



Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs



Australian  
**BORDER FORCE**

# Illegal Maritime Arrivals on Bridging E visa

31 December 2020

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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 March quarter report is expected to be released in early April 2021.

# 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

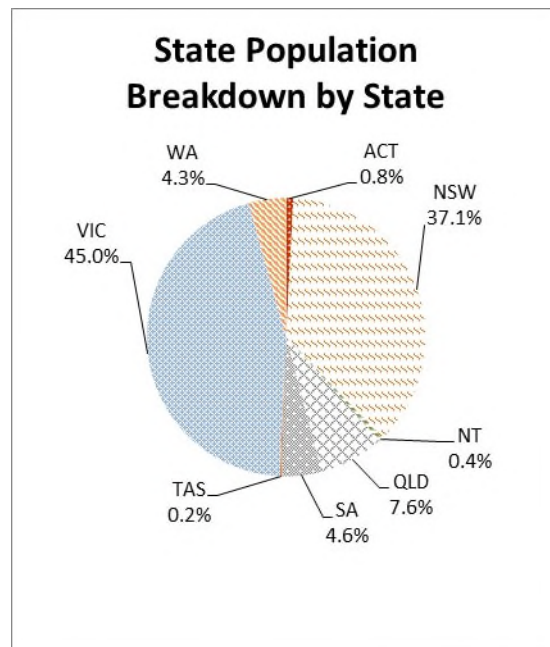
As at 31 December 2020, a total of 37,326 IMAs have been granted BVEs. Of these, 12,358 remain in the community, (10,132 with a current BVE and 2226 awaiting grant of a further BVE). The remaining 24,968 IMAs, who were granted BVEs have either been granted a substantive visa, departed Australia, returned to immigration detention or are deceased.

BVE holders are free to choose where they live. The largest numbers of IMAs are 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
NSW	4,579
VIC	5,556
QLD	941
SA	572
WA	534
TAS	23
NT	50
ACT	103
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,358</b>

**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 31 December 2020, 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	644
2195	361
2144	360
2160	307
2161	226
2146	205
2142	161
2166	138
2170	134
2165	113
2147	107
2150	99
2141	94
2140	84
2118	70
2148	68
2196	68
2200	67
2216	66
2151	60
2199	47
2650	43
2164	41
2162	40
2163	34
2168	33

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2112	32
2770	29
2153	27
2117	26
2154	26
2190	26
2176	22
2155	21
2197	21
2767	20
2143	19
2152	18
2114	17
2192	14
2768	14
2122	13
2456	13
2763	13
2800	13
2001	12
2194	11
2680	11
2116	10
2127	10
2128	10
2290	10
2795	10

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
160 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	441
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,579</b>

**Table 3: IMA BVE holders by age group in NSW**

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	121
5 to 11	244
12 to 15	95
16 to 17	30
18 to 25	258
26 to 35	2,027
36 to 45	1,311
46+	493
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,579</b>

**Table 4: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NSW**

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	249
Bangladesh	430
India	16
Indonesia	11
Iran	1,273
Iraq	358
Lebanon	87
Myanmar	21
Nepal	14
Pakistan	202
Palestinian Authority	15
Somalia	17
Sri Lanka	1,409
Stateless	327
Sudan	25
Syria	14
Vietnam	72
13 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,579</b>

**Table 5: IMA BVE holders by gender in NSW**

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	641
Male	3,938
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,579</b>

## Victoria

Table 6: IMA BVE holders by postcode in VIC

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3175	711
3020	521
3021	345
3076	200
3171	193
3047	182
3075	176
3177	161
3074	137
3174	137
3029	136
3023	124
3064	118
3046	115
3082	103
3030	87
3073	75
3214	69
3976	63
3072	58
3803	57
3752	56
3977	52
3805	50
3083	49
3750	46
3802	46
3022	45
3011	43
3048	42

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3109	41
3754	37
3019	36
3108	36
3034	35
3044	33
3028	32
3215	31
3012	29
3037	29
3150	27
3173	24
3850	24
3107	22
3058	21
3060	21
3172	21
3216	21
3630	20
3978	20
3049	19
3337	19
3810	19
3975	19
3081	18
3131	18
3056	17
3133	17
3500	17
3024	16
3840	15
3134	14
3032	13

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3169	13
3038	12
3061	12
3170	12
3043	11
3130	11
3152	11
3040	10
3042	10
3153	10
149 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	466
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,556</b>

Table 7: IMA BVE holders by age group in VIC

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	187
5 to 11	498
12 to 15	233
16 to 17	99
18 to 25	489
26 to 35	2,019
36 to 45	1,425
46+	606
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,556</b>

Table 8: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in VIC

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	429
Bangladesh	69
India	28
Iran	1,800
Iraq	164
Lebanon	122
Myanmar	65
Not Recorded	18
Pakistan	522
Sri Lanka	1,581
Stateless	537
Sudan	13
Vietnam	154
20 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,556</b>

Table 9: IMA BVE holders by gender in VIC

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	1,293
Male	4,263
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,556</b>



## Queensland

Table 10: IMA BVE holders by postcode in QLD

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
4077	144
4114	115
4110	39
4343	39
4127	30
4131	28
4103	23
4109	23
4034	21
4076	21
4132	21
4105	19
4122	19
4701	16
4350	14
4065	13
4102	13
4151	13
4013	12
4300	12
4104	10
4116	10
79 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	286
<b>Total</b>	<b>941</b>

Table 11: IMA BVE holders by age group in QLD

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	35
5 to 11	89
12 to 15	42
16 to 17	21
18 to 25	92
26 to 35	335
36 to 45	226
46+	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>941</b>

Table 12: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in QLD

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	39
Bangladesh	60
India	11
Iran	222
Iraq	45
Pakistan	20
Somalia	18
Sri Lanka	296
Stateless	75
Vietnam	124
9 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>941</b>

Table 13: IMA BVE holders by gender in QLD

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	253
MALE	688
<b>Total</b>	<b>941</b>

## South Australia

Table 14: IMA BVE holders by postcode in SA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
5084	91
5108	51
5086	35
5085	31
5013	21
5098	21
5107	21
5095	19
5113	19
5012	17
5114	16
5087	14
5268	14
5112	12
5271	10
62 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	180
<b>Total</b>	<b>572</b>

Table 15: IMA BVE holders by age group in SA

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	<25
5 to 11	51
12 to 15	22
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	29
26 to 35	208
36 to 45	174
46+	61
<b>Total</b>	<b>572</b>

Table 16: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in SA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	72
Bangladesh	15
Iran	143
Pakistan	61
Sri Lanka	161
Stateless	29
Vietnam	67
8 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>572</b>

Table 17: IMA BVE holders by gender in SA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	122
Male	450
<b>Total</b>	<b>572</b>

## Western Australia

Table 18: IMA BVE holders by postcode in WA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
6061	56
6110	53
6064	52
6107	38
6109	30
6108	24
6147	24
6062	16
6112	14
6065	13
6105	13
6059	12
6063	12
6060	11
6111	11
6155	11
53 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	144
<b>Total</b>	<b>534</b>

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	12
16-17	<10
18-25	42
26-35	214
36-45	134
46+	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>534</b>

Table 20: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in WA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	97
Iran	75
Iraq	17
Pakistan	36
Sri Lanka	172
Stateless	22
Vietnam	105
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>534</b>

Table 21: IMA BVE holders by gender in WA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	99
Male	435
<b>Total</b>	<b>534</b>

## Tasmania

Table 22: IMA BVE holders by postcode in TAS

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
11 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

Table 24: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in TAS

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

Table 25: IMA BVE holders by gender in TAS

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	<10
Male	<25
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

## Northern Territory

Table 26: IMA BVE holders by postcode in NT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
810	17
11 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

Table 27: IMA BVE holders by age group in NT

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	0
5 to 11	<10
12 to 15	<10
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	<10
26 to 35	18
36 to 45	15
46+	<10
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

Table 28: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Sri Lanka	21
Vietnam	16
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

Table 29: IMA BVE holders by gender in NT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	<10
Male	<45
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

## Australian Capital Territory

Table 30: IMA BVE holders by postcode in ACT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2913	15
2617	13
2602	11
2614	11
2611	10
18 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>

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	<10
26 to 35	39
36 to 45	30
46+	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>

Table 32: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in ACT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Iran	18
Iraq	18
Sri Lanka	42
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>

Table 33: IMA BVE holders by gender in ACT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	21
Male	82
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>