



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary

January 2025 (released 5 March 2025)

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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 <i>Migration Act 1958</i> (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 31 January 2025, there were 973 people in immigration detention facilities, and of those, 866 (89.0 per cent) have a criminal history. A further 125 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 31 January 2025

| Place of immigration detention by State* | Men | Women | Children | Total | Change from 31/12/24 |
|---|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|
| NSW | | | | | |
| Villawood IDC | <390 | <35 | 0 | 416 | + 10 |
| APODs | 8 | <5 | <5 | 11 | - 8 |
| VIC | | | | | |
| Melbourne IDC | 185 | 0 | 0 | 185 | + 3 |
| APODs | <5 | <10 | 0 | <10 | - <5 |
| QLD | | | | | |
| Brisbane IDC | 110 | 0 | 0 | 110 | - 1 |
| APODs | <10 | 10 | <5 | 19 | + 6 |
| SA | | | | | |
| Adelaide IDC | 25 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| APODs | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | + <5 |
| WA | | | | | |
| Yongah Hill IDC | 174 | 0 | 0 | 174 | - 5 |
| Perth IDC | <10 | <5 | 0 | 12 | - 5 |
| APODs | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | - <5 |
| NT | | | | | |
| APODs | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| Total IDCs | 889 | 33 | 0 | 922 | + 2 |
| Total APODs | 30 | <20 | <5 | 51 | - 8 |
| Total IDCs/APODs | 919 | <55 | <5 | 973 | - 6 |
| Total in Community under Residence Determination | 58 | 26 | 41 | 125 | - 30 |

* Refer to Notice on APODs on page 3.

In Community under Residence Determination Population by State/Territory

Of the 125 people approved for a residence determination to live in the community, 52.0 per cent were in Victoria, 36.8 per cent in Queensland, less than 12.0 per cent in New South Wales and less than 4.0 per cent in Western Australia.

Table 3 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by State/Territory at 31 January 2025

| State/Territory | Men | Women | Children | Total |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| New South Wales | <10 | <5 | <5 | <15 |
| Victoria | 27 | 17 | 21 | 65 |
| Queensland | 20 | <10 | <20 | 46 |
| Western Australia | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Total | 58 | 26 | 41 | 125 |

Immigration Detention Population

From January 1990 to Current

The overall number of people in immigration detention including in the community under residence determination has decreased by 22 to 1098, compared with 1120 at the end of January 2024. This number takes into account detainees in the community under residence determination and detainees who were held in immigration detention facilities as at 31 January 2025.

Figure 1 – Population in Immigration Detention

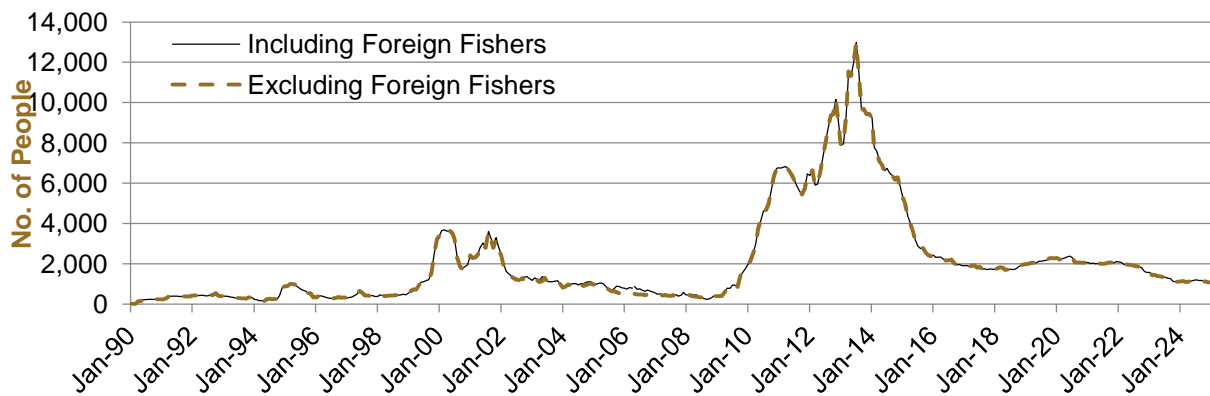


Figure 1 above, shows the number of people in immigration detention from 1990 to 2025.

People In Immigration Detention Facilities

Arrival Type

There were 148 people who arrived unlawfully by air or by boat, in held immigration detention facilities at 31 January 2025 representing 15.2 per cent of the total immigration detention population.

There were also 825 people (84.8 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

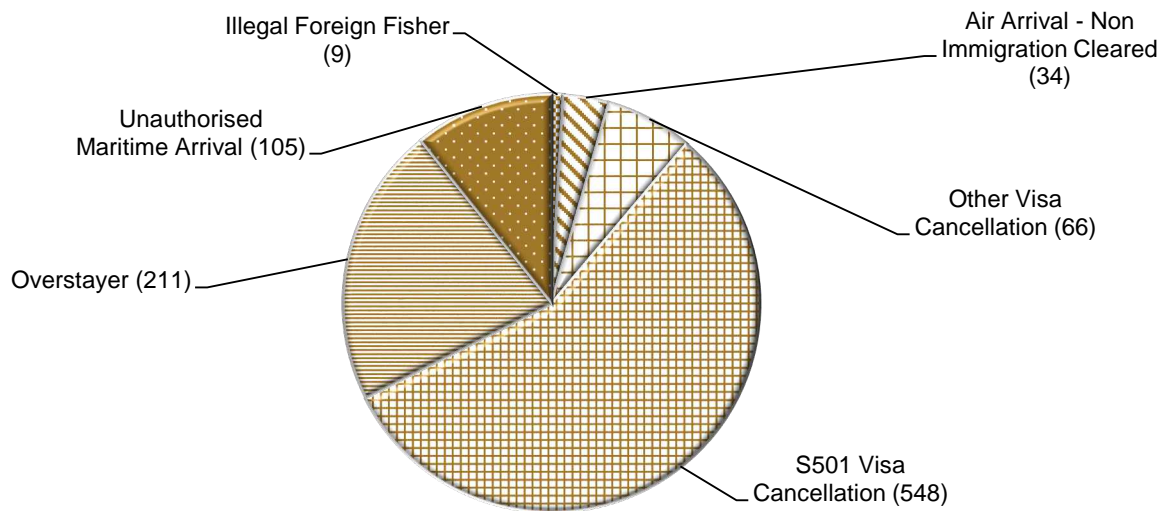


Figure 2 above, shows the number of people in held immigration detention facilities at 31 January 2025 by detention group, including Overstayers, S501 and Other Visa Cancellations, Unauthorised Maritime Arrivals, Unauthorised Air Arrivals, and if applicable – Illegal Foreign Fishers and Others such as stowaways and ship deserters.

Table 4 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group at 31 January 2025

| Place of immigration detention by State* | S501 Visa Cancellation | UMA | Other Detention Group | Total | Change from 31/12/24 |
|--|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| NSW | | | | | |
| Villawood IDC | 235 | 41 | 140 | 416 | + 10 |
| APODs | <5 | 0 | <10 | 11 | - 8 |
| VIC | | | | | |
| Melbourne IDC | 86 | 23 | 76 | 185 | + 3 |
| APODs | <10 | 0 | <5 | <10 | - <5 |
| QLD | | | | | |
| Brisbane IDC | 87 | 6 | 17 | 110 | - 1 |
| APODs | 13 | <5 | <5 | 19 | + 6 |
| SA | | | | | |
| Adelaide IDC | <15 | <5 | <15 | 25 | 0 |
| APODs | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | + <5 |
| WA | | | | | |
| Yongah Hill IDC | 106 | 29 | 39 | 174 | - 5 |
| Perth IDC | <5 | <5 | <15 | 12 | - 5 |
| APODs | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | - <5 |
| NT | | | | | |
| APODs | <5 | 0 | <15 | 11 | 0 |
| Total IDCs | 525 | <105 | <300 | 922 | + 2 |
| Total APODs | 23 | <5 | <30 | 51 | - 8 |
| Total IDCs/APODs | 548 | 105 | 320 | 973 | - 6 |

* Refer to Notice on APODs on page 3.

Table 5 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group and Cohort at 31 January 2025

| Detention Group | Men | Women | Children | Total | Change from 31/12/24 |
|-------------------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|
| S501 Visa Cancellation | <520 | <35 | 0 | 548 | + 6 |
| Unauthorised Maritime Arrival | <105 | 0 | <5 | 105 | + 6 |
| Other | 298 | <25 | <5 | 320 | - 18 |
| Total | 919 | <55 | <5 | 973 | - 6 |

People In Immigration Detention

Nationality

At 31 January 2025, there were 973 people in held immigration detention facilities. Of these 973 people, 19.6 per cent were from New Zealand, 6.8 per cent were from Iran, 5.4 per cent were from India, 5.3 per cent were from Vietnam and 5.0 per cent were from Tonga.

Table 6 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Nationality at 31 January 2025

| Nationalities | Men | Women | Children | Total |
|----------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| New Zealand | 173 | 18 | 0 | 191 |
| Iran | 66 | 0 | 0 | 66 |
| India | 53 | 0 | 0 | 53 |
| Vietnam | 46 | 6 | 0 | 52 |
| Tonga | <50 | <5 | 0 | 49 |
| United Kingdom | <45 | <5 | 0 | 47 |
| China | <35 | <5 | 0 | 35 |
| Malaysia | <35 | <5 | 0 | 34 |
| Sri Lanka | <30 | <5 | 0 | 27 |
| Pakistan | 26 | 0 | 0 | 26 |
| Other | 372 | <20 | <5 | 393 |
| Total | 919 | <55 | <5 | 973 |

At 31 January 2025, 125 were people living in the community after being approved for a residence determination. Of these 125 people, 49.6 per cent were from Iran, 8.8 per cent were from Sri Lanka, 8.0 per cent were from Somalia, 6.4 per cent were from Pakistan and 5.6 per cent were Stateless.

Table 7 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by Nationality at 31 January 2025

| Nationalities | Men | Women | Children | Total |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Iran | 28 | 14 | 20 | 62 |
| Sri Lanka | <5 | <5 | 6 | 11 |
| Somalia | <5 | <5 | <10 | 10 |
| Pakistan | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Stateless ¹ | <5 | <5 | <5 | 7 |
| Other | 13 | 6 | 8 | 27 |
| Total | 58 | 26 | 41 | 125 |

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

Children In Immigration Detention

At 31 January 2025, there were less than five children (aged less than 18 years) in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention.

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

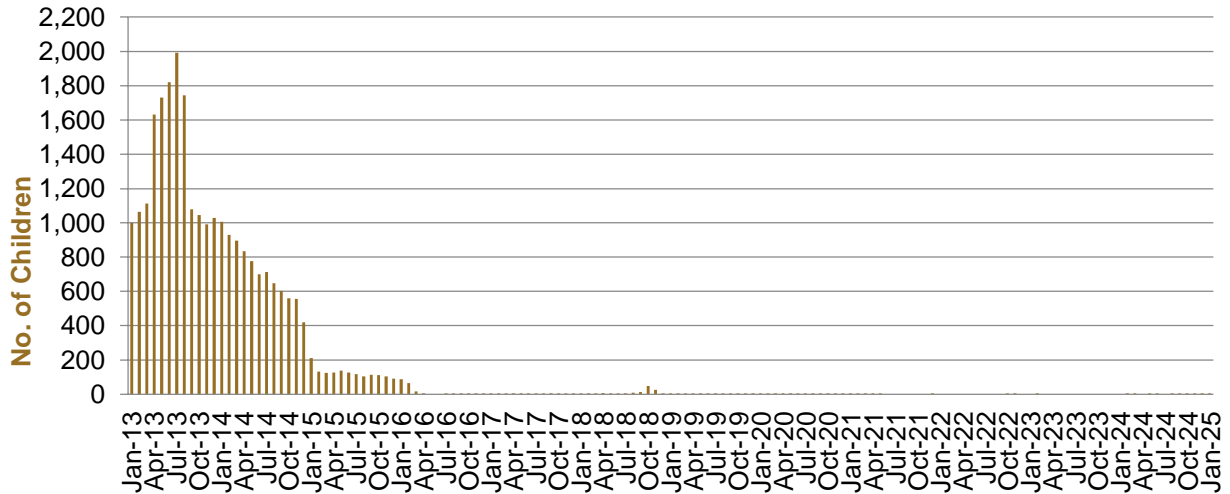


Figure 3 above, shows the number of children in IDFs and APODs from January 2013 to the date of this report. The continuous increase in the number of children in IDFs from April 2013 to Aug 2013 was due to a rapid increase in UMAs during this period. The number of children in IDFs continued to decline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

At 31 January 2025, the number of children living in the community after being approved for a residence determination has decreased by six to 41 from 47 since the previous report.

Figure 4 – Children in the Community under Residence Determination

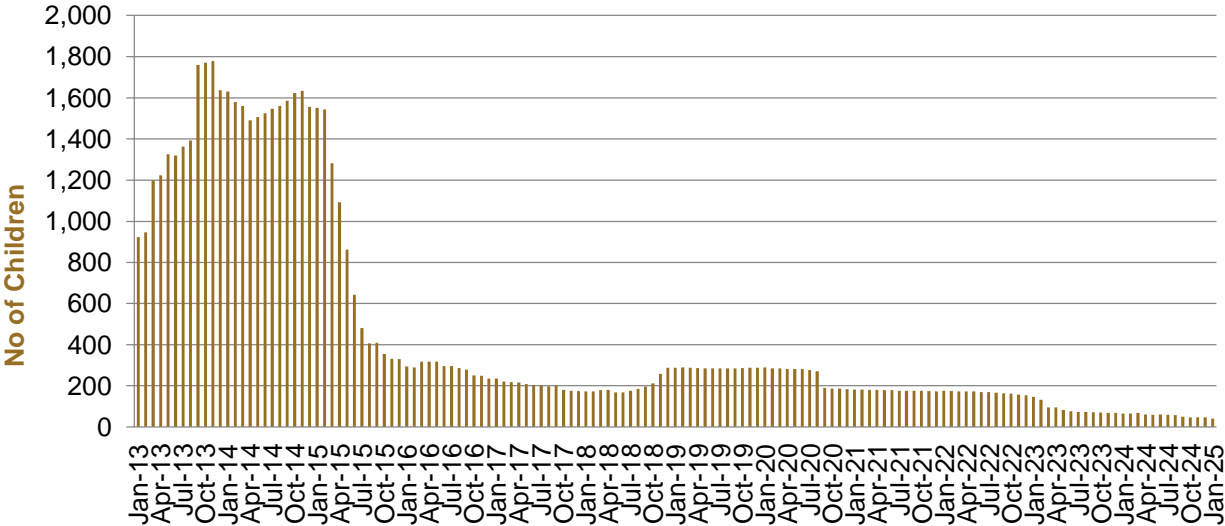


Figure 4 above, shows the number of children in the community under residence determination from January 2013 to the date of this report. The number of children in the community under residence determination, has levelled off at its lowest number since the peak in November 2013, as a result of releases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

Table 8 – Children in Immigration Detention at 31 January 2025

| Placement Type | Children |
|---|--------------|
| Immigration Detention Centre | 0 |
| Alternative Places of Detention | <5 |
| Total Facility | <5 |
| Total in the Community under a Residence Determination | 41 |

Time In Immigration Detention Facilities

At 31 January 2025, there were 973 people in immigration detention facilities.

Of these 973 people, 30.9 per cent had been detained for 91 days or less and 67.5 per cent had been detained for 365 days or less.

Table 9 – Length of Time of People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities at 31 January 2025

| Period Detained | Total | % of Total |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 7 days or less | 36 | 3.7% |
| 8 days - 31 days | 96 | 9.9% |
| 32 days - 91 days | 169 | 17.4% |
| 92 days - 182 days | 156 | 16.0% |
| 183 days - 365 days | 200 | 20.6% |
| 366 days - 547 days | 80 | 8.2% |
| 548 days - 730 days | 61 | 6.3% |
| 731 days - 1095 days | 51 | 5.2% |
| 1096 days - 1460 days | 31 | 3.2% |
| 1461 days - 1825 days | 30 | 3.1% |
| Greater than 1825 days | 63 | 6.5% |
| Total | 973 | 100% |

At 31 January 2025, the average period of time for people held in detention facilities was 472 days.

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

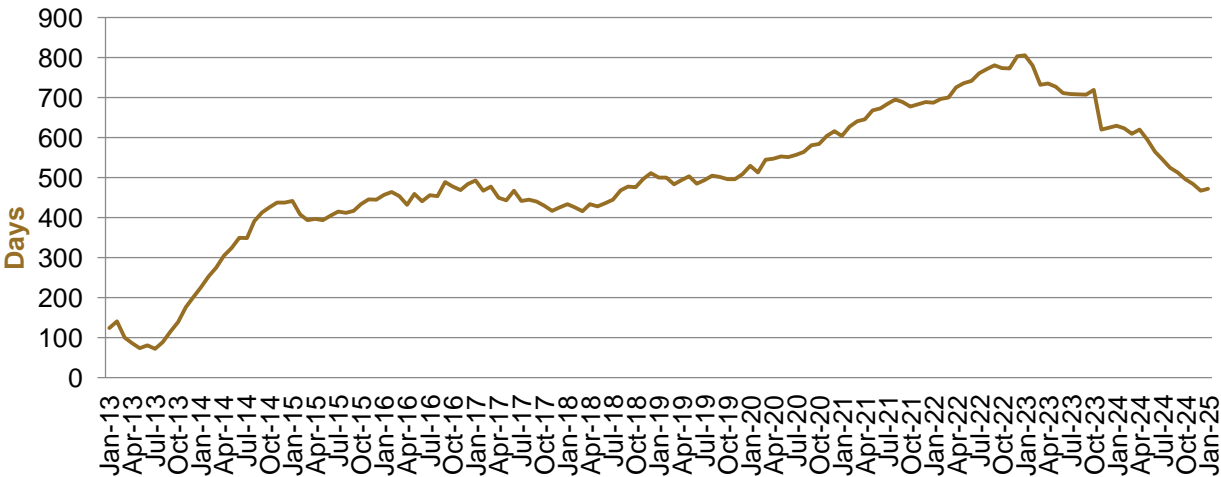


Figure 5 above, shows the average days in held immigration detention at the end of each month from January 2013 to the date of this report. The average period of time for people held in detention facilities steadily increased from July 2013 to January 2015. Between November 2018 and December 2019, the 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 complexity of their case, the legal processes they pursue and whether they voluntarily choose to leave Australia.

Time In Community Under Residence Determination

Of the 125 people in the community under residence determination, as at 31 January 2025, less than four per cent had been in the community for 91 days or less and less than 20.0 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 31 January 2025

| Period Detained | Total | % of Total |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 7 days or less | 0 | 0.0% |
| 8 days - 31 days | 0 | 0.0% |
| 32 days - 91 days | <5 | <4.0% |
| 92 days - 182 days | <5 | <4.0% |
| 183 days - 365 days | <15 | <12.0% |
| 366 days - 547 days | <5 | <4.0% |
| 548 days - 730 days | 10 | 8.0% |
| 731 days - 1095 days | 13 | 10.4% |
| 1096 days - 1460 days | 5 | 4.0% |
| 1461 days - 1825 days | <5 | <4.0% |
| Greater than 1825 days | 80 | 64.0% |
| Total | 125 | 100% |