



Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs



Australian  
**BORDER FORCE**

# Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary

31 August 2018

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## About this report

This report provides an overview of the number of people in immigration detention and Regional Processing Centres as at midnight on the date of the report. The report is produced on a monthly basis.

Data is sourced from several departmental processing and recording systems. Data relating to the immigration detention population is dynamic and there can be delays in transmission of information from the department's immigration detention network operations. Variations in figures between this report and previous issues can occur. Due to these issues, data from the current financial year should always be considered provisional.

Further information about immigration detention is available at:

<http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/immigration-detention-in-australia>

## Enquiries

Comments or enquiries concerning this report should be sent using the department's client service feedback form quoting the name and date of the report.

See: <http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/contact>

## Acronyms

**Table 1 – Acronyms used in this document**

Acronym	Description
APOD	Alternative Place of Detention
IMA	Illegal Maritime Arrival
IDC/F	Immigration Detention Centre/Facility
IRH	Immigration Residential Housing
ITA	Immigration Transit Accommodation
RPC	Regional Processing Centre
S501	Section 501 of the Migration ACT
S501 Visa Cancellation	Visa cancellations based on character or related grounds

# Immigration Detention And Community Statistics Summary

At 31 August 2018, there were 1303 people in immigration detention facilities, including 1227 in immigration detention on the mainland and 76 in immigration detention on Christmas Island.

A further 413 people were living in the community after being approved for a residence determination and 16,673 were living in the community after grant of a Bridging Visa E.

The table below reflects figures based on records in Department of Home Affairs systems.

**Table 2 – People in Immigration Detention Facilities (IDFs), Alternative Places of Detention (APODs), Regional Processing Centres (RPCs) and the Community at 31 August 2018**

Place of immigration detention	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from Previous Summary 31/07/18
Christmas Island IDC	76	0	0	<b>76</b>	- 97
Maribyrnong IDC	135	0	0	<b>135</b>	+ 14
Perth IDC	21	7	0	<b>28</b>	0
Villawood IDC	444	41	0	<b>485</b>	- 17
Yongah Hill IDC	306	0	0	<b>306</b>	+ 44
Mainland APODs	<5	<5	<5	<b>8</b>	- 12
<b>Total IDCs/APODs</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>&lt;5</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>- 68</b>
Adelaide ITA	17	<5	0	<b>19</b>	- 3
Brisbane ITA	110	12	6	<b>128</b>	+ 38
Melbourne ITA	104	13	<5	<b>118</b>	- 9
<b>Total in ITA</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>+ 26</b>
<b>Total in IDC/F</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>- 42</b>
<b>Total in Community under Residence Determination</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>+ 27</b>
<b>Total IMA in Community on Bridging Visa E (Including people in a re-grant process)</b>	<b>11,860</b>	<b>2,057</b>	<b>2,756</b>	<b>16,673</b>	<b>- 356</b>
Republic of Nauru (RPC)	151	12	10	<b>173</b>	- 16
Manus Province, Papua New Guinea (RPC)	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Total IMA in RPCs</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>- 16</b>
<b>Detention Group</b>					
S501 Visa Cancellation	414	22	0	<b>436</b>	- 13
Illegal Maritime Arrival	297	10	8	<b>315</b>	0
Other	504	47	<5	<b>552</b>	- 29
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>- 42</b>

## In Community under Residence Determination Population By State/Territory

Of the 413 people approved for a residence determination to live in the community, 33.2 per cent were in Victoria, 29.8 per cent in Queensland, 26.2 per cent in New South Wales, 6.5 per cent in South Australia and 4.4 per cent in Western Australia.

**Table 3 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by State/Territory at 31 August 2018**

State/Territory	Adult Male	Adult Female	Child Male (<18 years)	Child Female (<18 years)	Total
Victoria	38	36	37	26	<b>137</b>
Queensland	34	33	33	23	<b>123</b>
New South Wales	23	37	26	22	<b>108</b>
South Australia	6	8	5	8	<b>27</b>
Western Australia	10	<5	<5	<5	<b>18</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>413</b>

# Immigration Detention Population

## From January 1990 to 31 August 2018

The overall number of people in immigration detention including in the community under residence determination has decreased by 32 to 1716 compared with 1748 at the end of August 2017. This decrease takes into account releases of detainees into the community under residence determination and detainees granted Bridging E visas (BVEs) as well as decreases through return and removal activities.

**Figure 1 – Population in Immigration Detention**

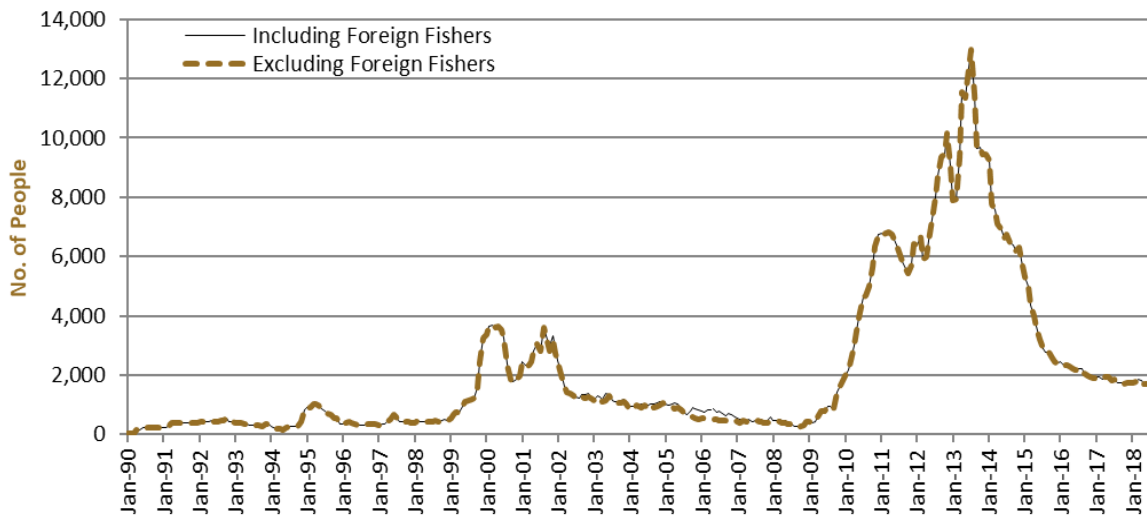


Figure 1 above, shows the number of people in immigration detention from 1990 to the date of this report. The trend had a consistent rise of people in immigration detention from January 2009 to January 2013, but has since had consistent decline.

# People In Immigration Detention Facilities

## Arrival Type

There were 352 people who arrived unlawfully by air or boat, in held immigration detention facilities at 31 August 2018 representing 27 per cent of the total immigration detention population.

There were also 951 people (73 per cent of the total immigration population) who arrived in Australia lawfully and were subsequently taken into immigration detention for either overstaying or having their visas cancelled for breaching visa conditions.

**Figure 2 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group**

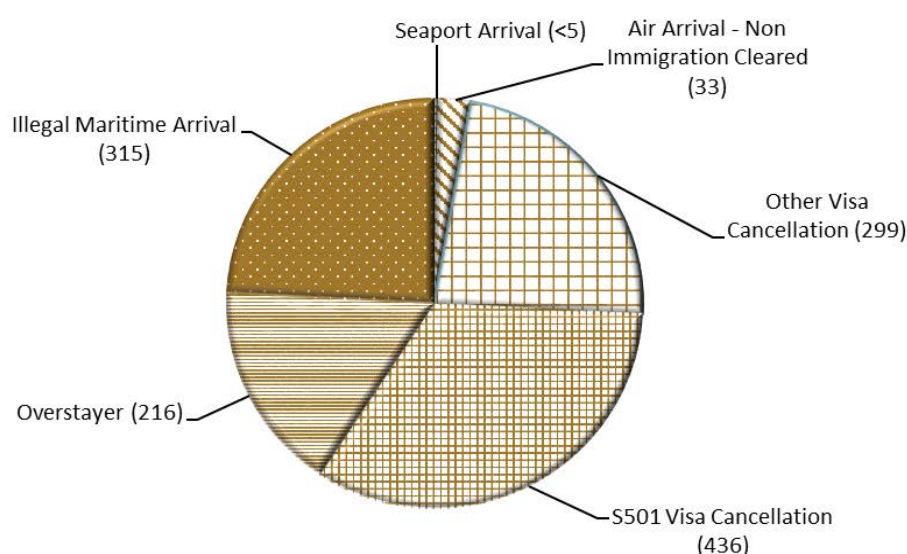


Figure 2 above, shows the number of people in held immigration detention facilities by detention group, including Overstayers, S501 and Other Visa Cancellations, Foreign Fishers, Illegal Maritime Arrivals, Unauthorised Air Arrivals, and if applicable – Inadequately Documented Crew Members and Others such as stowaways and ship deserters.

**Table 4 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group at 31 August 2018**

Place of immigration detention	S501 Visa Cancellation	IMA	Other Detention Group	Total	Change from Previous Summary 31/07/18
Christmas Island IDC	39	20	17	<b>76</b>	- 97
Maribyrnong IDC	51	24	60	<b>135</b>	+ 14
Perth IDC	11	<5	13	<b>28</b>	0
Villawood IDC	159	91	235	<b>485</b>	- 17
Yongah Hill IDC	140	85	81	<b>306</b>	+ 44
Mainland APODs	0	7	<5	<b>8</b>	- 12
<b>Total IDCs/APODs</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>- 68</b>
Adelaide ITA	<5	8	8	<b>19</b>	- 3
Brisbane ITA	25	27	76	<b>128</b>	+ 38
Melbourne ITA	8	49	61	<b>118</b>	- 9
<b>Total in IRH and ITA</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>+ 26</b>
<b>Total in IDC/F</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>- 42</b>

# People In Immigration Detention

## Nationality

At 31 August 2018, there were 1303 people in held immigration detention facilities. Of these 1303 people, 12.3 per cent were from New Zealand, 8.1 per cent were from Iran, 7.8 per cent were from Vietnam, 6.2 per cent were from Sri Lanka and 4.7 per cent were from United Kingdom.

**Table 5 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Nationality at 31 August 2018**

Nationalities	Adult Male	Adult Female	Child Male (<18 years)	Child Female (<18 years)	Total
New Zealand	145	15	0	0	<b>160</b>
Iran	101	<5	<5	<5	<b>106</b>
Vietnam	95	7	0	0	<b>102</b>
Sri Lanka	76	<5	0	<5	<b>81</b>
United Kingdom	58	<5	0	0	<b>61</b>
China	45	13	0	0	<b>58</b>
India	52	0	0	0	<b>52</b>
Sudan	49	<5	0	0	<b>51</b>
Iraq	42	<5	<5	0	<b>47</b>
Afghanistan	43	0	0	0	<b>43</b>
Other	509	30	<5	<5	<b>542</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>&lt;5</b>	<b>1,303</b>

At 31 August 2018, 413 were people living in the community after being approved for a residence determination. Of these 413 people, 56.7 per cent were from Iran, 11.6 per cent were Stateless, 8 per cent were from Sri Lanka, 5.3 per cent were from Somalia and 2.7 per cent were from Afghanistan.

**Table 6 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by Nationality at 31 August 2018**

Nationalities	Adult Male	Adult Female	Child Male (<18 years)	Child Female (<18 years)	Total
Iran	63	70	54	47	<b>234</b>
Stateless	15	11	9	13	<b>48</b>
Sri Lanka	8	8	13	<5	<b>33</b>
Somalia	6	9	6	<5	<b>22</b>
Afghanistan	<5	<5	<5	<5	<b>11</b>
Other	16	16	20	13	<b>65</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>413</b>



# Children In Immigration Detention

At 31 August 2018 there were nine children (aged less than 18 years) in Immigration Residential Housing, Immigration Transit Accommodation and Alternative Places of Detention.

**Figure 3 – Children in Immigration Residential Housing, Immigration Transit Accommodation and Alternative Places of Detention**

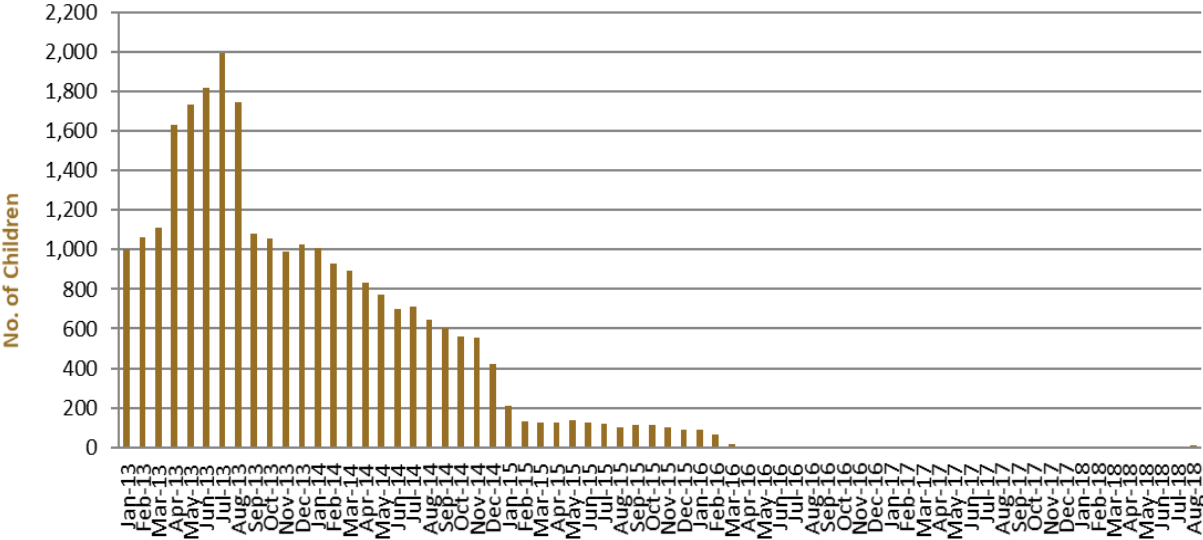


Figure 3 above, shows the number of children in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention from January 2013 to the date of this report. The continuous increase in the number of children in detention facilities from April 2013 to Aug 2013 was due to a rapid increase in illegal maritime arrivals during this period. The number of children in immigration detention facilities reduced in September 2013, as children completed mandatory processing and were transferred into the community. The number of children in detention facilities continued to decline during the late 2013 and 2014, with further reduction in January 2015.

At 31 August 2018, the number of children living in the community after being approved for a residence determination increased by nine to 185 from 176 in the previous report.

**Figure 4 – Children in the Community under Residence Determination**

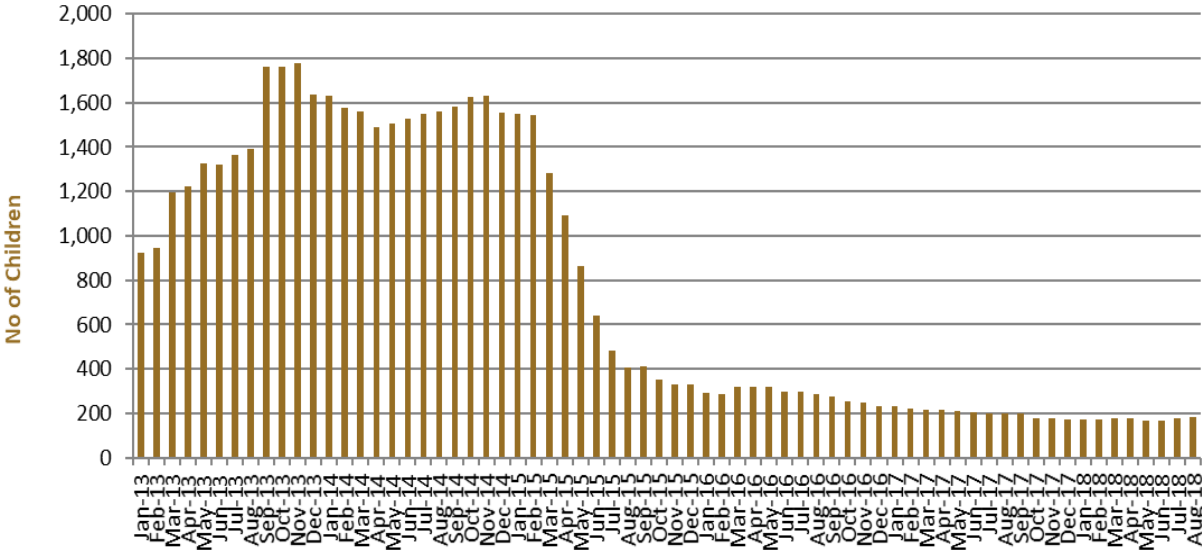


Figure 4 above, shows the number of children in the community under residence determination from January 2012 to the date of this report. The number of children in the community under residence determination, has levelled off at its lowest number since the peak in November 2013, as a result of releases into the community on Bridging E visas.

**Table 7 – Children in Immigration Detention and IMA Children in the Community on a Bridging E Visa at 31 August 2018**

Placement Type	Children
Immigration Residential Housing	0
Immigration Transit Accommodation	7
Alternative Places of Detention	<5
<b>Total Children in Immigration Detention Facilities</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total Children in the Community under a Residence Determination</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>Total IMA Children in the Community on a Bridging E visa (including in re-grant process)</b>	<b>2,756</b>

# Time In Immigration Detention Facilities

At 31 August 2018, there were 1303 people in immigration detention facilities. Of these 1303 people, 30.9 per cent had been detained for 91 days or less and 62.2 per cent had been detained for 365 days or less.

**Table 8 – Length of Time of People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities at 31 August 2018**

Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	66	5.1%
8 days - 31 days	146	11.2%
32 days - 91 days	191	14.7%
92 days - 182 days	167	12.8%
183 days - 365 days	241	18.5%
366 days - 547 days	147	11.3%
548 days - 730 days	72	5.5%
Greater than 730 days	273	21.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>100%</b>

At 31 August 2018, the average period of time for people held in detention facilities was 468 days.

**Figure 5 – Average Number of Days of People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities only**

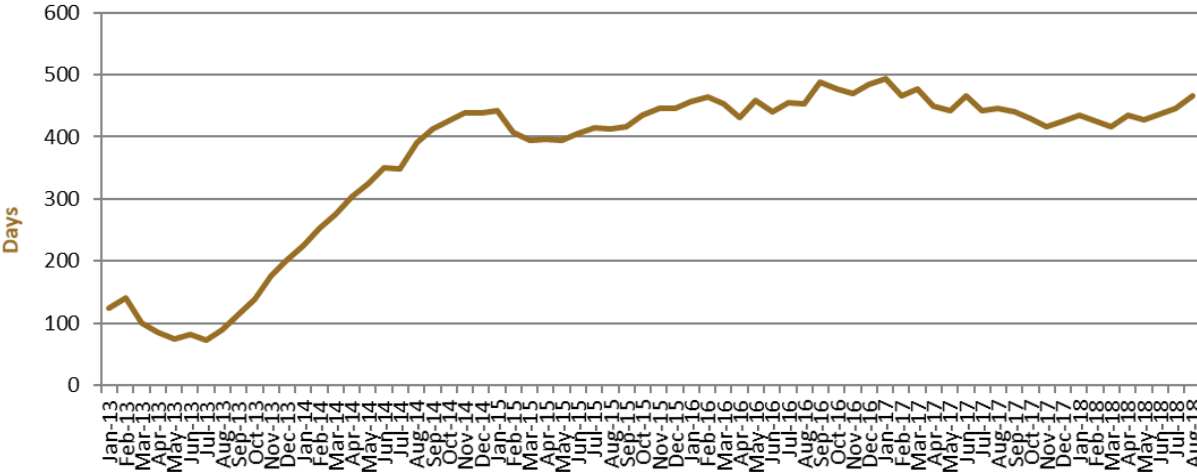


Figure 5 above, shows the average days in held immigration detention at the end of each month from January 2013 to the date of this report. The average period of time for people held in detention facilities steadily increased from July 2013 to January 2015.

## Time In Community Under Residence Determination

Of the 413 people in the community under residence determination, as at 31 August 2018, 12.6 per cent had been in the community for 91 days or less and 25.9 per cent had been in the community for 365 days or less.

**Table 9 – Length of Time of People in Community under Residence Determination at 31 August 2018**

Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	25	6.0%
8 days - 31 days	<5	0.5%
32 days - 91 days	25	6.0%
92 days - 182 days	25	6.0%
183 days - 365 days	30	7.3%
366 days - 547 days	27	6.5%
548 days - 730 days	35	8.5%
Greater than 730 days	244	59.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>100%</b>