36*	*24*
Zimbabwe	63	191	225	*53*	*27*	*44*	*51*	*13*
Iran	72	132	200	*55*	*54*	*37*	*13*	*203*
Pakistan	99	138	183	*28*	*70*	*28*	*29*	*51*
Iraq	200	153	174	*32*	*40*	*20*	*10*	*47*
Sri Lanka	389	335	165	*25*	*23*	*46*	*9*	*23*
Afghanistan	17	47	75	*12*	*25*	*..*	*21*	*15*
Egypt	26	38	62	*15*	*15*	*11*	*18*	*32*
Burma	50	70	60	*11*	*12*	*10*	*7*	*11*
Turkey	14	14	23	*..*	*..*	*..*	*12*	*7*
Indonesia	6	9	22	*..*	*0*	*..*	*..*	*6*
Bangladesh	14	38	21	*..*	*5*	*7*	*..*	*..*
Nigeria	0	5	17	*..*	*..*	*5*	*..*	*..*
Nepal	..	12	16	*..*	*..*	*..*	*5*	*5*
Palestinian Authority	..	9	16	*10*	*0*	*0*	*..*	*6*
Papua New Guinea	15	18	16	*..*	*..*	*0*	*12*	*5*
Stateless	..	12	15	*6*	*7*	*..*	*5*	*..*
Fiji	5	10	14	*..*	*..*	*..*	*11*	*..*
India	11	5	14	*5*	*..*	*..*	*..*	*..*
Ethiopia	15	26	11	*..*	*5*	*..*	*..*	*..*
Other	104	161	152	*28*	*20*	*7*	*41*	*40*
Total	**1295**	**1598**	**1710**	***361***	***376***	***276***	***295***	***504***

Source: ICSE

3. Non irregular maritime arrivals. Non-IMA generally refers to Protection visa applicants who arrived by air and are already in Australia's migration zone.

8. A decision made at the end of initial processing by the departmental delegate.

9. Primary grant rates measure the visa grants at the initial processing stage in the Protection visa process as a proportion of total primary decisions made.

10. Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year primary grants.

Table 8: Primary Protection visa grant rates[9] by top 20 countries of citizenship[10] (non-IMA[3])

Citizenship	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
				Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*
China (PRC)	16.7%	14.6%	19.9%	*22.3%*	*19.4%*	*13.0%*	*12.5%*	*8.2%*
Zimbabwe	51.6%	75.8%	74.3%	*79.1%*	*47.4%*	*50.0%*	*69.9%*	*31.7%*
Iran	75.8%	83.5%	88.1%	*79.7%*	*91.5%*	*63.8%*	*29.5%*	*94.9%*
Pakistan	63.5%	65.7%	71.8%	*66.7%*	*80.5%*	*43.8%*	*54.7%*	*60.7%*
Iraq	96.6%	87.9%	91.1%	*78.0%*	*95.2%*	*76.9%*	*52.6%*	*66.2%*
Sri Lanka	88.0%	80.3%	67.9%	*61.0%*	*54.8%*	*61.3%*	*32.1%*	*52.3%*
Afghanistan	89.5%	92.2%	86.2%	*75.0%*	*78.1%*	*26.7%*	*84.0%*	*78.9%*
Egypt	57.8%	41.8%	45.9%	*68.2%*	*36.6%*	*40.7%*	*23.7%*	*31.4%*
Burma	87.7%	76.1%	80.0%	*78.6%*	*75.0%*	*45.5%*	*77.8%*	*57.9%*
Turkey	38.9%	37.8%	51.1%	*28.6%*	*36.4%*	*16.7%*	*41.4%*	*38.9%*
Indonesia	3.0%	5.1%	12.1%	*2.6%*	*0.0%*	*1.9%*	*3.5%*	*14.0%*
Bangladesh	18.2%	35.2%	30.4%	*20.0%*	*27.8%*	*50.0%*	*11.5%*	*10.0%*
Nigeria	0.0%	15.2%	56.7%	*50.0%*	*75.0%*	*50.0%*	*37.5%*	*33.3%*
Nepal	7.1%	41.4%	24.6%	*21.1%*	*6.7%*	*20.0%*	*12.5%*	*15.6%*
Palestinian Authority	25.0%	75.0%	69.6%	*100.0%*	*0.0%*	*0.0%*	*33.3%*	*75.0%*
Papua New Guinea	46.9%	72.0%	69.6%	*60.0%*	*66.7%*	*0.0%*	*85.7%*	*41.7%*
Stateless	50.0%	60.0%	75.0%	*100.0%*	*70.0%*	*40.0%*	*55.6%*	*37.5%*
Fiji	12.2%	9.6%	3.3%	*2.4%*	*1.0%*	*1.4%*	*16.9%*	*3.8%*
India	5.8%	1.4%	6.9%	*13.2%*	*7.8%*	*2.3%*	*1.9%*	*4.4%*
Ethiopia	48.4%	63.4%	57.9%	*60.0%*	*71.4%*	*57.1%*	*44.4%*	*42.9%*
Total	**34.9%**	**34.9%**	**36.0%**	***33.0%***	***30.9%***	***21.2%***	***24.0%***	***34.6%***

Source: ICSE

Total primary Protection visa decisions made by the department as at end of the March quarter for the 2010-11 program year for non-IMA clients was 3989. This is 83.9 per cent of the 2009-10 total primary decisions.

The number of non-IMA primary Protection visa grants as at end of the March quarter is (1075) 62.9 per cent of the total primary Protection visa grants made in the previous program year.

The primary grant rate for non-IMAs in the March quarter of the 2010-11 program year has increased to 34.6 per cent from 24.0 per cent in the December quarter. However, the year to date (as at end of March quarter 2011) primary grant rate is 26.9 per cent. The previous year primary grant rate was 36.0 per cent.

3. Non irregular maritime arrivals. Non-IMA generally refers to Protection visa applicants who arrived by air and are already in Australia's migration zone.

9. Primary grant rates measure the visa grants at the initial processing stage in the Protection visa process as a proportion of total primary decisions made.

10. Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year primary grants.

Table 9: Number of primary RSD Protection visa grants[11] by top 5 countries of citizenship[12]

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
			Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*[5]
Afghanistan	166	1423	*546*	*220*	*93*	*97*	*164*
Sri Lanka	4	313	*105*	*102*	*124*	*34*	*32*
Stateless	5	167	*112*	*17*	*35*	*23*	*44*
Iraq	13	126	*25*	*47*	*31*	*1*	*7*
Iran	1	50	*17*	*10*	*20*	*1*	*13*
Other	0	12	*3*	*3*	*11*	*6*	*9*
Total	**189**	**2091**	***808***	***399***	***314***	***162***	***269***

Source: DIAC Systems

The total number of primary RSD Protection visa grants as at the end of March quarter 2010-11 program year was 745, and is 35.6 per cent of the previous year total. Table 9 provides the number of people who arrived unlawfully at an excised offshore place, successfully completed the Refugee Status Determination process and were subsequently granted Protection visas at the primary stage. People who have been found to be refugees but are still undergoing further processing and have not been granted a Protection visa are not counted in this table.

5. Mar Qtr data includes applicants in both Refugee Status Assessment (RSA) process and the Protection Obligations Determination (POD) process. The POD process applies to those that arrived at an excised offshore place from 1 March 2011, existing IMAs who did not have a RSA interview before 1 March 2011 are also subject to the POD process.

11. A primary RSD Protection visa grant is a Protection visa granted to an irregular maritime arrival following a positive refugee status determination made by a departmental delegate. RSD Protection visa grants may vary slightly from figures for grants to IMAs provided elsewhere because the data has been extracted from departmental systems on a different date employing different methodologies.

12. Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year RSD Protection visa grants.

Final decisions

Table 10: Number of final Protection visa decisions and final grant rates[13] (non-IMA[3])

Decision	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
				Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*
Grants	1900	2173	2367	*534*	*561*	*460*	*449*	*738*
Refusals	2106	2624	2266	*598*	*615*	*681*	*763*	*616*
Total	**4006**	**4797**	**4633**	***1132***	***1176***	***1141***	***1212***	***1354***
Final grant rate	47.4%	45.3%	51.1%	*47.2%*	*47.7%*	*40.3%*	*37.0%*	*54.5%*

Source: ICSE

Table 11: Number of final Protection visa grants by top 20 countries of citizenship[14] (non-IMA[3])

Citizenship	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
				Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*
China (PRC)	415	426	492	*137*	*116*	*102*	*81*	*69*
Zimbabwe	87	215	255	*58*	*31*	*59*	*70*	*26*
Pakistan	115	158	212	*30*	*92*	*35*	*37*	*66*
Iran	96	142	211	*57*	*60*	*45*	*21*	*231*
Sri Lanka	433	359	190	*31*	*26*	*52*	*14*	*31*
Iraq	204	157	182	*32*	*47*	*22*	*10*	*57*
Egypt	37	45	79	*17*	*22*	*16*	*27*	*46*
Burma	56	78	78	*21*	*12*	*15*	*11*	*16*
Afghanistan	24	48	75	*12*	*25*	*6*	*23*	*16*
Fiji	7	27	38	*9*	*12*	*29*	*29*	*20*
Bangladesh	40	49	37	*..*	*12*	*9*	*..*	*9*
India	27	23	34	*8*	*6*	*8*	*5*	*7*
Lebanon	27	35	33	*6*	*10*	*6*	*10*	*43*
Indonesia	14	17	32	*9*	*0*	*..*	*..*	*11*
Turkey	26	25	31	*..*	*6*	*7*	*15*	*15*
Nigeria	..	11	27	*7*	*..*	*6*	*..*	*..*
Ethiopia	21	32	25	*10*	*6*	*5*	*6*	*..*
Nepal	24	26	22	*6*	*5*	*13*	*6*	*8*
Stateless	5	14	20	*8*	*8*	*..*	*8*	*..*
Palestinian Authority	..	16	18	*10*	*..*	*0*	*..*	*6*
Other	233	270	276	*57*	*62*	*20*	*64*	*50*
Total	**1900**	**2173**	**2367**	***534***	***561***	***460***	***449***	***738***

Source: ICSE

3. Non irregular maritime arrivals. Non-IMA generally refers to Protection visa applicants who arrived by air and are already in Australia's migration zone.

13. Final grant rates measure the visa grants at the final processing stage in the Protection visa process as a proportion of total decisions made in a given period.

14. Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year final grants.

Table 12: Final Protection visa grant rates[13] by top 20 countries of citizenship[14] (non-IMA[3])

Citizenship	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
				Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*
China (PRC)	37.8%	31.5%	42.1%	*43.4%*	*38.9%*	*34.8%*	*25.5%*	*32.1%*
Zimbabwe	79.8%	90.3%	85.3%	*89.2%*	*81.6%*	*76.6%*	*86.4%*	*63.4%*
Pakistan	73.2%	76.7%	83.8%	*75.0%*	*90.2%*	*83.3%*	*74.0%*	*79.5%*
Iran	92.3%	88.8%	97.7%	*96.6%*	*98.4%*	*95.7%*	*80.8%*	*97.9%*
Sri Lanka	90.8%	90.0%	76.0%	*83.8%*	*65.0%*	*89.7%*	*73.7%*	*66.0%*
Iraq	96.7%	95.7%	95.3%	*100.0%*	*100.0%*	*91.7%*	*83.3%*	*100.0%*
Egypt	62.7%	56.3%	71.2%	*68.0%*	*56.4%*	*69.6%*	*77.1%*	*69.7%*
Burma	91.8%	94.0%	96.3%	*100.0%*	*92.3%*	*93.8%*	*73.3%*	*88.9%*
Afghanistan	96.0%	94.1%	94.9%	*80.0%*	*100.0%*	*85.7%*	*69.7%*	*84.2%*
Fiji	11.3%	29.3%	16.0%	*12.9%*	*12.9%*	*15.3%*	*20.1%*	*25.3%*
Bangladesh	33.9%	32.9%	42.5%	*22.7%*	*66.7%*	*75.0%*	*33.3%*	*60.0%*
India	7.9%	6.3%	12.9%	*11.1%*	*14.0%*	*11.0%*	*7.0%*	*9.9%*
Lebanon	38.0%	36.8%	33.7%	*22.2%*	*47.6%*	*30.0%*	*31.3%*	*62.3%*
Indonesia	7.5%	8.2%	16.8%	*17.6%*	*0.0%*	*9.1%*	*9.5%*	*19.3%*
Turkey	61.9%	64.1%	72.1%	*80.0%*	*54.5%*	*58.3%*	*83.3%*	*88.2%*
Nigeria	22.7%	45.8%	67.5%	*63.6%*	*50.0%*	*75.0%*	*66.7%*	*66.7%*
Ethiopia	72.4%	88.9%	86.2%	*100.0%*	*75.0%*	*83.3%*	*85.7%*	*60.0%*
Nepal	48.0%	53.1%	55.0%	*75.0%*	*22.7%*	*50.0%*	*23.1%*	*28.6%*
Stateless	62.5%	82.4%	87.0%	*88.9%*	*88.9%*	*66.7%*	*72.7%*	*100.0%*
Palestinian Authority	50.0%	94.1%	94.7%	*100.0%*	*na*	*0.0%*	*100.0%*	*100.0%*
Total	**47.4%**	**45.3%**	**51.1%**	***47.2%***	***47.7%***	***40.3%***	***37.0%***	***54.5%***

Source: ICSE

The number of final Protection visa decisions made by the department as at end of March quarter for the 2010-11 program year for non-IMA clients was 3707 and is 80.0 per cent of the 2009-10 total decisions.

Number of final Protection visa grants as at end of the March quarter in the 2010-11 program year is 69.6 per cent of the total final Protection visa grants made in the previous program year to non-IMA clients.

Final grant rate for non-IMAs in the March quarter of 2010-11 program year has increased to 54.5 per cent from 37.0 per cent in the December quarter. However, the year to date (as at end of March quarter 2011) final grant rate is 44.4 per cent. The previous year final grant rate was 51.1 per cent.

3. Non irregular maritime arrivals. Non-IMA generally refers to Protection visa applicants who arrived by air and are already in Australia's migration zone.

13. Final grant rates measure the rate of positive decisions (visa grants) at the final processing stage in the Protection visa process as a proportion of total decisions made in a given period.

14. Top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year final grants.

Table 13: Number of final RSD Protection visa grants[15] by top 5 countries of citizenship[12]

Citizenship	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
			Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*[5]
Afghanistan	166	1425	*547*	*220*	*171*	*211*	*295*
Sri Lanka	4	315	*105*	*103*	*126*	*35*	*33*
Stateless	5	170	*112*	*20*	*56*	*33*	*61*
Iraq	13	134	*25*	*52*	*58*	*13*	*11*
Iran	1	64	*22*	*14*	*29*	*5*	*31*
Other	0	12	3	3	14	10	9
Total	**189**	**2120**	***814***	***412***	***454***	***307***	***440***

Source: DIAC Systems

Table 14: Final RSD Protection visa grant rates[16]

Citizenship	2009-10	2009-10		2010-11		
		Mar Qtr	*Jun Qtr*	*Sep Qtr*	*Dec Qtr*	*Mar Qtr*[5]
Afghanistan	90.5%	*98.4%*	*59.5%*	*65.8%*	*74.8%*	*56.8%*
Sri Lanka	84.2%	*87.5%*	*68.7%*	*75.9%*	*66.0%*	*66.0%*
Stateless	88.1%	*90.3%*	*47.6%*	*43.4%*	*44.0%*	*42.1%*
Iraq	85.9%	*64.1%*	*72.2%*	*65.9%*	*27.7%*	*31.4%*
Iran	92.8%	*81.5%*	*77.8%*	*38.2%*	*7.7%*	*23.0%*
Total	**88.9%**	***91.9%***	***62.4%***	***61.0%***	***56.3%***	***48.9%***

Source: DIAC Systems

Total final RSD PV grants as at the end of the March quarter 2010-11 program year was 1201, and is 56.7 per cent of the previous year total. Table 13 provides the number of people who arrived unlawfully at an excised offshore place, successfully completed the Refugee Status Determination process and were subsequently granted Protection visas, either at the primary stage or following the review process. People who have been found to be refugees but are still undergoing further processing and have not been granted a Protection visa are not counted in this table.

---

5. Mar Qtr data includes applicants in both the Refugee Status Assessment (RSA) process and the Protection Obligations Determination (POD) process. The POD process applies to those that arrived at an excised offshore place from 1 March 2011. Existing IMAs who did not have a RSA interview before 1 March 2011 are included in the POD process.

12. Top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year RSD Protection visa grants.

15. A final RSD Protection visa grant is a Protection visa granted to an irregular maritime arrival following a positive refugee status determination made by a departmental delegate or following merits review. RSD Protection visa grants may vary slightly from figures for grants to IMAs provided elsewhere because the data has been extracted from departmental systems on a different date employing different methodologies.

16. The final RSD Protection visa grant rate is a measure of the Protection visas granted to irregular maritime arrivals, as a proportion of all RSD decisions made in a specified period by a departmental delegate or following merits review. This rate is derived by dividing the total number of Protection visas granted at the primary stage and following the review process by the sum of the total number of final grants, the number of people who were not recognized as refugees and did not request review, and the number of people who were found not to be refugees at review. People who are in the process of review and awaiting decision have not been included in this rate calculation.

Glossary

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

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

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

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

DIAC
The Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Final decision
A decision made by a departmental delegate to grant or refuse Protection visa at the conclusion of all merit review processes.

Final grant
A Protection visa grant made at the conclusion of all merits review processes.

Final grant rate
The rate of visa grants at the final processing stage in the Protection visa process as a proportion of total decisions made in a given period.

Final RSD Protection visa grant
A Protection visa grant awarded to an irregular maritime arrival who has been found to be a refugee through a refugee status determination process or owed protection following merits review.

Final RSD Protection visa grant rate
The final RSD Protection visa grant rate is a measure of the Protection visas granted to irregular maritime arrivals as a proportion of all RSD decisions made in a specified period by a departmental delegate or following merits review.

IMA
Irregular Maritime Arrival.

Lodgement
The receipt of a Protection visa application.

Primary decision
A decision made at the end of initial processing by the departmental delegate.

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

Primary grant rate
The rate of visa grants at the initial processing stage in the Protection visa process as a proportion of total decisions made in a given period.

Primary RSD Protection visa grant
A Protection visa granted to an irregular maritime arrival who has had a positive refugee status assessment outcome made by the departmental delegate.

Principal applicant
The main applicant for a Protection visa.

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

Protection visa
A visa issued to a non-citizen in Australia to whom the Minister is satisfied Australia has protection obligations under the Refugees Convention.

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

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

Refugee Status Determination (RSD)
The process through which the protection claims of irregular maritime arrivals are assessed.

RSD request
A request made by an irregular maritime arrival seeking protection in Australia to have their protection claim assessed.

Stateless
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.

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

Explanatory notes

Table 1 provides the number of applications for Protection visas lodged in each of the specified periods. A principal applicant is the primary person involved in a Protection visa application who has made their own protection claims while dependant applicants are members of the principal applicant's family unit. These numbers include applications by all people who arrive by boats and by air. To be included in this table Irregular Maritime Arrivals must have successfully completed the Refugee Status Determination (RSD) process, and made a Protection visa application.

Table 2 provides the same information as Table 1. However, it is limited to those applications lodged by people who arrived by air. In this document these applicants are referred to as non irregular maritime arrivals (non-IMA).

Table 3 outlines the number of RSD requests made by people arriving unlawfully at excised offshore places (e.g. Christmas Island). A RSD request is a request to have a person's asylum claims assessed. A person who arrived as an unlawful maritime arrival at an excised offshore place must successfully complete this process before applying for a Protection visa.

Table 1 – 3 can be used to determine the total number of asylum seekers in a specified period. This number can be calculated by adding the number of applications for Protection visas by non-IMAs (Table 2) and the number of RSD requests received (Table 3).

Table 4 details the number of Protection visa applications received in each period from citizens of the top 20 countries. This information is for Protection visa applicants (non-IMA) who arrived by air in Australia. The top 20 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year lodgements.

Table 5 details the number of RSD requests received in each of the specified periods from citizens of the top 5 countries. This information is for people who arrive unlawfully at an excised offshore place (e.g. Christmas Island). The top 5 countries of citizenship are based on 2009-10 program year requests.

Table 6 breaks down the primary Protection visa decisions made in each period and shows the number of visas granted and refused in the period to people who originally arrived by air in Australia. It also provides the grant rate of applications decided in the period (primary grant rate). A primary decision is a decision to grant or refuse a visa made by an employee of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship exercising the Minister's powers under the Migration Act 1958.

Table 7 breaks down the information provided in Table 6 by citizenship and provides the number of Protection visas granted for each period. The top 20 countries of citizenship presented in this table are based on primary grants made in the 2009-10 program year.

Table 8 provides the primary grant rate for each period for top 20 countries of citizenship. Top 20 countries of citizenship presented in this table is based on primary grants made in the 2009-10 program year.

Table 9 details the number of people who arrived unlawfully at an excised offshore place, successfully completed the RSD process and were subsequently granted Protection visas at the primary stage. People who have been found to be refugees but are still undergoing further processing and have not been granted a Protection visa are not counted in this table. This table shows the top five countries of citizenship for this cohort in the 2009-10 program year.

Table 10 breaks down the final decisions made in each period and shows the number of visas granted and refused in the period to people who originally arrived by air in Australia. It also provides the grant rate of applications which were finally determined in the period (final grant rate). A final decision is a decision to grant or refuse a Protection visa after all merits review processes have been completed.

Table 11 breaks down the information provided in Table 11 by citizenship and provides the number of Protection visas finally granted for each period. The top 20 countries of citizenship presented in this table are based on final grants made in the 2009-10 program year.

Table 12 provides the final grant rate for each period. Top 20 countries of citizenship presented in this table is based on final grants made in the 2009-10 program year.

Table 13 details the number of people who arrived unlawfully at an excised offshore place, successfully completed the RSD process and were subsequently granted Protection visas, either at the primary stage or following the review process. This table shows the top five countries of citizenship for this cohort in the 2009-10 program year.

Table 14 provides the final RSD Protection visa grant rate. This is a measure of the Protection visas granted to irregular maritime arrivals as a proportion of all RSD decisions made in a specified period by a departmental delegate or following merits review. This rate is different to the final recognition rate which is the proportion of people who were recognized as refugees at the conclusion of all merit review processes.

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

na **Not applicable:**
When there are no decisions made in a period, grant rate shows as “na” rather than “0”.