



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

Immigration Detention Statistics Summary

31 March 2013



About this report

This report provides an overview of the number of people in immigration detention in Australia as at midnight on the date of the report. The report is produced on a monthly basis.

Data is sourced from several departmental processing and recording systems. Data relating to the immigration detention population is dynamic and there can be delays in transmission of information from the department's immigration detention network operations. Variations in figures between this report and previous issues 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: www.immi.gov.au/managing-australias-borders/detention.

Further information about alternative places of detention is available at: <http://www.immi.gov.au/managing-australias-borders/detention/facilities/map-operational-facilities.pdf>.

Enquiries

Any comments or enquiries concerning this report should be sent using our client service feedback form quoting the name and date of the report.

See: <http://www.immi.gov.au/managing-australias-borders/detention/visiting/enquiries-feedback.htm>

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Immigration Detention Statistics Summary

As at: 31 March 2013

There were 6580 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention, including 4329 in immigration detention on the mainland and 2251 in immigration detention on Christmas Island as at 31 March 2013.

Separately, 2723 people have been approved for a residence determination to live in the community.

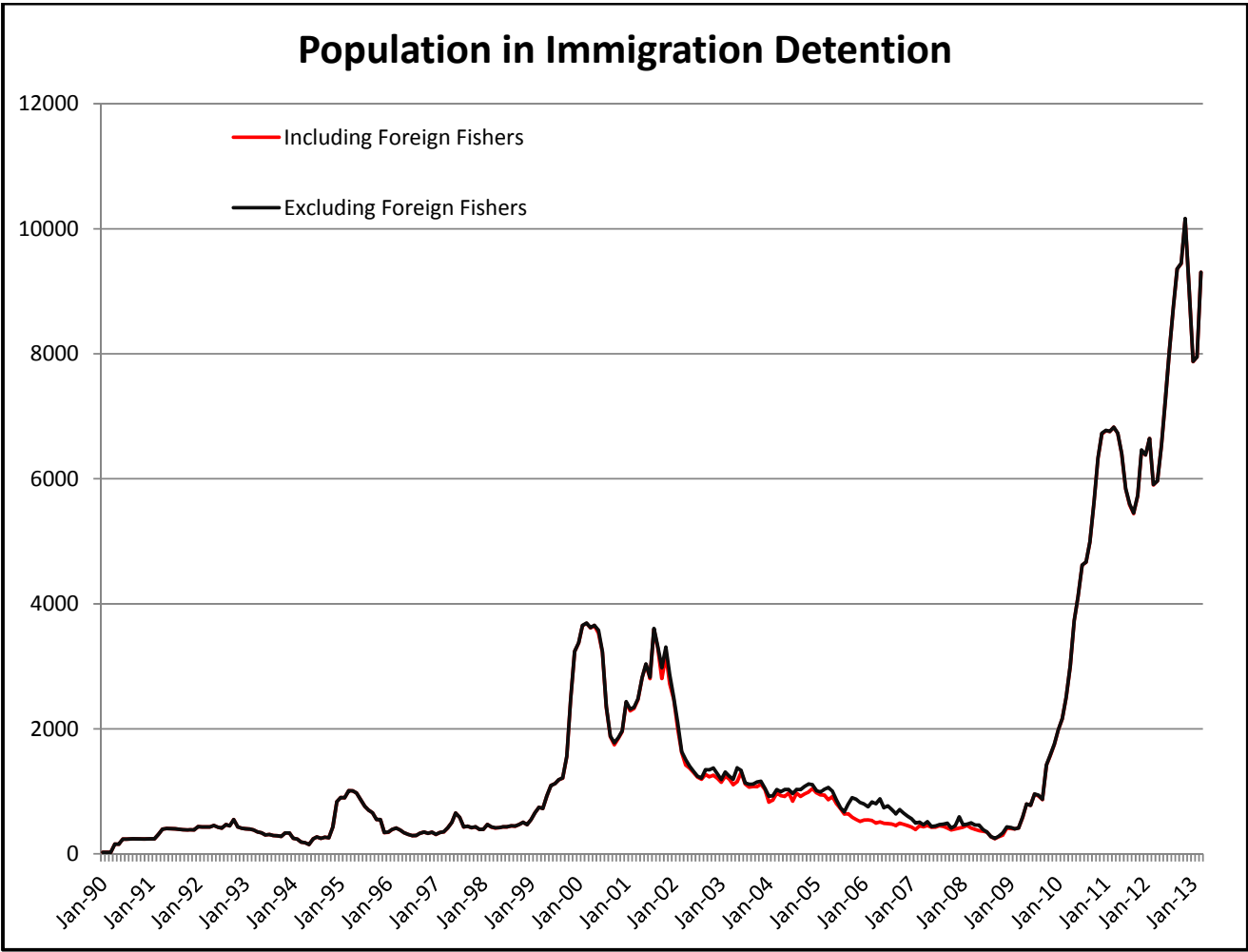
Table 1 –People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention

People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention					
Place of immigration detention	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from Previous Summary 28/02/2013
Christmas Island IDC	1093			1093	+ 485
Curtin IDC	546			546	+ 73
Maribyrnong IDC	81	13		94	+ 8
Northern IDC (Darwin)	371			371	- 70
Perth IDC	25	5		30	- 1
Scherger IDC	195			195	- 117
Villawood IDC	337	49		386	+ 2
Wickham Point IDC	744			744	- 157
Yongah Hill IDC	298			298	+ 56
Total in Immigration Detention Centres (IDCs)	3690	67		3757	+ 279
Perth Immigration Residential Housing	5	5	6	16	+ 2
Port Augusta Immigration Residential Housing	18	16	25	59	+ 11
Sydney Immigration Residential Housing	6	11	10	27	0
Adelaide Immigration Transit Accommodation	11	6	2	19	- 3
Brisbane Immigration Transit Accommodation	28	15	18	61	- 8
Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation	111	61	99	271	+ 176
Total in Immigration Residential Housing and Immigration Transit Accommodation	179	114	160	453	+ 178
Alternative Places of Detention (Christmas Island and Coco's Keeling Island)	581	214	363	1158	+ 542
Alternative Places of Detention (Mainland)	292	332	588	1212	- 169
Restricted on Board Vessels in Port					0
Total	4742	727	1111	6580	+ 830
People in Community under Residence Determination	902	623	1198	2723	+ 521

Immigration Detention Population from 1990 to 31 March 2013

The number of people in immigration detention month to month continues to fluctuate, predominantly due to the changing pattern of irregular maritime arrivals. The number of irregular maritime arrivals in December 2012 and January 2013 were down compared to the preceding 11 months. Arrivals in February and March 2013 were higher than January 2013.

Figure 1 - Population in Immigration Detention

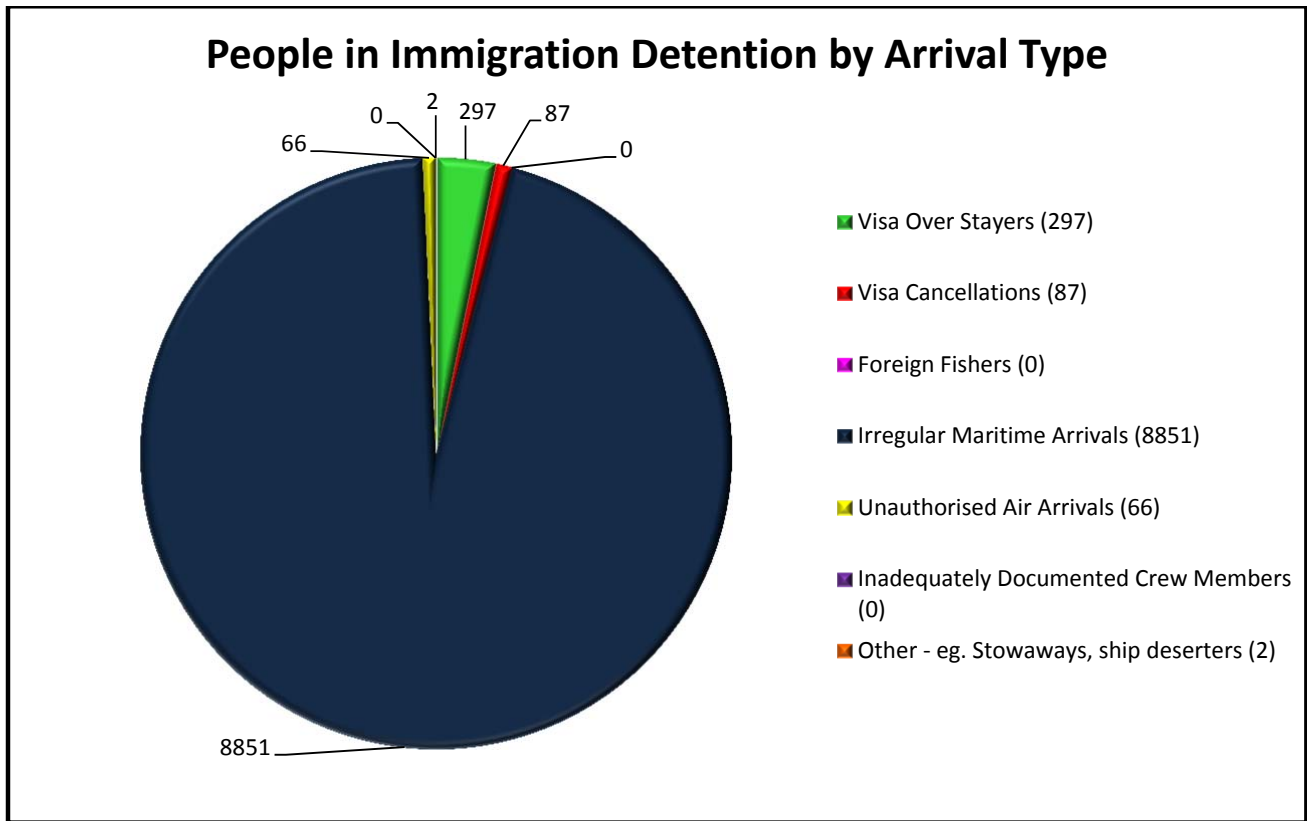


People in Immigration Detention by Arrival Type

The number of people in immigration detention who arrived unlawfully by air or boat as at 31 March 2013 was 8919. This represents about 96% of the total immigration detention population.

There were also 384 people (about 4% of the total immigration population) who arrived in Australia lawfully and were subsequently taken into immigration detention for either overstaying or breaching their visa conditions, resulting in visa cancellations.

Figure 2 - People in Immigration Detention by Arrival Type



People in Immigration Detention by Nationality

Of the 6580 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention as at 31 March 2013 around 22% were Sri Lankan nationals, 23% were Iranian nationals and 15% were Afghan nationals.

Table 2 - People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention as at 31 March 2013

People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention as at 31 March 2013					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Iran	947	281	155	111	1494
Sri Lanka	1101	145	146	81	1473
Afghanistan	723	42	214	32	1011
Pakistan	380	14	29	6	429
Bangladesh	346	1	2		349
Iraq	214	42	39	31	326
Vietnam	114	10	35	9	168
Indonesia	132	9	13	1	155
China, Peoples Republic Of	87	27			114
Myanmar	9	4	5	8	26
Other	689	152	118	76	1035
Total	4742	727	756	355	6580

Of the 2723 people approved to live in the community under residence determination, as at 31 March 2013 around 35% were Iranian nationals, 21% were Sri Lankan nationals and 13% were Afghan nationals.

Table 3 - People in the community under Residence Determination as at 31 March 2013

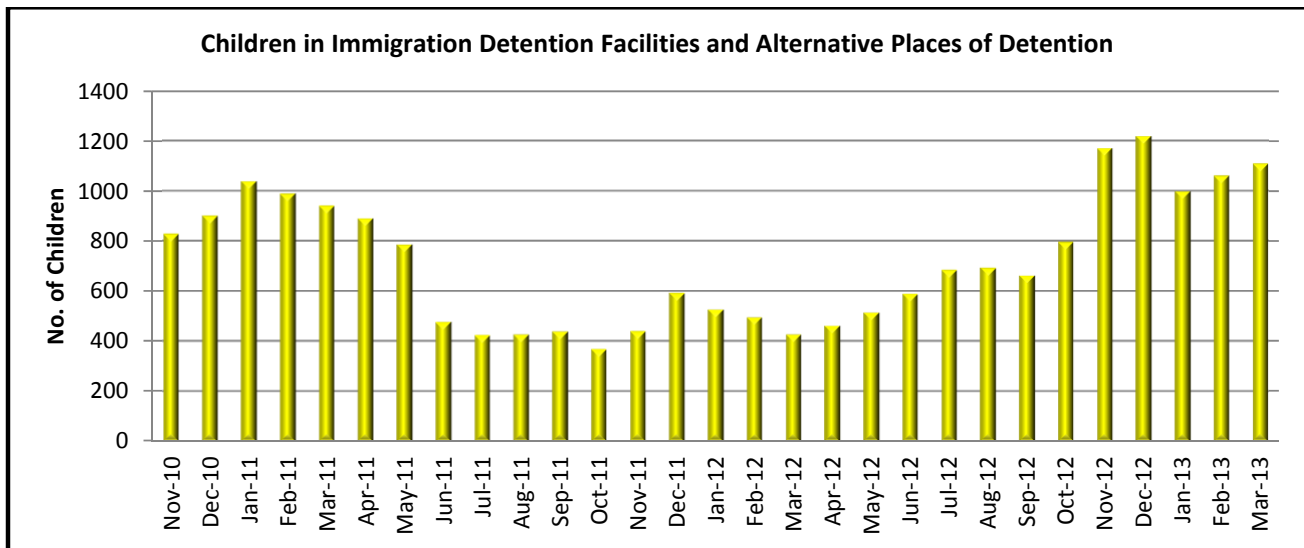
People in Community under Residence Determination as at 31 March 2013					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Iran	313	276	195	158	942
Sri Lanka	196	121	173	87	577
Afghanistan	121	33	165	24	343
Iraq	72	40	53	31	196
Palestinian Authority	23	25	22	27	97
Other	177	128	158	105	568
Total	902	623	766	432	2723

Children in Immigration Detention

As at 31 March 2013 there were 1111 children (aged under 18 years) in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention.

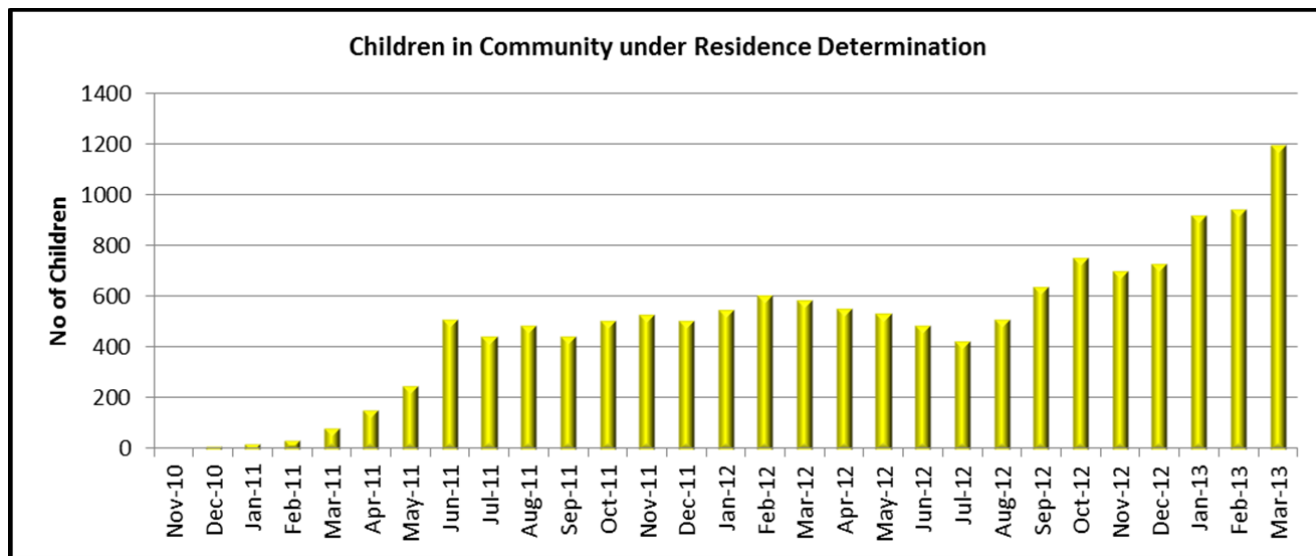
The increase in the number of children in immigration detention facilities in November and December 2012 was due to a rapid increase in irregular maritime arrivals, from October to November 2012. This number has since reduced as children complete mandatory processing and are transferred into the community.

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



The number of children approved to live in the community under a residence determination has been maintained at a high level. This reflects the Government's policy of placing children in the community as soon as possible after the completion of mandatory checks.

Figure 4 - Children in the community under Residence Determination



As at 31 March 2013, 1111 children remain in immigration detention while undergoing initial processing. The majority of these children arrived on or after 1 November 2012. 1198 children were approved under residence determination for community placement.

Table 4 - Children in Immigration Detention as at 31 March 2013

Type	Total
Immigration Residential Housing	41
Immigration Transit Accommodation	119
Alternative Places of Detention	951
Total	1111
Children in Community under Residence Determination	1198
Children Granted Bridging Visa E (BVE)	0

Time in Held Detention

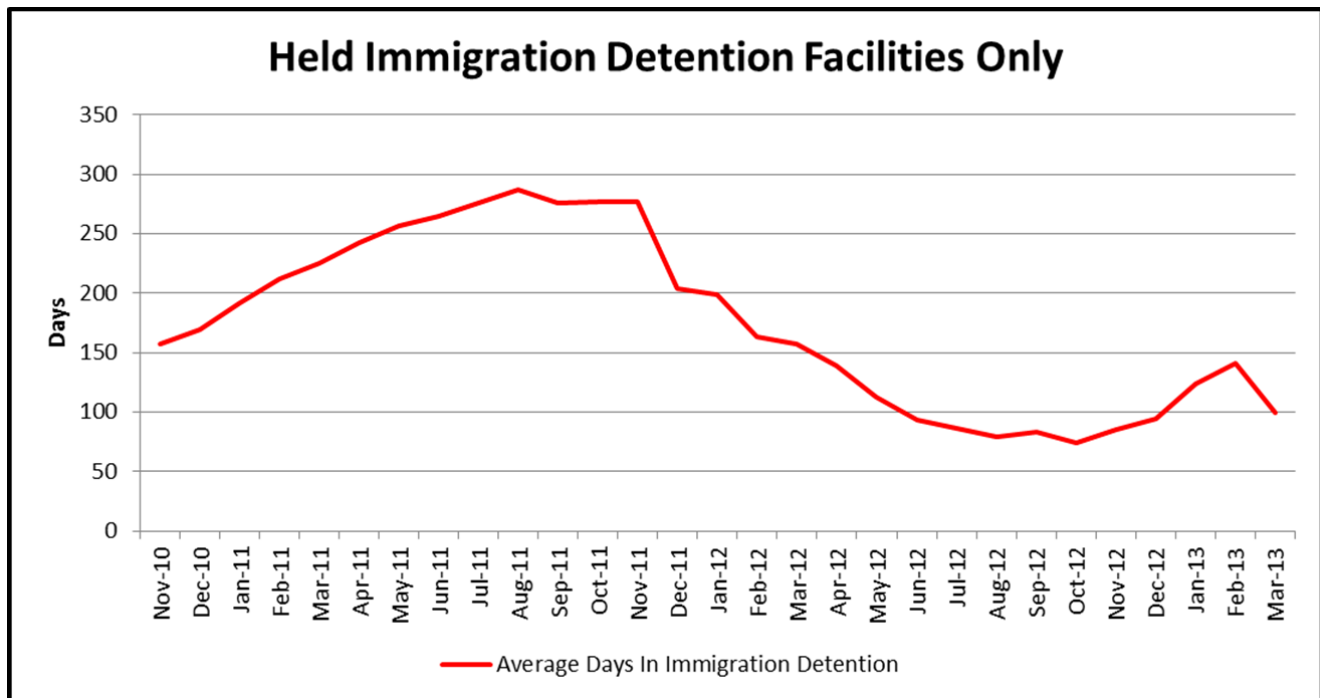
Of the 6580 people in held immigration detention as at 31 March 2013 around 59% had been detained for three months or less and 97% had been detained for 12 months or less.

Table 5 - Length of time in held immigration detention as at 31 March 2013

Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	1367	21
8 days - 31 days	1192	18
32 days - 91 days	1312	20
92 days - 182 days	2083	32
183 days - 365 days	439	7
366 days - 547 days	35	1
548 days - 730 days	22	0
Greater than 730 days	130	2
Total	6580	100

The average period of time for people held in immigration detention facilities has significantly decreased from 277 days in November 2011 to 100 days as at 31 March 2013.

Figure 5 - Average days in held immigration detention facilities only



Time in Community Detention

Of the 2723 people in Community Detention as at 31 March 2013 around 1% had been detained for three months or less and 81% had been detained for 12 months or less.

Table 6 - Length of time in Community Detention as at 31 March 2013

Length of Time in Community Detention as at 31 March 2013		
Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	1	0
8 days - 31 days	7	0
32 days - 91 days	24	1
92 days - 182 days	760	28
183 days - 365 days	1410	52
366 days - 547 days	132	5
548 days - 730 days	94	3
Greater than 730 days	295	11
Total	2723	100