



Australian Government  
Department of Immigration  
and Citizenship

# Immigration Detention Statistics Summary

28 February 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](http://www.immi.gov.au/managing-australias-borders/detention).

## 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: 28 February 2013

There were 5750 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention, including 4526 in immigration detention on the mainland and 1224 in immigration on Christmas Island as at 28 February 2013.

Separately, 2202 people have been approved for a residence determination to live in the community.

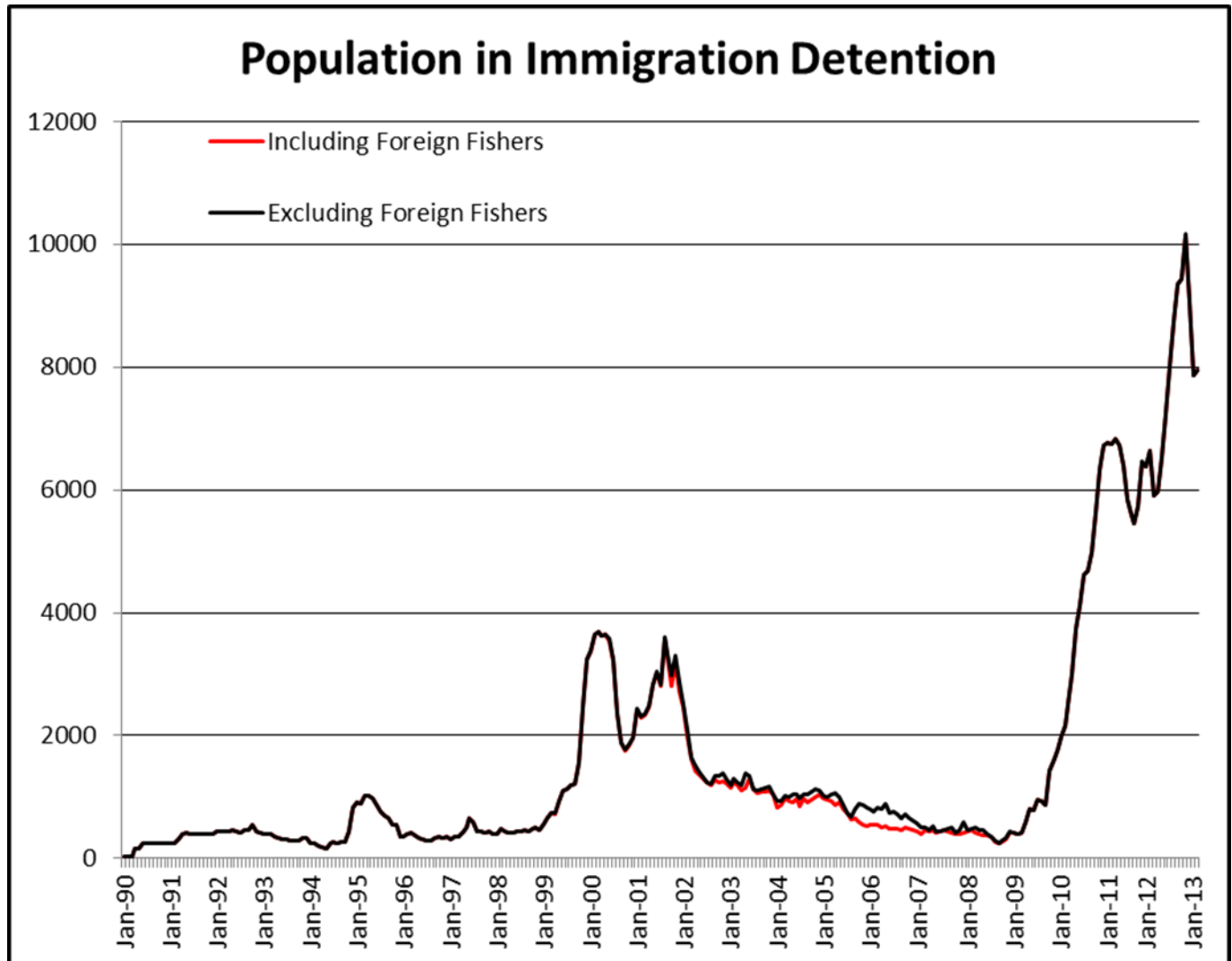
**Table 1 –People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention**

Place of immigration detention	Men	Women	Children	Total	Change from Previous Summary 31/01/2013
Christmas Island IDC	608			<b>608</b>	- 285
Curtin IDC	473			<b>473</b>	+ 275
Maribyrnong IDC	79	7		<b>86</b>	- 3
Northern IDC (Darwin)	441			<b>441</b>	- 162
Perth IDC	31			<b>31</b>	- 10
Scherger IDC	312			<b>312</b>	+ 198
Villawood IDC	338	46		<b>384</b>	- 4
Wickham Point IDC	901			<b>901</b>	- 23
Yongah Hill IDC	242			<b>242</b>	+ 1
<b>Total in IDCs</b>	<b>3425</b>	<b>53</b>		<b>3478</b>	<b>- 13</b>
Perth Immigration Residential Housing	2	3	9	<b>14</b>	- 3
Port Augusta Immigration Residential Housing	14	14	20	<b>48</b>	+ 4
Sydney Immigration Residential Housing	7	10	10	<b>27</b>	+ 1
Adelaide Immigration Transit Accommodation	16	4	2	<b>22</b>	- 4
Brisbane Immigration Transit Accommodation	35	14	20	<b>69</b>	- 6
Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation	58		37	<b>95</b>	+ 4
<b>Total in Immigration Residential Housing and Immigration Transit Accommodation</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>- 4</b>
Alternative Places of Detention (Christmas Island and Coco's Keeling Island)	157	180	279	<b>616</b>	+ 196
Alternative Places of Detention (Mainland)	354	342	685	<b>1381</b>	- 232
Restricted on Board Vessels in Port					0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4068</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>1062</b>	<b>5750</b>	<b>- 53</b>
<b>People in Community under Residence Determination</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>946</b>	<b>2202</b>	<b>- 24</b>

## Immigration Detention Population from 1990 to 28 February 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 2013 were higher than January 2013.

Figure 1 - Population in Immigration Detention

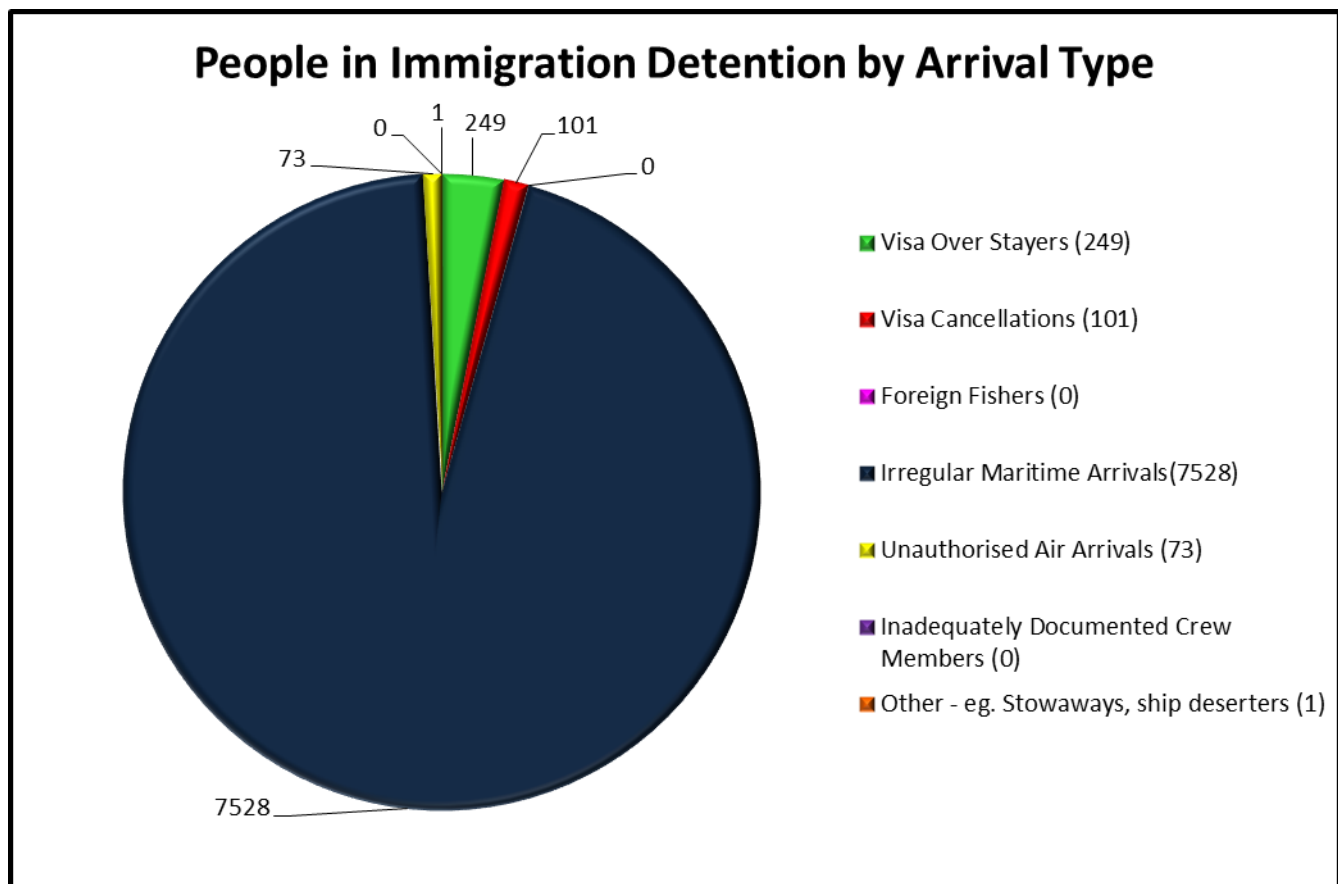


## People in Immigration Detention by Arrival Type

The number of people in immigration detention who arrived unlawfully by air or boat as at 28 February 2013 was 7602. This represents about 96% of the total immigration detention population.

There were also 350 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 5750 people in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention as at 28 February 2013 around 35% were Sri Lankan nationals, 16% were Iranian nationals and 12% were Afghan nationals.

**Table 2 - People in Immigration Detention Facilities and Alternative Places of Detention as at 28 February 2013**

Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Sri Lanka	1548	185	189	114	2036
Iran	527	192	117	104	940
Afghanistan	467	34	166	28	695
Iraq	104	39	38	38	219
Bangladesh	253		1		254
Pakistan	192	9	27	6	234
Indonesia	249	8	11	1	269
Myanmar	16	7	6	10	39
China, Peoples Republic Of	66	19			85
Vietnam	56	5	18	3	82
Other	590	122	107	78	897
<b>Total</b>	<b>4068</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>5750</b>

Of the 2202 people approved to live in the community under residence determination, as at 28 February 2013 around 34% were Iranian nationals, 19% were Sri Lankan nationals and 14% were Afghan nationals.

**Table 3 - People in the community under Residence Determination as at 28 February 2013**

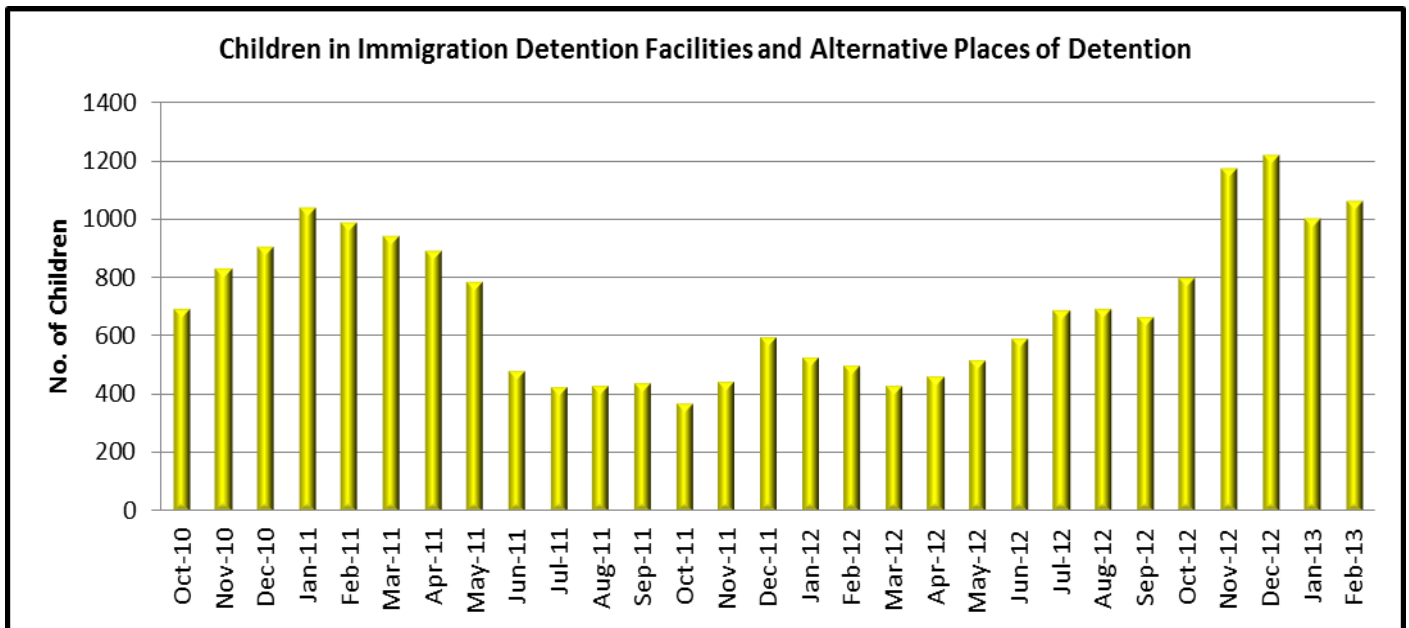
Nationalities	Adult		Child (<18 years)		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Sri Lanka	268	216	151	112	747
Iran	148	76	135	53	412
Afghanistan	119	25	152	19	315
Iraq	68	31	42	15	156
Palestinian Authority	19	20	17	23	79
Other	159	107	139	88	493
<b>Total</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>2202</b>

## Children in Immigration Detention

As at 28 February 2013 there were 1062 children (aged under 18 years) in immigration detention facilities and alternative places of detention.

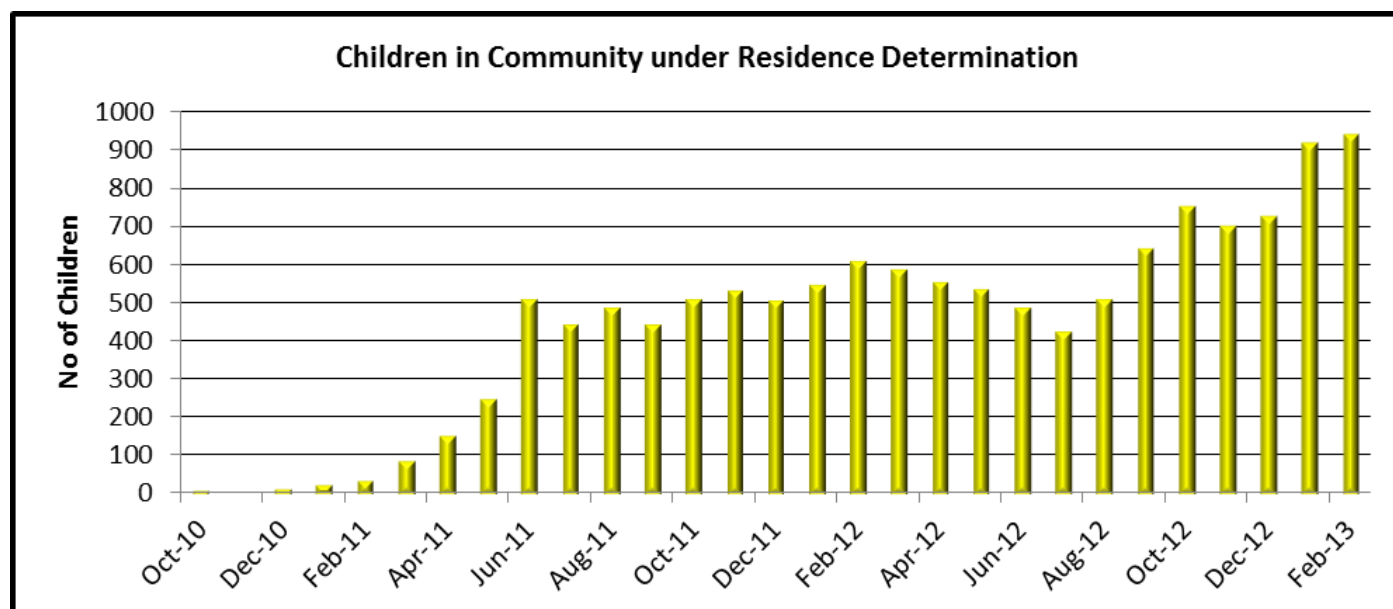
The increase in the number of children in detention facilities in November and December 2012 was due to a rapid increase in irregular maritime arrivals, from October to November 2012. This number has since reduced as children complete mandatory processing and are transferred into the community.

**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 28 February 2013, 1062 children remain in immigration detention while undergoing initial processing. The majority of these children arrived on or after 1 November 2012. 946 children were approved under residence determination for community placement. In addition no children had been granted a bridging visa in February 2013.

**Table 4 - Children in Immigration Detention as at 28 February 2013**

Type	Total
Immigration Residential Housing	39
Immigration Transit Accommodation	59
Alternative Places of Detention	964
<b>Total</b>	<b>1062</b>
<b>Children in Community under Residence Determination</b>	<b>946</b>
<b>Children Granted Bridging Visa E (BVE)</b>	<b>0</b>



## Time in Detention

Of the 7952 people in immigration detention as at 28 February 2013 around 30% had been detained for three months or less and 89% had been detained for 12 months or less.

**Table 5 - Length of time in detention as at 28 February 2013**

Period Detained	Total	% of Total
7 days or less	452	5.7
8 days - 31 days	754	9.5
32 days - 91 days	1203	15.1
92 days - 182 days	3189	40.1
183 days - 365 days	1466	18.4
366 days - 547 days	179	2.3
548 days - 730 days	156	2.0
Greater than 730 days	553	7.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7952</b>	<b>100</b>

The average period of people held in detention facilities has significantly decreased from 277 days in November 2011 to 141 days as at 28 February 2013.

**Figure 5 - Average days in immigration detention facilities only**

