AUSTRALIA

Region: Asia and the Pacific

Income group: High income

Summary: Australia has reported 4 metadata sources, which collect information on international labour migration statistics. There are two survey based sources such as the Census of Population and Housing and the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey, which are carried out by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. There are one administrative record such as the Overseas Arrivals and Departure and the Estimation of international migrant workers, which are held by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

Geographically the sources cover whole country, except to the Census of Population and Housing, which excludes some areas. The statistics on the following population groups are available:

- Nationals (citizens) in the country (covered by the Census of Population and Housing and the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey)
- Nationals (citizens) employed in the country (covered by the Census of Population and Housing and the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey)
- Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey and the Estimation)
- Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey and the Estimation)
- Refugees (covered by the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey and the Overseas Arrivals and Departure)
- Entry nationals returning from residence abroad (covered by the Overseas Arrivals and Departure)
- Exit nationals going abroad to live (covered by the Overseas Arrivals and Departure)
- Exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc. (covered by the Overseas Arrivals and Departure)
- Foreigners entering country to live (covered by the Overseas Arrivals and Departure)
- Foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc. (covered by the Overseas Arrivals and Departure), and
- Transit migrants (covered by the Overseas Arrivals and Departure).

Periodicity of data collection varies depending on the type of sources. The Census of Population and Housing was last processed in 2011; the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey is carried out every three years starting from 1984; the Overseas Arrivals and Departure is held continuously since 1976; and the estimation is carried out annually starting from 2009.

Age coverage also varies depending on the type of sources. In the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey persons aged 15 years and older are examined. The Overseas Arrivals and Departure is applied to persons of all ages. The estimation covers persons aged 18 years and over.

The three essential demographic characteristics covered by all the sources are age, sex, and marital status. Data on educational attainment can also be found in all the sources except to the Overseas Arrivals and Departure. The question about household size is added to the survey based two sources.

An international migration characteristic covered by all the sources is country of birth. The questions on country of citizenship and foreign workers in the country are also often asked in the surveys and administrative records. Additionally, the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey contains questions on immigrants and return migrants, and the estimation contains information on duration of stay in country to date and reason for migration. The Overseas Arrivals and Departure covers many other characteristics such as country of residence, country entering from, reason for departure, reason for coming to country, intended duration of stay, country of destination, country of origin, year of arrival, actual duration of stay, state/territory of residence/stay, and visa type.
A labour related characteristic that can be found in all the sources is occupation. In addition, data on employment status, industry/economic sector, status in employment, hours usually worked, individual earnings or wages, and household income are available in all the sources except the Overseas Arrivals and Departure.

Definitions of “employment”, “international migrant workers”, “overseas visitor”, and “country of residence” are applied in the sources. Definition of “employment” used in the Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey is the standard ILO definition.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education internationally and nationally adapted classifications are used in the sources.

Micro data files from the survey based sources are available for research and analysis outside the agency at different prices.

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**Findings:**

The latest Census of Population and Housing was processed in 2011 by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, covering the whole country excluding some areas. There are two population groups examined in the census:

- Nationals (citizens) in the country,
- Nationals (citizens) employed in the country.

The Census of Population and Housing obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of these population groups, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size. The questions raised in the assessment on the topic of international migration related characteristics are country of birth and country of citizenship. The Census of Population and Housing covers labour related characteristics of all current household members of all ages (disability) and 15 years old and over (others), such as:
- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment,
- Hours usually worked,
- Disability, and
- Individual earnings per month.

In the *Census of Population and Housing*, “employment” consists of employees, owner manager of incorporated enterprises, owner manager of unincorporated enterprises, or contributing family workers. Employment type is defined by the main job held in the week prior to census night.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, both internationally and nationally adapted classifications are applied:

- Australian and New Zealand Standard Classifications of Occupations (ANZSCO), Revision 1;
- Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANSIC) 2006 (Revision 1.0);
- ICSE-1993; and

Micro data are available for research and analysis outside the agency at different prices.

The *Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey* commenced in 1984, and is held every three years by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. A completed sample size of the examination is 42,308 individuals including 2,773 immigrants. It geographically measures the whole country and amasses information on the following six population groups aged 15 years old and over.

- Nationals (citizens) in the country,
- Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,
- Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,
- Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, and
- Refugees.

The *Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey* obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of each person in a household, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size. The statistics on the international migration related characteristics presented through the source are country of birth and foreign workers in the country. The source contains questions, which help to collect information on immigrants and return migrants such as "Have you ever lived outside the country?" and "When did you arrive in this country?" and employment status of the person around the time prior to leaving the household last time is obtained.

For the population groups assessed in the *Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey*, the data on labour related characteristics of all current household members aged 15 years and over is available, particularly for:

- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment,
- Household income, and
- Hours usually worked.

For the purposes of the *Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey*, “international migrant workers” refer to recent migrants and workers. Recent migrants are defined as people who were born overseas, arrived in Australia in the previous 10 years, were aged 15 years and over on arrival, who had obtained permanent Australian resident status, as well as people who were temporary residents of Australia for 12 months or more. People holding New
Zealand citizenship and those who held Australian citizenship before their arrival in Australia were excluded, while other people born in New Zealand were included. "Employment" is the same as the standard ILO definitions.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), First Edition, Revision 1 (cat. no. 1220.0) (where four digits are used to release the data);
- Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (Revision 1.0) (cat. no.1292.0) (where three digits are used to release the data);
- Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2013 (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001); and
- Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001 (cat. no. 1272.0).

Micro data are available for research and analysis outside the agency for different fees.

For the **Border/Admission Statistics**, the **Overseas Arrivals and Departure** are obtained and processed by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and Australian Bureau of Statistics from 1976. It processes the following seven population groups of all ages.

- Entry nationals returning from residence abroad,
- Exit nationals going abroad to live,
- Exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.,
- Foreigners entering country to live,
- Foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.,
- Refugees, and
- Transit migrants.

The **Overseas Arrivals and Departure** cover data on demographic characteristics such as age, sex, and marital status. Statistics on the following international migration related characteristics are presented through the source:

- Country of birth,
- Country of citizenship,
- Country of residence,
- Country entering from,
- Reason for departure,
- Reason for coming to country,
- Intended duration of stay,
- Country of destination,
- Country of origin,
- Year of arrival,
- Actual duration of stay,
- State/territory of residence/stay, and
- Visa type.

For the population groups assessed in the **Overseas Arrivals and Departure**, the data on labour related characteristics is available, particularly for occupation.

"**Overseas visitor**" refers to a visitor is any traveller arriving to or departing from Australia who is not a resident. A visitor can be either short-term (less than 12 months) or long-term (12 months or more). "**Country of residence**" is collected from the country a traveller indicates on their passenger card. For overseas visitors to Australia, it is their country of residence prior to travel as recorded on their passenger card or visa. For Australian residents, it is the country they spent/intend to spend most time abroad (i.e. their countries of stay).

To classify occupation, National adaptation of ISCO (ANZSCO), where six digits are used to release the data, are applied.
Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The Estimation of international migrant workers is made from the Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (CSAM) by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection on yearly basis, starting from 2009. It geographically measures the whole country and amasses information on the following two population groups aged 18 years old and over.

- Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country and
- Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.

It accumulates data on demographic characteristics of people, such as age, sex, marital status, and educational attainment. Statistics on international migration related characteristics are also obtained, precisely on country of birth, duration of stay in country to date, reason for migration, and foreign workers in the country. Labour related characteristics covered in the estimation are:

- Employment status,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Individual income,
- Wage rate,
- Occupation,
- Status in employment, and
- Hours worked.

In the source, the term "migrant workers" is not used. "Employment" covers all persons 18 years of age and over who, during the reference week, worked for one hour or more in a week for pay on a casual, temporary or part-time basis in a job or business or on a farm as an employee or self-employed. To classify occupation, industry, and education, nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- 4 digit ANZSCO (2013 V1.2) (where one digit is used to release the data);
- ANZSIC (2006 V2.0) (where one digit is used to release the data); and
- ASCED - 1 digit level and 2 digit field of study.

Q1. Population Census

**SOURCE**

**Title of source:** Census of Population and Housing, Australia, 2011

**Year of last census:** 2011

**Agency responsible:** Australian Bureau of Statistics

**COVERAGE**

**Geographical coverage:** Whole country excluding some areas

- **Excluded areas:** The 2011 Census of Population and Housing aims to count every person who spent Census Night, 9 August 2011, in Australia. This includes people in the six states, the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory, Jervis Bay Territory, and the external territories of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands. The other Australian external territories (Norfolk Island, and minor islands such as Heard and McDonald Islands), are outside the scope of the Australian Census. The only groups of people who spend Census Night in Australia but are excluded from the Census are foreign diplomats and their families, and foreign crew members on ships who remain on the ship and do not undertake migration formalities. Census data is not collected based Nationality or citizenship, it is a count of persons and dwellings in Australia on Census night.
Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country

- Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country

**TOPIC COVERED**

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth, country of citizenship

- Coverage for international migration related characteristics:
  - Country of birth: All persons
  - Country of citizenship: Not for all

- Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:
  - Exceptions for country of citizenship: Australian citizenship only

Information about household members left to live abroad: No

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, hours usually worked, disability, individual earnings per month

- Age coverage: All ages (disability) and 15 years old and over (others)

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

Information on immigrants and return migrants: No

- Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained: N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

**CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS**

Definition of international migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: Employment consists of employees, owner manager of incorporated enterprises, owner manager of unincorporated enterprises, or contributing family workers. Employment type is defined by the main job held in the week prior to census night.

**CLASSIFICATION**

Classification used for occupation: Australian and New Zealand Standard Classifications of Occupations (ANZSCO), First Edition Revision 1

- Number of digits used to release occupation data: 4 digit general products, 6 digits Customised requests

Classification used for industry: Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANSIC) 2006 (Revision 1.0)

- Number of digits used to release industry data: 4

Classification used for status in employment: ICSE-1993
Classification used for status in education: ISCED-1997 (Equivalent variable used is Full-time/Part-time Student Status)

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Self-administered online (web) census questionnaire /Computer Assisted Web Interview (CAWI), administrative sources, self-Administered questionnaire (household receives questionnaire delivered by Census collector/mail, returns to Census collector/by mail)

Compulsory participation of households: Yes

Official estimate of under-coverage rate: Yes

- Under-coverage rate of total population: 1.7%


Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: Yes

- Limitations: The Census Sample File (CSF) is a Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) of Census variables. This contains a small random sample of unidentified private households and associated persons, and a small random sample of persons in non-private dwellings. For 2011, both a 1% and 5% samples are available. The 2011 CSF allows researchers to undertake detailed analyses and use them in conjunction with the Community Profiles to explore the statistical relationships of the issue under investigation.

- Cost of obtaining micro-data: Relevant costing and conditions can be found on http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Microdata+prices

Q2. Household Survey

SOURCE

Title of survey: Characteristics of Recent Migrants Survey

Agency responsible: Australian Bureau of Statistics

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Every three years

Year the survey first started: 1984

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees.
- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.

**Age coverage:** 15 years old and over

**TOPIC COVERED**

**Demographic characteristics:** Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

**International migration related characteristics:** Country of birth, foreign workers in the country

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:**
  - Country of birth: Not for all

- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:**
  - Exceptions for country of birth: Arrived in Australia recently (20 years prior to survey 1984 to 2004, or 10 years prior to survey for 2007, 2010 and 2013), and aged 15 years and over

**Information about household members left to live abroad:** No

**Labour related characteristics of all current household members:** Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, household income, hours usually worked

**Benefits received from the employer:** N.A.

**Remittances related characteristics:** No

**Information on immigrants and return migrants:** Yes (Questions like "Have you ever lived outside the country?" and "When did you arrive in this country?")

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** Employment status

**Data collected and not published/disseminated:** No

**Information on persons who left to live or work abroad (recruitment, communication, assistance etc.):** No

**CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS**

**Definition of international migrant workers:** It is defined as people who were born overseas, arrived in Australia in the previous 10 years, were aged 15 years and over on arrival, who had obtained permanent Australian resident status, as well as people who were temporary residents of Australia for 12 months or more. People holding New Zealand citizenship and those who held Australian citizenship before their arrival in Australia were excluded, while other people born in New Zealand were included.

**Definition of national (citizen) living abroad:** N.A.

**Definition of employment:** It is defined as follows; 1) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); 2) worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); 3) were employees who had a job but were not at work and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; 4) were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

**CLASSIFICATION**

**Classification used for occupation:** ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), First Edition, Revision 1 (cat. no. 1220.0)
• Number of digits used to release occupation data: 4

Classification used for industry: Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (Revision 1.0) (cat. no. 1292.0)

• Number of digits used to release industry data: 3

Classification used for status in employment: Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2013 (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001)

Classification used for status in education: Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001 (cat. no. 1272.0)

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face computer assisted interview by census enumerator (CAPI), computer assisted telephone interview by enumerator with data recorded on computer (CATI), self-administered online (web) census questionnaire /Computer Assisted Web Interview (CAWI)

Compulsory participation of households: Yes


Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: Yes


• Cost of obtaining micro-data: Current Micro Data access is priced in accordance with ABS Pricing policy and Government Cost Recovery Guidelines. http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Microdata+prices. Annual Costs: TableBuilder $A1,950 (Large Organisation), $A1,100 (Small - Medium Organisation), Free - Australian Universities (Staff and Students) Expanded CIRF $A2,320 (Large Organisation), $A1,320 (Small - Medium Organisation), Free - Australian Universities (Staff and Students)

SAMPLE DESIGN

Sample frame used: Multi-stage area sample of private dwellings and a list sample of non-private dwellings. The CORMS is conducted in November (every 3 years) as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey. Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

Completed sample size:

• Total individuals: 42,308
• Immigrants: 2,773

Evaluation of the overall response rate or refusal rate: No

Q3. Border/Admission Statistics

SOURCE

Title of source: Overseas Arrivals and Departure
Agency responsible: Department of Immigration and Border Protection and Australian Bureau of Statistics

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Continuously

Year the statistics first started: 1976

Population coverage: Entry nationals returning from residence abroad; exit nationals going abroad to live; exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; foreigners entering country to live; foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; refugees; transit migrants

- Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered: Entry nationals returning from residence abroad; exit nationals going abroad to live; exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; foreigners entering country to live; foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; refugees; transit migrants

Age coverage: All ages

CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status

Migration related characteristics: Country of birth; country of citizenship; country of residence; country entering from; reason for departure; reason for coming to country; intended duration of stay; country of destination; country of origin; year of arrival; actual duration of stay; state/territory of residence/stay; visa type

Labour related characteristics: Occupation

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of overseas visitor: From the Australian Bureau of Statistics definitions: A visitor is any traveller arriving to or departing from Australia who is not a resident. A visitor can be either short-term (less than 12 months) or long-term (12 months or more).

Definition of country of residence: From the Australian Bureau of Statistics definitions: Country of residence/stay is collected from the country a traveller indicates on their passenger card. For overseas visitors to Australia, it is their country of residence prior to travel as recorded on their passenger card or visa. For Australian residents, it is the country they spent/intend to spend most time abroad (i.e. their countries of stay)

Definition of international migrant workers: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National adaptation of ISCO (ANZSCO)

- Number of digits used to release occupation data: 6

Classification used for industry: N.A.

- Number of digits used to release industry data: N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.
Classification used for status in education: N.A.

**DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION**

Data collection method: Self administration form


Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No

Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country

**SOURCE**

Title of source: Continuous Survey of Australia’s Migrants (CSAM)

Reference year: 2014

Agency responsible: Department of Immigration and Border Protection

**PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE**

Periodicity of data release: Every year

Year the source first started: 2009

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

- Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered: Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

Age coverage: 18 years old and over

**TOPIC COVERED**

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth, duration of stay in country to date, reason for migration, foreign workers in the country

Labour related characteristics: Employment status, industry/economic sector, individual income, wage rate, occupation, status in employment, hours worked

Remittances related characteristics:

**CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS**

Definition of migrant workers: This term is not used.
Definition of short-term migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of a national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: It covers all persons 18 years of age and over who, during the reference week, worked for one hour or more in a week for pay on a casual, temporary or part-time basis in a job or business or on a farm as an employee or self-employed.

Definition of household income: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: 4 digit ANZSCO (2013 V1.2)
- Number of digits used to release occupation data: 1

Classification used for industry: ANZSIC (2006 V2.0)
- Number of digits used to release industry data: 1

Classification used for status in employment: Based on the definition used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). CSAM differs by not asking the questions concerning people's availability to start work and Primary Applicants for the ABS are 15 years of age and over (not 18)

Classification used for status in education: ASCED - 1 digit level and 2 digit field of study

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION


Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes