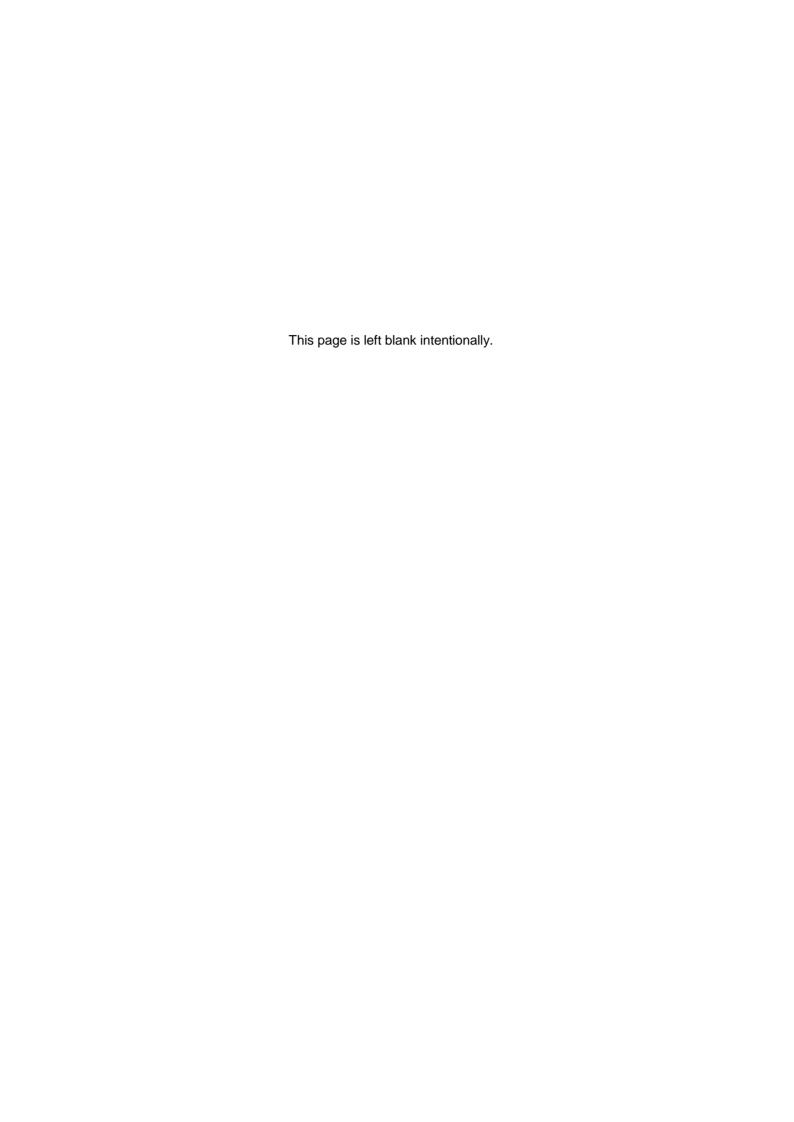


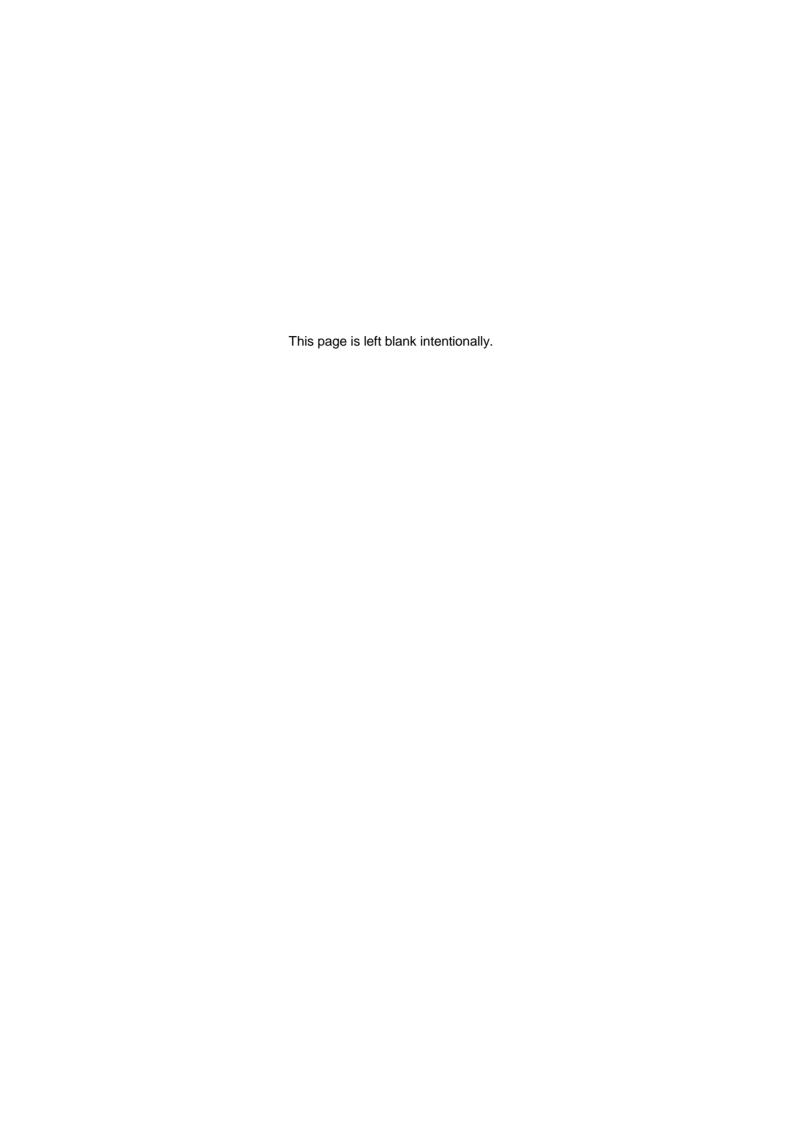
# Visitor visa programme bi-annual report

ending at 30 June 2016



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### About this report

This report provides quarterly data about the Visitor visa programme administered by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (the department). The report has been produced to assist tourism industry stakeholders and policymakers.

It is expected that this report will be further developed over time to increase and improve information sharing about the Visitor visa programme.

Data is sourced from several departmental visa processing and recording systems. Data can be dynamic and there can be delays in transmission of information from the department's global operations. Variations in figures between this report and previous reports can occur. Due to these issues, figures for the current financial year should always be considered provisional.

For privacy reasons < 5 has been used where a number in a table is between 1 and 4.

Further data about the Visitor visa programme, including the report and Visitor visa grants by subclass and citizenship from the 2005-06 to the 2014-15 financial year is available at the department's website at www.immi.gov.au/media/statistics/visitor.htm

Further information about the Visitor visa programme is available at www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visi

# **Enquiries**

Any comments or enquiries concerning this report should be sent to visa.reporting@border.gov.au quoting Report Id BR0112.

### **Definition of terms**

Under the Migration Regulations 1994 (the Regulations), there are two types of Applicant type:

applicants. These are primary applicants and secondary applicants.

**Approved Destination Status** 

(ADS): Auto grant: This scheme facilitates the travel of organised tour groups from the People's Republic

of China (PRC) to Australia by approved travel agents.

An automated process by which an electronic visa application is checked against security and immigration risk business rules and, if the automated checks are satisfied, the visa is granted, often within minutes after lodgement. Electronic applications which do not satisfy automated checks are referred for manual

assessment by a visa processing officer.

Citizenship country: The country of citizenship of the visa applicant or visa holder. Where a visa applicant

> or visa holder has more than one citizenship country, either the citizenship of the travel document or the citizenship nominated by the visa applicant is used.

The term used for counts of decisions. See below for definition of 'decisions'. Decided:

**Decisions:** An outcome where a decision-maker (including system-generated decision-making)

grants or refuses a visa or sponsorship application.

Visa application lodged electronically, by eligible passport holders, via the eLodged:

departmental website. Visas that can be eLodged are the eVisitor (subclass 651) visa

and the Tourist (subclass 676) visa (also known as the e676).

Electronic Travel Authority. An electronic visa available to citizens from low risk ETA:

countries. The term 'low risk' applies to countries which issue ETA eligible passports.

A list of these can be found on the department's website.

Granted: Unless otherwise specified, the number of visas granted includes primary and review

grants.

In Australia: In this report, refers to the location of the client at the time the application was lodged.

An applicant in Australia may already hold a visa of the same kind or may be applying

for another type of visa.

Lodged is the count of paper applications receipted in a departmental office or Lodged:

submitted electronically.

On hand: A visa application, nomination or sponsorship that has not been finalised.

Outside Australia: In this report, the term refers to the location of the client at the time of lodging the

application.

Used to refer to clients applying for a visa. Unless otherwise specified, the term Visa applicant:

covers both primary and secondary applicants.

Visa holders in Australia: The number of visa holders lawfully in Australia. This is not a count of all valid visas,

as a number of visa holders may be outside Australia on the snapshot date.

# How to read this report

On 23 March 2013 significant changes were made to Visitor visas as part of the Australian Government's Visa Simplification and Deregulation project. These changes have been summarised in the tables below where relevant visas have been combined into Tourist and Business groups.

Visitor – Tourist visas	Tourist Group
ETA (Visitor) (subclass 976) <b>and</b> ETA (subclass 601 – Tourist)	ETA Tourist
Tourist (subclass 676), Visitor (subclass 600) Tourist stream and Visitor (subclass 600) ADS	Tourist Visitor
Sponsored Family Visitor visa (subclass 679) and	Sponsored Tourist
Visitor (subclass 600) Sponsored Family stream visa	
eVisitor (subclass 651 - Tourist Entrant)	eVisitor Tourist

Visitor - Business visas	Business Group
ETA (Business – Long Validity) (subclass 956),	
ETA (Business – Short Validity) (subclass 977) and	ETA Business
ETA (subclass 601 - Business)	
Business (Short Stay) (subclass 456) <b>and</b> Visitor (subclass 600) Business Visitor stream	Business Visitor
Superyacht crew (subclass 488) <b>and</b> Sponsored Business visitor (Short Stay) (subclass 459) visa	Sponsored Business
eVisitor (subclass 651 - Business Entrant)	eVisitor Business

### Notes

- ETA Business Clients who previously lodged ETA (Business Long Validity) (subclass 956) visa applications and (Business Short Validity) (subclass 977) visa applications are now lodging ETA (subclass 601 Business) visa applications. A small percentage of these clients may now be lodging Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) (subclass 400) visas, which is not covered in this report.
- **Business Visitor** Clients who previously lodged Business (Short Stay) (subclass 456) visa applications are now lodging Visitor (subclass 600) Business Visitor stream visa applications. A small percentage of these clients may now be lodging Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) (subclass 400) visas, which is not covered in this report.

# Background to the Visitor visa programme

The Visitor visa programme can be divided into two categories, Tourism and Business. Tourism may include a holiday or recreation, or visiting family and friends. The Business category allows business people to undertake business visitor activities. This may include attending meetings, conferences, site visits and exploring business opportunities. The visa holder cannot engage in work in Australia.

The Visitor visa programme is made up of three subclasses the ETA (subclass 601), eVisitor (subclass 651) and Visitor (subclass 600) visa. The Visitor (subclass 600) visa has four streams, the Tourist stream, the Sponsored Family stream, the Business Visitor stream and the Approved Destination Status stream. The below table outlines the activities allowed by each subclass and stream, and the location of the client at time of lodgement.

Subclass	Tourism	Business Visitor	Client Location
601 - Electronic Travel Authority	✓	✓	Outside Australia
651 - eVisitor	✓	✓	Outside Australia
600 - Tourist stream	✓		Both
600 - Business Visitor stream		✓	Outside Australia
600 - Sponsored Family stream	✓		Outside Australia
600 - Approved Destination Status stream	✓		Outside Australia

On 23 March 2013 the following significant changes were made to Visitor visas as part of the Australian Government's Visa Simplification and Deregulation project:

- The Tourist (subclass 676) was replaced by the Visitor (Subclass 600) Tourist stream visa. The online Tourist (Subclass 676) visa has been temporarily retained pending implementation of an online Visitor (subclass 600) visa.
- The Sponsored Family Visitor visa (subclass 679) was repealed and replaced by the Visitor (subclass 600 Sponsored Family stream visa.
- The ETA (Visitor) (subclass 976) was repealed and replaced by the ETA (subclass 601).
- The Business (Short Stay) (subclass 456) visa was repealed and replaced by the Visitor (subclass 600) Business Visitor stream visa.
- The Sponsored Business visitor (Short Stay) visa (subclass 459) was repealed and replaced by the Visitor (subclass 600) Business Visitor stream visa.
- The Electronic Travel Authority (Business Short Validity) (subclass 977) was repealed and replaced by the Electronic Travel Authority (subclass 601).
- The Electronic Travel Authority (Business Long Validity) (subclass 956) was repealed and replaced by the Electronic Travel Authority (subclass 601).

As part of these changes work rights previously permitted in Business Visitor visa were moved to a new dedicated visa, the Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) (subclass 400) visa. The new Business Visitor visas introduced on 23 March 2013 enable business visitors to undertake business visitor activities, including making general business and employment enquiries, attending conferences, negotiating and reviewing business contracts and making official government to government visits. A summary of the Visitor visa framework changes is provided in the table below. Visas granted before this date remain valid for use until they expire.

# Background to the Visitor visa programme - continued

Visitor visa subclasses can be divided into Tourism and Business streams:

### Tourism:

- 1. Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) (subclass 601). This visa is designed for ETA eligible passport holders\* who are outside of Australia and who want to visit Australia for tourism or business visitor purposes. It allows an applicant to stay in Australia for up to 3 months on each visit within a 12 month period from the date of grant, or for the life of the passport if it is less than 12 months. It can be applied for online, through a travel agent, airline or specialist service provider or at an Australian visa office outside of Australia.
- 2. eVisitor (subclass 651 Tourist Entrant). This visa is designed for people outside of Australia who want to visit Australia for tourism purposes. It can only be lodged online and is available to certain European nationals, as it was introduced in October 2008 to meet the Australian Government's undertaking to have reciprocal short stay travel arrangements with the European Union. It allows a stay of up to 3 months on each visit within a 12 month period from the date of grant.
- 3. Visitor (subclass 600) Tourist stream visa. This visa allows people to visit Australia for tourism purposes. This may include a holiday or recreation, or to visit family and friends. This visa can be applied for either onshore or offshore and may also be used for other short-term non-work purposes including study for up to three months. This visa can also be applied for online (known as the 'e600') by eligible passport holders.
- 4. Visitor (subclass 600) Sponsored Family stream visa. This visa allows people who are outside of Australia and have an eligible sponsor in Australia (an eligible relative or Australian Government officialwilling to sponsor them), to travel to Australia for a holiday and to visit family. This visa is intended for higher risk visitors and contains additional requirements which are designed to provide assurance that the visa holder will comply with their visa conditions and depart Australia before their visa expires. A formal sponsorship is to be completed by an Australian citizen/permanent resident and in some cases a security bond is requested where the decision maker has residual concerns about the visa applicant's intention to abide by the visa conditions.

### **Business:**

- 5. Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) (subclass 601). This visa is designed for ETA eligible passport holders who are outside of Australia and who want to visit Australia for tourism or business visitor purposes. It allows an applicant to stay in Australia for up to 3 months on each visit within a 12 month period from the date of grant, or for the life of the passport if it is less than 12 months. It can be applied for online, through a travel agent, airline or specialist service provider or at an Australian visa office outside of Australia.
- 6. eVisitor (subclass 651 Business Entrant). This visa is designed for people outside of Australia who want to visit Australia for short term business purposes. It can only be lodged online and is available to certain European nationals, as it was introduced in October 2008 to meet the Australian Government's undertaking to have reciprocal short stay travel arrangements with the European Union. It allows a stay of up to 3 months on each visit within a 12 month period from the date of grant.
- 7. Visitor (subclass 600) Business Visitor stream visa. This visa allows people to visit Australia for business visitor activities purposes. Business visitor activities may include making general business or employment enquiries, investigating, negotiating, signing or reviewing a business contract, activities carried out as part of an official government-to-government visit and participating in conferences, trade fairs or seminars as long as the visa holder is not being paid by the organisers for their participation. This visa can also be applied for online (known as the 'e600') by eligible passport holders.

### Eligible Passports for Electronic Lodgement of Visitor Visa Applications

The Department continues to implement changes to support the progressive expansion of online lodgement of Visitor visa applications to all countries in 2014-15. Online lodgement of Visitor (subclass 600) visas was made available to additional countries from 1 August 2014, including all countries previously eligible for the online Tourist (subclass 676). There are currently over 200 countries with access to online lodgement, with additional countries to be provided access in 2015-16.

For a list of eligible passports for Visitor e600, ETA 601 and eVisitor 651 online applications please refer to the department's website.

For e600: www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/600-/Visitor-e600-visa-online-applications

For ETA 601: www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/601-

For eVisitor 651: www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/651-

# Background to the Visitor visa programme - continued

### Family members

Since 23 March 2013, all accompanying family members must lodge separate Visitor visa applications including children younger than 18 years of age who are included on their parents passport. Sponsors of Visitor (subclass 600) Sponsored Family stream visa applicants must include all visiting family members on the sponsorship form.

Family members who are accompanying Business Visitors and are not themselves intending to engage in business visitor activities while in Australia could consider applying for the Visitor (subclass 600) Tourist stream visa.

### Visa Requirements

To be eligible for a Visitor visa, the applicant genuinely intends to stay temporarily in Australia for the purpose for which the visa is granted (for tourism or business visitor purposes).

Applicants must also meet certain health and character requirements, and could be asked to undergo a health examination, and/or provide police certificates for each country they have lived in for 12 months or more over the last 10 years since turning 16.

In order to meet the financial requirements for the grant of a Visitor visa, applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have access to adequate means to support themselves (and their family where relevant) during their stay in Australia, including health insurance where required. They could be asked to provide evidence of their adequate means of support.

### Ability to work

Work on a Tourist (Subclass 676), Sponsored Family Visitor (Subclass 679) and Visitor (Subclass 600) Tourist, Sponsored Family and Business Visitor stream visas is not permitted. This is enforced by a mandatory 'no work' condition imposed on all Tourist and Sponsored Family stream visas. Work on a Business Visitor visa applied for before 23 March 2013 is permitted in very limited circumstances where the work is non-ongoing (no more than 6 weeks for the validity of the visa) and highly skilled in nature. Business Visitor visas applied for since 23 March 2013 can undertake business visitor activities but not otherwise work. Business visitor activities include making general business enquiries, attending conferences and contractual negotiations and making government to government visits.

Where a person is found to be working in breach of their visa conditions, they could face visa cancellation and an exclusion period.

### Ability to study

Tourist (subclass 676), Sponsored Family Visitor (subclass 679) and Visitor (subclass 600) Tourist, Sponsored Family and Business Visitor stream visa holders could study for up to three months. This could be an award or non-award course, however, the entire course must not be longer than 3 months in duration.

### Volunteering

Tourist and Visitor visa holders could be able to work as a volunteer where the work is genuinely voluntary and no remuneration is received in return for the activities.

# Background to the Visitor visa programme - continued

### **Extending stay**

Visitor visas cannot be 'extended'. However, Visitor visa holders could extend their stay in Australia by applying for another visa, such as a Visitor (subclass 600) Tourist stream visa, at least two weeks before their current visa expires. It is not possible to apply for other Visitor visas in Australia.

An additional visa could be granted if the applicant has complied with the conditions of their previous visa, meets all eligibility criteria for this visa, and does not have a 'No further stay' condition on their current visa.

### Visa refusals

A decision to refuse a Visitor visa application is made when the delegate of the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection is not satisfied that the applicant meets the legal criteria for grant of a visa. When refusing a visa application, the Department provides an applicant, or their agent, with a written decision record that sets out the reason for the decision and any review rights.

Reasons for refusal of Visitor visa applications could include:

- failure to meet financial, health or character requirements; and/or
- failure to satisfy the department that the applicant is a genuine visitor.

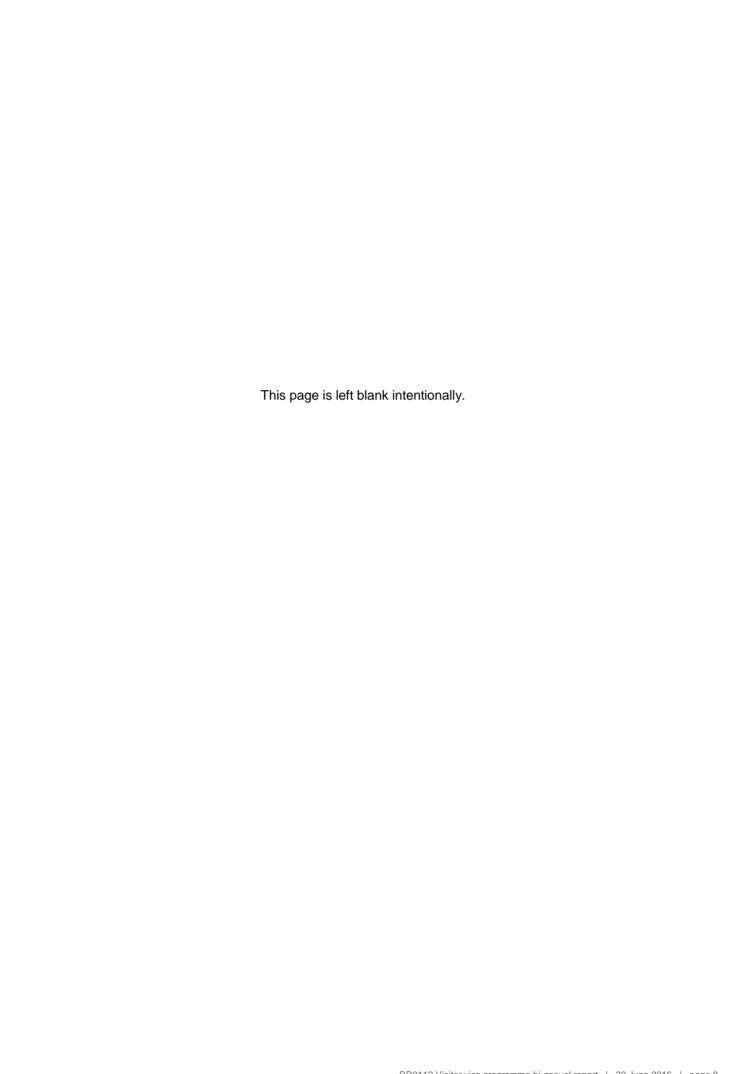
### Processing standards

The Department aims to finalise 75 per cent of Visitor visa applications within the following timeframes:

- for non-sponsored visitors where the application is lodged onshore one working day for low risk applicants and one
  week for high risk applicants;
- for non-sponsored visitors where the application is lodged offshore one working day for low risk applicants and one month for high risk applicants;
- for sponsored visitors (all sponsored visitor applications are lodged onshore) 1.5 months.

The processing service standard applies where all documents are submitted with the application form. The process may be delayed if applications are incomplete or if additional information is required, including health examination and/or character checks.

Note: Low risk refers to people holding Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) eligible passports, and high risk refers to persons who are not ETA eligible.



### **Executive Summary**

### **Key Points**

- This executive summary covers the Tourist and Business group visa statistics for the Visitor Visa programme year from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. The terminology used in this executive summary to describe Tourist and Business group visas and subclasses are referenced on page 3 of this report.
- There was a steady increase in Visitor Visa applications lodged with almost 5 million applications under the Visitor visa programme (Tourist and Business group) in 2015-16, up 11.7 per cent compared with 2014-15. China was the largest source country for visitors to Australia with 848,320 visa applications lodged ahead of the UK and USA with 590,084 and 467,625 lodgements respectively.
- Visitor Tourist visas accounted for the majority of visa applications lodged with 4,528,362 applications in 2015-16, up 13.5 per cent compared with 2014-15 (3,989,570).
- Visitor Business visa applications decreased slightly in 2015-16 to 443,635 down 3.9 per cent compared with 2014-15 (461,840).
- A total of 4,372,501 Visitor Tourist visas were granted in 2015-16, a 13.2 per cent increase compared with 2014-15 (3,862,422). However, Business Visitor visas grants decreased by 4.3 per cent in 2015-16 with 426,672 visa grants compared with 2014-15 (445,685).
- Visitor Tourist visas granted under the Approved Destination Status (ADS) scheme increased significantly to 230,804 (up 21.0 per cent) in 2015-16 compared with 2014-15 (190,785).
- The grant rate statistics in this report are published quarterly. The grant rate for all Visitor visas (Tourist and Business group) for the quarter 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016 increased slightly to 96.9 per cent, compared with 96.7 per cent for the quater 1 April 2015 to June 2015.
- In 2015-16, there were 5,305,664 arrivals on Visitor visas (Tourist and Business group), a 12.6 per cent increase compared with 2014-15 (4,713,954).
- As at 30 June 2016, there were 262,445 Visitor visa (Tourist and Business group) holders in Australia. This is a 15.9 per cent increase on compared with 30 June 2015 (226,395).

### 1 Applications lodged

In 2015-16, almost 5 million Visitor (Tourist and Business group) visa applications were lodged, up 11.7 per cent compared with 2014-15 with almost 4.5 million applications.

China remains the largest source country for visitors to Australia with 848,320 lodgements in 2015-16 up 22.6 per cent ahead of the UK up 5.2 per cent (590,084) and the USA up 9.2 per cent (467,625).

### **Tourist Group**

Visitor – Tourist visas accounted for the majority of visa applications lodged with 4,528,362 applications in 2015-16. This was a 13.5 per cent increase compared with 2014-15 (3,989,570).

In addition to continued growth from the top three source countries of China, UK and USA, this increase was also driven by growth in lodgements by citizens of:

- Japan (up 17.2 per cent to 314,000)
- Malaysia (up 12.0 per cent to 313,766)
- Singapore (up 19.7 per cent to 216,190

- India (up 8.8 per cent to 182,140)
- HKSAR of the PRC (up 16.1 per cent to 131,029)

This growth may be attributed to the deceased value of the Australian dollar and the focus Tourism Australia latest campaign to attract tourists from these regions.

### **Business Group**

Visitor – Business visa lodgements decreased slightly by 3.9 per cent with 443,635 applications lodged in 2015-16 compared with 461,840 in 2014-15. This decrease is possibly indicative of the reported slowdown in global economic growth.

The five largest decreases of Visitor – Business Visitor visa applications were from citizens of:

- China (down 9.7 per cent to 75,418)
- USA (down 3.1 per cent to 61,908)
- UK (down 5.9 per cent to 36,081)
- Singapore (down 10.2 per cent to 21,080)
- Canada (down 9.0 per cent to 9,324)

### Executive Summary - continued

### 2 Visas granted

### **Tourist Group**

A total of 4,372,501 Visitor – Tourist visas were granted in 2015-16. This was a 13.2 per cent increase compared with 2014-15. The ETA Tourist and Tourist Visitor represented the largest visa grants in the Tourist Group up 12.3 per cent and 17.4 per cent respectively compared with 2014-15.

The top five countries for Visitor – Tourist visas were:

- 1. China (up 25.3 per cent to 730,407)
- 2. UK (up 5.9 per cent to 550,748)
- 3. USA (up 11.4 per cent to 404,441)
- 4. Japan (up 17.2 per cent to 313,891)
- 5. Malaysia (up 12.0 per cent to 313,146)

### **Business Group**

Visitor – Business visa grants decreased by 4.3 per cent in 2015-16 with 426,672 visa grants compared with 2014-15 with 445,685 visa grants. This can be mostly attributed to a decline from China and the USA (down 9.8 per cent and 3.2 per cent respectively).

### Sponsored Family Visitor visa

There was a 2.8 per cent decrease in the number of Sponsored Family Visitor visas granted with 23,199 in 2015-16 compared with 2014-15 (23,875). This decline may be attributable to an increased uptake of the Tourist – Visitor visas.

### 3 Grant rates

The grant rate for all Visitor visas for the quarter 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016 increased slightly to 96.9 per cent compared with 96.7 per cent for the quarter in 1 April 2015 to June 2015.

### 4 Processing times

### **Tourist Group**

In the quarter ending 30 June 2016, 75 per cent of Visitor – Tourist visa applications (including Approved Destination Status (ADS) applications) were processed within 10 calendar days. In the same period in 2014-15, 75 per cent of Tourist – Visitor visa applications were processed within 10 calendar days.

### **Business Group**

In the quarter ending 30 June 2015, 75 per cent of Visitor – Business visa applications were processed within 7 calendar days. This is a slight decrease when compared to the same period in 2014-15 when Business Visitor visa applications were processed within 6 calendar days.

Processing times may vary where applications are incomplete at time of lodgement or where additional supporting information is required.

### 5 Applications on hand

### **Tourist Group**

On 30 June 2016, there were 56,941 Visitor – Tourist visa applications on hand. This was a 27 per cent increase from the 44,837 applications on hand as at 30 June 2015.

### **Business Group**

On 30 June 2016 there were 7,183 applications on hand, an increase of 26 per cent from 5,699 applications on hand as at 30 June 2015.

#### 6 Visa holders In Australia

On 30 June 2016, there were 262,445 Visitor (Tourist and Business Group) visa holders in Australia. This was a 15.9 per cent increase compared with 226,395 Visitor (Tourist and Business Group) visa holders in Australia on 30 June 2015.

The subclass 600 Visitor visa made up the largest cohort with 163,596 visa holders in Australia, followed by the subclass 601 ETA with 72,544 visa holders and subclass 651 eVisitor with 22,345 visa holders in Australia on 30 June 2016.

The number of Visitor visa holders in Australia at any given time is influenced by a range of factors, including exchange rates, holiday periods, and major events. On 30 June 2016, there was a general increase in tourist numbers from key markets, particularly China, by 17.9 per cent compared with 30 June 2015.

### 7 Approved Destination Status (ADS)

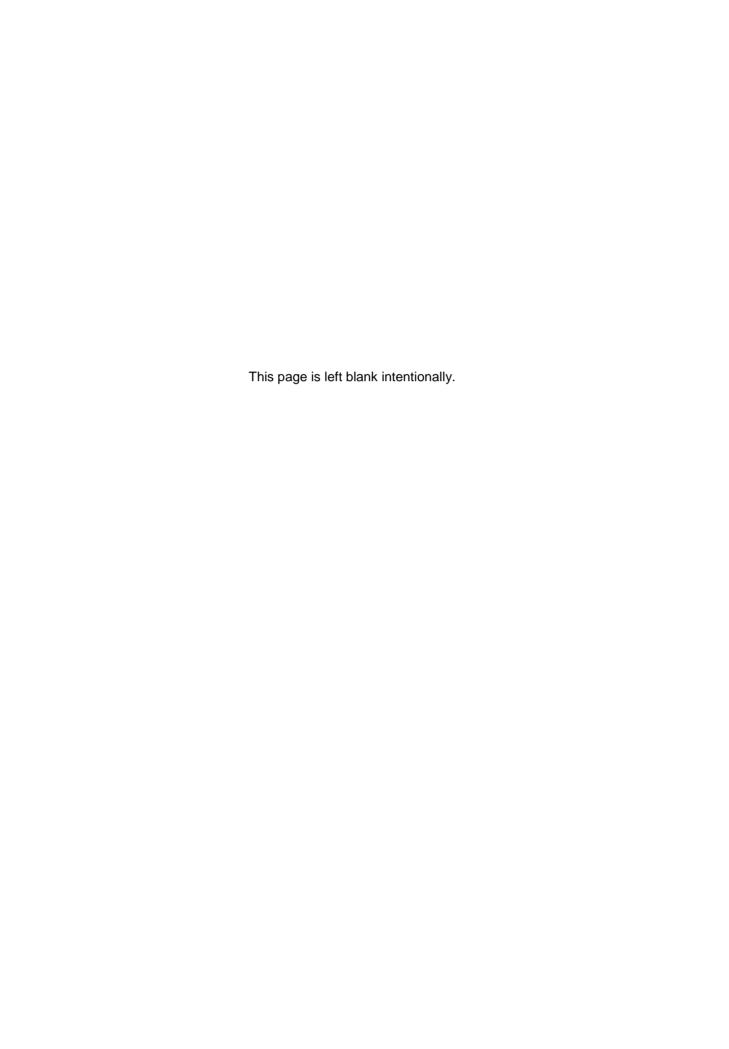
A total of 230,804 Tourist Visitor visas were granted to citizens from China under the ADS scheme in 2015-16. This was an increase of 21 per cent compared with 2014-15 (190,785).

#### 8 Arrivals data

In 2015-16, there were 5,305,664 arrivals on Visitor (Tourist and Business Group) visas, a 12.6 per cent increase in 2014-15 (4,713,954).

The top five countries for Visitor visas arrivals were:

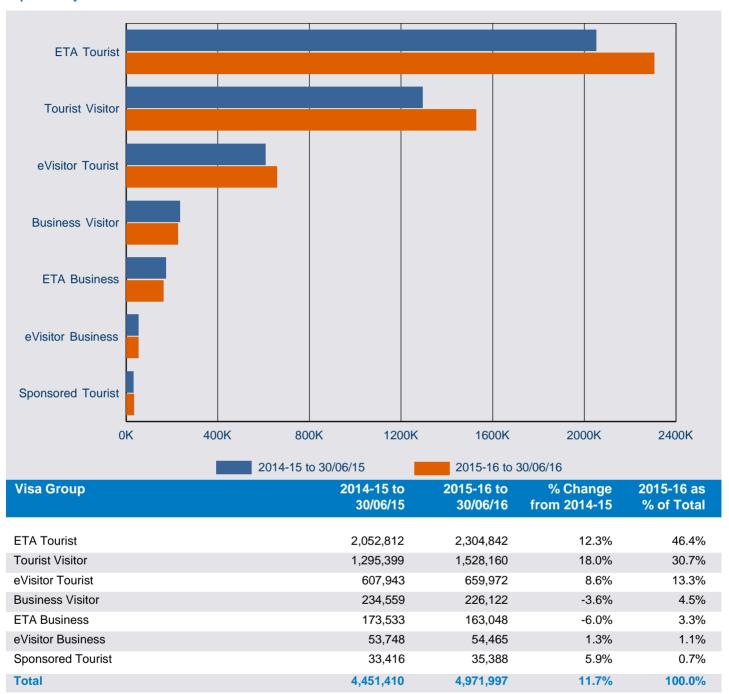
- 1. China (up 21.9 per cent to 929,420)
- 2. UK (up 6.8 per cent to 651,342)
- 3. USA (up 9.7 per cent to 515,003)
- 4. Malaysia (up 12.8 per cent to 364,235)
- 5. Japan (up 15.7 per cent to 348,909



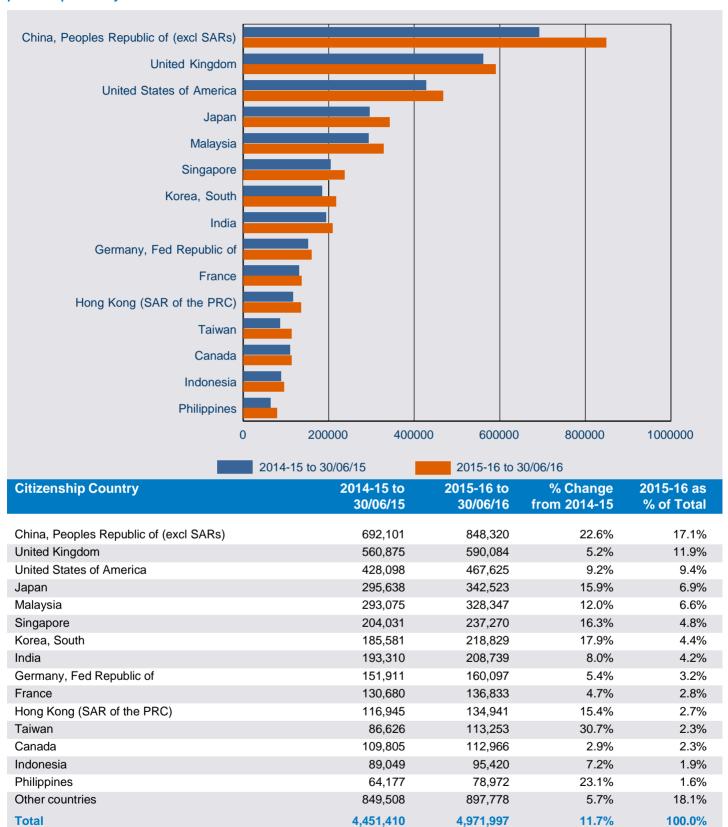
# 1.1 Number of Visitor visa applications lodged in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by month - comparison with previous four financial years



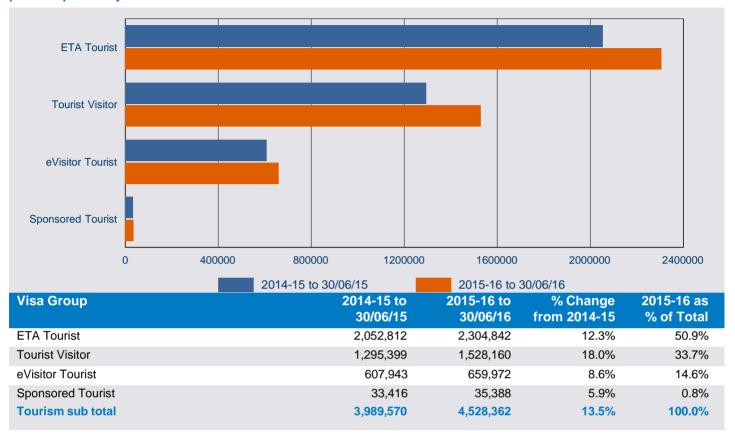
# 1.2 Number of Visitor visa applications lodged in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



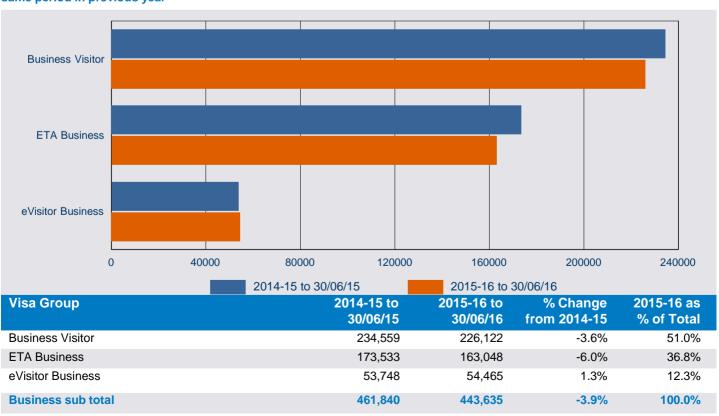
# 1.3 Number of Visitor visa applications lodged in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



# 1.4 Number of tourism Visitor visa applications lodged in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



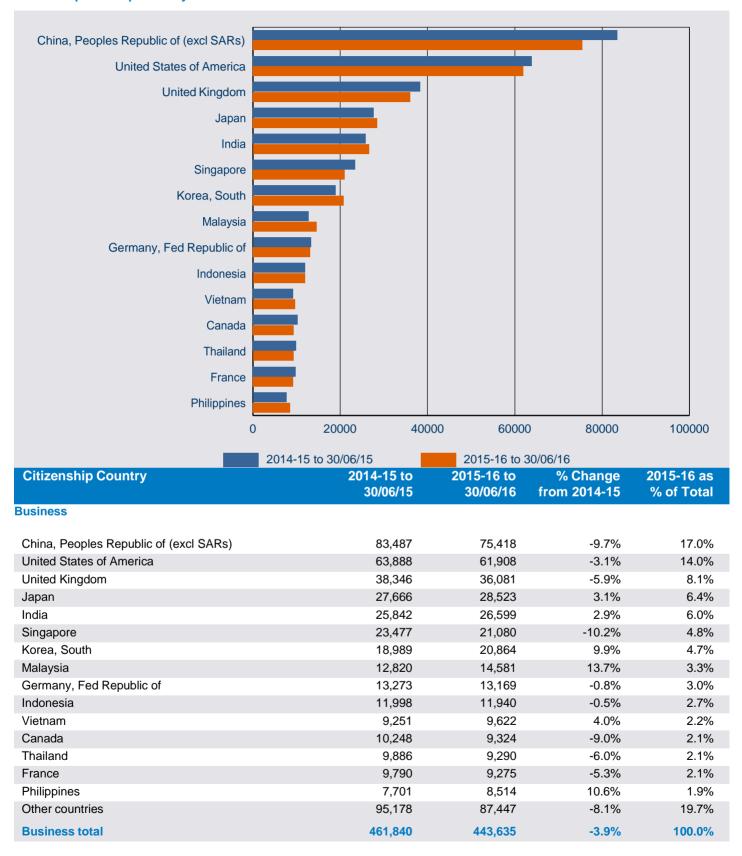
# 1.5 Number of business Visitor visa applications lodged in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year

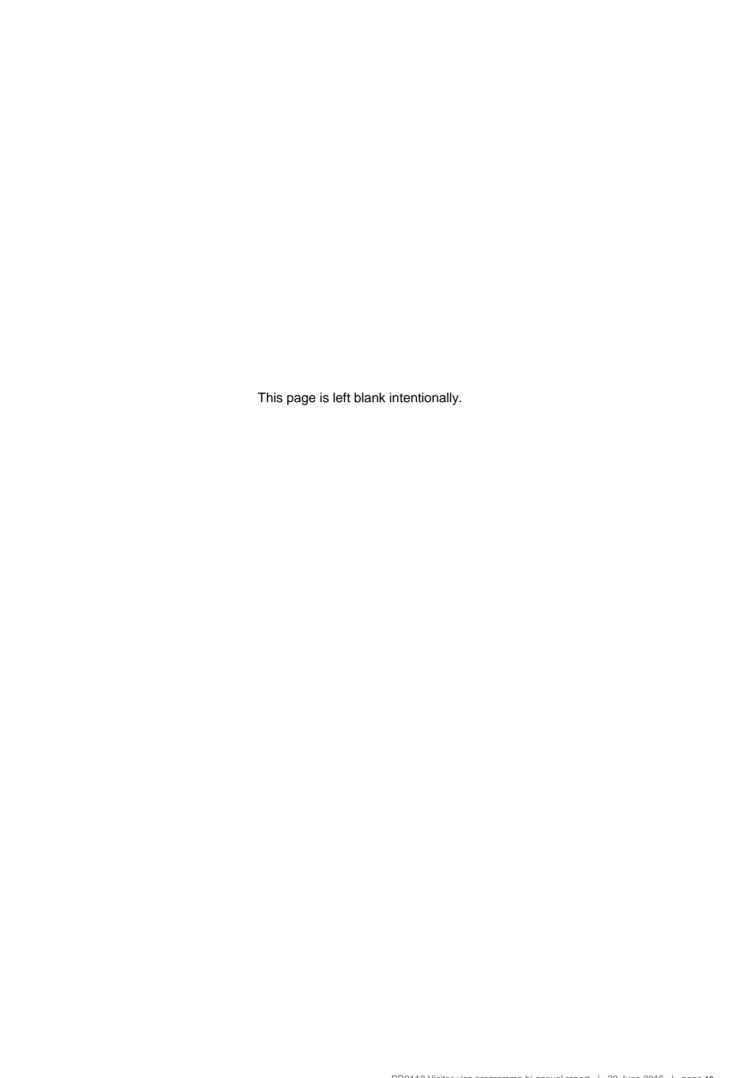


### 1.6 Number of tourism Visitor visa applications lodged in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year

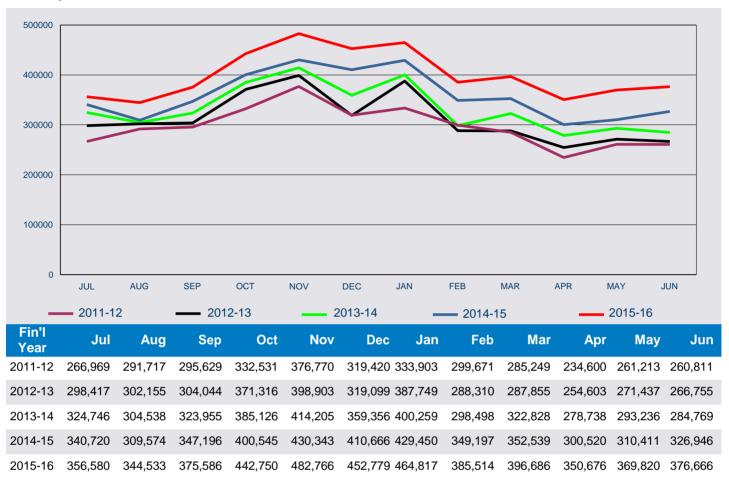


# 1.7 Number of business Visitor visa applications lodged in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year

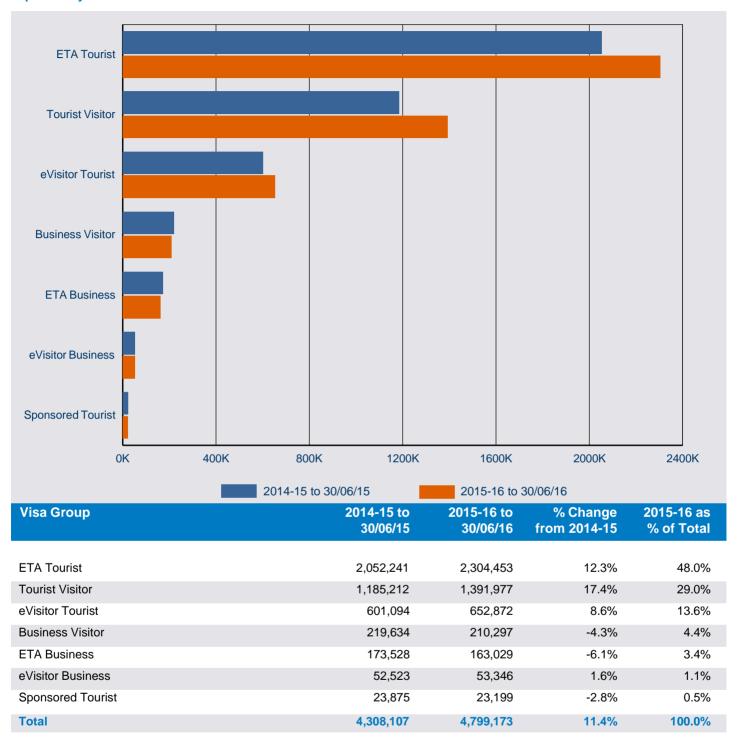




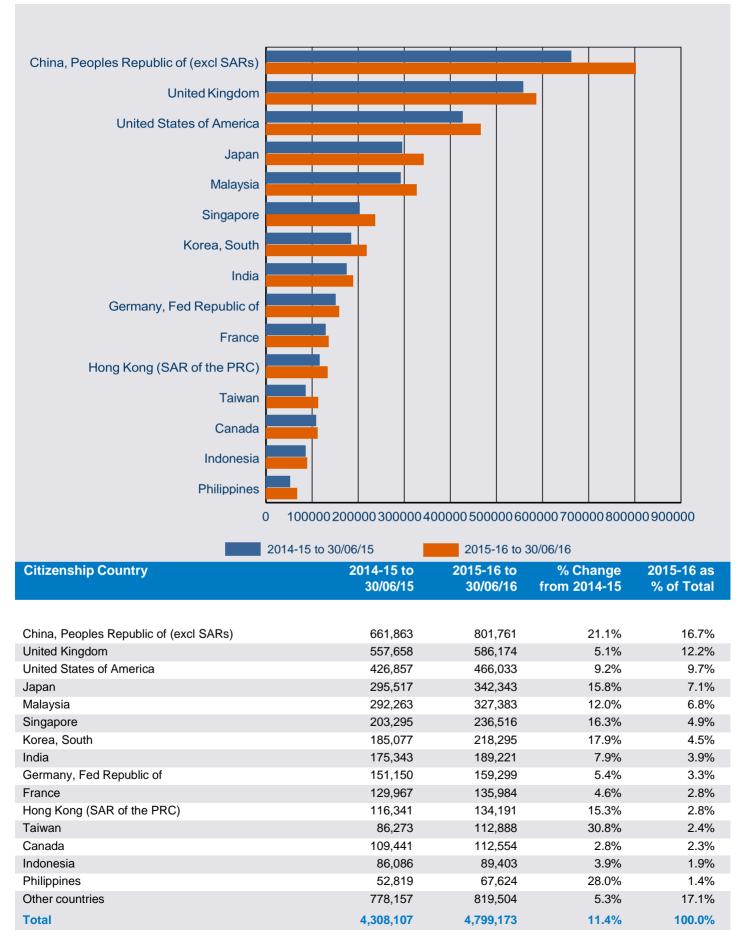
# 2.1 Number of Visitor visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by month - comparison with previous four financial years



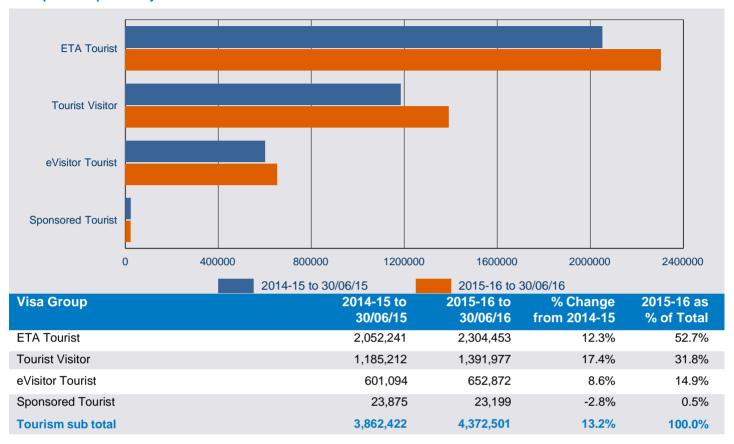
# 2.2 Number of Visitor visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



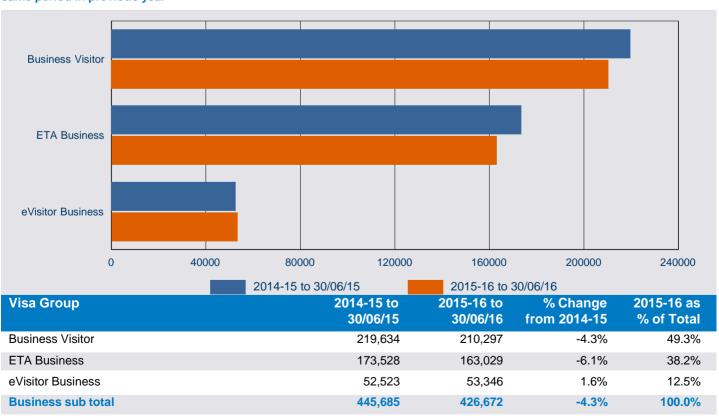
# 2.3 Number of Visitor visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



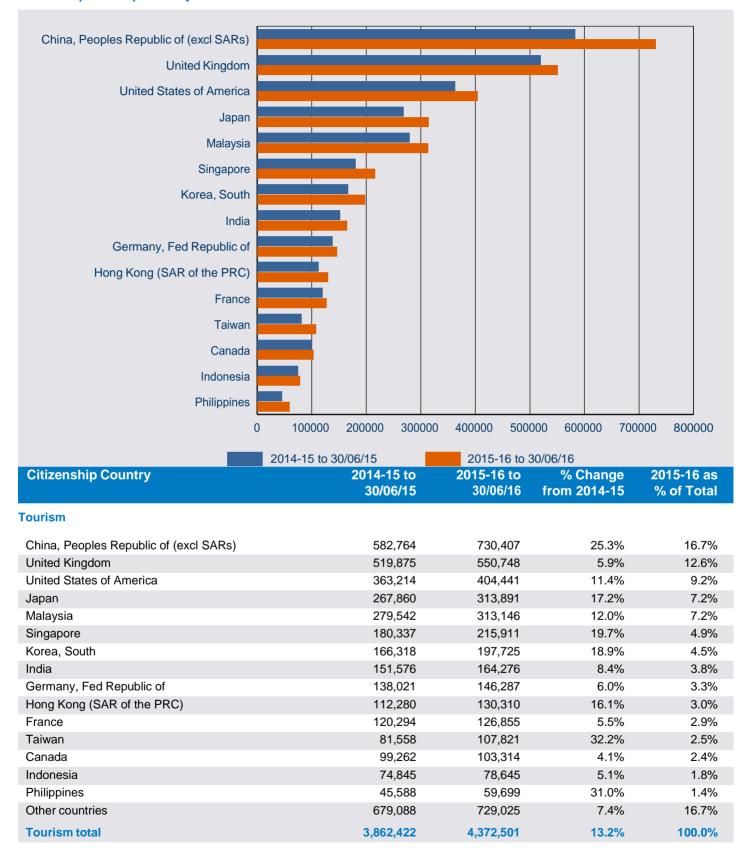
# 2.4 Number of tourism Visitor visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year



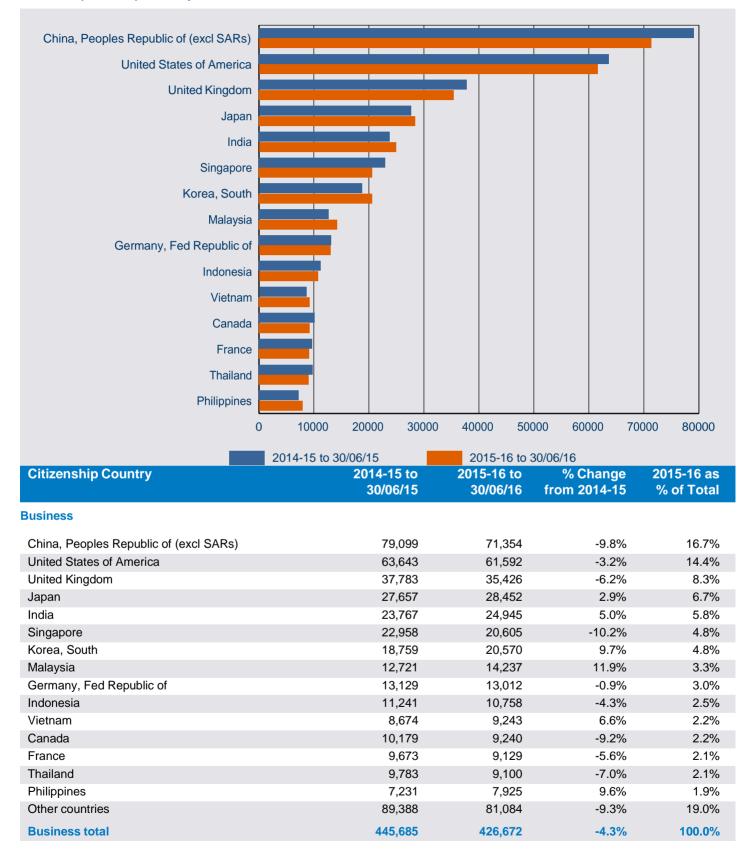
# 2.5 Number of business Visitor visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with same period in previous year

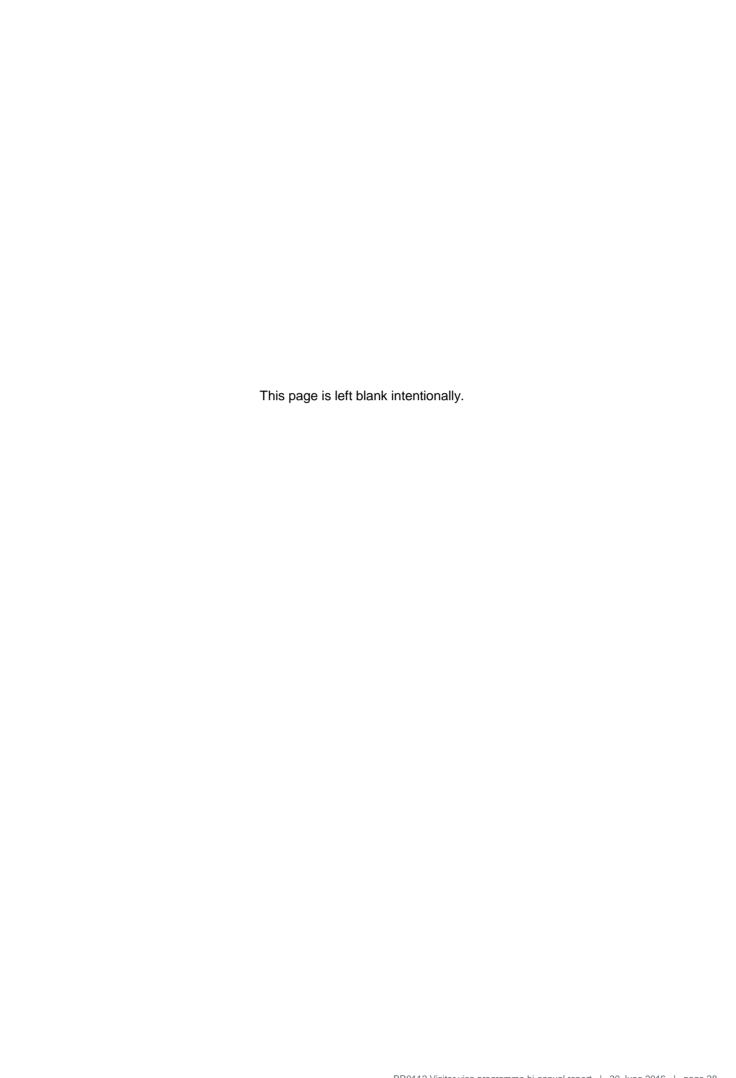


# 2.6 Number of tourism Visitor visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



# 2.7 Number of business Visitor visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year





For this section:

A grant rate is defined as:

Number of grants x 100

Number of decisions

where the number of decisions equals the number of grants plus the number of refusals.

A grant rate of 0.00% indicates that no applications were decided during the reporting period.

3.1 Grant rate of Visitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with previous four periods

Visa Group	01/04/15 to 30/06/15	01/07/15 to 30/09/15	01/10/15 to 31/12/15	01/01/16 to 31/03/16	01/04/16 to 30/06/16
Business					
Business Visitor	95.2%	94.7%	95.1%	95.1%	95.2%
ETA Business	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
eVisitor Business	98.3%	98.3%	98.5%	98.6%	98.2%
All Business	97.4%	97.1%	97.4%	97.5%	97.1%
Tourism					
ETA Tourist	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
eVisitor Tourist	98.9%	99.0%	99.3%	99.1%	99.0%
Sponsored Tourist	66.4%	67.7%	67.7%	69.7%	73.5%
Tourist Visitor	91.6%	91.1%	92.0%	92.9%	92.7%
All Tourism	96.6%	96.7%	97.2%	97.4%	96.9%
All	96.7%	96.7%	97.2%	97.4%	96.9%

# 3.2 Grant rate for Tourist Visitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship Country	01/04/15 to 30/06/15	01/07/15 to 30/09/15	01/10/15 to 31/12/15	01/01/16 to 31/03/16	01/04/16 to 30/06/16
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	94.2%	94.1%	95.7%	95.7%	94.9%
India	92.2%	91.6%	92.5%	93.1%	93.7%
Indonesia	96.7%	94.1%	93.2%	93.2%	96.3%
Philippines	86.2%	84.9%	84.1%	88.9%	89.6%
Thailand	90.2%	90.3%	90.6%	94.8%	95.0%
Vietnam	89.3%	86.5%	86.8%	87.8%	88.8%
South Africa	97.9%	98.3%	98.5%	98.0%	98.2%
Brazil	98.1%	98.5%	98.8%	98.8%	98.3%
Sri Lanka	92.2%	87.9%	85.5%	91.1%	92.2%
Fiji	77.3%	83.5%	85.1%	77.8%	77.4%
Papua New Guinea	94.1%	95.6%	91.3%	91.0%	73.5%
United Arab Emirates	99.5%	98.8%	98.2%	99.2%	99.8%
Chile	97.8%	98.6%	99.0%	99.3%	99.0%
Pakistan	46.9%	40.3%	49.9%	64.5%	67.7%
Nepal	88.1%	74.9%	77.4%	85.0%	84.4%
Other countries	83.1%	84.4%	83.4%	84.2%	84.7%
All Tourist Visitor	91.6%	91.1%	92.0%	92.9%	92.7%

# 3.3 Grant rate for Sponsored Tourist visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

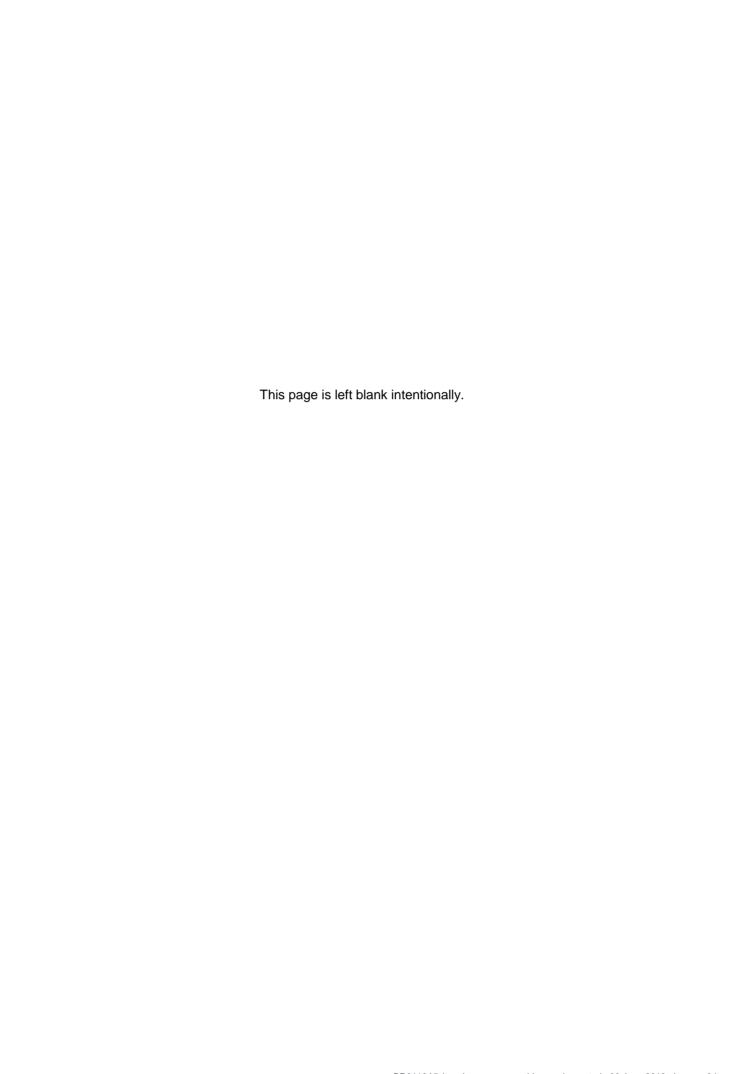
Citizenship Country	01/04/15 to 30/06/15	01/07/15 to 30/09/15	01/10/15 to 31/12/15	01/01/16 to 31/03/16	01/04/16 to 30/06/16
Philippines	70.5%	70.2%	66.7%	74.5%	79.6%
India	75.2%	73.3%	78.7%	78.9%	86.6%
Vietnam	64.3%	64.6%	66.0%	67.9%	74.3%
Bangladesh	82.6%	86.1%	86.9%	85.0%	86.8%
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	73.1%	73.4%	72.9%	74.0%	77.7%
Pakistan	66.4%	67.6%	57.5%	64.1%	71.9%
Nepal	80.6%	80.9%	83.3%	86.5%	86.7%
Sri Lanka	72.2%	78.2%	86.0%	87.8%	80.4%
Iran	52.9%	57.3%	57.9%	68.0%	62.1%
Cambodia	67.7%	63.7%	71.9%	76.3%	70.5%
Lebanon	29.8%	27.1%	20.3%	22.7%	25.2%
Zimbabwe	70.0%	67.8%	73.5%	77.8%	75.3%
Fiji	61.3%	63.3%	56.3%	66.7%	64.2%
Myanmar	68.6%	58.8%	69.8%	82.0%	82.3%
Thailand	55.7%	60.7%	63.3%	67.2%	51.6%
Other countries	52.9%	57.6%	55.9%	55.0%	59.5%
All Sponsored Tourist	66.4%	67.7%	67.7%	69.7%	73.5%

# 3.4 Grant rate for Business Visitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship Country	01/04/15 to 30/06/15	01/07/15 to 30/09/15	01/10/15 to 31/12/15	01/01/16 to 31/03/16	01/04/16 to 30/06/16
China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs)	95.0%	93.6%	96.4%	96.2%	95.6%
India	94.7%	95.2%	95.8%	94.9%	95.8%
Korea, South	100.0%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	100.0%
Singapore	99.9%	100.0%	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%
Indonesia	98.5%	94.7%	97.1%	94.0%	96.1%
Vietnam	96.8%	96.3%	95.9%	96.5%	96.9%
Thailand	99.4%	99.6%	99.3%	99.7%	99.9%
Philippines	96.4%	96.4%	95.0%	92.1%	95.1%
Malaysia	99.2%	99.8%	99.9%	99.7%	99.7%
Japan	99.7%	99.6%	99.8%	99.8%	99.9%
Taiwan	99.9%	99.8%	99.6%	99.5%	99.2%
South Africa	98.1%	99.4%	97.7%	98.5%	97.1%
Papua New Guinea	99.6%	98.4%	97.5%	97.5%	89.1%
United States of America	93.4%	93.5%	95.1%	94.5%	93.7%
United Kingdom	96.2%	98.2%	92.3%	95.9%	95.1%
Other countries	87.6%	87.7%	83.9%	86.3%	86.9%
All Business Visitor	95.2%	94.7%	95.1%	95.1%	95.2%

3.5 Grant rate for subclass 651 eVisitor visa applications decided in the 3 month period between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship Country	01/04/15 to 30/06/15	01/07/15 to 30/09/15	01/10/15 to 31/12/15	01/01/16 to 31/03/16	01/04/16 to 30/06/16
Andorra	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	92.9%
Austria	99.8%	99.4%	99.6%	99.5%	99.5%
Belgium	99.3%	99.4%	99.7%	99.2%	99.3%
Bulgaria	76.6%	80.1%	85.5%	80.3%	82.3%
Croatia	84.8%	84.7%	88.4%	85.8%	85.8%
Cyprus	99.1%	97.9%	99.6%	99.2%	99.4%
Czech Republic	98.7%	99.0%	99.3%	99.6%	99.2%
Denmark	99.3%	99.6%	99.8%	99.6%	99.5%
Estonia	94.2%	95.8%	98.2%	99.2%	97.3%
Finland	98.4%	99.5%	99.8%	99.3%	99.5%
France	99.3%	99.4%	99.4%	99.2%	99.1%
Germany, Fed Republic of	99.5%	99.6%	99.7%	99.6%	99.5%
Greece	96.4%	96.1%	98.1%	99.0%	96.3%
Hungary	97.5%	97.8%	98.1%	98.2%	97.2%
Iceland	100.0%	100.0%	99.2%	100.0%	100.0%
Ireland, Republic of	98.9%	99.1%	99.0%	99.0%	98.6%
Italy	99.0%	99.3%	99.4%	99.4%	99.4%
Latvia	88.8%	89.5%	93.1%	90.8%	90.5%
Liechtenstein	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Lithuania	89.2%	93.5%	94.3%	93.0%	94.5%
Luxembourg	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.2%
Malta	98.6%	100.0%	98.9%	100.0%	96.9%
Monaco	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	83.3%
Netherlands, Kingdom of The	99.5%	99.4%	99.4%	99.3%	99.2%
Norway	98.8%	98.9%	99.5%	99.6%	99.1%
Poland	99.4%	99.5%	99.6%	99.7%	99.5%
Portugal	99.7%	99.5%	99.2%	99.4%	98.9%
Romania	69.5%	73.7%	82.8%	74.7%	80.6%
San Marino	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Slovakia	94.6%	95.5%	98.3%	96.8%	97.1%
Slovenia	99.4%	99.3%	98.8%	99.2%	99.7%
Spain	98.8%	99.1%	99.4%	99.6%	99.5%
Sweden	99.3%	99.3%	99.7%	99.3%	99.2%
Switzerland	99.2%	99.6%	99.6%	99.6%	99.7%
United Kingdom	99.3%	99.5%	99.5%	99.4%	99.2%
Vatican City State Holy See	33.3%	80.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
All	98.8%	99.0%	99.3%	99.1%	98.9%



# 4 Processing times

This section contains information on 25, 50 and 75 percentile processing times for visitor visa applications.

#### In general terms:

25 percentile means that 25 per cent of applications granted during the period were processed within the number of

days shown in the tables. Conversely, 75 per cent took longer than the number of days shown. This measure gives an indication of how long it is taking to process the more straight-forward visitor visa

applications.

50 percentile more commonly known as the median, it means that 50 per cent of applications granted during the

period were processed within the number of days shown in the tables. Conversely, 50 per cent took longer than the number of days shown. This measure gives an indication of how long it is taking to

process the typical visitor visa applications.

75 percentile means that 75 per cent of applications granted during the period were processed within the number of

days shown in the tables. Conversely, 25 per cent took longer than the number of days shown. This measure gives an indication of how long it is taking to process the more complex visitor visa

applications.

#### 4 Processing times

4.1 Processing time (in calendar days) for Tourist Visitor visa applications granted in the 3 month period between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship country	Percentile	1/04/15 to 30/06/15	1/07/15 to 30/09/15	1/10/15 to 31/12/15	1/01/16 to 31/03/16	1/04/16 to 30/06/16
China, Peoples	25th percentile	1	1	1	1	1
Republic of (excl SARs)	50th percentile (Median)	3	3	3	2	3
,	75th percentile	6	5	5	4	4
India	25th percentile	2	2	4	5	3
	50th percentile (Median)	6	5	7	7	7
	75th percentile	10	9	11	13	12
Indonesia	25th percentile	2	0	2	2	3
	50th percentile (Median)	5	1	4	4	5
	75th percentile	7	3	7	6	7
Philippines	25th percentile	13	8	4	5	8
	50th percentile (Median)	23	24	14	12	27
	75th percentile	31	35	31	26	35
Thailand	25th percentile	8	8	8	9	12
	50th percentile (Median)	10	10	10	12	14
	75th percentile	13	13	12	13	16
Vietnam	25th percentile	2	4	7	7	9
	50th percentile (Median)	5	6	9	9	11
	75th percentile	10	8	12	13	13
South Africa	25th percentile	19	23	13	11	9
	50th percentile (Median)	27	31	17	17	15
	75th percentile	31	35	25	21	20
Brazil	25th percentile	0	0	0	0	0
	50th percentile (Median)	2	2	3	0	1
	75th percentile	5	4	7	6	7
Sri Lanka	25th percentile	5	6	7	5	4
	50th percentile (Median)	8	10	10	7	7
	75th percentile	14	16	14	11	12
Fiji	25th percentile	9	14	25	19	11
	50th percentile (Median)	15	18	29	28	14
	75th percentile	24	23	34	51	18
Other countries	25th percentile	2	2	3	2	2
	50th percentile (Median)	8	8	10	8	10
	75th percentile	18	17	19	19	20
All	25th percentile	1	2	2	2	2
	50th percentile (Median)	5	4	4	4	4
	75th percentile	10	10	10	9	10

#### 4 Processing times

4.2 Processing time (in calendar days) for Business Visitor visa applications granted in the 3 month period between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with previous four periods

Citizenship country	Percentile	1/04/15 to 30/06/15	1/07/15 to 30/09/15	1/10/15 to 31/12/15	1/01/16 to 31/03/16	1/04/16 to 30/06/16
China, Peoples	25th percentile	1	1	1	1	1
Republic of (excl SARs)	50th percentile (Median)	1	2	2	2	3
S ,	75th percentile	4	4	4	4	5
India	25th percentile	1	1	2	1	1
	50th percentile (Median)	4	4	6	4	4
	75th percentile	7	7	8	7	7
Korea, South	25th percentile	0	0	0	0	0
	50th percentile (Median)	0	1	0	1	1
	75th percentile	1	2	3	3	3
Singapore	25th percentile	0	0	0	0	1
	50th percentile (Median)	1	1	1	1	2
	75th percentile	3	3	3	4	4
Indonesia	25th percentile	0	0	0	0	0
	50th percentile (Median)	1	1	1	1	1
	75th percentile	3	2	3	3	3
Vietnam	25th percentile	1	1	1	1	1
	50th percentile (Median)	4	4	3	2	6
	75th percentile	10	6	7	4	8
Thailand	25th percentile	1	1	2	2	4
	50th percentile (Median)	1	4	4	4	7
	75th percentile	4	7	6	7	10
Philippines	25th percentile	3	3	1	2	4
	50th percentile (Median)	7	8	3	6	7
	75th percentile	11	13	6	9	11
Malaysia	25th percentile	1	0	0	0	0
	50th percentile (Median)	1	1	1	1	1
	75th percentile	2	3	3	1	6
Japan	25th percentile	0	0	0	0	1
	50th percentile (Median)	0	1	0	1	1
	75th percentile	1	3	2	3	5
Other countries	25th percentile	1	1	1	1	1
	50th percentile (Median)	6	6	5	6	5
	75th percentile	14	13	13	13	13
All	25th percentile	1	1	1	1	1
	50th percentile (Median)	2	2	3	2	3
	75th percentile	6	7	6	6	7

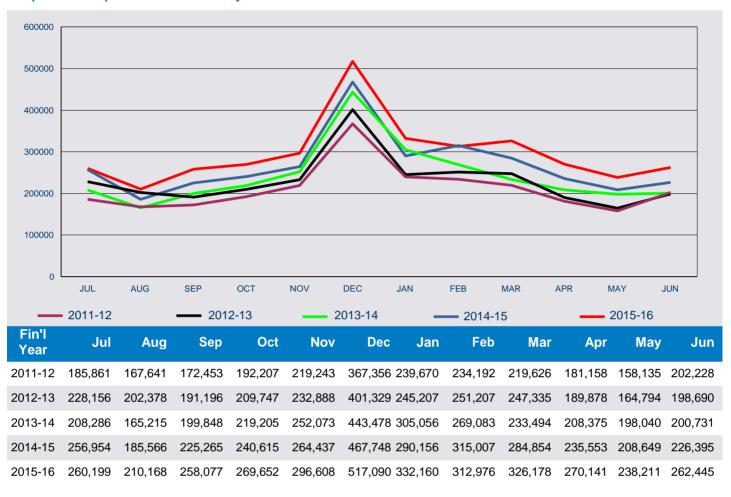
## 5 Applications on hand

#### 5 Applications on hand

5.01 Number of Visitor visa applications on hand at 30 June 2016 by visa group - comparison with previous four periods

Visa Group	On hand at 30/06/15	On hand at 30/09/15	On hand at 31/12/15	On hand at 31/03/16	On hand at 30/06/16
Tourism					
Tourist Visitor	40 443	44 372	43 666	48 480	51 006
ETA Tourist	68	44	39	41	49
eVisitor Tourist	1 237	1 151	1 284	875	1 792
Sponsored Tourist	3 089	4 215	5 974	5 582	4 094
sub total Tourism	44 837	49 782	50 963	54 978	56 941
Business					
Business Visitor	5 512	6 499	5 546	6 838	6 973
ETA Business	14	8	9	9	6
eVisitor Business	173	85	102	112	204
Sponsored Business	0	0	0	0	0
sub total Business	5 699	6 592	5 657	6 959	7 183
Total	50 536	56 374	56 620	61 937	64 124

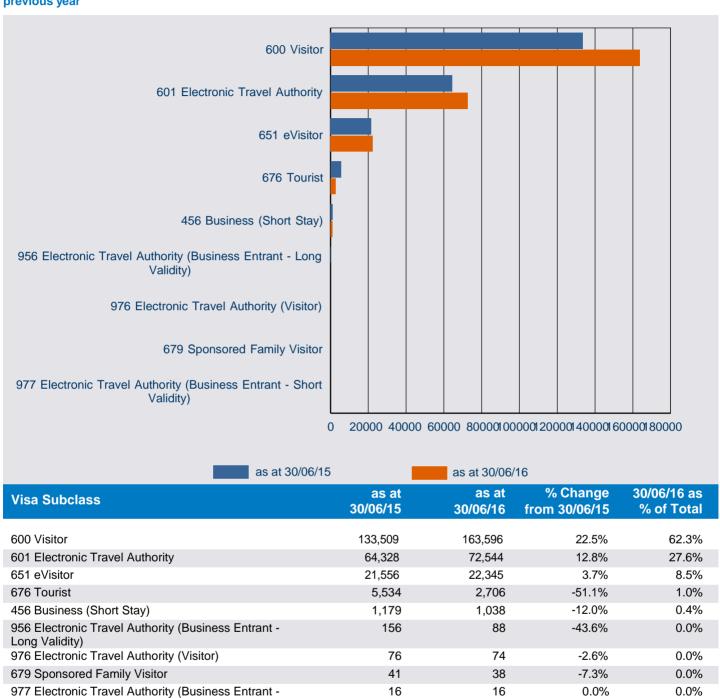
#### 6.1 Number of Visitor visa holders in Australia at the end of each month in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by month - comparison with previous four financial years



Short Validity)

**Total** 

#### 6.2 Number of Visitor visa holders in Australia as at 30 June 2016 by visa subclass - comparison with same date in previous year



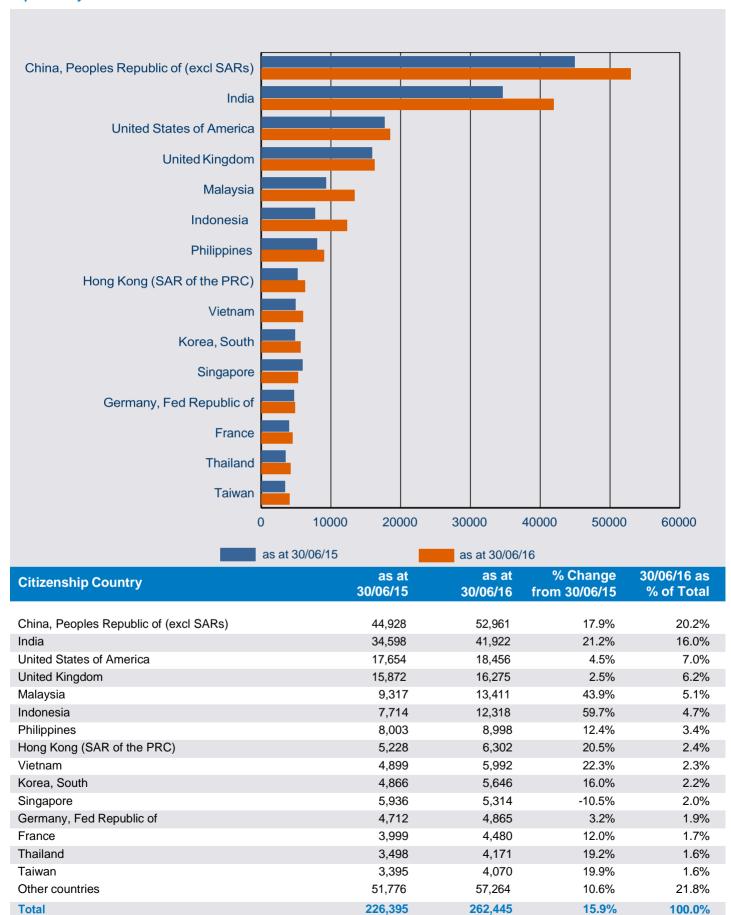
226,395

262,445

15.9%

100.0%

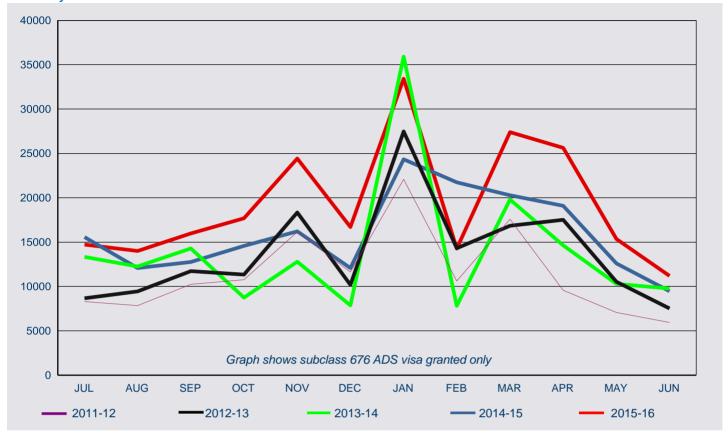
6.3 Number of Visitor visa holders in Australia as at 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



# 7 Approved Destination Status (ADS)

#### 7 Approved Destination Status (ADS)

7.01 Number of subclass 676 and subclass 600 visa applications granted in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 under the tourism stream where the citizenship country is Peoples Republic of China (PRC) by visa type - comparison with previous four financial years



#### subclass 676/600 ADS for PRC

FY Granted	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2011-12	8,294	7,851	10,244	10,760	16,140	11,631	22,087	10,614	17,589	9,569	7,075	5,943	137,797
2012-13	8,673	9,445	11,728	11,340	18,336	10,181	27,492	14,305	16,839	17,511	10,522	7,522	163,894
2013-14	13,343	12,258	14,287	8,737	12,795	7,865	35,916	7,816	19,793	14,628	10,284	9,775	167,497
2014-15	15,572	12,077	12,765	14,571	16,207	12,068	24,333	21,748	20,278	19,093	12,603	9,470	190,785
2015-16	14,722	13,995	15,980	17,690	24,426	16,703	33,421	14,277	27,402	25,628	15,359	11,201	230,804

#### subclass 676/600 non-ADS for PRC

<b>FY Granted</b>	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2011-12	14,570	14,440	12,707	10,978	18,016	17,382	19,003	11,621	12,212	13,452	13,531	19,913	177,825
2012-13	18,909	18,262	17,626	15,108	20,473	19,731	33,006	10,615	14,937	15,153	16,277	20,550	220,647
2013-14	26,512	23,118	20,302	20,141	29,628	35,135	41,988	12,995	22,790	20,227	24,292	28,886	306,014
2014-15	33,023	24,364	29,732	29,598	37,201	43,101	53,650	22,572	24,934	25,713	28,572	36,355	388,815
2015-16	41,055	34,315	36,120	36,635	49,431	59,217	59,720	22,939	37,298	34,892	38,764	46,681	497,067

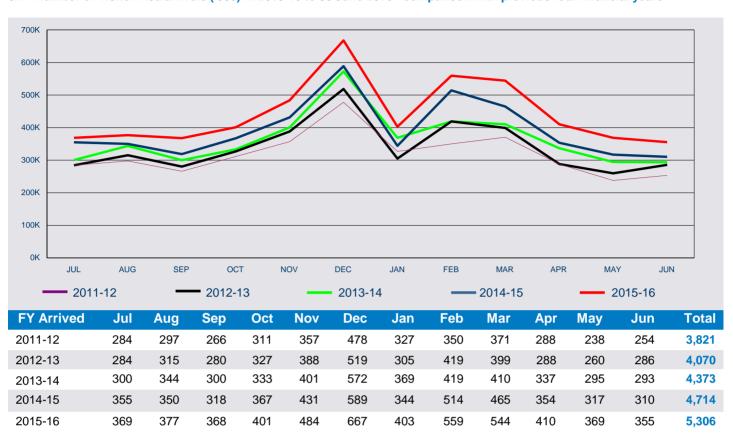
#### Total subclass 676/600 for PRC

FY Granted	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
2011-12	22,864	22,291	22,951	21,738	34,156	29,013	41,090	22,235	29,801	23,021	20,606	25,856	315,622
2012-13	27,582	27,707	29,354	26,448	38,809	29,912	60,498	24,920	31,776	32,664	26,799	28,072	384,541
2013-14	39,855	35,376	34,589	28,878	42,423	43,000	77,904	20,811	42,583	34,855	34,576	38,661	473,511
2014-15	48,595	36,441	42,497	44,169	53,408	55,169	77,983	44,320	45,212	44,806	41,175	45,825	579,600
2015-16	55,777	48,310	52,100	54,325	73,857	75,920	93,141	37,216	64,700	60,520	54,123	57,882	727,871

### 8 Arrivals

#### 8 Arrivals

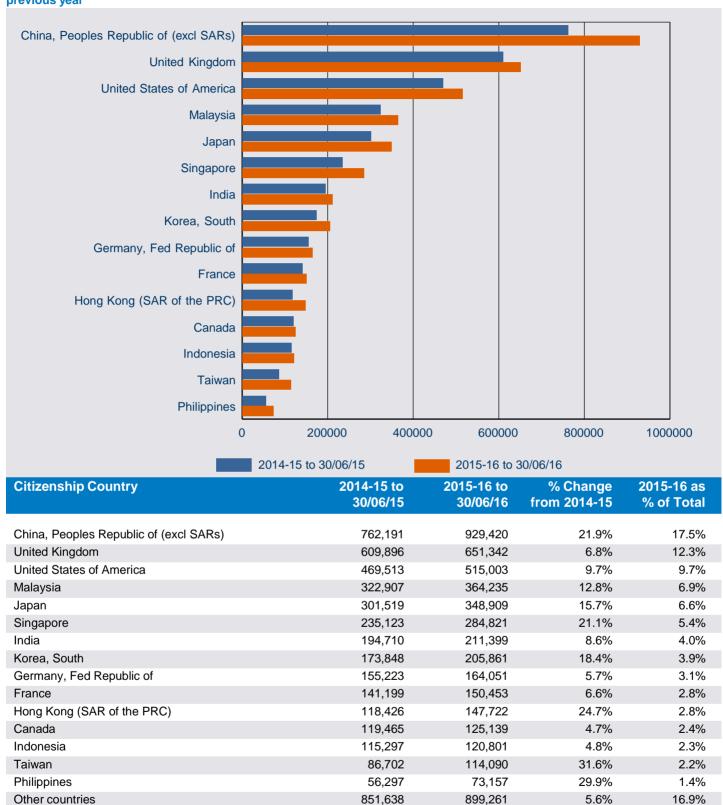
#### 8.1 Number of Visitor visa arrivals ('000) in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 - comparison with previous four financial years



#### 8 Arrivals

**Total** 

8.2 Number of Visitor visa arrivals in 2015-16 to 30 June 2016 by citizenship country - comparison with same period in previous year



4,713,954

5,305,664

12.6%

100.0%

