



Australian Government  
Department of Immigration  
and Citizenship

# Immigration Detention Statistics Summary

31 December 2011



## ***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](http://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 December 2011

There were 5095 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention, including 4235 in immigration detention on the mainland and 860 in immigration detention on Christmas Island as at 31 December 2011. Separately, 1366 people were living in the community under a residence determination.

Figure 1

People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention					
Place of immigration detention <sup>1</sup>	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from Previous Summary (30/11/11)
Christmas Island IDC	518			518	- 175
Curtin IDC	920			920	- 53
Maribyrnong IDC	89	9		98	+ 15
Northern IDC (Darwin)	304			304	- 1
Perth IDC	28			28	- 1
Pontville IDC	381			381	+ 130
Scherger IDC	274			274	+ 55
Villawood IDC	312	52		364	+ 3
Wickham Point IDC	384			384	+ 384
<b>Total in IDCs</b>	<b>3210</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3271</b>	<b>+ 357</b>
Perth Immigration Residential Housing	7	1		8	+ 1
Port Augusta Immigration Residential Housing	4	10	15	29	- 10
Sydney Immigration Residential Housing	12	5	9	26	+ 4
Adelaide Immigration Transit Accommodation	2	4		6	0
Brisbane Immigration Transit Accommodation	46			46	- 4
Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation	70		3	73	- 7
<b>Total in Immigration Residential Housing and Immigration Transit Accommodation</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>- 16</b>
Alternative Places of Detention <sup>2</sup> (Christmas Island)	136	47	159	342	+ 90
Alternative Places of Detention (Mainland)	629	257	408	1294	+ 255
Restricted on Board Vessels in Port				0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4116</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>5095</b>	<b>+ 686</b>
<b>People in Community under Residence Determination <sup>3</sup></b>	<b>519</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>1366</b>	<b>+ 42</b>

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

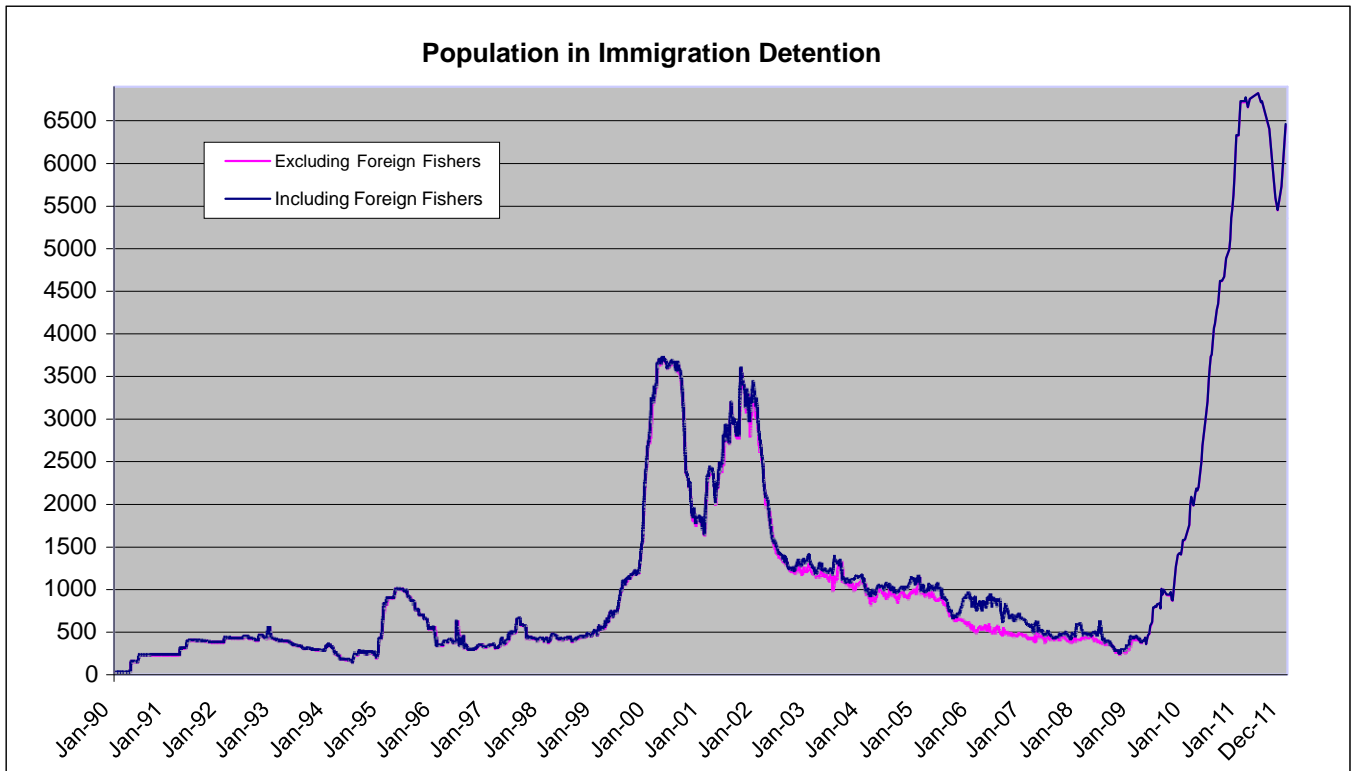
<sup>2</sup> Includes detention in the community in private houses / correctional facilities / watch houses / hotels / apartments / foster care / hospitals with a person designated under the Act.

<sup>3</sup> Residence determination as set out in the 197AB of the Migration Act 1958.

## Immigration Detention Population from 1990 to December 2011.

The number of people in immigration detention declined between April and October 2011. The number of people in detention in December has increased, predominantly as a result of increased irregular maritime arrivals intercepted in Australian waters during November and December 2011.

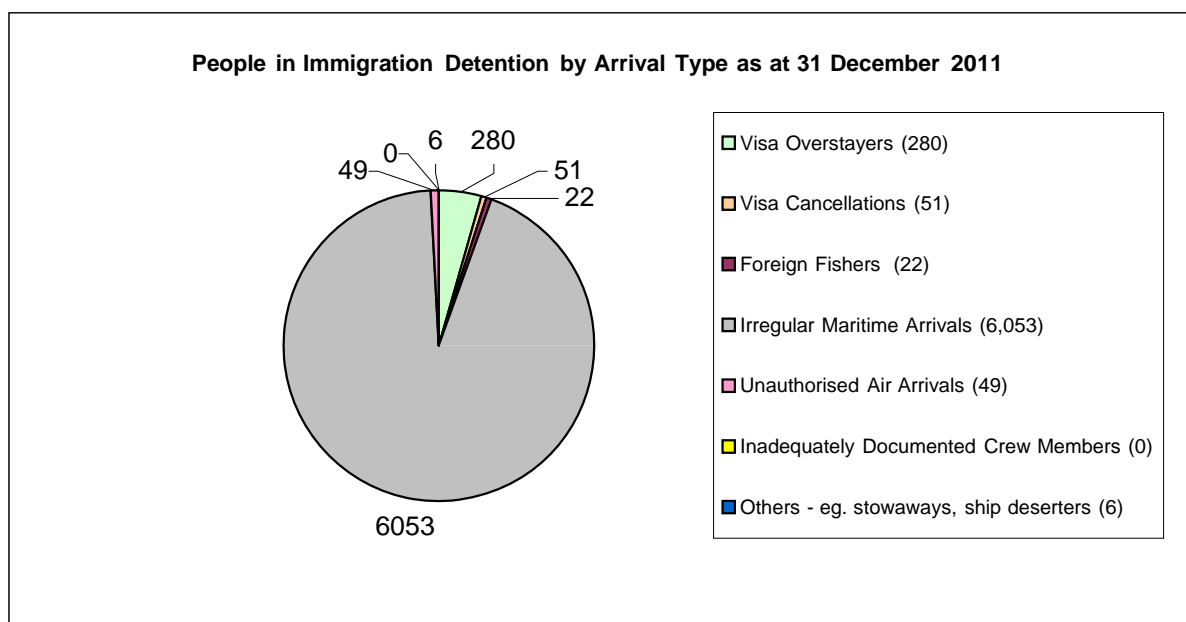
Figure 2



## People in Immigration Detention by Arrival Type

The number of people in immigration detention who arrived unlawfully by air or boat as at 31 December 2011 was 6102, representing about 94 per cent of the total immigration detention population. There were also 331 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 5095 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention as at 31 December 2011, around 31% were Afghan nationals, 24% were Iranian nationals and 8% were Indonesian nationals.

Figure 4

People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention as at 31 December 2011					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Afghanistan	28	1382	13	180	1603
Iran	171	911	69	86	1237
Indonesia	1	371		35	407
Sri Lanka	29	325	17	12	383
Iraq	18	237	16	38	309
Pakistan	3	157	1	14	175
China, Peoples Republic Of	35	95			130
Burma	4	95	5	5	109
Vietnam	16	42	10	16	84
Palestinian Authority	7	18	7	10	42
Other	73	483	22	38	616
<b>Total</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>4116</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>5095</b>

Of the 1366 people in the community under residence determinations as at 31 December 2011, around 37% were Iranian nationals, 18% were Sri Lankan nationals and 14% were Afghan nationals.

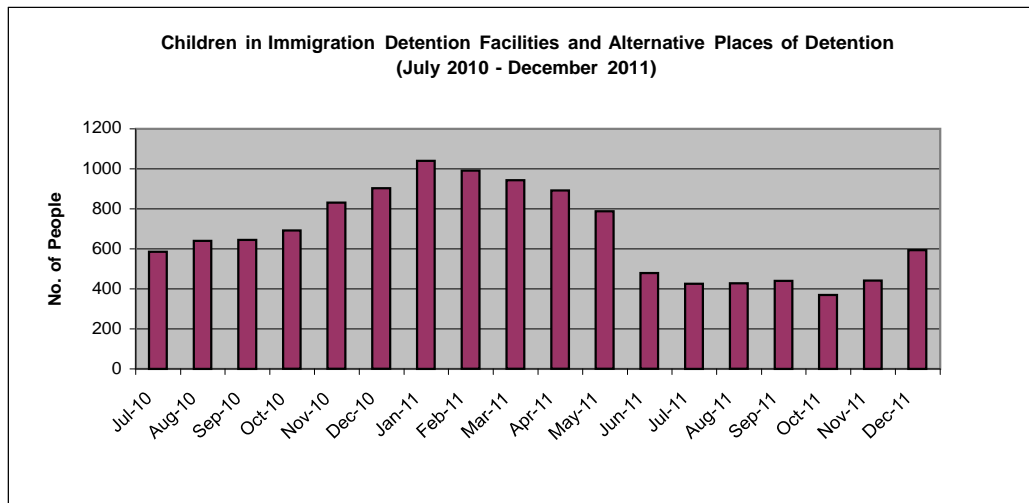
Figure 5

People in Community under Residence Determination as at 31 December 2011					
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Iran	157	187	68	97	509
Sri Lanka	73	88	41	46	248
Afghanistan	10	68	4	118	200
Iraq	25	63	17	29	134
Vietnam	6	12	5	3	26
Other	68	101	33	47	249
<b>Total</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>1366</b>

## Children in Immigration Detention

As at 31 December 2011, there were 594 children (aged under 18 years) in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention. No children are detained in an immigration detention centre. 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 living 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

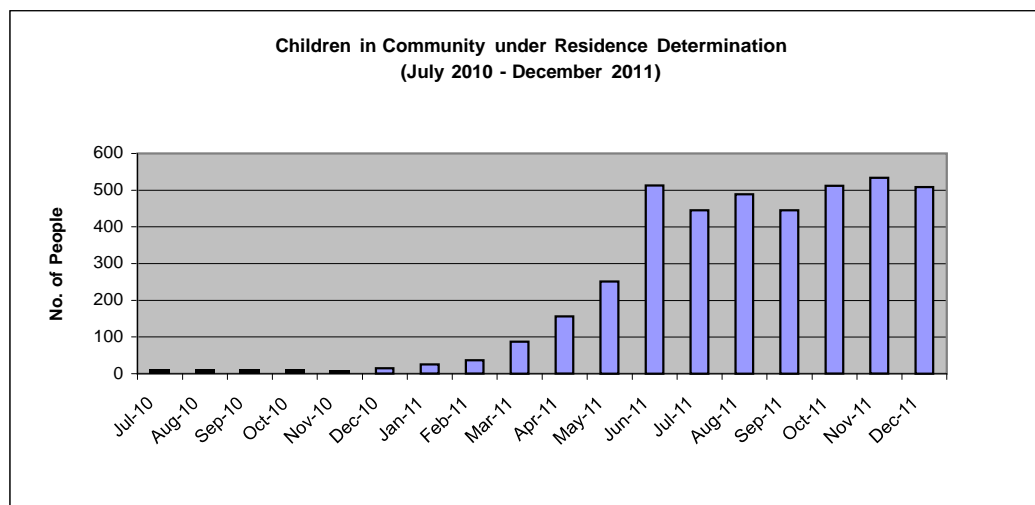


Figure 8

Children in Immigration Detention as at 31 December 2011	
Type	Total
Immigration Residential Housing	24
Immigration Transit Accommodation	3
Alternative Places of Detention	567
<b>Total</b>	<b>594</b>

<b>Children in Community under Residence Determination</b>	<b>508</b>
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## Time in Detention

Of the 6461 people in immigration detention as at 31 December 2011, 4246 or 66% had been detained for 12 months or less.

Figure 9

Length of Time in Detention as at 31 December 2011		
Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	130	2.0%
8 days - 31 days	1130	17.5%
32 days - 91 days	1137	17.6%
92 days - 182 days	905	14.0%
183 days - 365 days	944	14.6%
366 days - 547 days	1247	19.3%
548 days - 730 days	842	13.0%
Greater than 730 days	126	2.0%
Total	6461	100%