



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Illegal Maritime Arrivals on Bridging E visa

30 September 2021

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About this report

This report provides an overview of the number of Illegal Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) who have been granted a Bridging E visa (BVE) to allow them to remain lawfully in Australia while their immigration status is being resolved.

The data is sourced from several departmental processing and recording systems. All reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of this information; however, it is subject to revision.

The report presents some basic statistics on IMAs who had been granted BVEs and were living in the community at the time of reporting.

The Department of Home Affairs has a policy of not publishing figures, for individuals, which total less than ten. This is done to protect the privacy of individuals.

The 2021 December quarter report is expected to be released in March 2022.

Release of IMAs on Bridging E visa (BVE)

Key program concepts

Since 25 November 2011, successive Ministers have used their non-compellable, non-delegable intervention power under s195A of the *Migration Act 1958* to grant a Bridging E Visa (BVE) to some illegal maritime arrivals (IMAs).

For further information about the IMA BVE program, please see [Fact Sheet – Bridging visas for illegal maritime arrivals](#).

Overall program numbers and current location by State and Territory

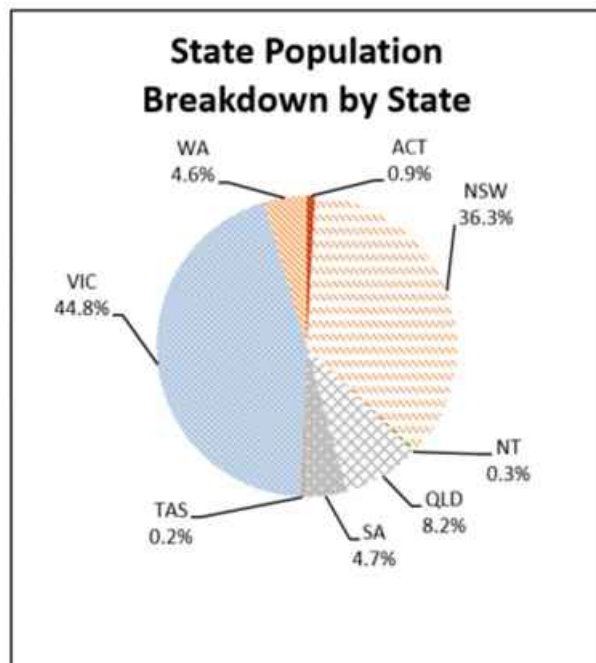
Between 25 November 2011 and 30 September 2021, 37,482 IMAs had been granted BVEs. Of these IMAs, 11,542 were residing in the Australian community as at 30 September 2021 (9181 with a BVE in effect and 2361 awaiting grant of a further BVE). The remaining 25,940 IMAs had either been granted a substantive visa, departed Australia, returned to immigration detention or were deceased.

BVE holders are free to choose where they live. As at 30 September 2021, the largest numbers of IMAs were in Victoria (VIC), followed by New South Wales (NSW), Queensland (QLD), South Australia (SA), Western Australia (WA), Australian Capital Territory (ACT), Northern Territory (NT), and Tasmania (TAS). (Table 1).

Table 1: Current location of IMA BVE holders

State and Territory	Number of IMA BVE holders
VIC	5,171
NSW	4,187
QLD	949
SA	544
WA	531
ACT	102
NT	37
TAS	21
TOTAL	11,542

Chart 1: Pie chart showing the percentage of IMA BVE holders by state and territory



Visa holder location by State and Territory

The following tables provide a breakdown of IMA BVE holders as at 30 September 2021, split by current location, age group, citizenship and gender for each Australian state and territory.

New South Wales

Table 2: IMA BVE holders by postcode in NSW

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2145	618
2195	337
2144	327
2160	255
2146	202
2161	200
2142	129
2147	118
2166	118
2170	109
2141	93
2165	89
2150	82
2148	81
2140	71
2196	70
2200	61
2216	59
2118	51
2151	45
2650	37
2164	35
2162	34
2199	33
2168	31
2190	31

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2770	31
2163	27
2001	25
2112	25
2153	24
2154	23
2143	21
2197	21
2114	18
2176	17
2155	16
2767	16
2152	15
2566	15
2117	14
2456	13
2194	12
2768	12
2122	11
2192	11
2795	11
2138	10
2177	10
2680	10
2760	10
2763	10
152 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	443
Total	4,187

Table 3: IMA BVE holders by age group in NSW

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	67
5 to 11	213
12 to 15	90
16 to 17	35
18 to 25	186
26 to 35	1,778
36 to 45	1,329
46+	489
Total	4,187

Table 5: IMA BVE holders by gender in NSW

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	536
Male	3,651
Total	4,187

Table 4: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NSW

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	232
Bangladesh	423
India	15
Indonesia	10
Iran	1,000
Iraq	336
Lebanon	86
Myanmar	24
Nepal	13
Pakistan	204
Palestinian Authority	12
Somalia	17
Sri Lanka	1,373
Stateless	301
Sudan	22
Syria	14
Vietnam	66
14 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	39
Total	4,187

Victoria

Table 6: IMA BVE holders by postcode in VIC

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3175	688
3020	500
3021	328
3076	191
3047	169
3171	169
3075	158
3177	149
3023	140
3174	136
3029	117
3064	110
3074	106
3046	98
3082	93
3030	81
3214	62
3976	62
3073	60
3977	53
3802	48
3752	47
3750	45
3803	44
3805	43
3022	42
3048	42
3072	42
3109	41
3011	40

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3034	38
3012	33
3754	30
3019	27
3083	27
3108	27
3215	27
3028	26
3150	26
3216	26
3044	25
3037	23
3173	23
3850	23
3500	22
3810	22
3060	21
3024	20
3630	20
3081	19
3978	18
3056	17
3133	16
3040	15
3058	15
3061	15
3172	15
3032	14
3038	14
3131	13
3000	12
3169	12
3170	12

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3026	11
3027	11
3166	11
3025	10
3106	10
3107	10
3219	10
3337	10
3350	10
3806	10
3975	10
136 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	461
Total	5,171

Table 7: IMA BVE holders by age group in VIC

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	148
5 to 11	442
12 to 15	210
16 to 17	86
18 to 25	379
26 to 35	1,855
36 to 45	1,423
46+	628
Total	5,171

Table 8: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in VIC

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	380
Bangladesh	72
India	29
Iran	1,576
Iraq	156
Lebanon	120
Myanmar	65
Pakistan	515
Somalia	10
Sri Lanka	1,553
Stateless	466
Sudan	16
Vietnam	153
Not recorded	24
18 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	36
Total	5,171

Table 9: IMA BVE holders by gender in VIC

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	1,132
Male	4,039
Total	5,171

Queensland

Table 10: IMA BVE holders by postcode in QLD

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
4077	146
4114	110
4343	38
4109	33
4110	30
4127	28
4103	23
4076	21
4102	19
4132	19
4122	18
4131	18
4078	17
4701	17
4034	15
4350	15
4105	14
4053	13
4115	13
4116	13
4121	13
4065	12
4013	11
4018	11
4108	11
4068	10
4151	10
4300	10
4870	10
77 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	231
Total	949

Table 11: IMA BVE holders by age group in QLD

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	22
5 to 11	94
12 to 15	39
16 to 17	21
18 to 25	84
26 to 35	329
36 to 45	251
46+	109
Total	949

Table 12: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in QLD

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	33
Bangladesh	59
Iran	221
Iraq	52
Pakistan	18
Somalia	19
Sri Lanka	301
Stateless	77
Sudan	12
Vietnam	127
8 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	30
Total	949

Table 13: IMA BVE holders by gender in QLD

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	240
Male	709
Total	949

South Australia

Table 14: IMA BVE holders by postcode in SA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
5084	79
5108	35
5085	27
5086	24
5098	24
5113	24
5107	21
5013	19
5012	18
5112	17
5096	14
5268	13
5087	12
5271	11
64 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	206
Total	544

Table 15: IMA BVE holders by age group in SA

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	<20
5 to 11	48
12 to 15	21
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	24
26 to 35	178
36 to 45	176
46+	74
Total	544

Table 16: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in SA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	66
Bangladesh	13
Iran	141
Iraq	11
Pakistan	53
Sri Lanka	157
Stateless	37
Vietnam	54
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	12
Total	544

Table 17: IMA BVE holders by gender in SA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	115
Male	429
Total	544

Western Australia

Table 18: IMA BVE holders by postcode in WA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
6064	59
6061	54
6110	54
6109	36
6107	33
6147	27
6108	24
6065	17
6105	17
6112	14
6059	12
6062	12
6111	12
6063	10
54 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	150
Total	531

Table 19: IMA BVE holders by age group in WA

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0-4	<10
5-11	37
12-15	13
16-17	<10
18-25	37
26-35	205
36-45	146
46+	81
Total	531

Table 20: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in WA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	90
Iran	74
Iraq	25
Pakistan	35
Sri Lanka	169
Stateless	30
Vietnam	99
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	9
Total	531

Table 21: IMA BVE holders by gender in WA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	101
Male	430
Total	531

Tasmania

Table 22: IMA BVE holders by postcode in TAS

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
10 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	21
Total	21

Table 23: IMA BVE holders by age group in TAS

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	0
5 to 11	<10
12 to 15	0
16 to 17	0
18 to 25	<10
26 to 35	<10
36 to 45	<10
46+	0
Total	21

Table 24: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in TAS

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	21
Total	21

Table 25: IMA BVE holders by gender in TAS

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	<10
Male	<20
Total	21

Northern Territory

Table 26: IMA BVE holders by postcode in NT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
11 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	37
Total	37

Table 27: IMA BVE holders by age group in NT

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	0
5 to 11	0
12 to 15	<10
16 to 17	0
18 to 25	<10
26 to 35	12
36 to 45	13
46+	<10
Total	37

Table 28: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Sri Lanka	11
Vietnam	14
5 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	12
Total	37

Table 29: IMA BVE holders by gender in NT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	<10
Male	<35
Total	37

Australian Capital Territory

Table 30: IMA BVE holders by postcode in ACT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2614	12
2602	10
2611	10
2617	10
2913	10
17 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	50
Total	102

Table 31: IMA BVE holders by age group in ACT

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	<10
5 to 11	<10
12 to 15	<10
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	11
26 to 35	34
36 to 45	35
46+	12
Total	102

Table 32: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in ACT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Iran	19
Iraq	14
Sri Lanka	38
Vietnam	10
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	21
Total	102

Table 33: IMA BVE holders by gender in ACT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	17
Male	85
Total	102