Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australia's Migration Trends, 2024–25

Australia's Migration Trends was prepared by:

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Terminology

Applicant Type—Under the Migration Regulations 1994 (the Regulations), there are two types of applicants. These are primary applicants and secondary applicants. These terms are defined below:

- **Primary Applicant**—The primary applicant is the person who must satisfy the primary criteria for the grant of a visa under the Migration Regulations. Also known as the principal applicant.
- **Secondary Applicant**—Secondary applicants must satisfy the secondary criteria for the grant of a visa under the Migration Regulations. A secondary applicant is generally a dependant of the primary applicant.

Delivered—the number of places (outcome) or grants pertaining to permanent or temporary visas within the program year (financial year).

Outcome—For the purposes of Migration Program reporting, outcome refers to the number of visas granted that count toward the Migration Program (also termed places). Outcome includes primary applicants as well as secondary/dependant applicants.

Where a visa has a permanent residence pathway, e.g. from a provisional visa to a permanent or visa, the applicant is counted to the Migration Program at grant of the provisional visa.

Some visas granted during a program year may not count toward the Migration Program, for example:

- If a person has already been granted a visa which counted toward the Migration Program, that person will not be counted again.
- Within the same program year, where a visa is granted and is later cancelled, the grant is excluded for the purposes of Migration Program outcome reporting.
- Where a Partner (Temporary/Provisional) visa applicant does not progress to the Partner (Permanent) visa, a place is returned to the program.
- If a Business Innovation and Investment visa (granted in an earlier year) is cancelled the place is returned to the program in the year of cancellation.

Places—in this report, each grant that counts toward the Migration Program outcome is a place delivered against the Migration Program places (planned level) for the year. When referring to Migration Program outcomes within the report, the terms ‘grant’ and ‘place’ may be used interchangeably.

Overview

For the 2024–25 financial year, the Migration Program and Humanitarian Program together delivered 205,001 permanent places, and granted in the same year almost 8.3 million temporary visas (Table 1).[1] By comparison with the previous financial year, the number of permanent places (including humanitarian visa grants decreased 2.4 per cent on the 210,000 places delivered, and the number of temporary visas granted increased by 4.4 per cent on the 7,932,737 granted.

Over the last 10 years (from 2015–16 to 2024–25) the number of:

- Permanent places decreased 1.1 percent, on the 207,325 in 2015–16:
  - Migration Program—down 4769 places (2.5 per cent), on the 189,770 places in 2015–16
  - Humanitarian Program—up 2445 grants (13.9 per cent), on the 17,555 grants in 2015–16.
- Temporary visa grants—up 530,701 grants (6.8 per cent), on the 7,748,587 in 2015–16.

Table 1: Key statistics for 2024–25 financial year

Migration	Total
Permanent migrants	**205,001**
Migration Program outcome	185,001
Skill stream places	132,148
Family stream places (includes Child)	52,500
Special Eligibility stream places	353
Humanitarian Program visas granted	20,000
Temporary visas granted	**8,279,288**
Visitor visas granted	4,915,854
New Zealand citizen Special Category visas granted	1,873,536
Crew and Transit visas granted	405,266
Student visas granted	371,564
Working Holiday Maker visas granted	321,116
Temporary Resident (Other Employment) visas granted	255,420
Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted	130,571
Other Temporary visas granted	5,961
Citizenship	**Conferrals**
Conferrals of Australian citizenship	**165,193**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs

[1] Excludes a small number of 'other permanent visas', such as the Former Citizens visa (subclass 150) and Former Residents visa (subclass 151), which are not counted towards Australia's Migration Program outcome.

Permanent migration

The Migration Program outcome

In 2024–25, there were 185,001 places delivered under the Migration Program—down 2.6 per cent on the 190,000 places in 2023–24. This was comprised of:

- 132,148 Skill stream places
- 52,500 Family stream places
- 353 Special Eligibility places.

In 2024–25, the top three nationalities accounted 43.1 per cent of the places delivered under the Migration Program. These were nationals of:

1. India—48,326 places (26.1 per cent)
2. People's Republic of China—20,405 places (11.0 per cent)
3. Philippines—10,972 places (5.9 per cent).

Despite the overall decrease in the number of Migration Program places in 2024–25, there was some growth amongst nationals of the top 10 countries (Table 2), namely:

1. Sri Lanka—up 3772 places (66.5 per cent), on the 5672 places in 2023–24
2. Pakistan—up 2680 places (39.0 per cent), on the 6877 places in 2023–24
3. United Kingdom—up 289 places (2.9 per cent), on the 9916 places in 2023–24.

Table 2: Migration Program outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	41,145	49,848	48,326	-3.1
People's Republic of China[1]	23,936	21,806	20,405	-6.4
Philippines	13,085	11,942	10,972	-8.1
United Kingdom	11,439	9,916	10,205	2.9
Pakistan	4,927	6,877	9,557	39.0
Sri Lanka	4,482	5,672	9,444	66.5
Nepal	12,041	11,506	8,319	-27.7
Vietnam	6,571	6,698	5,665	-15.4
South Africa	5,434	4,620	4,137	-10.5
Afghanistan	2,543	5,556	3,474	-37.5
Other[2]	69,401	55,559	54,497	-1.9
Total	**195,004**	**190,000**	**185,001**	**-2.6**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

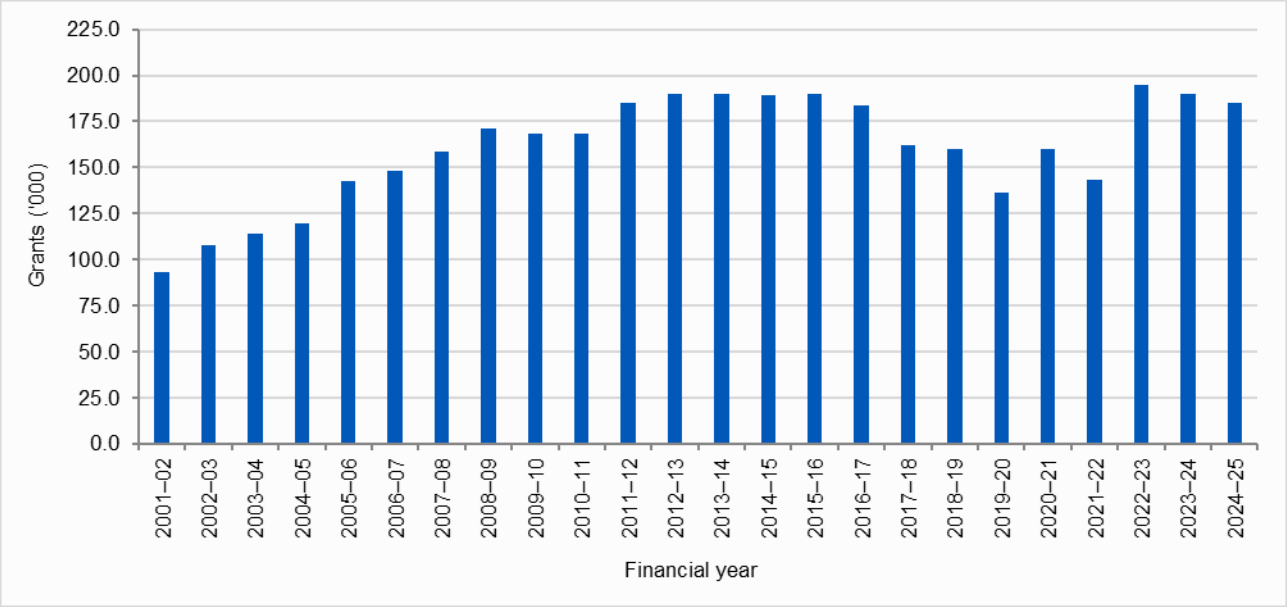
More than half (54.6 per cent) of migrants that obtained a permanent place in 2024–25, were migrants already in Australia on a temporary visa, with the remaining 45.4 per cent of places going to new arrivals.

Almost two-thirds (60.6 per cent) of those granted a Skill stream visa were former temporary visa holders, whereas more than half (57.8 per cent) of all former temporary visa holders moved directly from either a Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa (29.1 per cent) or a Temporary Graduate visa (28.7 per cent).

The 185,001 places delivered under the 2024–25 Migration Program was 2.5 per cent below that delivered a decade earlier, in 2015–16, of 189,770 places (Figure 1). This was largely a result of the:

- Skill stream—up 3598 places (2.8 per cent) on the 128,550 places delivered in 2015–16
- Family stream—down 4900 places (8.5 per cent) on the 57,400 places delivered in 2015–16.

Figure 1: Migration Program outcome, 2001–02 to 2024–25



Source data: Department of Home Affairs

As shown in Table 3, the top three nationalities that maintained strong growth over the decade were:

1. India—up 8181 places (20.4 per cent) on the 40,145 places in 2015–16, to 48,326 places
2. Sri Lanka—up 5854 places (163.1 per cent) on the 3590 places in 2015–16, to 9444 places
3. Nepal—up 3224 places (63.3 per cent) on the 5095 places in 2015–16, to 8319 places.

Table 3: Migration Program outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2015–16 and 2024–25

Citizenship country	2015–16	2024–25	Difference	% Change 2015–16 to 2024–25
India	40,145	48,326	8,181	20.4
People's Republic of China[1]	29,008	20,405	-8,603	-29.7
Philippines	11,917	10,972	-945	-7.9
United Kingdom	18,950	10,205	-8,745	-46.1
Pakistan	6,708	9,557	2,849	42.5
Sri Lanka	3,590	9,444	5,854	163.1
Nepal	5,095	8,319	3,224	63.3
Vietnam	5,341	5,665	324	6.1
South Africa	4,337	4,137	-200	-4.6
Afghanistan	1,463	3,474	2,011	137.5
Other[2]	63,216	54,497	-8,719	-13.8
Total	**189,770**	**185,001**	**-4,769**	**-2.5**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Skill stream visas

In 2024–25, there were 132,148 Skill stream places delivered, a decrease of 3.6 per cent on the 137,100 places in 2023–24 (Table 4).

The top three Skill stream visa categories accounted for 83.2 per cent of all Skill stream places in 2024–25, namely:

1. Employer Sponsored—44,000 places (33.3 per cent)
2. State/Territory Nominated—33,000 places (25.0 per cent)
3. Regional—32,948 places (24.9 per cent).

Table 4: Skill stream outcome by visa category, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Visa category	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
Employer Sponsored	35,000	36,825	44,000	19.5
State/Territory Nominated	31,000	30,400	33,000	8.6
Regional	33,944	32,300	32,948	2.0
Skilled Independent	32,100	30,375	16,900	-44.4
Global Talent (Independent)[1]	5,000	5,000	3,975	-20.5
Business Innovation and Investment[2]	5,000	1,900	1,000	-47.4
Distinguished Talent	300	300	300	0.0
National Innovation[3]	n/a	n/a	25	n/a
Total	**142,344**	**137,100**	**132,148**	**-3.6**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs

1. Effective 6 December 2024, the Global Talent visa (subclass 858) was closed to new applications and was replaced by the National Innovation visa.
2. The Business Innovation and Investment Program closed to new applications on 31 July 2024. Numbers are for net outcome. Visas cancelled under s134 of the *Migration Act 1958* are returned to the Program in the year in which they are cancelled.
3. The National Innovation visa commenced 7 December 2024 replacing the Global Talent visa (subclass 858).

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 46.4 per cent of all Skill stream places in 2024–25, namely:

1. India—43,634 places (33.0 per cent)
2. People's Republic of China—9415 places (7.1 per cent)
3. Sri Lanka—8235 places (6.2 per cent).

In 2024–25, among the top 10 nationalities (Table 5), growth was strongest for nationals of:

- Sri Lanka—up 3547 places (75.7 per cent), on the 4688 places in 2023–24
- Pakistan—up 1894 places (36.5 per cent), on the 5188 places in 2023–24.

In contrast, nationals of the following countries fell substantially, namely:

- Nepal—down 3366 places (30.9 per cent) on the 10,891 places in 2023–24
- People's Republic of China—down 2105 places (18.3 per cent) on the 11,520 places in 2023–24.

Table 5: Skill stream outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	36,251	45,820	43,634	-4.8
People's Republic of China[1]	13,532	11,520	9,415	-18.3
Sri Lanka	3,775	4,688	8,235	75.7
United Kingdom	8,565	7,846	8,034	2.4
Nepal	11,304	10,891	7,525	-30.9
Philippines	9,125	8,178	7,386	-9.7
Pakistan	3,950	5,188	7,082	36.5
South Africa	4,960	4,246	3,787	-10.8
Brazil	2,230	1,963	2,264	15.3
Ireland	2,104	2,086	2,204	5.7
Other[2]	46,548	34,674	32,582	-6.0
Total	**142,344**	**137,100**	**132,148**	**-3.6**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

The Skill stream comprised 71.4 per cent of the Migration Program outcome in 2024–25; by comparison, in 2023–24 the share was 72.2 per cent.

The Skill stream is comprised of primary applicants (the visa holder who satisfies the primary criteria for the grant of a visa) and their accompanying family unit (secondary applicants), such as spouses and children. In 2024–25, of the 132,148 Skill stream places delivered, less than half (45.8 per cent) went to Skill stream primary applicants, who comprised less than one-third (32.7 per cent) of the total Migration Program outcome.

Employer Sponsored visas

In 2024–25, there were 44,000 Employer Sponsored places delivered, an increase of 19.5 per cent on the 36,825 places delivered in 2023–24.

Nationals of the top three countries accounted for almost half (48.3 per cent) of Employer Sponsored places in 2024–25, namely:

1. India—12,762 places (29.0 per cent)
2. United Kingdom—4650 places (10.6 per cent)
3. Philippines—3834 places (8.7 per cent).

Of the main nationalities (Table 6) that obtained a place in 2024–25, growth was strongest for nationals of:

- India—up 1796 places (16.4 per cent), on the 10,966 places in 2023–24
- Sri Lanka—up 968 places (95.3 per cent), on the 1016 places in 2023–24
- South Africa—up 823 places (58.1 per cent), on the 1417 places in 2023–24.

Table 6: Employer Sponsored outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	8,187	10,966	12,762	16.4
United Kingdom	4,324	4,500	4,650	3.3
Philippines	3,123	3,368	3,834	13.8
South Africa	1,796	1,417	2,240	58.1
Sri Lanka	1,078	1,016	1,984	95.3
People's Republic of China[1]	1,676	2,367	1,509	-36.2
Nepal	761	710	1,412	98.9
Ireland	1,402	1,154	1,343	16.4
Brazil	1,081	933	1,266	35.7
Pakistan	420	453	823	81.7
Other[2]	11,152	9,941	12,177	22.5
Total	**35,000**	**36,825**	**44,000**	**19.5**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Of the 44,000 Employer Sponsored places delivered in 2024–25, 40.4 per cent (17,784 places) were to primary applicants, with the top three nominated occupations accounting for 33.3 per cent of Employer Sponsored primary applicants, namely:

1. Registered Nurses—2394 places (13.5 per cent)
2. Chefs—1894 places (10.7 per cent)
3. Software and Applications Programmers—1633 places (9.2 per cent).[2]

State/Territory Nominated

In 2024–25, there were 33,000 State/Territory Nominated places delivered, an increase of 8.6 per cent on the 30,400 places delivered in 2023–24.

Nationals of the top three countries in 2024–25, accounted for more than half (51.6 per cent) of State/Territory Nominated places. These were nationals of:

1. India—11,355 places (34.4 per cent)
2. People’s Republic of China—3158 places (9.6 per cent)
3. Nepal—2523 places (7.6 per cent).

Among the top 10 nationalities (Table 7), growth in State/Territory Nominated places in 2024–25, was strongest for nationals of the following three countries:

1. Pakistan—up 1242 places (106.9 per cent) on the 1162 places in 2023–24
2. Sri Lanka—up 604 places (43.0 per cent) on the 1406 places in 2023–24
3. United Kingdom—up 439 places (37.7 per cent) on the 1163 places in 2023–24.

[2] Occupation level information is only available for Skill stream primary applicants and is based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) Unit Group.

Table 7: State/Territory Nominated outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	9,740	11,064	11,355	2.6
People's Republic of China[1]	4,324	3,179	3,158	-0.7
Nepal	3,367	2,773	2,523	-9.0
Pakistan	908	1,162	2,404	106.9
Sri Lanka	834	1,406	2,010	43.0
United Kingdom	1,703	1,163	1,602	37.7
Philippines	1,135	1,262	1,308	3.6
Malaysia	716	628	815	29.8
South Africa	965	770	707	-8.2
Bhutan	244	315	672	113.3
Other[2]	7,064	6,678	6,446	-3.5
Total	**31,000**	**30,400**	**33,000**	**8.6**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

In 2024–25, of the State/Territory Nominated places delivered, 52.9 per cent (17,455 places) were to primary applicants, with the top three nominated occupations accounting for 22.7 per cent of State/Territory Nominated primary applicants, namely:

1. Software and Applications Programmers—1561 places (8.9 per cent)
2. Accountants—1274 places (7.3 per cent)
3. ICT Business and Systems Analysts—1132 places (6.5 per cent).

Regional migration

In 2024–25, there were 32,948 Regional places delivered, an increase of 2.0 per cent on the 32,300 places delivered in 2023–24.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for more than half (59.7 per cent) of Regional places, namely:

1. India—13,193 places (40.0 per cent)
2. Sri Lanka—3611 places (11.0 per cent)
3. Pakistan—2881 places (8.7 per cent).

In 2024–25, among the top 10 nationalities (Table 8), growth was strongest for nationals of:

- Sri Lanka—up 2254 places (166.1 per cent), on the 1357 places in 2023–24
- Pakistan—up 636 places (28.3 per cent), on the 2245 places in 2023–24.

Table 8: Regional outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	12,192	12,953	13,193	1.9
Sri Lanka	1,068	1,357	3,611	166.1
Pakistan	1,754	2,245	2,881	28.3
Nepal	4,380	3,301	2,574	-22.0
Philippines	3,098	1,830	1,542	-15.7
People's Republic of China[1]	2,106	1,380	1,101	-20.2
Bangladesh	457	495	588	18.8
Iran	402	495	582	17.6
United Kingdom	1,141	729	521	-28.5
Bhutan	266	409	490	19.8
Other[2]	7,080	7,106	5,865	-17.5
Total	**33,944**	**32,300**	**32,948**	**2.0**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Of the Regional places delivered in 2024–25, 37.6 per cent (12,396 places) were to primary applicants, with the top three nominated occupations accounting for 17.7 per cent of Regional primary applicants, namely:

1. Accountants—997 places (8.0 per cent)
2. Software and Applications Programmers—606 places (4.9 per cent)
3. Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers—586 places (4.7 per cent).

Skilled Independent

In 2024–25, there were 16,900 Skilled Independent places delivered, a decrease of 44.4 per cent on the 30,375 places delivered in 2023–24.

Nationals of the top three countries in 2024–25, accounted for more than half (51.1 per cent) of Skilled Independent places. These were nationals of:

1. India—5058 places (29.9 per cent)
2. People’s Republic of China—2488 places (14.7 per cent)
3. United Kingdom—1084 places (6.4 per cent).

In 2024–25, almost two-thirds (64.5 per cent) of the fall in Skilled Independent places (decrease of 13,475 places) was against nationals of the following countries (Table 9):

- India—down 4573 places (47.5 per cent) on the 9631 places in 2023–24
- Nepal—down 3091 places (75.6 per cent) on the 4090 places in 2023–24
- Philippines—down 1022 places (60.3 per cent) on the 1695 places in 2023-24.

Table 9: Skilled Independent outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	5,074	9,631	5,058	-47.5
People's Republic of China[1]	2,351	2,769	2,488	-10.1
United Kingdom	1,076	1,257	1,084	-13.8
Nepal	2,763	4,090	999	-75.6
Pakistan	583	1,025	757	-26.1
Philippines	1,738	1,695	673	-60.3
Sri Lanka	616	806	501	-37.8
Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC)[2]	699	788	478	-39.3
Ireland	273	413	412	-0.2
Malaysia	500	663	386	-41.8
Other[3]	16,427	7,238	4,064	-43.9
Total	**32,100**	**30,375**	**16,900**	**-44.4**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. PRC = People's Republic of China.
3. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

In 2024–25, of the Skilled Independent places delivered, 66.2 per cent (11,188 places) were to primary applicants, with the top three nominated occupations accounting for 27.7 per cent of Skilled Independent primary applicants, namely:

1. Registered Nurses—1467 places (13.1 per cent)
2. Early Childhood (Pre-primary School) Teachers—951 places (8.5 per cent)
3. Civil Engineering Professionals—676 places (6.0 per cent).

Global Talent (Independent)

In 2024–25, there were 3975 Global Talent (Independent) places delivered, a decrease of 20.5 per cent on the 5000 places that were delivered in 2023–24 (Table 10). Of these, 32.1 per cent (1274 places) were to primary applicants.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for more than half (55.6 per cent) of Global Talent (Independent) places, namely:

1. India—1244 places (31.3 per cent)
2. People's Republic of China—579 places (14.6 per cent)
3. Hong Kong—388 places (9.8 per cent).

Effective 6 December 2024, the Global Talent visa (subclass 858) was closed to new applications and was replaced by the National Innovation visa.

Table 10: Global Talent (Independent) outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	931	1,155	1,244	7.7
People's Republic of China[1]	544	761	579	-23.9
Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC)[2]	671	603	388	-35.7
Pakistan	212	228	192	-15.8
Vietnam	204	176	157	-10.8
United States of America	194	163	141	-13.5
Iran	359	231	141	-39.0
Taiwan	136	244	134	-45.1
United Kingdom	268	152	124	-18.4
Singapore	46	103	106	2.9
Other[3]	1,435	1,184	769	-35.1
Total	**5,000**	**5,000**	**3,975**	**-20.5**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. PRC = People's Republic of China.
3. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

National Innovation visa

The National Innovation visa came into effect on 7 December 2024 replacing the Global Talent visa (subclass 858).

The National Innovation visa is available to highly talented individuals who can make significant contributions in sectors of national importance.

In 2024–25, there were 25 places delivered, of which 44 per cent (11 places) were to primary applicants. Collectively, almost two-thirds of these 25 places went to nationals of the following two countries:

1. United Kingdom—10 places (40.0 per cent)
2. United States of America—6 places (24.0 per cent).

Business Innovation and Investment visas

In 2024–25, there were 1000 Business Innovation and Investment Program (BIIP) visa places delivered—down 47.4 per cent (900 places) on the 1900 places delivered in 2023–24. By stream, this was mainly (87.4 per cent) comprised of:

- 391 Business Innovation places (39.1 per cent)
- 213 Significant Business History places (21.3 per cent)
- 189 Investor places (18.9 per cent)
- 81 Significant Investor places (8.1 per cent).

The Business Innovation and Investment Program closed to new applications on 31 July 2024.

Collectively, the top three nationalities accounted for 80.1 per cent of all BIIP visa places in 2024–25. These were nationals of:

1. People's Republic of China—573 places (57.3 per cent)
2. Vietnam—184 places (18.4 per cent)
3. Hong Kong—44 places (4.4 per cent).

Nationals of the People's Republic of China continued to be the main recipients of BIIP visas, with significantly more BIIP places than any other nationality, and in 2024–25, was mainly comprised of:

- 187 Business Innovation stream places
- 147 Investor stream places
- 124 Significant Business History stream places
- 71 Significant Investor stream places.

Distinguished Talent

In 2024–25, there were 300 Distinguished Talent places delivered, the same number of places delivered in 2023–24. Of these, 42.0 per cent (126 places) were to primary applicants.

Nationals of the top three countries in 2024–25, accounted for more than one-third (36.7 per cent) of Distinguished Talent places. These were nationals of:

1. Sri Lanka—56 places (18.7 per cent)
2. United Kingdom—35 places (11.7 per cent)
3. United States of America—19 places (6.3 per cent).

Family stream visas

In 2024–25, there were 52,500 places delivered under the Family stream, a decrease of 0.4 per cent on the 52,720 places delivered in 2023–24.

The Family stream's 52,500 places was comprised of:

- 40,500 Partner places
- 8500 Parent places
- 3000 Child places
- 500 Other Family places.

Nationals of the top three countries in 2024–25, accounted for more than one-third (36.6 per cent) of Family stream places delivered. These were nationals of:

1. People's Republic of China—10,972 places (20.9 per cent)
2. India—4661 places (8.9 per cent)
3. Philippines—3577 places (6.8 per cent).

In 2024–25, among the top 10 nationalities (Table 11), growth was strongest for nationals of:

- Pakistan—up 785 places (46.8 per cent) on the 1678 places in 2023–24
- People's Republic of China—up 688 places (6.7 per cent) on the 10,284 places in 2023–24
- India—up 667 places (16.7 per cent) on the 3994 places in 2023–24.

Table 11: Family stream outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
People's Republic of China[1]	10,402	10,284	10,972	6.7
India	4,882	3,994	4,661	16.7
Philippines	3,957	3,744	3,577	-4.5
Vietnam	3,461	3,811	3,476	-8.8
Afghanistan	2,468	5,484	3,437	-37.3
Pakistan	977	1,678	2,463	46.8
United Kingdom	2,872	2,062	2,151	4.3
Thailand	1,862	1,762	1,443	-18.1
United States of America	1,671	1,366	1,232	-9.8
Sri Lanka	697	975	1,204	23.5
Other[2]	19,251	17,560	17,884	1.8
Total	**52,500**	**52,720**	**52,500**	**-0.4**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Partner visas

In 2024–25, there were 40,500 Partner places delivered, a decrease of 0.5 per cent on the 40,720 places delivered in 2023–24. This was comprised of:

- 38,229 Partner places
- 2271 Fiancé places.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 28.9 per cent of Partner places in 2024–25. These were nationals of:

1. People’s Republic of China—4461 places (11.0 per cent)
2. India—3848 places (9.5 per cent)
3. Afghanistan—3379 places (8.3 per cent).

Growth in Partner places in 2024–25 (Table 12) was strongest for nationals of the following countries:

- Pakistan—up 843 places (54.5 per cent) on the 1548 places in 2023–24
- People’s Republic of China—up 659 places (17.3 per cent) on the 3802 places in 2023–24
- India—up 559 places (17.0 per cent) on the 3289 places in 2023–24.

Table 12: Partner outcome—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
People's Republic of China[1]	4,728	3,802	4,461	17.3
India	3,815	3,289	3,848	17.0
Afghanistan	2,094	5,228	3,379	-35.4
Philippines	3,355	3,278	2,949	-10.0
Vietnam	2,502	3,039	2,685	-11.6
Pakistan	906	1,548	2,391	54.5
United Kingdom	2,535	1,835	1,852	0.9
Thailand	1,541	1,546	1,206	-22.0
United States of America	1,591	1,266	1,166	-7.9
Lebanon	415	1,141	1,107	-3.0
Other[2]	17,018	14,748	15,456	4.8
Total	**40,500**	**40,720**	**40,500**	**-0.5**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Parent visas

In 2024–25, there were 8500 Parent visa places delivered, the same number delivered in 2023–24. This was comprised of:

- 6800 Contributory Parent places
- 1700 non-contributory Parent places.

Nationals of the top three countries in 2024–25, accounted for more than three-quarters (81.7 per cent) of Parent places. These were nationals of:

1. People’s Republic of China—5798 places (68.2 per cent)
2. India—641 places (7.5 per cent)
3. Vietnam—504 places (5.9 per cent).

Child visas

In 2024–25, there were 3000 Child visa places delivered, the same number delivered in 2023–24. This was comprised of the following visa groupings:

- Child visas—2759 places
- Orphan Relative visas—180 places
- Adoption visas—61 places.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 47.5 per cent of places in this category in 2024–25. These were nationals of:

1. People’s Republic of China—618 places (20.6 per cent)
2. Philippines—574 places (19.1 per cent)
3. Thailand—232 places (7.7 per cent).

Other Family visas

In 2024–25, there were 500 Other Family visa places delivered, the same number delivered in 2023–24. This was comprised of:

- 300 Carer places
- 188 Remaining Relative places
- 12 Aged Dependent Relative places.

In 2024–25, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 44.0 per cent of places delivered in this category. These were nationals of:

1. Vietnam—99 places (19.8 per cent)
2. People's Republic of China—95 places (19.0 per cent)
3. Lebanon—26 places (5.2 per cent).

Special Eligibility visas

In 2024–25, there were 353 Special Eligibility places delivered, an increase of 96.1 per cent on the 180 places delivered in 2023–24.

Nationals of the top three countries in 2024–25, accounted for 20.1 per cent of Special Eligibility places delivered, namely:

1. India—31 places (8.8 per cent)
2. Indonesia—20 places (5.7 per cent); and equal second
3. United Kingdom—20 places each (5.7 per cent).

Change of status—permanent visa places by last visa held where the applicant is in Australia

In 2024–25, there were 101,022 permanent places delivered to applicants in Australia on temporary visas, a decrease of 7.1 per cent on the 108,730 places delivered in 2023–24.

More than two-thirds (70.3 per cent) were to former holders of:

- Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa—29,349 places (29.1 per cent)
- Temporary Graduate visa—29,001 places (28.7 per cent)
- Student visa—12,637 places (12.5 per cent).

The decrease in 2024–25 (Table 13) was most notable for those that were former visa holders of a:

- Student visa—down 6756 places (34.8 per cent) on the 19,393 places in 2023–24
- Visitor visa—down 3533 places (24.0 per cent) on the 14.744 places in 2023–24.

Table 13: Permanent migration places granted in Australia by last visa held, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Last visa held	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)	30,864	26,892	29,349	9.1
Temporary Graduate	29,375	29,787	29,001	-2.6
Student	25,804	19,393	12,637	-34.8
Temporary Activity	4,894	12,718	12,595	-1.0
Visitor	13,799	14,744	11,211	-24.0
Working Holiday Maker	2,418	2,656	3,060	15.2
Other[1]	13,437	2,540	3,169	24.8
Total	**120,591**	**108,730**	**101,022**	**-7.1**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Includes last visa held not specified.
Note: Last visa held based on 2024–25.

Students moving onto permanent residence whilst in Australia

In 2024–25, the number of permanent places obtained by former international students in Australia who transitioned directly from a Student visa was 12,637 places, a decrease of 34.8 per cent on the 19,393 places delivered in 2023–24.

The top three categories in 2024–25 (Table 14), accounted for three-quarters (76.6 per cent) of permanent places obtained by these former Student visa holders, namely:

1. Partner—4165 places (33.0 per cent)
2. Regional—2833 places (22.4 per cent)
3. State/Territory Nominated—2680 places (21.2 per cent)

Table 14: Permanent migration places granted by visa category to former Student visa holders in Australia, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Visa category	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
Regional	6,371	4,829	2,833	-41.3
State/Territory Nominated	6,000	3,717	2,680	-27.9
Employer Sponsored	1,459	1,171	1,318	12.6
Skilled Independent	2,758	3,203	1,271	-60.3
Global Talent (Independent)	425	237	117	-50.6
Business Innovation and Investment	199	84	55	-34.5
Partner	8,424	5,992	4,165	-30.5
All other categories	168	160	198	23.8
Total	**25,804**	**19,393**	**12,637**	**-34.8**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
Note: Order based on stream (Skill then Family) categories, 2024–25.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 43.0 per cent of these places in 2024–25. These were nationals of:

1. India—2934 places (23.2 per cent)
2. People's Republic of China—1567 places (12.4 per cent)
3. Nepal—930 places (7.4 per cent).

In 2024–25, almost two-thirds (63.8 per cent) of the fall in these places (decrease of 6756 places, Table 15) was notably against nationals of the following countries:

- India—down 2618 places (47.2 per cent) on the 5552 places in 2023–24
- Nepal—down 970 places (51.1 per cent) on the 1900 places in 2023–24
- People's Republic of China—down 722 places (31.5 per cent) on the 2289 places in 2023–24.

Table 15: Permanent migration places granted to former international students in Australia, top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	5,915	5,552	2,934	-47.2
People's Republic of China[1]	3,583	2,289	1,567	-31.5
Nepal	3,272	1,900	930	-51.1
Pakistan	834	972	749	-22.9
Vietnam	1,461	1,156	697	-39.7
Philippines	1,090	711	651	-8.4
Sri Lanka	615	547	478	-12.6
Brazil	1,210	719	447	-37.8
Colombia	745	563	425	-24.5
Thailand	541	465	353	-24.1
Other[2]	6,538	4,519	3,406	-24.6
Total	**25,804**	**19,393**	**12,637**	**-34.8**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Humanitarian Program

In 2024–25, there were 20,000 visas granted under the Humanitarian Program. This included 15,999 visas granted under the offshore (resettlement) component of the program to people affected by humanitarian crises around the world, and 4001 visas granted under the onshore (protection) component of the program.

Offshore resettlement component

The 15,999 visas granted in 2024–25, under the offshore resettlement component of the program represented 80.0 per cent of all places. This was comprised of:

- 9511 Refugee visas granted (59.4 per cent)
- 6488 Special Humanitarian visas granted (40.6 per cent).

Nationals of the top three countries in 2024–25, accounted for more than two-thirds (69.6 per cent) of visas granted through the offshore resettlement component. These were nationals of:

1. Afghanistan—6700 grants (41.9 per cent)
2. Syria—2804 grants (17.5 per cent)
3. Iraq—1624 grants (10.2 per cent).

In 2024–25, more than half (50.8 per cent) of all visas granted under the offshore resettlement component of the Humanitarian Program went to females. During this time, the Government continued its commitment to resettling highly vulnerable women and children with 981 visas granted (6.1 per cent of the delivered program) to vulnerable women and their families. Since the establishment of the Woman at Risk visa in 1989, there have been more than 33,200 visas granted to vulnerable women and their dependants.

Onshore protection component

In 2024–25, there were 24,451 Protection visa applications lodged—a decrease of 5.2 per cent on the 25,790 lodged the previous year. This comprised 23,576 Protection visa applications, and 875 Temporary Protection visa and Safe Haven Enterprise visa applications.

In addition to the 4001 Permanent Protection visas granted under the onshore component in 2024–25, there were:

- 2285 permanent Resolution of Status visas granted
- 963 Temporary Humanitarian Concern visas granted to Palestinian nationals
- 91 Safe Haven Enterprise visas granted—a five-year temporary visa
- 22 Temporary Protection visas granted—a three-year temporary visa.[3]

Final grant rates for Permanent Protection visas in 2024–25 varied widely. The top three countries of citizenship for Permanent Protection visa grants in 2024–25 were:

1. Malaysia—844 grants; final grant rate of 51.8 per cent
2. Myanmar—756 grants; final grant rate of 99.3 per cent
3. Iran—462 grants; final grant rate of 82.1 per cent.

[3] Safe Haven Enterprise visas (SHEV) and Temporary Protection visas (TPV), Resolution of Status (RoS) and Temporary Humanitarian Concern visas are not included in overall Humanitarian Program numbers as these visas are managed outside of the program. These numbers include grants of initial and subsequent SHEVs and TPVs – the Government announced a permanent pathway through a RoS visa for existing TPV/SHEV holders in February 2022.

Temporary visa grants

In 2024–25, there were 8,279,288 temporary visas granted, an increase of 4.4 per cent on the 7,932,737 visas granted the previous year. Of these, more than 4.9 million (59.4 per cent) were Visitor visa grants, and almost 1.9 million (22.6 per cent) Special Category visa grants to New Zealand citizens.

Visitor visa grants

In 2024–25, there were 4,915,854 Visitor visas granted, an increase of 202,412 grants on the 4,713,442 visas granted in 2023–24 (Table 16). By visa type, the number of Visitor visas granted in 2024–25 was comprised of:

- 4,436,908 tourist visa grants
- 478,946 business visitor visa grants.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 35.2 per cent of people granted a Visitor visa in 2024–25, namely:

1. People's Republic of China—622,839 grants (12.7 per cent)
2. United States of America—579,217 grants (11.8 per cent)
3. United Kingdom—530,543 grants (10.8 per cent).

Nationals of the following countries predominantly drove the growth in Visitor visas in 2024–25:

- United Kingdom—up 51,501 grants on the 479,042 grants in 2023–24
- People's Republic of China—up 39,656 grants on the 583,183 grants in 2023–24
- Japan—up 32,515 grants on the 325,445 grants in 2023–24.

Table 16: Visitor visas granted—top 10 citizenship countries, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
People's Republic of China[1]	271,550	583,183	622,839	6.8
United States of America	456,565	559,620	579,217	3.5
United Kingdom	460,157	479,042	530,543	10.8
Republic of Korea	172,648	354,388	360,854	1.8
Japan	157,809	325,445	357,960	10.0
India	357,038	287,259	302,758	5.4
Singapore	219,986	230,411	237,357	3.0
Malaysia	147,838	172,617	169,612	-1.7
Germany	116,444	134,282	144,271	7.4
Taiwan	72,318	131,982	142,770	8.2
Other[2]	1,386,142	1,455,213	1,467,673	0.9
Total	**3,818,495**	**4,713,442**	**4,915,854**	**4.3**

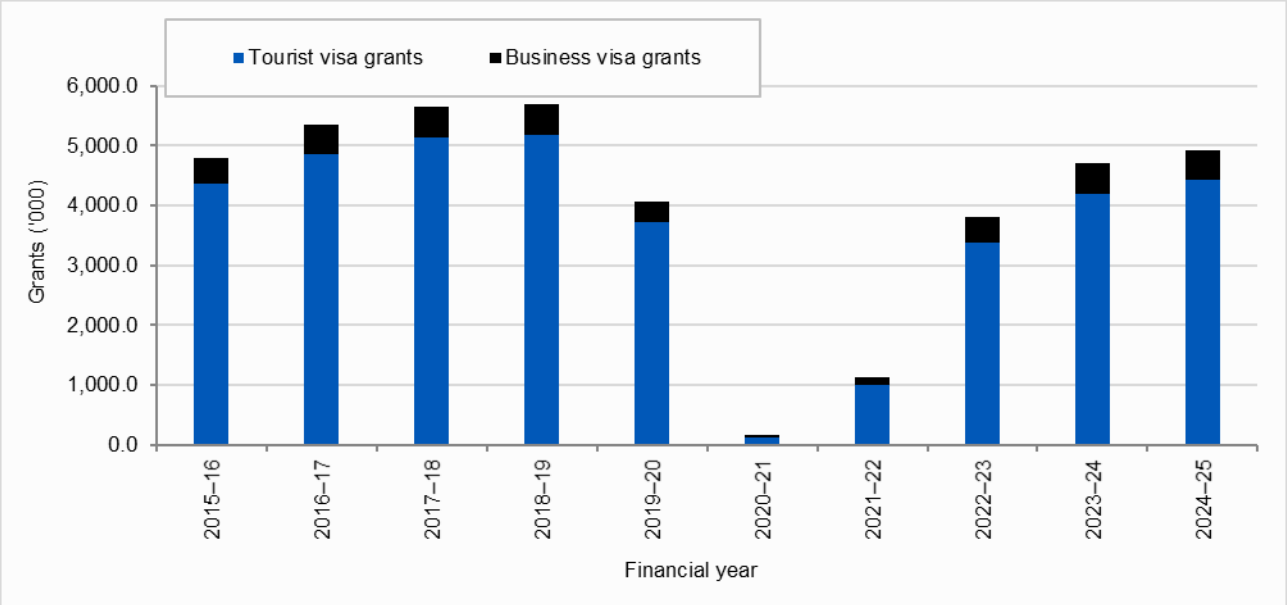
Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Visitor visas can be analysed by visa type providing a more targeted approach to identifying where the growth in the number of visas granted is occurring. Those granted for:

- tourism, increased by 234,467 grants on 2023–24 to 4,436,908 grants, mainly:
  - Tourist visa grants—up 217,732 grants to 4,341,231 grants
  - Approved Destination Status visa grants—up 26,585 grants to 51,781 grants
  - Sponsored Family visa grants—down 12,255 grants to 41,482 grants.
- business decreased by 32,055 grants on 2023–24 to 478,946 grants, mainly:
  - Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Visitor—down 36,385 grants to 140,327 grants
  - Business Visitor (excludes APEC)—up 4311 grants to 338,600 grants.

During the 10 years from 2015–16 to 2024–25, before the COVID-19 pandemic, Visitor visa grants were increasing each year to a peak of 5,686,318 grants in 2018–19, an increase of 18.5 per cent (887,145 grants) on the 4,799,173 grants in 2015–16 (Figure 2). In contrast, with the closure of international borders due to COVID, Visitor visa grants between 2018–19 and 2021–22 fell significantly and were down 80.1 per cent (4,554,428 grants) to just 1,131,890 grants. In 2024–25, Visitor visa grants were 2.4 per cent (116,681 grants) above the number granted in 2015–16, with those granted for the purpose of tourism up 1.5 per cent (64,407 grants) and business up 12.3 per cent (52,274 grants).

Figure 2: Visitor visa grants by visa type, 2015–16 to 2024–25



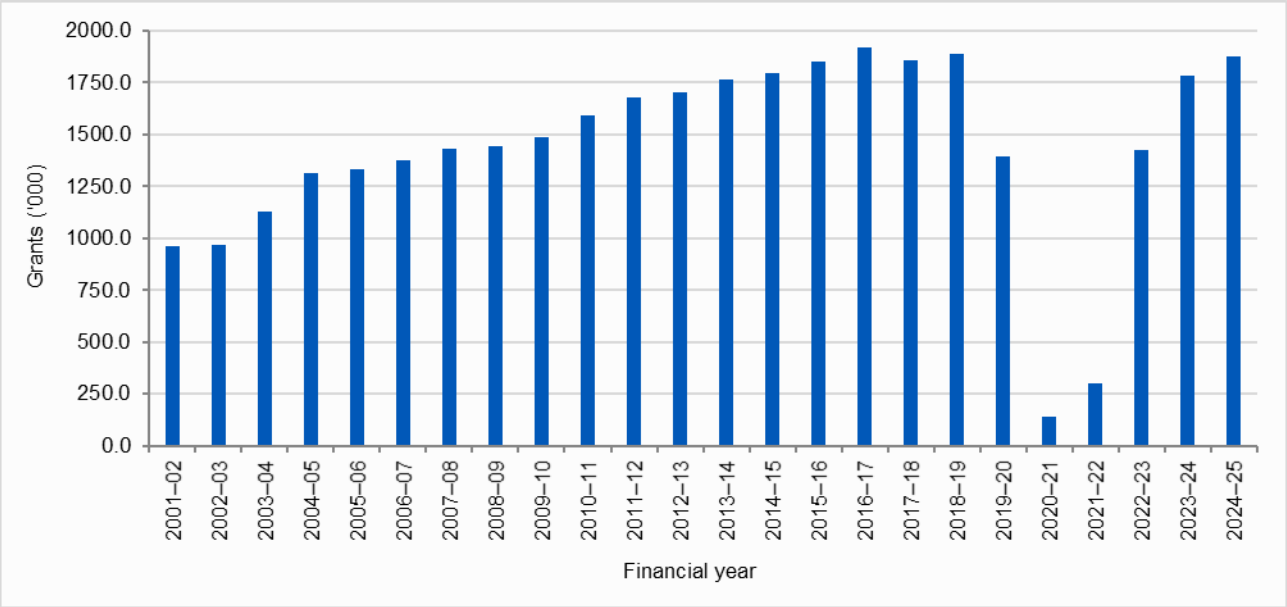
Source data: Department of Home Affairs

New Zealand citizen Special Category visa grants

In 2024–25, there were 1,873,536 Special Category visas granted to New Zealand citizens—up 4.9 per cent (87,050 grants) on the 1,786,486 granted in 2023–24.

Special category visa grants to New Zealand citizens in 2024–25, are now sitting at just below 2018–19 levels and 2.5 per cent (48,025 grants) below the peak in 2016–17 of 1,921,561 visas granted (Figure 3).

Figure 3: New Zealand citizen, Special Category visa grants, 2001–02 to 2024–25



Source data: Department of Home Affairs

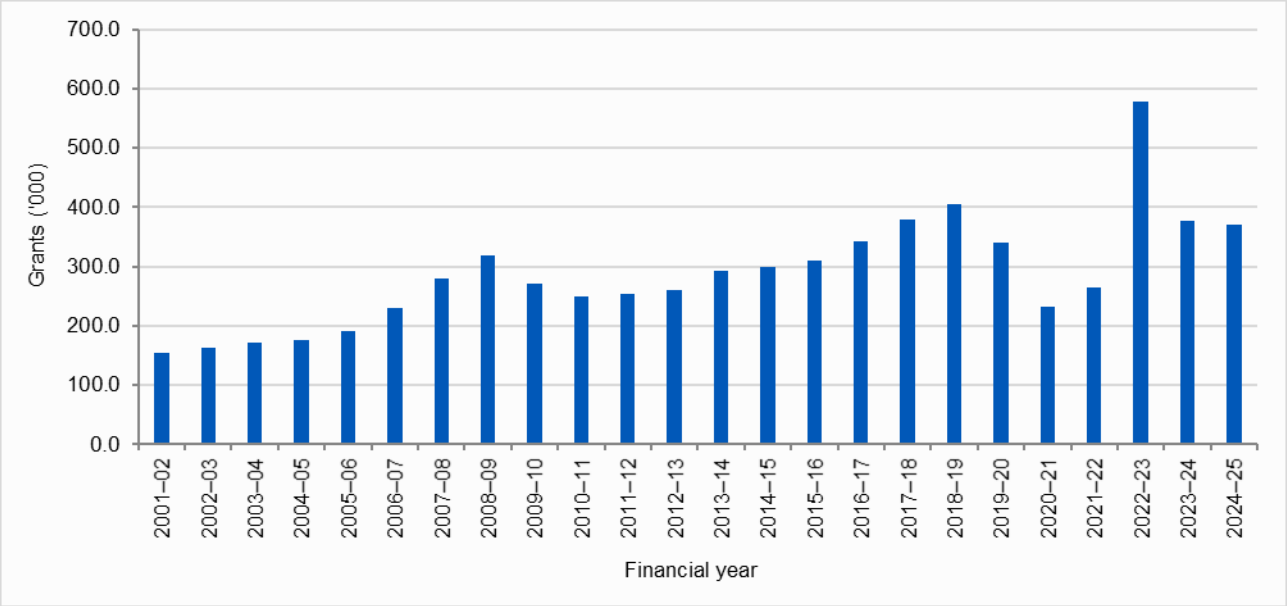
Student visa grants

In 2024–25, there were 371,564 Student visas granted, down:

- 1.4 per cent (5167 grants) on the 376,731 visas granted in 2023–24
- 35.6 per cent (205,731 grants) on the peak of 577,295 visas granted in 2022–23.

As Figure 4 shows, the number of Student visas granted over the last two years to 2024–25, was more in line with the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level of 378,292 visas granted in 2017–18.

Figure 4: Student visas granted, 2001–02 to 2024–25



Source data: Department of Home Affairs

By client location, while the number of visas granted from outside Australia has fallen 12.9 per cent (34,757 grants) to 234,040 grants for 2024–25, the number of visas granted to international students in Australia has increased.

Those that last held a Student visa and Temporary Resident (Other Employment) visa, accounted for 87.5 per cent of the 137,524 Student visas granted in Australia in 2024–25 (Table 17).

Of those who transitioned from a Temporary Resident (Other Employment) visa, around three-quarters (74.9 per cent) were former Temporary Activity visa holders, largely from the Australian Government Endorsed Events stream. While grants to international students transitioning from this visa category have increased, grants to former Visitor visa holders fell 62.2 per cent (12,503 grants) in 2024–25, likely due to the changes that came into effect on 1 July 2024 to end visa hopping in Australia.

Table 17: Student visas granted in Australia by last visa category held, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Last visa category held	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
Student	150,531	76,367	96,044	25.8
Temporary Resident (Other Employment)	12,866	4,467	24,301	444.0
Visitor	38,334	20,090	7,587	-62.2
Working Holiday Maker	2,786	5,156	7,548	46.4
Other[1]	2,799	1,854	2,044	10.2
Total	**207,316**	**107,934**	**137,524**	**27.4**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs

1. Includes no previous visa held or has not been specified.

By reporting category, the number of Student visas granted in 2024–25 was comprised of:

- 233,570 Higher Education grants
- 66,606 Vocational Education and Training (VET) grants
- 27,061 Independent ELICOS grants[4]
- 17,279 Non-Award grants
- 13,042 Postgraduate Research grants
- 9075 Schools grants
- 4931 Foreign Affairs or Defence grants.

[4] ELICOS—English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students.

The 1.4 per cent fall in Student visa grants in 2024–25 was largely due to a 30.6 per cent (11,959 grants) fall in the Independent ELICOS sector, offset by a 2.8 per cent (6340 grants) increase in the Higher Education sector (Table 18).

Table 18: Student visas granted by reporting category, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Reporting category	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
Higher Education	300,144	227,230	233,570	2.8
VET	153,043	65,616	66,606	1.5
Independent ELICOS	74,627	39,020	27,061	-30.6
Non-Award	17,432	17,663	17,279	-2.2
Postgraduate Research	16,798	12,796	13,042	1.9
Schools	10,691	9,778	9,075	-7.2
Foreign Affairs or Defence	4,560	4,628	4,931	6.5
Total	**577,295**	**376,731**	**371,564**	**-1.4**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs

Nationals of the top three countries accounted for 45.3 per cent of Student visas granted in 2024–25. These were nationals of:

1. People's Republic of China—88,014 grants (23.7 per cent)
2. India—48,536 grants (13.1 per cent)
3. Nepal—31,869 grants (8.6 per cent).

Although the number of Student visas granted in 2024–25 fell 1.4 per cent on the previous year, there was some solid growth, as Table 19 shows, for nationals of the following countries:

- Nepal—up 12,472 grants (64.3 per cent)
- Bangladesh—up 3678 grants (36.3 per cent).

Table 19: Student visas granted—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
People's Republic of China[1]	98,506	90,573	88,014	-2.8
India	102,696	50,516	48,536	-3.9
Nepal	40,731	19,397	31,869	64.3
Colombia	36,413	15,839	15,408	-2.7
Brazil	23,970	12,835	14,775	15.1
Bangladesh	9,338	10,143	13,821	36.3
Vietnam	18,814	15,436	12,251	-20.6
Indonesia	14,765	10,251	11,103	8.3
Philippines	27,775	13,651	10,244	-25.0
Sri Lanka	13,334	9,360	9,942	6.2
Other[2]	190,953	128,730	115,601	-10.2
Total	**577,295**	**376,731**	**371,564**	**-1.4**

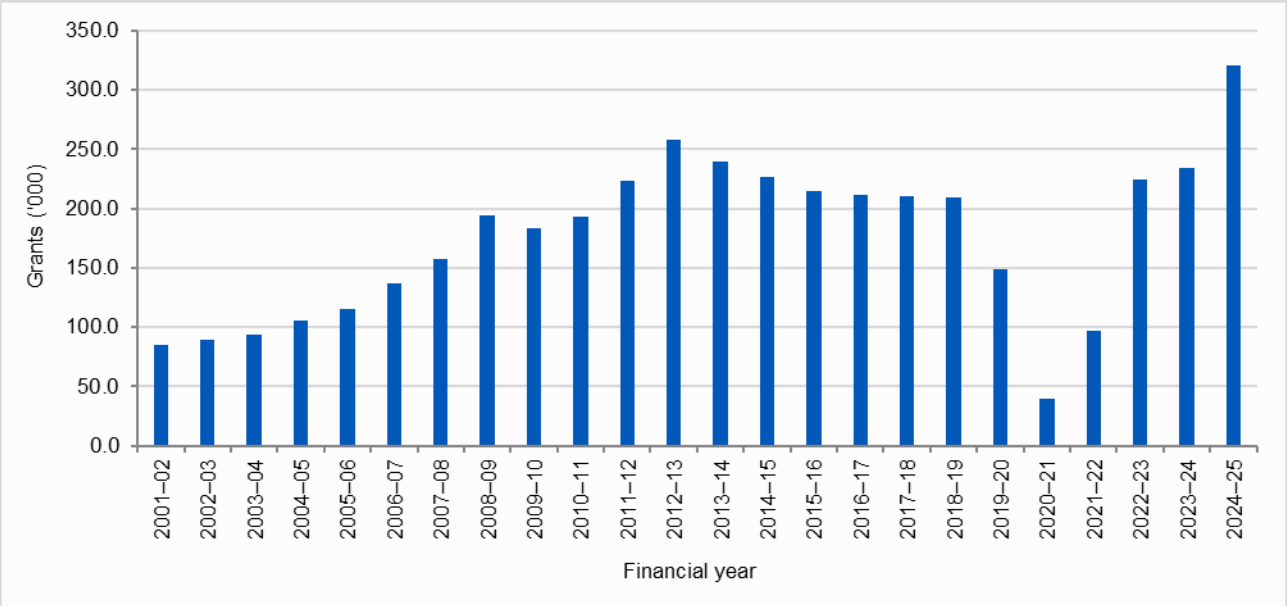
Source data: Department of Home Affairs

1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified. Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

Working Holiday Maker visa grants

In 2024–25, there were 321,116 Working Holiday Maker visas granted, an increase of 36.9 per cent (86,560 grants) on the 234,556 visas granted in 2023–24. This was 24.3 per cent (62,868 grants) above the previous peak in 2012–13 of 258,248 visas granted (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Working Holiday visa grants, 2001–02 to 2024–25



Source data: Department of Home Affairs

The increase in Working Holiday Maker visa grants in 2024–25 is in part due to the commencement of new Working Holiday visa arrangements, effective from 1 July 2024, that allow passport holders of the United Kingdom to be granted up to three separate Working Holiday visas without having to meet any specified work criteria.[5]

Working Holiday Maker visa grants in 2024–25 were comprised of:

- 254,905 Working Holiday visa grants
  - 158,574 First Working Holiday visa grants
  - 96,331 further Working Holiday visa grants[6]
- 66,211 Work and Holiday visa grants
  - 37,888 First Work and Holiday visa grants
  - 28,323 further Work and Holiday visa grants.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 45.3 per cent of all Working Holiday Maker visa grants in 2024–25 (Table 20). These were nationals of:

1. United Kingdom—79,412 grants (24.7 per cent)
2. France—41,937 grants (13.1 per cent)
3. Ireland—24,165 grants (7.5 per cent).

[5] Department of Home Affairs – New arrangements for UK passport holders.
[6] Further visa includes 'Second' and 'Third' visas granted, and those defined as a Nil Visa Application Charge.

The increase in the number of Working Holiday Maker visa grants in 2024–25, was most notable among the following nationalities:

- United Kingdom—up 32,174 grants (68.1 per cent) on the 47,238 grants in 2023–24
- France—up 11,933 grants (39.8 per cent) on the 30,004 grants in 2023–24
- Italy—up 5304 grants (36.2 per cent) on the 14,662 grants in 2023–24.

Table 20: Working Holiday Maker visas granted—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
United Kingdom	38,177	47,238	79,412	68.1
France	26,896	30,004	41,937	39.8
Ireland	21,525	21,997	24,165	9.9
Italy	13,745	14,662	19,966	36.2
Republic of Korea	14,785	14,984	17,485	16.7
Taiwan	15,528	14,560	16,525	13.5
Japan	14,398	17,095	16,182	-5.3
Germany	13,644	13,550	15,921	17.5
Indonesia	8,127	9,016	13,574	50.6
People's Republic of China[1]	5,766	2,015	6,906	242.7
Other[2]	51,840	49,435	69,043	39.7
Total	**224,431**	**234,556**	**321,116**	**36.9**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

The increase in the number of Working Holiday visas for nationals of the United Kingdom was largely due to those that obtained a further visa (37,029 grants) an increase of 30,044 grants on the 6985 further visas granted in 2023–24 (Table 21).

Table 21: Working Holiday visas granted by visa type to nationals of the United Kingdom, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Visa type	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
First visa	30,766	40,253	42,383	5.3
Further visa	7,411	6,985	37,029	430.1
Total	**38,177**	**47,238**	**79,412**	**68.1**

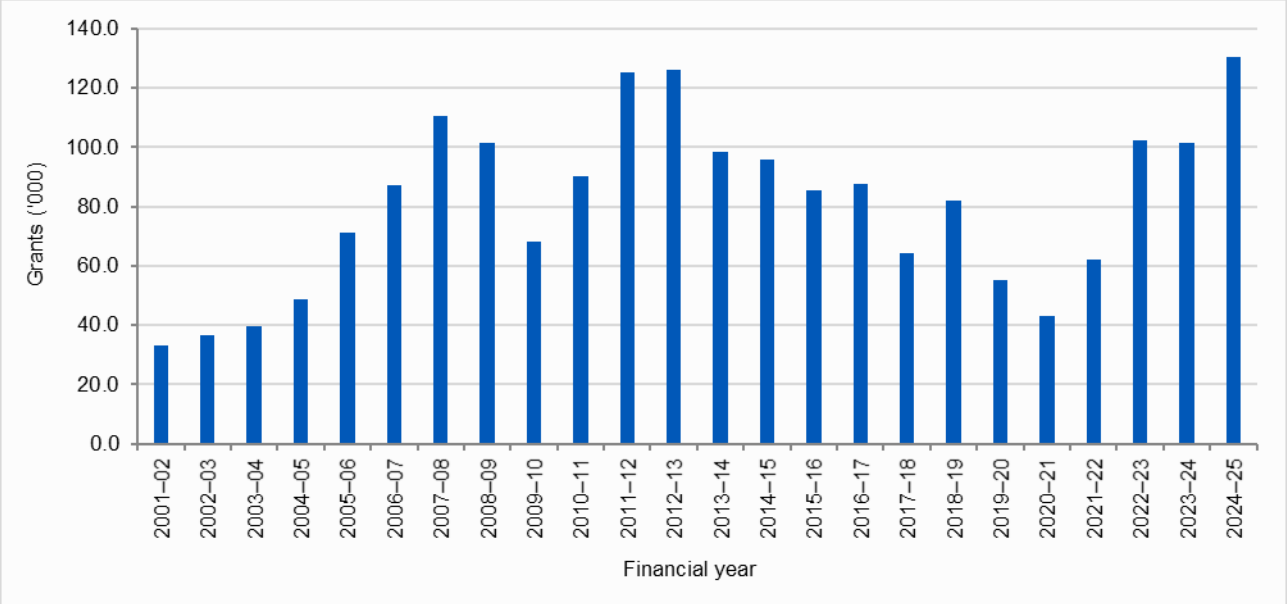
Source data: Department of Home Affairs

Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa grants

In 2024–25, 130,571 Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas were granted, an increase of:

- 28.6 per cent (29,038 grants) on the 101,533 visas granted in 2023–24
- 3.3 per cent (4214 grants) on the previous peak of 126,357 visas granted in 2012–13 (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa grants, 2001–02 to 2024–25[1]



Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Independent Executive visas.

The 130,571 Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted in 2024–25 comprised:

- 68,197 visa grants to primary applicants
  - 43,765 granted to applicants in Australia
  - 24,432 granted to applicants outside Australia.
- 62,374 visa grants to secondary applicants
  - 26,453 granted to applicants in Australia
  - 35,921 granted to applicants outside Australia.

The number of Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted in 2024–25 was 44,960 more than the 85,611 visas granted, a decade earlier, in 2015–16. This increase was comprised of:

- primary applicants—up 22,802 grants (50.2 per cent) on the 45,395 grants in 2015–16
- secondary applicants—up 22,158 grants 55.1 per cent) on the 40,216 grants in 2015–16.

Primary Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa grants

In 2024–25, there were 68,197 visas granted to primary applicants, an increase of 30.9 per cent on the 52,101 granted in 2023–24.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries (Table 22) accounted for 43.4 per cent of these primary visas granted in 2024–25, namely:

1. India—12,360 grants (18.1 per cent)
2. Philippines—10,141 grants (14.9 per cent)
3. United Kingdom—7087 grants (10.4 per cent).

Among the main nationalities, in 2024–25, there was solid growth for nationals of:

- India—up 4587 grants (59.0 per cent) on the 7773 grants in 2023–24
- Nepal—up 2645 grants (260.1 per cent) on the 1017 grants in 2023–24.

Table 22: Primary Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	12,146	7,773	12,360	59.0
Philippines	7,103	9,378	10,141	8.1
United Kingdom	6,106	6,716	7,087	5.5
Nepal	813	1,017	3,662	260.1
Ireland	1,834	3,183	3,501	10.0
People's Republic of China[1]	1,637	2,033	2,727	34.1
Sri Lanka	1,839	1,807	2,087	15.5
Brazil	926	905	1,733	91.5
South Africa	1,848	1,952	1,532	-21.5
Republic of Korea	963	833	1,377	65.3
Other[2]	16,390	16,504	21,990	33.2
Total	**51,605**	**52,101**	**68,197**	**30.9**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

The top three sponsor industries accounted for 44.8 per cent of primary Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted in 2024–25. These were:

1. Health Care and Social Assistance—10,864 grants (15.9 per cent)
2. Accommodation and Food Services—10,765 grants (15.8 per cent)
3. Other Services—8936 grants (13.1 per cent).

In 2024–25, the top three nominated occupations accounted for 16.6 per cent of primary Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa applications granted. These were:

1. Chef—6362 grants (9.3 per cent)
2. Resident Medical Officer—2727 grants (4.0 per cent)
3. Motor Mechanic (General)—2247 grants (3.3 per cent).

Overall, more than three-quarters (77.8 per cent) of primary Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted in 2024–25, were granted to applicants who had previously held a visa—53,053 grants.

Collectively, the top three categories, by previously visa held, accounted for 44.0 per cent of primary visas granted in 2024–25, namely:

1. Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)—11,454 grants (16.8 per cent)
2. Temporary Graduate—9690 grants (14.2 per cent)
3. Temporary Activity—8874 grants (13.0 per cent).

In 2024–25, of the 68,197 visas granted to primary applicants, 43,765 (64.2 per cent) were to people already in Australia. By last visa held, the top three categories accounted for almost two-thirds (65.2 per cent) of primary Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted in Australia in 2024–25. These were:

1. Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)—10,518 grants (24.0 per cent)
2. Temporary Graduate—9484 grants (21.7 per cent)
3. Temporary Activity—8534 grants (19.5 per cent).

Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) intra-company transfers

Intra-company transfers, also known as intra-corporate transfers or posted workers, are movements of employees in the same company, transferred temporarily to a different country to provide services for a limited period.

In 2024–25, there were 6633 Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted for an intra-company transfer, an increase of 2.7 per cent on the 6461 visas granted in 2023–24.

Primary applicants accounted for 51.3 per cent (3405) of these visa grants and increased 0.9 per cent on the 3376 visas granted in 2023–24.

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for more than half (57.7 per cent) of primary intra-company transfer visas granted in 2024–25. These were nationals of:

1. United Kingdom—760 grants (22.3 per cent)
2. People’s Republic of China—660 grants (19.4 per cent)
3. Japan—543 grants (15.9 per cent).

In 2024–25, the top three sponsor industries accounted for 49.9 per cent of Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) primary intra-company transfer visa grants. These were:

1. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services—937 grants (27.5 per cent)
2. Other Services—381 grants (11.2 per cent); and equal second
3. Information Media and Telecommunications—381 grants (11.2 per cent).

In 2024–25, the top three nominated occupations in this category accounted for 20.9 per cent of Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) primary intra-company transfer visa grants. These were:

1. Corporate General Manager—279 grants (8.2 per cent)
2. Sales and Marketing Manager—223 grants (6.5 per cent)
3. Software Engineer—210 grants (6.2 per cent).

Post-study work—Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485) grants

In 2024–25, there were 126,348 Temporary Graduate visas granted.[7] This was an increase of 15,880 grants on the 110,468 granted the previous year. By stream, this comprised:

- 96,367 Post-Higher Education Work visa grants
- 28,964 Post-Vocational Education Work visa grants
- 19 Replacement visa grants.[8]

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for 56.9 per cent of Temporary Graduate visa grants in 2024–25, namely:

1. India—39,822 grants (31.5 per cent)
2. Nepal—17,095 grants (13.5 per cent)
3. People's Republic of China—15,032 grants (11.9 per cent).

Of the main nationalities (Table 23), growth in the number of visa grants in 2024–25 was strongest for nationals of:

- Philippines—up 4337 grants (182.1 per cent) on 2023–24
- Bhutan—up 3548 grants (251.5 per cent) on 2023–24
- India—up 3196 grants (8.7 per cent) on 2023–24.

Table 23: Temporary Graduate visas granted—top 10 citizenships, 2022–23 to 2024–25

Citizenship country	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	% Change 2023–24 to 2024–25
India	63,189	36,626	39,822	8.7
Nepal	26,440	17,997	17,095	-5.0
People's Republic of China[1]	18,457	17,165	15,032	-12.4
Philippines	6,048	2,382	6,719	182.1
Pakistan	7,501	4,969	5,144	3.5
Sri Lanka	6,807	4,271	5,039	18.0
Bhutan	4,078	1,411	4,959	251.5
Vietnam	4,509	3,111	3,484	12.0
Indonesia	3,589	2,266	2,835	25.1
Bangladesh	2,526	2,151	2,279	6.0
Other[2]	35,873	18,119	23,940	32.1
Total	**179,017**	**110,468**	**126,348**	**14.4**

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs).
2. Includes citizenship not specified.
Note: Top 10 citizenship countries are based on 2024–25.

[7] A temporary visa (only available to recently graduated international students) that includes work rights.
[8] The replacement stream visa was available to those impacted by the travel restrictions during the COVID-19 Pandemic. This visa from 1 July 2024, is no longer available.

Temporary visa holders in Australia

At 30 June 2025, there were 2,785,398 people in Australia on a temporary visa—an increase of 94,372 people (3.5 per cent) on the 2,691,026 at 30 June 2024.

This was comprised of holders of the following visa types:

- 736,231 Special Category
- 592,342 Student
- 369,627 Bridging
- 325,969 Visitor
- 309,685 Temporary Resident (Other Employment)
- 219,710 Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)
- 210,971 Working Holiday Maker
- 13,782 Crew and Transit
- 5345 Other Temporary
- 1736 Temporary Protection.

Most of the increase in temporary visa holders (as at 30 June 2025) was due to increases in the number of:

- Bridging visa holders—up 72,255 (24.3 per cent) on the 297,372 at 30 June 2024
- Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa holders—up 50,985 (30.2 per cent) on the 168,725 at 30 June 2024
- Working Holiday Maker visa holders—up 37,755 (21.8 per cent) on the 173,216 at 30 June 2024.
- Special Category visa holders—up 18,466 (2.6 per cent) on the 717,765 at 30 June 2024.

Collectively, the top three nationalities accounted for almost half (48.8 per cent) of temporary visa holders in Australia at 30 June 2025, namely:

1. New Zealand—736,386 people (26.4 per cent)
2. India—392,651 people (14.1 per cent)
3. People's Republic of China—229,661 people (8.2 per cent).

Of note were increases for the number of nationals in Australia on a temporary visa at 30 June 2025, for the following countries:

1. United Kingdom—up 21,973 people (27.3 per cent) on the 80,483 at 30 June 2024
2. New Zealand—up 18,482 people (2.6 per cent) on the 717,904 at 30 June 2024
3. India—up 14,563 people (3.9 per cent) on the 378,088 at 30 June 2024
4. People's Republic of China—up 13,919 people (6.5 per cent) on the 215,742 at 30 June 2024.

Visa non-compliance

Unlawful Non-Citizens in Australia

The *'Migration Act 1958'* defines an unlawful non-citizen (UNC) as:

'A non-citizen in the migration zone who is not a lawful non-citizen is an unlawful non-citizen.'

Individuals who are not Australian citizens, and who remain in Australia after their visa has either expired or been cancelled, are referred to as UNCs.

The UNC estimate includes anyone who has overstayed their visa or had their visa cancelled before the reference date and has yet to have their immigration status resolved on that date.

The estimate excludes non-citizens who arrived before 1 September 1994, when the new *Migration Reform Act 1992* (the Migration Reform Act or MRA) and *Migration Regulations 1994* came into effect and the status 'Unlawful Non-Citizen' and mandatory detention were introduced.

At 30 June 2025, there were an estimated 77,700 UNCs in Australia. This estimate excludes persons in held and community detention.[9]

Almost one-third (33.2 per cent) of UNCs estimated at 30 June 2025 were citizens of the following countries:

1. People's Republic of China—an estimated 12,100 people (15.6 per cent)
2. Malaysia—an estimated 8100 people (10.4 per cent)
3. United States of America—an estimated 5500 people (7.1 per cent).[10]

Of the estimated 77,700 UNCs in Australia at 30 June 2025:

- 54,500 (70.2 per cent) were male
- 23,100 (29.8 per cent) were female.[11]

Visa cancellations

In 2024–25, there were 37,981 visa cancellations, an increase of 31.6 per cent on the 28,871 visa cancellations in 2023–24.[12] Of the visa cancellations in 2024–25, 91.6 per cent were either:

- Student visas (57.0 per cent)
- Visitor visas (17.6 per cent), or
- Temporary Resident visas (17.1 per cent).[13]

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[9] Most UNCs—people at a given point in time who remain in Australia after their visa has expired or been cancelled—only overstay their visa for a short period before departing voluntarily. There is constant movement into and out of the UNC pool as people overstay their visas and as peoples' status is resolved, for example through departure or removal. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 100.

[10] Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

[11] UNC estimate includes a small number where the 'Gender' is indeterminate or has not been specified.

[12] Includes s501 visa cancellations. A large proportion of visa cancellations are voluntary, with non-citizens requesting cancellation of their temporary visa. For example, when a person holding a Temporary Work visa has departed Australia at the end of their contract and no longer requires their visa or is seeking to access their superannuation entitlements accrued while working in Australia.

[13] Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Nationals of the top three countries accounted for 36.8 per cent of visa cancellations in 2024–25. These were nationals of:

1. People's Republic of China—8207 visa cancellations (21.6 per cent)
2. India—4113 visa cancellations (10.8 per cent).
3. Vietnam—1654 visa cancellations (4.4 per cent).

Compliance-related departures

Non-citizens who do not hold a valid visa and do not make suitable arrangements to depart Australia are subject to removal.

The Department provides services and support to assist unlawful non-citizens who have been located, to resolve their immigration status through departures from Australia. These departures are comprised of people that were residing in the community (Returns) or in onshore immigration detention (Removals).

There were 6646 departures (Returns and Removals) from Australia in 2024–25, down 20.0 per cent on the 8311 departures in 2023–24.[14] This was comprised of:

- 3189 Returns from the community
- 3457 Removals from onshore immigration detention.

The majority of these departures were for those that arrived on a Visitor visa (37.0 per cent) or those that arrived on a Student visa (21.7 per cent).

Collectively, nationals of the top three countries accounted for almost one-quarter (24.7 per cent) of all departures.[15] These were nationals of:

1. India—606 departures (9.1 per cent)
2. People's Republic of China—557 departures (8.4 per cent)
3. Malaysia—479 departures (7.2 per cent).

Australian citizenship

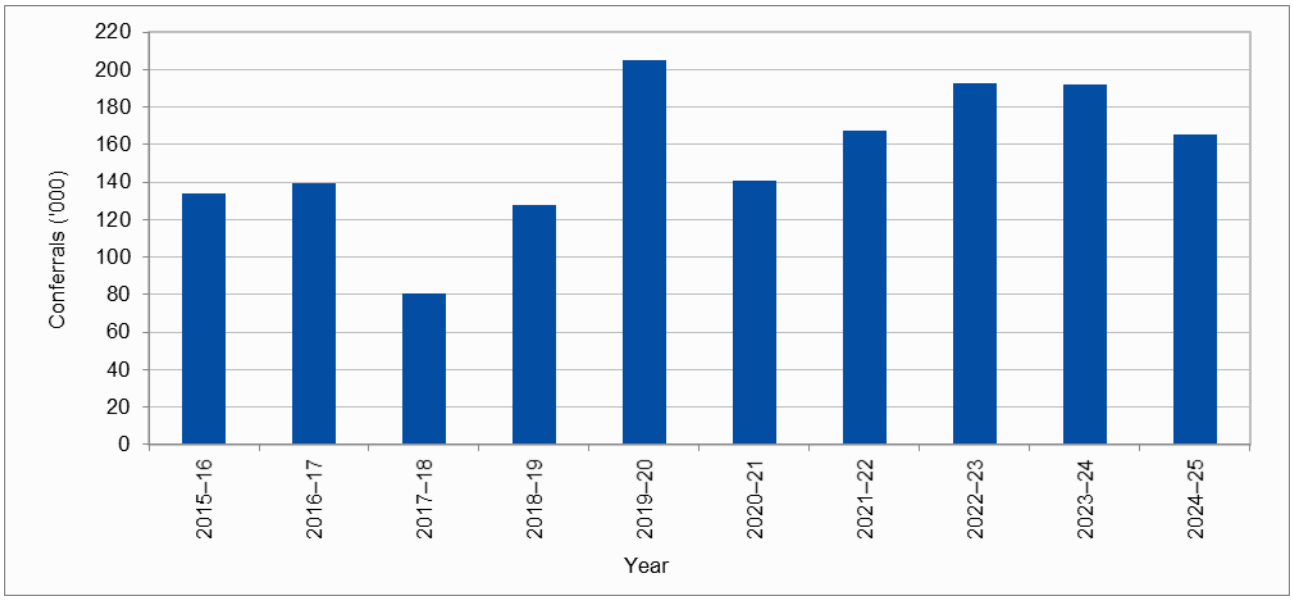
In 2024–25, 165,193 people were conferred Australian citizenship, compared to 192,242 conferrals in 2023–24 (Figure 7).

Collectively, the top three countries of former citizenship accounted for 41.6 per cent of all conferrals in 2024–25.[16] These were:

1. New Zealand—33,103 conferrals (20.0 per cent)
2. India—23,015 conferrals (13.9 per cent)
3. United Kingdom—12,674 conferrals (7.7 per cent).

[14] Figures may differ from those previously published due to revisions undertaken at the commencement of the program year.
[15] Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.
[16] Former citizenship is defined as the most recently recorded citizenship prior to conferral.

Figure 7: Conferrals of Australian citizenship, 2015–16 to 2024–25



Source data: Department of Home Affairs

Net overseas migration and population growth

Natural increase and net overseas migration (NOM) are the two components that drive population growth in Australia. Natural increase measures the excess of births over deaths. NOM is a measure of the net gain or loss of population through migration into and from Australia.[17] The main determinants of changes in NOM are the annual number of arrivals and departures of migrants on temporary visas, and Australia's planned permanent migration programs (Migration Program and Humanitarian Program).

Preliminary NOM for the year to December 2024 was estimated to have contributed 340,800 people (1.2 per cent) to Australia's population. This was significantly less than for the previous year, a decrease of 35.8 percent (or 189,900 people) on the 530,600 people (2.0 per cent of Australia's population) for the year to December 2023 (Figure 8).[18]

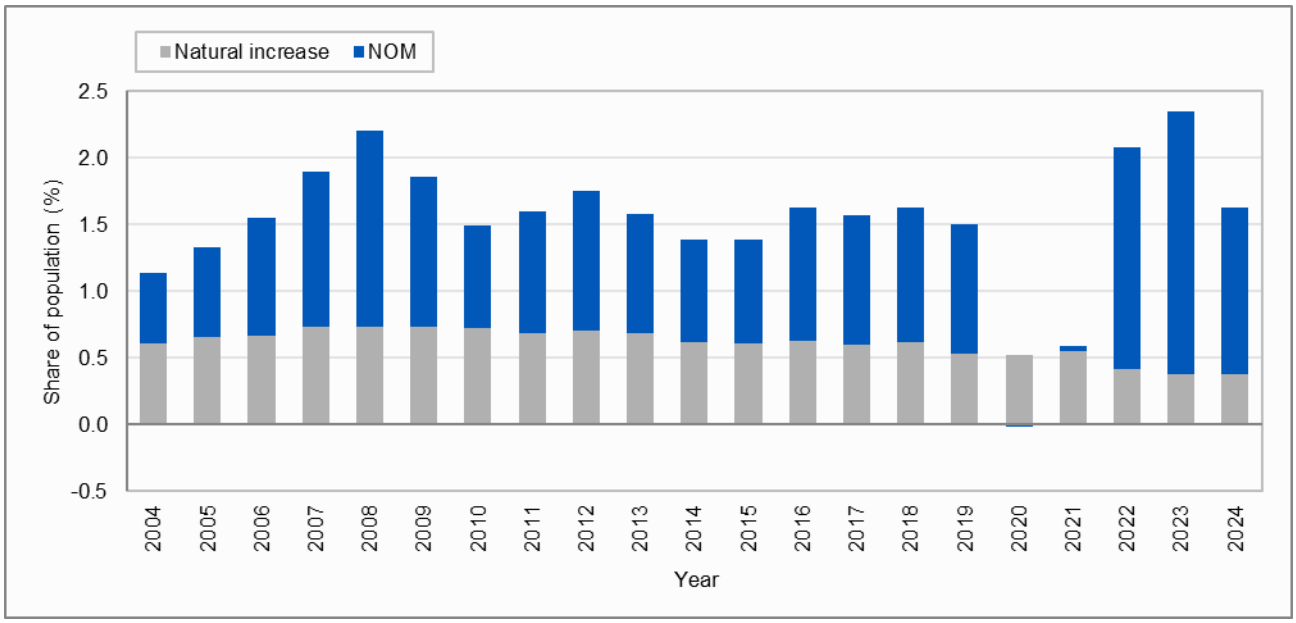
Over the decade to December 2024, NOM accounted for two-thirds (66.1 per cent) of the almost 3.8 million increase in Australia's population, of 27.4 million people, and as a consequence, the share of Australia's overseas-born population rose from 28.3 per cent (at 30 June 2015) to 31.5 per cent (at 30 June 2024).[19]

[17] NOM is based on an international traveller's duration of stay (this includes Australian citizens, permanent residents and long-term visitors). Specifically, those international travellers who had been in Australia for at least 12 months out of the past 16 months. The requirement for migrants counted under NOM to have resided in (or been absent from) Australia for a certain length of time, enables NOM to form part of annual estimates of population—officially measured as the 'estimated resident population' by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

[18] ABS, June 2025, National, state and territory population.

[19] ABS, April 2025, Australia's Population by Country of Birth – estimated resident population, country of birth as at 30 June,1996 to 2024.

Figure 8: Components of Australia's population growth as a share of population, 2004 to 2024



Source data: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), July 2024, Historical population and ABS, June 2025, National, state and territory population.

NOM can be analysed in many different ways, in particular:

- NOM arrivals and NOM departures, where a person moved into and out of the population
- a person's temporary (such as a Student or Visitor) or permanent (such as Skill or Family) visa category.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, an analysis of NOM by visa category over the 10-year period for the year ending December 2010, to the year ending December 2019, identified that NOM was largely affected by rapid increases in international student numbers (since 2012) and Visitors (since 2016).

There was disruption to the flow of NOM arrivals in 2020, 2021 and early 2022, due to the international border restrictions in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. For the year ending 31 December 2023, NOM arrivals peaked at 739,000. This was largely a flow-on-effect due to the international border restrictions and was 21.6 per cent above the pre-pandemic high of 607,900 for the year ending December 2019.

For the year ending 31 December 2024, the preliminary estimate of NOM arrivals decreased 19.5 per cent on the 739,000 arrivals for the same period in 2023 to 594,900—an easing in the pent-up demand that was a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

People who arrived on a temporary visa accounted for 65.0 per cent of these arrivals (386,600), of which 42.3 per cent (163,400) were international students. Although not as significant as the number of NOM arrivals of international students, NOM arrivals of Working Holiday Makers at 31 December 2024, have not fallen, and for the year ending 31 December 2024, was 77,800, far exceeding the 10–year average to 2019 of 50,900 NOM arrivals (Table 24).

The reason for the current strength in Working Holiday Maker NOM arrivals is in part due to an increase in passport holders from the United Kingdom extending their stay in Australia (and thereby decreasing 2024 NOM departure). This follows commencement of new Working Holiday visa arrangements, effective from 1 July 2024, pertinent to passport holders of the United Kingdom.[20]

[20] Department of Home Affairs – New arrangements for UK passport holders.

Table 24: NOM arrivals for the year ending 31 December 2010 to 2024, by selected temporary visa categories

Year	Total NOM Arrivals	Student	Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)	Visitor	Working Holiday
2010	425,100	83,900	30,700	42,300	37,300
2011	449,000	73,400	41,700	41,600	50,400
2012	478,400	78,600	48,400	44,000	57,500
2013	478,700	99,700	37,400	48,200	58,800
2014	458,800	122,500	31,000	46,000	51,800
2015	473,300	126,000	31,600	54,200	50,900
2016	519,700	137,900	31,200	68,000	49,600
2017	531,400	151,900	30,300	77,200	50,600
2018	534,400	166,600	29,400	78,300	50,400
2019	607,900	150,700	31,900	132,400	52,100
2020	235,400	42,600	11,100	40,300	15,500
2021	214,400	29,200	12,900	11,500	1,700
2022	651,400	237,700	40,500	97,200	56,900
2023	739,000	267,100	50,500	99,700	78,700
2024	594,900	163,400	46,900	68,400	77,800

Source data: ABS, Net Overseas Migration, TableBuilder, extracted 27 June 2025.
Note: Estimates for the year ending 31 December 2010 to 2023 are final. Estimates for the year ending 31 December 2024 are preliminary. Figures rounded to the nearest 100.

Noting that the number of 2024 NOM arrivals has decreased from 2023, NOM departures has increased over the same period, although they have not yet normalised to pre-pandemic levels.

For the year ending 31 December 2024, the preliminary estimate of NOM departures increased 22.0 per cent on the 208,400 departures for the same period in 2023 to 254,200 (Table 25). By visa category:

- Student visa NOM departures (42,700) for the year ending 31 December 2024 have increased—up 68.4 per cent on the 25,400 for the year ending December 2023.
- Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) NOM departures (8800) remain well below the average from 2010 to 2020 of 16,400 departures.
- Visitor NOM departures are similar to pre-pandemic levels.
- Working Holiday NOM departures (18,800), although up significantly on 2023, remain below the long-term average of 22,500 departures between 2010 and 2020, inclusive. This is not unexpected, given the time between NOM arrivals (in 2023 and 2024), and subsequent departures for migrants in the Working Holiday Maker program.

Table 25: NOM departures for the year ending 31 December 2010 to 2024, by selected temporary visa categories

Year	Total NOM Departures	Student	Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)	Visitor	Working Holiday
2010	253,100	48,500	13,500	17,000	16,200
2011	242,800	49,300	12,400	15,500	14,900
2012	238,100	45,900	15,900	11,600	18,600
2013	270,300	43,800	20,700	16,500	23,700
2014	276,400	44,600	22,200	11,100	28,300
2015	286,500	43,700	20,300	15,500	28,000
2016	275,800	45,400	17,000	15,400	27,500
2017	289,700	51,700	15,400	22,900	23,300
2018	282,200	59,900	15,200	14,500	23,500
2019	360,300	98,800	16,200	32,100	26,900
2020	240,300	75,100	11,800	12,700	16,300
2021	205,100	37,400	9,800	17,500	6,100
2022	213,500	16,000	6,800	15,800	2,600
2023	208,400	25,400	5,900	18,100	5,600
2024	254,200	42,700	8,800	19,500	18,800

Source data: ABS, Net Overseas Migration, TableBuilder, extracted 27 June 2025.
Note: Estimates for the year ending 31 December 2010 to 2023 are final. Estimates for the year ending 31 December 2024 are preliminary. Figures rounded to the nearest 100.

In summary, based on the above analysis of NOM arrivals/departures, the increase in NOM due to the flow-on-effects of the COVID-19 pandemic over 2022 and 2023 have begun to ease with NOM arrivals in 2024 falling below 2019 levels, and NOM departures trending towards pre-pandemic levels.

The fall in NOM between 2023 and 2024 was largely the result of decreasing international student arrivals, offset by the continued strength in NOM arrivals of Working Holiday Makers. This is in part due to the changes that have occurred from 1 July 2024, pertinent to passport holders of the United Kingdom.[21]

Labour market outcomes

The importance of migration in Australia's labour market

Migration is an important component of workforce growth, with new migrants the main contributors to employment growth in the Australian workforce. Over the past two decades, migration has increasingly underpinned employment growth.

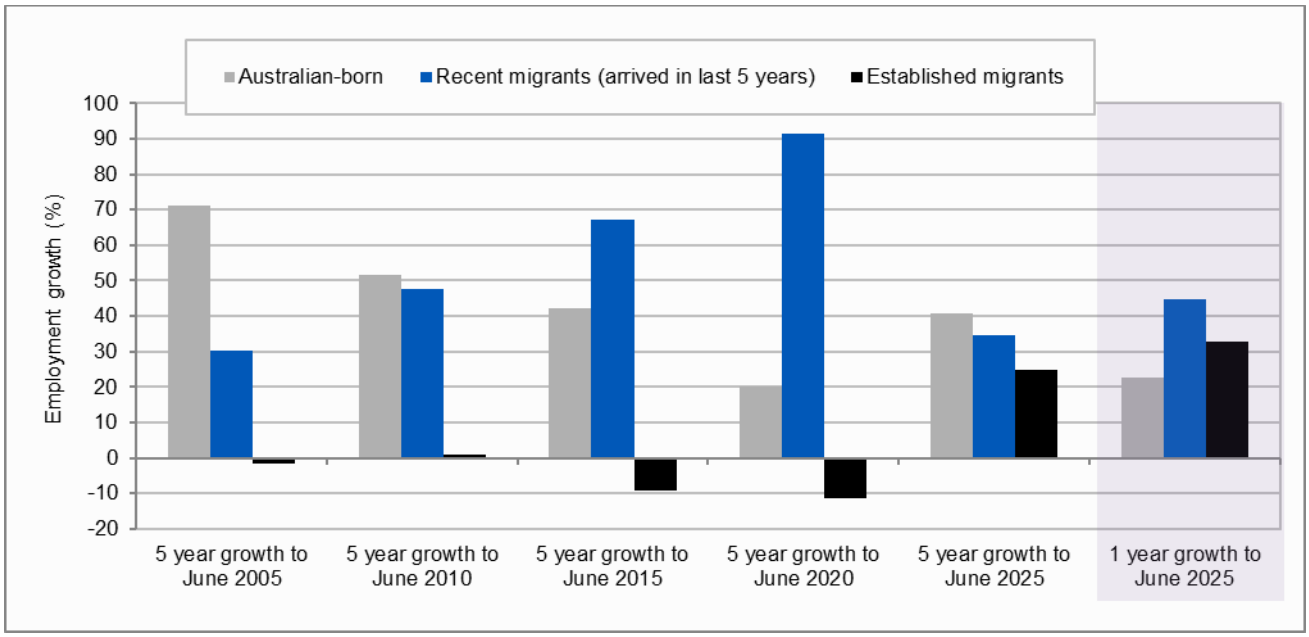
In the five years leading up to June 2005, new migrants (those who arrived in the preceding five years) accounted for 30.4 per cent of total growth in jobs, whereas Australian-born accounted for 71.3 per cent and established migrants -1.7 per cent (Figure 9). Since then, the impact of newly arriving migrants on growth in jobs has increased.

At June 2025, Australia's employed workforce stood at almost 14.7 million, which was 18.9 per cent more than five years earlier in June 2020. New migrants accounted for 34.6 per cent of these additional jobs, whereas Australian-born accounted for 40.7 per cent and established migrants 24.8 per cent.

[21] Detailed statistics on NOM are available in the statistical package, *Australian Migration Statistics*.

Between June 2024 and June 2025, employment increased by 287,600. The Australian-born accounted for 22.5 per cent of this increase in employment, whereas new migrants accounted for 44.9 per cent and established migrants for 32.6 per cent.

Figure 9: Contribution of migration to employment growth, as at June of 2005 to 2025



Source data: ABS, July 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, LM7 cube

One of the main reasons new migrants make a strong contribution to workforce growth is that their overall numbers entering the workforce exceed that for Australian-born. In absolute terms, the effect of ageing on the Australian-born population means that in the decade to June 2025, the net increase of migrants in the workforce (up 1.8 million) was 73.1 per cent greater than for the Australian-born (up 1.1 million).

In addition, new migrants have high rates of employment as discussed below, which also contributes to their impact on workforce growth.[22] This is despite the offsetting factor; that it takes some time for new migrants to settle into the Australian labour market and for their participation rate and unemployment rate to improve.

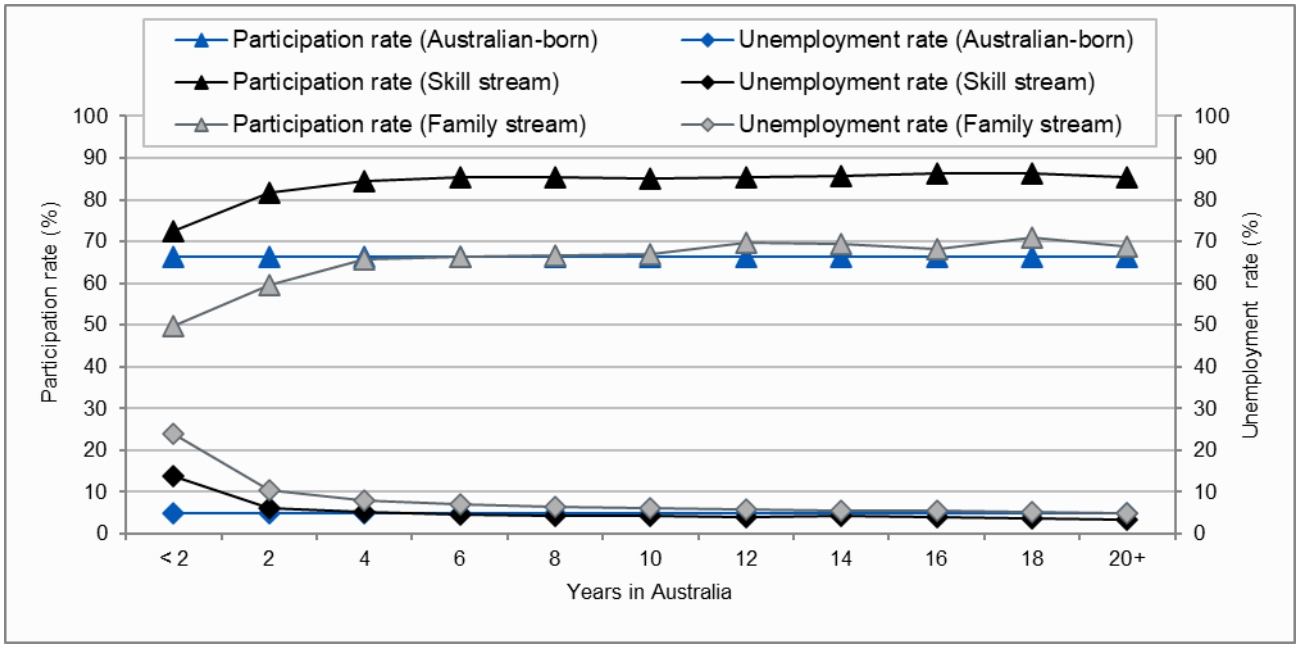
The higher rates of employment for migrants are more pronounced for migrants selected on the basis of their skills and qualifications (Skill stream migrants as opposed to Family stream migrants) (Figure 10). Based on labour market outcomes at the time of the 2021 Census (of primary and secondary visa holders combined):

- the most recent of arrivals (those who arrived between 2020 and August 2021) had potentially not yet adjusted to the labour market, and had a high unemployment rate:
  - 13.7 per cent for Skill stream migrants
  - 24.0 per cent for Family stream migrants.

[22] See section: “Outcomes for recently arrived Skill stream migrants”.

- unemployment rates and participation rates improve rapidly in the first few years of living in Australia, and then more slowly, with improvements in:
  - unemployment rate, of:
    - 8.4 percentage points for Skill stream migrants in the first 4 years, and a further 1.0 percentage points over the following 10 years
    - 15.9 percentage points for Family stream migrants in the first 4 years, and a further 2.4 percentage points in the following 10 years.
  - participation rate, of:
    - 12.1 percentage points for Skill stream migrants in the first 4 years, and a further 1.1 percentage points over the following 10 years
    - 15.9 percentage points for Family stream migrants in the first 4 years, and a further 3.6 percentage points in the following 10 years.

Figure 10: Unemployment and participation rates at the time of the 2021 Census, by time in Australia



Source data: ABS, Australian Census and Migrants Integrated Dataset, 2021

The influence of migration on the demographic composition of Australia is what underpins its migration's impact on the Australian labour market. Changes in this demographic composition are largely driven by the ageing of the population. For example, between 2004–05 and 2024–25, the annual average labour force participation rate for Australia increased by 2.1 percentage points as a result of a combination of the following:

- Migrants **added** 7.5 points—4.2 points added due to the age profile of migrants becoming younger over the 20-year period, and 3.3 points added due to an increase in propensity to work amongst migrants
- Australian-born **deducted** 5.4 points—9.0 points deducted due to the effects of an ageing population, and 3.6 points added due to an increase in propensity to work amongst Australian-born.

Underlying migrant contribution to growth in labour force participation over this 20-year period, was increasing levels of migration in the first 8 years, followed by decreasing levels (although less rapidly) over the following 9 years, before increasing again in 2022–23, to fill skill shortages that eventuated due to the impact on migration of the COVID-19 pandemic.[23] Table 26 reflects these changes in the annual Migration Program outcome and Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visas granted.

Table 26: Migration Program outcome and Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa grants, 2004–05 to 2024–25

Financial year	Migration Program outcome	Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment) visa grants[1]
2004–05	120,064	48,581
2005–06	142,933	71,160
2006–07	148,200	87,313
2007–08	158,630	110,579
2008–09	171,318	101,288
2009–10	168,623	67,986
2010–11	168,685	90,128
2011–12	184,998	125,073
2012–13	190,000	126,357
2013–14	190,000	98,571
2014–15	189,097	96,084
2015–16	189,770	85,611
2016–17	183,608	87,580
2017–18	162,417	64,470
2018–19	160,323	81,975
2019–20	140,366	55,060
2020–21	160,052	43,195
2021–22	143,556	61,987
2022–23	195,004	102,565
2023–24	190,000	101,533
2024–25	185,001	130,571

Source data: Department of Home Affairs
1. Excludes Temporary Work (Skilled) (Independent Executive) visa.

Corresponding to the changes in migration levels, over the initial 8 years, the change in the annual average labour force participation rate was 1.1 percentage points, compared to just 0.2 percentage points in the following 9 years, to 2021–22, reflecting the drop in migration numbers. Since then, to 2024–25, the change in the annual average labour force participation rate has increased by 1.3 percentage points.

Further decomposition reveals that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the participation rate fell 0.1 percentage points between 2018–19 and 2020–21, as a result of a combination of the following:

- Migrants **added** 0.3 points due to an increase in propensity to work
- Australia-born **deducted** 0.4 points—0.6 points deducted due to the effects of an ageing population and 0.1 points added due to an increase in propensity to work.[24]

[23] Interim Report of the inquiry into Australia's Skilled Migration Program
[24] Figures may not sum due to rounding.

In the most recent period, between 2019–20 and 2024–25, with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic lessening, and the reopening of the borders from February 2022, there was improvement in Australia's labour market, including that of the labour force participation rate. There was a total increase in the labour force participation rate over this period of 1.9 percentage points. This was comprised of the following:

- Migrants **added** 3.1 points—1.7 points added due to the effects of younger and more established migrants (35 years of age and over) entering the workforce, and 1.5 points added due to an increase in propensity to work
- Australia-born **deducted** 1.2 points—2.6 points deducted due to the effects of an ageing population, and 1.4 points added due to an increase in propensity to work.

It can therefore be seen from Table 27 that, overall, migration has bolstered Australia's labour force participation rate over the past 20 years.

Table 27: Contributions to change in the labour force participation rate, between specified time-period[1]

Total changes among all age groups	Australian-born	Overseas-born	Overall Total
Population composition change			
2004–05 and 2024–25 — (20-year period)	-9.0	4.2	-4.8
2004–05 and 2012–13 — (8-year period)	-2.8	1.4	-1.3
2013–14 and 2021–22 — (9-year period)	-3.6	0.9	-2.6
2021–22 and 2024–25 — (3-year period)	-1.7	1.5	-0.2
2016–17 and 2018–19 — (2-year period pre-COVID-19)	-1.0	0.4	-0.6
2018–19 and 2020–21 — (2-year period during COVID-19)	-0.6	0.0	-0.5
2019–20 and 2024–25 — (5-year period exiting COVID-19)	-2.6	1.7	-0.9
Propensity to participate change			
2004–05 and 2024–25 — (20-year period)	3.6	3.3	6.9
2004–05 and 2012–13 — (8-year period)	1.3	1.1	2.4
2013–14 and 2021–22 — (9-year period)	1.4	1.4	2.8
2021–22 and 2024–25 — (3-year period)	0.9	0.7	1.5
2016–17 and 2018–19 — (2-year period pre-COVID-19)	0.8	0.5	1.3
2018–19 and 2020–21 — (2-year period during COVID-19)	0.1	0.3	0.4
2019–20 and 2024–25 — (5-year period exiting COVID-19)	1.4	1.5	2.9
Total change			
2004–05 and 2024–25 — (20-year period)	-5.4	7.5	2.1
2004–05 and 2012–13 — (8-year period)	-1.5	2.5	1.1
2013–14 and 2021–22 — (9-year period)	-2.2	2.3	0.2
2021–22 and 2024–25 — (3-year period)	-0.9	2.2	1.3
2016–17 and 2018–19 — (2-year period pre-COVID-19)	-0.3	0.9	0.7
2018–19 and 2020–21 — (2-year period during COVID-19)	-0.4	0.3	-0.1
2019–20 and 2024–25 — (5-year period exiting COVID-19)	-1.2	3.1	1.9

Source data: ABS, July 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, LM5 cube
1. Specified time-period order based on that of the analysis provided in the text. Figures may not sum due to rounding.
Note: ABS source data is subject to revision, as such the statistics reported may differ from those previously published.

Outcomes of Australia's migrant population stock

The migrant unemployment rate at 30 June 2025 was 3.9 per cent (based on three-month averages); this was slightly below the Australian-born rate of 4.2 per cent.

Both Australian-born and migrant unemployment rates have continued to trend upwards on the 20-year lows in 2022–23 (Figure 11), where the:

- Overseas–born—average was 3.5 per cent
- Australian–born—average was 3.6 per cent.

Although the trend to 30 June 2025 since then has been upward, unemployment rates continue to be lower than in the years preceding the 2022–23 financial year over this 20-year period.

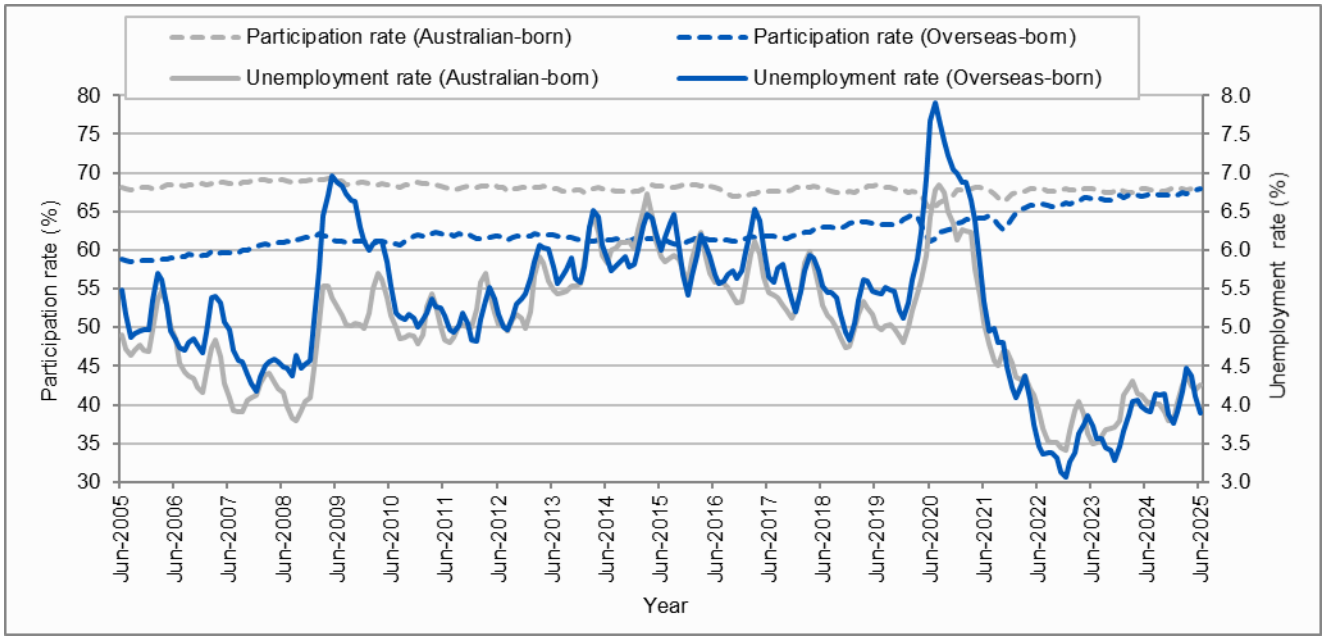
Of note, in this 20-year period, the migrant participation rate (based on three-month averages) of 67.9 per cent at 30 June 2025, exceeded for the first time that of the Australian-born (67.8 per cent), which was, until recently, consistently lower than for the Australian-born (but converging) with a gap of:

- 9.3 percentage points at June 2005
- 6.8 percentage points at June 2015
- 0.8 percentage points at June 2024.

The difference may largely be attributable to the impact of age on labour force participation, as the median age of Australia's migrants is decreasing compared with that of the Australian-born slowly increasing.

For example, the median age of Australia's migrants at 30 June 2004 was 46.4 years, and at 30 June 2024, it was 43.0 years. For the Australian-born, at 30 June 2004, the median age was 32.4 years, whereas at 30 June 2024, it had increased to 34.8 years.[25]

Figure 11: Unemployment and participation rates by birth group, June 2005 to June 2025



Source data: ABS, July 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, LM7 cube (three-month averages)

[25] ABS, April 2025, Population by Country of Birth 2023–24, Median Age, June 1996 to June 2024.

New migrants are, on average, younger than the Australian population and arriving through either the Skill stream or temporary work visas (both visa types have very high rates for participation in the labour force). The younger profile and predominance of these visas have had the combined effect of:

- increasing labour force participation amongst migrants
- reducing the proportion of migrants of retirement age, relative to that for Australian-born.

For example, in 2004, 18.3 per cent of Australia's migrants were aged 65 years or over, compared with just 11.1 per cent of Australian-born, a difference of 7.1 percentage points. By 2024, these proportions had converged to 20.1 per cent and 16.0 per cent, respectively, a difference of 4.1 percentage points.[26]

Outcomes for recently arrived Skill stream migrants

The Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants

The Department of Home Affairs' Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (CSAM) examines labour market and other settlement outcomes of recently arrived Skill stream and Family stream migrants of Australia's permanent Migration Program.

The analysis in this section is limited to Skill stream primary applicants from the CSAM, who settled in Australia between January and July of 2023, founded on an introductory survey at their six-month settlement period and the second survey at the 18-month stage of settlement for these same migrants (conducted around November 2024, respectively).

Employment outcomes of recent Skill stream migrants

Between the six-month and 18-month stages of settlement, Skilled Migrants (that is, primary applicant migrants of the Skill stream) demonstrated improved employment outcomes.[27] These improvements are well above any change in the labour market outcomes of the Australian general population over this same 12-month period (Table 28).[28] These employment outcomes included:

- employment to population ratio—up 1.8 percentage points; from 90.2 per cent to 92.0 per cent (compared to a decrease of 0.1 points for the general population to 64.6 per cent)
- unemployment rate—down 0.5 percentage points; from 3.7 per cent to 3.2 per cent (compared with no change for the general population at 3.6 per cent)
- labour force participation rate—up 1.4 percentage points; from 93.7 per cent to 95.0 per cent (compared to a decrease of 0.1 points for the general population to 67.0 per cent)
- median annual full-time earnings—up $11,400; from $80,600 to $92,000 (compared to an estimated increase of $5,200 for the Australian general population)[29]
- highly skilled employment to population ratio—up 1.6 percentage points; from 66.4 per cent to 67.9 per cent.[30]

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[26] ABS, April 2025, Australia's Population by Country of Birth, Data Explorer, estimated resident population, country of birth, age and sex as at 30 June 1996 onwards.

[27] Note: figures may not sum due to rounding.

[28] Employment Outcome figures for Australian civilian population aged 15 years and over sourced from ABS, Labour Force, Australia, released August 2025. Data presented is November 2023 and November 2024 'Original' for comparison with the CSAM survey of migrants at their six-month and 18-month stages of settlement.

[29] The difference between the median annual full-time earnings utilises ABS Employee earnings, August 2023 and August 2024, released December 2024.

[30] In this report a migrant's level of employment is defined based on their working in occupations defined in the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), namely: (footnote continued next page)

The reporting categories for Skilled Migrants were Employer Sponsored, State/Territory Nominated, Offshore Independent, Onshore Independent and Other Skilled (Table 28).[31] Between the six-month and 18-month stages of settlement, migrants from all categories reported improved employment outcomes apart from Employer Sponsored migrants. There was little change in employment outcomes for Employer Sponsored migrants, given there was less room for improvement as they already had very strong employment outcomes at the six-month stage of settlement, such as near full employment of 92.5 per cent.

Migrants from the Offshore Independent and Other Skilled categories had, on average, greater improvement in employment outcomes than those from other reporting categories.[32] Improvements for migrants granted an Offshore Independent visa included:

- employment to population ratio—up 8.8 percentage points; from 80.7 per cent to 89.5 per cent
- unemployment rate—down 4.0 percentage points; from 12.2 per cent to 8.2 per cent
- proportion in highly skilled employment—up 9.1 percentage points; from 69.6 per cent to 78.6 per cent.

Improvements for migrants granted an Other Skilled visa included:

- employment to population ratio—up 5.6 percentage points; from 82.2 per cent to 87.9 per cent
- unemployment rate—down 1.6 percentage points; from 6.7 per cent to 5.1 per cent
- proportion in highly skilled employment—up 5.4 percentage points; from 55.7 per cent to 61.1 per cent.

- highly skilled employment if ANZSCO skill level 1 or 2, which requires an Associate Degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma level qualification, or higher
- semi-skilled employment if ANZSCO skill level 3 or 4, which requires Certificate III or IV level qualification
- low skilled employment if ANZSCO skill level 5, which requires Certificate I or II level qualification, or lower.

[31] 'Offshore' and 'Onshore' refer to the location of the migrant at the time of their visa grant, for example, migrants in Australia on a temporary visa who were granted an Independent skilled visa, would be classified as an Onshore Independent migrant.
[32] Note: figures may not sum due to rounding.

Table 28: Change in employment outcomes for Skilled Migrants (primary applicants) – between six-month and 18-month stages of settlement (2023 and 2024 CSAM)

Outcomes (weighted)	All Skill stream categories	Employer Spon.	State/ Territory Nom.	Offshore Indep.	Onshore Indep.	Other Skilled[1]	General Pop.[2]
Sample size	**8,300**	**1,495**	**2,760**	**542**	**1,480**	**2,023**	**N/A**
At six months							
Employment outcomes (%)							
Employed	90.2	92.5	92.3	80.7	93.0	82.2	64.7
By skill level of job[4]:							
Highly skilled	*66.4*	*74.0*	*62.2*	*69.6*	*73.0*	*55.7*	*N/A*
Semi-skilled	*20.4*	*18.0*	*24.8*	*7.6*	*17.7*	*21.2*	*N/A*
Low skilled	*3.5*	*0.5*	*5.3*	*3.5*	*2.3*	*5.3*	*N/A*
Unemployed	3.4	1.3	3.0	11.2	2.8	5.9	2.4
Not in labour force	6.3	6.2	4.8	8.1	4.3	11.8	32.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	3.7	1.4	3.1	12.2	2.9	6.7	3.6
Participation rate	93.7	93.8	95.2	91.9	95.7	88.2	67.1
Earnings ($'000)							
Sample size: employed[3]	**6,374**	**1,281**	**2,126**	**364**	**1,136**	**1,467**	**N/A**
Median annual full-time earnings	80.6	95.0	75.0	90.0	85.0	81.7	83.4
At 18 months							
Employment outcomes (%)							
Employed	92.0	91.3	93.2	89.5	94.4	87.9	64.6
By skill level of job[4]:							
Highly skilled	*67.9*	*74.1*	*61.8*	*78.6*	*74.8*	*61.1*	*N/A*
Semi-skilled	*20.6*	*16.5*	*26.2*	*8.6*	*17.2*	*21.8*	*N/A*
Low skilled	*3.5*	*0.8*	*5.3*	*2.3*	*2.5*	*5.0*	*N/A*
Unemployed	3.0	2.2	2.7	8.0	2.1	4.7	2.4
Not in labour force	5.0	6.5	4.1	2.5	3.5	7.4	33.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	3.2	2.4	2.8	8.2	2.1	5.1	3.6
Participation rate	95.0	93.5	95.9	97.5	96.5	92.6	67.0
Earnings ($'000)							
Sample size: employed[3]	**6,106**	**1,202**	**2,044**	**390**	**1,095**	**1,375**	**N/A**
Median annual full-time earnings	92.0	109.8	80.5	103.0	96.7	92.0	88.6
Change in outcomes							
Employment outcomes (percentage point)							
Employed	1.8	-1.2	1.0	8.8	1.5	5.6	-0.1
By skill level of job[4]:							
Highly skilled	*1.6*	*0.1*	*-0.3*	*9.1*	*1.8*	*5.4*	*N/A*
Semi-skilled	*0.2*	*-1.5*	*1.4*	*1.0*	*-0.5*	*0.5*	*N/A*
Low skilled	*0.0*	*0.2*	*-0.1*	*-1.2*	*0.2*	*-0.3*	*N/A*
Unemployed	-0.4	0.9	-0.3	-3.3	-0.7	-1.2	0.0
Not in labour force	-1.4	0.3	-0.7	-5.5	-0.8	-4.4	0.1
Total	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Unemployment rate	-0.5	0.9	-0.3	-4.0	-0.8	-1.6	0.0
Participation rate	1.4	-0.3	0.7	5.5	0.8	4.4	-0.1
Earnings ($'000)							
Median annual full-time earnings	11.4	14.8	5.5	13.0	11.7	10.3	5.2

Note: Table 28 includes only those respondents who participated in both the introductory and follow-up surveys and earnings flagged as outliers or where stated income is markedly different between the surveys, were rectified/confirmed in subsequent surveys—therefore results may differ slightly from those previously published for the 'At six months'. Spon. = Sponsored, Nom. = Nominated, Indep. = Independent, N/A = not available.

1. Other Skilled category includes family sponsored migrants. Note: Family stream migrants are not presented in this table.
2. General Pop. = General Population. Employment Outcome figures for Australian civilian population aged 15 years and over sourced from ABS, Labour Force, Australia, released August 2025. Data presented is November 2023 and 2024 'Original', for 'At six months' and, 'At 18 months' respectively. Earnings figures for Australian employees sourced from ABS, Employee earnings, December 2024 release, for 'At six months' and, 'At 18 months'—August, the closest dates to the survey dates for which data is available at time of publication.
3. Sample size excludes respondents not working, for 'employed'.
4. See definition of skill level provided at footnote 30 pp. 42-43.

Employment outcomes for Skill stream primary applicants by gender

An analysis of Skill stream primary applicants by gender identified that both males and females reported improvement in labour market outcomes (Table 29).[33] These improvements are well above any change in the labour market outcomes of the respective Australian general population by gender. Overall labour market outcomes between males and females were comparable, with the exception of slightly higher unemployment rates for females at the 18-month stage of settlement and lower median incomes, although females had a notably higher proportion working in highly skilled jobs.

These labour market outcomes included:

- Females:
  - employment to population ratio—up 1.3 percentage points; from 90.7 per cent to 92.0 per cent (compared to a decrease of 0.2 points for the female general population to 60.7 per cent)
  - unemployment rate—up 0.1 percentage points; from 3.4 per cent to 3.5 per cent (compared with no change for the female general population at 3.5 per cent)
  - labour force participation rate—up 1.4 percentage points; from 93.9 per cent to 95.3 per cent (compared to a decrease of 0.2 points for the female general population to 62.9 per cent)
  - median annual full-time earnings—up $13,000; from $78,000 to $91,000 (compared to an estimated increase for the female general population at this time of $5,100)
  - proportion in highly skilled employment—up 1.8 percentage points; from 73.8 per cent to 75.6 per cent.
- Males:
  - employment to population ratio—up 2.2 percentage points; from 89.9 per cent to 92.1 per cent (compared with no change for the male general population at 68.6 per cent)
  - unemployment rate—down 0.9 percentage points; from 3.9 per cent to 2.9 per cent (compared with no change for the male general population at 3.8 per cent)
  - labour force participation rate—up 1.3 percentage points; from 93.5 per cent to 94.8 per cent (compared with no change for the male general population at 71.3 per cent)
  - median annual full-time earnings—up $11,000; from $84,000 to $95,000 (compared to an estimated increase for the male general population at this time of $4,600)[34]
  - proportion in highly skilled employment—up 1.4 percentage points; from 60.7 per cent to 62.1 per cent.

[33] Note: figures may not sum due to rounding.
[34] Note: figures may not sum due to rounding.

Table 29: Change in employment outcomes for Skilled Migrants (primary applicants) by gender – between six-month and 18-month stages of settlement (2023 and 2024 CSAM)

Outcomes (weighted)	All Skill stream migrants[1]	Males	Females	Male General Pop.[2]	Female General Pop.[2]	General Pop.[2]
Sample size	**8,300**	**4,808**	**3,491**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
At six months						
Employment outcomes (%)						
Employed	90.2	89.9	90.7	68.6	60.9	64.7
By skill level of job[3]:						
Highly skilled	*66.4*	*60.7*	*73.8*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Semi-skilled	*20.4*	*25.2*	*14.0*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Low skilled	*3.5*	*4.0*	*2.8*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Unemployed	3.4	3.6	3.2	2.7	2.2	2.4
Not in labour force	6.3	6.5	6.1	28.8	36.9	32.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.6
Participation rate	93.7	93.5	93.9	71.2	63.1	67.1
Earnings ($'000)						
Sample size: employed (f/t)	**6,374**	**3,908**	**2,466**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Median annual full-time earnings	80.6	84.0	78.0	88.6	78.2	83.4
At 18 months						
Employment outcomes (%)						
Employed	92.0	92.1	92.0	68.6	60.7	64.6
By skill level of job[3]:						
Highly skilled	*67.9*	*62.1*	*75.6*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Semi-skilled	*20.6*	*26.1*	*13.4*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Low skilled	*3.5*	*3.9*	*3.0*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Unemployed	3.0	2.8	3.3	2.7	2.2	2.4
Not in labour force	5.0	5.2	4.7	28.7	37.1	33.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Unemployment rate	3.2	2.9	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.6
Participation rate	95.0	94.8	95.3	71.3	62.9	67.0
Earnings ($'000)						
Sample size: employed (f/t)	**6,106**	**1,258**	**1,274**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Median annual full-time earnings	92.0	95.0	91.0	93.3	83.3	88.6
Change in outcomes						
Employment outcomes (%)						
Employed	1.8	2.2	1.3	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
By skill level of job[3]:						
Highly skilled	*1.6*	*1.4*	*1.8*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Semi-skilled	*0.2*	*0.9*	*-0.6*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Low skilled	*0.0*	*-0.1*	*0.1*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*
Unemployed	-0.4	-0.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not in labour force	-1.4	-1.3	-1.4	0.0	0.2	0.1
Total	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Unemployment rate	-0.5	-0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Participation rate	1.4	1.3	1.4	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
Earnings ($'000)						
Median annual full-time earnings	11.4	11.0	13.0	4.6	5.1	5.2

Note: Table 29 includes only those respondents who participated in both the introductory and follow-up surveys and earnings flagged as outliers or where stated income is markedly different between the surveys were rectified/confirmed in subsequent surveys. N/A = not available.

1. All skilled migrants includes other gender and gender not specified.

2. General Pop. = General Population. Employment Outcome figures for Australian civilian population aged 15 years and over sourced from ABS, Labour Force, Australia, released August 2025. Data presented is November 2023 and 2024 'Original', for 'At six months' and, 'At 18 months' respectively. Earnings figures for Australian employees sourced from ABS, Employee earnings, December 2024 release, for 'At six months' and, 'At 18 months'—August, the closest dates to the survey dates for which data is available at time of publication.

3. Sample size excludes respondents not working, for 'employed'.

4. See definition of skill level provided at footnote 30 pp 42-43.