



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Illegal maritime arrivals on Bridging E visa

31 December 2019

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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 change.

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 next report is expected to be released in May 2020.

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 (IMA)s.

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

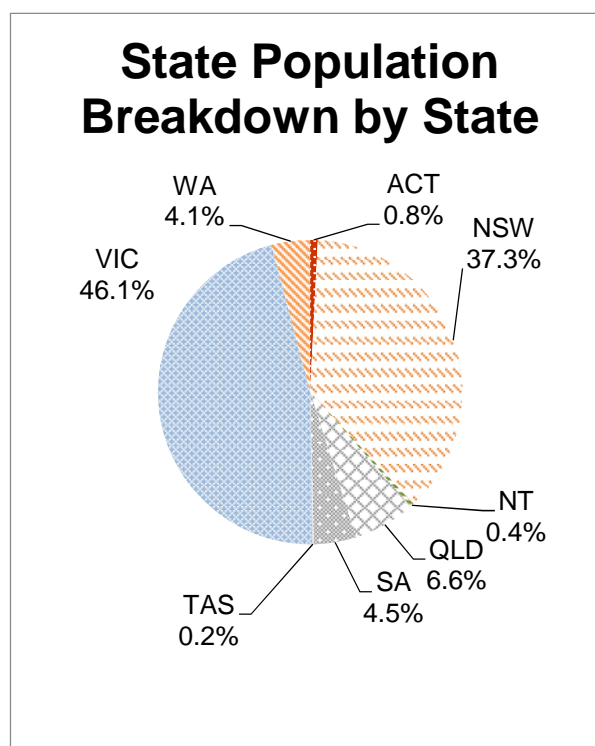
As at 31 December 2019, a total of 36,992 have been granted to IMAs. Of these, 13,144 remain in the community, (10,988 with a current BVE and 2,156 awaiting grant of a further BVE). The remaining 23,848 IMAs, who were granted BVEs have either been granted a substantive visa, departed Australia, returned 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
ACT	104
NSW	4,909
NT	52
QLD	867
SA	591
TAS	21
VIC	6,064
WA	536
TOTAL	13,144

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 by state and territory, then by gender, age group, citizenship and current location for IMA holders of bridging visas as at 31 December 2019. People who arrived as IMAs and who hold a bridging visa are free to live wherever they choose in Australia.

Australian Capital Territory

Table 2: IMA BVE holders by postcode in ACT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2913	20
2614	13
2602	12
2611	10
15 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	49
Total	104

Table 3: 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	27
46+	10
Total	104

Table 4: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in ACT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
IRAN	23
IRAQ	10
SRI LANKA	46
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	25
Total	104

Table 5: IMA BVE holders by gender in ACT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	25
Male	79
Total	104

New South Wales

Table 6: IMA BVE holders by postcode in NSW

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2145	642
2144	420
2195	402
2160	351
2161	278
2146	208
2142	189
2166	162
2165	134
2170	127
2150	109
2147	101
2141	92
2140	85
2151	81
2196	78
2148	75
2216	72
2118	65
2200	65
2650	45
2162	43
2199	41

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2164	37
2168	37
2163	36
2190	36
2152	35
2770	34
2154	29
2112	27
2176	24
2153	23
2117	22
2143	19
2114	18
2197	18
2767	16
2155	15
2680	15
2800	15
2194	14
2768	14
2122	13
2192	12
2456	12
2127	11
2077	10
2116	10

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
2128	10
2337	10
2750	10
2763	10
2766	10
165 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	442
Total	4,909

Table 7: IMA BVE holders by age group in NSW

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	159
5 to 11	252
12 to 15	88
16 to 17	37
18 to 25	368
26 to 35	2,292
36 to 45	1,260
46+	453
Total	4,909

Table 8: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NSW

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
AFGHANISTAN	282
BANGLADESH	439

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
INDIA	18
INDONESIA	10
IRAN	1,439
IRAQ	369
LEBANON	85
MYANMAR	20
NEPAL	14
PAKISTAN	208
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY	21
SOMALIA	10
SRI LANKA	1,451
STATELESS	385
SUDAN	33
SYRIA	14
VIETNAM	70
15 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	41
Total	4,909

Table 9: IMA BVE holders by gender in NSW

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	678
Male	4,231
Total	4,909

Northern Territory

Table 10: IMA BVE holders by postcode in NT

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
810	18
812	11
8 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	23
Total	52

Table 11: 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	13
36 to 45	21
46+	<10
Total	52

Table 12: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in NT

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
SRI LANKA	21
VIETNAM	18
7 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	13
Total	52

Table 13: IMA BVE holders by gender in NT

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	<10
Male	43
Total	52

Queensland

Table 14: IMA BVE holders by postcode in QLD

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
4077	146
4114	118
4343	41
4076	28
4701	26
4103	25
4110	23
4127	22
4132	21
4032	19
4122	19
4300	19
4109	18
4105	17
4350	17
4065	13
4102	13
4034	12
4151	11
4064	10
4123	10
72 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	239
Total	867

Table 15: IMA BVE holders by age group in QLD

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	44
5 to 11	82
12 to 15	43
16 to 17	17
18 to 25	90
26 to 35	308
36 to 45	203
46+	80
Total	867

Table 16: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in QLD

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
AFGHANISTAN	42
BANGLADESH	59
INDIA	11
IRAN	184
IRAQ	39
PAKISTAN	17
SRI LANKA	306
STATELESS	62
VIETNAM	121
10 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	26
Total	867

Table 17: IMA BVE holders by gender in QLD

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
FEMALE	224
MALE	643
Total	867

South Australia

Table 18: IMA BVE holders by postcode in SA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
5084	110
5108	42
5085	27
5113	27
5107	26
5013	25
5012	22
5098	15
5268	15
5112	14
5086	13
5087	12
5271	12
5074	10
5088	10
5095	10
63 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	201
Total	591

Table 19: IMA BVE holders by age group in SA

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	32
5 to 11	41
12 to 15	15
16 to 17	<10

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
18 to 25	54
26 to 35	235
36 to 45	151
46+	59
Total	591

Table 20: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in SA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
AFGHANISTAN	83
BANGLADESH	11
IRAN	137
PAKISTAN	71
SRI LANKA	173
STATELESS	17
VIETNAM	74
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	25
Total	591

Table 21: IMA BVE holders by gender in SA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	108
Male	483
Total	591

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	<10
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
5 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

Victoria

Table 26: IMA BVE holders by postcode in VIC

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3175	801
3020	574
3021	361
3047	225
3171	218
3076	209
3075	196
3177	193
3174	169
3074	162
3029	141
3023	122
3046	122
3064	116
3082	113
3073	111
3030	103
3805	67
3214	65
3976	64
3977	63
3072	62
3803	61
3752	57
3083	54
3048	51

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3802	51
3109	44
3011	42
3012	39
3034	39
3019	38
3022	38
3750	37
3044	36
3108	36
3754	35
3037	34
3060	32
3028	31
3850	31
3150	30
3215	28
3058	27
3107	27
3216	25
3630	22
3056	21
3081	21
3172	21
3033	19
3130	19
3032	18
3049	18
3173	18

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
3043	17
3978	17
3133	16
3134	16
3337	16
3042	15
3350	15
3025	14
3131	14
3061	13
3129	13
3500	13
3840	13
3024	12
3170	12
3128	11
3153	11
3975	11
3040	10
3059	10
3104	10
3105	10
3875	10
137 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	408
Total	6,064

Table 27: IMA BVE holders by age group in VIC

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	302
5 to 11	532
12 to 15	252
16 to 17	85
18 to 25	652
26 to 35	2,247
36 to 45	1,410
46+	584
Total	6,064

Table 28: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in VIC

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
AFGHANISTAN	515
BANGLADESH	77
INDIA	27
IRAN	2,091
IRAQ	179
LEBANON	124
MYANMAR	72
NOT RECORDED	19
PAKISTAN	567
SRI LANKA	1,593
STATELESS	577
SUDAN	17
VIETNAM	158
18 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	48
Total	6,064

Table 29: IMA BVE holders by gender in VIC

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	1,440
Male	4,624
Total	6,064

Western Australia

Table 30: IMA BVE holders by postcode in WA

Postcode	Number of IMA BVE holders
6064	62
6061	56
6110	52
6107	35
6109	29
6147	28
6108	25
6112	20
6105	14
6062	13
6065	13
6063	12
6060	11
6155	11
55 postcodes with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	155
Total	536

Table 31: IMA BVE holders by age group in WA

Age Group	Number of IMA BVE holders
0 to 4	14
5 to 11	29
12 to 15	12
16 to 17	<10
18 to 25	60
26 to 35	207
36 to 45	139
46+	71
Total	536

Table 32: IMA BVE holders by citizenship in WA

Citizenship	Number of IMA BVE holders
AFGHANISTAN	99
IRAN	69
IRAQ	20
PAKISTAN	38
SRI LANKA	174
STATELESS	19
VIETNAM	108
6 citizenships with less than 10 IMA BVE holders	9
Total	536

Table 33: IMA BVE holders by gender in WA

Gender	Number of IMA BVE holders
Female	90
Male	446
Total	536