



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship



REPORT ON MIGRATION PROGRAM 2009-10 Program Year to 30 June 2010

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Executive Summary

At 30 June 2010, the total Migration Program outcome was 168,623 against a planning level of 168,700 which is 77 places or 0.05 per cent below the planning level.

The majority of the Migration Program was sourced from the United Kingdom, China, and India.

The overall Program can be broken down into:

- The Skill Stream – 107,868 places delivered (0.2 per cent below the planning level).
- The Family Stream – 60,254 places delivered (0.1 per cent below the planning level).
- The Special Eligibility Stream – 501 places delivered (67.0 per cent above the planning level).

The Skill Stream accounted for 64.0 per cent of the total Migration Program. The top three occupations in the Skill Stream were accountant, computing professionals and registered nurses.

The top priority Employer Sponsored category continued its strong performance in 2009-10 with an outcome of 40,987 against a planning level of 41,000. It comprised 38.0 per cent of the 2009-10 Skill Stream compared to 33.1 per cent in 2008-09.

General Skilled Migration(GSM) had an outcome of 59,892 against a planning level of 60,100. This was 13.4 per cent below the 2008-09 outcome of 69,153. GSM comprised 55.5 per cent of the Skill Stream in 2009-10 compared to 60.2 per cent in 2008-09.

91.3 per cent of Principals in the Skill Independent category had an occupation on the Critical Skills List (CSL). The CSL was introduced in January 2009 to target skills in critical need across a number of industry sectors.

The State Specific and Regional Migration (SSRM) outcome was 36,568 or 33.9 per cent of the Skill Stream compared to 29.2 per cent in 2008-09.

The Family Stream accounted for 35.7 per cent of the total Migration Program.

The Partner category had an outcome of 44,755. This was 0.5 per cent below the planning level. 74.3 per cent of the Family Stream outcome was comprised of spouses, fiancés or interdependent partners of Australian citizens and permanent residents.

Demand in the Child and Preferential/Other Family categories continued in 2009-10 with outcomes of 3,544 and 2,468 against planning levels of 3,300 and 2,500, respectively.

The Non-Contributory Parent category met the planning level of 2,000 places and the Contributory Parent category was 13 places below the planning level of 7,500.

The Special Eligibility outcome of 501 was 201 places above the planning level of 300 and comprised 0.3 per cent of the total Migration Program.

Migration Program Summary

Program Performance

The relative performance of each Stream against the planning level is outlined in [Chart A](#). [Chart B](#) compares the 2009-10 outcome to previous years. [Chart C](#) shows the 2009-10 Migration Program outcome by category. Details of the offshore and onshore outcome by category and performance against planning levels are at [Attachment A](#).

Chart A: Performance against planning level (%) to 30 June 2010

Stream				
	Family ¹	Skill ²	Special Eligibility	Total
Planning Level	60,300	108,100	300	168,700
Total Outcome	60,254	107,868	501	168,623
% Variation	0.1	0.2	67.0	0.0

- Adjusted for netting out of refusals/withdrawals of spouse/fiancé/interdependent temporary visa holders.
- Adjusted for netting out of business skills visa cancellations.

Chart B: Migration Program outcomes 1997-98 to 2009-10

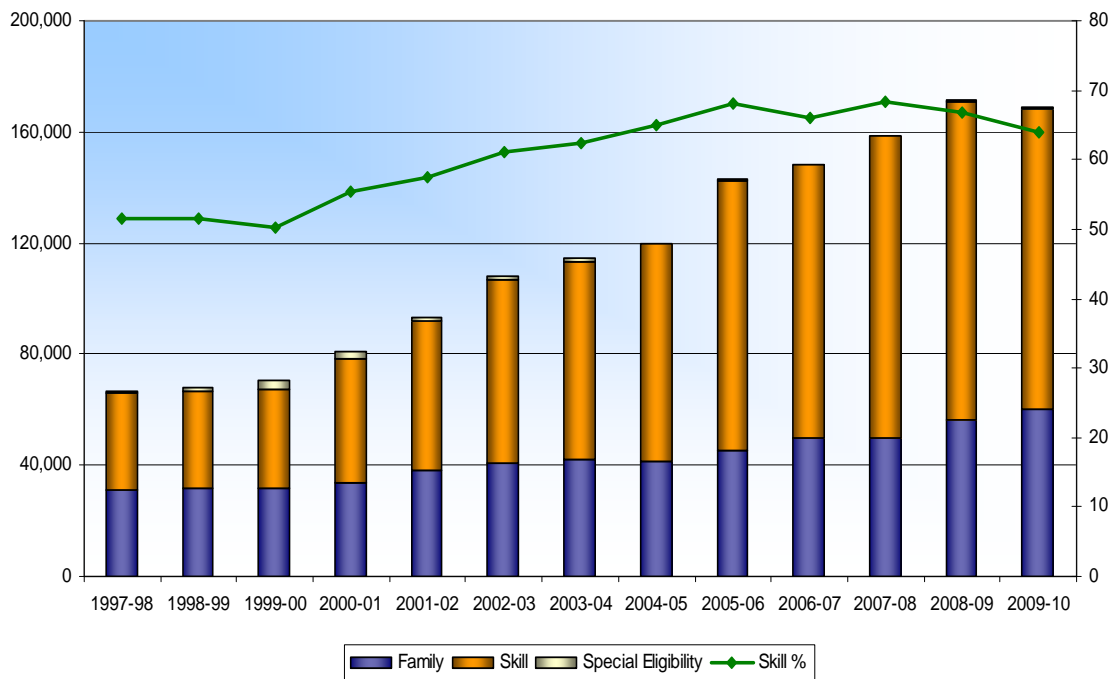
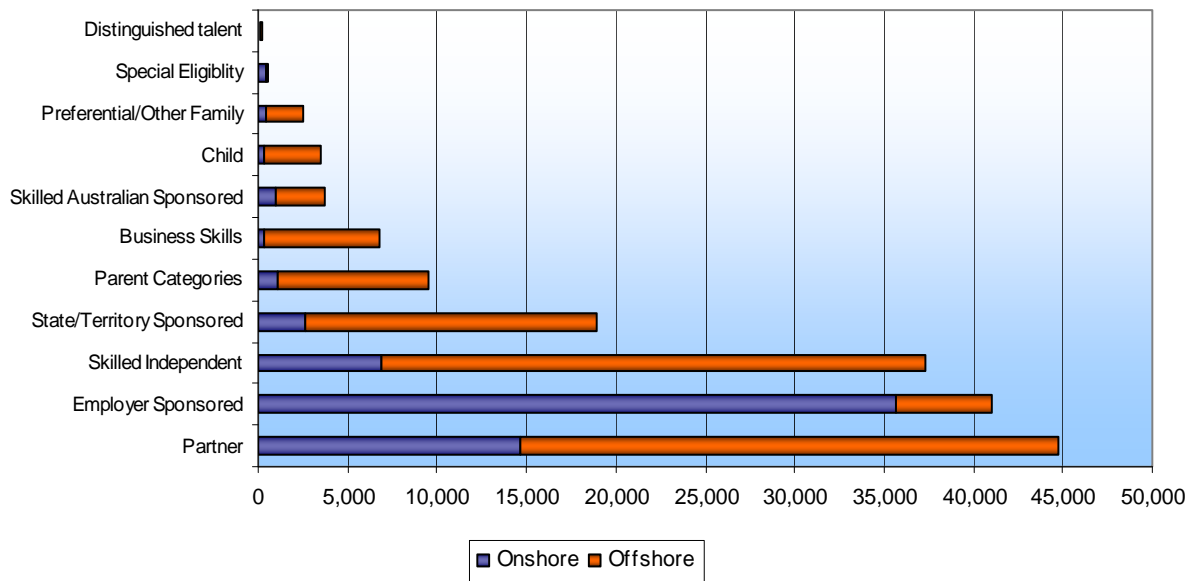


Chart C: Migration Program category outcomes 2009-10

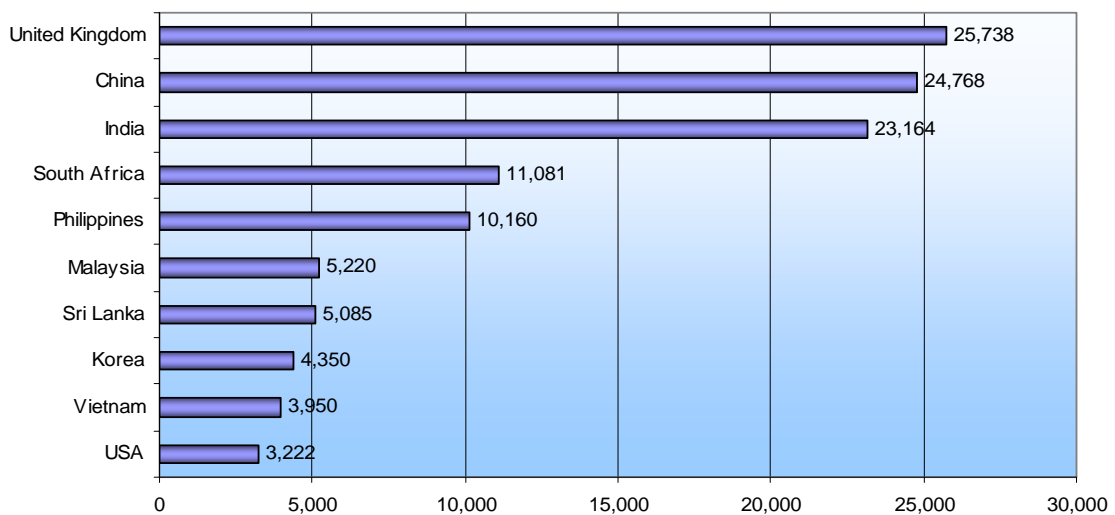


Source countries

The United Kingdom remains Australia’s largest source of migrants with an outcome of 25,738 or 15.3 per cent of the total Migration Program, down from 30,590 or 17.9 per cent in 2008-09 and over 20 per cent in previous years.

Chart D shows the top 10 citizenships, excluding New Zealand citizens (New Zealand citizens are not counted as part of the Migration Program).

Chart D: Top ten citizenships of migrants 2009-10

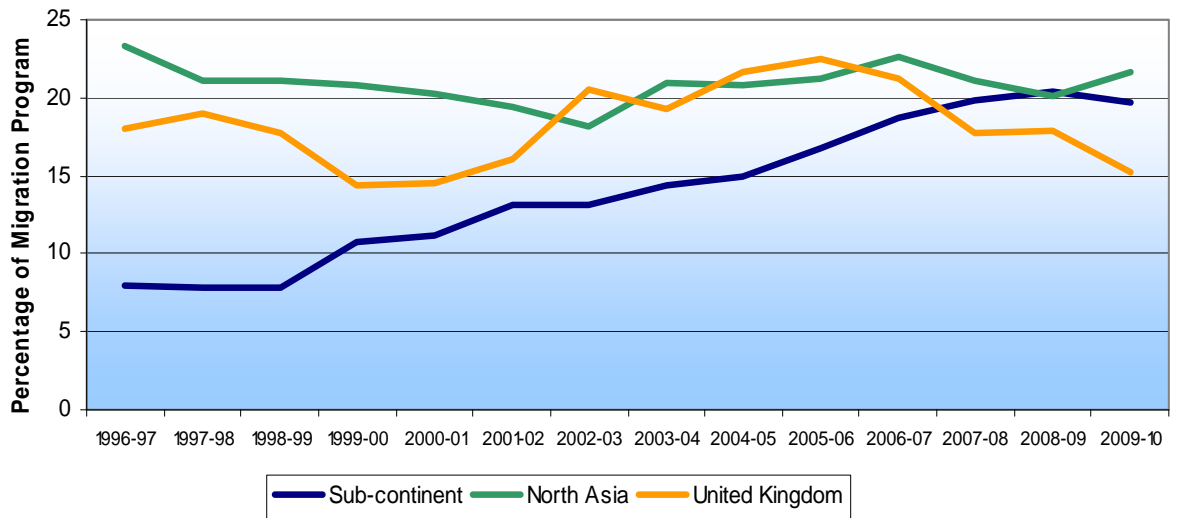


China’s outcome increased from 21,831 in 2008-09 to 24,768 in 2009-10 (moving it ahead of India and slightly behind the United Kingdom) with 14.7 per cent of the total Migration Program. The outcome for India decreased in 2009-10 to 23,164 or 13.7 per cent (down from 25,042 in 2008-09).

In terms of regions, North Asia now provides 21.7 per cent of the Migration Program (an increase from 20.1 per cent in 2008-09), largely due to the increase of migrants

from China in 2009-10. The Indian sub-continent had a slight decrease in its share of the program from 20.3 per cent in 2008-09 to 19.7 per cent in 2009-10. The proportion of migrants from the United Kingdom has been declining steadily from a high of 22.5 per cent in 2005-06 to 15.3 per cent in 2009-10. Chart E illustrates the recent growth in the proportion of migrants from North Asia and the decrease from the United Kingdom and the Indian sub-continent.

Chart E: Proportion of program – Major regions



Skill Stream In Detail

The Skill Stream outcome for 2009-10 was 107,868 (61,196 offshore and 46,672 onshore) and 0.2 per cent below the planning level of 108,100.

In 2008-09, the permanent skilled migration planning level was reduced by 14 per cent from an initial 133,500 to 115,000 in March 2009, in response to the global financial crisis. The skilled program planning level was reduced further in the 2009-10 Budget to 108,100 in response to the continued economic slowdown through most of 2009.

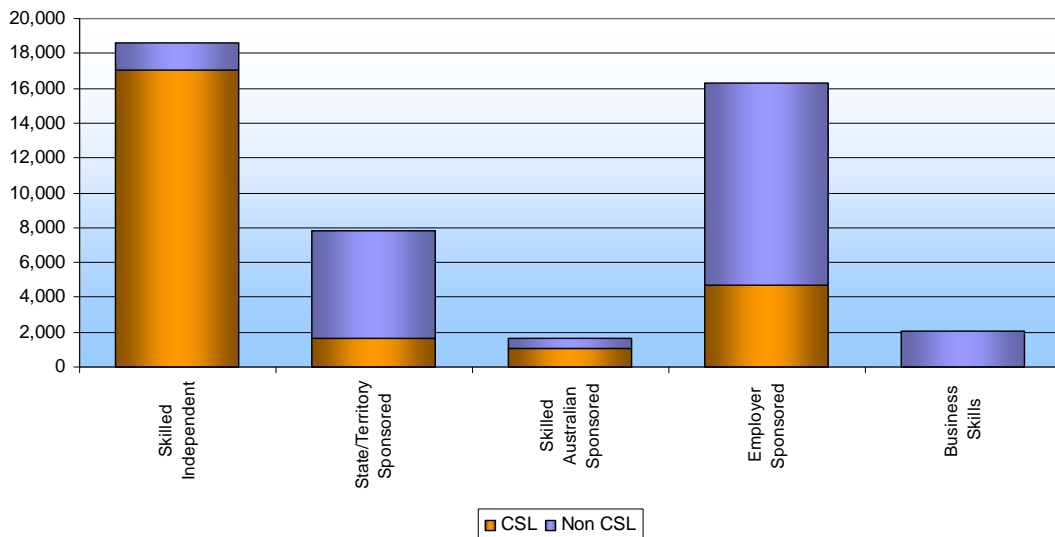
The 2009-10 skilled migration program remained tightly targeted to areas in the Australian economy still experiencing skills shortages. The program focussed on three distinct pathways:

- The employer-sponsored pathway;
- The government-sponsored pathway; and
- The independent skilled pathway where priority was given to occupations on the critical skills list (CSL).

Outcomes across priority (sponsored) groups represented 61.6 per cent of the Skill Stream outcome in 2009-10, compared to 51.6 per cent in 2008-09.

Priority processing measures came into effect from 1 January 2009. In 2009-10 91.3 per cent of principals in the Skill Independent category had an occupation on the CSL compared to 57.9 per cent in 2008-09. [Chart F](#) displays the CSL/Non CSL breakdown by program category.

Chart F: 2009-10 Skill Stream: CSL/Non CSL by Program Category (Principals)



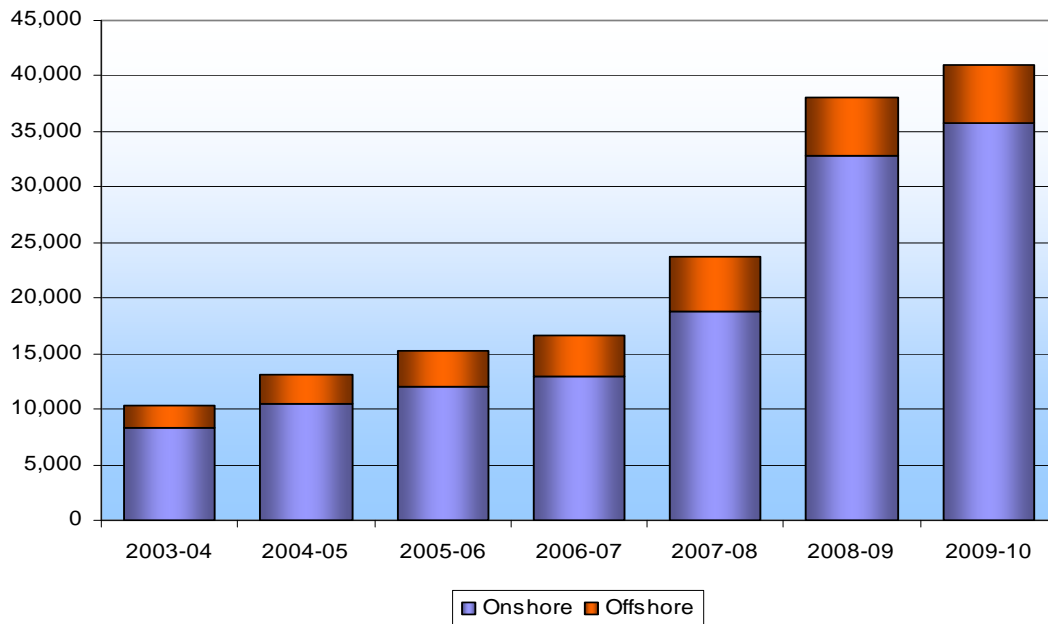
Demand in the Skill Stream remained strong in the 2009-10 Program year. 143,368 lodgements were received in the Skill Stream in 2009-10. This is 14.8 per cent lower than in the 2008-09 Program year. 173,148 clients remain in the pipeline as at 30 June 2010.

Employer Sponsored

Demand in the Employer Sponsored category increased from 43,796 lodgements in 2008-09 to 51,293 lodgements in 2009-10.

The Employer Sponsored outcome for 2009-10 was 40,987, an increase of 7.8 per cent (2,961 places) on the 2008-09 program year. The majority of the outcomes (87.2 per cent) in 2009-10 were from onshore applications. The growth in this category is demonstrated in [Chart G](#).

Chart G: Employer Sponsored Outcome 2004-05 to 2009-10



This outcome is comprised of three components:

1. Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS) with an outcome of 30,268.
2. Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS) with an outcome of 10,213.
3. Labour Agreement (LA) with an outcome of 506.

The 2009-10 Employer Sponsored outcome now comprises 38.0 per cent of the Skill Stream compared to 33.1 per cent in 2008-09 and 21.9 per cent in 2007-08.

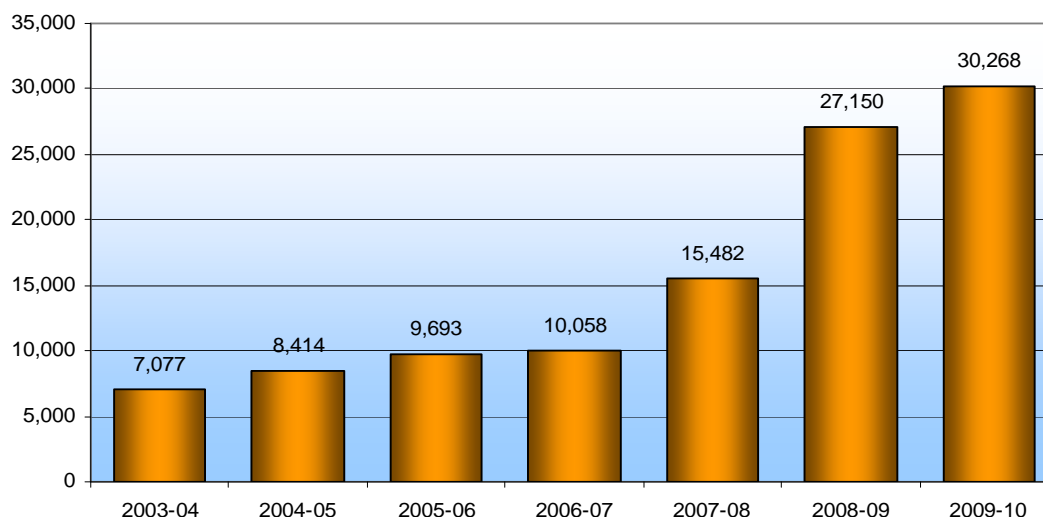
Demand in this category remained resilient in 2009-10 and, accordingly, the planning level for 2009-10 was increased from an initial level of 35,000 to a revised level of 41,000 in March 2010. This compares to a planning level of 37,080 in 2008-09 and 22,800 in 2007-08. The employer sponsored category is the highest priority because skilled migrants are sponsored into jobs that cannot be filled locally. Many of those granted an employer sponsored visa are already in Australia on a temporary visa.

As at 30 June 2010, there were around 19,000 onhand applications for visas in the Employer Sponsored category, with an average of 4,300 applications received every month compared to 3,600 in 2008-09. The high rate of lodgements is expected to continue. The 2010-11 planning level has therefore been increased to 44,150.

Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS)

The outcome for the ENS was 30,268. This is an increase of 11.5 per cent on 2008-09 and nearly a 100 per cent increase on the 2007-08 outcome. The rapid growth in this category over the last few years is shown in [Chart H](#).

Chart H: Employer Nomination Scheme outcome 2003-04 to 2009-10

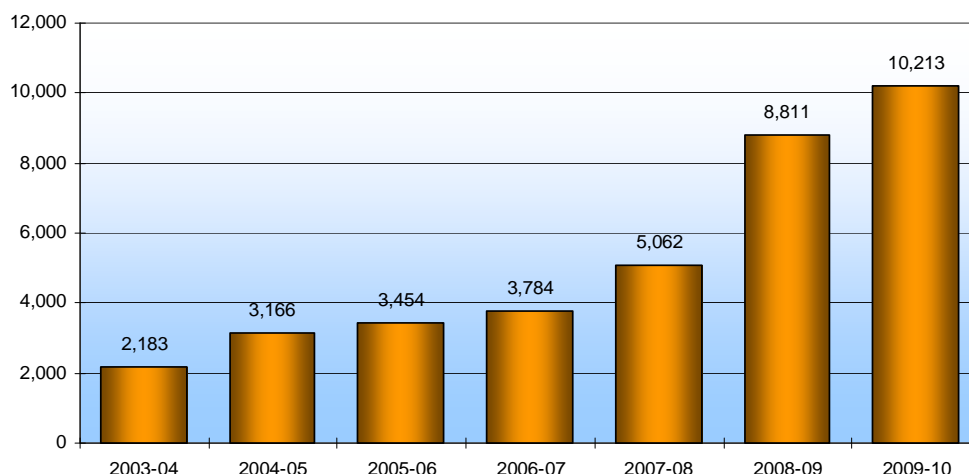


Demand in this category has grown substantially. In 2009-10, 37,401 applications were lodged, an increase of 17.2 per cent on 2008-09. Continued growth in demand can be expected through 2010-11, fed, in part, by the temporary 457 visa category.

Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS)

The RSMS outcome in 2009-10 was 10,213, a 15.9 per cent increase on the 2008-09 outcome. [Chart I](#) displays the consistent growth in this category in recent years.

Chart I: RSMS growth 2003-04 to 2009-10



The RSMS enables employers in regional and low population growth areas of Australia to sponsor highly skilled workers. Demand in the RSMS category increased from 9,947 lodgements in 2008-09 to 13,445 lodgements in 2009-10, an increase of 35.2 per cent.

Labour Agreements (LA)

The Labour Agreement outcome in 2009-10 was 506 a decrease of -75.5 per cent from the 2008-09 outcome of 2,065. This is due largely to the global financial crisis.

447 applications were lodged for visas in the LA group in 2009-10, a reduction of 77.0 per cent on the 2008-09 program year.

General Skilled Migration (GSM)

The GSM category outcome for 2009-10 was 59,892, 0.3 per cent below the planning level of 60,100. This is comprised of three components:

1. Skilled Independent with an outcome of 37,315.
2. State/Territory Sponsored with an outcome of 18,889.
3. Skilled Australian Sponsored (SAS) with an outcome of 3,688.

GSM operates as the balancing component in the Skill Stream. Given the strong and sustained growth trend in the demand driven Employer Sponsored category, the GSM planning levels were adjusted downward in 2009-10 from an initial level of 65,100 to a revised level of 60,100.

GSM comprised 55.5 per cent of the Skill Stream in 2009-10, compared to 60.2 per cent in 2008-09. The GSM pipeline reduced from 145,782 in June 2009 to 139,602 in June 2010.

Skilled Independent

The Skilled Independent outcome in 2009-10 was 37,315, a 16.3 per cent decrease from the 2008-09 outcome of 44,594. 81.5 per cent of the outcome was from offshore applicants.

Demand for the Skilled Independent visa decreased in 2009-10 with an average lodgement rate of around 3,800 per month, compared to an average of 4,700 per month in 2008-09.

State/Territory Sponsored Migration

State/Territory Sponsored Migration had an outcome of 18,889. This was an increase of 34.4 per cent on the 2008-09 outcome of 14,055.

Demand in this category decreased 43.5 per cent in 2009-10 (from 31,240 lodgements in 2008-09 to 17,637 lodgements in 2009-10).

Skilled Australian Sponsored (SAS)

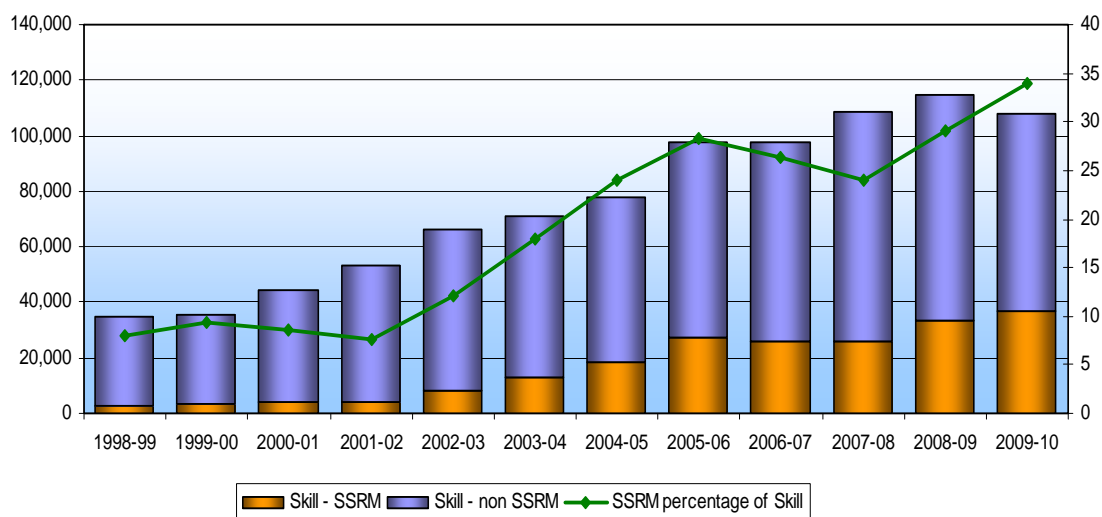
3,688 visas were delivered in the Skilled Australian Sponsored category, a decrease of 64.9 per cent from the 2008-09 outcome of 10,504.

In 2009-10 there was a 19.9 per cent decrease in lodgements in the SAS category (16,925 lodgements in 2009-10 compared to 21,128 lodgements in 2008-09).

State-Specific and Regional Migration (SSRM)

The SSRM outcome for the 2009-10 Migration Program was 36,568, a 9.2 per cent increase on the 2008-09 outcome of 33,474. This outcome represents 33.9 per cent of the Skill Stream in 2009-10 compared to 29.2 per cent in 2008-09. [Chart J](#) shows SSRM as a percentage of the Skill Stream since 1998-99.

Chart J: SSRM as a percentage of the Skill Stream



In absolute terms South Australia had the largest SSRM outcome with 9,540 (26.1 per cent) followed by Victoria with 8,513 (23.3 per cent) and Western Australia with 7,895 (21.6 per cent).

Business Skills

The outcome for the Business Skills visa classes was 6,789, 0.2 per cent below the planning level of 6,800 places. The Business Skills planning levels were adjusted downward in 2009-10 from an initial planning level of 7,800 to a revised level of 6,800. The places were transferred to the priority Employer Sponsored category.

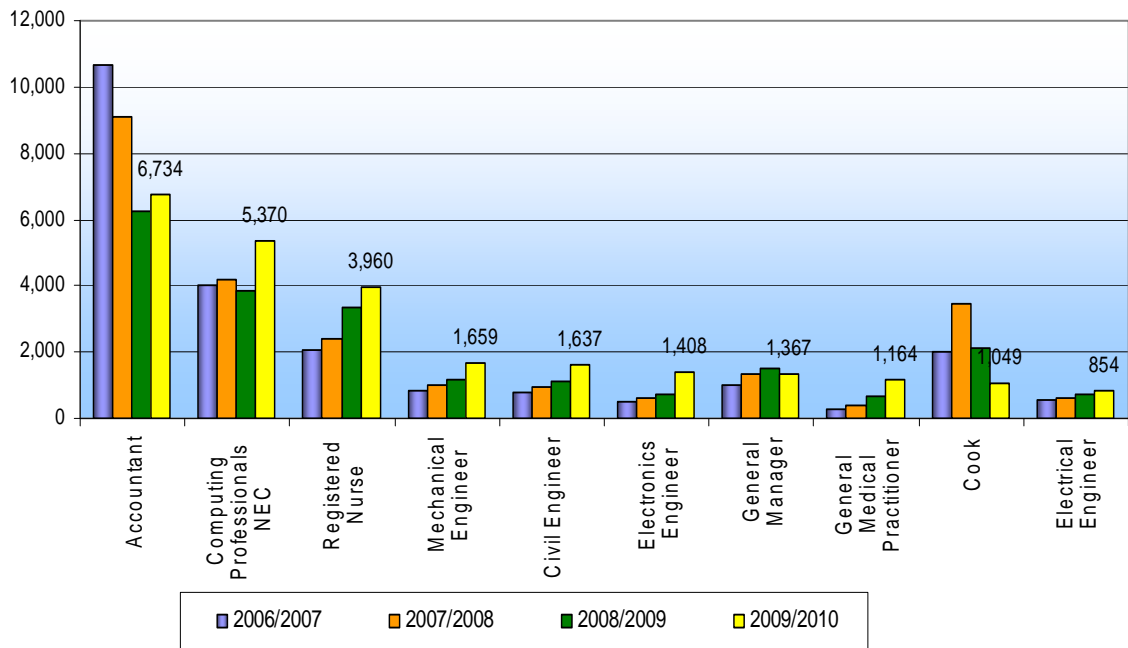
Demand in this category decreased by 18.8 per cent in 2009-10, with 12,099 lodgements made. 14,246 clients remain in the pipeline.

Occupations of Principal Applicants in the Skill Stream

At the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) major group level, Professionals formed the largest component with an outcome of 33,035 (71.0 per cent of the Skill Stream), followed by Tradespersons & Related Workers (6,950), Managers and Administrators (3,006) and Associate Professionals (2,459).

The occupation outcomes in the Skill Stream for the last three program years are shown in [Chart K](#).

Chart K: Skill Stream Outcome Top 10 Occupations: 2006-07 to 2009-10



Family Stream In Detail

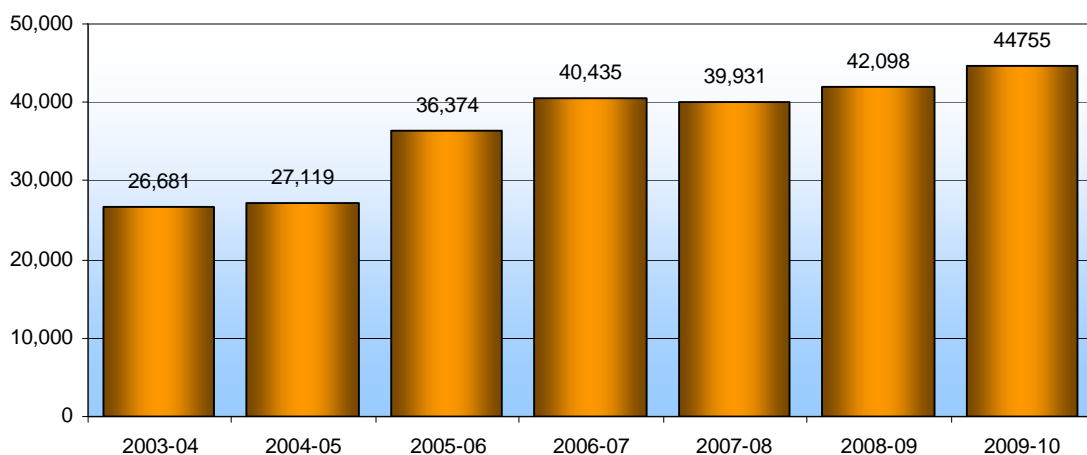
The outcome of 60,254 in the Family Stream was 0.1 per cent below the planning level of 60,300. This accounted for 35.7 per cent of the total Migration Program outcome.

Demand in the Family Stream decreased marginally by 1.9 per cent between 2008-09 and 2009-10. 72,346 clients remain in the pipeline, 36.2 per cent of whom are Non-Contributory Parents.

Partner

The outcome in the Partner category of 44,755 was 0.5 per cent below the planning level of 45,000 places. This outcome comprised 74.3 per cent of the Family Stream outcome. This outcome is comprised of 37,527 Spouse, 210 Interdependent and 7,018 Fiancé visas. [Chart L](#) shows Partner outcomes since 2003-04.

Chart L: Partner outcome 2003-04 to 2009-10



Demand in the Partner category increased slightly from 53,132 lodgements in 2008-09 to 53,227 lodgements in 2009-10. Around 27,900 clients remain in the pipeline as at end June.

Child

The Child category outcome was 3,544 or 7.4 per cent above the planning level of 3,300. Over 90 per cent of the outcome was in the offshore caseload.

Demand in the Child category in 2009-10 remained at similar levels to 2008-09. Around 2,700 clients remain in the pipeline.

Preferential/Other Family

The Preferential/Other Family category outcome was 2,468 or 1.3 per cent below the planning level of 2,500. The breakdown of this caseload is detailed in [Chart M](#).

Chart M: Preferential/Other Family Category Outcome to 30 June 2010

Group	Offshore	Onshore	Total	Per cent
Aged Dependent Relative	147	56	203	8%
Remaining Relative	952	184	1,136	46%
Carer	957	172	1,129	46%
Total	2,056	412	2,468	100%

Demand in the Preferential/Other category decreased slightly from 5,261 lodgements in 2008-09 to 4,707 lodgements in 2009-10.

Parent

Non-Contributory Parent

The Non-Contributory Parent met its planning level of 2,000 places in 2009-10.

Demand in the Non-Contributory Parent category increased from 3,988 lodgements in 2008-09 to 4,280 in 2009-10, an increase of 7.3 per cent. Over 26,000 clients remain in the pipeline as at end June.

Contributory Parent

The Contributory Parent category outcome was 7,487 or 13 places below the planning level of 7,500.

Demand in the Contributory Parent category decreased from 7,742 lodgements in 2008-09 to 6,272 lodgements in 2009-10. Over 10,000 clients remain in the pipeline.

Progress in both Parent categories is shown in [Chart N](#).

Chart N: Progress in the Parent Categories to 30 June 2010

Category	Offshore	Onshore	Total
Non-Contributory Parent	subclass 103	subclass 804	
Planning level	1,402	598	2,000
Applicants in queue (as at 30 June 2010)	17,208	4,174	21,382
Outcomes	1,438	562	2,000
Contributory Parent	subclass 143 subclass 173	subclass 864 subclass 884	
Planning level	7,000	500	7,500
Applicants in queue (as at 30 June 2010)	273	35	308
Outcomes	6,994	493	7,487
TOTAL	8,432	1,055	9,487

Special Eligibility Stream

The outcome for the Special Eligibility Stream was 501 against the planning level of 300 (or 67.0 per cent above the planning level) and comprised 0.3 per cent of the total Migration Program. The majority of the outcomes in this category were for Ministerial Interventions grants under the subclass 151 visa.

Attachment A

2009-10 MIGRATION PROGRAM Outcome to 30 June 2010*					
Component	Outcome			Planning Level (Top of Range)	% Variation from Pro Rata
	Onshore	Offshore	Total		
Spouse ⁽¹⁾	14,495	23,032	37,527		
Interdependent ⁽¹⁾	151	59	210		
Fiance ⁽¹⁾		7,018	7,018		
Sub Total Partner	14,646	30,109	44,755	45,000	-0.5
Child ⁽²⁾	345	3,199	3,544	3,300	7.4
Preferential/Other Family ⁽³⁾	412	2,056	2,468	2,500	-1.3
Contributory Parent	493	6,994	7,487	7,500	-0.2
Parent ⁽⁴⁾	562	1,438	2,000	2,000	
Total Family	16,458	43,796	60,254	60,300	-0.1
Employer Sponsored⁽⁵⁾					
RSMS	8,420	1,793	10,213		
ENS	27,220	3,048	30,268		
Labour Agreement	82	424	506		
Employer Sponsored - Total	35,722	5,265	40,987	41,000	-0.0
General Skilled Migration					
Skilled Independent	6,910	30,405	37,315		
State/Territory Sponsored Visa Classes	2,678	16,211	18,889		
Skilled Australian Sponsored ⁽⁷⁾	941	2,747	3,688		
General Skilled Migration - Total	10,529	49,363	59,892	60,100	-0.3
Distinguished Talent	90	109	199	200	-0.5
Business Skills ⁽⁸⁾ - SSRM	187	6,340	6,527		
Business Skills ⁽⁸⁾ - Non SSRM	143	119	262		
Business Skills - Total	330	6,459	6,789	6,800	-0.2
1 November Onshore	1		1		
Total Skill	46,672	61,196	107,868	108,100	-0.2
Special Eligibility	484	17	501	300	67.0
Total Program	63,614	105,009	168,623	168,700	-0.0

*NOTE: Migration Program Outcome numbers do not include New Zealand citizens or holders of Secondary Movement Offshore Entry (Temporary), Secondary Movement Relocation (Temporary) and Temporary Protection Visas.

- 1 Net outcome as places taken by provisional visa holders who do not subsequently obtain permanent visas are returned to the Migration Program in the year that the temporary visas expire.
- 2 Includes child-adoption, child dependent and orphan minor.
- 3 Includes aged dependent, carer, orphan unmarried and remaining relatives.
- 4 Includes Designated and non-contributory Parents.
- 5 Includes Employer Nomination Scheme, Labour Agreement, Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme.
- 6 Includes State/Territory Nominated Independent Scheme and Skilled Independent Regional.
- 7 Includes brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, non-dependent children, working age parents, grandchildren and first cousins who have been skill tested.
- 8 Net outcome as cancelled visas are returned to the Migration Program in that year.

