



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary

30 April 2021

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About this report

This report provides an overview of the number of people in onshore immigration detention as at midnight on the date of the report. 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 |
| IMA | Illegal Maritime Arrival |
| IDC/F | Immigration Detention Centre/Facility |
| IRH | Immigration Residential Housing |
| 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 |

Important Notice on APODs

From July 2020, detainees residing in APODs are reported under 'APODs' rather than under the ITA or 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 provided by the State and Territory of the APODs.

Immigration Detention And Community Statistics Summary

At 30 April 2021, there were 1497 people in immigration detention facilities.

Of the 1497 people in immigration detention facilities, 1232 (82.3%) have a criminal history.

A further 536 people were living in the community after being approved for residence determination and 12,059 IMAs were living in the community after grant of a Bridging Visa E.

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), Immigration Transit Accommodation (ITA) and the Community at 30 April 2021

| Place of immigration detention by State* | Men | Women | Children | Total | Change from 31/03/21 |
|--|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|
| NSW | | | | | |
| Villawood IDC | 454 | 24 | 0 | 478 | - 10 |
| APODs | <10 | <5 | 0 | 10 | - 6 |
| VIC | | | | | |
| Melbourne ITA | 225 | 8 | 0 | 233 | + 8 |
| APODs | 35 | 0 | 0 | 35 | + 19 |
| QLD | | | | | |
| Brisbane ITA | 115 | 0 | 0 | 115 | + <5 |
| APODs | <15 | <5 | 0 | <15 | - <30 |
| SA | | | | | |
| Adelaide ITA | 29 | 0 | 0 | 29 | + <5 |
| APODs | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 |
| WA | | | | | |
| Yongah Hill IDC | 330 | 0 | 0 | 330 | + 33 |
| Perth IDC | 17 | 6 | 0 | 23 | - <5 |
| APODs | <15 | <5 | 0 | <15 | + <10 |
| North West Point IDC | 204 | 0 | 0 | 204 | - <15 |
| Christmas Island APODs | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | 0 |
| NT | | | | | |
| Northern APOD | <10 | <5 | 0 | 10 | + <5 |
| APODs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total IDCs | 1,005 | 30 | 0 | 1,035 | + 8 |
| Total APODs | 74 | <10 | <5 | 85 | - 7 |
| Total ITAs | 369 | 8 | 0 | 377 | + 13 |
| Total IDCs/APODs/ITAs | 1,448 | <50 | <5 | 1,497 | + 14 |
| Total in Community under Residence Determination | 192 | 163 | 181 | 536 | - <5 |
| Total IMAs in Community on Bridging Visa E (Including people in a re-grant process) | 8,845 | 1,449 | 1,765 | 12,059 | - 135 |

* Refer to Important Notice on APODs on page 3.

In Community under Residence Determination Population By State/Territory

Of the 536 people approved for a residence determination to live in the community, 48.1 per cent were in Victoria, 31.5 per cent in Queensland, 15.5 per cent in New South Wales, 3.2 per cent in South Australia, 1.7 per cent in Western Australia.

Table 3 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by State/Territory at 30 April 2021

| State/Territory | Men | Women | Children | Total |
|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| New South Wales | 30 | 32 | 21 | 83 |
| Victoria | 94 | 76 | 88 | 258 |
| Queensland | 56 | 46 | 67 | 169 |
| South Australia | <10 | <10 | <5 | 17 |
| Western Australia | <5 | <5 | <5 | 9 |
| Total | 192 | 163 | 181 | 536 |

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 230 to 2033 compared with 2263 at the end of April 2020. This number takes into account detainees in the community under residence determination and detainees who were held in immigration detention facilities as at 30 April 2021.

Figure 1 – Population in Immigration Detention

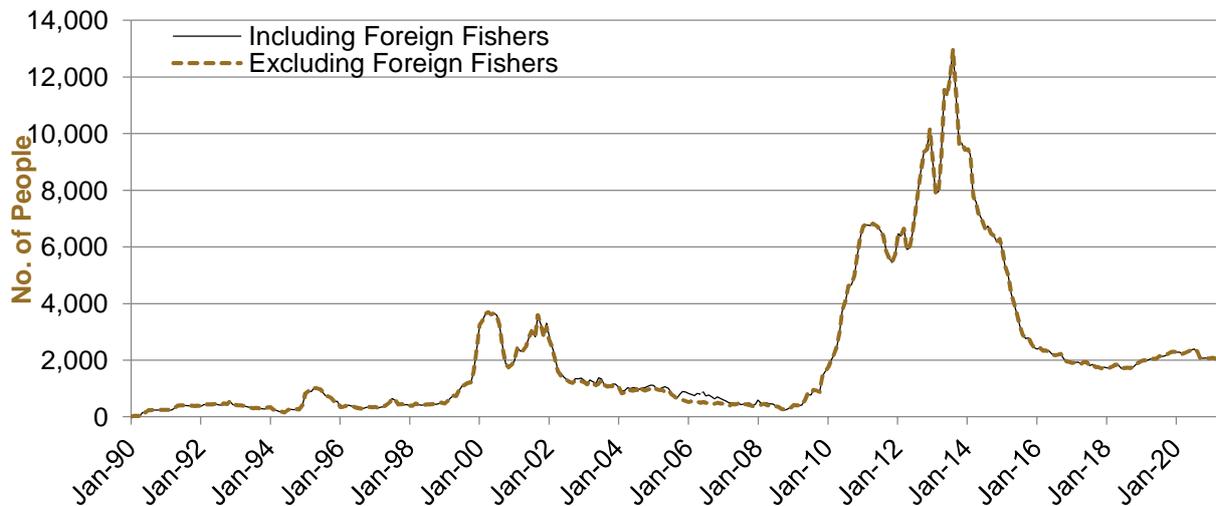


Figure 1 above, shows the number of people in immigration detention from 1990 to 2021.

People In Immigration Detention Facilities

Arrival Type

There were 371 people who arrived unlawfully by air or boat, in held immigration detention facilities at 30 April 2021 representing 24.8 per cent of the total immigration detention population.

There were also 1126 people (75.2 per cent of the total immigration population) who arrived in Australia lawfully and were subsequently taken into immigration detention for either overstaying or having their visas cancelled for breaching visa conditions.

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

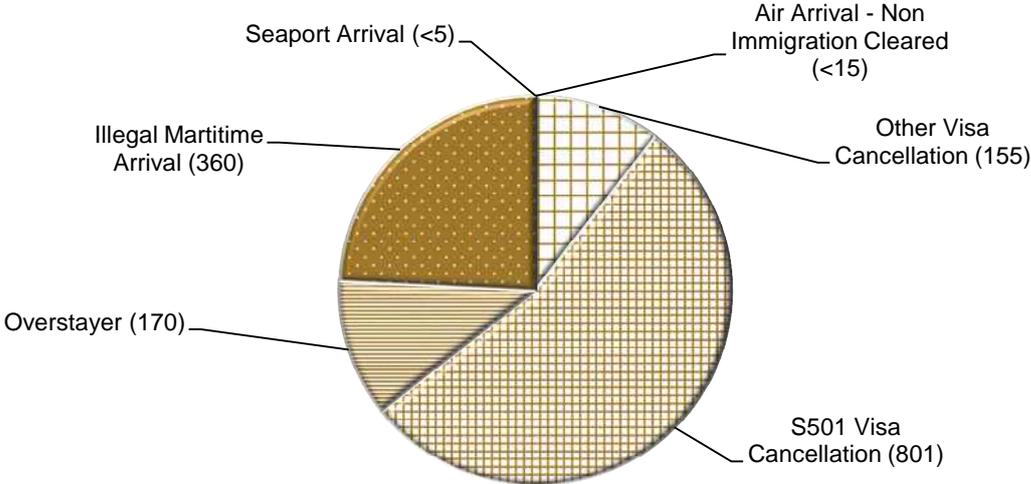


Figure 2 above, shows the number of people in held immigration detention facilities by detention group, including Overstayers, S501 and Other Visa Cancellations, Illegal Maritime Arrivals, Unauthorised Air Arrivals, and if applicable – Illegal Foreign Fishers and Others such as stowaways and ship deserters.

Table 4 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group at 30 April 2021

| Place of immigration detention by State* | S501 Visa Cancellation | IMA | Other Detention Group | Total | Change from 31/03/21 |
|--|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| NSW | | | | | |
| Villawood IDC | 269 | 76 | 133 | 478 | - 10 |
| APODs | <10 | <5 | <5 | 10 | - 6 |
| VIC | | | | | |
| Melbourne ITA | 104 | 66 | 63 | 233 | + 8 |
| APODs | <5 | <35 | 0 | 35 | + 19 |
| QLD | | | | | |
| Brisbane ITA | 57 | 48 | 10 | 115 | + <5 |
| APODs | <15 | 0 | 0 | <15 | - <30 |
| SA | | | | | |
| Adelaide ITA | 6 | 17 | 6 | 29 | + <5 |
| APODs | 0 | <5 | <5 | <5 | 0 |
| WA | | | | | |
| Yongah Hill IDC | 177 | 81 | 72 | 330 | + 33 |
| Perth IDC | 11 | 5 | 7 | 23 | - <5 |
| APODs | <10 | <5 | <5 | <15 | + <10 |
| North West Point IDC | 149 | 14 | 41 | 204 | - <15 |
| Christmas Island APODs | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 |
| NT | | | | | |
| Northern APOD | 0 | <10 | <5 | 10 | + <5 |
| APODs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total IDCs | 606 | 176 | 253 | 1,035 | + 8 |
| Total APODs | <30 | 53 | <5 | 85 | - 7 |
| Total ITAs | <170 | 131 | <80 | 377 | + 13 |
| Total IDCs/APODs/ITAs | 801 | 360 | 336 | 1,497 | + 14 |

* Refer to Important Notice on APODs on page 3.

Table 5 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group and Cohort at 30 April 2021

| Detention Group | Men | Women | Children | Total | Change from 31/03/21 |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| S501 Visa Cancellation | 776 | 25 | 0 | 801 | + 26 |
| Illegal Maritime Arrival | <350 | <15 | <5 | 360 | - 7 |
| Other | <330 | <15 | 0 | 336 | - 5 |
| Total | 1,448 | <50 | <5 | 1,497 | + 14 |

People In Immigration Detention

Nationality

At 30 April 2021, there were 1497 people in held immigration detention facilities. Of these 1497 people, 12.6 per cent were from New Zealand, 11.0 per cent were from Iran, 5.7 per cent were from Vietnam, 5.5 per cent were from United Kingdom and 4.9 per cent were from India.

Table 6 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Nationality at 30 April 2021

| Nationalities | Men | Women | Children | Total |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| New Zealand | 171 | 17 | 0 | 188 |
| Iran | 157 | 7 | 0 | 164 |
| Vietnam | <85 | <5 | 0 | 85 |
| United Kingdom | <85 | <5 | 0 | 83 |
| India | 74 | 0 | 0 | 74 |
| Sri Lanka | <70 | <5 | <5 | 70 |
| Iraq | 68 | 0 | 0 | 68 |
| Sudan | <65 | <5 | 0 | 66 |
| Afghanistan | 50 | 0 | 0 | 50 |
| Pakistan | 41 | 0 | 0 | 41 |
| Other | 593 | 15 | 0 | 608 |
| Total | 1,448 | <50 | <5 | 1,497 |

At 30 April 2021, 536 were people living in the community after being approved for a residence determination. Of these 536 people, 52.4 per cent were from Iran, 11.0 per cent were from Sri Lanka, 10.4 per cent were from Somalia, 10.3 per cent were Stateless and 2.2 per cent were from Pakistan.

Table 7 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by Nationality at 30 April 2021

| Nationalities | Men | Women | Children | Total |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Iran | 86 | 97 | 98 | 281 |
| Sri Lanka | 23 | 13 | 23 | 59 |
| Somalia | 19 | 20 | 17 | 56 |
| Stateless | 24 | 11 | 20 | 55 |
| Pakistan | <15 | <5 | <5 | 12 |
| Other | <35 | <25 | <25 | 73 |
| Total | 192 | 163 | 181 | 536 |

Children In Immigration Detention

At 30 April 2021 there were less than five children (aged less than 18 years) in Immigration Residential Housing, Immigration Transit Accommodation and Alternative Places of Detention.

Figure 3 – Children in Immigration Residential Housing, Immigration Transit Accommodation and Alternative Places of Detention

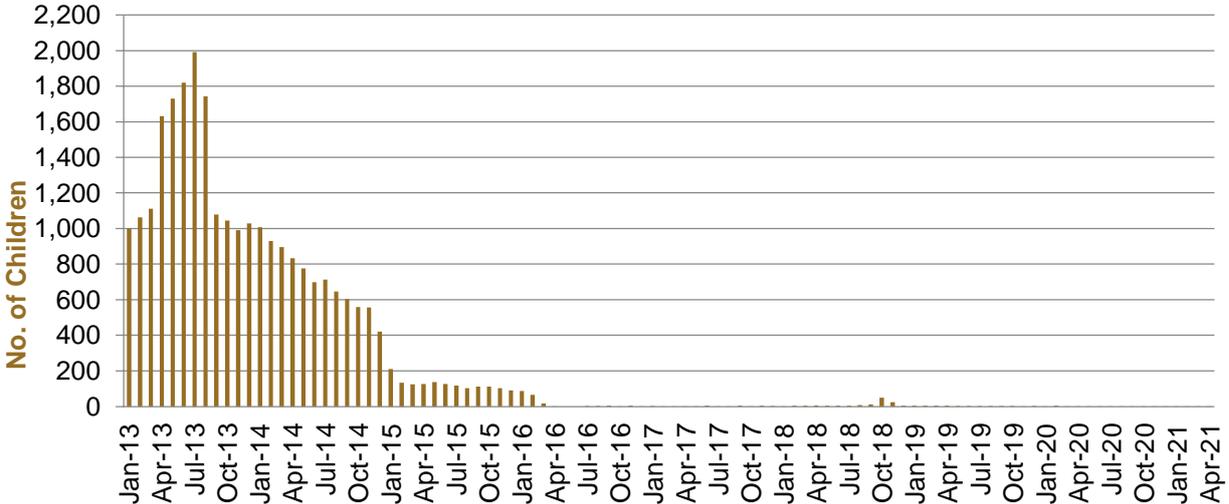


Figure 3 above, shows the number of children in IDFs and APODs from January 2013 to the date of this report. The continuous increase in the number of children in IDFs from April 2013 to Aug 2013 was due to a rapid increase in IMAs during this period. The number of children in IDFs continued to decline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

At 30 April 2021, the number of children living in the community after being approved for a residence determination has remained the same since the previous report at 181.

Figure 4 – Children in the Community under Residence Determination

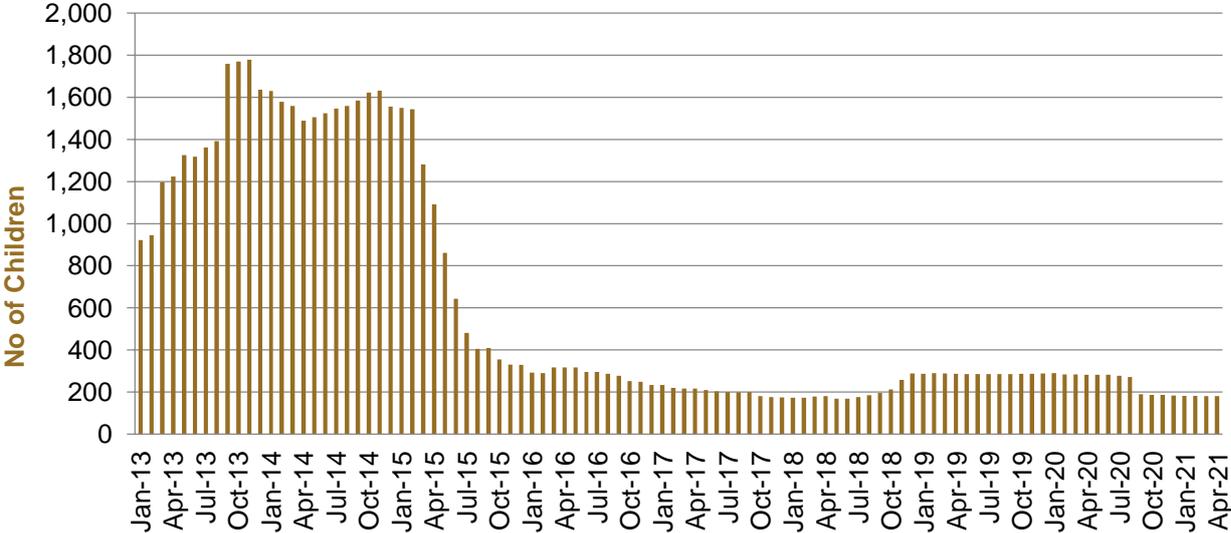


Figure 4 above, shows the number of children in the community under residence determination from January 2013 to the date of this report. The number of children in the community under residence determination, has levelled off at its lowest number since the peak in November 2013, as a result of releases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

Table 8 – Children in Immigration Detention and IMA Children in the Community on a Bridging E Visa at 30 April 2021

| Placement Type | Children |
|---|--------------|
| Immigration Residential Housing | 0 |
| Immigration Transit Accommodation | 0 |
| Alternative Places of Detention | <5 |
| Total Facility | <5 |
| Total in the Community under a Residence Determination | 181 |
| Total IMAs in the Community on a Bridging E visa (including in re-grant process) | 1,765 |

Time In Immigration Detention Facilities

At 30 April 2021, there were 1497 people in immigration detention facilities.

Of these 1497 people, 18.5 per cent had been detained for 91 days or less and 45.4 per cent had been detained for 365 days or less.

Table 9 – Length of Time of People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities at 30 April 2021

| Period Detained | Total | % of Total |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 7 days or less | 17 | 1.1% |
| 8 days - 31 days | 85 | 5.7% |
| 32 days - 91 days | 175 | 11.7% |
| 92 days - 182 days | 175 | 11.7% |
| 183 days - 365 days | 227 | 15.2% |
| 366 days - 547 days | 179 | 12.0% |
| 548 days - 730 days | 178 | 11.9% |
| 731 days - 1095 days | 182 | 12.2% |
| 1096 days - 1460 days | 118 | 7.9% |
| 1461 days - 1825 days | 54 | 3.6% |
| Greater than 1825 days | 107 | 7.1% |
| Total | 1,497 | 100% |

At 30 April 2021, the average period of time for people held in detention facilities was 646 days.

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

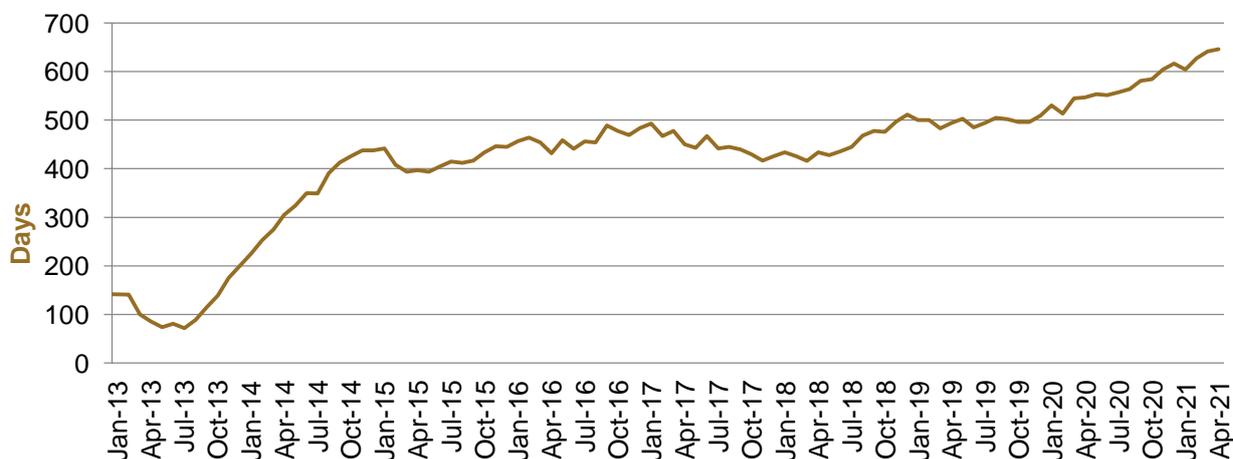


Figure 5 above, shows the average days in held immigration detention at the end of each month from January 2013 to the date of this report. The average period of time for people held in detention facilities steadily increased from July 2013 to January 2015. Between November 2018 and December 2019 the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

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 536 people in the community under residence determination, as at 30 April 2021, less than 1.0 per cent had been in the community for 91 days or less and 6.0 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 April 2021

| Period Detained | Total | % of Total |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 7 days or less | <5 | <1.0% |
| 8 days - 31 days | <5 | <1.0% |
| 32 days - 91 days | 0 | 0.0% |
| 92 days - 182 days | 25 | 4.7% |
| 183 days - 365 days | <5 | <1.0% |
| 366 days - 547 days | 14 | 2.6% |
| 548 days - 730 days | 43 | 8.0% |
| 731 days - 1095 days | 231 | 43.1% |
| 1096 days - 1460 days | 41 | 7.6% |
| 1461 days - 1825 days | 43 | 8.0% |
| Greater than 1825 days | 132 | 24.6% |
| Total | 536 | 100% |