



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary

July 2023 (released 15 September 2023)

Table of Contents

About this report	3
Enquiries	3
Acronyms	3
Important Notice on ITAs.....	3
Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary	4
In Community under Residence Determination Population by State/Territory	5
Immigration Detention Population.....	6
<i>From January 1990 to Current.....</i>	<i>6</i>
People In Immigration Detention Facilities.....	7
<i>Arrival Type.....</i>	<i>7</i>
People In Immigration Detention	9
<i>Nationality</i>	<i>9</i>
Children In Immigration Detention	10
Time In Immigration Detention Facilities	12
Time In Community Under Residence Determination	13

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
UMA	Unauthorised Maritime Arrival
IDC/F	Immigration Detention Centre/Facility
ITA	Immigration Transit Accommodation
IRH	Immigration Residential Housing
S501	Section 501 of the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> (the Migration Act)
S501 Visa Cancellation	Visa cancellations based on character or related grounds

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 provided by the State and Territory of the APODs.

Important 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 July 2023, there were 1079 people in immigration detention facilities.

Of the 1079 people in immigration detention facilities, 982 (91 per cent) have a criminal history.

A further 274 people were living in the community after being approved for residence determination and 10,708 UMAs 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) and the Community at 31 July 2023

Place of immigration detention by State*	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from 30/06/23
NSW					
Villawood IDC	405	31	0	436	- 15
APODs	9	0	0	9	+ 3
VIC					
Melbourne IDC	185	13	0	198	- 1
APODs	0	0	0	0	0
QLD					
Brisbane IDC	<120	<5	0	120	+ 24
APODs	<10	<5	0	7	- 23
SA					
Adelaide IDC	18	0	0	18	0
APODs	<5	0	0	<5	- <5
WA					
Yongah Hill IDC	233	0	0	233	- 12
Perth IDC	<15	<5	0	18	- 1
APODs	<5	<5	0	<5	- <5
North West Point IDC	37	0	0	37	- 5
Christmas Island APODs	0	0	0	0	0
NT					
APODs	0	0	0	0	- <5
Total IDCs	<1,015	<50	0	1,060	- 10
Total APODs	<20	<5	0	19	- 25
Total IDCs/APODs	1,028	51	0	1,079	- 35
Total in Community under Residence Determination	136	65	73	274	+ 5
Total UMAs in Community on Bridging Visa E (Including people with a ceased BVE)	8,088	1,288	1,332	10,708	- 80

* Refer to Important Notice on APODs on page 3.

In Community under Residence Determination Population by State/Territory

Of the 274 people approved for a residence determination to live in the community, 54.4 per cent were in Victoria, 29.9 per cent in Queensland, 12.4 per cent in New South Wales and 3.3 per cent in Western Australia.

Table 3 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by State/Territory at 31 July 2023

State/Territory	Men	Women	Children	Total
New South Wales	24	<5	<10	34
Victoria	69	43	37	149
Queensland	34	<20	<35	82
South Australia	0	0	0	0
Western Australia	9	0	0	9
Total	136	65	73	274

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 589 to 1353 compared with 1942 at the end of July 2022. This number takes into account detainees in the community under residence determination and detainees who were held in immigration detention facilities as at 31 July 2023.

Figure 1 – Population in Immigration Detention

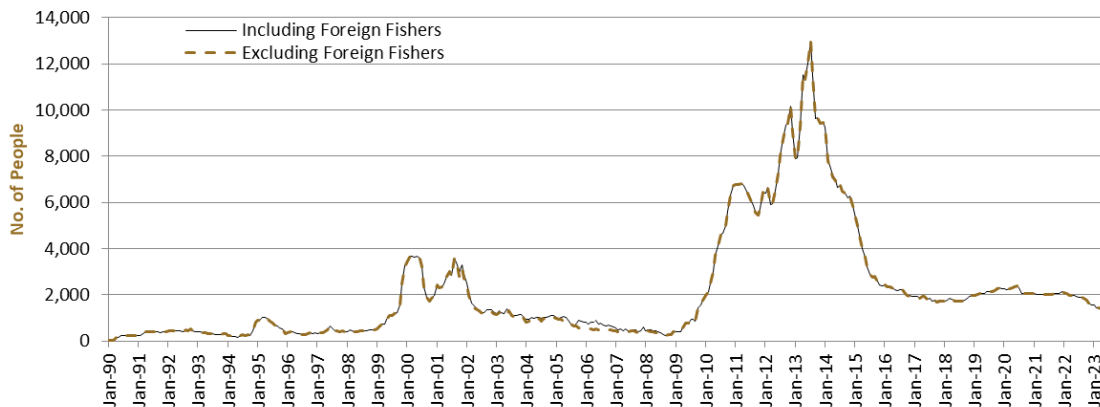


Figure 1 above, shows the number of people in immigration detention from 1990 to 2023.

People In Immigration Detention Facilities

Arrival Type

There were 172 people who arrived unlawfully by air or by boat, in held immigration detention facilities at 31 July 2023 representing 15.9 per cent of the total immigration detention population.

There were also 907 people (84.1 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

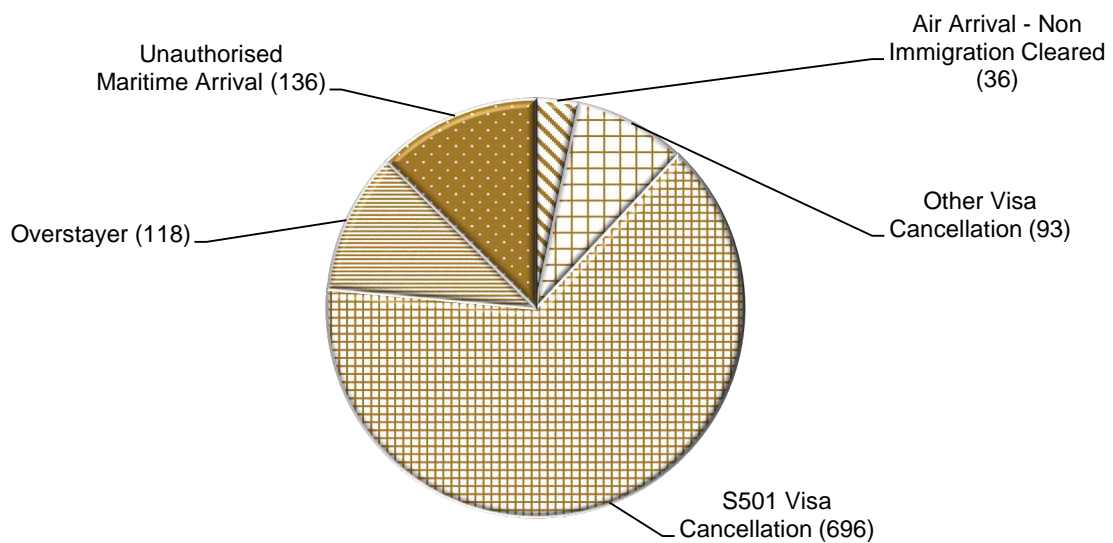


Figure 2 above, shows the number of people in held immigration detention facilities at 31 July 2023 by detention group, including Overstayers, S501 and Other Visa Cancellations, Unauthorised Maritime Arrivals, Unauthorised Air Arrivals, and if applicable – Illegal Foreign Fishers and Others such as stowaways and ship deserters.

Table 4 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group at 31 July 2023

Place of immigration detention by State*	S501 Visa Cancellation	UMA	Other Detention Group	Total	Change from 30/06/23
NSW					
Villawood IDC	277	50	109	436	- 15
APODs	0	0	9	9	+ 3
VIC					
Melbourne IDC	110	30	58	198	- 1
APODs	0	0	0	0	0
QLD					
Brisbane IDC	93	9	18	120	+ 24
APODs	5	<5	<5	7	- 23
SA					
Adelaide IDC	<20	0	<5	18	0
APODs	<5	0	0	<5	- <5
WA					
Yongah Hill IDC	151	41	41	233	- 12
Perth IDC	<15	<5	5	18	- 1
APODs	<5	0	<5	<5	- <5
North West Point IDC	30	<5	<5	37	- 5
Christmas Island APODs	0	0	0	0	0
NT					
APODs	0	0	0	0	- <5
Total IDCs	689	<140	<240	1,060	- 10
Total APODs	7	<5	<15	19	- 25
Total IDCs/APODs	696	136	247	1,079	- 35

* Refer to Important Notice on APODs on page 3.

Table 5 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Detention Group and Cohort at 31 July 2023

Detention Group	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from 30/06/23
S501 Visa Cancellation	669	27	0	696	- 20
Unauthorised Maritime Arrival	136	0	0	136	- 13
Other	223	24	0	247	- 2
Total	1,028	51	0	1,079	- 35

People In Immigration Detention

Nationality

At 31 July 2023, there were 1079 people in held immigration detention facilities. Of these 1079 people, 16.3 per cent were from New Zealand, 8.2 per cent were from Iran, 7.8 per cent were from Vietnam, 5.0 per cent were from Sudan and 4.4 per cent were from Afghanistan.

Table 6 – People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities by Nationality at 31 July 2023

Nationalities	Men	Women	Children	Total
New Zealand	158	18	0	176
Iran	<90	<5	0	88
Vietnam	74	10	0	84
Sudan	<55	<5	0	54
Afghanistan	47	0	0	47
India	<45	<5	0	42
Iraq	38	0	0	38
Tonga	38	0	0	38
United Kingdom	<35	<5	0	34
Sri Lanka	<35	<5	0	32
Other	429	17	0	446
Total	1,028	51	0	1,079

At 31 July 2023, 274 were people living in the community after being approved for a residence determination. Of these 274 people, 45.3 per cent were from Iran, 9.9 per cent were Stateless, 6.9 per cent were from Somalia, 6.6 per cent were from Sri Lanka and 6.2 per cent were from Iraq.

Table 7 – People in the Community under Residence Determination by Nationality at 31 July 2023

Nationalities	Men	Women	Children	Total
Iran	54	36	34	124
Stateless ¹	13	<5	<15	27
Somalia	<5	8	<10	19
Sri Lanka	<15	<5	5	18
Iraq	12	<5	<5	17
Other	43	11	15	69
Total	136	65	73	274

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

Children In Immigration Detention

At 31 July 2023 there were no 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

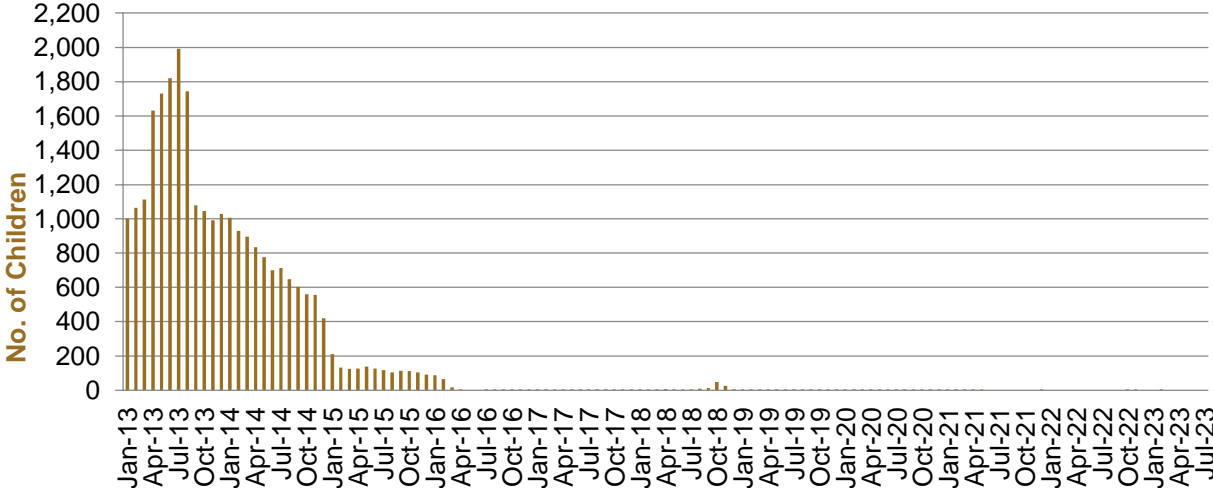


Figure 3 above, shows the number of children in IDFs and APODs from January 2013 to the date of this report. The continuous increase in the number of children in IDFs from April 2013 to Aug 2013 was due to a rapid increase in UMAs during this period. The number of children in IDFs continued to decline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

At 31 July 2023, the number of children living in the community after being approved for a residence determination has decreased by three to 73 from 76 since the previous report.

Figure 4 – Children in the Community under Residence Determination

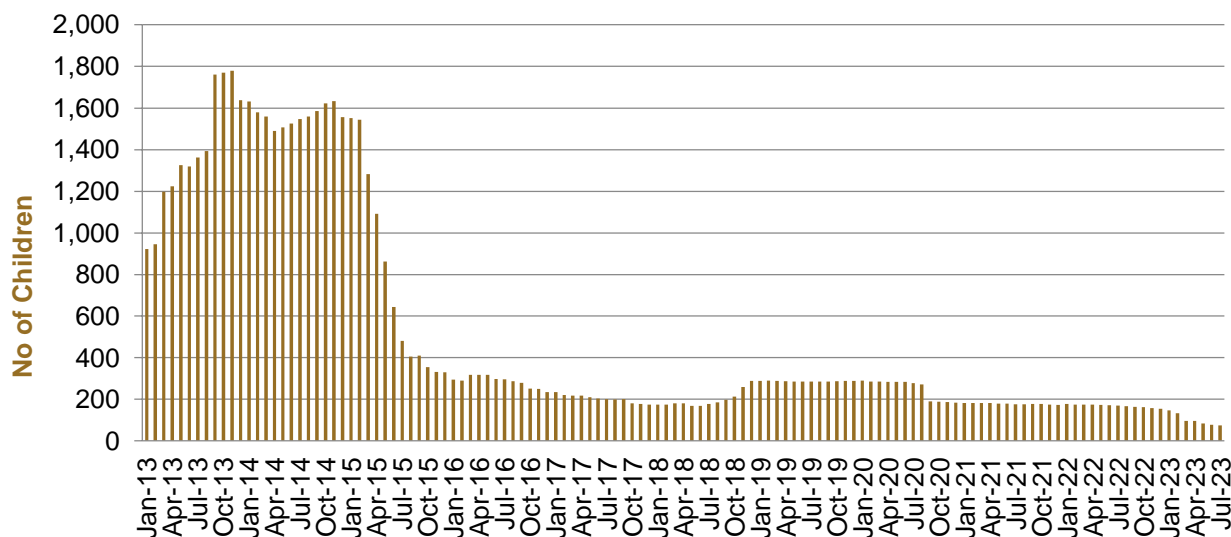


Figure 4 above, shows the number of children in the community under residence determination from January 2013 to the date of this report. The number of children in the community under residence determination, has levelled off at its lowest number since the peak in November 2013, as a result of releases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

Table 8 – Children in Immigration Detention and UMA Children in the Community on a Bridging E Visa at 31 July 2023

Placement Type	Children
Immigration Residential Housing	0
Immigration Detention Centre	0
Alternative Places of Detention	0
Total Facility	0
Total in the Community under a Residence Determination	73
Total UMAs in the Community on a Bridging E visa (including people with a ceased BVE)	1,332

Time In Immigration Detention Facilities

At 31 July 2023, there were 1079 people in immigration detention facilities.

Of these 1079 people, 22.0 per cent had been detained for 91 days or less and 51.6 per cent had been detained for 365 days or less.

Table 9 – Length of Time of People in Held Immigration Detention Facilities at 31 July 2023

Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	21	1.9%
8 days - 31 days	59	5.5%
32 days - 91 days	157	14.6%
92 days - 182 days	190	17.6%
183 days - 365 days	130	12.0%
366 days - 547 days	85	7.9%
548 days - 730 days	60	5.6%
731 days - 1095 days	115	10.7%
1096 days - 1460 days	77	7.1%
1461 days - 1825 days	58	5.4%
Greater than 1825 days	127	11.8%
Total	1,079	100%

At 31 July 2023, the average period of time for people held in detention facilities was 709 days.

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

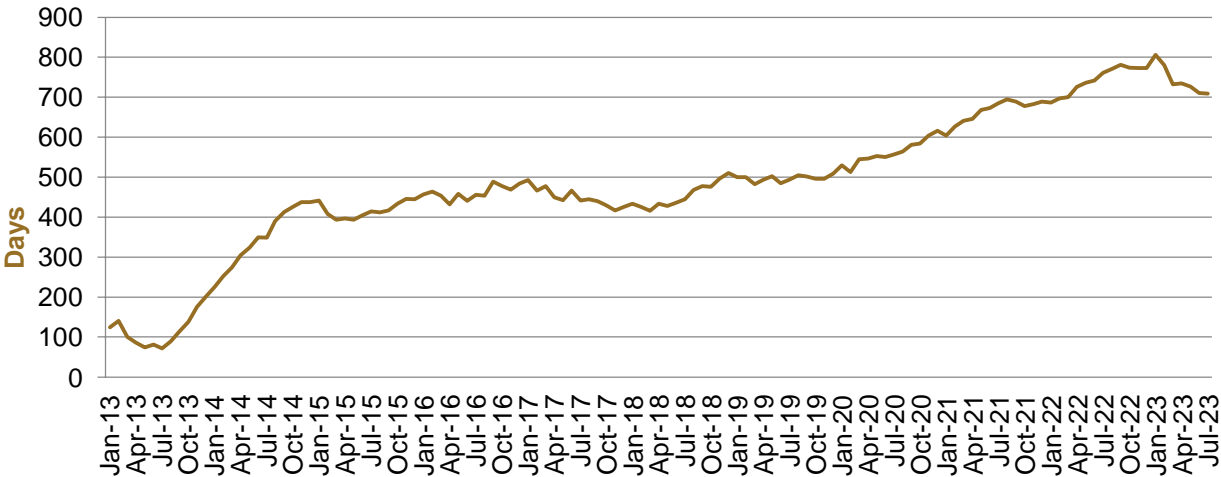


Figure 5 above, shows the average days in held immigration detention at the end of each month from January 2013 to the date of this report. The average period of time for people held in detention facilities steadily increased from July 2013 to January 2015. Between November 2018 and December 2019 the 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 moderate 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 274 people in the community under residence determination, as at 31 July 2023, 3.6 per cent had been in the community for 91 days or less and 22.3 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 July 2023

Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	<5	<1.0%
8 days - 31 days	6	2.2%
32 days - 91 days	<5	<1.0%
92 days - 182 days	20	7.3%
183 days - 365 days	31	11.3%
366 days - 547 days	8	2.9%
548 days - 730 days	16	5.8%
731 days - 1095 days	9	3.3%
1096 days - 1460 days	14	5.1%
1461 days - 1825 days	78	28.5%
Greater than 1825 days	88	32.1%
Total	274	100%