

IMMIGRATION IN THE NEWS

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272 MILLION MIGRANTS GLOBALLY IN 2019

- **Migration a central political issue in Europe**
- **Rise of anti-immigration parties in EU**



30% OF CURRENT AUSTRALIAN POPULATION BORN OVERSEAS

- **Known as one of the world's major "immigrant nations"**
- **Different tracks to immigrate to Australia:**
 - **Majority of immigrants from skilled occupation stream**
 - **Also those who try to seek asylum from war or persecution**

AUSTRALIA HAS A HIGHLY POLITICISED AND CONTROVERSIAL ASYLUM POLICY

Only country in the world with policy of indefinite mandatory detention and offshore processing for asylum seekers

Right image part of Australian government communications campaign aimed at deterring potential asylum seekers from going to Australia



The Australian Government has introduced the toughest border protection measures ever.

- If you get on a boat without a visa, you will not end up in Australia.
- Any vessel seeking to illegally enter Australia will be intercepted and safely removed beyond Australian waters.
- The rules apply to everyone: families, children, unaccompanied children, educated and skilled.
- No matter who you are or where you are from, you will not make Australia home.

THINK AGAIN BEFORE YOU WASTE YOUR MONEY. PEOPLE SMUGGLERS ARE LYING.

www.australia.gov.au/novisa

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra

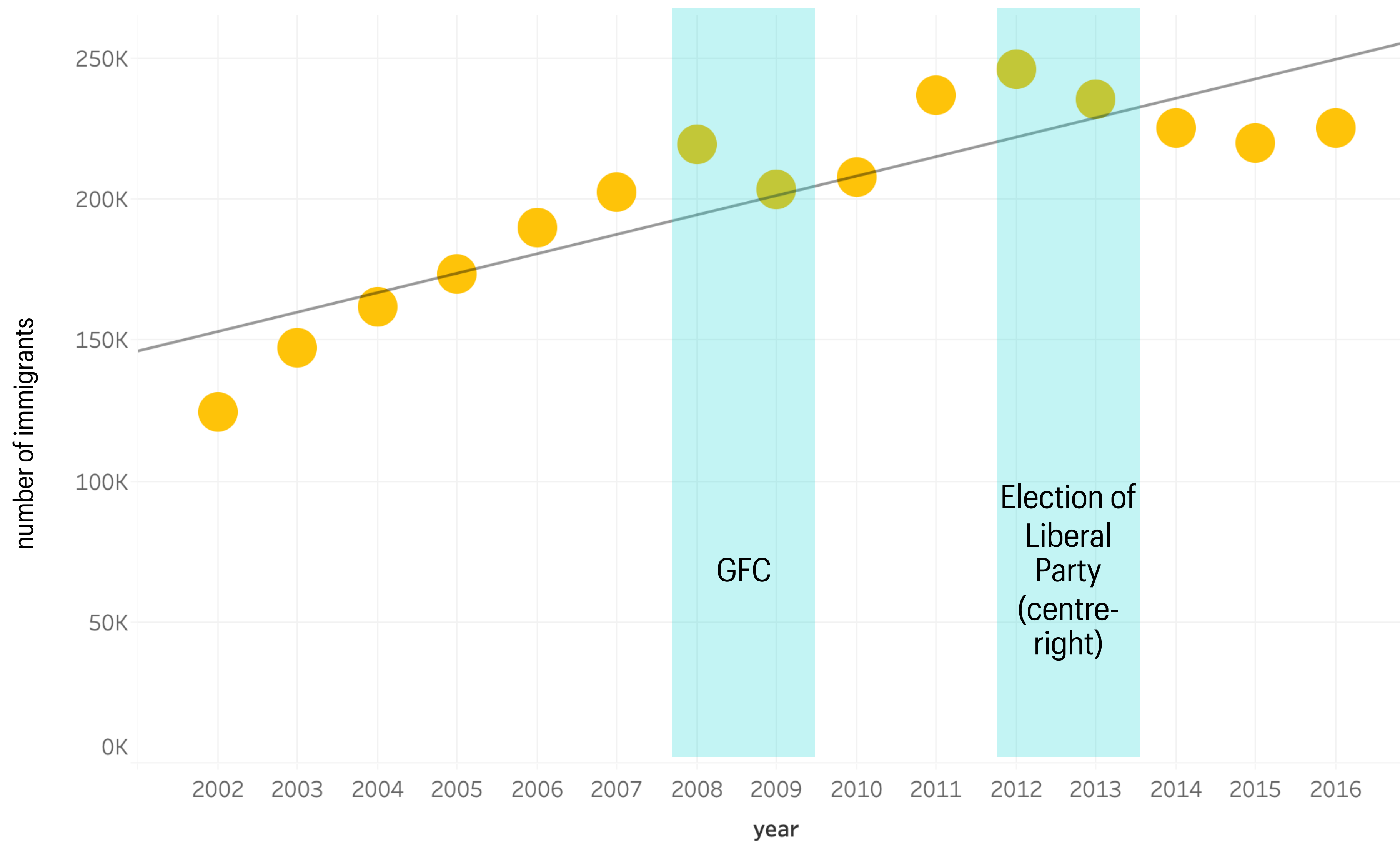


METHODOLOGY

- Australian government immigration data to analyse trends (2002-2016)
- Natural language processing to count percentage of migration-related language in > 1 million news headlines (2002-2016)
- Conducted several regression analyses to identify correlations between news and immigration numbers
- See Github for full details on methodology



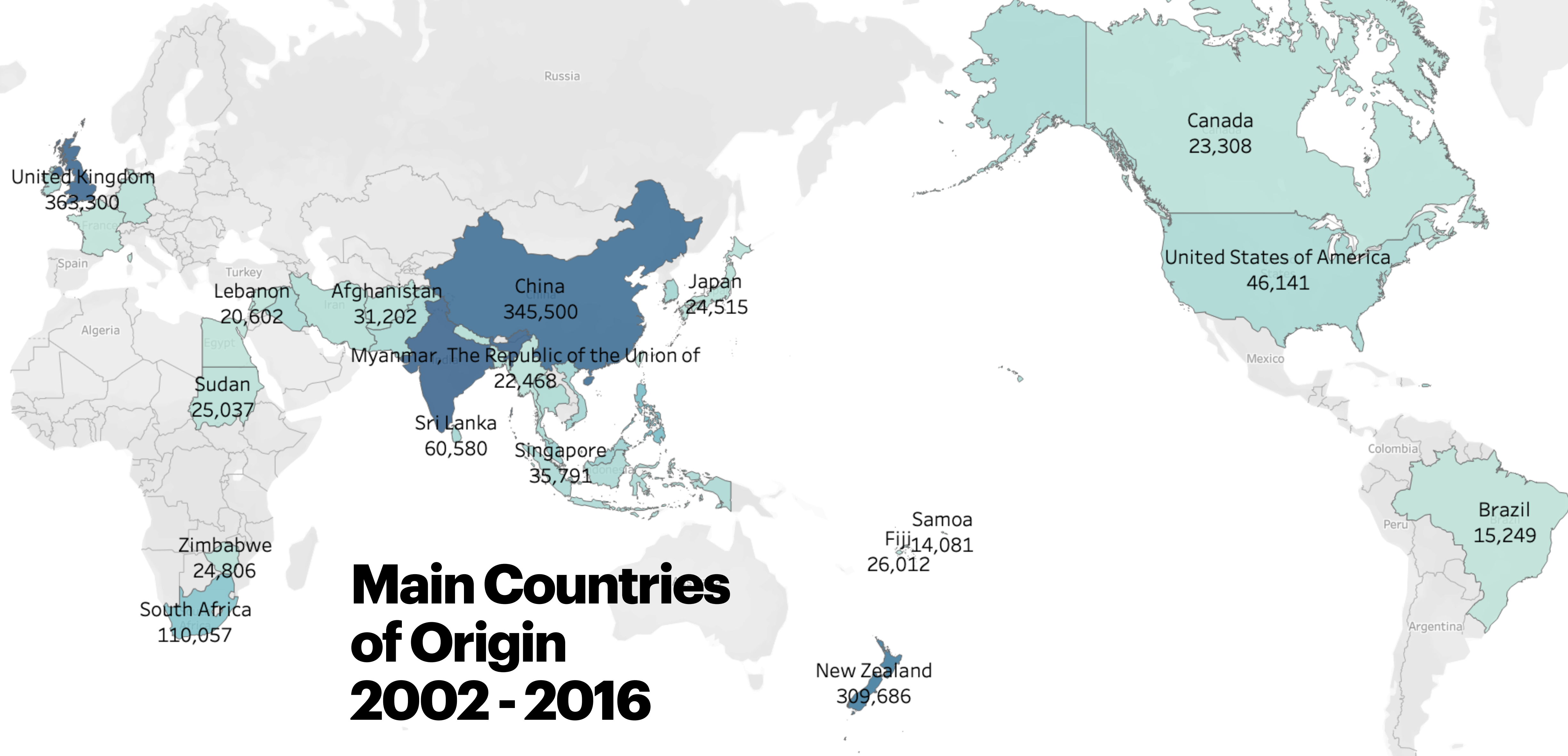
**HOW MANY IMMIGRANTS
COME TO AUSTRALIA AND
WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?**



**TIME SERIES &
REGRESSION
ANALYSIS
SHOWED THAT
IMMIGRATION
HAS ALMOST
DOUBLED
FROM 2002 TO
2016**

R squared: 0.758

P value: <0.0001



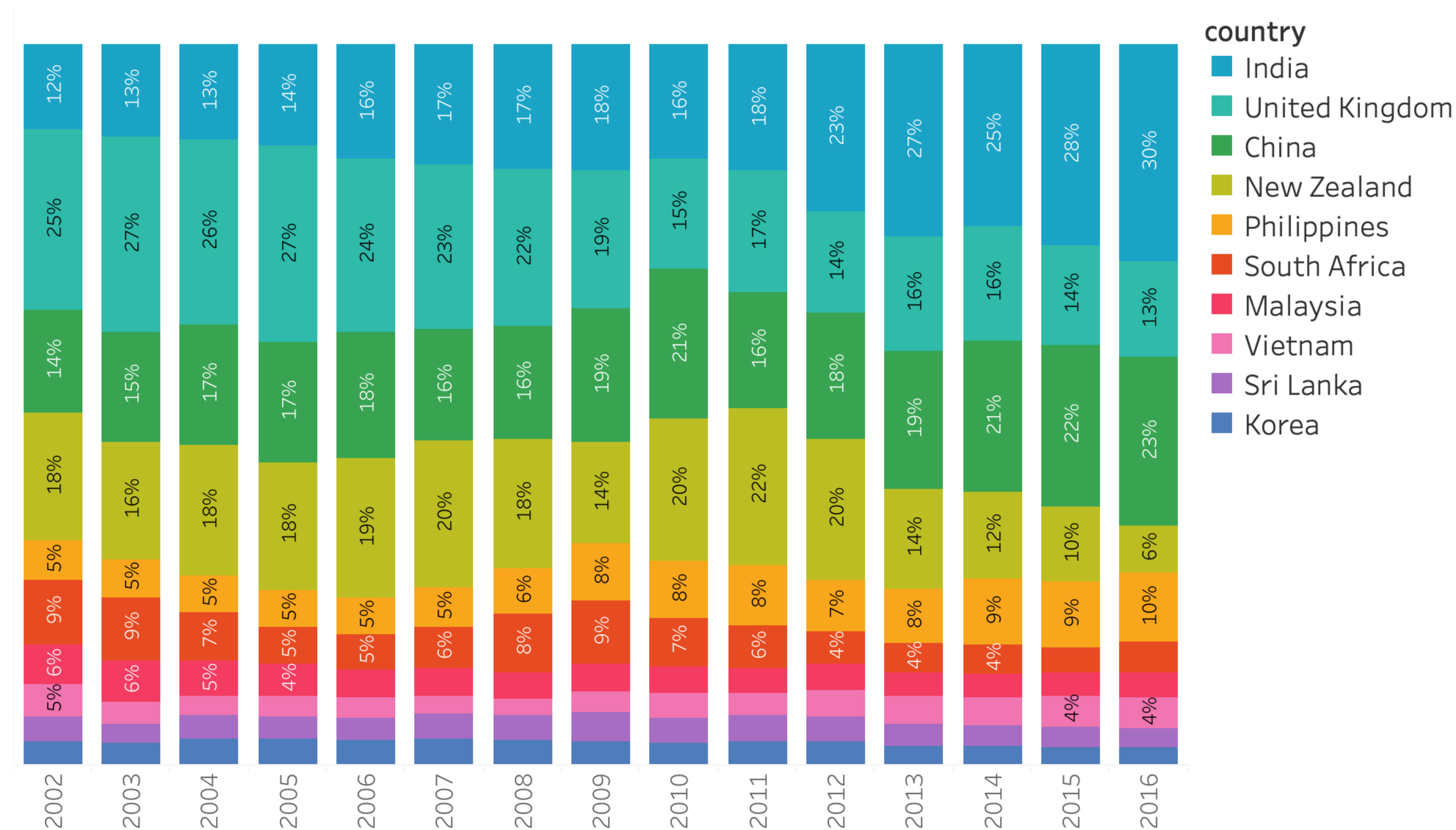
Main Countries of Origin 2002 - 2016

The main countries of origin (over 300k) are: the United Kingdom, New Zealand, China and India

Dark blue indicates the countries with the highest number of immigrants to Australia.



TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN - TIME EVOLUTION 2002 - 2016

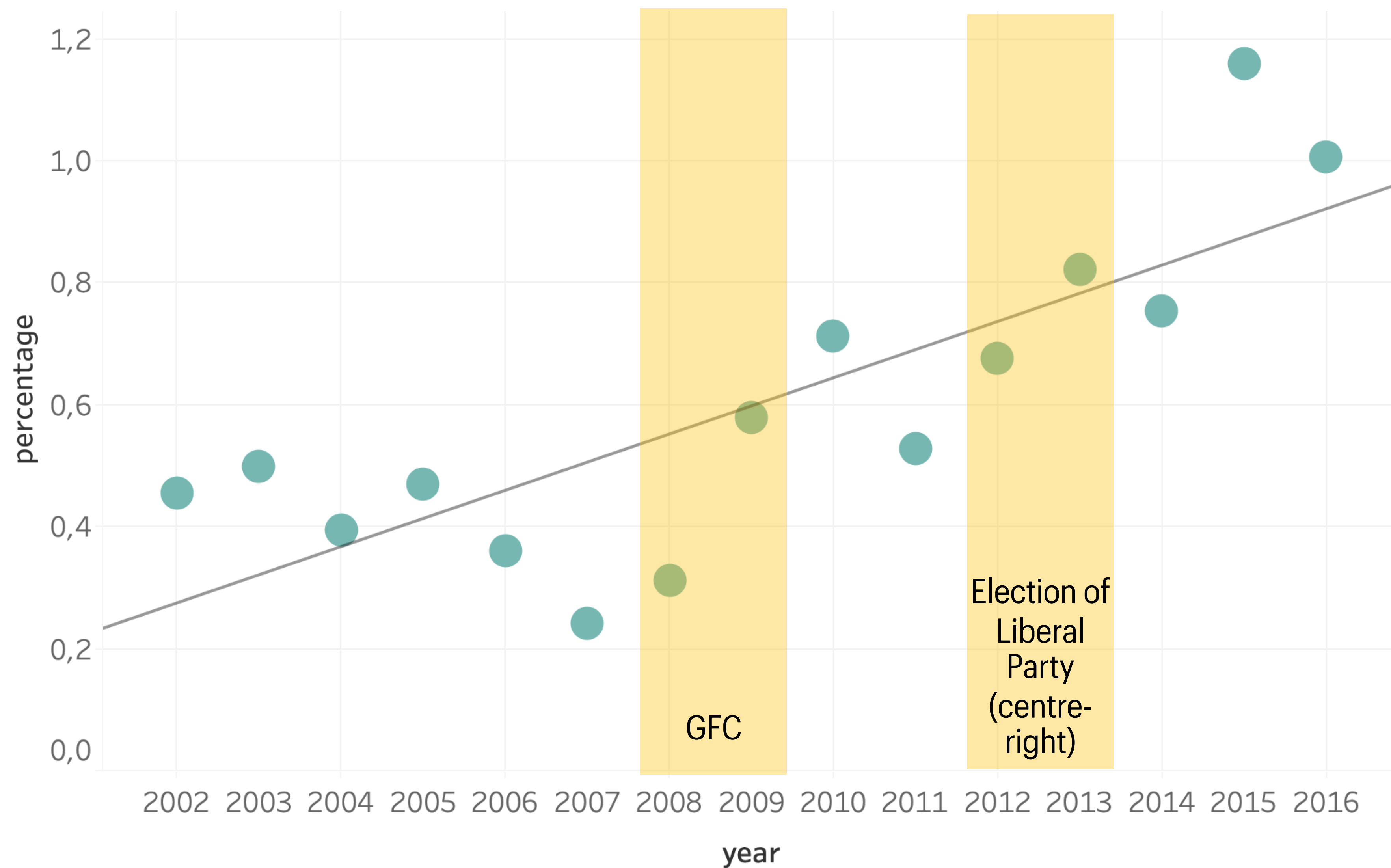


Key Milestones:

- **2002: Most immigrants from UK & NZ**
- **2010: China overtook UK for first time, followed by India in 2011.**
- **2016: Higher percent of immigrants from emerging economies (India, China, Philippines)**



**HOW OFTEN DOES MIGRATION
FEATURE IN THE NEWS?**



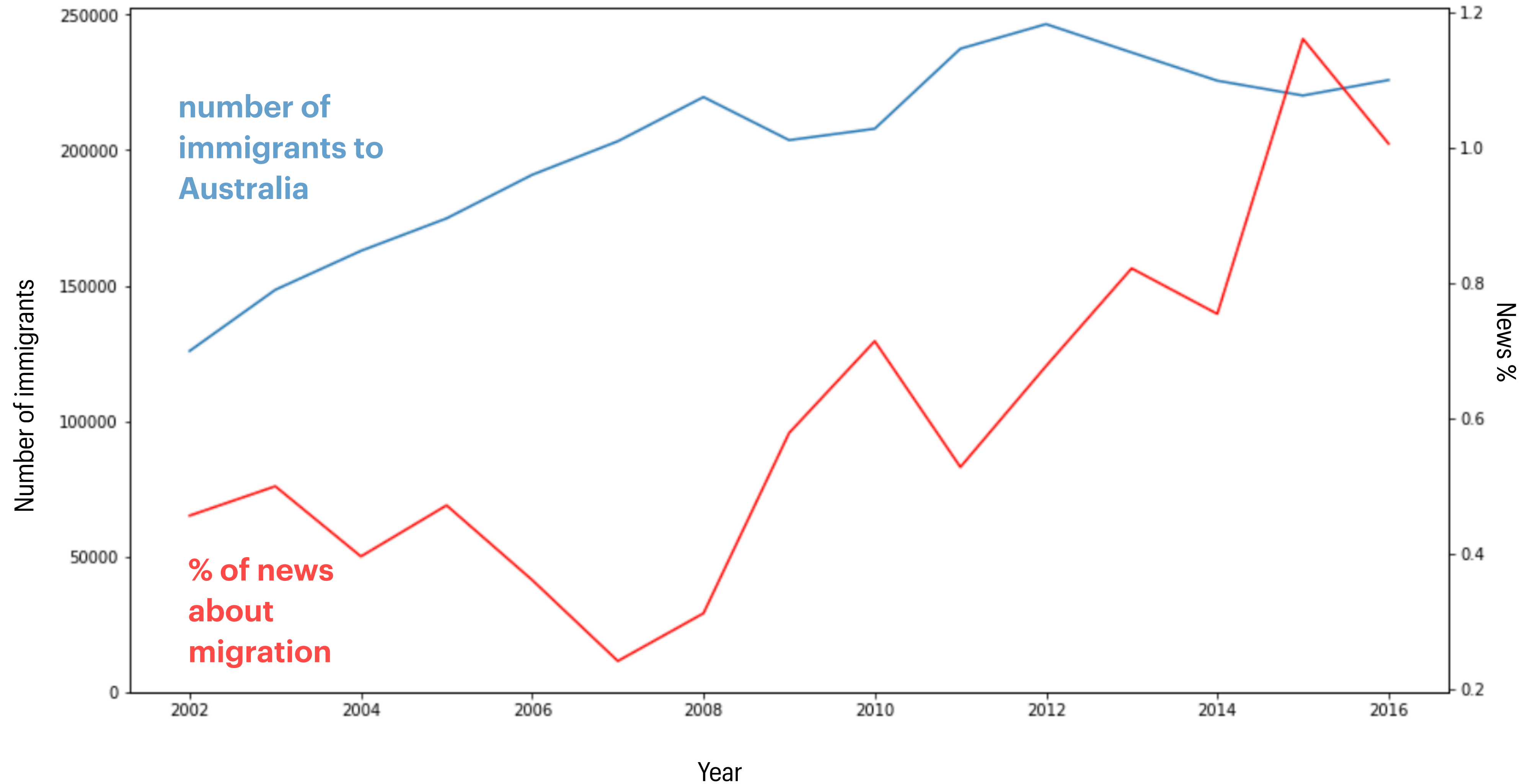
**TIME SERIES &
REGRESSION
ANALYSIS
SHOWED THAT
THE PERCENTAGE
OF NEWS ON
MIGRATION HAS
MORE THAN
DOUBLED FROM
2002 TO 2016**

R squared: 0.64

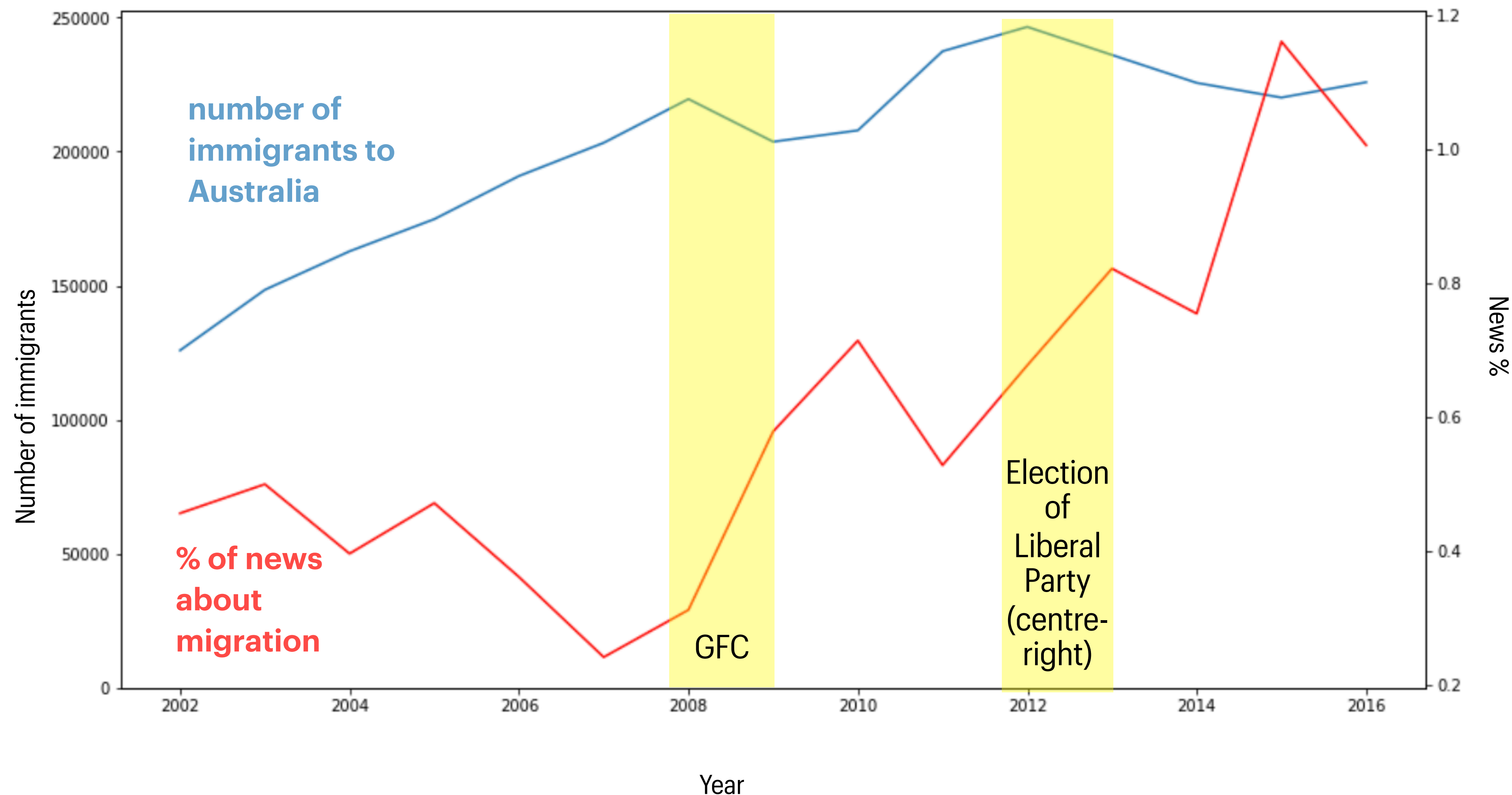
P value: 0.0003



**IS THERE A CORRELATION
BETWEEN MEDIA COVERAGE AND
ACTUAL IMMIGRATION NUMBERS?**



**POSITIVE
UPWARDS
TREND IN
BOTH
IMMIGRATION
NUMBERS
AND NEWS -
VISUALLY
THEY APPEAR
TO BE
CORRELATED**



**HOWEVER,
NEWS ON
IMMIGRATION
IS NOT
DRIVEN BY
IMMIGRATION
NUMBERS**

**Multivariate
regression
analyses showed
no statistically
significant
correlations**

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Australia has a high and increasing immigrant population
- Immigration from emerging economies (China, India) has overtaken the UK
- The percentage of news on immigration has increased over time
- No significant correlations between immigration numbers and news
- Other factors may explain more variance in news on immigration, e.g. government type or policies

→ starting point for future analysis

THANK YOU

**QUESTIONS?
PLEASE REACH OUT!**

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