



Data Bulletin 2023

Victorian Refugee Health Network
Data Bulletin: Q4 2023





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Humanitarian settlement data for Victoria

The Following report provides data on people from refugee backgrounds, including people seeking asylum settling in Victoria.

Australian Government Refugee and Humanitarian Program statistics

This population group includes people who have received refugee and humanitarian visas prior to travelling to Australia (subclasses 200, 201, 202, 203 & 204).

People who arrived in Australia in the fourth quarter of 2023 living in Victoria²

The following data is about Refugee and Humanitarian Program entrants who have arrived in Australia between 01/10/2023 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024. Note that any cells that contain less than five have been suppressed (<5). Values that have not been provided and cannot be calculated are given as 'n.p.' (not provided).

Please note that data sets from Department of Home Affairs (DHA) only include those who have received refugee and humanitarian visas prior to travelling to Australia (subclasses 200, 201, 202, 203 & 204). This data does not include people who currently reside in Victoria who are on a temporary protection visa (449, 786, 790, 785), bridging visas or without a valid visa.

Table 1: Local Government Areas where people live who arrived in the fourth quarter of 2023: Top 10

Local Government Area	Visa Numbers			
	200	201	202	204
Casey	67	51	180	15
Wyndham	51	<5	189	16
Not Recorded	<5	15	169	<5
Hume	10	6	87	<5
Greater Dandenong	26	28	46	<5
Darebin	36	0	31	17
Greater Geelong	8	0	63	<5
Greater Shepparton	26	0	20	7
Maroondah	0	0	44	<5
Whittlesea	5	<5	33	5
Grand Total	1,536 people			

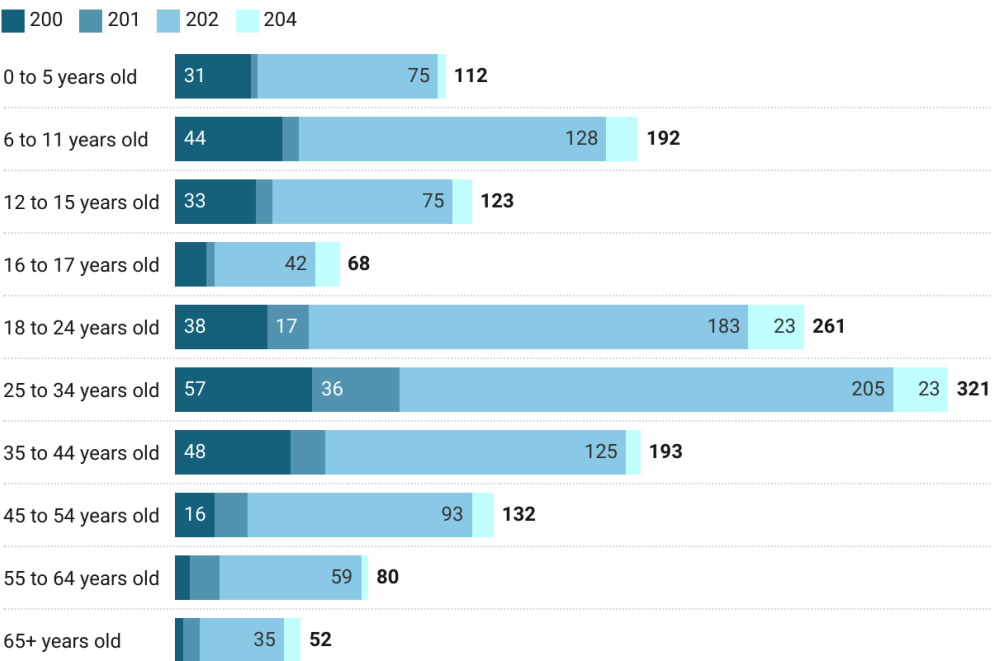
Visa Subclass Information ¹		
Visa subclass number	Visa name	Details
200	Refugee	for people who the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has referred to Australia for assistance
201	In-Country Special Humanitarian	for people who are still living in their country and have been unable to leave
202	Global Special Humanitarian	for people who are outside Australia (offshore), living outside of their home country, subject to substantial discrimination in their home country amounting to a gross violation of their human rights, and proposed by an Australian citizen or Permanent resident, an Eligible New Zealand citizen, or an organisation based in Australia.
203	Emergency Rescue	which gives priority processing for people who are in immediate danger
204	Woman at Risk	for women who do not have the protection of a partner or a relative and are in danger of victimisation
866	Protection	for people who arrived in Australia on a valid visa and want to seek asylum

Table 2: Recorded gender of people living in Victoria who arrived in the fourth quarter of 2023

Gender	Visa Numbers			
	200	201	202	204
Female	162	43	352	98
Male	210	30	366	33
Total	289	121	1,020	106
Grand total	1,536 people			

Number of people who arrived in Australia in the fourth quarter of 2023 and currently reside in Victoria according to age group.

Visa subclasses (200 series) with a Date of Arrival between 01/10/2023 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024



* These figures are approximations as any cells that have been suppressed were changed to a numerical value to present data in this map.
Chart: Victorian Refugee Health Network • Source: Department of Home Affairs Settlement Database • Created with Datawrapper

Interactive Map available at: <https://www.datawrapper.de/ /L6O7e/>

As of 04/01/2024, over 70% of people on Visa Subclass (200, 201, 202, 203, 204) who settled in Victoria in the fourth quarter of 2023 were under 35 years of age.

Table 3: Main language spoken for those who arrived in the fourth quarter of 2023: Top 5

Main Language Spoken	Visa Numbers			
	200	201	202	204
Dari	92	58	166	8
Hazaragi	33	6	183	14
Arabic	41	6	152	8
Karen	0	0	86	0
Farsi (Afghan)	38	<5	23	23

¹ <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/what-we-do/refugee-and-humanitarian-program>
² Settlement Database, Australian Government Department of Home Affairs: settlement.data.request@homeaffairs.gov.au



People who arrived in Australia in the past year living in Victoria³

The following data is about Refugee and Humanitarian Program entrants who have arrived in Australia between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024. Note that any cells that contain less than five have been suppressed (<5). Values that have not been provided and cannot be calculated are given as ‘n.p.’ (not provided). For the full data set please contact our team at Victorian Refugee Health Network (refugeehealth@foundationhouse.org.au).

Please note that this data set from DHA only include those who have received refugee and humanitarian visas prior to travelling to Australia (subclasses 200, 201, 202, 203 & 204). This data does not include people who currently reside in Victoria who are on a temporary protection visa (449, 786, 790, 785), bridging visas or without a valid visa.

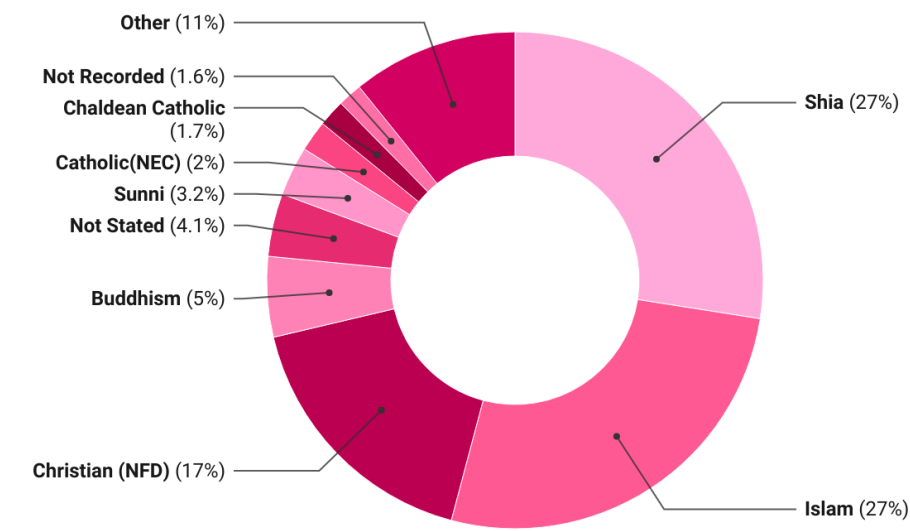
Table 4: Country of birth of people who arrived in the past year and live in Victoria: Top 15

Country of Birth	Visa Numbers				
	200	201	202	203	204
Afghanistan	643	255	1,444	0	185
Myanmar	60	0	434	54	15
Iraq	170	36	333	0	9
Syrian Arab Republic	253	0	100	0	29
Thailand	10	0	277	0	0
Iran	81	<5	60	0	81
Pakistan	61	0	79	0	6
Congo, Dem Republic Of The	63	0	30	0	40
Ethiopia	21	0	52	0	<5
India	12	0	51	0	<5
Malaysia	<5	0	53	0	0
Eritrea	13	0	28	0	<5
Kenya	29	0	12	0	<5
Lebanon	25	0	6	0	0
Turkey	17	0	6	<5	<5
Grand Total of all recorded LGA's	1,533	312	3,014	62	421
	5,352 people				

Table 5: Religion recorded for people arriving in Victoria in the past year: Top 15

Religion recorded for those who arrived in 2023

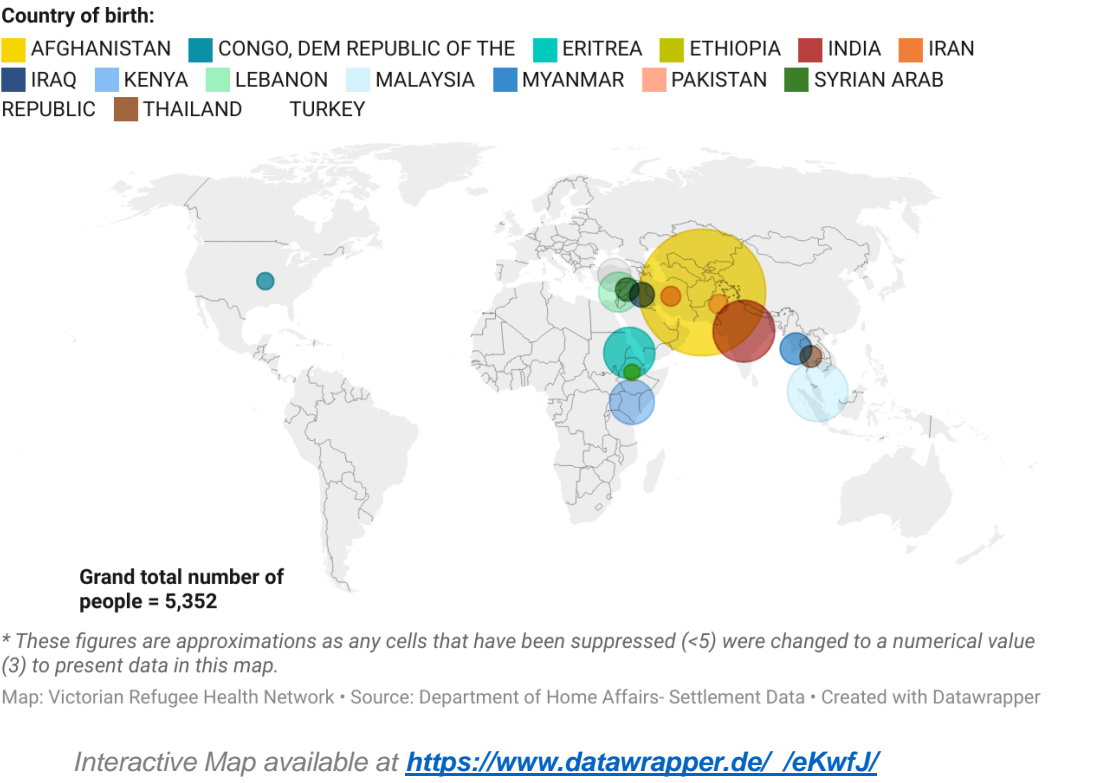
People on Visa subclass (200 series & 866) who arrived in Australia between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024



^{*} These figures are approximations as any cells that have been suppressed (<5) were changed to a numerical value (3) to present data in this map.
Chart: Victorian Refugee Health Network • Source: Settlement Data Request- Department of Home Affairs • Created with Datawrapper

Country of Birth (Top 15) Humanitarian Settlers who reside in Victoria and arrived in the past year

People on Refugee Category Visas (200 series & 866) with a date of arrival between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024



There are 5,352 people on Visa Subclass (200, 201, 202, 203, 204) who have arrived in the past year and recorded as residing in Victoria.

Table 6: Local Government Area recorded for people arriving in Victoria in the past year: Top 15

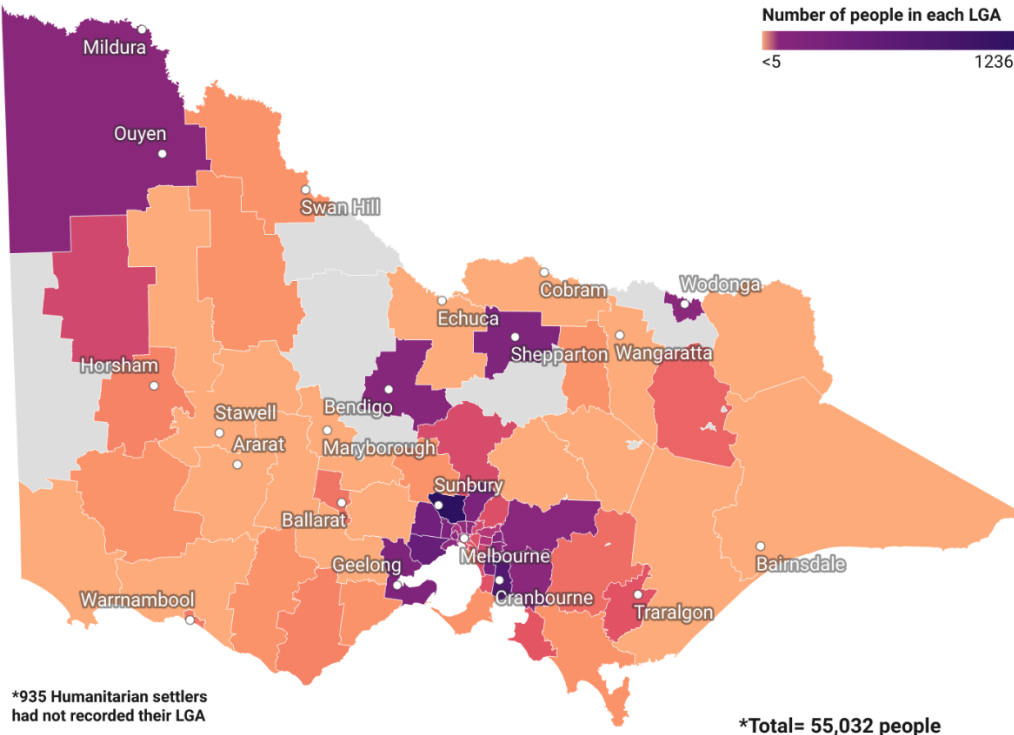
Local Government Area	Visa numbers				
	200	201	202	203	204
Casey	258	101	798	0	92
Wyndham	185	8	377	42	64
Greater Dandenong	175	61	312	<5	53
Hume	218	14	328	<5	14
Whittlesea	114	31	103	0	15
Greater Geelong	66	0	131	0	24
Melton	56	7	109	6	10
Darebin	98	<5	57	0	28
Greater Shepparton	96	0	39	0	21
Greater Bendigo	14	0	113	0	<5
Brimbank	54	10	42	5	14
Maroondah	7	0	83	0	<5
Mildura	37	<5	18	0	30
Cardinia	14	0	65	0	0
Wodonga	33	0	9	0	21
Grand Total of all recorded LGA's	1,533	312	3,014	62	421
	5,352 people				

³ Settlement Database, Australian Government Department of Home Affairs: settlement.data.request@homeaffairs.gov.au

People who arrived in Australia in the past 10 years living in Victoria⁴

Humanitarian settlers in Victorian Local Government Areas over the last 10 years.

Humanitarian settlers with a Date of Arrival between 01/01/2013 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024



* These figures are approximations as any cells that have been suppressed were changed to a numerical value to present data in this map.
Map: Victorian Refugee Health Network • Source: Australian Government- Settlement Database • Map data: ABS • Created with Datawrapper

Interactive Map available at: <https://www.datawrapper.de/ /rUAip/>

Table 7: Recorded Gender for people who reside in Victoria and arrived in the past 10 years.

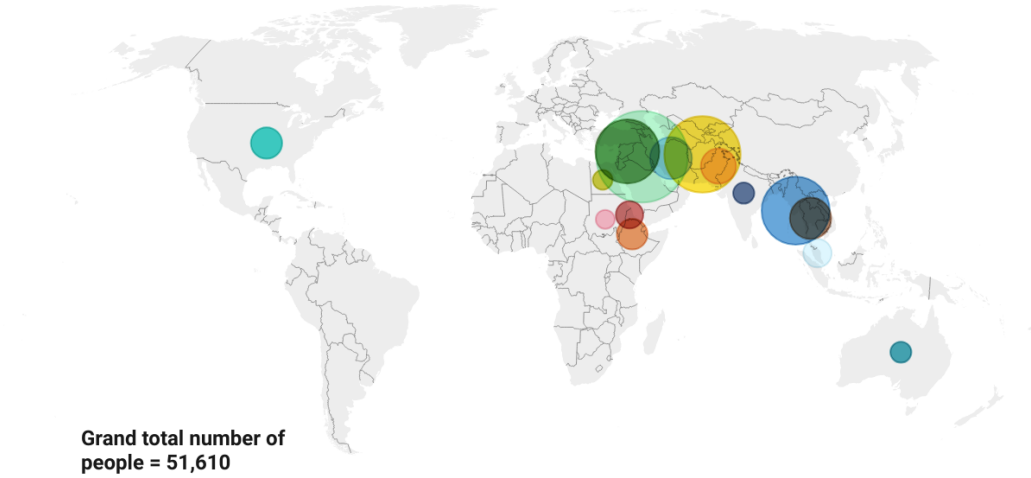
Gender	200	201	202	203	204	866	851	Total
Female	8,799	768	11,405	104	2,337	2,485	1,061	26,959
Male	9,768	816	11,285	102	<920	2,823	2,361	n.p
Not Stated	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0	<5
Grand Total	18,567	1,584	22,690	206	3,254	5,309	3,422	55,032

Country of Birth (Top 15) Humanitarian Settlers who reside in Victoria and arrived in the past 10 years

People on Refugee Category Visas (200 series & 866) with a date of arrival between 01/01/2013 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024

Country of birth:

AFGHANISTAN AUSTRALIA CONGO, DEM REPUBLIC OF THE EGYPT ERITREA
ETHIOPIA INDIA IRAN IRAQ MALAYSIA MYANMAR PAKISTAN SUDAN
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC THAILAND



* These figures are approximations as any cells that have been suppressed (<5) were changed to a numerical value (3) to present data in this map.

Map: Victorian Refugee Health Network • Source: Department of Home Affairs- Settlement Data • Created with Datawrapper

The following data is about Refugee and Humanitarian Program entrants who have arrived in Australia between 01/01/2013 and 31/12/2023 and are currently recorded as residing in Victoria as at 04/01/2024. Note that any cells that contain less than five have been suppressed (<5) and the next cell with the lowest value is also masked as ‘n.p.’ (not provided) where applicable. ‘Total’ values provided are the best approximation from available information. This is due to the Department of Home Affairs’ privacy policy.

As of 31 December 2023, there are approximately **55,032 people** who were granted a permanent protection visa (i.e., 200 series, visa subclass 866 or 851) in the past 10 years and are now recorded as residing in Victoria.

Please note that these data sets from DHA only include those who have received refugee and humanitarian visas prior to travelling to Australia (subclasses 200, 201, 202, 203 & 204) and people who have been granted a permanent protection visa after arrival in Australia (subclass 866 and 851). This data does not include people who currently reside in Victoria who are on a temporary protection visa (449, 786, 790, 785), bridging visas or without a valid visa.

Table 8: Top 10 Local Government Areas where people are recorded to live who have arrived in the past 10 years.

Local Government Area	Visa number						
	200	201	202	203	204	866	851
Hume	4,507	48	7,976	10	335	439	247
Casey	2,707	629	2,099	0	581	544	464
Wyndham	1,835	47	2,105	138	366	597	191
Greater Dandenong	1,247	500	1,148	15	448	438	506
Melton	1,342	51	1,544	7	115	210	105
Whittlesea	830	79	1,043	0	90	434	505
Brimbank	857	27	1,114	12	150	240	197
Greater Geelong	767	<5	494	0	309	47	231
Maroondah	485	6	904	7	68	91	37
Greater Bendigo	410	0	705	<5	48	7	11
Grand Total of all LGA's	18,567	1,584	22,690	206	3,254	5,309	3,422
55,032 people							

The map to the left shows the number of people who arrived in Australia over the last 10 years and hold a visa subclass 200, 201, 202, 203, 204 or 866 according to country of birth. It shows the top 15 countries where people were born and arrived in Australia between 01/01/2013 and 31/12/2023 and are now recorded as residing in Victoria. You can find the interactive map available [here](#). Iraq, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Syria are the countries with the largest number of people who arrived in Australia over this period and live in Victoria.

The Australian Commonwealth government has recently announced that Palestinians and Israelis have been granted ‘temporary visas’ to Australia. Visas that have been granted are ‘visitor visas’ which fall under visa subclass 600. The arrival numbers for this cohort are not available through the Settlement Database.

⁴ Settlement Database, Australian Government Department of Home Affairs: settlement.data.request@homeaffairs.gov.au

People Seeking Asylum

The date a person arrived, their mode of arrival and if they had valid entry documents determine if they are detained, how they will have their asylum application processed, what means of appeal they will have and whether they may apply for permanent or temporary protection. People often experience a long wait to hear the outcome of their application. You may read more about asylum application pathways [here](#).

Depending on the year a person arrived, many people seeking asylum by boat have been living in the community on a visa called a bridging visa E (BVE).

As of 30 September 2023, 37,930 people are on a bridging visa E, of which 10,555 people live in the Australian community. There are 4,565 people who live in Victoria who hold a bridging visa E.⁵

“Bridging visas may expire while a person is waiting for a grant of another bridging visa. People in the community who are waiting for the grant of further Bridging Visa E do not have rights to work, study or access Medicare, because they do not hold a valid visa. This often happens because of delays in renewing a visa. In some cases, their visas can only be renewed after the Minister personally allows for the grant of a further visa.”⁶

People in detention⁷

The following data is about people in immigration detention and under residence determination (formerly community detention) as of 30 November 2023. Values that have not been provided and cannot be calculated are given as ‘N.P.’ (not provided). As of 30 November 2023, the average period of time for people held in detention facilities (including people detained due to S501 visa cancellations and other reasons) in Australia was recorded as **620 days**.

As of 30 November 2023, there were **878 people** in Immigration Detention Centres (IDCs) and Alternative Places of Detention (APODs) across Australia. Of these 878 people, 23.0 per cent had been detained for 91 days or less and 56.8 per cent had been detained for 365 days or less⁸.

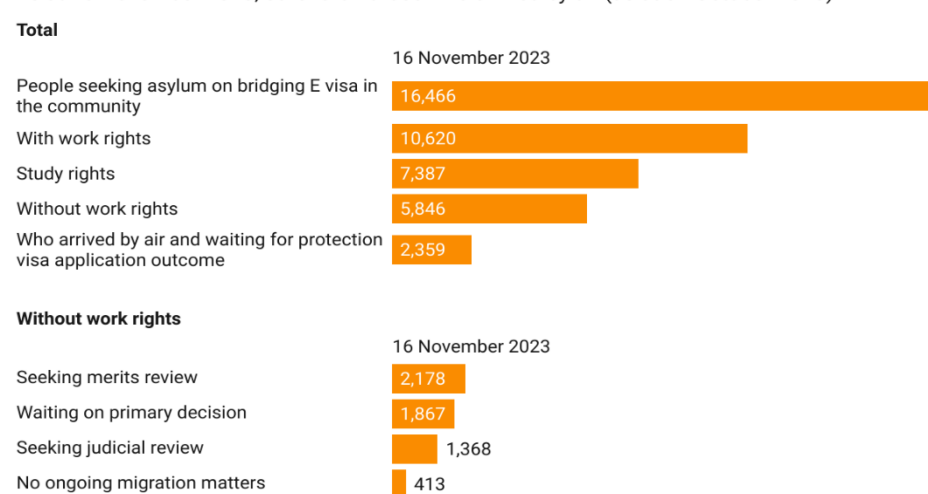
Table 10: People in detention in Victoria

Place of immigration detention	Number of people held in immigration detention
Melbourne Immigration Detention Centres	179
Alternative Places of Detention (APODs)	0
Total	179

Table 9: People in the community on a bridging visa E by work rights status⁶

People in the community on a bridging visa E by work rights status

As at 16 November 2023, other than those who arrived by air (as at 31 October 2023)



The use of ‘no ongoing immigration matters’ refers only to not awaiting a primary decision, merits review, or judicial review in relation to a Protection visa application.

Chart: Refugee Council of Australia • Source: Answers to Question on Notice OSE23-266, 23-734 • Created with Datawrapper

Table 11: People under residence determination in Victoria

	Men	Women	Children	Total
Number of people in Victoria	62	39	36	137 (54.4 percent of national total)
National Total	252			

People who arrived by plane

There is little data available about people who arrive by plane and apply for protection. The number of people living in the community who sought asylum after arriving by plane with a valid visa (i.e., tourist, student visa etc), and who are now waiting for their protection claims to be assessed is unknown. Some national data is available about new lodgements, see below. Data collected from the monthly Departmental updates⁹ on the processing of onshore protection claims for the financial year 2023-2024 (up until December 2023) show there has been **8,624 protection visa lodgements** made onshore during the period. This data also shows the number of individuals who have been granted a Final Protection Visa during this period- for example, there have been approximately **289 PPV grants for people from Myanmar** over this period.

Table 12: Protection visa application lodgements and PPV grants, Australia-wide by financial year

Component	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-2021	2021-22	2022-2023	2023-2024*
Permanent Protection Visa (PPV) lodgement	18,290	27,931	24,566	23,266	11,684	10,564	18,738	8,624
PPV grants	1,711	1,425	1,650	1,650	1,389	1,762	2,000	2,409

⁵ ‘How many people are on bridging visas E?’ <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/asylum-community/6/>

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Immigration Detention and Community Statistics Summary: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-statistics/statistics/visa-statistics/live/immigration-detention>

⁸ ‘Time In Immigration Detention Facilities’: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-statistics/statistics/visa-statistics/live/immigration-detention> (pg. 13)

⁹ Monthly Update: Onshore Protection (Subclass 866) Visa Processing – July 2023 to December 2023 at <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-statistics/visa-statistics/live/humanitarian-program>

Appeals heard by the AAT: PPV applications¹⁰

Most people that apply for a PPV arrived by plane, however a very small number of people who arrived by boat were able to apply for a PPV and have their appeal heard by the AAT. Those who do not have a visa granted at primary stage may have their application reviewed. People seeking asylum who are eligible for a Permanent Protection Visa (PPV) have their appeals heard through the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) Migration and Refugee Division. The AAT reported 50% of cases are finalised within 1,577 days from lodgement to finalisation of applications made under Protection Case Categories between 1/07/23 and 30/12/23, 95% of lodgements were finalised within 2,212 days¹¹.

The data below is from the Administrative Appeals Tribunal Migration and Refugee Division Caseload Report for financial year 2023/24 (until 31 December 23) and does not take into account people who received a PPV at the primary decision.

Table 13: Active Refugee cases (not yet decided) by country and Victoria region* as of 31 December 2023: Top 10

Country	Number
Malaysia	8,191
China	2,141
Vietnam	1,764
India	613
Thailand	844
Indonesia	706
Fiji	105
Philippines	214
East Timor	434
Taiwan	254
Pakistan	285
Tonga	88
Grand Total in Victoria	17,267 people

Table 14: Refugee decisions by country Australia-wide (Financial year to 31 December 2023): Top 10

Country	Number of decisions		Set aside***
	UMA	non-UMA	
Malaysia	0	925	38
China	0	757	20
Vietnam	35	164	29
Thailand	0	161	1
India	2	131	10
Fiji	0	121	6
Pakistan	15	98	42
Iran	41	70	46
Indonesia	0	68	1
Tonga	0	63	0
East Timor	0	62	0
Grand total of all decisions by country	145	3,131	365

***set aside means the primary decision has been overturned

UMA Legacy Caseload

According to the department, an Unauthorised Maritime Arrival (UMA) is a person who entered Australia by sea without authority and became an unlawful non-citizen upon entry. All babies born to UMA parents are also classified as UMAs.

The two main groups in the 'Legacy Caseload' included:

- people who came by boat before 13 August 2012, but whose applications for a protection visa (the visa given to refugees who apply in Australia) had not been finalised by 18 September 2013, when the Liberal and Nationals came into power.
- people who came by boat on or after 13 August 2012, whose visa applications were processed in Australia (and not in Papua New Guinea or Nauru)¹³.

Visa Subclass Information ¹²		
Visa subclass number	Visa name	Details
785	Temporary Protection (TPV)	Temporary Visa to stay in Australia for 3 years. With access to government services such as Centrelink as well as work and study rights.
790	Safe-Haven Enterprise (SHEV)	Temporary Visa to stay in Australia for 5 years. With access to government services such as Centrelink as well as work and study rights.
851	Resolution of Status Visa (RoS)	Permanent visa for holders of a TPV or SHEV who first arrived in Australia before 14 February 2023 and are not subject to an application bar (46a bar for Unauthorised Maritime Arrivals). The RoS visa allows the person to live, work and study in Australia permanently.

¹⁰ Administrative Appeals Tribunal Migration and Refugee Division Caseload Report Financial year to 31 December 2023:

<https://www.aat.gov.au/AAT/media/AAT/Files/Statistics/MRD-detailed-caseload-statistics-2023-24.pdf>

¹¹ 'Migration and Refugee Division processing times' at <https://www.aat.gov.au/resources/migration-and-refugee-division-processing-times>

¹² Visa Subclass Information <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing>

¹³ Who was included in the 'Legacy Caseload'? <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/fast-tracking-statistics/>

UMA Legacy Caseload

Temporary Protection Visa and Safe Haven Enterprise Visa Holders

People seeking asylum who arrived by boat without a valid visa, until recently, have only been allowed to apply for Temporary Protection Visa (subclass 785) (TPV) or a Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (subclass 790) (SHEV), if the Minister has made a decision that it is in the public interest to lift a legislative bar on making a valid visa application in Australia. Where the Minister lifts the bar, the Department will advise the person who is classified as an UMA that they are eligible to apply for a TPV or a SHEV¹⁴.

As of 31 December 2023, **659 applications are on hand (initial TPV and SHEV) or at merits review for people living in Victoria**,¹⁵

Resolution of Status Visa Holders

UMAs who applied for or held a TPV or SHEV before 14 February 2023 are eligible to apply for a permanent Resolution of Status (subclass 851) (RoS) visa. Anyone who had a TPV or SHEV application already on-hand with the Department, including subsequent TPV/SHEV applications, did not need to apply for a RoS visa (their application was/will automatically be converted to a RoS visa application). Anyone that enters Australia irregularly on or after 14 February 2023 is not eligible for a RoS visa.

The following data sources for this report are based on a range of departmental systems. As data has been drawn from a dynamic system environment, the information is correct at the time of publication and figures may differ slightly from previous or future reporting. As an end of month report, the data date used is the closest to the end of the calendar month¹⁶.

As of 31 December 2023, **12,937 Resolution of Status (RoS) Visas had been granted to people across Australia, 4,978 people were granted to people living in Victoria**.

Table 15: Main Citizenships: Visa Holders, Australia-wide¹⁷

Country of Citizenship	TPV/SHEV	RoS Visa
Iran	1,252	5,438
Afghanistan	2,302	2,251
Stateless	1,663	668
Sri Lanka	416	1,832
Pakistan	233	1,042
Iraq	324	770
Sudan	128	252
Somalia	161	133
Palestinian Authority	52	155
Vietnam	45	123
Other	386	273
Total	6,962	12,937

Table 16: Number of people in the UMA Legacy Caseload who:

- ✓ have submitted a valid visa application that is currently being processed;
- ✓ had their visa application finalised – either granted (including expired or cancelled) or refused; and
- ✓ are considered otherwise resolved (for example, have become Australian citizens or departed Australia).

Processing Stage ¹⁸	TOTAL
Applied for initial TPV and on-hand with the Department	193
Applied for initial SHEV and on-hand with the Department ¹	1,150
Applied for/converted to RoS visa and on-hand with the Department ¹	6,680
Total applications on hand	8,023
TPV Holder	1,658
SHEV Holder*	5,304
RoS visa holder	12,937
Total Visa Holders	19,899*
Refused TPV/SHEV/RoS visa by the Department and at merits review	257
Refused TPV/SHEV/RoS visa and at judicial review	4,748
TPV/SHEV/RoS visa cancelled or expired (onshore)	164
Refused TPV/SHEV/RoS visa no immigration matters ongoing	2,556
Total refused, cancelled, or expired onshore	7,725
Otherwise resolved	3,054
Total	32,021

* Most RoS visa applicants are also TPV/SHEV holders so are not counted twice in the grand total

¹⁴ 'UMA Legacy Caseload Report on Status and Processing Outcomes December 2023' on <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-statistics/statistics/visa-statistics/live/humanitarian-program>

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.



Important Information: Conversion Of TPVs/SHEVs To A Permanent Visa

The Federal Government has announced that from 14 February 2023 people who currently hold, previously held or have applied for a Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) or Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (SHEV) may be eligible for a permanent Resolution of Status Visa (RoS visa). People granted a permanent RoS visa will have the same rights and benefits as all permanent residents, including access to family reunion.

It is essential that people seek legal assistance in relation to their rights to the RoS visa.

For free legal help in Victoria and South Australia, contact Refugee Legal at:

- Refugee Legal TPV/SHEV Conversion Hotline - Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm on (03) 9413 0133
- Email: RoSVisa@refugeelegal.org.au
- Website: www.refugeelegal.org.au

Who is the legal service provider in your state or territory?

Service Provider	State	Website
Refugee Legal	VIC	www.refugeelegal.org.au
Refugee and Casework Support (RACS)	NSW	www.racs.org.au
Immigration Advice and Rights Centre (IARC)- cases referred by RACS NSW	NSW	www.iarc.org.au
Legal Aid	ACT	www.legalaidact.org.au
Refugee and Immigration Legal Service (RAILS)	QLD	www.rails.org.au
Circle Green	WA	www.circlegreen.org.au
Legal Services Commission	SA	www.lsc.sa.gov.au
Tasmanian Refugee Legal Service	TAS	www.trls.org.au
Legal Aid	NT	www.legalaid.nt.au

Source: Department of Home Affairs

For further information on the policy change please refer to the Refugee Council of Australia site at: <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/information-about-end-of-tpvs-shevs/>

Translated copies of the information sheet can be found here: <https://refugeelegal.org.au/get-help/tpvs-shevs-conversion-to-a-permanent-visa/>

Caveats to data sources from the Settlement Database (SDB)¹⁹

The Refugee Health Network obtains the data for this report from the DHA Settlement unit. Please see below an outline of the caveats provided by the DHA on the settlement data provided.

- The data in your reports are sourced from the Settlement Database (SDB). There are limitations in the data capture and the actual data.
- Where applicable, with regards to Immigration data - as per current privacy guidelines, the Department's policy is to mask numbers which are less than five as <5
and/or if there is only one '<5' in any column, the next lowest value will be masked as less than to its upper limit (ie. if it is 8 then will be masked as '<10' or 88 will be masked as '<90') , noting we are reviewing the confidentiality method for the future.
- The Department of Home Affairs must be consulted regarding any requests to use the data for purposes not originally intended or discussed.

Data Capture

SDB collects data concerning settlers who have been granted a permanent (or provisional) visa.

SDB data is compiled from a number of sources including Department of Home Affairs, other Commonwealth agencies and service providers.

Data Limitations

The Settlement Database has not been adjusted to reflect settlers who:

- are deceased.
- have permanently departed Australia.
- have had their visas cancelled.

The settlement Database includes:

- some duplicate settler records.
- the number of settlers who are currently recorded as residing in a particular location. It cannot provide information on settlement patterns or trends.
- many data items that are not mandatory.
- only the settler's latest known residential (or intended residential) address. Address information is only updated if the Department is notified. Some settlers have no address details recorded.
- only the latest permanent (or provisional) visa for a settler.

The Settlement Database location data is based on the 2011 Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC).

Reporting Limitations

- Reports including numbers of settlers in specified locations may be inaccurate due to limitations in address data.
- Settlers with an existing permanent (or provisional) visa may appear in different reporting categories over time if they are granted a subsequent permanent (or provisional) visa.
- Data suppression rules have been applied for client confidentiality.
- Reports including 'not stated', 'invalid' or 'not recorded' labels indicate that the data is unavailable.

Settlement Date

Settlement Date uses a combination of either arrival date or grant date depending on where the settler was when their current SDB visa was granted.

If a settler was offshore when their current SDB visa was granted then arrival date is used. If a settler was onshore when their current SDB visa was granted then visa grant date is used.

Report Usage

Please attribute Australian Government as the data source.

Updated by DHA on 15 August 2019

¹⁹ For the full data set please contact our team at the Victorian Refugee Health Network (refugeehealth@foundationhouse.org.au).
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