



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

Immigration Detention Statistics Summary

30 September 2012



people our business

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>

Table of Contents

1. People in immigration detention by location.....	<i>Page 4</i>
2. Immigration detention population 1990 to September 2012.....	<i>Page 5</i>
3. People in immigration detention by arrival type.....	<i>Page 5</i>
4. People in immigration detention by nationality	<i>Page 6</i>
5. Children in immigration detention.....	<i>Page 7</i>
6. People in immigration detention by time in detention.....	<i>Page 8</i>

IMMIGRATION DETENTION STATISTICS SUMMARY

Detention Operations Division, DIAC - As at 30 September 2012

There were 7670 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention, including 5421 in immigration detention on the mainland and 2249 in immigration detention on Christmas Island as at 30 September 2012. Separately, 1688 people have been approved for a residence determination to live in the community. September has seen an increase in arrivals, including children. This has impacted on the number of children in detention facilities for this month.

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 (31/08/12)
Christmas Island IDC	1066			1066	+ 261
Curtin IDC	1135			1135	- 113
Maribyrnong IDC	91	5		96	+ 3
Northern IDC (Darwin)	397			397	- 41
Perth IDC	26	2		28	+ 9
Scherger IDC	439			439	+ 60
Villawood IDC	330	44		374	- 5
Wickham Point IDC	1376			1376	+ 98
Yongah Hill IDC	581			581	+ 4
Total in IDCs	5441	51		5492	+ 276
Perth Immigration Residential Housing	1	1		2	- 3
Port Augusta Immigration Residential Housing	18			18	0
Sydney Immigration Residential Housing	11	8	6	25	+ 3
Adelaide Immigration Transit Accommodation	12	1		13	+ 10
Brisbane Immigration Transit Accommodation	35			35	- 19
Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation	67		66	133	+ 30
Total in Immigration Residential Housing and Immigration Transit Accommodation	144	10	72	226	+ 21
Alternative Places of Detention ² (Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Island)	607	225	351	1183	+ 235
Alternative Places of Detention (Mainland)	360	168	241	769	- 200
Restricted on Board Vessels in Port				0	0
Total	6552	454	664	7670	+ 332
People in Community under Residence Determination	681	363	644	1688	+ 285

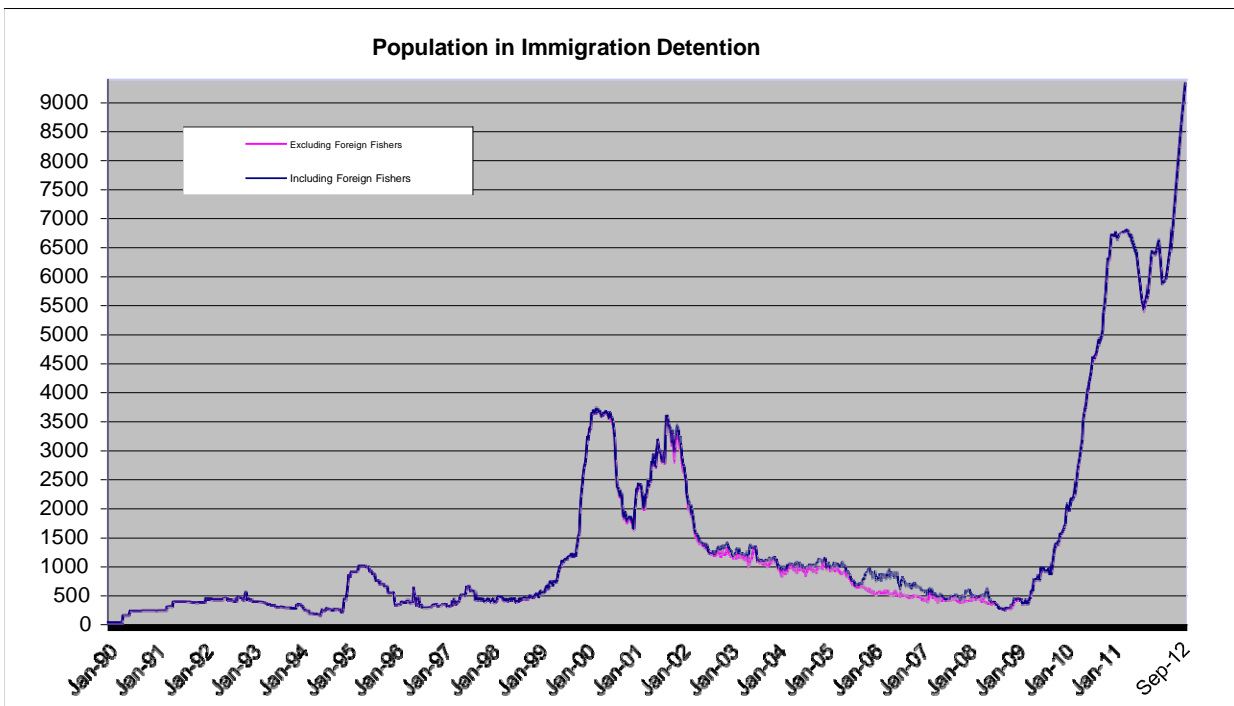
¹ Immigration detention as set out under s 189 or s 249 of the *Migration Act 1958*.

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 September 2012.

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

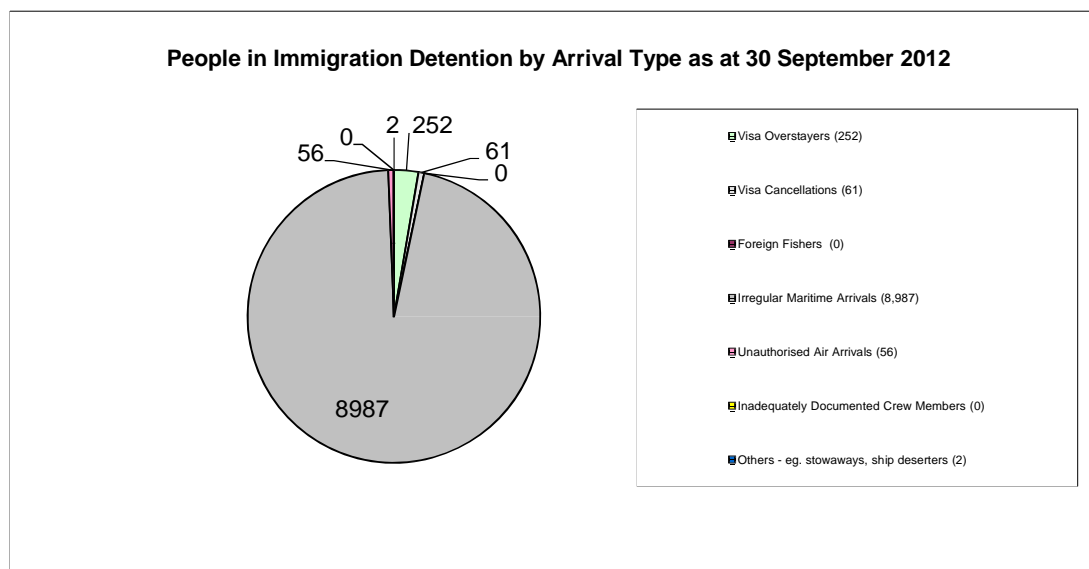
Figure 2



People in Immigration Detention by Arrival Type

The number of people in immigration detention who arrived unlawfully by air or boat as at 30 September 2012 was 9043, representing about 97 per cent of the total immigration detention population. There were also 313 people (about 3 per cent 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 cancellation.

Figure 3



People in Immigration Detention by Nationality

Of the 7670 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention as at 30 September 2012, around 41% were Sri Lankan nationals, 18% were Afghan nationals and 16% were Iranian nationals.

Figure 4

People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention as at 30 September 2012					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Sri Lanka	71	2912	21	120	3124
Afghanistan	12	1159	6	175	1352
Iran	241	798	71	110	1220
Pakistan	5	449	1	27	482
Indonesia	7	324	3	18	352
Iraq	25	255	9	22	311
Burma	7	66	5	16	94
China, Peoples Republic Of	19	74	1		94
Vietnam	10	37		6	53
Bangladesh		33			33
Other	57	445	23	30	555
Total	454	6552	140	524	7670

Of the 1688 people approved to live in the community under residence determinations as at 30 September 2012, around 32% were Iranian nationals, 17% were Afghan nationals and 15% were Sri Lankan nationals.

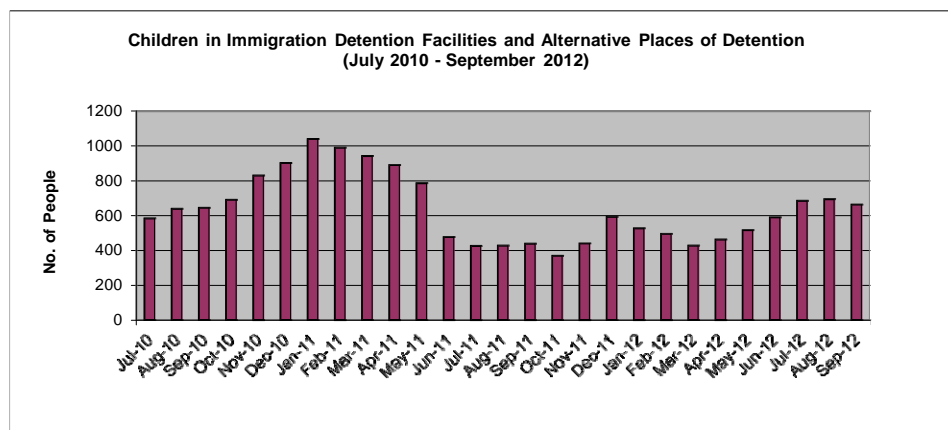
Figure 5

People in Community under Residence Determination as at 30 September 2012					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Iran	139	232	76	89	536
Afghanistan	34	108	18	124	284
Sri Lanka	53	111	35	61	260
Iraq	32	72	15	27	146
Palestinian Authority	26	26	29	17	98
Other	79	132	49	104	364
Total	363	681	222	422	1688

Children in Immigration Detention

As at 30 September 2012, there were 664 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 September 2012 was due to a continued high tempo of irregular maritime arrivals, including 274 children. The majority of children in facilities-based detention have been in detention for less than two months.

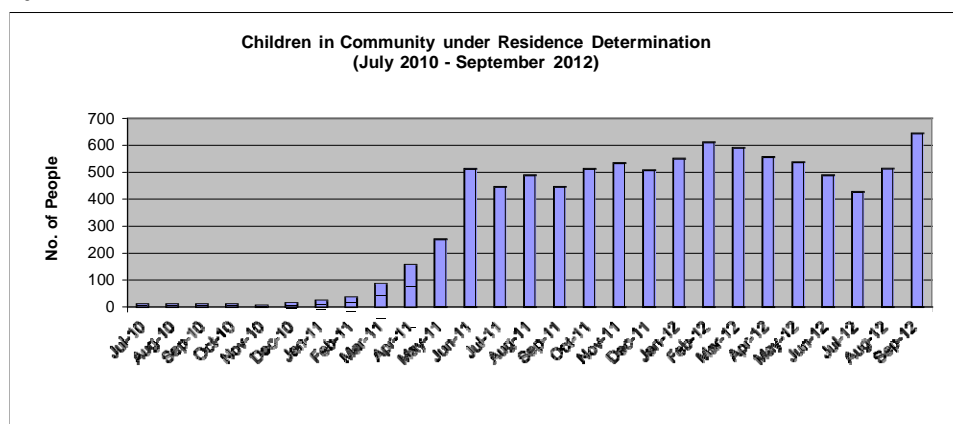
Figure 6



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 been maintained at a high level 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



For the month of August 2012, 664 children remained in immigration detention while undergoing initial processing, 644 children were approved under residence determination for community placement. In addition, 98 children have been granted a bridging visa and are currently living in the community.

Figure 8

Children in Immigration Detention as at 30 September 2012	
Type	Total
Immigration Residential Housing	6
Immigration Transit Accommodation	66
Alternative Places of Detention	592
Total	664
Children in Community under Residence Determination	644
Children Currently on a Bridging Visa E (BVE)	98

Time in Detention

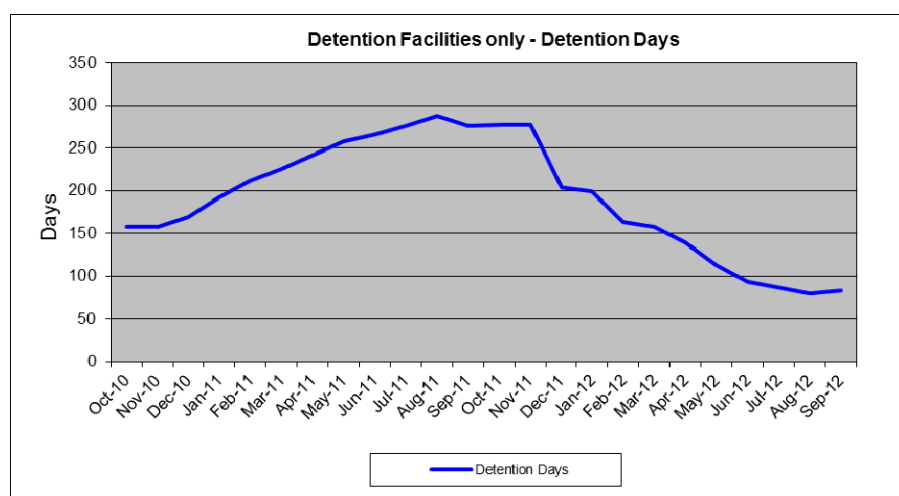
Of the 9358 people in immigration detention as at 30 September 2012, around 63% had been detained for 3 months or less and 90% had been detained for 12 months or less.

Figure 9

Length of Time in Detention as at 30 September 2012		
Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	452	4.8%
8 days - 31 days	1626	17.4%
32 days - 91 days	3808	40.7%
92 days - 182 days	2174	23.2%
183 days - 365 days	342	3.7%
366 days - 547 days	185	2.0%
548 days - 730 days	257	2.7%
Greater than 730 days	514	5.5%
Total	9358	100%

The average period of people held in detention facilities has significantly decreased from 277 days in November 2011 to 83 days in September 2012.

Figure 10



Note: Excluding people held in community detention and correctional facilities.