



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Illegal Maritime Arrivals on Bridging E visa

31 December 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 2022 March quarter report is expected to be released in May 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

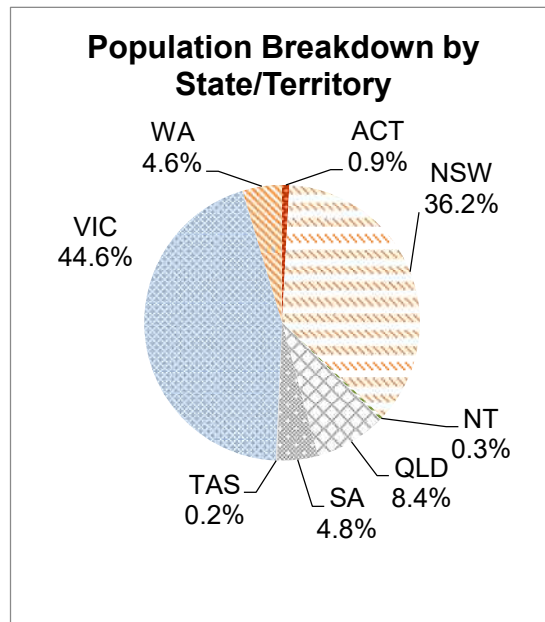
Between 25 November 2011 and 31 December 2021, 37,485 IMAs were granted BVEs. Of these, 11,279 remain in the community (8842 with a current BVE and 2437 awaiting grant of a further BVE). The remaining 26,206 IMAs, who were granted BVEs, have either been granted a substantive visa, departed Australia, returned to immigration detention, or are deceased.

BVE holders are free to choose where they live. As at 31 December 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	5,033
NSW	4,081
QLD	952
SA	538
WA	522
ACT	98
NT	35
TAS	20
TOTAL	11,279

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 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	612
2195	330
2144	315
2160	238
2146	193
2161	188
2142	123
2166	119
2147	114
2170	109
2141	88
2165	88
2148	83
2150	72
2200	72
2196	70
2140	69
2216	58
2118	48
2151	46
2162	35
2650	34
2199	32
2770	31
2164	30
2190	29
2168	28
2001	25
2153	25

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2163	25
2112	24
2154	22
2197	21
2114	19
2143	18
2176	18
2566	16
2155	15
2192	15
2152	13
2177	13
2456	13
2767	13
2795	12
2117	11
2194	11
2207	11
2680	11
2763	11
2138	10
2760	10
152 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	445
Total	4,081

Table 3: IMA BVE holders by age group in NSW

Age Range	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	57
5 to 11	213
12 to 15	83
16 to 17	38
18 to 25	168
26 to 35	1,695
36 to 45	1,330
46+	497
Total	4,081

Table 5: IMA BVE holders by gender in NSW

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	522
Male	3,559
Total	4,081

Table 4: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NSW

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	209
Bangladesh	420
India	15
Indonesia	10
Iran	951
Iraq	319
Lebanon	82
Myanmar	23
Nepal	13
Pakistan	203
Palestinian Authority	12
Somalia	17
Sri Lanka	1,349
Stateless	318
Sudan	21
Syria	15
Vietnam	66
14 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	38
Total	4,081

Victoria

Table 6: IMA BVE holders by postcode in VIC

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3175	646
3020	483
3021	331
3076	177
3171	169
3047	166
3075	155
3023	142
3177	140
3174	130
3029	117
3064	111
3074	97
3046	93
3082	87
3030	76
3214	60
3976	60
3073	53
3977	50
3750	47
3802	47
3803	44
3022	43
3752	42
3109	41
3011	40
3805	40
3034	39
3072	39
3048	35
3012	31
3083	27

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3754	27
3019	26
3108	26
3150	26
3215	26
3810	26
3028	25
3216	25
3500	25
3037	24
3044	23
3024	21
3850	21
3060	20
3173	20
3630	20
3081	19
3056	18
3133	18
3172	18
3058	17
3978	17
3040	16
3061	15
3131	14
3000	13
3032	13
3169	12
3170	12
3026	11
3106	11
3107	11
3166	11
3182	11
3219	11
3025	10

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3027	10
3038	10
3806	10
141 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	486
Total	5,033

Table 7: IMA BVE holders by age group in VIC

Age Range	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	128
5 to 11	430
12 to 15	199
16 to 17	90
18 to 25	344
26 to 35	1,788
36 to 45	1,420
46+	634
Total	5,033

Table 8: IMA BE holders by citizenship in VIC

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	335
Bangladesh	70
India	30
Iran	1,504
Iraq	157
Lebanon	118
Myanmar	67
Pakistan	512
Sri Lanka	1,514
Stateless	493
Sudan	16
Vietnam	151
Not Recorded	22
18 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	44
Total	5,033

Table 9: IMA BVE holders by gender in VIC

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	1,088
Male	3,945
Total	5,033

Queensland

Table 10: IMA BVE holders by postcode in QLD

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
4077	148
4114	111
4109	37
4343	36
4127	29
4110	28
4076	25
4103	22
4078	18
4102	18
4122	18
4701	17
4132	16
4350	16
4105	15
4034	14
4053	13
4116	13
4131	13
4065	12
4108	12
4115	12
4121	12
4151	12
4013	11
4870	11
4018	10
4068	10
79 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	243
Total	952

Table 11: IMA BVE holders by age group in QLD

Age Range	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	18
5 to 11	93
12 to 15	40
16 to 17	22
18 to 25	82
26 to 35	320
36 to 45	264
46+	113
Total	952

Table 12: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in QLD

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	30
Bangladesh	56
Iran	208
Iraq	52
Pakistan	17
Somalia	19
Sri Lanka	300
Stateless	95
Sudan	13
Vietnam	123
Not Recorded	11
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	28
Total	952

Table 13: IMA BVE holders by gender in QLD

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	240
Male	712
Total	952

South Australia

Table 14: IMA BVE holders by postcode in SA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
5084	76
5108	33
5085	27
5113	25
5098	23
5112	21
5012	19
5013	19
5107	19
5086	18
5096	14
5268	14
5087	11
5109	10
5271	10
61 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	199
Total	538

Table 15: IMA BVE holders by age group in SA

Age Range	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	<15
5 to 11	53
12 to 15	21
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	22
26 to 35	176
36 to 45	169
46+	78
Total	538

Table 16: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in SA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	66
Bangladesh	13
Iran	136
Iraq	10
Pakistan	51
Sri Lanka	159
Stateless	34
Vietnam	52
5 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	17
Total	538

Table 17: IMA BVE holders by gender in SA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	116
Male	422
Total	538

Western Australia

Table 18: IMA BVE holders by postcode in WA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
6064	57
6061	53
6110	48
6109	35
6107	30
6147	28
6108	25
6065	17
6105	16
6112	14
6059	12
6062	12
6111	12
6063	10
56 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	153
Total	522

Table 19: IMA BVE holders by age group in WA

Age Range	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	<10
5 to 11	36
12 to 15	12
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	32
26 to 35	199
36 to 45	146
46+	85
Total	522

Table 20: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in WA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	86
Iran	74
Iraq	25
Pakistan	35
Sri Lanka	164
Stateless	30
Vietnam	95
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	13
Total	522

Table 21: IMA BVE holders by gender in WA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	98
Male	424
Total	522

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	20
Total	20

Table 23: IMA BVE holders by age group in TAS

Age Range	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	20

Table 24: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in TAS

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
5 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	20
Total	20

Table 25: IMA BVE holders by gender in TAS

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

Northern Territory

Table 26: IMA BVE holders by postcode in NT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
9 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	35
Total	35

Table 27: IMA BVE holders by age group in NT

Age Range	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	11
46+	<10
Total	35

Table 28: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Sri Lanka	10
Vietnam	13
5 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	12
Total	35

Table 29: IMA BVE holders by gender in NT

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

Australian Capital Territory

Table 30: IMA BVE holders by postcode in ACT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2614	13
2617	11
2602	10
2611	10
15 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	54
Total	98

Table 31: IMA BVE holders by age group in ACT

Age Range	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	31
36 to 45	34
46+	13
Total	98

Table 32: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in ACT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Iran	19
Iraq	13
Sri Lanka	38
Vietnam	10
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	18
Total	98

Table 33: IMA BVE holders by gender in ACT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	16
Male	82
Total	98