



Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs

# The Administration of the Immigration and Citizenship Programs

Addendum – August 2021 (data updated to 31 July 2021)



**Note:**

Tables 2, 8 and 11 and Figures 11, 12 and 13 from the Administration of Immigration and Citizenship Programs document published in May 2021 have not been updated in this document because there has been no change to this data or because new data is not yet available for publication.

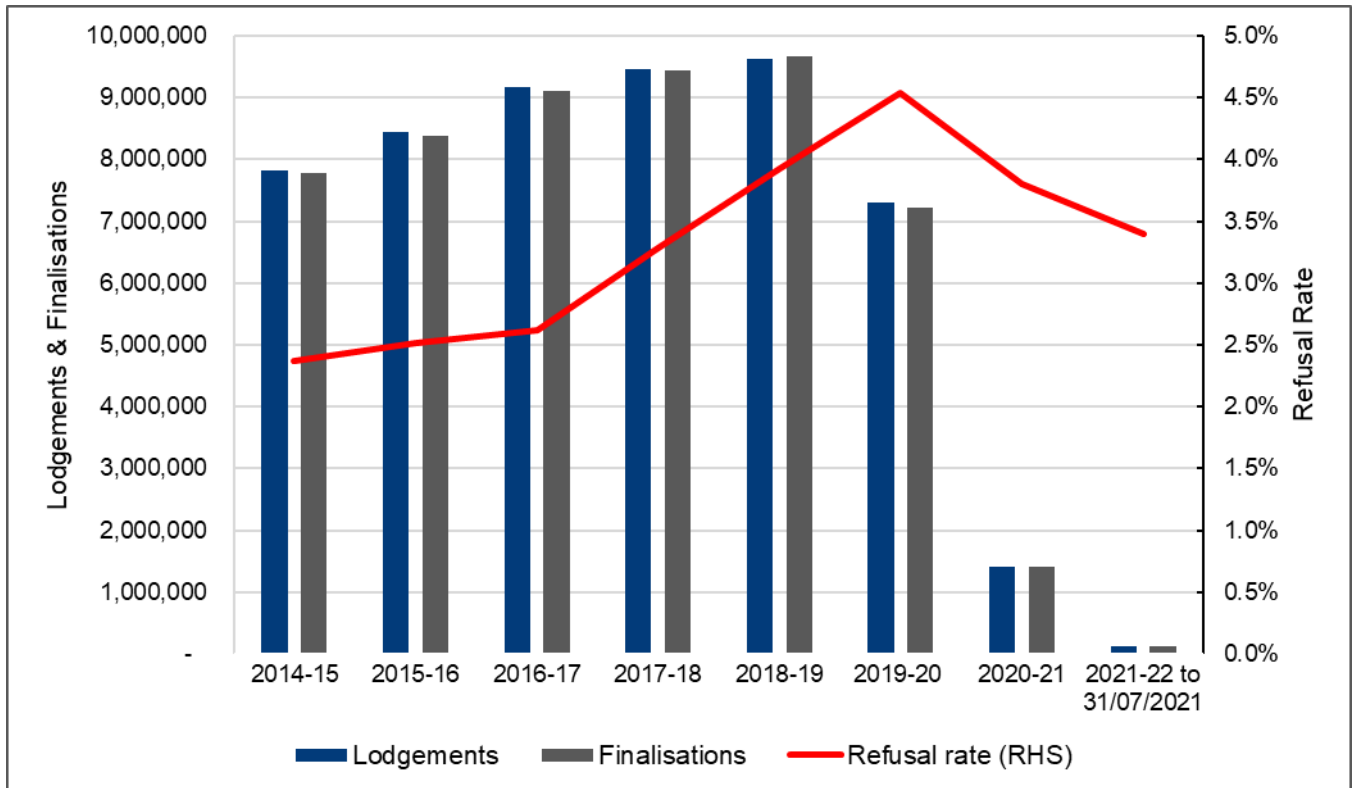
**Table 1:** Travel Exemptions processing from March 2020<sup>1</sup> to 31 July 2021

	Inbound	Outbound
Requests received	357,085	397,905
Total requests finalised	354,431	396,819
Requests approved	57,601	189,336
Requests refused	130,667	109,789
Requests otherwise finalised <sup>2</sup>	166,153	97,694
Average processing time <sup>3</sup>	3 days 23 hours	1 day 20 hours

Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

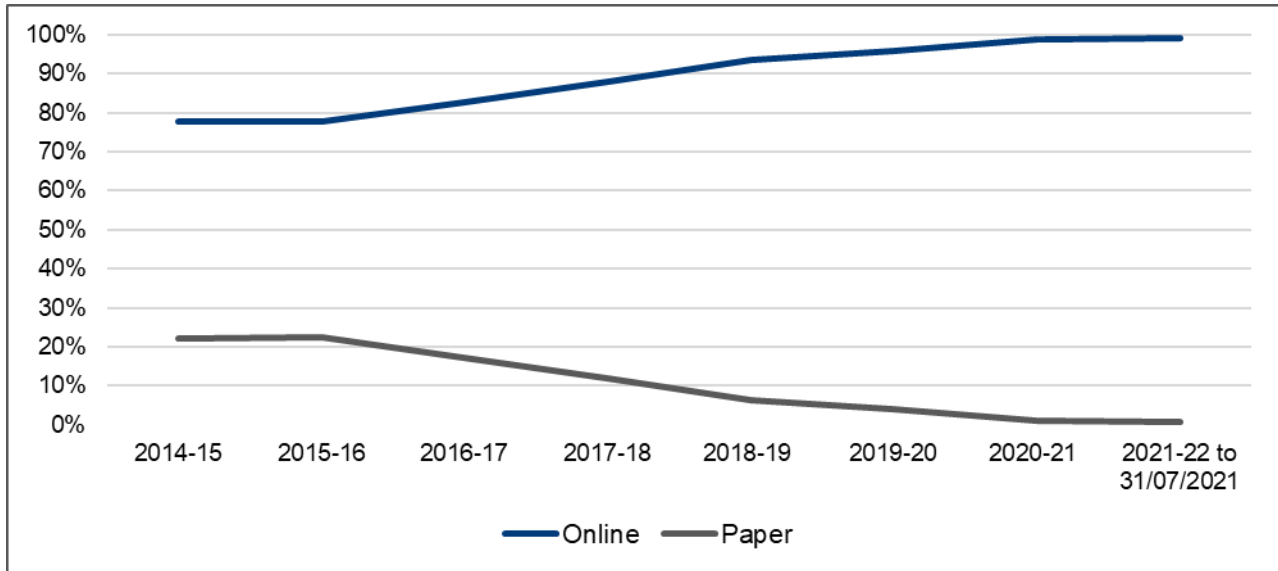
1. Since 20 March 2020 for inward exemptions and 25 March 2020 for outward exemptions.
2. Otherwise finalised includes persons found to meet an early exempt category, withdrawn requests and those that did not contain sufficient information for referral to a decision maker.
3. Average processing times only available for cases finalised from 1 August 2020, when all processing moved to the purpose built Travel Exemption Portal.

**Figure 1:** Total non-humanitarian visa programs trends: 2014–15 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)



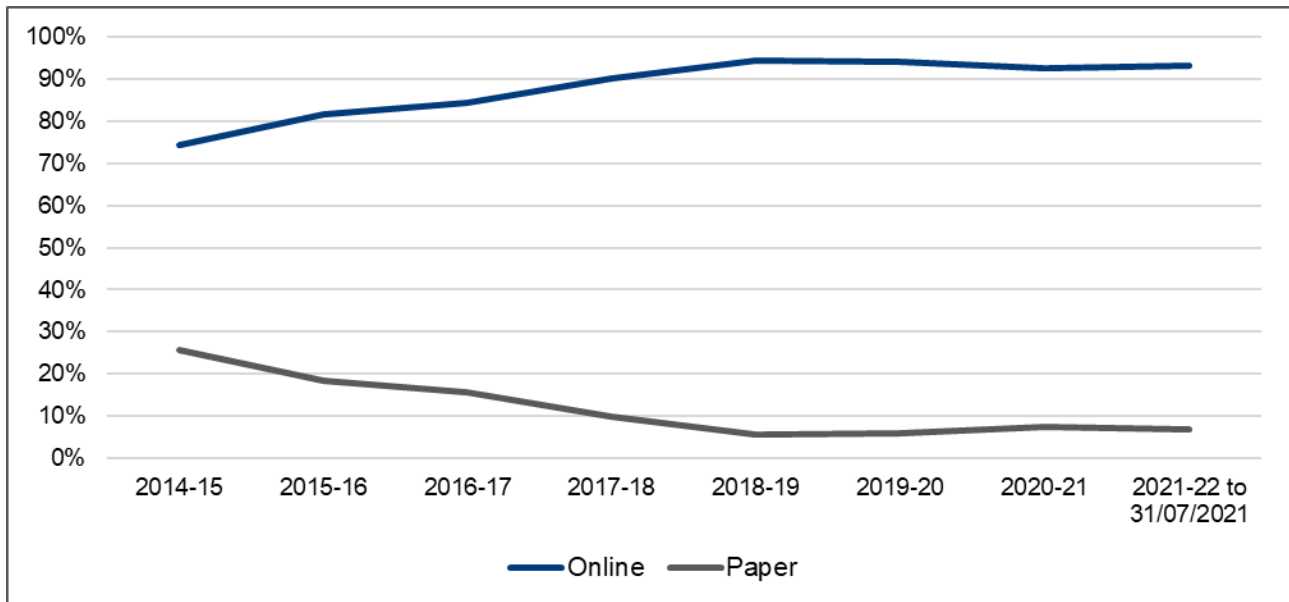
Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

**Figure 2:** Growth in online lodgements for the temporary visa program: 2014–15 to 31 July 2021



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 3:** Growth in online lodgements for the permanent visa program: 2014–15 to 31 July 2021



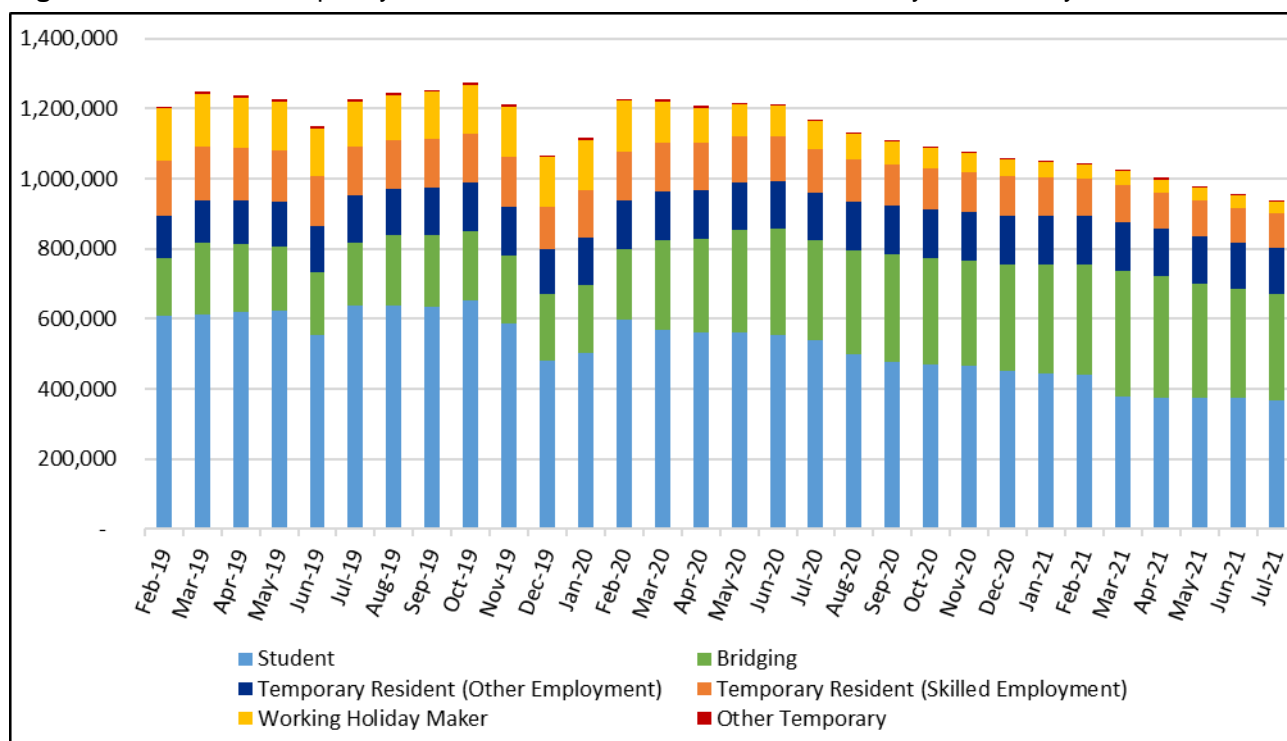
Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 3: Change in the Number of Temporary visa holders in Australia, 31 July 2020 to 31 July 2021**

Visa Category	31/07/2020	31/07/2021	Difference	% Change
Bridging <sup>1</sup>	284,046	302,650	18,604	6.5%
Crew and Transit	8,485	10,334	1,849	21.8%
Other Temporary	5,526	4,119	-1,407	-25.5%
Special Category	664,242	657,764	-6,478	-1.0%
Student	538,853	367,723	-171,130	-31.8%
Temporary Protection	17,714	18,434	720	4.1%
Temporary Resident (Other Employment)	137,400	132,223	-5,177	-3.8%
Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)	124,074	97,152	-26,922	-21.7%
Visitor	97,056	41,362	-55,694	-57.4%
Working Holiday Maker	79,030	35,325	-43,705	-55.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,956,426</b>	<b>1,667,086</b>	<b>-289,340</b>	<b>-14.8%</b>

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 4: Number of Temporary selected visa holders in Australia<sup>2</sup>, February 2019 to July 2021**

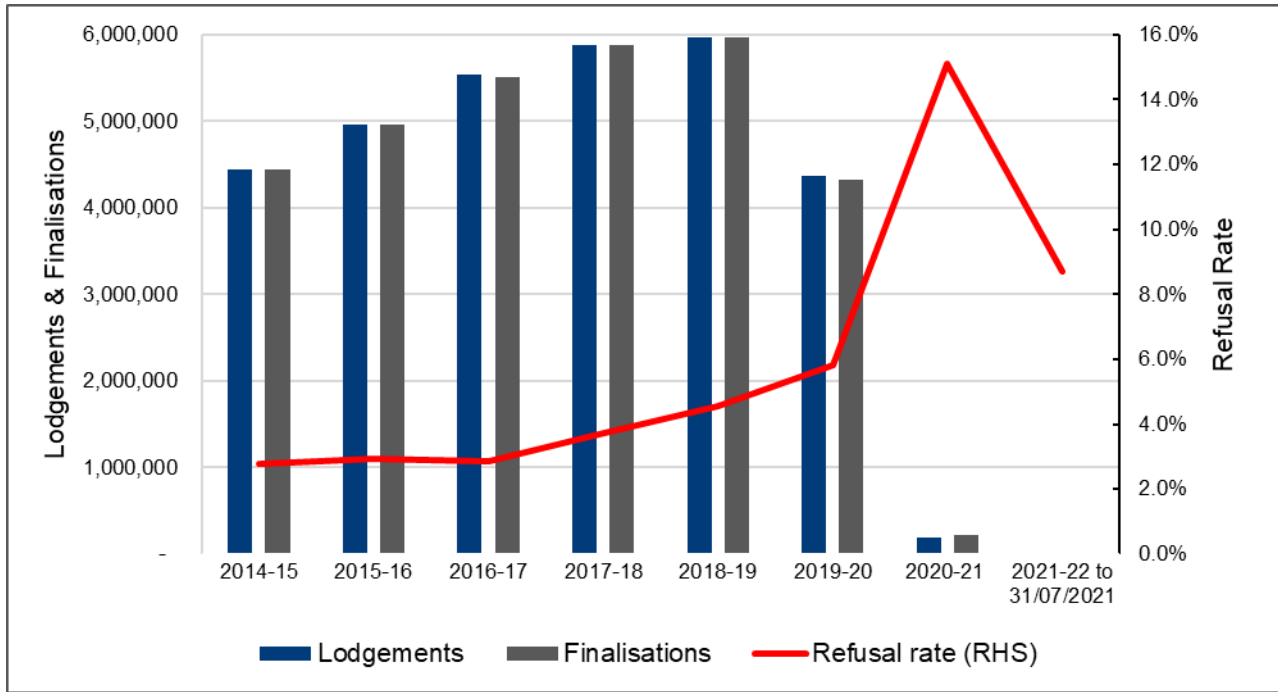


Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Bridging Visa E holders.

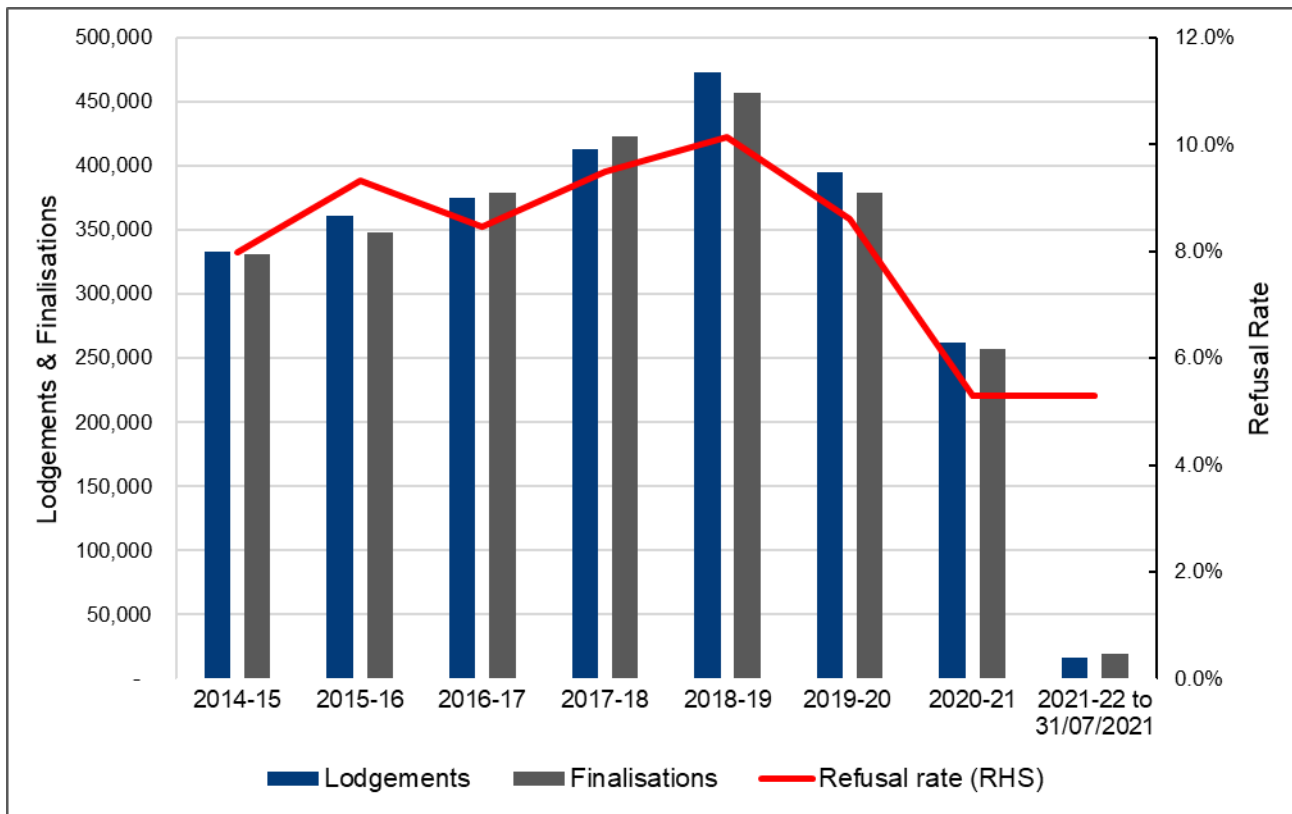
<sup>2</sup> Excludes Visitor, Crew, Transit, Other Protection, Bridging Visa E and Special Category visa holders.

**Figure 5: Visitor visa program trends: 2014–15 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 6: Student visa program trends: 2014–15 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

Note: data includes all primary and secondary Student visa applications.

**Table 4:** Number of Student visa holders in Australia, quarterly to 30 June 2021 and 31 July 2021

Visa Type	31-Dec-19	31-Mar-20	30-Jun-20	30-Sep-20	31-Dec-20	31-Mar-21	30-Jun-21	31-Jul-21
Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	2,832	4,393	4,278	3,471	2,579	2,130	2,084	1,850
Higher Education Sector	267,555	330,497	329,720	267,286	250,346	192,716	197,956	193,221
Independent ELICOS Sector	24,950	22,952	15,756	9,762	6,436	4,382	3,084	2,781
Non-Award Sector	3,241	4,834	2,799	565	348	163	173	174
Postgraduate Research Sector	22,472	27,069	25,645	23,841	22,426	21,193	20,628	20,557
Schools Sector	6,808	17,949	17,336	16,565	14,726	10,758	10,664	10,640
Student (Not Further Specified)	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Vocational Education and Training Sector	152,674	160,219	159,765	154,882	153,060	146,432	139,456	138,489
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>480,543</b>	<b>567,924</b>	<b>555,310</b>	<b>476,383</b>	<b>449,932</b>	<b>377,785</b>	<b>374,056</b>	<b>367,723</b>

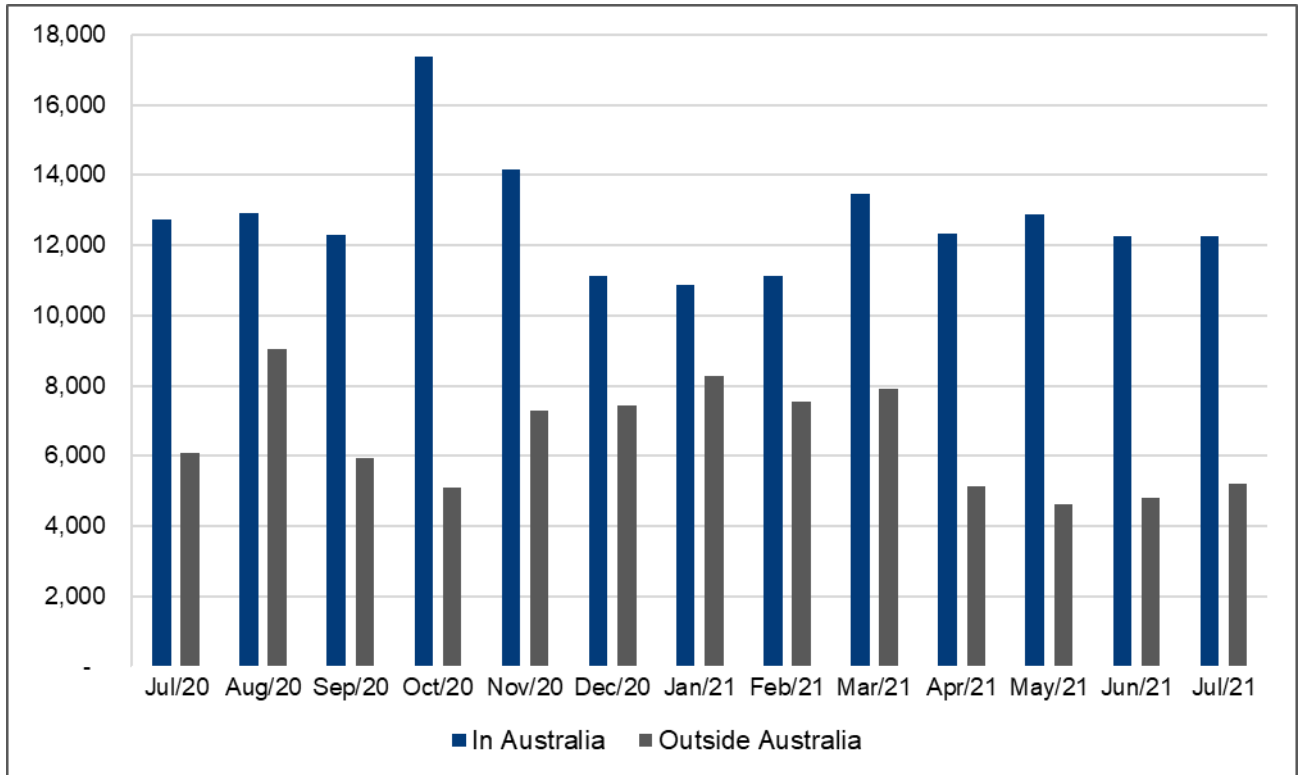
Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 5:** Change in the number of Student visa applications lodged by sector, 2019-20 to 2021-22

Visa type	2019-20	2020-21	Difference	% Change	2020-21 to 31/07/2020	2021-22 to 31/07/2021	Difference	% Change
Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	3,786	1,639	-2,147	-56.7%	169	143	-26	-15.4%
Higher Education Sector	197,529	143,199	-54,330	-27.5%	10,561	10,091	-470	-4.5%
Independent ELICOS Sector	36,285	6,284	-30,001	-82.7%	632	252	-380	-60.1%
Non-Award Sector	12,281	389	-11,892	-96.8%	92	20	-72	-78.3%
Postgraduate Research Sector	11,790	9,611	-2,179	-18.5%	598	778	180	30.1%
Schools Sector	7,903	2,542	-5,361	-67.8%	160	92	-68	-42.5%
Vocational Education and Training Sector	125,572	98,969	-26,603	-21.2%	7424	5147	-2277	-30.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>395,146</b>	<b>262,633</b>	<b>-132,513</b>	<b>-33.5%</b>	<b>19,636</b>	<b>16,523</b>	<b>-3,113</b>	<b>-15.9%</b>

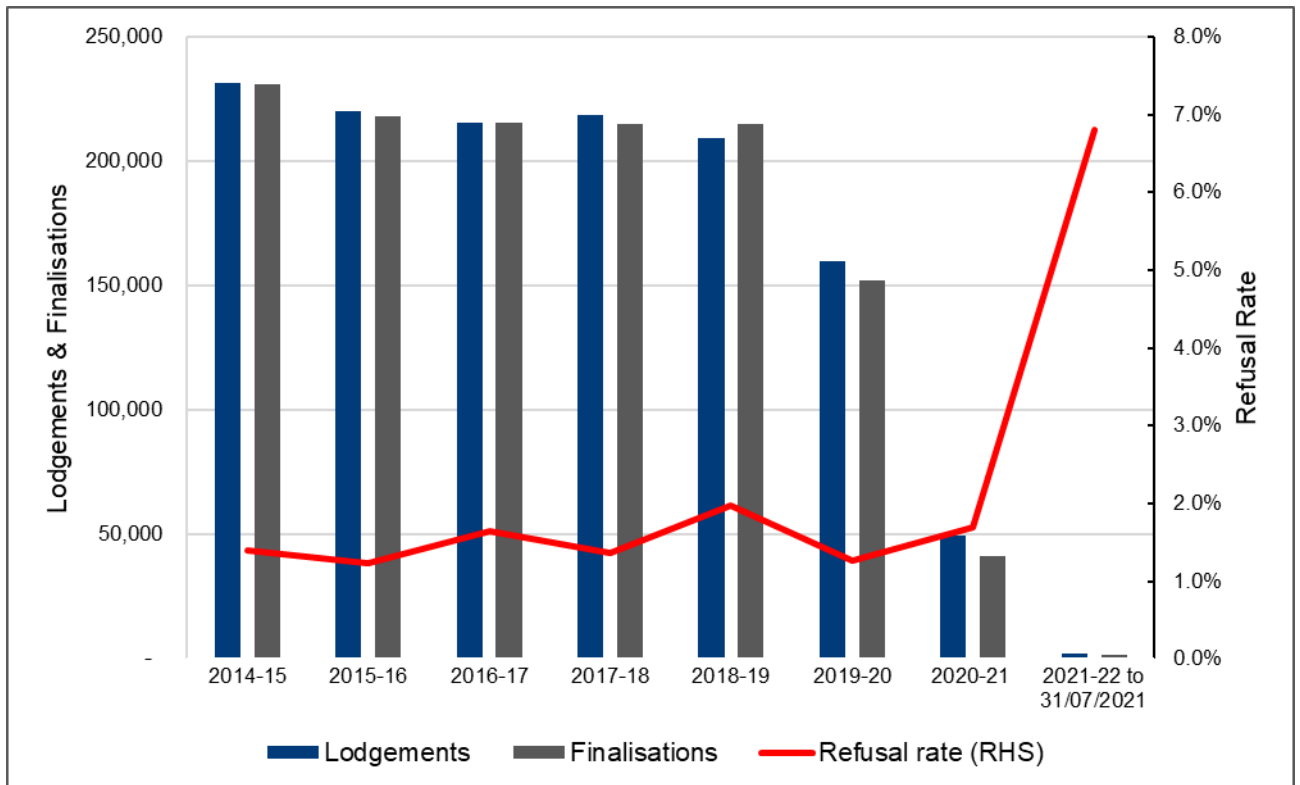
Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 7: Student visa grants by client location: 2020-21 and July 2021**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 8: Working Holiday Maker visa trends: 2014–15 to 2021–22 (to July 2021)**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 6:** Temporary Skill Shortage visa, most frequently nominated occupations, 2020-21 to 2021-22

Nominated Occupation	2020-21 to 31 July 2021	2021-22 to 31 July 2021	% change from 2020-21	2021-22 as % of Total
351311 Chef	<5	290	29,100.0%	13.6%
253112 Resident Medical Officer	80	250	220.3%	11.8%
261313 Software Engineer	60	170	180.6%	8.1%
261311 Analyst Programmer	30	160	381.8%	7.4%
221111 Accountant (General)	50	140	158.5%	6.4%
261312 Developer Programmer	40	90	138.5%	4.3%
133111 Construction Project Manager	20	30	113.3%	1.5%
111111 Chief Executive or Managing Director	10	30	107.1%	1.4%
253111 General Practitioner	40	30	-24.3%	1.3%
221112 Management Accountant	10	30	211.1%	1.3%
254418 Registered Nurse (Medical)	10	30	100.0%	1.2%
234711 Veterinarian	<5	30	733.3%	1.2%
321212 Diesel Motor Mechanic	10	20	166.7%	1.1%
312512 Mechanical Engineering Technician	30	20	-7.7%	1.1%
261211 Multimedia Specialist	<5	20	1,100.0%	1.1%
Other occupations	1,420	790	-44.1%	37.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 7:** Change in the number of Temporary Resident (skilled) primary visas lodged, 2020-21 to 2021-22

Visa Category	2020-21 to 31/07/2021	2021-22 to 31/07/2021	Difference	% Change
Temporary Resident (Skilled Employment)	2,188	2,545	357	16%

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 9:** Hong Kong Nationals visa activity since the announcement

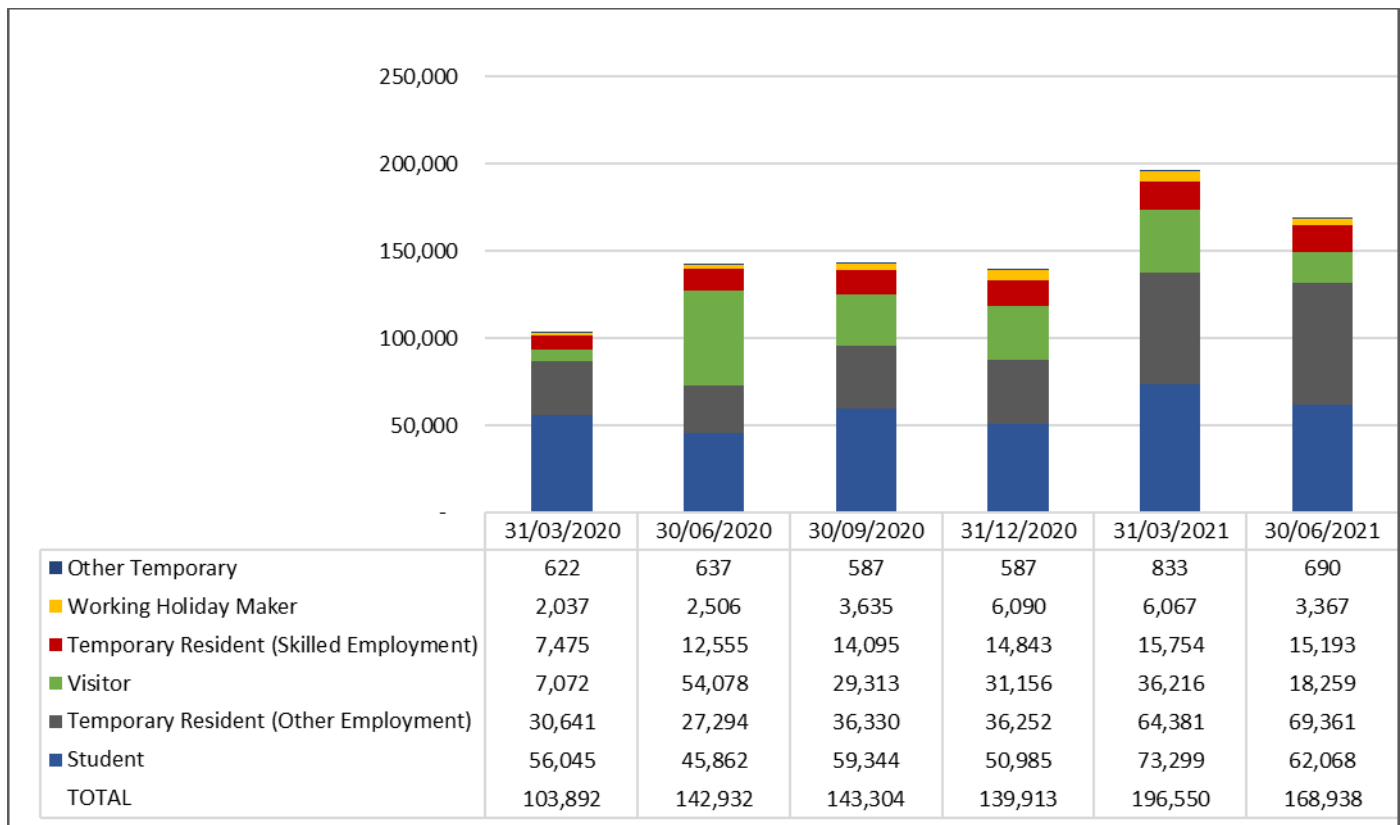
Activity	Lodgements 2021-22 to 31/07/2021	Change from 2020-21 to 31/07/2021	Grants 2021-22 to 31/07/2021	Change from 2020-21 to 31/07/2021
Temp Skill Shortage sc482	36	28.6% (+8)	37	164.3% (+23)
Temp Graduate sc485	103	47.1% (+33)	<5	-96.5%

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

Note: number in brackets is the difference in lodgements or grants from the corresponding period in 2020.

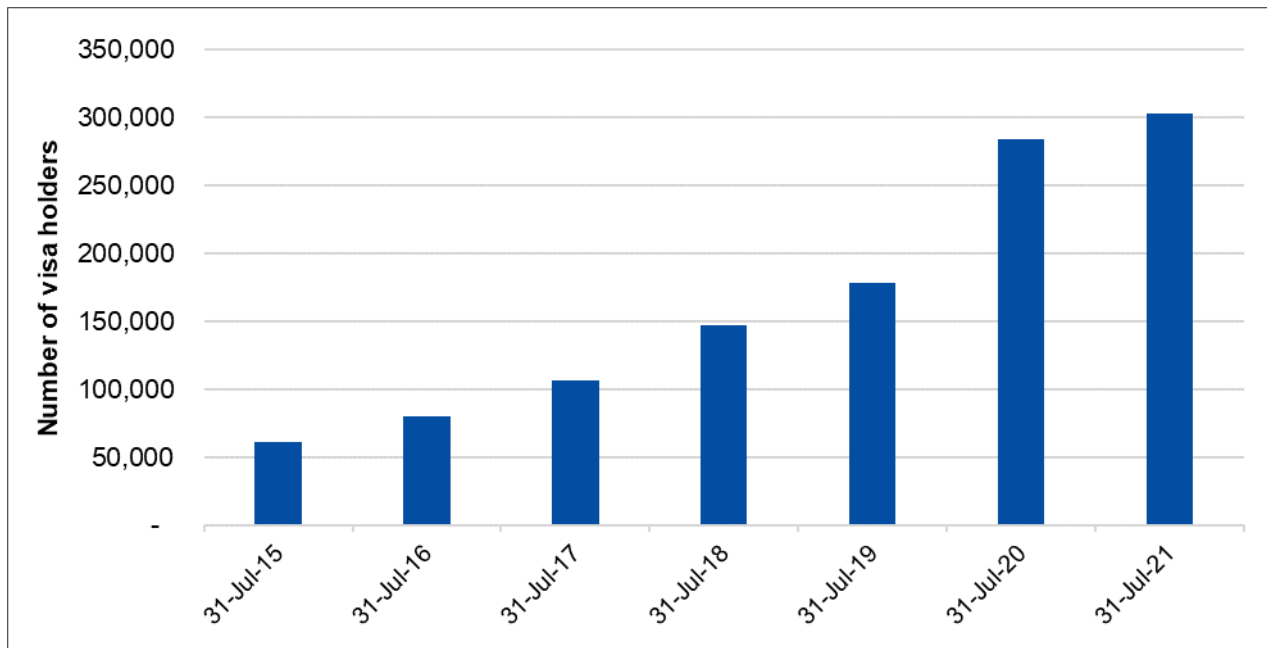


**Figure 9: Bridging visa A, B and C holders in Australia by selected temporary visa category applied for**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 10: Number of bridging visa holders in Australia, 30 June 2015 to 31 July 2021<sup>1</sup>**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

Note: excludes Bridging Visa E (subclass 050 and 051) holders, includes applicants for permanent and temporary visas.

**Table 10:** Number of permanent primary visa applications lodged by client location, 2021-22 (to 31/07/2021)

Visa Category	In Australia	%	Outside Australia	%	Total
Child	46	0.39%	161	3.26%	207
Family	3,729	31.69%	2,219	44.96%	5,948
Other Permanent	<5	0.03%	<5	0.08%	7
Resident Return/ADV	3,754	31.90%	2,069	41.92%	5,823
Skilled	4,235	35.99%	483	9.79%	4,718
Special Eligibility	<5	0.01%			<5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>11,768</b>		<b>4,936</b>		<b>16,704</b>

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 12:** Global Talent Visa Program, Expression of Interest (EOI) assessment outcomes, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)

Program Year	Invited	%	Not Invited	%	Grand Total
2020-2021	4,143	41.3%	5,886	58.7%	10,029
2021-2022	197	46.2%	229	53.8%	426
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,340</b>	<b>41.5%</b>	<b>6,115</b>	<b>58.5%</b>	<b>10,455</b>

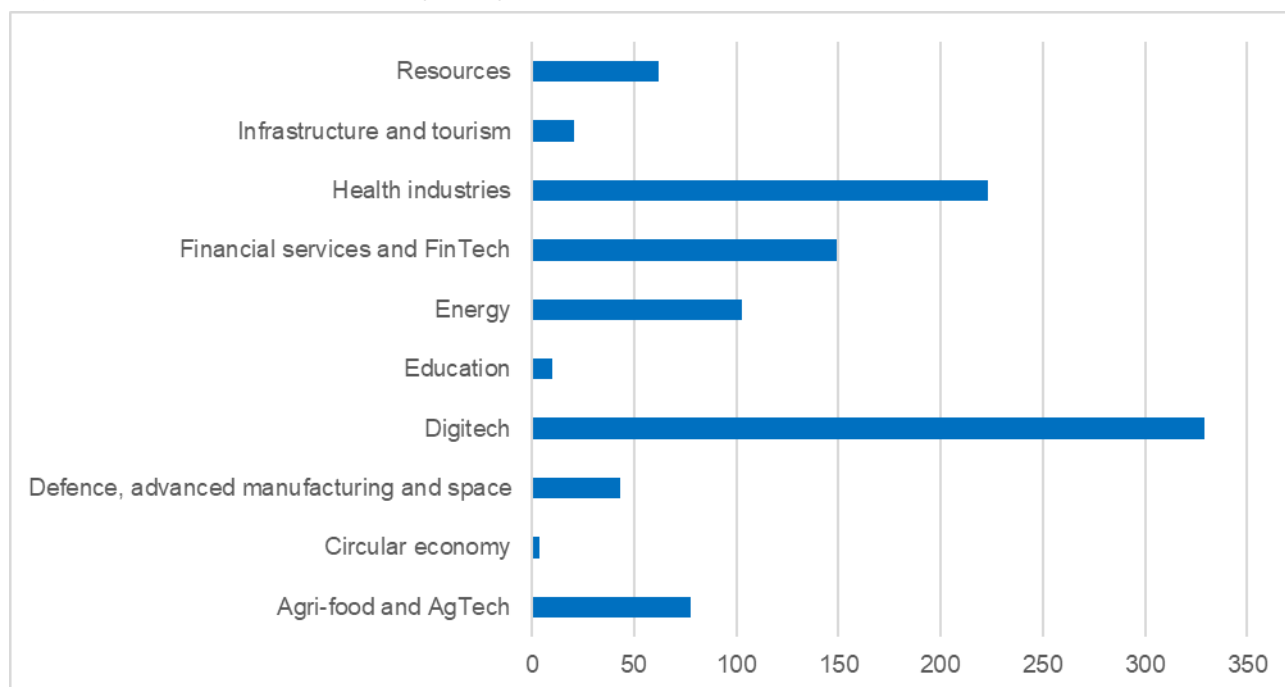
Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 13:** Global Talent Visa Program, average visa processing time for applications finalised between 1 July 2021 and 31 July 2021

Stream	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
Global Talent Pathway	63 days	102 days

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 14:** Global Talent Visa Program, grants by sector as at 31 July 2021



Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

Note: this graph reflects the Global Talent Independent Program priority growth sectors in place up 17 December 2020. From February 2021, the priority growth sectors will include: Resources; Agri-food and AgTech; Energy; Health industries; Defence, advanced manufacturing and space; Circular economy; Digitech; Infrastructure and tourism; Financial Services and FinTech; and Education.

**Table 14:** Number of visa applications lodged for Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa Programs, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)

Visa Subclass	2020-21	2021-22 to 31 July 2021
Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491)	16,019	1,920
Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 494)	1,890	196
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>17,909</b>	<b>2,116</b>

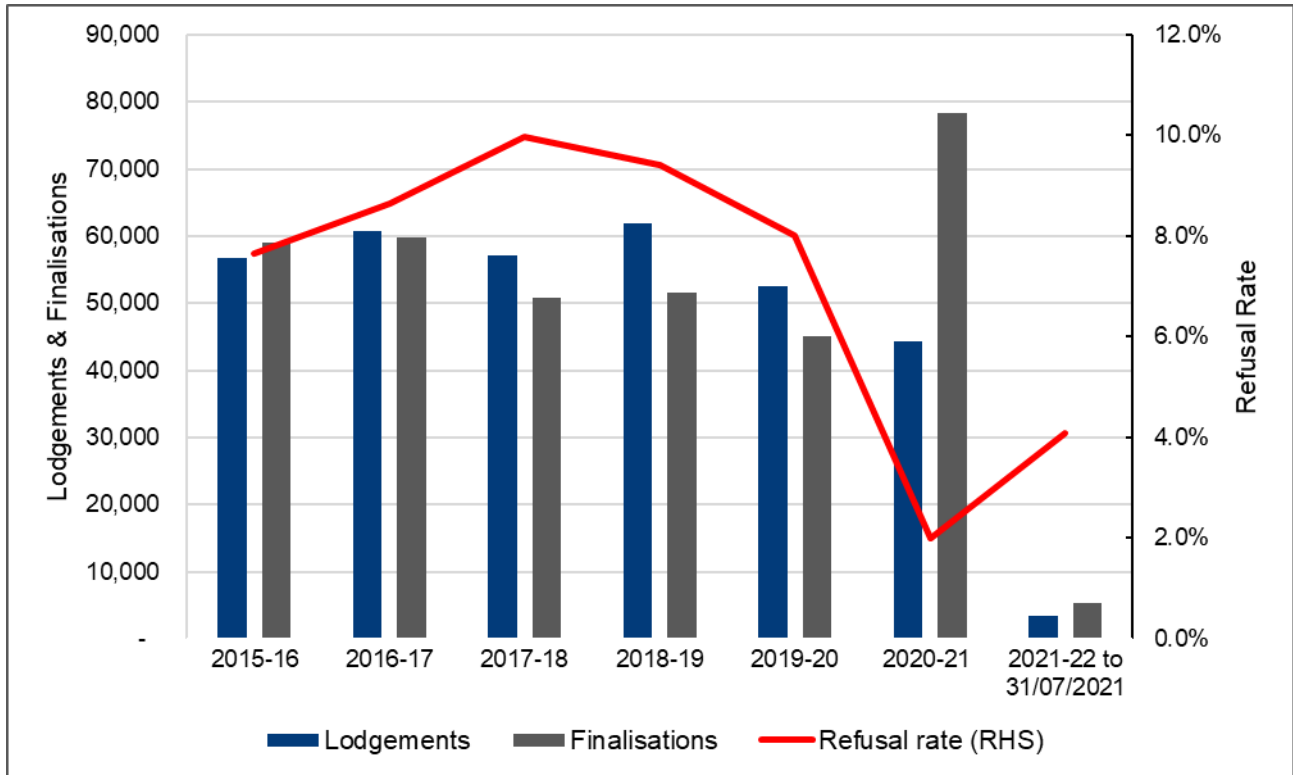
Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

**Table 15:** Applications Finalised for Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa Programs, 2020-21 and 2021-22 to 31 July 2021

Visa Subclass	Outcome	2020-21	2021-22 to 31 July 2021
Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491)	Granted	8,930	861
	Refused and Withdrawn	264	36
<i>Sub Total Subclass 491</i>		<i>9,194</i>	<i>897</i>
Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 494)	Granted	1,425	166
	Refused and Withdrawn	85	15
<i>Sub Total Subclass 494</i>		<i>1,510</i>	<i>181</i>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>10,704</b>	<b>1,078</b>

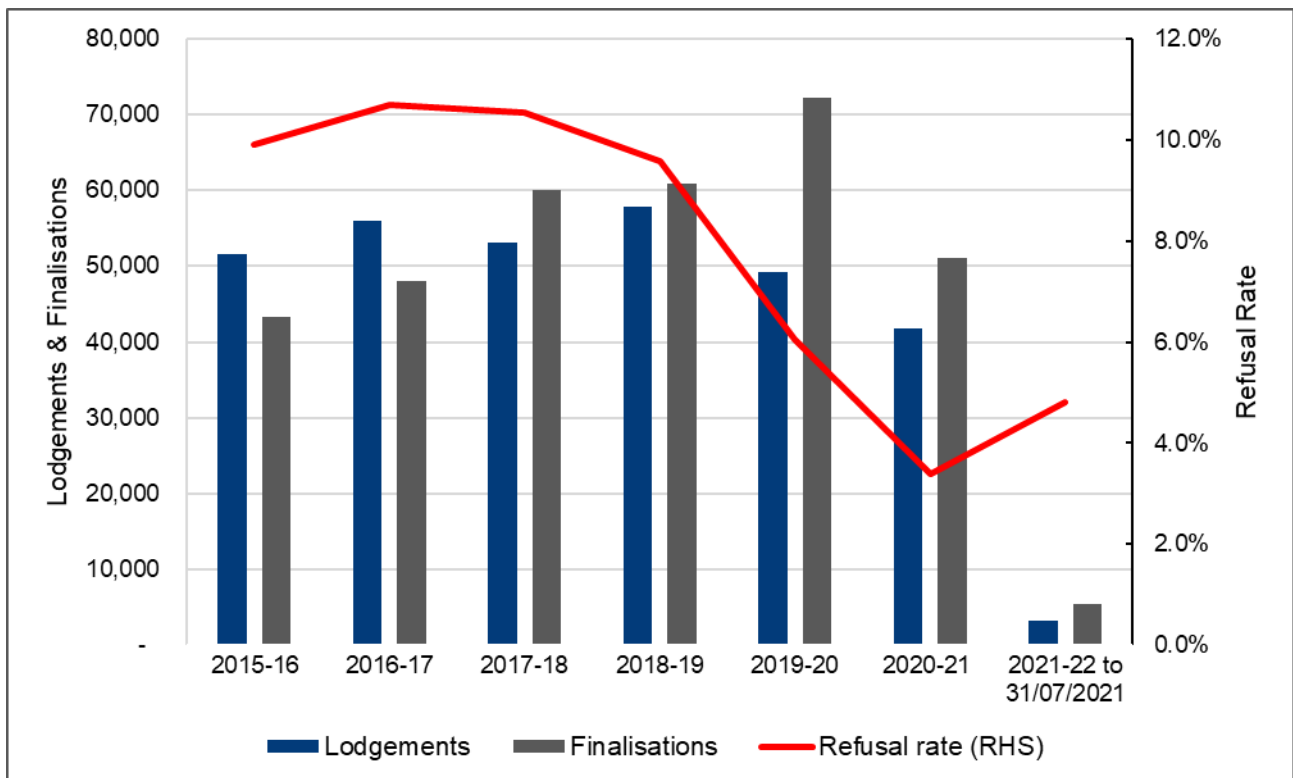
Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

**Figure 15: First Stage Partner visa program trends 2015-16 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)**



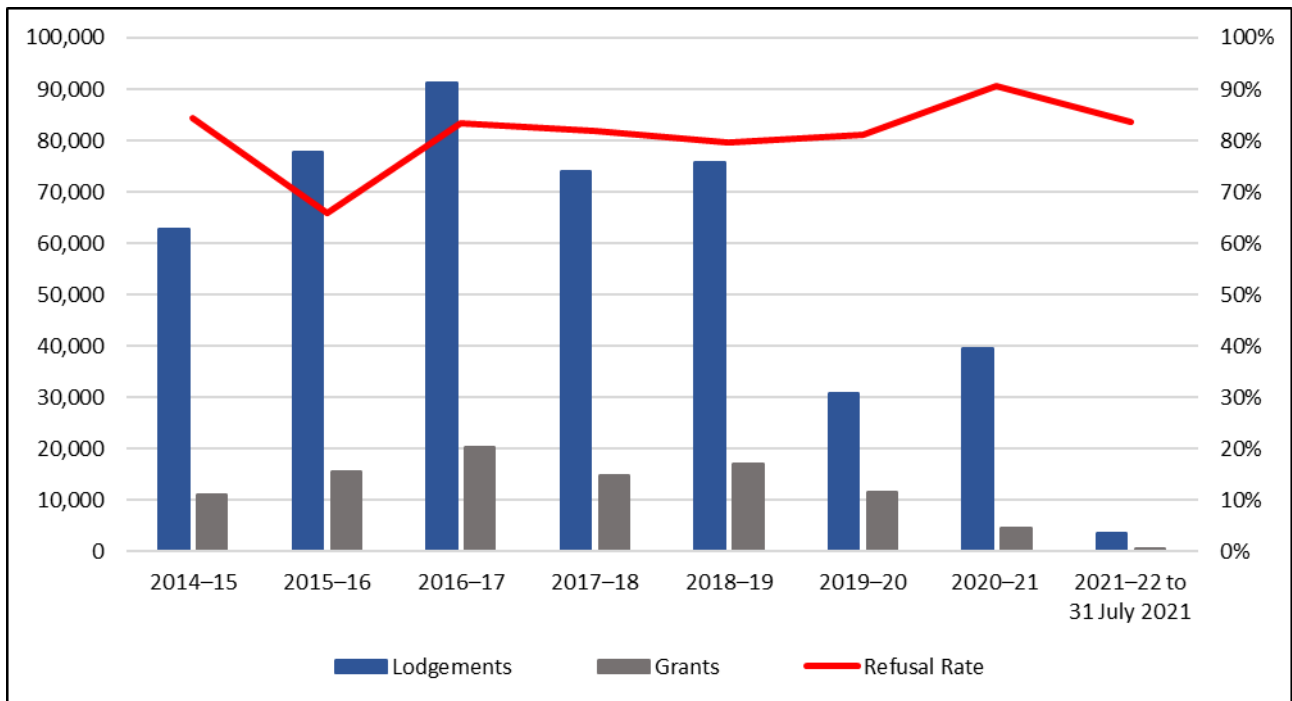
Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 16: Second Stage Partner visa program trends 2015-16 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)**



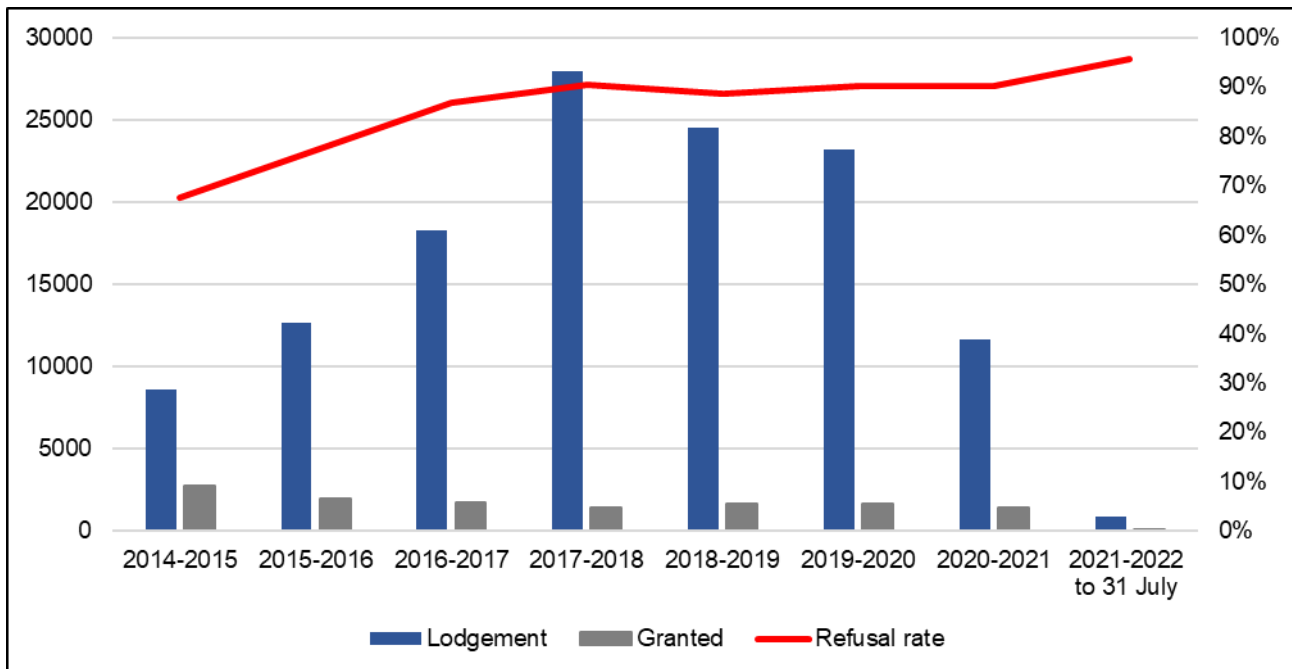
Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 17: Offshore Humanitarian program trends: 2014-15 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 18: Onshore Protection program trends: 2014-15 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)**



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

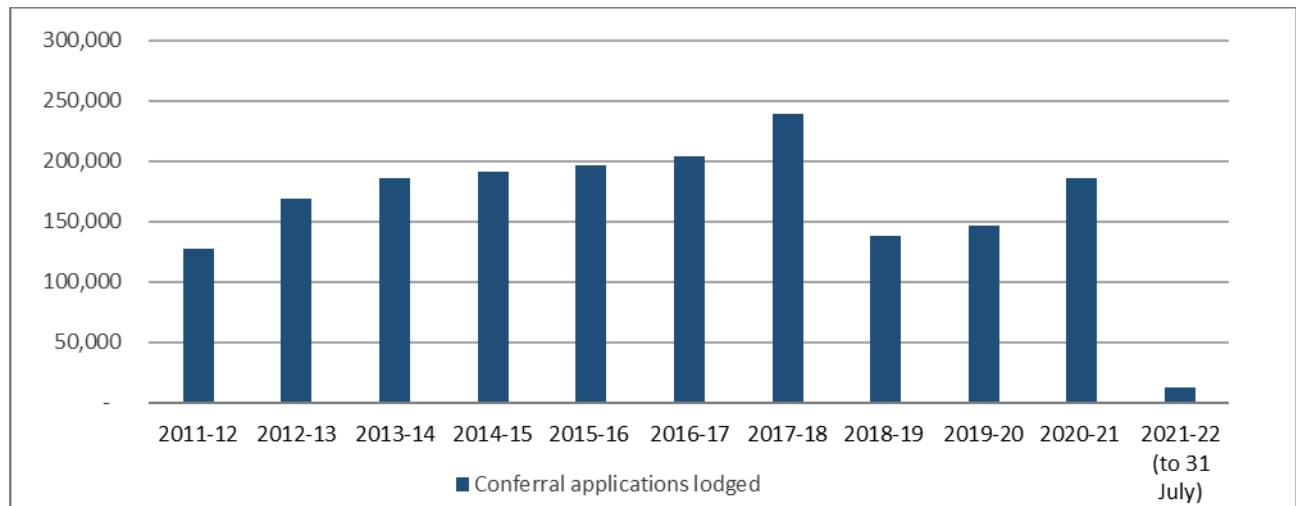
**Table 16:** Number of Australian citizenship by conferral applications finalised, by decision type and financial year: 2011-12 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)

Financial Year	Approved	Refused	Invalid	Other	Total
2011-12	95,837	2,208	13,897	763	112,705
2012-13	137,079	3,270	16,561	643	157,553
2013-14	158,907	5,728	26,611	783	192,029
2014-15	148,862	5,197	34,987	795	189,841
2015-16	129,515	4,749	32,612	792	167,668
2016-17	127,013	4,089	22,035	742	153,879
2017-18	80,776	4,956	14,998	692	101,422
2018-19	145,587	7,590	5,713	1,227	160,117
2019-20	215,394	8,762	2,179	1,988	228,323
2020-21	170,645	7,957	1,782	2,831	183,215
2021-22 (to 31 July)	16,438	816	214	170	17,638

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

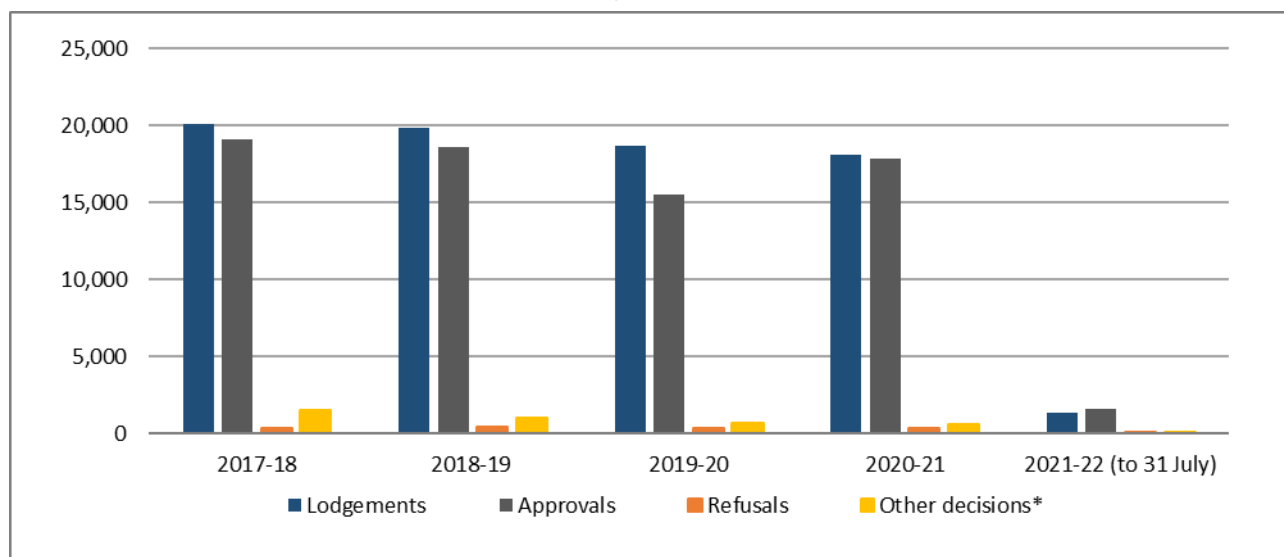
Note: 'other' includes applications withdrawn by the client and minor numbers of administrative finalisations. This report may differ from previous or other reports due to the use of dynamic database in the current financial year.

**Figure 19:** Citizenship by conferral lodgement trends: 2011-12 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)



Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Figure 20:** Citizenship by descent applications lodged and finalised: 2017-18 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)



Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

Note: other decisions\* include invalidated applications, applications withdrawn by the client and administrative finalisations.

**Table 17:** Visa Applications Decided by Program Year (non-humanitarian visas)

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 to 31/07/2021
Visa Applications Decided (Granted or Refused)	8,339,513	9,052,095	9,386,838	9,607,025	7,169,298	1,338,656	121,899
Visa Applications Refused	209,657	237,153	308,150	377,469	325,637	50,956	4,204
<b>Refusal Rate</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>

Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

**Table 18:** Adverse section 501 (character) outcomes in 2018-19 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)

Character outcome	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)
<b>Mandatory character cancellation</b>	921	965	922	83
<b>Discretionary character cancellation</b>	19	53	24	0
<b>Character refusal</b>	272	354	786	9
<b>Character revocations (not revoked)</b>	332	452	440	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>1,824</b>	<b>2,172</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

Figures were extracted from Departmental systems on 3 August 2021. As data has been drawn from a live systems environment the figures provided may differ slightly in previous or future reporting.

**Table 19: General Cancellation decisions 2018-19 to 2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)**

General Cancellation decision	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)
<b>s109 (Incorrect Information)</b>	703	216	276	40
<b>s116 (General Power)</b>	6,751	4,155	1,201	65
<b>s128 (Holder Overseas)</b>	38,817	46,253	19,373	2,695
<b>s134 (Business Visa)</b>	51	102	83	0
<b>All other powers</b>	7,392	7,490	4,841	415
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,714</b>	<b>58,216</b>	<b>25,774</b>	<b>415</b>

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

Note: a visa may be recorded as cancelled more than once. An example of a visa being recorded as cancelled more than once is if the visa is cancelled, the cancellation is subsequently revoked or set aside, and then the visa is cancelled again. A cancellation may be revoked or set aside for a number of reasons, including further legal proceedings, and administrative or jurisdictional errors, etc. Duplicates may exist. As data has been drawn from a live systems environment, the figures provided may differ slightly in previous or future reporting.

**Table 20: People who entered the Status Resolution program 2018-19 to 2021-22 (to 31 July)**

People who entered the Status Resolution program	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)
<b>Persons who voluntarily approached the Department</b>	11,390	16,918	16,128	1,053
<b>Persons located by the Australian Border Force or Police</b>	2,881	2,231	1,835	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,271</b>	<b>19,149</b>	<b>17,963</b>	<b>1,183</b>

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 21: Return and Reintegration Assistance program referrals 2018-19 to 2021-22 (to 31 July)**

Return and Reintegration Assistance Program Activities	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (to 31 July 2021)
<b>Return and Reintegration Assistance Program - Referrals</b>	1,345	1,484	1,117	<b>58</b>
<b>Return and Reintegration Assistance Program - Returns</b>	840	798	542	<b>38</b>

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021

**Table 22: Status Resolution Support Services recipients 2019 to 2021 (at 31 July)**

Status Resolution Support Services recipients	30-Jun-19	30-Jun-20	30-Jun-21	31-Jul-21
<b>IMA</b>	3,907	2,769	1,311	1,208
<b>Non-IMA</b>	1,575	1,509	1,018	967
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,482</b>	<b>4,278</b>	<b>2,329</b>	<b>2,175</b>

Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2021



**Table 23:** Transitory persons onshore (medical), as at 31 July 2021

Medical transitory persons onshore	Held detention	Residence Determination (community detention)	Bridging E visa <sup>1</sup> (includes ceased in community)	Other Location	Total
Medical transitory persons brought to Australia for a temporary purpose <sup>2</sup>	<130	426	501	<5	1,055
Babies born to medical transitory persons onshore in Australia <sup>3</sup>	0	68	34	0	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>&lt;130</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>&lt;5</b>	<b>1,157</b>

Source: **Department of Home Affairs, 2021**

1 Includes <5 ceased BVE in community.

2 Includes accompanying family members

3 Figures exclude less than 5 babies born onshore to medical transitory persons in the community pending administrative detention.

**Note:** This information is based on departmental systems data as at 6am, 01 August 2021.