Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Australian
BORDER FORCE

Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary

September 2026 (released 5 November 2026)

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About this report

This report provides an overview of the number of people in onshore immigration detention, as at the morning of the first day following the end of the reporting month. The report is produced on a monthly basis.

As data is sourced from several departmental processing and recording systems, data relating to the immigration detention population is dynamic and variations between monthly reports can occur. Due to these issues, data from the current financial year should always be considered provisional.

Further information about immigration detention is available at:

https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-statistics/statistics/visa-statistics/live/immigration-detention

Enquiries

Comments or enquiries concerning this report should be sent using the Department's client service feedback form quoting the name and date of the report.

See: https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/contact-us

Acronyms

Table 1 – Acronyms used in this document

Acronym	Description
APOD	Alternative Place of Detention
IDC/F	Immigration Detention Centre/Facility
ITA	Immigration Transit Accommodation
S501	Section 501 of the *Migration Act 1958* (the Migration Act)
S501 Visa Cancellation	Visa cancellations based on character or related grounds
UMA	Unauthorised Maritime Arrival

Notice on APODs

From July 2020, detainees residing in APODs are reported under 'APODs' rather than under the IDC that had responsibility for their management and care. APODs include hospitals, aged-care facilities, mental health inpatient facilities, as well as hotel and apartment style accommodation. The number of individuals in APODs is broken down by the State and Territory of the APODs.

Notice on ITAs

For reports released from July 2023 onwards, detainees residing within Immigration Transit Accommodation (ITA) facilities are reported under Immigration Detention Centres (IDCs). There is no change to the management and care of detainees within the affected ITAs.

Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary

At 30 September 2026, there were 1182 people in immigration detention facilities, and of those, 1023 (86.5 per cent) have a criminal history. A further 96 people were living in the community after being approved for residence determination.

The table below reflects figures based on records in Department of Home Affairs systems.

Table 2 – People in Immigration Detention Centres (IDCs), Alternative Places of Detention (APODs) and the Community at 30 September 2026

Place of immigration detention by State*	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from 31/08/26
NSW					
Villawood IDC	443	59	0	**502**	+ 11
APODs	<5	<5	<5	**10**	- 10
VIC					
Melbourne IDC	<225	<10	0	**221**	+ 9
APODs	5	<10	<5	**16**	+ 6
QLD					
Brisbane IDC	125	0	0	**125**	+ 3
APODs	<25	<5	0	**26**	- 6
SA					
Adelaide IDC	<25	<10	0	**21**	+ 1
APODs	0	<5	0	**<5**	0
WA					
Yongah Hill IDC	210	0	0	**210**	0
Perth IDC	7	8	0	**15**	- 2
APODs	<5	0	0	**<5**	+ <5
NT					
APODs	<35	<5	0	**33**	+ <15
Total IDCs	**1,025**	**69**	**0**	**1,094**	**+ 22**
Total APODs	**67**	**16**	**5**	**88**	**+ 2**
Total IDCs/APODs	**1,092**	**85**	**5**	**1,182**	**+ 24**
Total in Community under Residence Determination	**43**	**22**	**31**	**96**	**+ 9**

** Refer to Notice on APODs on page 3.*

In Community under Residence Determination Population by State/Territory

Of the 96 people approved for a residence determination to live in the community, 44.8 per cent were in Victoria, 43.8 per cent in Queensland, less than 10.0 per cent in New South Wales and less than 5.0 per cent in Western Australia.

Table 3 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by State/Territory at 30 September 2026

State/Territory	Men	Women	Children	Total
New South Wales	<10	<5	<5	**<10**
Victoria	17	<15	<15	**43**
Queensland	18	6	18	**42**
Western Australia	<5	0	0	**<5**
Total	**43**	**22**	**31**	**96**

Immigration Detention Population

From January 1990 to Current

The overall number of people in immigration detention including in the community under residence determination has increased by 149 to 1278, compared with 1129 at the end of September 2025. This number considers detainees in the community under residence determination and detainees who were held in immigration detention facilities as at 30 September 2026.

Figure 1 – Population in Immigration Detention

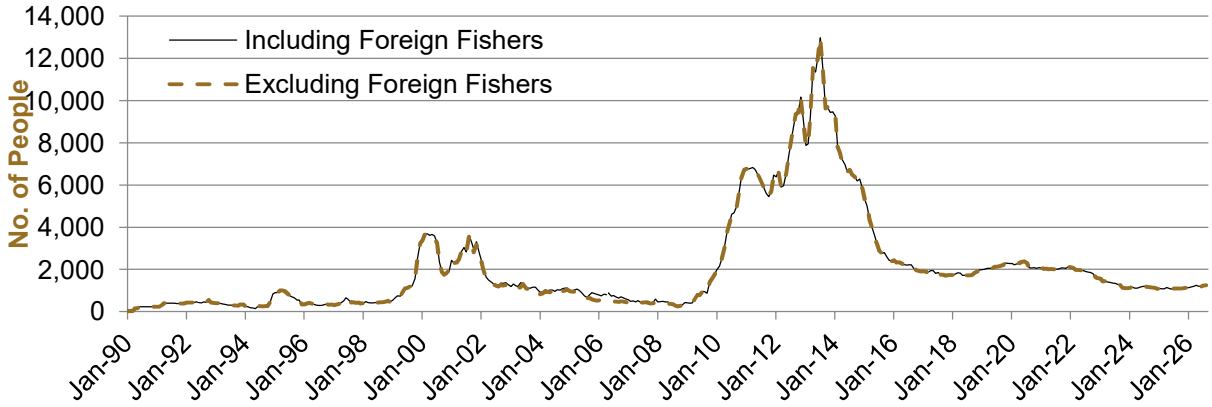


Figure 1 above, shows the number of people in immigration detention from 1990 to 2026.

People In Immigration Detention Facilities

Arrival Type

There were 223 people who arrived unlawfully by air or by boat, in held immigration detention facilities at 30 September 2026 representing 18.9 per cent of the total immigration detention population.

There were also 959 people (81.1 per cent of the total immigration detention population) who arrived in Australia lawfully and were subsequently taken into immigration detention for either overstaying or having their visas cancelled for reasons including failing the character test, breaching their visa conditions or presenting a risk to the safety, health or good order of the community.

Figure 2 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group

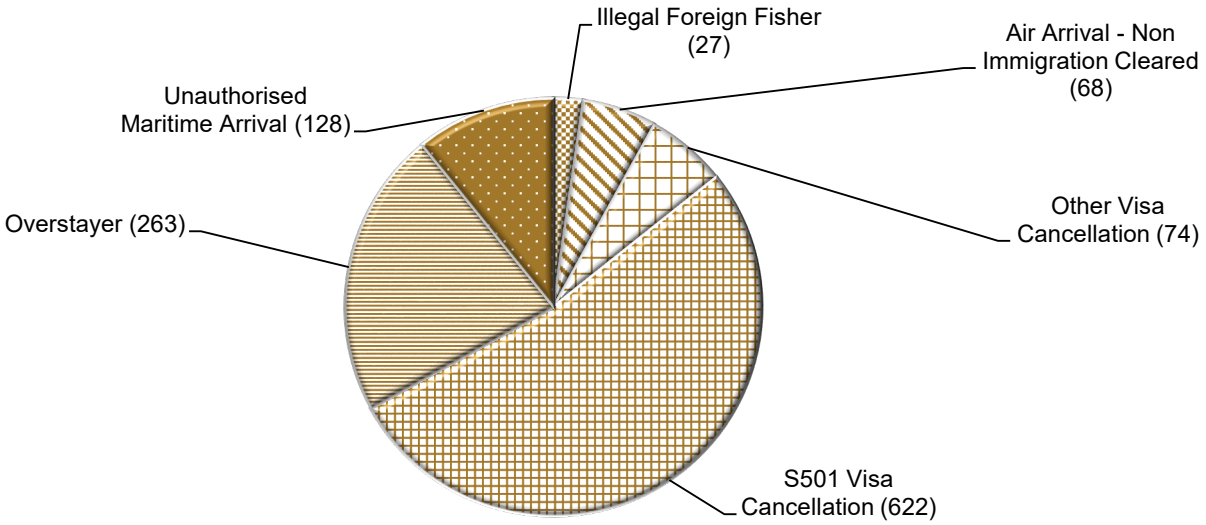


Figure 2 above, shows the number of people in held immigration detention facilities at 30 September 2026 by detention group, including Overstayers, S501 and Other Visa Cancellations, Unauthorised Maritime Arrivals, Unauthorised Air Arrivals, and if applicable – Illegal Foreign Fishers and Others such as stowaways and ship deserters.

Table 4 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group at 30 September 2026

Place of immigration detention by State*	S501 Visa Cancellation	UMA	Other Detention Group	Total	Change from 31/08/26
NSW					
Villawood IDC	254	53	195	**502**	+ 11
APODs	<5	0	<10	**10**	- 10
VIC					
Melbourne IDC	117	28	76	**221**	+ 9
APODs	5	0	11	**16**	+ 6
QLD					
Brisbane IDC	91	<5	<35	**125**	+ 3
APODs	15	0	11	**26**	- 6
SA					
Adelaide IDC	14	0	7	**21**	+ 1
APODs	0	0	<5	**<5**	0
WA					
Yongah Hill IDC	115	41	54	**210**	0
Perth IDC	8	<5	<5	**15**	- 2
APODs	<5	0	<5	**<5**	+ <5
NT					
APODs	0	0	33	**33**	+ <15
Total IDCs	**599**	**128**	**367**	**1,094**	**+ 22**
Total APODs	**23**	**0**	**65**	**88**	**+ 2**
Total IDCs/APODs	**622**	**128**	**432**	**1,182**	**+ 24**

** Refer to Notice on APODs on page 3.*

Table 5 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group and Cohort at 30 September 2026

Detention Group	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from 31/08/26
S501 Visa Cancellation	590	32	0	**622**	+ 18
Unauthorised Maritime Arrival	<130	<5	0	**128**	- 11
Other	<380	<55	5	**432**	+ 17
Total	**1,092**	**85**	**5**	**1,182**	**+ 24**

People In Immigration Detention

Nationality

At 30 September 2026, there were 1182 people in held immigration detention facilities. Of these 1182 people, 13.5 per cent were from New Zealand, 8.4 per cent were from Iran, 6.0 per cent were from India, 5.6 per cent were from United Kingdom and 3.7 per cent were from China.

Table 6 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Nationality at 30 September 2026

Nationalities	Men	Women	Children	Total
New Zealand	144	15	0	**159**
Iran	<100	<5	0	**99**
India	<75	<5	0	**71**
United Kingdom	<65	<5	0	**66**
China	35	9	0	**44**
Pakistan	36	<5	<5	**40**
Indonesia	<40	<5	0	**39**
Fiji	<35	<5	0	**38**
Vietnam	31	6	0	**37**
Iraq	35	0	0	**35**
Other	511	<45	<5	**554**
Total	**1,092**	**85**	**5**	**1,182**

At 30 September 2026, 96 were people living in the community after being approved for a residence determination. Of these 96 people, 35.4 per cent were from Iran, 9.4 per cent were from Papua New Guinea, 9.4 per cent were from Somalia, 7.3 per cent were Stateless, and 6.3 per cent were from Pakistan.

Table 7 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by Nationality at 30 September 2026

Nationalities	Men	Women	Children	Total
Iran	15	10	9	**34**
Papua New Guinea	0	<5	<10	**9**
Somalia	<5	<5	5	**9**
Stateless[1]	<5	<5	<5	**7**
Pakistan	6	0	0	**6**
Other	16	8	7	**31**
Total	**43**	**22**	**31**	**96**

[1] The category of “Stateless” nationalities includes “claimed stateless” persons.

Children In Immigration Detention

At 30 September 2026 there were five (5) children (aged less than 18 years) in Alternative Places of Detention.

Figure 3 – Children in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention

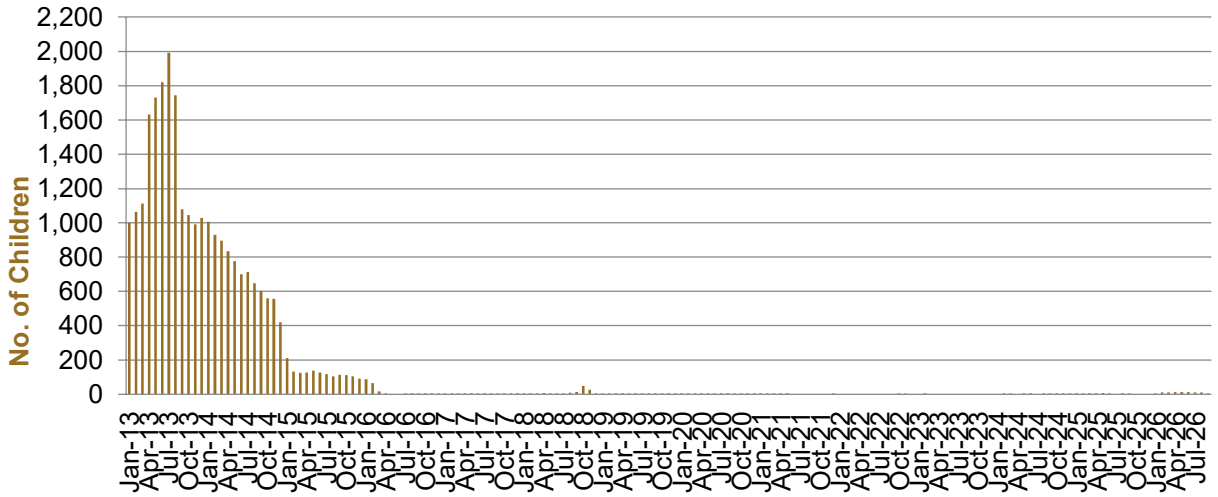


Figure 3 above, shows the number of children in IDFs and APODs from January 2013 to the date of this report. The continuous increase in the number of children in IDFs from April 2013 to Aug 2013 was due to a rapid increase in UMAs during this period. The number of children in IDFs continued to decline during late 2013 and 2014, with further reduction in January 2015.

At 30 September 2026, the number of children living in the community after being approved for a residence determination has increased by 8 to 31 since the previous report.

Figure 4 – Children in the Community under Residence Determination

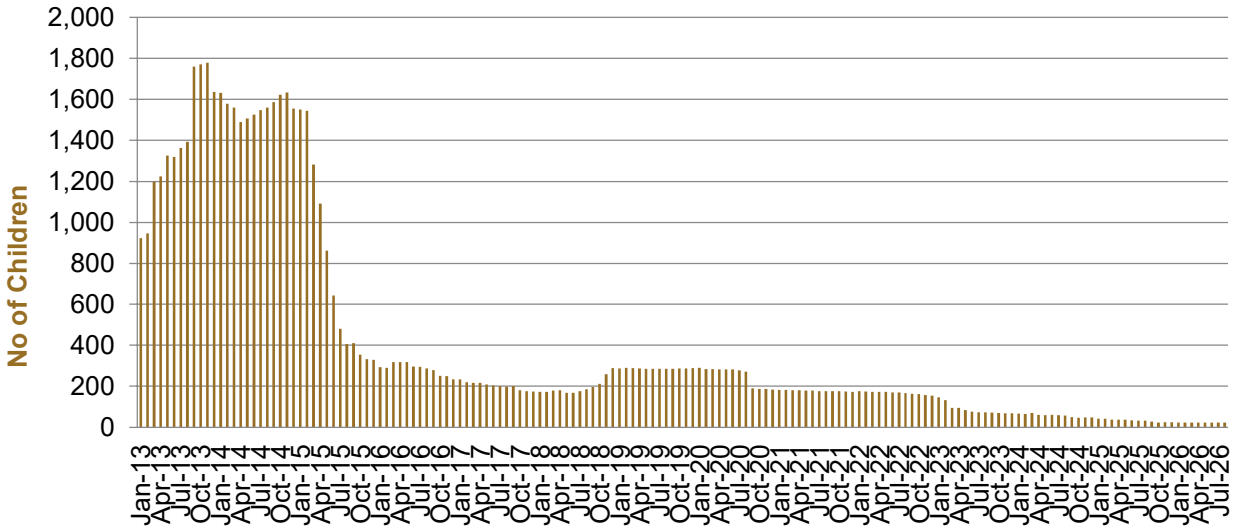


Figure 4 above, shows the number of children in the community under residence determination from January 2013 to the date of this report. The number of children in the community under residence determination, has levelled off at its lowest number since the peak in November 2013, as a result of releases into the community on Bridging Visa E.

Table 8 – Children in Immigration Detention at 30 September 2026

Placement Type	Children
Immigration Detention Centre	0
Alternative Places of Detention	5
Total in Held Detention	**5**
Total in the Community under a Residence Determination	**31**

Time In Immigration Detention Facilities

At 30 September 2026, there were 1182 people in immigration detention facilities.

Of these 1182 people, 33.8 per cent had been detained for 91 days or less and 65.9 per cent had been detained for 365 days or less.

Table 9 – Length of Time of People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities at 30 September 2026

Period Detained (consecutive days)	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	75	6.3%
8 days - 31 days	143	12.1%
32 days - 91 days	181	15.3%
92 days - 182 days	183	15.5%
183 days - 365 days	197	16.7%
366 days - 547 days	115	9.7%
548 days - 730 days	81	6.9%
731 days - 1095 days	94	8.0%
1096 days - 1460 days	32	2.7%
1461 days - 1825 days	19	1.6%
Greater than 1825 days	62	5.2%
Total	**1,182**	**100%**

At 30 September 2026, the average period for people held in detention facilities was 432 days (consecutive).

Figure 5 – Average Number of Days of People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities

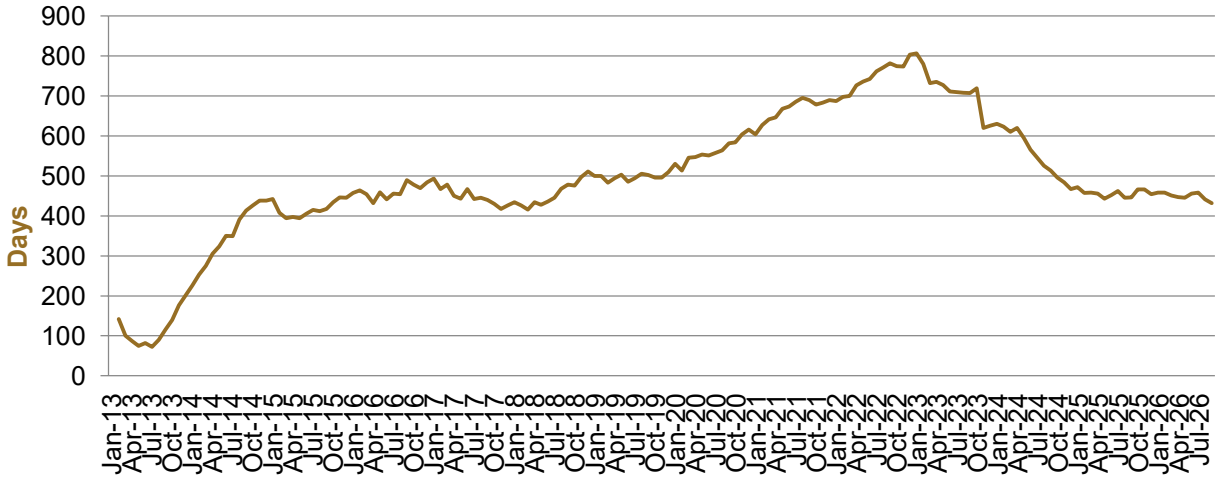


Figure 5 above, shows the average days in held immigration detention at the end of each month from January 2013 to the date of this report. The average period of time for people held in detention facilities steadily increased from July 2013 to January 2015. Between November 2018 and December 2019, the average number of days remained at around 500. Since January 2020, the average period of time for people held in detention facilities has steadily increased until January 2023, after which there has been an overall decrease.

The time an individual spends in immigration detention depends on a range of factors including the individual circumstances of the case. Factors that may impact on detention timeframes include ongoing status resolution matters, outstanding administrative or legal review processes, and removal planning processes.

Time In Community Under Residence Determination

Of the 96 people in the community under residence determination, as at 30 September 2026, less than 15.0 per cent had been in the community for 91 days or less and less than 25.0 per cent had been in the community for 365 days or less.

Table 10 – Length of Time of People in Community under Residence Determination at 30 September 2026

Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	0	0.0%
8 days - 31 days	9	9.4%
32 days - 91 days	<5	<5.0%
92 days - 182 days	<5	<5.0%
183 days - 365 days	<5	<5.0%
366 days - 547 days	5	5.2%
548 days - 730 days	<5	<5.0%
731 days - 1095 days	<5	<5.0%
1096 days - 1460 days	11	11.5%
1461 days - 1825 days	<5	<5.0%
Greater than 1825 days	58	60.4%
Total	**96**	**100%**