



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

Immigration Detention Statistics Summary

31 January 2012



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.

Enquiries

Any comment 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

Detention Operations Division, DIAC - As at 31 January 2012

There were 4783 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention, including 3951 in immigration detention on the mainland and 832 in immigration detention on Christmas Island as at 31 January 2012. Separately, 1600 people have been approved for a residence determination to live in the community.

Figure 1

People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention					
Place of immigration detention ¹	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from Previous Summary (31/12/11)
Christmas Island IDC	440			440	- 78
Curtin IDC	856			856	- 64
Maribyrnong IDC	66	12		78	- 20
Northern IDC (Darwin)	203			203	- 101
Perth IDC	34			34	+ 6
Pontville IDC	312			312	- 69
Scherger IDC	283			283	+ 9
Villawood IDC	311	64		375	+ 11
Wickham Point IDC	450			450	+ 66
Total in IDCs	2955	76	0	3031	- 240
Perth Immigration Residential Housing	4			4	- 4
Port Augusta Immigration Residential Housing	4	10	14	28	- 1
Sydney Immigration Residential Housing	11	6	6	23	- 3
Adelaide Immigration Transit Accommodation	4			4	- 2
Brisbane Immigration Transit Accommodation	51			51	+ 5
Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation	59		2	61	- 12
Total in Immigration Residential Housing and Immigration Transit Accommodation	133	16	22	171	- 17
Alternative Places of Detention ² (Christmas Island)	207	52	133	392	+ 50
Alternative Places of Detention (Mainland)	605	211	373	1189	- 105
Restricted on Board Vessels in Port				0	0
Total	3900	355	528	4783	- 312
People in Community under Residence Determination	685	364	551	1600	+ 234

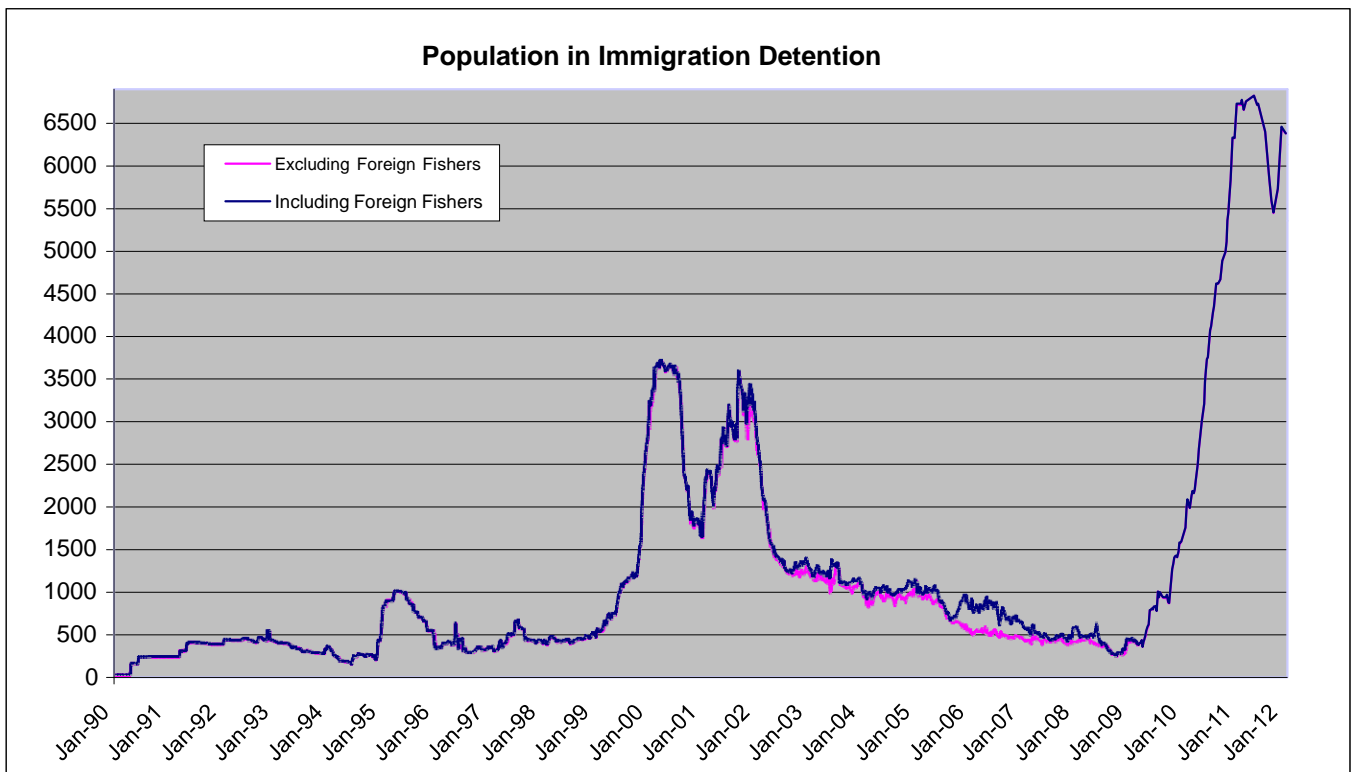
¹ Immigration detention as set out under s 189 or s 249 of the *Migration Act 1958*.

² Includes detention in the community in private houses / correctional facilities / watch houses / hotels / apartments / foster care / hospitals with a person designated under the Act.

Immigration Detention Population from 1990 to January 2012.

The number of people in immigration detention month to month continues to fluctuate, predominantly due to the changing pattern of irregular maritime arrivals.

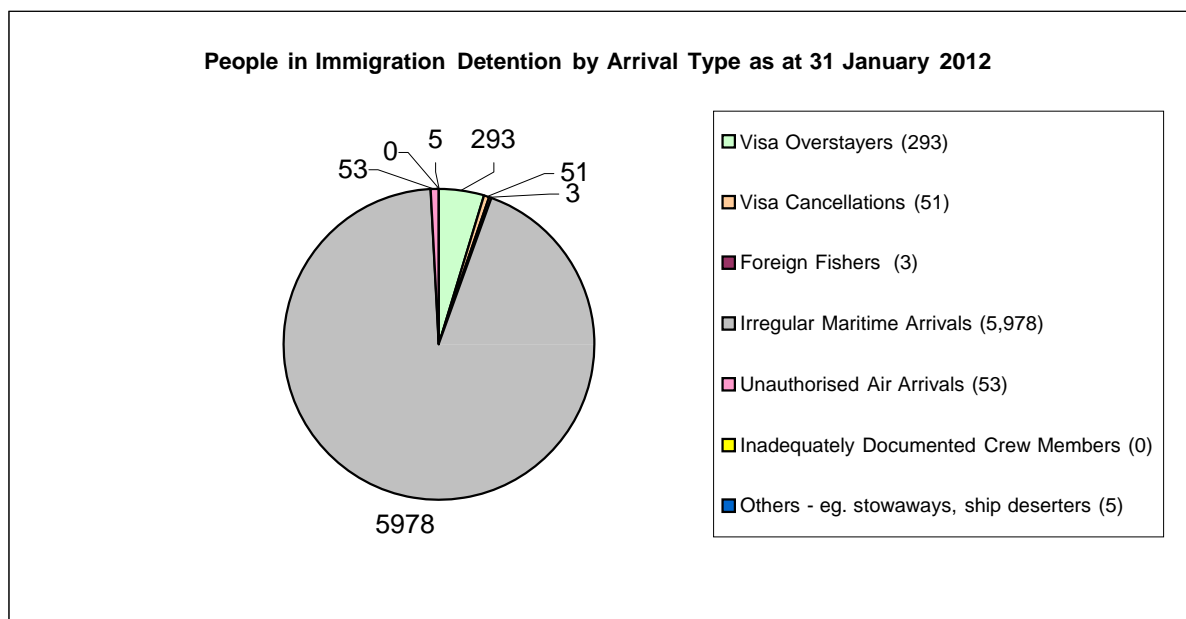
Figure 2



People in Immigration Detention by Arrival Type

The number of people in immigration detention who arrived unlawfully by air or boat as at 31 January 2012 was 6031, representing about 94 per cent of the total immigration detention population. There were also 344 people (about 5 per cent of the total immigration population) who arrived in Australia lawfully and were subsequently taken into immigration detention for either overstaying their visa conditions, resulting in visa cancellation.

Figure 3



People in Immigration Detention by Nationality

Of the 4783 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention as at 31 January 2012, around 31% were Afghan nationals, 25% were Iranian nationals and 7% were Indonesian nationals.

Figure 4

People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention as at 31 January 2012					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Afghanistan	22	1286	12	163	1483
Iran	152	881	65	81	1179
Indonesia	1	350		16	367
Sri Lanka	29	260	14	14	317
Iraq	19	211	15	34	279
Pakistan	3	206	1	11	221
China, Peoples Republic Of	43	109			152
Burma	4	88	5	7	104
Vietnam	14	42	9	14	79
Palestinian Authority	7	18	7	9	41
Other	61	449	16	35	561
Total	355	3900	144	384	4783

Of the 1600 people approved to live in the community under residence determinations as at 31 January 2012, around 38% were Iranian nationals, 16% were Sri Lankan nationals and 16% were Afghan nationals.

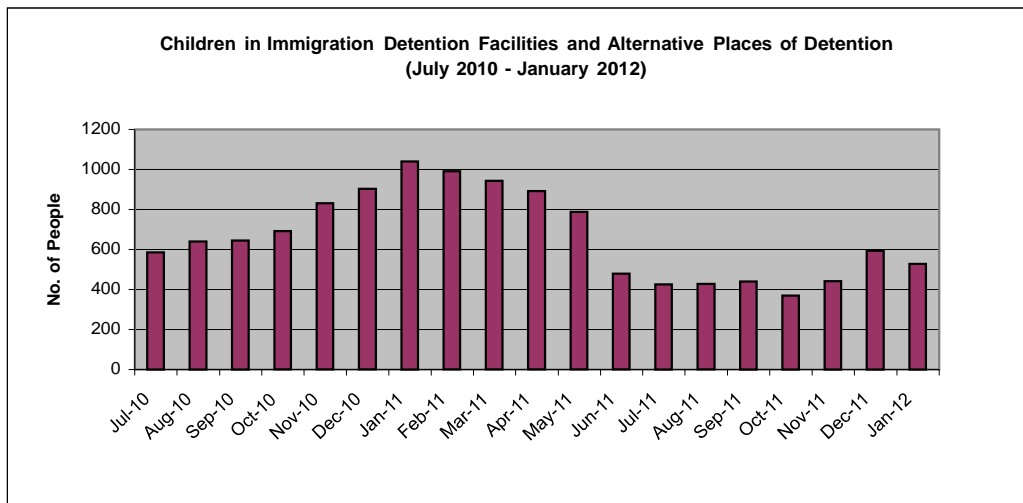
Figure 5

People in Community under Residence Determination as at 31 January 2012					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Iran	173	256	77	109	615
Sri Lanka	70	110	40	44	264
Afghanistan	14	115	8	126	263
Iraq	32	80	19	36	167
Vietnam	6	12	5	4	27
Other	69	112	31	52	264
Total	364	685	180	371	1600

Children in Immigration Detention

As at 31 January 2012, there were 528 children (aged under 18 years) in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention. The increase in the number of children in detention facilities during November and December 2011 was due to a rapid increase in irregular maritime arrivals during those months. The majority of children in facilities-based detention have been in detention for less than two months. No children are detained in an immigration centre.

Figure 6



Note: Immigration Detention Facilities in Figure 6 refer to Immigration Residential Housing and Immigration Transit Accommodation.

The number of children approved to live in the community under a residence determination has increased significantly since the Government's announcement on 18 October 2010 that it would move the majority of children and a significant number of vulnerable families into community based arrangements by 30 June 2011.

Figure 7

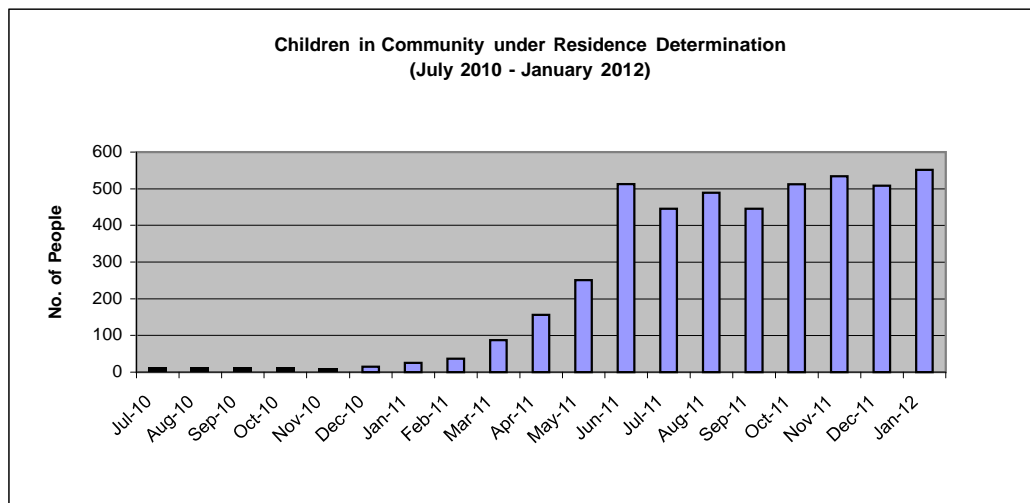


Figure 8

Children in Immigration Detention as at 31 January 2012	
Type	Total
Immigration Residential Housing	20
Immigration Transit Accommodation	2
Alternative Places of Detention	506
Total	528

Children in Community under Residence Determination	551
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Time in Detention

Of the 6383 people in immigration detention as at 31 January 2012, 4336 or 68% had been detained for 12 months or less.

Figure 9

Length of Time in Detention as at 31 January 2012		
Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	53	0.8%
8 days - 31 days	390	6.1%
32 days - 91 days	1967	30.8%
92 days - 182 days	923	14.5%
183 days - 365 days	1003	15.7%
366 days - 547 days	1124	17.6%
548 days - 730 days	750	11.7%
Greater than 730 days	173	2.7%
Total	6383	100%