



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Illegal Maritime Arrivals on Bridging E visa

31 March 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 June quarter report is expected to be released in early August 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

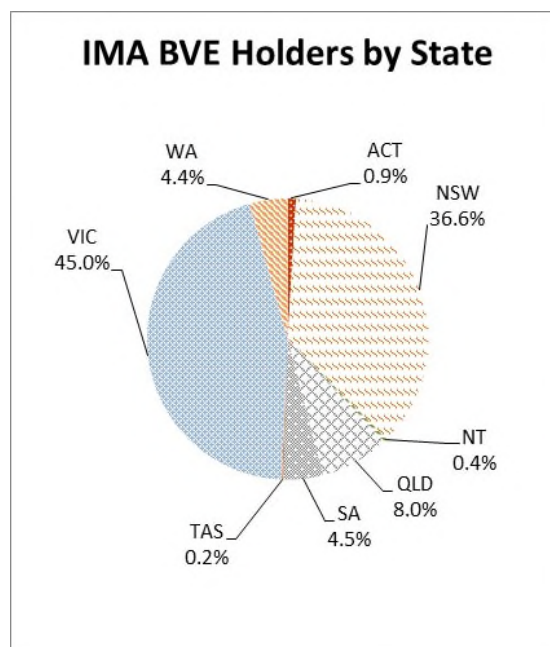
Between 25 November 2011 and 31 March 2021, 37,461 IMAs had been granted BVEs. Of these IMAs, 12,194 were residing in the Australian community as at 31 March 2021 (9989 with a BVE in effect and 2205 awaiting grant of a further BVE). The remaining 25,267 IMAs had either been granted a substantive visa, departed Australia, returned to immigration detention or were deceased.

BVE holders are free to choose where they live. As at 31 March 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
NSW	4,468
VIC	5,483
QLD	977
SA	551
WA	532
TAS	22
NT	46
ACT	115
TOTAL	12,194

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 March 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	647
2195	352
2144	347
2160	301
2161	215
2146	198
2142	147
2166	135
2170	125
2147	105
2165	103
2150	93
2141	88
2140	80
2148	69
2200	68
2216	67
2118	66
2196	64
2151	58
2162	43
2199	42
2650	42
2164	38
2163	32
2168	32

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2770	32
2112	31
2153	28
2117	27
2190	27
2154	26
2197	22
2767	21
2143	20
2001	19
2176	18
2152	17
2114	16
2768	14
2192	13
2456	13
2122	12
2155	12
2194	12
2763	12
2680	11
2115	10
2127	10
2795	10
167 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	478
Total	4,468

Table 3: IMA BVE holders by age group in NSW

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	105
5 to 11	233
12 to 15	92
16 to 17	30
18 to 25	239
26 to 35	1,953
36 to 45	1,321
46+	495
Total	4,468

Table 5: IMA BVE holders by gender in NSW

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	611
Male	3,857
Total	4,468

Table 4: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NSW

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	244
Bangladesh	422
India	16
Indonesia	10
Iran	1,191
Iraq	354
Lebanon	88
Myanmar	22
Nepal	14
Pakistan	207
Palestinian Authority	13
Somalia	16
Sri Lanka	1,395
Stateless	324
Sudan	23
Syria	14
Vietnam	71
14 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	44
Total	4,468

Victoria

Table 6: IMA BVE holders by postcode in VIC

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3175	699
3020	517
3021	336
3076	203
3171	189
3047	181
3075	167
3177	158
3174	133
3023	132
3029	124
3074	120
3064	119
3046	109
3082	99
3030	89
3073	83
3214	67
3976	63
3072	58
3803	57
3752	54
3977	54
3022	47
3802	47
3805	47
3750	46
3011	45
3083	44
3048	42

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3109	42
3034	36
3044	33
3108	33
3019	32
3215	32
3754	32
3012	31
3028	29
3037	28
3150	26
3173	24
3850	24
3810	22
3216	21
3060	20
3630	20
3975	20
3978	20
3172	19
3500	19
3024	18
3049	18
3056	18
3081	18
3131	18
3058	17
3133	17
3107	16
3134	15
3169	14
3840	14
3032	13

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3130	12
3153	12
3337	12
3026	11
3027	11
3040	11
3061	11
3166	11
3170	11
3025	10
3038	10
3043	10
142 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	463
Total	5,483

Table 7: IMA BVE holders by age group in VIC

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	170
5 to 11	480
12 to 15	231
16 to 17	89
18 to 25	457
26 to 35	1,991
36 to 45	1,434
46+	631
Total	5,483

Table 8: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in VIC

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	419
Bangladesh	74
India	29
Iran	1,750
Iraq	163
Lebanon	121
Myanmar	68
Pakistan	510
Sri Lanka	1,583
Stateless	523
Sudan	18
Vietnam	153
20 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	72
Total	5,483

Table 9: IMA BVE holders by gender in VIC

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	1,249
Male	4,234
Total	5,483

Queensland

Table 10: IMA BVE holders by postcode in QLD

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
4077	151
4114	109
4343	40
4109	32
4103	30
4110	30
4127	29
4131	24
4076	20
4132	20
4122	19
4101	17
4102	17
4350	17
4034	16
4105	16
4701	16
4065	14
4078	14
4053	13
4018	12
4121	12
4013	11
4300	11
4116	10
4118	10
79 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	267
Total	977

Table 11: IMA BVE holders by age group in QLD

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	34
5 to 11	92
12 to 15	43
16 to 17	21
18 to 25	88
26 to 35	346
36 to 45	246
46+	107
Total	977

Table 12: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in QLD

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	43
Bangladesh	59
India	12
Iran	235
Iraq	54
Pakistan	19
Somalia	19
Sri Lanka	300
Stateless	69
Sudan	13
Vietnam	129
8 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	25
Total	977

Table 13: IMA BVE holders by gender in QLD

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	253
Male	724
Total	977

South Australia

Table 14: IMA BVE holders by postcode in SA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
5084	79
5108	42
5086	33
5085	28
5098	24
5107	21
5113	20
5013	19
5012	17
5095	16
5112	16
5087	14
5268	14
5271	10
66 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	198
Total	551

Table 15: IMA BVE holders by age group in SA

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	<20
5 to 11	46
12 to 15	22
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	29
26 to 35	194
36 to 45	171
46+	64
Total	551

Table 16: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in SA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	66
Bangladesh	15
Iran	143
Pakistan	56
Sri Lanka	162
Stateless	31
Vietnam	59
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	19
Total	551

Table 17: IMA BVE holders by gender in SA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	116
Male	435
Total	551

Western Australia

Table 18: IMA BVE holders by postcode in WA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
6064	56
6061	54
6110	52
6107	37
6109	32
6147	28
6108	22
6065	17
6062	16
6105	14
6112	14
6059	12
6063	11
6111	11
6155	11
55 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	145
Total	532

Table 19: IMA BVE holders by age group in WA

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0-4	<10
5-11	36
12-15	12
16-17	<10
18-25	41
26-35	210
36-45	137
46+	81
Total	532

Table 20: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in WA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Afghanistan	93
Iran	74
Iraq	20
Pakistan	37
Sri Lanka	172
Stateless	24
Vietnam	102
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	10
Total	532

Table 21: IMA BVE holders by gender in WA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	100
Male	432
Total	532

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	22
Total	22

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	<10
16 to 17	0
18 to 25	<10
26 to 35	10
36 to 45	<10
46+	0
Total	22

Table 24: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in TAS

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	22
Total	22

Table 25: IMA BVE holders by gender in TAS

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	<10
Male	<25
Total	22

Northern Territory

Table 26: IMA BVE holders by postcode in NT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
810	15
11 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	31
Total	46

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	15
36 to 45	15
46+	<10
Total	46

Table 28: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Sri Lanka	18
Vietnam	15
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	13
Total	46

Table 29: IMA BVE holders by gender in NT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	<10
Male	<50
Total	46

Australian Capital Territory

Table 30: IMA BVE holders by postcode in ACT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2913	16
2617	13
2602	12
2614	12
2611	11
2612	10
17 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	41
Total	115

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	45
36 to 45	34
46+	11
Total	115

Table 32: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in ACT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
Iran	25
Iraq	18
Sri Lanka	42
Vietnam	10
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	20
Total	115

Table 33: IMA BVE holders by gender in ACT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	23
Male	92
Total	115