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Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

SECRETARY

7 February 2007

J. Ms Joanne Towner
Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Migration
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Towner

Joint Standing Committee on Migration inquiry into temporary business visas

Thank you for Ms Scarlett's letter of 14 December 2006 requesting input to the Joint Standing Committee on Migration's (JSCM) inquiry into the eligibility requirements and monitoring, enforcement and reporting arrangements for temporary business visas.

As you would be aware, there is currently also a review of the Subclass 457 visa that has been commissioned by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG). That review is being conducted by the Commonwealth/State Working Party (CSWP) on skilled migration. A range of Commonwealth/State agencies are represented on the CSWP which has to date met on four occasions to develop a draft report to COAG. The CSWP has also had the benefit of submissions from a range of interested parties. The report is currently being updated and is expected to be considered by COAG senior officials in late February 2007 for release for consultation with key stakeholders. A report will then be finalised for COAG consideration.

Until the report is authorised for release, I am advised that it remains classified as COAG-in-confidence. The reason this material is COAG-in-confidence is that discussions that form part of COAG negotiations between the Commonwealth and the States and Territories are usually in-confidence until agreement is reached. This means that DIAC can not provide a copy of the report to the JSCM until so authorised by COAG.

The attached Commonwealth submission seeks to address the JSCM inquiry's terms of reference to the extent possible, but without going into matters being considered by the COAG inquiry.

people our business

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Senior officials from my Department will be available to elaborate on the Commonwealth submission. If you would like to discuss any matter regarding this, please contact Mr Abul Rizvi on 02 6264 2468.

Yours sincerely



for Andrew Metcalfe



Australian Government

**Commonwealth Submission to the
Joint Standing Committee on Migration inquiry into *Eligibility
requirements and monitoring, enforcement and reporting arrangements
for temporary business visas***

February 2007

Introduction

This is a Commonwealth submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Migration regarding temporary business visas, particularly Subclass 457 visas and labour agreements. The submission has been co-ordinated by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) with input from and consultation with Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) and Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C).

On 14 July 2006, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) requested the Ministerial Council on Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (MCIMA) to identify and implement cooperative measures to strengthen the integrity of the temporary skilled migration arrangements (see **Attachment A**). MCIMA also met on 14 July 2006 and referred the matter to the Commonwealth/State Working Party on Skilled Migration (CSWP) (see **Attachment B** for the MCIMA resolutions).

The CSWP has to date met on 31 July 2006, 26 and 27 September 2006, 25 October 2006 and on 18 December 2006 to develop a draft report which will be submitted to the COAG. In developing its report, the CSWP consulted with a range of Commonwealth/State agencies as well as with a range of industry bodies and received a submission from the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU). A report to COAG is scheduled for April 2007.

While DIAC has primary responsibility for Subclass 457 visas, the Department works closely with DEST and DEWR in terms of matters such as skills assessment and training requirements for Australians. All labour agreements are developed jointly with DEWR who are joint signatories to all such agreements. DIAC also consults, where appropriate, with state development agencies on labour agreements and Subclass 457 matters more generally.

DIAC works closely with Commonwealth and State agencies whose legislation may be affected by the entry of people on Subclass 457 visas. The Office of Workplace Services (OWS) and state government agencies responsible for workplace relations, fair trading, occupational health and safety matters are important in this regard.

Temporary Business Entry

There are essentially two types of visas covered by the term 'temporary business entry'. The first are known as 'business visitor' visas (Subclasses 456, 459, 956 and 977) and the second is the Subclass 457 visa which is for employer-sponsored skilled workers.

Business visitor visas

Business visitor visas provide for stay in Australia for periods of up to three months. A single visa can provide for multiple entry arrangements for business visitors who come to Australia frequently for short periods. The main purpose of these visas is to enable bona fide business visitors to come to Australia to transact business; attend conferences or seminars; undertake contract negotiations; receive or deliver business training; or explore business opportunities in Australia. The visas only provide holders to undertake salaried work in very limited circumstances. These are for work which:

- involves an emergency; and
- is very short term (a few days) in duration; and
- is highly specialised in nature (in ASCO major groups 1–4); and
- does not occur repeatedly.

Subclasses 956 and 977 visas are electronic travel authorities (ETAs) and are most often applied for via travel agents or over the internet. These are available to passport holders of 33 countries and regions. The vast majority of ETA applicants receive a decision on their visa within minutes of applying. Subclass 456 visas are applied for on paper at the DIAC overseas posts and are most often used by nationals of non-ETA countries.

Subclass 459 visas have the same policy settings as the Subclass 456 visa but require the applicant to have an authorised sponsor, who is usually the Australian business with whom the applicant is dealing. These visas are applied for on paper at the DIAC office nearest to the sponsor in Australia.

As might be expected of such a visa, the vast majority of people who use business visitor visas come to Australia for a stay of less than 20 days. Data on business visitor visas is at **Attachment C**.

Objectives and principles underlying Subclass 457 visa

The Subclass 457 visa is Australia's main temporary skilled work visa. The visa was created in essentially its current form following a 1994-95 review commissioned by the then Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. Detailed statistics on Subclass 457 for 2005-06 are at **Attachment D**.

The Subclass 457 visa provides Australian businesses with rapid access to the global pool of skilled workers in order to help business to meet their needs at a time of significant skill shortages.

It is not intended that these visas provide a vehicle for employers to minimise their obligation to hire and train Australians. Consequently employers who participate in this programme must demonstrate a commitment to training Australians. The Subclass 457 visa programme therefore complements other government interventions to enhance the skills base of Australia, including through the *Skills for the Future* Package.

Given the unemployment rate of skilled Australians is now less than two per cent, and we face the prospect of a declining rate of growth in our workforce age population, a mechanism that provides rapid access to global skills is central to Australia's prosperity.

By delivering urgently needed skills, this visa helps the Australian economy to grow and become more competitive internationally. This is key to job creation.

The design principles of the visa seek to establish the most efficient means of achieving its objective. These principles include:

- an effective and efficient process to meet the needs of business;
- ensuring that this visa does not undermine the commitment of business to training Australians and improve the skills base of their workforces;
- ensuring this visa does not undermine Australian conditions;
- adopting a risk management approach to targeting the areas and degree of checking claims made in sponsorship/visa applications (and follow-up monitoring and site visits) noting that the majority of employers who use the visa are compliant;
- recognising the special needs of regional Australia;

- leveraging off the information, intelligence and expertise of other agencies;
- using objective visa criteria and electronic support wherever possible to assist sponsor and visa applicants to self-select and streamline processing;
- establishing separate arrangements for dealing with exceptional circumstances;
- making employer undertakings as clear as possible;
- collaborating with Commonwealth and State agencies to increase compliance;
- strengthening and better tailoring penalties to breaches; and
- recognising that Australia's obligations under international trade agreements (such as the World Trade Organisation General Agreement on Trade In Services (WTO/GATS and free trade agreements (FTA)) include legally binding commitments that do not permit labour market testing in certain circumstances. It is under these commitments that Australian companies are able to use Australian expertise in delivering overseas contracts.

Demographic and economic rationale underlying Subclass 457 visa

Due to the combined effects of below replacement fertility for most of the past 30 years, and ageing of Australia's baby boomers, natural growth in Australia's working age population (ie: with zero net migration) is projected to reach zero sometime in the next five to 10 years. After that, we are projected to experience a natural decline in our working age population. With net overseas migration (NOM) of around 110 000 per annum (ie: around 20 000 per annum higher than the average of the past 50 years), Australia's working age population is projected to continue to grow but at a much slower rate than the past 50 years. See Figure 1.

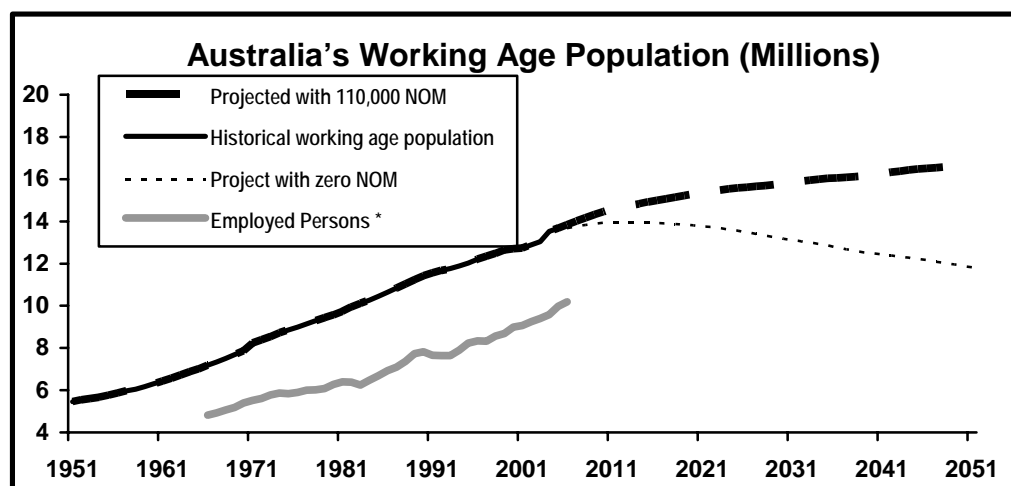


Figure 1: Source: ABS and RBA

* Data prior to 1966 is not comparable. Estimates prior to 1978 is based on quarterly data (subsequent figures are monthly)

The demographic transition is not unique to Australia. Most OECD countries, as well as most countries in Eastern Europe, are going through a similar transition. What this is likely to mean is that the competition for skilled workers is likely to continue to intensify (emigration from Australia is currently around 60,000 per annum). While part of the policy response to this is to increase training efforts and to encourage higher rates of workforce participation, it is inevitable that Australia will also need to ensure we continue to refine our approach to skilled migration so that we retain the competitive

advantage in this area that we have built up over the past 30 years. Part of this has to include the accessibility, efficiency and effectiveness of our approach to skilled temporary entry and the pathways these temporary skilled workers have to permanent residence.

Polarised nature of Australia's unemployment rates

Unemployment rates in Australia are highly polarised, see Figure 2.

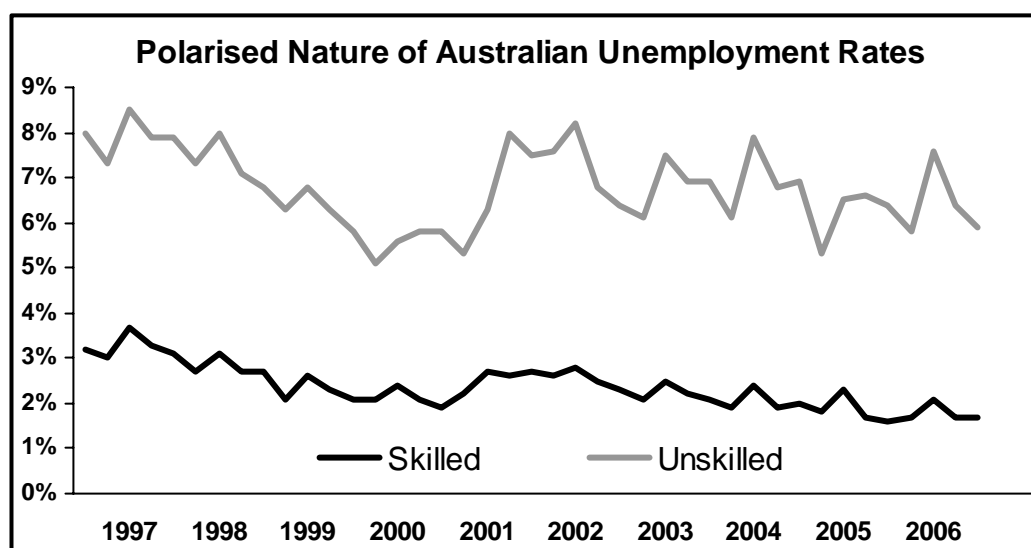


Figure 2: Source: ABS data, using DIAC methodology

The unemployment rate for skilled Australians¹ is currently less than two per cent. This covers those Australians with qualifications and experience relevant to occupations in ASCO major groups 1 to 4 (ie: professionals, managers, associate professionals and trades). If there is always going to be a percentage of skilled Australians in transition from one job to another, this suggests that we may be very close to full employment for skilled Australians. This goes a long way to explaining the widespread nature of current skill shortages.

The unemployment rate for unskilled Australians, however, is around six per cent. This suggests that the focus of policy in respect of unskilled work should continue to be encourage and to enable more unemployed Australians to access these. It should be noted that research shows:

- skilled migrants increase job opportunities for unskilled Australians (see Garnaut); and
- skilled temporary entrants pass on skills to Australian colleagues that makes them more productive and more employable.

¹ Skilled is defined as workers having an occupation in ASCO major groups 1-4 or, where unemployed, had previously been employed in an occupation in ASCO major groups 1-4, but excludes unemployed people who did not have a job for two weeks or more in the two years prior to the relevant ABS survey.

Research into Subclass 457

The following is a summary of several research papers conducted into Long Term Temporary Business Entrants. Further details of the findings can be seen in **Attachment E**.

Research into long term temporary business (Subclass 457 visa) conducted by *Access Economics, May 2002* highlights that the living standards of existing Australian residents would rise by 5.4 per cent as a result of 20 years of the sponsored temporary business resident program at the 2000-01 level of intake. High incomes and low eligibility for state and territory services would also ensure that sponsored temporary business residents have a large and positive impact on state and territory budgets.

Research by academics from the *ANU and the University of Adelaide, May 2004* (**A Global Market: The Recruitment of Temporary Skilled Labour From Overseas (employer survey)**) suggests that Temporary skilled entrants are not taking jobs away from Australians as employers would have preferred to employ residents if they had the skills needed. The Subclass 457 visa has provided employers with the flexibility to tap into the global pool of skilled labour relatively easily.

Bob Kinnaird, People and Place, Vol 14, No. 2, 2006 report on **Current Issues in the Skilled Temporary Subclass 457 Visa** finds that between 2000-01 and 2004-05 the 457 program was 'de-skilled' somewhat as the proportion of managers went down and the proportion of professionals and tradespeople went up. The findings also allege a negative impact of Subclass 457 visas on employment and training opportunities for Australians in ICT occupations, but little evidence to support this view is provided.

Key eligibility requirements

The Subclass 457 visa has a three-stage process: sponsorship; nomination; and visa. The key eligibility requirements for each stage are outlined at **Attachment F**. Briefly, the core requirements include:

- demonstration of a benefit to Australia flowing from the employment of overseas skilled workers (creating or maintaining Australian employment opportunities; expanding trade; improving links with international markets; or contributing to competitiveness within the economy);
- demonstration by the Australian business of a sound record of, or commitment to, training Australians;
- an employer-employee relationship between the business and the Subclass 457 visa nominee;
- the business' ability to comply with sponsorship obligations;
- the position the business nominates must meet minimum skill and salary standards;
- demonstration by the visa applicant that they have the appropriate personal attributes and employment background to do the job and have knowledge of their pay conditions; and
- health and character requirements.

English language

At present there is no explicit English language requirement under Subclass 457 visa. Employers are required to ensure that the people they recruit have the appropriate skills, including language skills, to undertake the nominated skilled occupation to Australian standards. For occupations where a specific level of English is required as part of registration/licensing, employers are required to ensure that the people they recruit have the level of English needed to achieve licensing/registration.

With growth of Subclass 457 visa into the ASCO 4 major groups (ie: trades), concerns about English language have emerged. These concerns relate mainly to occupational health and safety matters. In addition, concerns have been raised, noting that Subclass 457 visa holders do not have access to Government-funded English language training programs, regarding lack of English leading to:

- an inability of some Subclass 457 visa holders being able to understand their rights and their ability to stand up for these;
- difficulties operating effectively in the community; and
- limits on pathways to permanent residence due to not being able to meet the English requirements for skilled permanent visas.

It is against this background that the former Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs announced an intention to consult on the introduction of an English language requirement for Subclass 457 visa.

Labour agreements

Labour agreements are formal arrangements between the Australian Government (DIAC and DEWR) and an employer or industry association. Separate groups of labour agreements exist where overseas companies seeking to establish regional headquarters in Australia have gained the support of Invest Australia, which appears in lieu of DEWR as the third signatory.

Labour agreements have historically been utilised to facilitate the recruitment of a specific number of skilled workers where one or more of the following conditions existed:

- Large numbers of workers were needed for short term projects - typically, large construction projects in the mining and resources sectors requiring professionals and tradespersons in numbers not available through onshore recruitment.
- Ongoing skill shortages in the occupations were evident, for example entrenched shortages such as that for engineers.
- Unusual occupations not found in ASCO, or covered by Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS), Regional Sponsor Migration Scheme (RSMS) or Subclass 457 visa programs, were needed.
- A number of different occupations were needed for the same company or project.
- Concerns existed about aspects of industry practice that could be best addressed through the controls of a labour agreement.

The Migration Regulations provide for labour agreements which contain specific labour agreement visa subclasses for permanent entry, and provision for temporary entry under the Subclass 457 visa.

Labour agreements usually arise from an approach to DIAC or DEWR by a company, industry body, or State and Territory Government agency seeking approval for the entry of overseas workers in one of the above situations. Negotiations between DIAC, DEWR and the third party focus on:

- company and industry structure and background;
- occupations, skill levels and qualifications of the proposed overseas nominees;
- proposed salaries;
- evidence of demand for skilled labour that cannot be met through domestic recruitment and training;
- education and training, including expenditure on training and details of any initiatives taken to train Australians and reduce dependence on overseas recruitment; and
- information on the award or other workplace relations agreement that applies to the occupation.

If agreement is reached, the terms and conditions of the agreement are formalised in a document that is signed by representatives of the three parties.

The agreement document usually covers:

- the range of occupations approved, listed by ASCO code;
- the number of persons approved for entry on a permanent and/or temporary basis for the first year of the agreement;
- the minimum base salary that is expected to be paid to nominees, by occupation where there are salary differences;
- the minimum qualifications and experience that nominees are expected to hold, by occupation;
- the minimum licensing/registration requirements;
- agreed length of stay in Australia for the nominees;
- expectations in relation to a company's training achievement and expenditure; and
- expectations of information provision to enable DIAC and DEWR to monitor compliance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.

The information on the number of persons approved for entry on a permanent and/or temporary basis for the first year of the agreement is centrally stored. This information is accessible by DIAC State and Territory Offices, to which approaches are made by the signatory company when individuals have been identified to fill the approved positions. Individual nominations are electronically linked to the approved agreement.

In terms of numbers of positions approved, the largest users of labour agreements are the State and Territory Governments.

Processing Times

The table below (Figure 3) shows the general improvement in processing times between July 2003 to January 2006, and would be linked to a combination of the introduction of electronic lodgement and repatriation visa processing to DIAC offices in each state (with integrity checking referrals to DIAC overseas posts). The increase in processing times in 2006 is likely to be linked to an increase in the volume of higher risk cases that require closer checking.

Trend with Subclass 457 Processing Times

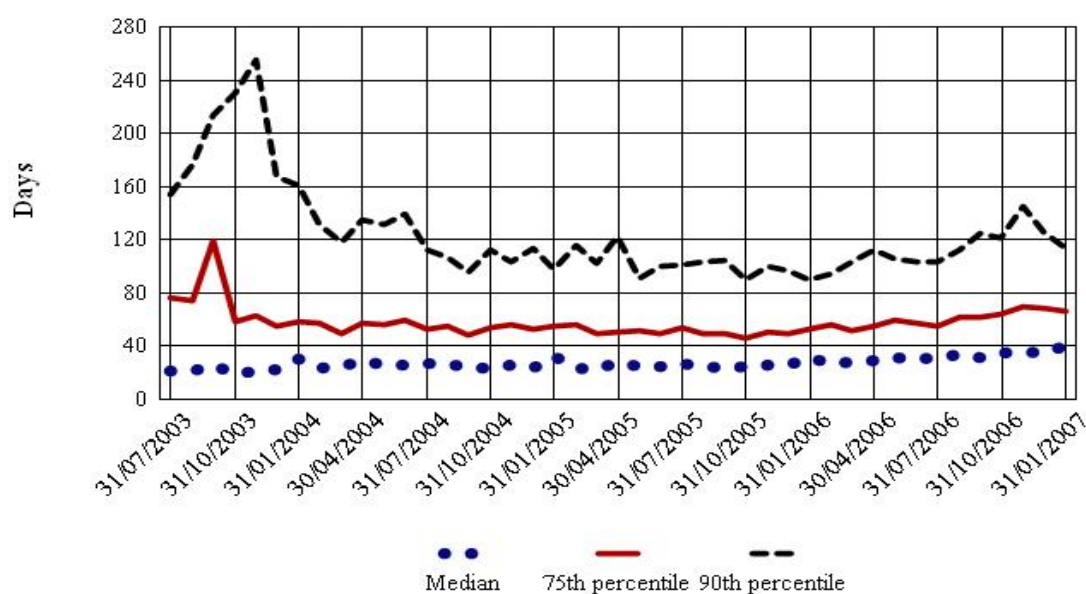


Figure 3: DIAC data source

Electronic Lodgement

An electronic lodgement facility was introduced on 1 November 2003, enabling Australian employers and overseas workers in their employ to make applications for sponsorship, nominations and Subclass 457 visas online. This followed a successful four month pilot involving major sponsors and migration agents in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra. Electronically-lodged applications receive priority processing across DIAC's network of Business Centres. A streamlined facility was also introduced for established clients lodging multiple vacancy applications. In November 2003, some 17 per cent of all Subclass 457 visa applications were lodged electronically. This increased to 22 per cent in December 2003. By 2005-06, some 65 per cent of sponsorships were lodged online, 72 per cent of nominations and 73 per cent of Subclass 457 visas.

Comparisons with the H1B visa in the USA

The H1B visa aims to provide for the temporary employment in the United States of persons who perform services in specialty occupations (most professional jobs are classified as specialty occupations) for a maximum of six years. The employer in the United States must have obtained an approved Labour Condition Application which,

amongst other things, aims to ensure that the employer is not paying less than prevailing wages.

The list of the occupations covered by the H1B visa:

| | |
|-------|--|
| H-1A | Registered Nurse |
| H-1B1 | Specialty Occupation (Professionals) |
| H-1B2 | U.S. Department of Defense special visas |
| H-1B3 | Artists, entertainers or fashion models of national or international acclaim |
| H-1B4 | Artists or Entertainers in unique or traditional art form |
| H-1B5 | Athletes |
| H-1BS | Essential support personnel for H-1B entertainer or athlete. |

H1B has an annual limit of 65 000 visas. The H1B cap is often reached within weeks of the start of each financial year. Employers then have to queue up for places in the next financial year.

Administration of H1B involves three separate agencies – the US equivalents of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. In Australia, Subclass 457 is administered by a single department and hence is able to achieve much faster processing times.

H1B is subject to a complex labour certification process run by the US Department of Labor. This requires employers to prove to that Department that there is no American readily available to do the job – Subclass 457 visa does not require such certification but rather relies on skill and salary thresholds and the associated price signals. This is a more efficient approach than the red tape involved in labour market certification.

Unlike Subclass 457 visa, H1B cannot be applied for over the Internet and entry to the USA generally involves the applicant having to send their passport to the nearest US Embassy to get a visa label placed in the passport – most Subclass 457 visa holders from low immigration risk countries enter without having to get a visa label placed in their passport prior to arrival. This also facilitates faster entry.

The spouses and dependants of H1B visa holders do not have automatic work rights – dependants of Subclass 457 visa holders have work rights from the day they arrive.

The 2006 World Economic Forum survey of business leaders examined the views of some 11 000 business leaders from around the world regarding the international competitiveness of different countries.

The survey found that the USA had slipped from position number one in terms of international competitiveness to number six.

For the USA, a key factor in this slip was “restrictionist immigration policies”.

Monitoring and Enforcement

All Subclass 457 visa sponsors are required to sign-up to and comply with a range of sponsor undertakings. The current range of undertakings is listed in **Attachment G**. A key to these undertakings is that sponsors agree to abide by all Australian laws in their employment of overseas workers.

After arrival, DIAC undertakes targeted monitoring checks. This requires sponsoring employers to complete a detailed questionnaire and provide supporting documentation. The current version of this is at **Attachment H**. Responses from employers are reviewed by DIAC and other checks as appropriate, including referring matters to other

relevant agencies, are then conducted. In 2005-06, over 6 400 employers² were checked in this way.

DIAC also undertakes targeted site visits of employers to verify responses provided and/or undertake additional checks. During the site visits, interviews are conducted with the employers and separately with some of the employees. In 2005-06, some 1 790 sponsors³ were site visited.

In line with a whole of government approach, if an issue arises which relates to another agency's legislation, DIAC will refer that specific matter to them. These agencies are both Commonwealth and State Government agencies – eg: Australian Taxation Office; Office of Workplace Services; Office of Fair Trading; and Workplace Safety agencies.

If a breach of an undertaking is identified following a monitoring and/or site visit, DIAC may take action against a business sponsor to:

- cancel their approval as a business sponsor;
- bar further sponsorship or nomination applications being made or being approved; and/or
- cancel the Subclass 457 visas of any sponsored persons, including the visas of any Subclass 457 secondary visa holders.

The provisions to take one or more of the above sanction actions against a business sponsor were introduced on 1 July 2004. They allow for penalties to be imposed on sponsors who exploit Subclass 457 visa holders by failing to comply with their sponsorship obligations and particularly in relation to Australian workplace laws.

For the 2006-07 financial year to 31 January 2007, 20 sponsors have been sanctioned. In addition, around 300 sponsors are currently under investigation and are not allowed to sponsor further overseas workers until these investigations are complete.

The Minister has recently announced that the Department is designing a more appropriate and practical range of sanctions.

² Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, Annual Report 2005-06
³ DIAC internal data 2005-06

List of Attachments

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| Attachment A | Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Communiqué – 14 July 2006 |
| Attachment B | Ministerial Council on Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (MCIMA) – 457 visa -14 July 2006 |
| Attachment C | Data on Business visitor visas |
| Attachment D | Detailed statistics on Subclass 457 visa for 2005-06 |
| Attachment E | Research into Long Term Business Visa Entrants (Subclass 457 visa) |
| Attachment F | Key eligibility requirements of Subclass 457 visa |
| Attachment G | Current range of undertakings |
| Attachment H | Monitoring check questionnaire – current – Form 1110 |

COAG Communiqué – 14 July 2006
Temporary Entry and Employment of Skilled Migrants

All governments set the highest priority on training, creating jobs and providing Australians with job opportunities. Governments across Australia are investing in the training needs of Australians through increased training places in the vocational education and training system, creating apprenticeships, school to work transitional programmes, trade schools and better case management. However, record low unemployment levels in Australia mean that from time to time bringing in already skilled workers from other countries is an important strategy to meet the short-term skills needs of the Australian economy.

Leaders noted the 457 Temporary Business (Long Stay) visa subclass arrangements, and agreed that meeting skills needs in this way should not be at the expense of the employment and training of Australians. Under these arrangements employers who sponsor temporary skilled migrants must meet appropriate and consistent Australian standards and demonstrate that they advance the skills of the Australian workforce for example by demonstrating commitment towards training Australians.

COAG agreed that governments will work cooperatively within existing roles and responsibilities to strengthen the integrity of the 457 arrangements, while maintaining the benefits of the temporary skilled migration programme. This includes ensuring smooth access to the programme by employers.

COAG has asked the Ministerial Council on Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (MCIMA) to identify and implement cooperative measures to ensure the effectiveness, fairness and integrity of the temporary skilled migration arrangements, including appropriate and consistent minimum standards. COAG has also requested that MCIMA provide a progress report on these measures to COAG in December 2006.

**Ministerial Council on Immigration and
Multicultural Affairs (MCIMA) – 457 Visa -14 July 2006**

The Council noted:

- the critical role of Subclass 457 visas in addressing national and regional skill shortages in some areas and the importance of further developing measures that, while improving protection for temporary skilled migrants, would not materially add cost and delays for employers; and
- the important role of the Regional Certifying Bodies in some jurisdictions in the operation of regional concessions in the Subclass 457 visa.

The Council agreed that the Commonwealth/State Skilled Migration Working Party will consider and report back on measures within the 457 visa category to better:

- enforce minimum conditions that do not undercut national and/or state employment standards;
- ensure commitment to training by employers;
- enable cooperation between relevant Commonwealth/State agencies to ensure expedient referral and investigation of potential breaches and secure compliance with Australian laws;
- ensure Subclass 457 visa workers are appropriately informed of their rights and entitlements, and mechanisms in place are reviewed to ensure 457 workers are better able to report potential breaches; and
- examine the ability for Commonwealth/State agencies to exchange information in this area.

Data on Business visitor visas

| Business visitors - grants by subclass | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Visa subclass | 2004-2005 | 2005-2006 |
| Non-ETA Business Visitors | | |
| 456 Business (Short Stay) | 174,617 | 185,656 |
| 459 Sponsored Business Visitor | 107 | 634 |
| ETA Business Visitors | | |
| 956 Business Entrant (Long Validity) | 18,417 | 15,410 |
| 977 Business Entrant (Short Validity) | 146,283 | 166,633 |
| Total | 339,424 | 368,333 |

| Business Visitor Grants - Top 12 sources | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Passport Held | 2004-2005 | 2005-2006 |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 78,495 | 76,084 |
| United States of America | 49,101 | 52,836 |
| United Kingdom | 27,183 | 29,754 |
| India | 18,018 | 23,651 |
| Japan | 19,845 | 21,874 |
| Thailand | 11,731 | 12,703 |
| Singapore | 9,718 | 12,045 |
| Indonesia | 10,087 | 10,820 |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 9,418 | 10,329 |
| Canada | 9,441 | 9,580 |
| Malaysia | 7,812 | 9,420 |
| South Africa, Republic of | 6,845 | 8,082 |



Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Visa Subclass 457 Business (Long Stay)

State/Territory Summary Report

2006-07

To 31 December 2006

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Explanatory Notes:

Note 1 This report is based on visa grant and arrivals data recorded for visa subclass 457 in the 2006-07 financial year and provides a comparison with the SAME PERIOD IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. It excludes a small number of visa grants made to Independent Executives, who also used to enter on sub-class 457 visa but are now included in the Business Skills categories.

The principal data collected on 457 visa holders comes from the visa application and grant process. The applicant and their sponsor provide a range of information to enable DIAC to assess the eligibility of the sponsor and the applicant for the visa. This is the most accurate and verifiable data that DIAC collects on 457 visa holders. It includes such information as the nominated position, the occupation of the applicant, the nominated salary and the skills/qualifications of the applicant and any secondary applicants.

The other main source of information on 457 visa holders is collected from the passenger cards that they complete on entering or leaving Australia. To a large extent this is self-reported data and it is not subject to the same kind of scrutiny as visa application information. This is understandable, as the primary purpose of the passenger card data is to assist the Australian Bureau of Statistics to estimate the contribution of net overseas migration to Australia's population. In a sense, the information DIAC derives from the passenger cards is a by-product of this primary population counting purpose. As a result, this data cannot be as accurate as the data collected from the visa application system. That said, the passenger card data does provide useful information on the movements of particular types of visa holders, including 457 visa holders, and it should be noted that Australia is one of the few countries in the world that is able, to a reasonably high degree of accuracy, to tell how many people enter and leave, and something about their characteristics, including their visa status.

Note 2 Unless otherwise stated, the tables in this report relate to primary applicants only.

Note 3 All numbers have been rounded to the nearest 10 and salaries to the nearest \$100. Therefore the sum of individual items in a table may not exactly match the total. Where a number in a table is between 1 and 4, the number has been masked with < 5 for privacy reasons.

Note 4 Unless otherwise stated, the occupation shown in tables in this report is that of the position that is being filled rather than the previous occupation of the visa applicant.

Tables based on long-term arrival data use the previous occupation of the visa applicant using the ASCO Unit Group or higher as 6 digit ASCO codes are not available in that data.

Note 5 Sponsors self-identify with an industry classification when lodging a nomination or sponsorship. The industry classification shown is based on what the sponsor has recorded. If a sponsor has notified a new industry, the most recent industry classification has been used in this report.

Note 6 Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Note 7 In tables showing the Top 15 Citizenship Countries, the figure for unknown country of citizenship is included in the total only.

Note 8 In some tables, Not Recorded appears. This mainly relates to visa applications processed in the IRIS system. IRIS does not have the capacity to record comprehensive information about sponsors and nominations. Since 1 November 2003, the ICSE system has largely replaced IRIS for processing subclass 457 visas, but a small number of visas are still processed in IRIS.

Definition of Terms:

- Independent Executive:** Formerly, a group within subclass 457 who did not require a sponsor. They are now included in the Business Skills categories. A small number of visa applications for Independent Executives were finalised in 2006-07.
- Industry Classification:** The industry identified by the sponsoring client based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification (ANZSIC)
- Long Term Arrival:** An arrival where the person has indicated an intended stay of 12 months or more.
- Occupation:** The occupation of the nominated position based on the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) 2nd Edition
- Primary Applicant:** The applicant who must satisfy the primary criteria for the grant of a visa under the Migration Regulations. Where dependant(s) subsequently apply to join a primary applicant who is already in Australia, the dependant applicant is not regarded as a primary applicant in visa grant data. However, they cannot be readily distinguished in arrivals or stock data.

Enquiries:

Any comments or enquiries concerning this report should be sent to business.employment.section@immi.gov.au quoting Report Id R0672.

1 Overview

Table 1.1 Number of Visa Grants in 2006-07 by State/Territory and Applicant Type

| State/Territory | Primary Grants | % of Primary Total | Secondary Grants | % of Secondary Total | Total Grants | % of Total |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------|
| ACT | 270 | 1% | 240 | 1% | 520 | 1% |
| NSW | 7,450 | 35% | 5,350 | 28% | 12,790 | 32% |
| NT | 420 | 2% | 250 | 1% | 670 | 2% |
| QLD | 3,860 | 18% | 3,870 | 20% | 7,730 | 19% |
| SA | 650 | 3% | 980 | 5% | 1,620 | 4% |
| TAS | 180 | 1% | 180 | 1% | 360 | 1% |
| VIC | 4,730 | 22% | 4,020 | 21% | 8,750 | 22% |
| WA | 3,780 | 18% | 3,710 | 19% | 7,500 | 18% |
| Not Recorded | 120 | 1% | 560 | 3% | 680 | 2% |
| Total | 21,460 | 100% | 19,150 | 100% | 40,610 | 100% |

Table 1.2 Top 15 Citizenships for Visa Grants in 2006-07 by Applicant Type

| Country of Citizenship | Primary Grants | % of Primary Total | Secondary Grants | % of Secondary Total | Total Grants | % of Total |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------|
| United Kingdom | 4,970 | 23% | 4,000 | 21% | 8,980 | 22% |
| India | 2,920 | 14% | 2,410 | 13% | 5,320 | 13% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 1,220 | 6% | 2,060 | 11% | 3,280 | 8% |
| Philippines | 1,790 | 8% | 1,280 | 7% | 3,070 | 8% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 1,040 | 5% | 1,290 | 7% | 2,340 | 6% |
| United States of America | 1,190 | 6% | 960 | 5% | 2,160 | 5% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 730 | 3% | 380 | 2% | 1,110 | 3% |
| Japan | 550 | 3% | 470 | 2% | 1,020 | 3% |
| Canada | 560 | 3% | 420 | 2% | 970 | 2% |
| Irish Republic | 730 | 3% | 240 | 1% | 970 | 2% |
| Malaysia | 470 | 2% | 290 | 1% | 760 | 2% |
| Zimbabwe | 260 | 1% | 460 | 2% | 710 | 2% |
| France | 390 | 2% | 310 | 2% | 700 | 2% |
| Netherlands | 350 | 2% | 250 | 1% | 610 | 1% |
| Korea, Republic of | 240 | 1% | 350 | 2% | 590 | 1% |
| Others | 4,050 | 19% | 3,990 | 21% | 8,050 | 20% |
| Total | 21,460 | 100% | 19,150 | 100% | 40,610 | 100% |

Table 1.3 Number of Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07 by Government Sector of Sponsor and State/Territory

| Sector | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Other | Total |
|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| Local Government | 0 | < 5 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | < 5 | 0 | 20 |
| State Government | 50 | 710 | 80 | 660 | 90 | 70 | 350 | 220 | 0 | 2,230 |
| Other | 220 | 6,740 | 340 | 3,190 | 560 | 110 | 4,380 | 3,570 | 120 | 19,220 |
| Total | 270 | 7,450 | 420 | 3,860 | 650 | 180 | 4,730 | 3,780 | 120 | 21,460 |
| State/Local Government % | 18% | 10% | 20% | 17% | 14% | 39% | 7% | 6% | 0% | 10% |

Table 1.4 Number of Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07 by State/Territory

| State/Territory | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| ACT | 240 | 270 | 15% | 1% |
| NSW | 6,790 | 7,450 | 10% | 35% |
| NT | 320 | 420 | 30% | 2% |
| QLD | 2,960 | 3,860 | 31% | 18% |
| SA | 740 | 650 | -12% | 3% |
| TAS | 160 | 180 | 12% | 1% |
| VIC | 3,600 | 4,730 | 31% | 22% |
| WA | 3,050 | 3,780 | 24% | 18% |
| Not Recorded | 550 | 120 | -78% | 1% |
| Total | 18,400 | 21,460 | 17% | 100% |

Table 1.5 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07 by Industry Classification of Sponsor and State/Territory

| Industry Classification | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Other | Total |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$41,600 | \$47,500 | \$41,000 | \$43,600 | \$53,700 | \$37,800 | \$43,700 | \$43,200 | < 5 | \$44,800 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$0 | \$47,200 | \$53,800 | \$44,300 | \$54,900 | \$41,100 | \$51,500 | \$44,700 | \$0 | \$47,100 |
| Communication Services | \$74,000 | \$78,300 | < 5 | \$71,000 | \$70,700 | < 5 | \$89,600 | \$66,000 | \$0 | \$82,000 |
| Construction | < 5 | \$67,500 | \$48,000 | \$75,000 | \$55,300 | \$38,900 | \$80,300 | \$70,900 | \$0 | \$70,600 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | < 5 | \$62,900 | \$60,100 | \$54,000 | \$81,800 | < 5 | \$47,900 | \$41,700 | \$0 | \$57,300 |
| Education | \$61,200 | \$62,400 | \$54,900 | \$61,500 | \$63,600 | \$59,400 | \$61,700 | \$58,700 | \$0 | \$61,500 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | \$0 | \$64,200 | \$60,100 | \$70,500 | \$57,800 | < 5 | \$75,400 | \$89,100 | \$0 | \$75,800 |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 | \$100,200 | < 5 | \$88,900 | < 5 | < 5 | \$95,200 | \$85,500 | \$0 | \$97,800 |
| Government Administration and Defence | \$75,100 | \$82,600 | \$0 | \$65,900 | \$93,500 | < 5 | \$74,400 | \$62,700 | \$0 | \$70,000 |
| Health and Community Services | \$61,000 | \$63,900 | \$63,400 | \$72,800 | \$65,000 | \$82,200 | \$64,600 | \$65,200 | < 5 | \$67,000 |
| Manufacturing | < 5 | \$86,100 | \$41,800 | \$52,700 | \$75,900 | \$135,000 | \$86,000 | \$50,400 | \$0 | \$69,200 |
| Mining | \$0 | \$88,900 | \$134,700 | \$83,200 | \$86,400 | \$91,200 | \$120,900 | \$95,800 | \$97,500 | \$94,100 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$60,600 | \$65,200 | \$41,100 | \$59,100 | \$66,600 | < 5 | \$66,200 | \$86,700 | \$0 | \$66,400 |
| Property and Business Services | \$131,200 | \$71,400 | \$42,800 | \$53,400 | \$76,200 | \$48,200 | \$65,600 | \$67,500 | < 5 | \$67,900 |
| Retail Trade | \$40,500 | \$66,800 | \$38,600 | \$45,100 | \$57,300 | < 5 | \$70,900 | \$45,500 | \$0 | \$57,900 |
| Transport and Storage | \$0 | \$64,600 | \$44,800 | \$56,300 | \$49,700 | < 5 | \$78,000 | \$54,400 | \$0 | \$61,100 |
| Wholesale Trade | \$0 | \$73,000 | < 5 | \$72,500 | \$132,000 | < 5 | \$82,100 | \$66,400 | \$0 | \$75,900 |
| Not Recorded | < 5 | \$83,600 | \$61,900 | \$73,800 | \$107,800 | < 5 | \$74,600 | \$104,700 | \$123,700 | \$89,300 |
| Total | \$68,300 | \$72,300 | \$54,900 | \$64,200 | \$70,700 | \$73,600 | \$74,000 | \$75,200 | \$112,800 | \$71,400 |

Table 1.6 Number of Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07 by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 1,100 | 1,190 | 8% | 6% |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 540 | 410 | -24% | 2% |
| Communication Services | 1,600 | 2,300 | 43% | 11% |
| Construction | 1,700 | 2,040 | 20% | 10% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | 350 | 330 | -7% | 2% |
| Education | 880 | 880 | 0% | 4% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 430 | 330 | -23% | 2% |
| Finance and Insurance | 640 | 810 | 27% | 4% |
| Government Administration and Defence | 200 | 340 | 67% | 2% |
| Health and Community Services | 2,400 | 3,380 | 41% | 16% |
| Manufacturing | 1,820 | 1,960 | 7% | 9% |
| Mining | 1,400 | 1,790 | 28% | 8% |
| Personal and Other Services | 1,330 | 1,400 | 6% | 7% |
| Property and Business Services | 2,260 | 2,300 | 2% | 11% |
| Retail Trade | 540 | 500 | -7% | 2% |
| Transport and Storage | 320 | 400 | 23% | 2% |
| Wholesale Trade | 570 | 400 | -30% | 2% |
| Not Recorded | 310 | 710 | 129% | 3% |
| Total | 18,400 | 21,460 | 17% | 100% |

Table 1.7 Number of Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07 by Industry Classification of Sponsor and State/Territory

| Industry Classification | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Other | Total |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 30 | 370 | 60 | 320 | 30 | 10 | 210 | 160 | < 5 | 1,190 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 0 | 70 | 20 | 100 | 30 | 20 | 70 | 110 | 0 | 410 |
| Communication Services | 30 | 1,200 | < 5 | 110 | 20 | < 5 | 900 | 40 | 0 | 2,300 |
| Construction | < 5 | 430 | 90 | 510 | 30 | 10 | 160 | 810 | 0 | 2,040 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | < 5 | 130 | 10 | 70 | 10 | < 5 | 70 | 20 | 0 | 330 |
| Education | 80 | 250 | 10 | 170 | 50 | 10 | 230 | 80 | 0 | 880 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 0 | 40 | 10 | 80 | 30 | < 5 | 40 | 120 | 0 | 330 |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 | 580 | < 5 | 30 | < 5 | < 5 | 180 | 20 | 0 | 810 |
| Government Administration and Defence | 20 | 70 | 0 | 50 | 10 | < 5 | 20 | 160 | 0 | 340 |
| Health and Community Services | 50 | 1,140 | 90 | 900 | 150 | 90 | 790 | 170 | < 5 | 3,380 |
| Manufacturing | < 5 | 480 | 30 | 550 | 90 | 10 | 430 | 370 | 0 | 1,960 |
| Mining | 0 | 90 | 20 | 330 | 110 | 10 | 80 | 1,130 | 20 | 1,790 |
| Personal and Other Services | 10 | 750 | 10 | 180 | 30 | < 5 | 300 | 130 | 0 | 1,400 |
| Property and Business Services | 30 | 1,110 | 20 | 230 | 20 | 10 | 790 | 110 | < 5 | 2,300 |
| Retail Trade | 10 | 160 | 20 | 130 | 10 | < 5 | 120 | 60 | 0 | 500 |
| Transport and Storage | 0 | 150 | 20 | 70 | 10 | < 5 | 50 | 90 | 0 | 400 |
| Wholesale Trade | 0 | 190 | < 5 | 40 | 10 | < 5 | 120 | 30 | 0 | 400 |
| Not Recorded | < 5 | 240 | 10 | 20 | 20 | < 5 | 170 | 170 | 100 | 710 |
| Total | 270 | 7,450 | 420 | 3,860 | 650 | 180 | 4,730 | 3,780 | 120 | 21,460 |

Table 1.8 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|--|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Computing Professionals NEC | 1,030 | 1,490 | 44% | 7% |
| Registered Nurse | 1,180 | 1,310 | 11% | 6% |
| Business and Information Professionals NEC | 700 | 740 | 6% | 3% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 300 | 650 | 114% | 3% |
| Medical Practitioner In Training | 260 | 630 | 148% | 3% |
| Management Consultant | 400 | 550 | 39% | 3% |
| Applications and Analyst Programmer | 430 | 520 | 23% | 2% |
| Chef | 500 | 470 | -6% | 2% |
| Marketing Specialist | 360 | 420 | 17% | 2% |
| Welder (First Class) | 320 | 420 | 31% | 2% |
| Cook | 400 | 410 | 3% | 2% |
| Specialist Managers NEC | 450 | 400 | -12% | 2% |
| Metal Fabricator | 390 | 390 | 0% | 2% |
| Software Designer | 200 | 380 | 92% | 2% |
| General Manager | 400 | 350 | -13% | 2% |
| Others | 11,090 | 12,340 | 11% | 57% |
| Total | 18,400 | 21,460 | 17% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 1.9 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07 by State/Territory

| Occupation | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Other | Total |
|--|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| Computing Professionals NEC | 20 | 600 | 0 | 80 | < 5 | < 5 | 760 | 20 | 0 | 1,490 |
| Registered Nurse | 30 | 470 | 50 | 240 | 60 | 10 | 330 | 130 | < 5 | 1,310 |
| Business and Information Professionals NEC | 10 | 460 | < 5 | 50 | 10 | < 5 | 180 | 30 | < 5 | 740 |
| General Medical Practitioner | 10 | 190 | 40 | 120 | 40 | 20 | 200 | 40 | 0 | 650 |
| Medical Practitioner In Training | < 5 | 100 | 0 | 410 | 10 | 30 | 50 | 40 | 0 | 630 |
| Management Consultant | 10 | 360 | < 5 | 40 | < 5 | < 5 | 110 | 30 | 0 | 550 |
| Applications and Analyst Programmer | < 5 | 400 | 0 | 20 | < 5 | < 5 | 90 | 10 | 0 | 520 |
| Chef | 10 | 150 | 20 | 140 | < 5 | < 5 | 70 | 80 | < 5 | 470 |
| Marketing Specialist | < 5 | 290 | 0 | 40 | < 5 | < 5 | 70 | 10 | 0 | 420 |
| Welder (First Class) | 0 | 30 | 10 | 210 | 10 | < 5 | 30 | 130 | 0 | 420 |
| Cook | 10 | 130 | 10 | 90 | 20 | 10 | 90 | 50 | 0 | 410 |
| Specialist Managers NEC | < 5 | 210 | < 5 | 30 | 10 | < 5 | 100 | 40 | < 5 | 400 |
| Metal Fabricator | 0 | 30 | 50 | 140 | 10 | < 5 | 20 | 150 | 0 | 390 |
| Software Designer | 0 | 110 | 0 | 10 | < 5 | 0 | 250 | 10 | < 5 | 380 |
| General Manager | < 5 | 180 | < 5 | 30 | 10 | 0 | 80 | 30 | < 5 | 350 |
| Others | 160 | 3,740 | 250 | 2,230 | 460 | 100 | 2,300 | 2,990 | 110 | 12,340 |
| Total | 270 | 7,450 | 420 | 3,860 | 650 | 180 | 4,730 | 3,780 | 120 | 21,460 |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 1.10 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| United Kingdom | 4,870 | 4,970 | 2% | 23% |
| India | 1,790 | 2,920 | 63% | 14% |
| Philippines | 950 | 1,790 | 89% | 8% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 1,020 | 1,220 | 19% | 6% |
| United States of America | 1,000 | 1,190 | 19% | 6% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 930 | 1,040 | 12% | 5% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 680 | 730 | 7% | 3% |
| Irish Republic | 810 | 730 | -11% | 3% |
| Canada | 620 | 560 | -10% | 3% |
| Japan | 580 | 550 | -5% | 3% |
| Malaysia | 320 | 470 | 47% | 2% |
| France | 410 | 390 | -5% | 2% |
| Netherlands | 320 | 350 | 11% | 2% |
| Singapore | 190 | 270 | 47% | 1% |
| Zimbabwe | 170 | 260 | 47% | 1% |
| Korea, Republic of | 310 | 240 | -21% | 1% |
| Others | 3,420 | 3,780 | 10% | 18% |
| Total | 18,400 | 21,460 | 17% | 100% |

Table 1.11 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in 2006-07 by State/Territory

| Country of Citizenship | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Other | Total |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| United Kingdom | 30 | 2,200 | 50 | 730 | 100 | 20 | 980 | 830 | 30 | 4,970 |
| India | 30 | 1,060 | 40 | 340 | 90 | 40 | 1,130 | 180 | 10 | 2,920 |
| Philippines | 10 | 270 | 150 | 440 | 90 | 10 | 250 | 570 | < 5 | 1,790 |
| South Africa, Republic of | 20 | 250 | 10 | 290 | 60 | 10 | 160 | 400 | 10 | 1,220 |
| United States of America | 30 | 480 | 10 | 190 | 40 | 10 | 250 | 190 | 10 | 1,190 |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 30 | 250 | 40 | 270 | 30 | 20 | 230 | 170 | < 5 | 1,040 |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 10 | 330 | 10 | 140 | 20 | 10 | 130 | 80 | < 5 | 730 |
| Irish Republic | 10 | 430 | 10 | 80 | 10 | < 5 | 130 | 70 | < 5 | 730 |
| Canada | 10 | 190 | < 5 | 100 | 40 | < 5 | 110 | 110 | < 5 | 560 |
| Japan | 10 | 200 | 10 | 120 | 10 | < 5 | 140 | 70 | < 5 | 550 |
| Malaysia | < 5 | 120 | 10 | 80 | 20 | < 5 | 130 | 100 | 10 | 470 |
| France | 10 | 170 | < 5 | 60 | 10 | < 5 | 90 | 50 | 0 | 390 |
| Netherlands | < 5 | 100 | < 5 | 60 | 10 | < 5 | 50 | 130 | < 5 | 350 |
| Singapore | < 5 | 100 | < 5 | 30 | 10 | < 5 | 70 | 60 | 0 | 270 |
| Zimbabwe | < 5 | 80 | 20 | 50 | 10 | < 5 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 260 |
| Korea, Republic of | < 5 | 120 | < 5 | 40 | 10 | < 5 | 50 | 20 | 0 | 240 |
| Others | 60 | 1,130 | 70 | 830 | 120 | 30 | 770 | 740 | < 5 | 3,780 |
| Total | 270 | 7,450 | 420 | 3,860 | 650 | 180 | 4,730 | 3,780 | 120 | 21,460 |

2 ACT

Table 2.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in ACT by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Property and Business Services | 10 | 30 | 225% | 10% |
| Retail Trade | < 5 | 10 | 200% | 2% |
| Government Administration and Defence | 10 | 20 | 75% | 8% |
| Communication Services | 20 | 30 | 61% | 11% |
| Manufacturing | < 5 | < 5 | 33% | 1% |
| Education | 70 | 80 | 28% | 31% |
| Health and Community Services | 50 | 50 | 16% | 19% |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 | < 5 | 0% | 0% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | < 5 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 30 | 30 | 0% | 12% |
| Construction | 10 | < 5 | -71% | 1% |
| Personal and Other Services | 30 | 10 | -74% | 3% |
| Wholesale Trade | < 5 | 0 | -100% | 0% |
| Mining | < 5 | 0 | -100% | 0% |
| Not Recorded | 0 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Total for ACT | 240 | 270 | 15% | 100% |

Table 2.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in ACT by Industry Classification of Sponsor

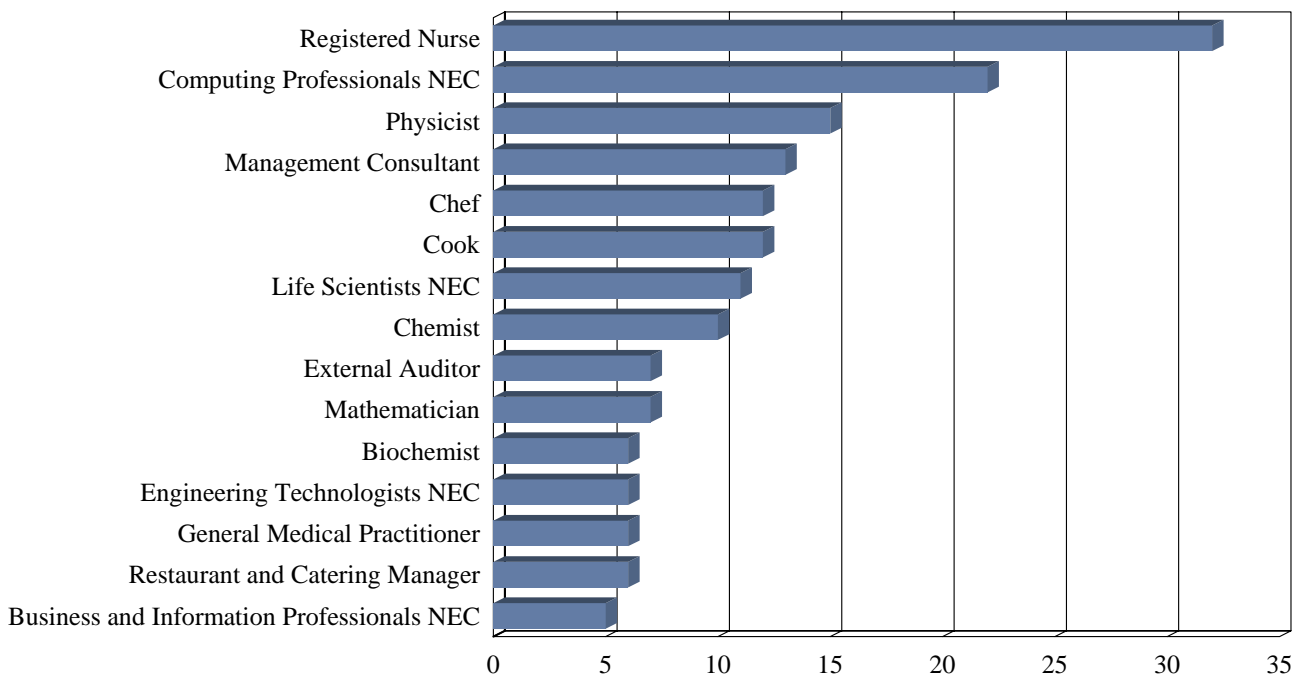
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Property and Business Services | \$131,200 |
| Government Administration and Defence | \$75,100 |
| Communication Services | \$74,000 |
| Education | \$61,200 |
| Health and Community Services | \$61,000 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$60,600 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$41,600 |
| Retail Trade | \$40,500 |
| Wholesale Trade | < 5 |
| Mining | < 5 |
| Manufacturing | < 5 |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | < 5 |
| Construction | < 5 |
| Not Recorded | < 5 |
| Total for ACT | \$68,300 |

Table 2.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in ACT in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Registered Nurse | 20 | 30 | 45% | 12% |
| Computing Professionals NEC | 10 | 20 | 57% | 8% |
| Physicist | 10 | 20 | 7% | 6% |
| Management Consultant | < 5 | 10 | 550% | 5% |
| Chef | 10 | 10 | 0% | 4% |
| Cook | 30 | 10 | -54% | 4% |
| Life Scientists NEC | 10 | 10 | 38% | 4% |
| Chemist | 10 | 10 | 67% | 4% |
| External Auditor | 0 | 10 | | 3% |
| Mathematician | 10 | 10 | 0% | 3% |
| Biochemist | 10 | 10 | 0% | 2% |
| Engineering Technologists NEC | 0 | 10 | | 2% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 0 | 10 | | 2% |
| Restaurant and Catering Manager | 0 | 10 | | 2% |
| Business and Information Professionals NEC | 10 | 10 | -55% | 2% |
| Others | 110 | 100 | -6% | 38% |
| Total for ACT | 240 | 270 | 15% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 2.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in ACT in 2006-07

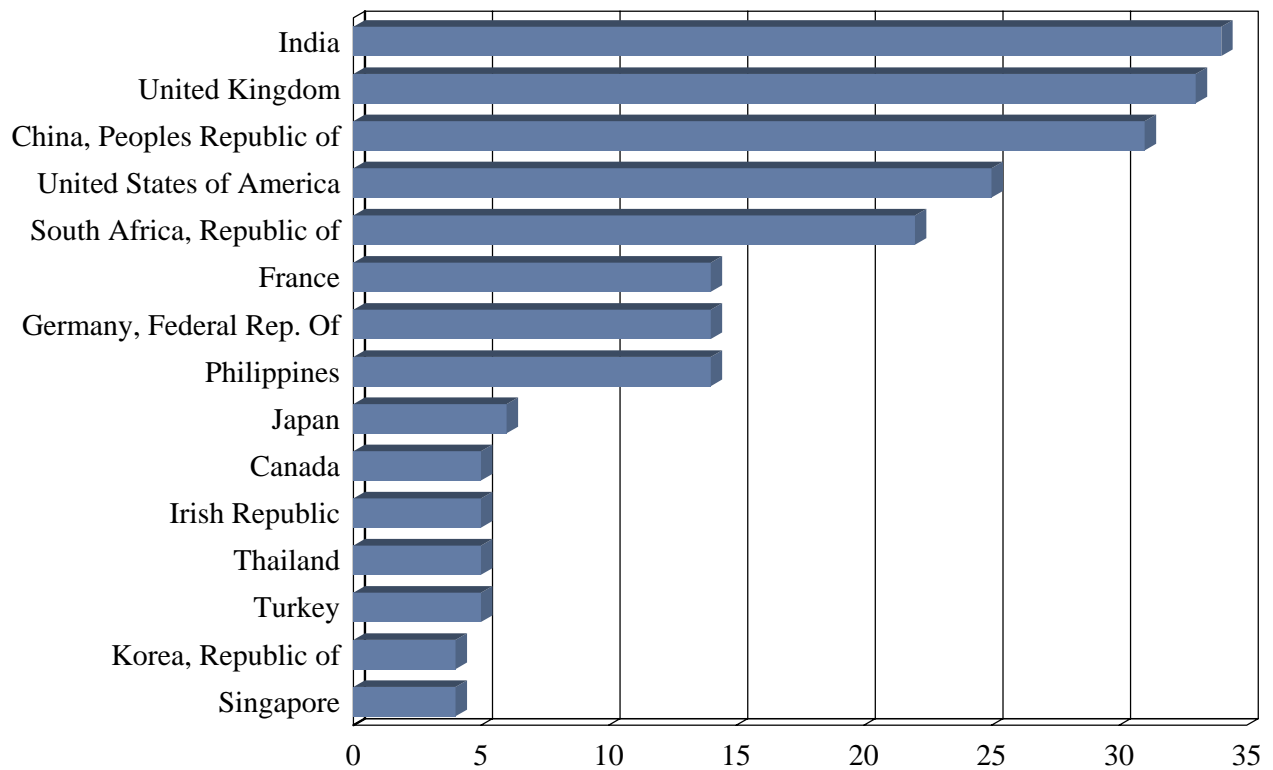


Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 2.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in ACT in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| India | 20 | 30 | 100% | 13% |
| United Kingdom | 30 | 30 | 3% | 12% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 20 | 30 | 55% | 11% |
| United States of America | 10 | 30 | 150% | 9% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 10 | 20 | 175% | 8% |
| France | 20 | 10 | -18% | 5% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 10 | 10 | 17% | 5% |
| Philippines | 30 | 10 | -52% | 5% |
| Japan | < 5 | 10 | 500% | 2% |
| Canada | 10 | 10 | -58% | 2% |
| Irish Republic | < 5 | 10 | 67% | 2% |
| Thailand | < 5 | 10 | 400% | 2% |
| Turkey | < 5 | 10 | 150% | 2% |
| Korea, Republic of | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Singapore | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Brazil | 10 | < 5 | | |
| Others | 60 | 50 | -21% | 18% |
| Total for ACT | 240 | 270 | 15% | 100% |

Graph 2.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in ACT in 2006-07



3 NSW

Table 3.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in NSW by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Health and Community Services | 920 | 1,140 | 24% | 15% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 40 | 40 | 23% | 1% |
| Education | 220 | 250 | 16% | 3% |
| Personal and Other Services | 660 | 750 | 15% | 10% |
| Finance and Insurance | 500 | 580 | 15% | 8% |
| Transport and Storage | 130 | 150 | 13% | 2% |
| Government Administration and Defence | 60 | 70 | 11% | 1% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 340 | 370 | 10% | 5% |
| Communication Services | 1,140 | 1,200 | 5% | 16% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | 130 | 130 | 5% | 2% |
| Mining | 90 | 90 | 3% | 1% |
| Wholesale Trade | 190 | 190 | 2% | 3% |
| Manufacturing | 470 | 480 | 2% | 6% |
| Construction | 430 | 430 | -1% | 6% |
| Property and Business Services | 1,170 | 1,110 | -5% | 15% |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 80 | 70 | -19% | 1% |
| Retail Trade | 210 | 160 | -26% | 2% |
| Not Recorded | 10 | 240 | 2,270% | 3% |
| Total for NSW | 6,790 | 7,450 | 10% | 100% |

Table 3.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in NSW by Industry Classification of Sponsor

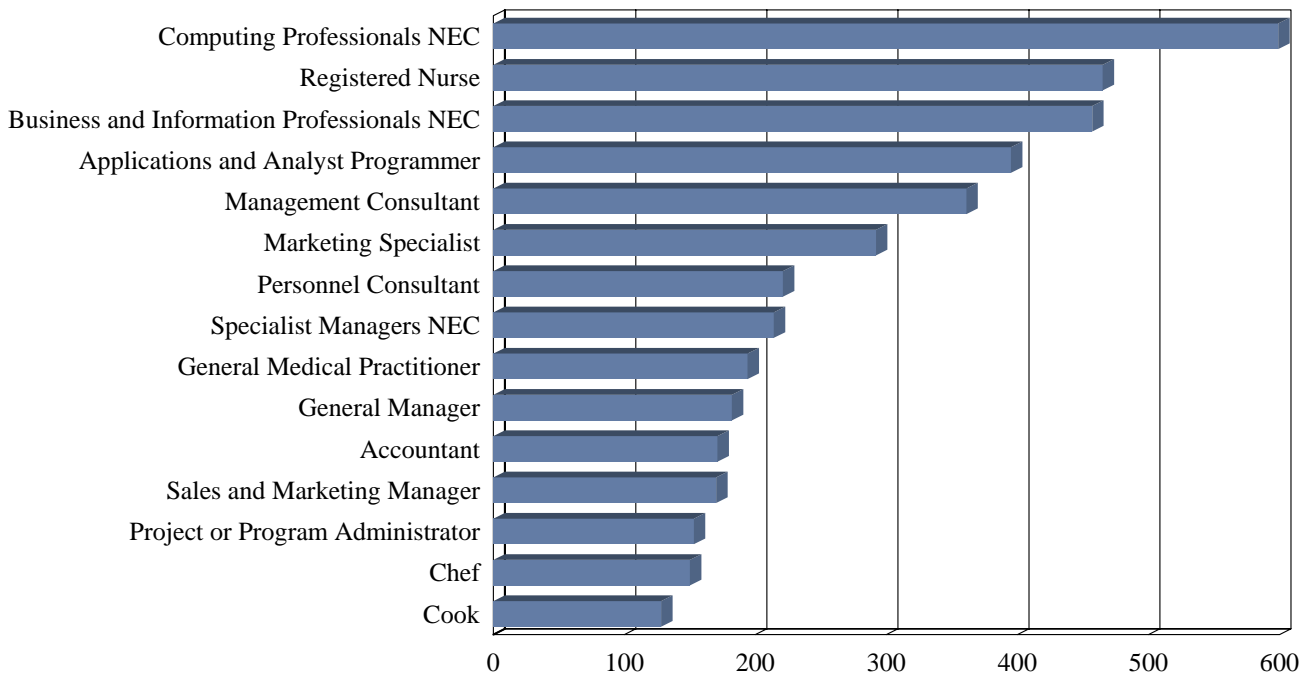
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Finance and Insurance | \$100,200 |
| Mining | \$88,900 |
| Manufacturing | \$86,100 |
| Government Administration and Defence | \$82,600 |
| Communication Services | \$78,300 |
| Wholesale Trade | \$73,000 |
| Property and Business Services | \$71,400 |
| Construction | \$67,500 |
| Retail Trade | \$66,800 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$65,200 |
| Transport and Storage | \$64,600 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | \$64,200 |
| Health and Community Services | \$63,900 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | \$62,900 |
| Education | \$62,400 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$47,500 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$47,200 |
| Not Recorded | \$83,600 |
| Total for NSW | \$72,300 |

Table 3.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in NSW in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Computing Professionals NEC | 480 | 600 | 24% | 8% |
| Registered Nurse | 520 | 470 | -11% | 6% |
| Business and Information Professionals NEC | 450 | 460 | 2% | 6% |
| Applications and Analyst Programmer | 340 | 400 | 18% | 5% |
| Management Consultant | 240 | 360 | 53% | 5% |
| Marketing Specialist | 240 | 290 | 20% | 4% |
| Personnel Consultant | 210 | 220 | 7% | 3% |
| Specialist Managers NEC | 240 | 210 | -12% | 3% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 80 | 190 | 140% | 3% |
| General Manager | 200 | 180 | -7% | 2% |
| Accountant | 170 | 170 | 4% | 2% |
| Sales and Marketing Manager | 210 | 170 | -17% | 2% |
| Project or Program Administrator | 170 | 150 | -11% | 2% |
| Chef | 180 | 150 | -14% | 2% |
| Cook | 100 | 130 | 25% | 2% |
| Others | 2,980 | 3,300 | 11% | 44% |
| Total for NSW | 6,790 | 7,450 | 10% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 3.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in NSW in 2006-07



Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 3.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in NSW in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| United Kingdom | 2,280 | 2,200 | -3% | 30% |
| India | 700 | 1,060 | 51% | 14% |
| United States of America | 410 | 480 | 17% | 6% |
| Irish Republic | 510 | 430 | -15% | 6% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 260 | 330 | 27% | 4% |
| Philippines | 130 | 270 | 112% | 4% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 190 | 250 | 32% | 3% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 200 | 250 | 25% | 3% |
| Japan | 200 | 200 | 0% | 3% |
| Canada | 200 | 190 | -9% | 2% |
| France | 180 | 170 | -8% | 2% |
| Malaysia | 100 | 120 | 18% | 2% |
| Korea, Republic of | 160 | 120 | -28% | 2% |
| Singapore | 80 | 100 | 29% | 1% |
| Netherlands | 90 | 100 | 3% | 1% |
| Italy | 60 | 80 | 38% | 1% |
| Others | 1,040 | 1,120 | 8% | 15% |
| Total for NSW | 6,790 | 7,450 | 10% | 100% |

Graph 3.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in NSW in 2006-07

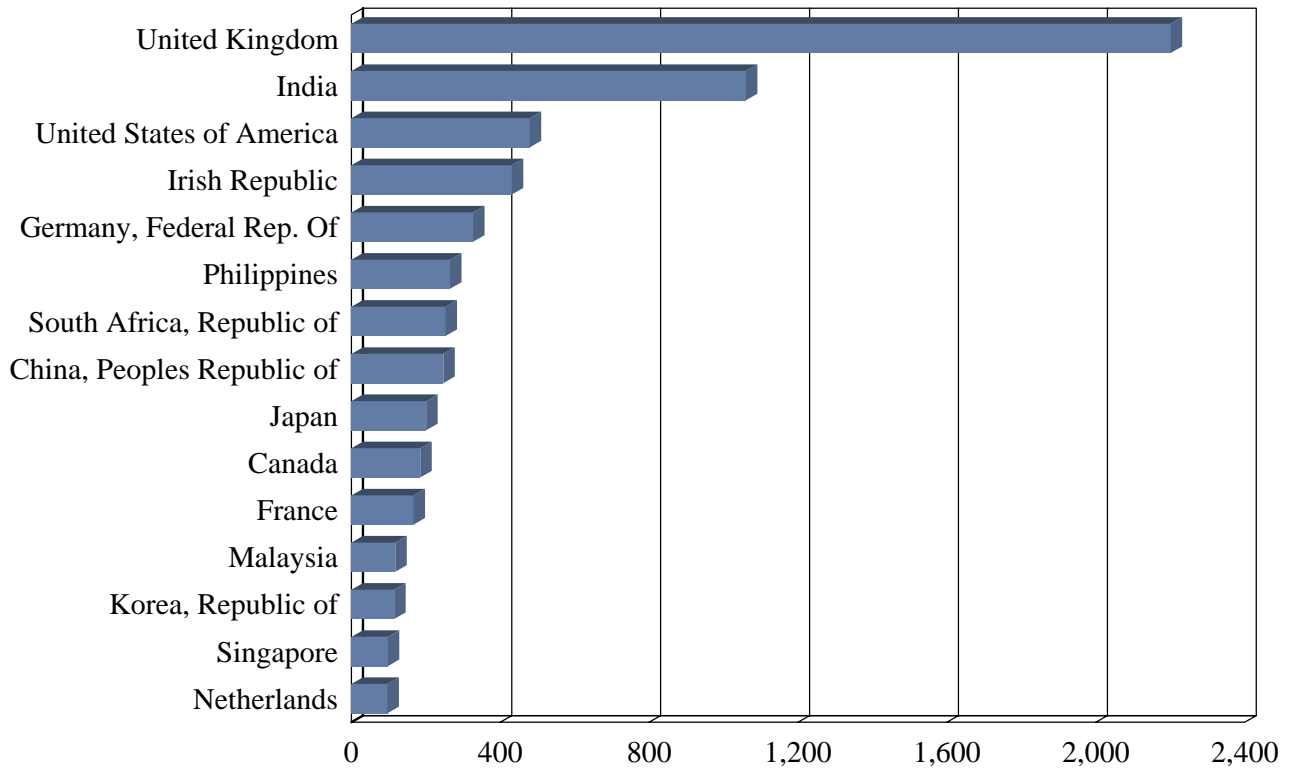


Table 4.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in NT by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Property and Business Services | < 5 | 20 | 400% | 4% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | < 5 | 10 | 200% | 1% |
| Communication Services | < 5 | < 5 | 100% | 1% |
| Education | 10 | 10 | 100% | 3% |
| Manufacturing | 20 | 30 | 88% | 8% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 40 | 60 | 57% | 13% |
| Transport and Storage | 20 | 20 | 38% | 5% |
| Retail Trade | 20 | 20 | 35% | 5% |
| Construction | 70 | 90 | 18% | 21% |
| Health and Community Services | 80 | 90 | 16% | 22% |
| Mining | 20 | 20 | 10% | 5% |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 20 | 20 | 6% | 4% |
| Wholesale Trade | < 5 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 | < 5 | 0% | 0% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | 10 | 10 | -9% | 2% |
| Personal and Other Services | 10 | 10 | -38% | 2% |
| Government Administration and Defence | < 5 | 0 | -100% | 0% |
| Not Recorded | < 5 | 10 | 250% | 2% |
| Total for NT | 320 | 420 | 30% | 100% |

Table 4.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in NT by Industry Classification of Sponsor

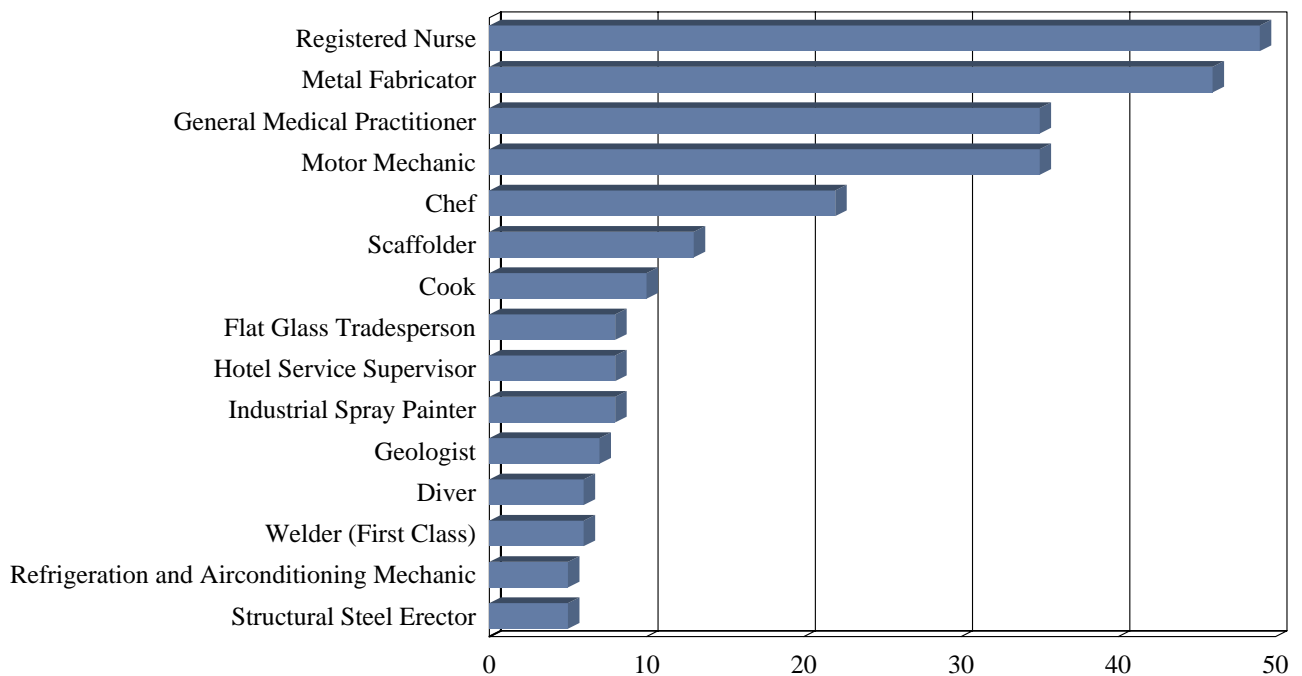
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mining | \$134,700 |
| Health and Community Services | \$63,400 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | \$60,100 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | \$60,100 |
| Education | \$54,900 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$53,800 |
| Construction | \$48,000 |
| Transport and Storage | \$44,800 |
| Property and Business Services | \$42,800 |
| Manufacturing | \$41,800 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$41,100 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$41,000 |
| Retail Trade | \$38,600 |
| Communication Services | < 5 |
| Government Administration and Defence | < 5 |
| Wholesale Trade | < 5 |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 |
| Not Recorded | \$61,900 |
| Total for NT | \$54,900 |

Table 4.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in NT in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Registered Nurse | 30 | 50 | 58% | 12% |
| Metal Fabricator | 30 | 50 | 39% | 11% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 40 | 40 | -10% | 8% |
| Motor Mechanic | 20 | 40 | 52% | 8% |
| Chef | 10 | 20 | 100% | 5% |
| Scaffolder | < 5 | 10 | 333% | 3% |
| Cook | 10 | 10 | 100% | 2% |
| Flat Glass Tradesperson | 0 | 10 | | 2% |
| Hotel Service Supervisor | < 5 | 10 | 700% | 2% |
| Industrial Spray Painter | < 5 | 10 | 300% | 2% |
| Geologist | 0 | 10 | | 2% |
| Diver | < 5 | 10 | 200% | 1% |
| Welder (First Class) | 10 | 10 | -25% | 1% |
| Refrigeration and Airconditioning Mechanic | < 5 | 10 | 67% | 1% |
| Structural Steel Erector | < 5 | 10 | 67% | 1% |
| Others | 160 | 160 | -1% | 37% |
| Total for NT | 320 | 420 | 30% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 4.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in NT in 2006-07

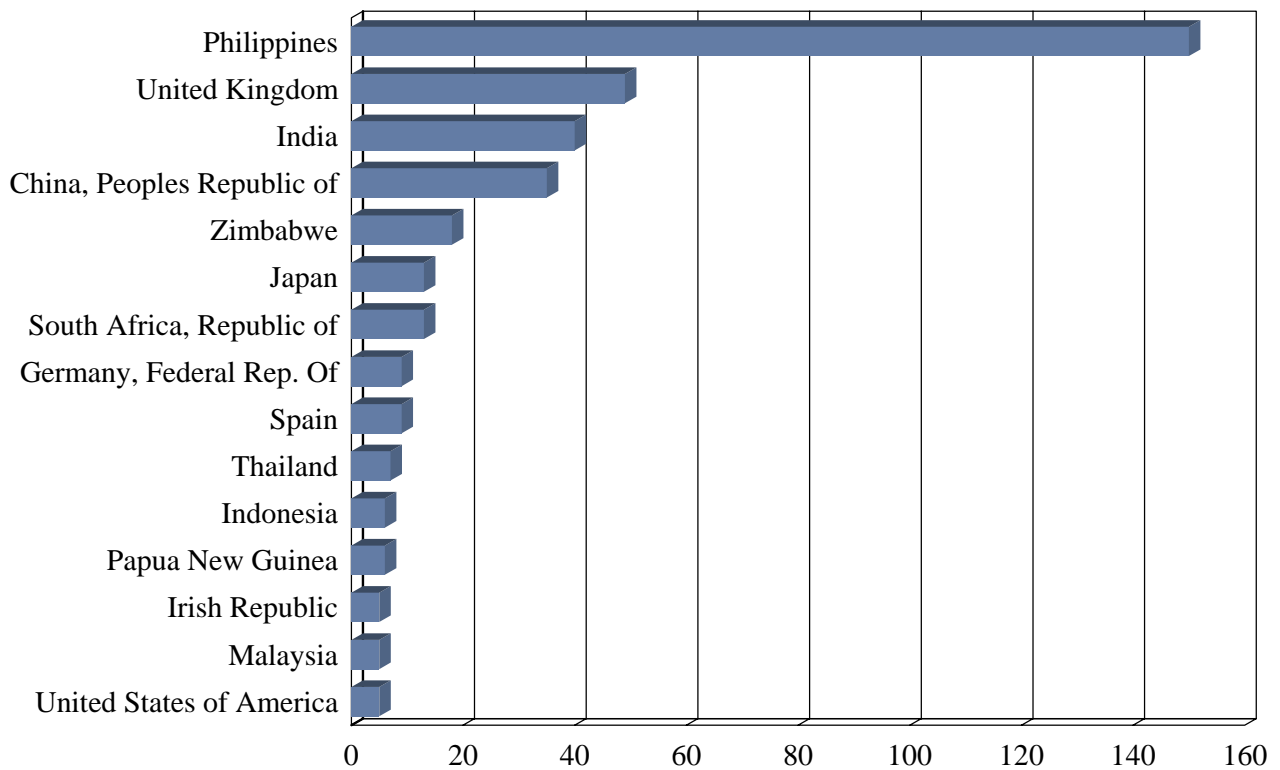


Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 4.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in NT in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Philippines | 70 | 150 | 127% | 36% |
| United Kingdom | 50 | 50 | -9% | 12% |
| India | 30 | 40 | 21% | 10% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 10 | 40 | 400% | 8% |
| Zimbabwe | 20 | 20 | -25% | 4% |
| Japan | 10 | 10 | 117% | 3% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 20 | 10 | -19% | 3% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 10 | 10 | 0% | 2% |
| Spain | < 5 | 10 | 800% | 2% |
| Thailand | 10 | 10 | 17% | 2% |
| Indonesia | 0 | 10 | | 1% |
| Papua New Guinea | < 5 | 10 | 200% | 1% |
| Irish Republic | 10 | 10 | -38% | 1% |
| Malaysia | < 5 | 10 | 25% | 1% |
| United States of America | 20 | 10 | -79% | 1% |
| Canada | 10 | < 5 | | |
| Others | 50 | 50 | -8% | 11% |
| Total for NT | 320 | 420 | 30% | 100% |

Graph 4.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in NT in 2006-07



5 QLD

Table 5.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in QLD by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Government Administration and Defence | 20 | 50 | 206% | 1% |
| Health and Community Services | 350 | 900 | 156% | 23% |
| Finance and Insurance | 20 | 30 | 67% | 1% |
| Transport and Storage | 40 | 70 | 64% | 2% |
| Manufacturing | 350 | 550 | 56% | 14% |
| Construction | 360 | 510 | 40% | 13% |
| Personal and Other Services | 130 | 180 | 40% | 5% |
| Mining | 240 | 330 | 36% | 9% |
| Wholesale Trade | 40 | 40 | 20% | 1% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 300 | 320 | 4% | 8% |
| Communication Services | 110 | 110 | 4% | 3% |
| Retail Trade | 130 | 130 | -6% | 3% |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 110 | 100 | -13% | 3% |
| Property and Business Services | 280 | 230 | -19% | 6% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 100 | 80 | -19% | 2% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | 100 | 70 | -35% | 2% |
| Education | 260 | 170 | -35% | 4% |
| Not Recorded | 10 | 20 | 33% | 0% |
| Total for QLD | 2,960 | 3,860 | 31% | 100% |

Table 5.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in QLD by Industry Classification of Sponsor

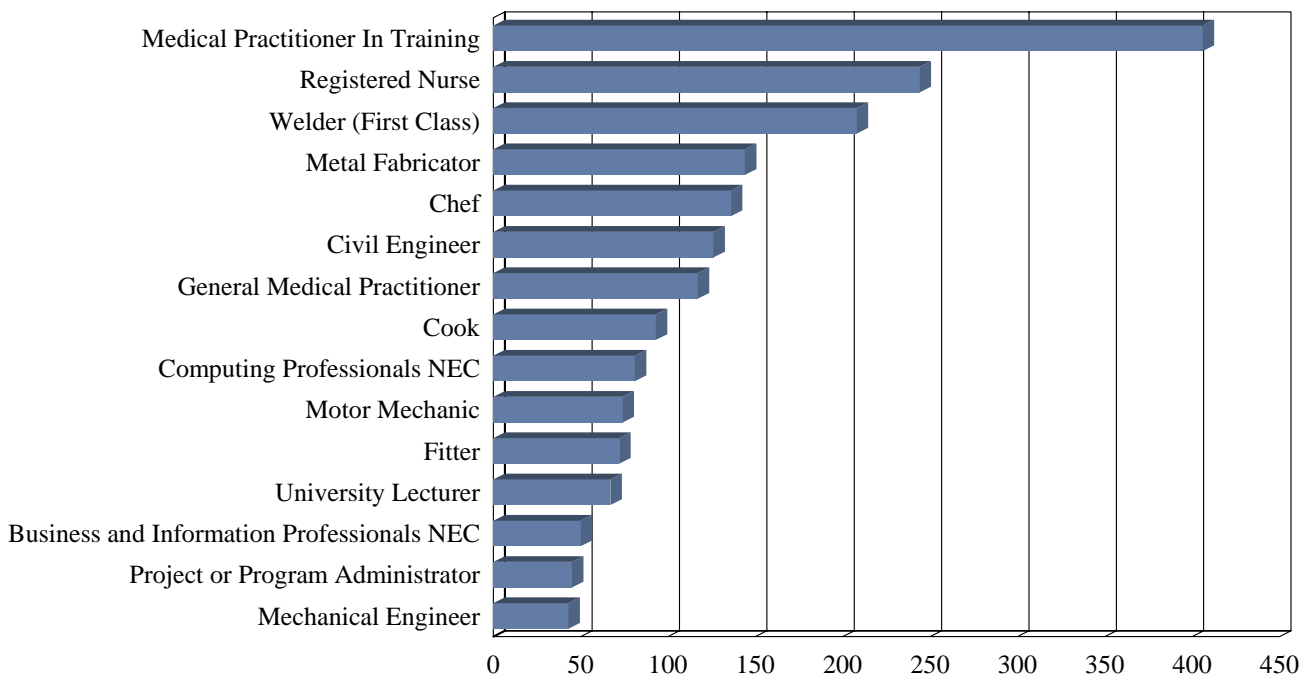
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Finance and Insurance | \$88,900 |
| Mining | \$83,200 |
| Construction | \$75,000 |
| Health and Community Services | \$72,800 |
| Wholesale Trade | \$72,500 |
| Communication Services | \$71,000 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | \$70,500 |
| Government Administration and Defence | \$65,900 |
| Education | \$61,500 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$59,100 |
| Transport and Storage | \$56,300 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | \$54,000 |
| Property and Business Services | \$53,400 |
| Manufacturing | \$52,700 |
| Retail Trade | \$45,100 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$44,300 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$43,600 |
| Not Recorded | \$73,800 |
| Total for QLD | \$64,200 |

Table 5.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in QLD in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Medical Practitioner In Training | 190 | 410 | 109% | 11% |
| Registered Nurse | 90 | 240 | 171% | 6% |
| Welder (First Class) | 80 | 210 | 174% | 5% |
| Metal Fabricator | 70 | 140 | 95% | 4% |
| Chef | 140 | 140 | -4% | 4% |
| Civil Engineer | 100 | 130 | 31% | 3% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 30 | 120 | 350% | 3% |
| Cook | 60 | 90 | 45% | 2% |
| Computing Professionals NEC | 70 | 80 | 11% | 2% |
| Motor Mechanic | 70 | 70 | 10% | 2% |
| Fitter | 50 | 70 | 47% | 2% |
| University Lecturer | 20 | 70 | 235% | 2% |
| Business and Information Professionals NEC | 40 | 50 | 22% | 1% |
| Project or Program Administrator | 40 | 50 | 22% | 1% |
| Mechanical Engineer | 60 | 40 | -28% | 1% |
| Others | 1,850 | 1,960 | 6% | 51% |
| Total for QLD | 2,960 | 3,860 | 31% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 5.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in QLD in 2006-07



Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 5.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in QLD in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| United Kingdom | 620 | 730 | 18% | 19% |
| Philippines | 150 | 440 | 185% | 11% |
| India | 150 | 340 | 129% | 9% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 230 | 290 | 27% | 8% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 150 | 270 | 81% | 7% |
| United States of America | 160 | 190 | 23% | 5% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 120 | 140 | 16% | 4% |
| Japan | 190 | 120 | -38% | 3% |
| Canada | 120 | 100 | -15% | 3% |
| Irish Republic | 70 | 80 | 7% | 2% |
| Malaysia | 40 | 80 | 88% | 2% |
| Poland | 10 | 70 | 400% | 2% |
| Netherlands | 40 | 60 | 83% | 2% |
| France | 80 | 60 | -27% | 2% |
| Indonesia | 80 | 60 | -29% | 1% |
| Zimbabwe | 20 | 50 | 141% | 1% |
| Others | 710 | 780 | 9% | 20% |
| Total for QLD | 2,960 | 3,860 | 31% | 100% |

Graph 5.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in QLD in 2006-07

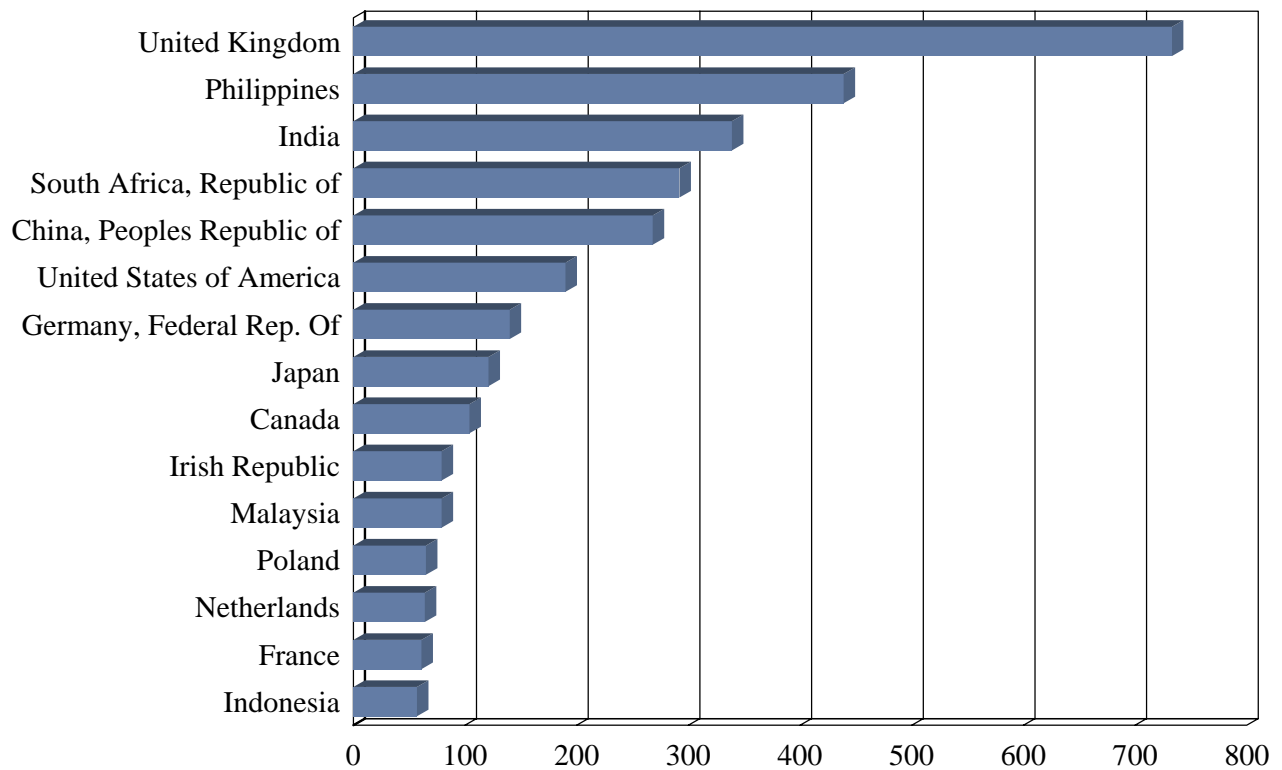


Table 6.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in SA by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mining | 40 | 110 | 195% | 17% |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 | < 5 | 100% | 1% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 20 | 30 | 88% | 5% |
| Communication Services | 10 | 20 | 60% | 2% |
| Personal and Other Services | 20 | 30 | 56% | 4% |
| Construction | 20 | 30 | 50% | 5% |
| Wholesale Trade | 10 | 10 | 20% | 1% |
| Education | 50 | 50 | 13% | 8% |
| Health and Community Services | 150 | 150 | -2% | 22% |
| Retail Trade | 10 | 10 | -14% | 2% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | 20 | 10 | -18% | 2% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 40 | 30 | -23% | 4% |
| Manufacturing | 120 | 90 | -24% | 14% |
| Transport and Storage | 20 | 10 | -39% | 2% |
| Property and Business Services | 40 | 20 | -57% | 2% |
| Government Administration and Defence | 50 | 10 | -76% | 2% |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 150 | 30 | -79% | 5% |
| Not Recorded | < 5 | 20 | 1,400% | 2% |
| Total for SA | 740 | 650 | -12% | 100% |

Table 6.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in SA by Industry Classification of Sponsor

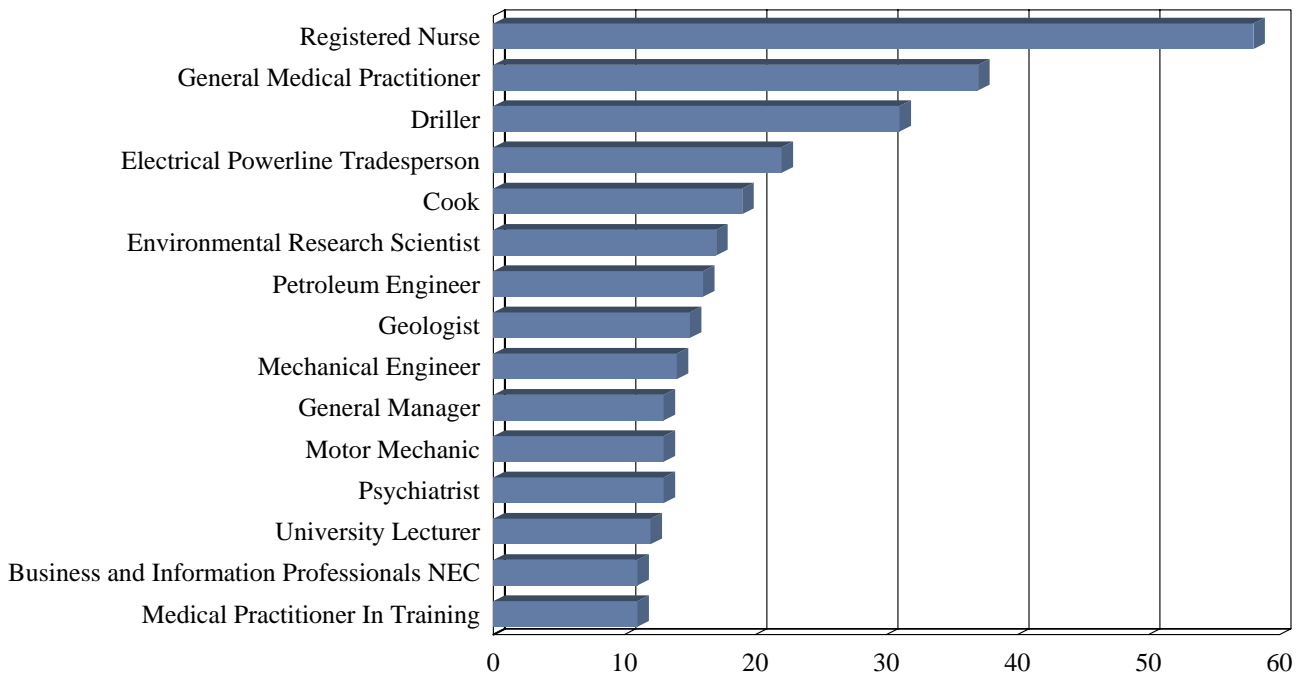
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Wholesale Trade | \$132,000 |
| Government Administration and Defence | \$93,500 |
| Mining | \$86,400 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | \$81,800 |
| Property and Business Services | \$76,200 |
| Manufacturing | \$75,900 |
| Communication Services | \$70,700 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$66,600 |
| Health and Community Services | \$65,000 |
| Education | \$63,600 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | \$57,800 |
| Retail Trade | \$57,300 |
| Construction | \$55,300 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$54,900 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$53,700 |
| Transport and Storage | \$49,700 |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 |
| Not Recorded | \$107,800 |
| Total for SA | \$70,700 |

Table 6.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in SA in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Registered Nurse | 100 | 60 | -41% | 9% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 10 | 40 | 185% | 6% |
| Driller | 10 | 30 | 158% | 5% |
| Electrical Powerline Tradesperson | 20 | 20 | 22% | 3% |
| Cook | 20 | 20 | -17% | 3% |
| Environmental Research Scientist | 10 | 20 | 113% | 3% |
| Petroleum Engineer | < 5 | 20 | 300% | 2% |
| Geologist | 10 | 20 | 114% | 2% |
| Mechanical Engineer | 10 | 10 | 180% | 2% |
| General Manager | 10 | 10 | 86% | 2% |
| Motor Mechanic | 10 | 10 | 44% | 2% |
| Psychiatrist | < 5 | 10 | 333% | 2% |
| University Lecturer | 10 | 10 | -8% | 2% |
| Business and Information Professionals NEC | 10 | 10 | 22% | 2% |
| Medical Practitioner In Training | < 5 | 10 | 1,000% | 2% |
| Others | 510 | 350 | -32% | 53% |
| Total for SA | 740 | 650 | -12% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 6.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in SA in 2006-07

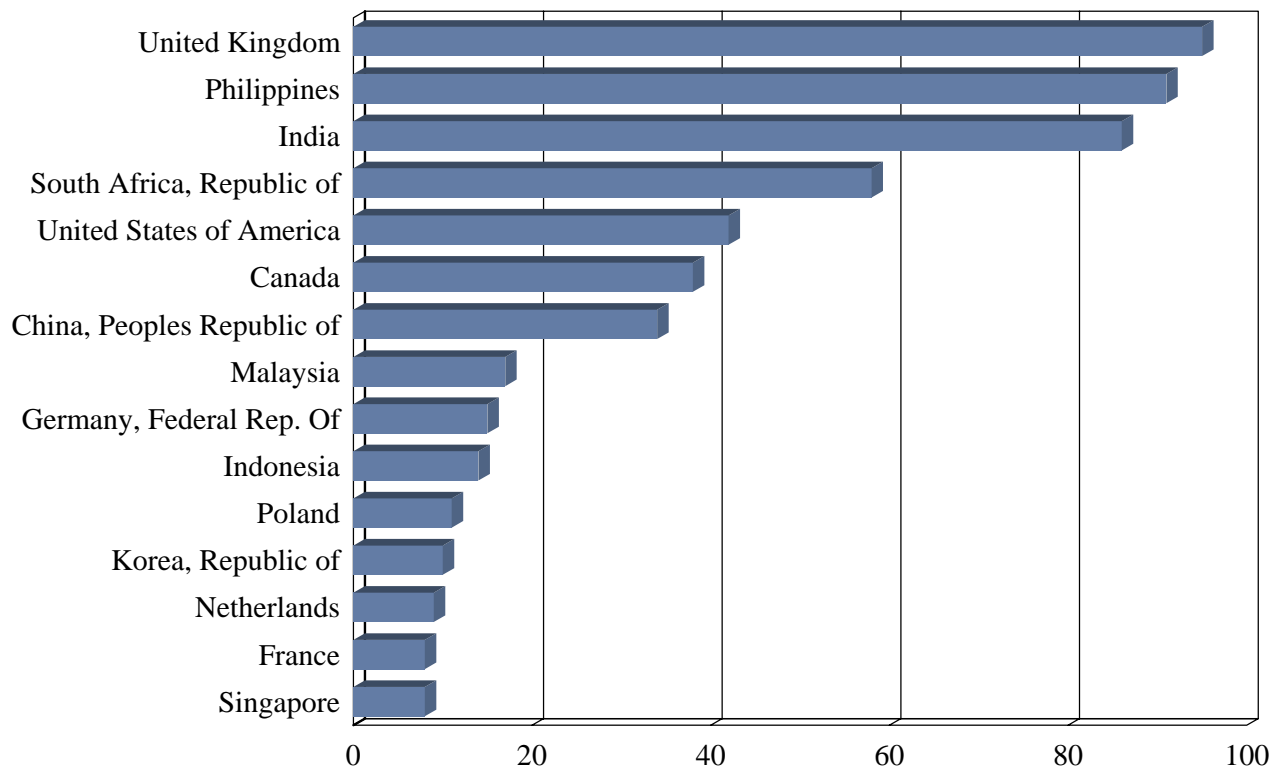


Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 6.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in SA in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| United Kingdom | 130 | 100 | -27% | 15% |
| Philippines | 50 | 90 | 90% | 14% |
| India | 40 | 90 | 146% | 13% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 40 | 60 | 35% | 9% |
| United States of America | 20 | 40 | 91% | 6% |
| Canada | 20 | 40 | 81% | 6% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 160 | 30 | -79% | 5% |
| Malaysia | 10 | 20 | 89% | 3% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 20 | 20 | -21% | 2% |
| Indonesia | < 5 | 10 | 367% | 2% |
| Poland | < 5 | 10 | 450% | 2% |
| Korea, Republic of | 10 | 10 | -9% | 2% |
| Netherlands | 10 | 10 | 50% | 1% |
| France | 10 | 10 | 60% | 1% |
| Singapore | < 5 | 10 | 167% | 1% |
| Irish Republic | 20 | 10 | -53% | 1% |
| Others | 210 | 110 | -49% | 16% |
| Total for SA | 740 | 650 | -12% | 100% |

Graph 6.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in SA in 2006-07



7 TAS

Table 7.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in TAS by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 10 | 20 | 214% | 12% |
| Manufacturing | < 5 | 10 | 200% | 5% |
| Education | < 5 | 10 | 100% | 4% |
| Mining | 10 | 10 | 86% | 7% |
| Personal and Other Services | < 5 | < 5 | 50% | 2% |
| Health and Community Services | 90 | 90 | 3% | 50% |
| Communication Services | < 5 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | < 5 | < 5 | 0% | 2% |
| Government Administration and Defence | < 5 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Property and Business Services | 10 | 10 | 0% | 3% |
| Transport and Storage | 0 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Finance and Insurance | 0 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Construction | 10 | 10 | -29% | 3% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 20 | 10 | -38% | 6% |
| Retail Trade | < 5 | < 5 | -50% | 1% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 10 | < 5 | -67% | 1% |
| Wholesale Trade | 10 | < 5 | -88% | 1% |
| Not Recorded | 0 | < 5 | 0% | 1% |
| Total for TAS | 160 | 180 | 12% | 100% |

Table 7.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in TAS by Industry Classification of Sponsor

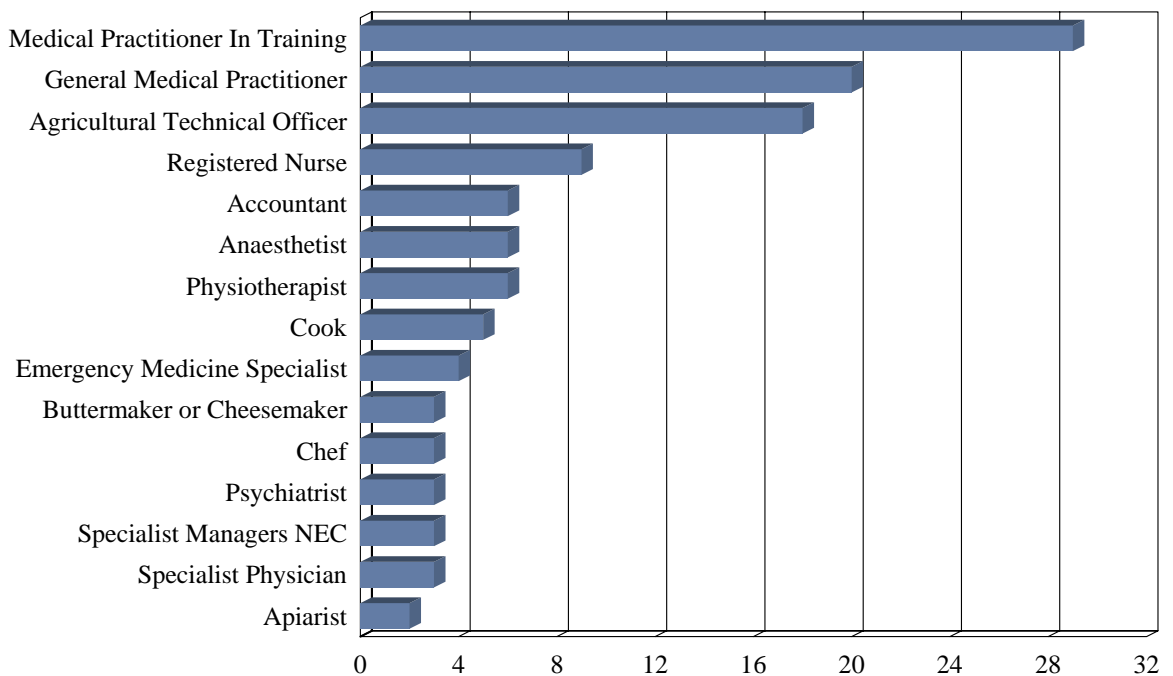
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Manufacturing | \$135,000 |
| Mining | \$91,200 |
| Health and Community Services | \$82,200 |
| Education | \$59,400 |
| Property and Business Services | \$48,200 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$41,100 |
| Construction | \$38,900 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$37,800 |
| Communication Services | < 5 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | < 5 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | < 5 |
| Government Administration and Defence | < 5 |
| Personal and Other Services | < 5 |
| Retail Trade | < 5 |
| Transport and Storage | < 5 |
| Wholesale Trade | < 5 |
| Finance and Insurance | < 5 |
| Not Recorded | < 5 |
| Total for TAS | \$73,600 |

Table 7.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in TAS in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Medical Practitioner In Training | 10 | 30 | 314% | 16% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 30 | 20 | -39% | 11% |
| Agricultural Technical Officer | 0 | 20 | | 10% |
| Registered Nurse | 10 | 10 | 50% | 5% |
| Accountant | 0 | 10 | | 3% |
| Anaesthetist | < 5 | 10 | 500% | 3% |
| Physiotherapist | 10 | 10 | 0% | 3% |
| Cook | 10 | 10 | -44% | 3% |
| Emergency Medicine Specialist | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Buttermaker or Cheesemaker | 0 | < 5 | | |
| Chef | 10 | < 5 | | |
| Psychiatrist | 10 | < 5 | | |
| Specialist Managers NEC | 0 | < 5 | | |
| Specialist Physician | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Apiarist | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Others | 80 | 60 | -25% | 33% |
| Total for TAS | 160 | 180 | 12% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 7.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in TAS in 2006-07

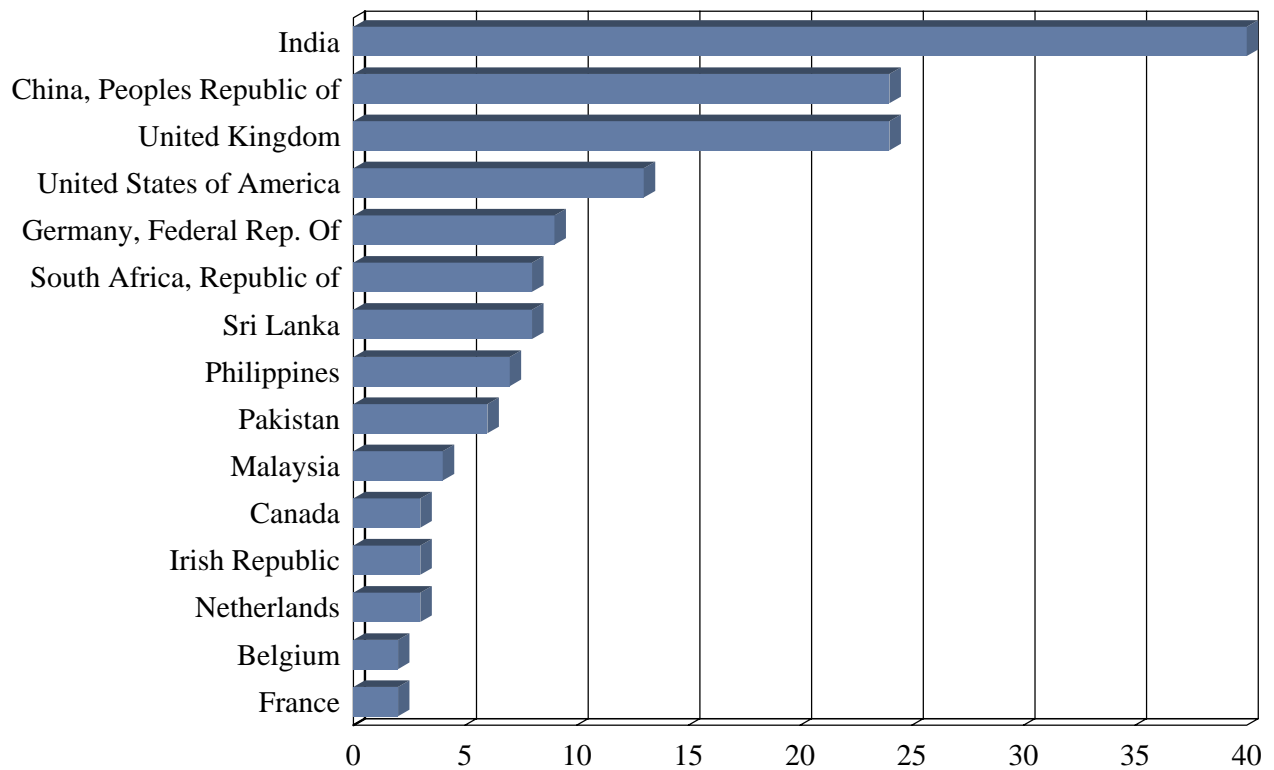


Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 7.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in TAS in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| India | 20 | 40 | 111% | 22% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 10 | 20 | 300% | 13% |
| United Kingdom | 30 | 20 | -29% | 13% |
| United States of America | 10 | 10 | -7% | 7% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 10 | 10 | -18% | 5% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 10 | 10 | -27% | 4% |
| Sri Lanka | 10 | 10 | 60% | 4% |
| Philippines | 10 | 10 | -13% | 4% |
| Pakistan | < 5 | 10 | 500% | 3% |
| Malaysia | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Canada | 10 | < 5 | | |
| Irish Republic | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Netherlands | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Belgium | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| France | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Japan | < 5 | < 5 | | |
| Others | 30 | 20 | -34% | 12% |
| Total for TAS | 160 | 180 | 12% | 100% |

Graph 7.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in TAS in 2006-07



8 VIC

Table 8.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in VIC by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Communication Services | 270 | 900 | 229% | 19% |
| Finance and Insurance | 100 | 180 | 85% | 4% |
| Health and Community Services | 540 | 790 | 48% | 17% |
| Property and Business Services | 600 | 790 | 32% | 17% |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 60 | 70 | 14% | 2% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | 60 | 70 | 13% | 2% |
| Manufacturing | 380 | 430 | 12% | 9% |
| Education | 210 | 230 | 10% | 5% |
| Retail Trade | 110 | 120 | 8% | 2% |
| Mining | 70 | 80 | 3% | 2% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 210 | 210 | -1% | 4% |
| Personal and Other Services | 330 | 300 | -8% | 6% |
| Transport and Storage | 60 | 50 | -17% | 1% |
| Wholesale Trade | 160 | 120 | -25% | 3% |
| Construction | 230 | 160 | -30% | 3% |
| Government Administration and Defence | 40 | 20 | -45% | 0% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 150 | 40 | -73% | 1% |
| Not Recorded | < 5 | 170 | 4,075% | 4% |
| Total for VIC | 3,600 | 4,730 | 31% | 100% |

Table 8.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in VIC by Industry Classification of Sponsor

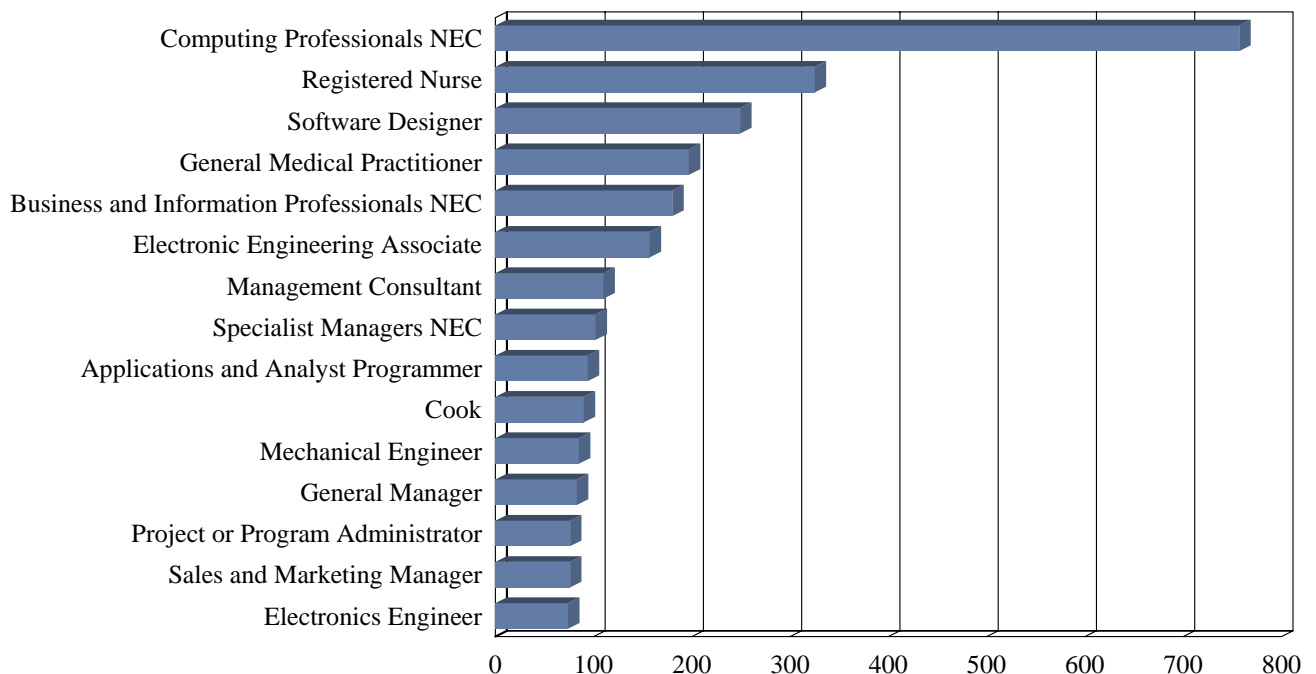
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mining | \$120,900 |
| Finance and Insurance | \$95,200 |
| Communication Services | \$89,600 |
| Manufacturing | \$86,000 |
| Wholesale Trade | \$82,100 |
| Construction | \$80,300 |
| Transport and Storage | \$78,000 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | \$75,400 |
| Government Administration and Defence | \$74,400 |
| Retail Trade | \$70,900 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$66,200 |
| Property and Business Services | \$65,600 |
| Health and Community Services | \$64,600 |
| Education | \$61,700 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$51,500 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | \$47,900 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$43,700 |
| Not Recorded | \$74,600 |
| Total for VIC | \$74,000 |

Table 8.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in VIC in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Computing Professionals NEC | 380 | 760 | 98% | 16% |
| Registered Nurse | 270 | 330 | 21% | 7% |
| Software Designer | 120 | 250 | 109% | 5% |
| General Medical Practitioner | 80 | 200 | 137% | 4% |
| Business and Information Professionals NEC | 150 | 180 | 18% | 4% |
| Electronic Engineering Associate | 10 | 160 | 2,517% | 3% |
| Management Consultant | 90 | 110 | 22% | 2% |
| Specialist Managers NEC | 100 | 100 | 4% | 2% |
| Applications and Analyst Programmer | 60 | 90 | 52% | 2% |
| Cook | 110 | 90 | -16% | 2% |
| Mechanical Engineer | 60 | 90 | 49% | 2% |
| General Manager | 80 | 80 | 8% | 2% |
| Project or Program Administrator | 60 | 80 | 27% | 2% |
| Sales and Marketing Manager | 80 | 80 | -3% | 2% |
| Electronics Engineer | 30 | 70 | 185% | 2% |
| Others | 1,930 | 2,070 | 7% | 44% |
| Total for VIC | 3,600 | 4,730 | 31% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 8.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in VIC in 2006-07



Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 8.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in VIC in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| India | 640 | 1,130 | 78% | 24% |
| United Kingdom | 860 | 980 | 15% | 21% |
| Philippines | 170 | 250 | 46% | 5% |
| United States of America | 200 | 250 | 26% | 5% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 230 | 230 | -2% | 5% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 120 | 160 | 42% | 3% |
| Japan | 110 | 140 | 29% | 3% |
| Malaysia | 90 | 130 | 43% | 3% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 150 | 130 | -11% | 3% |
| Irish Republic | 130 | 130 | -1% | 3% |
| Canada | 120 | 110 | -8% | 2% |
| France | 70 | 90 | 36% | 2% |
| Sweden | 20 | 80 | 261% | 2% |
| Singapore | 50 | 70 | 54% | 2% |
| Italy | 50 | 60 | 17% | 1% |
| Korea, Republic of | 20 | 50 | 157% | 1% |
| Others | 590 | 730 | 24% | 16% |
| Total for VIC | 3,600 | 4,730 | 31% | 100% |

Graph 8.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in VIC in 2006-07

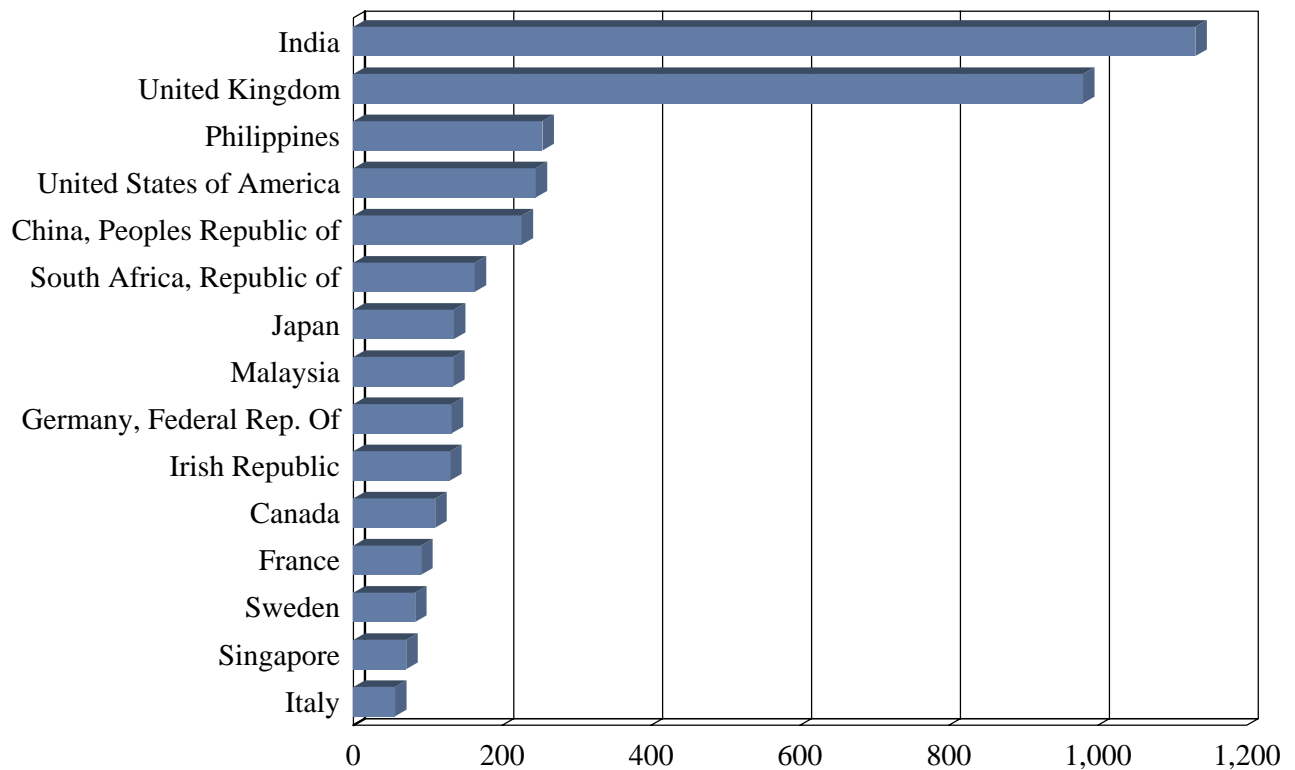


Table 9.1 Number of Primary Visa Grants in WA by Industry Classification of Sponsor

| Industry Classification | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Government Administration and Defence | 10 | 160 | 1,064% | 4% |
| Transport and Storage | 50 | 90 | 94% | 2% |
| Finance and Insurance | 10 | 20 | 77% | 1% |
| Construction | 520 | 810 | 56% | 21% |
| Communication Services | 30 | 40 | 44% | 1% |
| Retail Trade | 40 | 60 | 43% | 2% |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 120 | 160 | 34% | 4% |
| Mining | 890 | 1,130 | 28% | 30% |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | 20 | 20 | 14% | 1% |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 90 | 110 | 12% | 3% |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 110 | 120 | 10% | 3% |
| Education | 80 | 80 | 8% | 2% |
| Personal and Other Services | 120 | 130 | 5% | 3% |
| Property and Business Services | 110 | 110 | -8% | 3% |
| Manufacturing | 440 | 370 | -16% | 10% |
| Health and Community Services | 230 | 170 | -26% | 5% |
| Wholesale Trade | 160 | 30 | -81% | 1% |
| Not Recorded | 10 | 170 | 1,767% | 4% |
| Total for WA | 3,050 | 3,780 | 24% | 100% |

Table 9.2 Average Salary of Primary Visa Grants in WA by Industry Classification of Sponsor

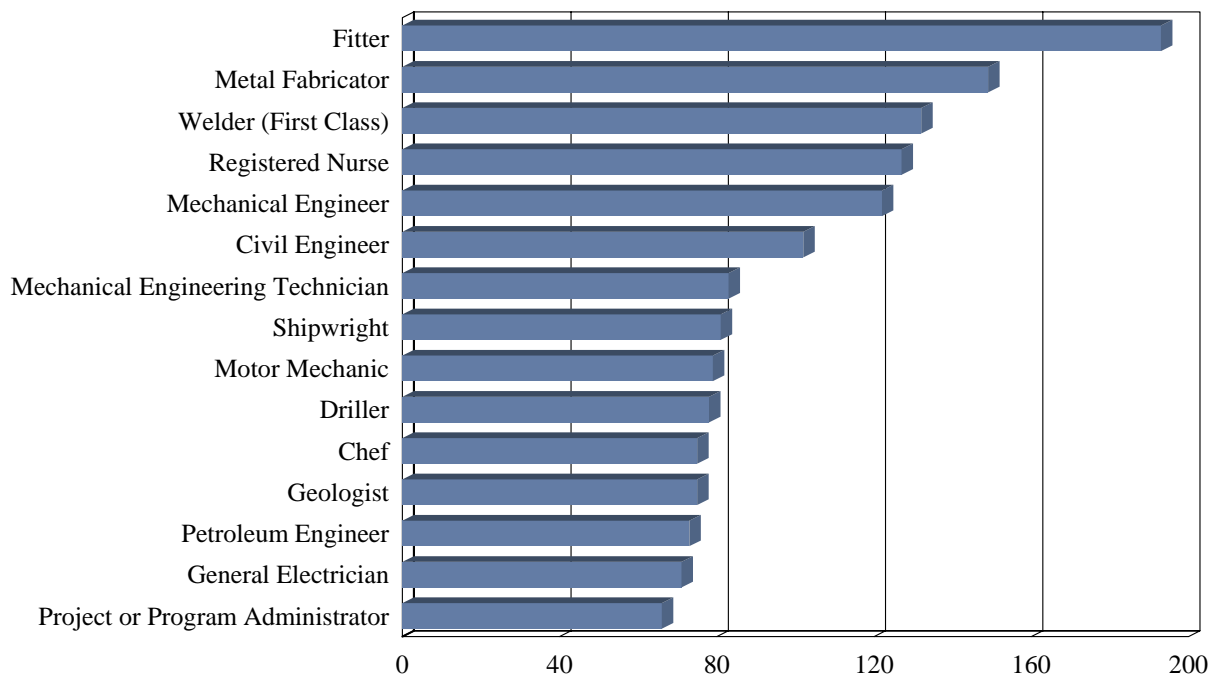
| Industry Classification | 2006-07 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mining | \$95,800 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | \$89,100 |
| Personal and Other Services | \$86,700 |
| Finance and Insurance | \$85,500 |
| Construction | \$70,900 |
| Property and Business Services | \$67,500 |
| Wholesale Trade | \$66,400 |
| Communication Services | \$66,000 |
| Health and Community Services | \$65,200 |
| Government Administration and Defence | \$62,700 |
| Education | \$58,700 |
| Transport and Storage | \$54,400 |
| Manufacturing | \$50,400 |
| Retail Trade | \$45,500 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | \$44,700 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | \$43,200 |
| Cultural and Recreational Services | \$41,700 |
| Not Recorded | \$104,700 |
| Total for WA | \$75,200 |

Table 9.3 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in WA in 2006-07

| Occupation | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Fitter | 120 | 190 | 60% | 5% |
| Metal Fabricator | 200 | 150 | -26% | 4% |
| Welder (First Class) | 160 | 130 | -17% | 3% |
| Registered Nurse | 140 | 130 | -7% | 3% |
| Mechanical Engineer | 100 | 120 | 22% | 3% |
| Civil Engineer | 80 | 100 | 36% | 3% |
| Mechanical Engineering Technician | 50 | 80 | 84% | 2% |
| Shipwright | 30 | 80 | 145% | 2% |
| Motor Mechanic | 70 | 80 | 18% | 2% |
| Driller | 60 | 80 | 24% | 2% |
| Chef | 60 | 80 | 36% | 2% |
| Geologist | 60 | 80 | 27% | 2% |
| Petroleum Engineer | 50 | 70 | 46% | 2% |
| General Electrician | 40 | 70 | 87% | 2% |
| Project or Program Administrator | 40 | 70 | 74% | 2% |
| Others | 1,810 | 2,280 | 26% | 60% |
| Total for WA | 3,050 | 3,780 | 24% | 100% |

Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Graph 9.4 Top 15 Occupations for Primary Visa Grants in WA in 2006-07

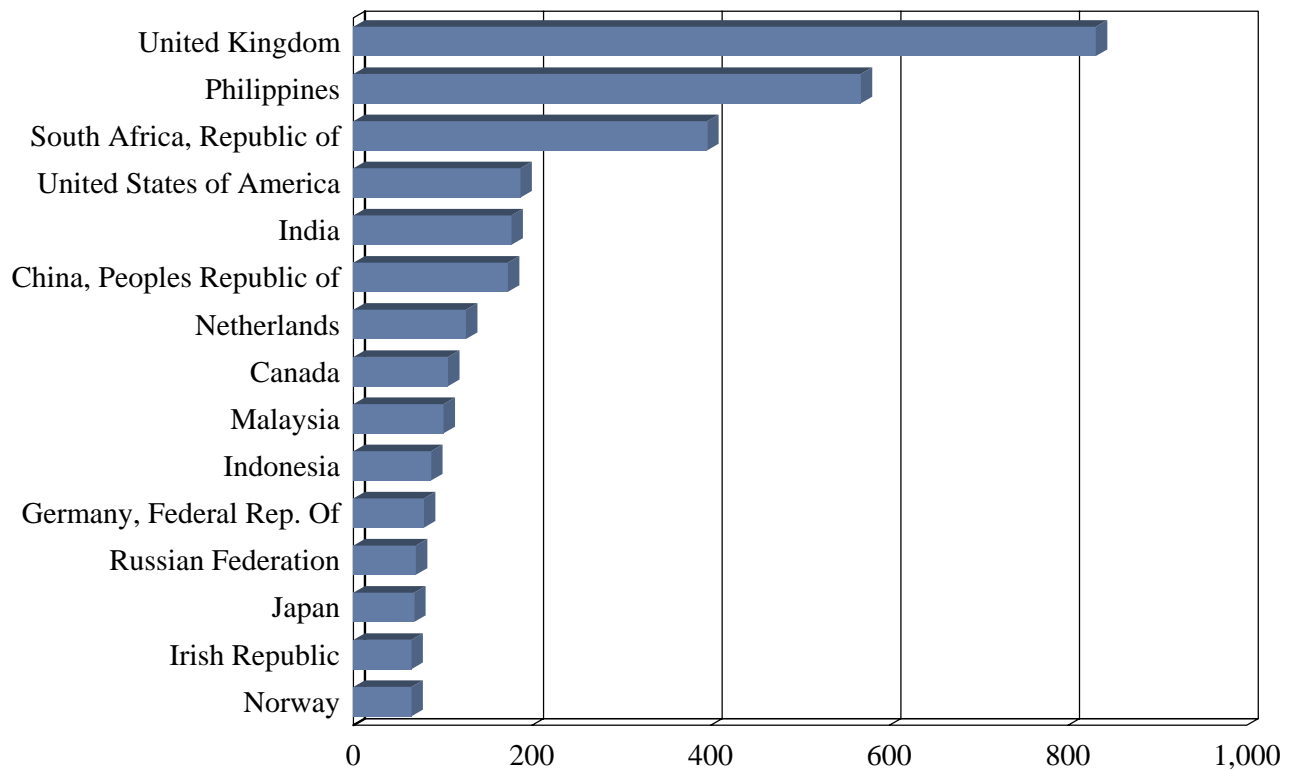


Note: Up until 1 April 2005, medical practitioners applied for a visa in Visa Subclass 422 Medical Practitioner. From that date, medical practitioners have been encouraged to apply for a Subclass 457 visa.

Table 9.5 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in WA in 2006-07

| Country of Citizenship | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | % Change From 2005-06 | 2006-07 as % of Total |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| United Kingdom | 730 | 830 | 15% | 22% |
| Philippines | 340 | 570 | 66% | 15% |
| South Africa, Republic of | 400 | 400 | 0% | 10% |
| United States of America | 140 | 190 | 38% | 5% |
| India | 140 | 180 | 30% | 5% |
| China, Peoples Republic of | 120 | 170 | 45% | 5% |
| Netherlands | 110 | 130 | 15% | 3% |
| Canada | 110 | 110 | 1% | 3% |
| Malaysia | 50 | 100 | 87% | 3% |
| Indonesia | 50 | 90 | 61% | 2% |
| Germany, Federal Rep. Of | 60 | 80 | 25% | 2% |
| Russian Federation | 40 | 70 | 59% | 2% |
| Japan | 50 | 70 | 51% | 2% |
| Irish Republic | 60 | 70 | 7% | 2% |
| Norway | 20 | 70 | 242% | 2% |
| Singapore | 30 | 60 | 84% | 2% |
| Others | 610 | 630 | 3% | 17% |
| Total for WA | 3,050 | 3,780 | 24% | 100% |

Graph 9.6 Top 15 Citizenship Countries for Primary Visa Grants in WA in 2006-07



Research into Long Term Temporary Business Entrants (Subclass 457 visas)

The Impact of Sponsored Temporary Business Residents on Australia's Living Standards

Access Economics, May 2002

Findings: The living standards of existing Australian residents would rise by 5.4% as a result of 20 years of the sponsored temporary business resident program at the 2000-01 level of intake.

This gain accrues because temporary business entrants:

- raise the average productivity of Australian workers by passing on their specialist skills. This effect is accentuated by the fact that most are employed in managerial and professional roles;
- increase the profits of their employers thus raising national income;
- bring funds with them, thereby reducing Australia's national debt;
- alleviate skill shortages by filling positions that would otherwise remain unfilled. This raises employment and average earnings;
- pay taxes thereby benefiting the Commonwealth budget.

The Impact of Sponsored Temporary Business Residents on the Commonwealth Budget

Access Economics, May 2002

Findings: High incomes and low eligibility for benefits ensure that sponsored temporary business residents have the most beneficial budget impact of any of the temporary business residents or permanent migration classes.

Assuming that 25% of temporary business entrants go on to permanent residence, the cumulative net benefit to the Commonwealth budget of 1,000 temporary business entrants who came to Australia in 2000-01 would be around \$121 million by 2009-10.

This major benefit arises because 457 visa holders are not eligible for:

- social security benefits
- Medicare
- Settlement services

Whereas they are required to pay:

- Direct taxes (such as personal income tax)
- Indirect taxes (such as the GST); and
- The Medicare levy

The Impact of Sponsored Temporary Business Residents on State and Territory Budgets

Access Economics, May 2002

Findings: High incomes and low eligibility for state and territory services ensure that sponsored temporary business residents have a large and positive impact on state and territory budgets. .

The cumulative net benefit to state and territory budgets of 1,000

temporary business entrants who came to Australia in 2000-01 would be around \$41 million by 2009-10.

This major benefit arises because 457 visa holders are not eligible for:

- Hospital and other state-provided health services;
- Public housing;
- Free primary and secondary schooling in some states and territories.

Whereas they are required to pay:

- Gambling taxes;
- Motor vehicle taxes;
- Stamp duties;
- Regulatory fees and fines; and
- Payroll taxes (through their employers).

A Global Market: The Recruitment of Temporary Skilled Labour From Overseas (employer survey)

ANU and the University of Adelaide, May 2004

Findings:

- 457 employers are very diverse including small businesses, large multinationals, hospitals, universities and restaurants.
- The main reason for recruiting 457s was that the required skills was not available or difficult to obtain in Australia. Some skills are very specific to a company's business and often 457 visa holders were brought to Australia to train Australian staff in these skills.
- Lower costs were not a factor as several employers emphasised that it was usually more costly and took a longer time to sponsor an overseas employee than to employ an Australian resident.
- Temporary skilled entrants are not taking jobs away from Australians as employers would have preferred to employ residents if they had the skills needed.
- Most employers had not encountered any problems relating to inappropriate or inadequate work skills of 457s. However about half reported a problem with 457's lack of understanding of Australian workplace culture and about one-third reported language problems.

- The 457 visa has provided employers with the flexibility to tap into the global pool of skilled labour relatively easily.

Temporary Skilled Migrants in Australia: Employment Circumstances and Migration Outcomes (457 visa holder survey)

ANU and the University of Adelaide, June 2005

Findings:

- Temporary skilled entrants bring many economic benefits to Australia. They are young, well qualified and highly skilled people.
- The sources of 457 visa holders are more likely to be higher income countries (Europe, North America and Japan) than those of permanent migration, linking Australia's economy to other advanced economies.
- 84% of 457 visa holders surveyed said they had come because of a liking for Australia's lifestyle and climate, suggesting that Australia has a key advantage over other nations in attracting skilled temporary migrants.
- The median income of managers and administrators surveyed was over \$100,000, while that of professionals surveyed was \$63,000.
- The spouses of 457 principal applicants are also often highly skilled and find work using these skills in Australia thus adding to the benefits of the program.
- Most 457 visa holders liked their jobs and enjoyed working in Australia. There were few complaints about salaries or working conditions.
- A large majority of 457 visa holders surveyed would like to become permanent residents because of their liking for the lifestyle and their jobs. Over one third had already applied for permanent residence and another 48% stated that they intended to.
- Three out of four respondents thought that their Australian work experience would increase goodwill and two out of three thought it would increase business connections between their home country and Australia.

Temporary Skilled Migrants in Australia: Employment Circumstances and Migration Outcomes (follow-up of 457 respondents one year later)

ANU and the University of Adelaide, October 2005

Findings:

- Nearly 40% of those remaining in Australia had applied for or been granted a permanent visa while 12% had applied for another 457 visa.
- A significant proportion of 457 visa holders experienced some advancement in their work and income during the course of the year.
- Managers were most likely to have left Australia to return home. Tradespeople and intermediate skilled were the most likely to have moved within Australia.
- A high percentage of respondents said they passing on their skills to Australian workers (similar to first wave).

- Preference for permanent residence in Australia increased with time spent here.
- Over 90% indicated the importance of Australia's lifestyle in wanting to settle here permanently.
- About two-thirds of respondents thought that foreign workers were treated the same as locals on work conditions and pay. 14% thought they were not and 20% did not know.
- The majority of those with children reported having to pay for their schooling.

Current Issues in the Skilled Temporary Subclass 457 Visa

Bob Kinnaird, People and Place, Vol 14, No. 2, 2006

Findings:

- We are experiencing a sharp increase in 457 visa grants, especially in the skilled trades because the government is aggressively promoting the visa to Australian employers. The increase will continue because the 2006-07 skill stream has been held at 2005-06 levels.
- The 457 visa was recommended by the Roach report, established by Senator Bolkus and which included an ACTU representative.
- The minimum annual salary, set at \$34,075 in 2001 was low compared with the median starting salary for new graduates and the ABS average weekly ordinary time earnings for full time persons (all occupations) of \$42,104.
- While US and UK equivalent visas notionally require labour market testing and market rates of pay, in practice compliance with both these conditions is not strictly enforced.
- Because 457 employers need not pay market rates, they "are given an unfair competitive advantage over other employers – effectively a form of government subsidy".
- Between 2000-01 and 2004-05 the 457 program was "de-skilled" somewhat as the proportion of managers went down and the proportion of professionals and tradespeople went up.
- The majority of 457 visas have been granted to foreign nationals already in Australia on other temporary visas – many already working for their sponsoring employers
- "The evidence shows the negative impact of 457 visas on employment and training opportunities for Australians in ICT occupations."
- DIMA should publish details of every 457 visa granted including location, industry and occupation (ASC six-digit code), base salary and other remuneration, skills specified by the employer for the position and specified experience required and type of company eg labour hire/recruitment agency. This information should be updated monthly.

Subclass 457 Key Eligibility Requirements

Stage 1: Sponsorship

There are two types of sponsorship:

- Standard Business Sponsorship (SBS)
- Overseas Business Sponsorship (OBS)

Standard Business Sponsorship (SBS): Allows Australian businesses to meet their immediate skill needs through sponsorship of overseas skilled workers to work in nominated positions in their business.

A Standard Business Sponsorship is assessed as to whether the employment a 457 visa entrant will be of **benefit to Australia** by:

- creating or maintaining employment opportunities for Australians, **or**
- expanding Australian trade, **or**
- improving Australian business links to international markets, **or**
- contributing to the competitiveness of sectors within the Australian economy.

The employer must also show that their business operations will:

- introduce or use a new technology/business skill; **or**
- have a record of, or commitment to training Australians in its operations.

The sponsoring business must also be:

- lawfully and actively operating in Australia,
- the direct employer or a company related to the direct employer,
- not known to have an adverse business background (including the individuals in the company),
- complying with Australian immigration laws, **and**
- able to comply with the Sponsor's undertakings.

Overseas Business Sponsorship (OBS): OBS is for businesses that have no formal operating base or representation in Australia, under this sponsorship they may apply to bring employees to Australia to do one of the following:

- establish a branch or other business activity such as joint ventures, agency distributorships or subsidiary branches in Australia
- fulfil obligations for a contract or other business activity in Australia.

An Overseas Business Sponsorship (OBS) is assessed as to whether the sponsor is actively and lawfully operating a business [outside Australia](#), and will be the direct employer.

In addition they must demonstrate that the employment in Australia of the visa holder would contribute to:

- the creation or maintenance of employment for Australian citizens or Australian permanent residents; or
- expansion of Australian trade in goods or services; or
- the improvement of Australian business links with international markets; or
- competitiveness within sectors of the Australian economy.

Step 2: Nominations

The employer must nominate the position to be filled. The nomination process is to identify the position the employer is seeking and to assess whether it meets the minimum skill and salary requirements.

Additional factors are considered for regionally certified positions. See 'Regional 457 visa'.

Approved nominations for positions the employer wishes to fill are valid for 12 months or until the position is filled, whichever is earlier. Preferably the nominations should be lodged with the sponsorship application.

Step 3: Visa application

The visa process is to:

- determine if the applicant has the personal attributes and relevant experience to undertake the nominated position
- ensure the applicant meets health and character requirements
- ensure employee is aware of the salary they are to be paid.

Visa applicants linked to Australian sponsors can lodge online through eVisa system. Visa applicants linked to offshore sponsors must lodge at their nearest Australian mission.

Primary applicants have mandatory condition 8107 imposed in their visa. This restricts them to work in the position they were nominated for and to remain with the sponsoring employer.

Visa validity is for up to 4 years and is linked to the period of vacancy. Where an employee seeks to work for another employer, they must first apply for a new visa (associated with a sponsorship and nomination). The visa application can (in the case of a standard business sponsorship) be made using an application form or online. The visa applicant is assessed against the duties and the requirements for the position. The principal visa applicant is issued with a visa condition 8107 restricting their work to the sponsor.

Secondary applicants have unlimited work and study rights. Eligible family members of the employee may apply with the employee or separately. If they apply separately, they must complete a separate application form and pay a separate application charge.

Regional 457 visa

Recognising the special skill needs of regional Australia, the government has arrangements in place to allow regionally based employers to access reduced skill and salary requirements where the business has sought certification by a local Regional Certifying Body (RCB). RCBs are bodies based in regional Australia that have been recommended for approval by State and Territory Governments to certify regional nominations. They include State, Territory and local government authorities and a range of other bodies.

RCBs certify that:

- the tasks of the nominated position correspond to the tasks of an occupation in the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) major groups 1-7, as Gazetted
- the position is a genuine, full-time position that is necessary to the operation of the business
- the position cannot reasonably be filled locally
- the wages or salary for the position will be at least the minimum level required under the relevant Australian laws and awards and at least the minimum salary level that applies to the position (whichever is higher)
- the working conditions will meet the requirements under relevant Australian laws and awards.

Which areas are eligible?

All areas of Australia are eligible for regional arrangements except for Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Newcastle, Sydney, Wollongong, Melbourne and Perth. If the employee sponsored to work in a regional area, is found to be living or working in a non-regional location then their visa may be cancelled.

Reg 1.20CB Sponsorship undertakings

1.20CB (1) For subsection 140H(1) of the Act, an applicant for approval as a standard business sponsor must make the following undertakings:

- (a) to ensure that the cost of return travel by a sponsored person is met;
- (b) not to employ a person who would be in breach of the immigration laws of Australia as a result of being employed;
- (c) to comply with its responsibilities under the immigration laws of Australia;
- (d) to notify Immigration of:
 - (i) any change in circumstances that may affect the business's capacity to honour its sponsorship undertakings; or
 - (ii) any change to the information that contributed to the applicant's being approved as a sponsor, or the approval of a nomination;
- (e) to cooperate with the Department's monitoring of the applicant and the sponsored person;
- (f) to notify Immigration, within 5 working days after a sponsored person ceases to be in the applicant's employment;
- (g) to comply with:
 - (i) laws relating to workplace relations that are applicable to the applicant; and
 - (ii) any workplace agreement that the applicant may enter into with a sponsored person, to the extent that the agreement is consistent with the undertaking required by paragraph (i);
- (h) to ensure that a sponsored person holds any licence, registration or membership that is mandatory for the performance of work by the person;
- (i) to ensure that, if there is a gazetted minimum salary in force in relation to the nominated position occupied by a sponsored person, the person will be paid at least that salary;
- (j) to ensure that, if it is a term of the approval of the nomination of a position that a sponsored person must be employed in a particular location, the applicant will notify Immigration of any change in the location which would affect the nomination approval;
- (k) either:
 - (i) for an application made before 1 November 2005 — to pay all medical or hospital expenses for a sponsored person (other than costs that are met by health insurance arrangements); or
 - (ii) for an application made on or after 1 November 2005 — to pay all medical or hospital expenses for a sponsored person arising from treatment administered in a public hospital (other than expenses that are met by health insurance or reciprocal health care arrangements);
- (l) to make any superannuation contributions required for a sponsored person while the sponsored person is in the applicant's employment;
- (m) to deduct tax instalments, and make payments of tax, while the sponsored person is in the applicant's employment;

(n) to pay to the Commonwealth an amount equal to all costs incurred by the Commonwealth in relation to a sponsored person.

Note Under subsection 140H(3) of the Act, these undertakings do not have effect until the relevant visa is granted. Under paragraph 457.223(4)(i) or (5)(j) of Schedule 2 to these Regulations, a person must be sponsored by an approved sponsor in order to be granted a Subclass 457 (Business (Long Stay)) visa. See also regulation 1.20BA of these Regulations, by which Division 3A of Part 2 of the Act applies to visas that are relevant to standard business sponsors.

(2) For paragraph (1)(n), the costs include the cost of:

- (a) locating the sponsored person; and
- (b) detaining the sponsored person; and
- (c) removing the sponsored person from Australia (including airfares, transport to an airport in Australia and provision of an escort (if needed)); and
- (d) processing an application for a protection visa made by a sponsored person.

Note An undertaking is not enforceable in relation to costs of locating and detaining a sponsored person that exceed the limit prescribed by regulation 1.20CC.

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Part A – Sponsorship undertakings

All approved sponsors have agreed to meet undertakings in relation to their sponsored employees. If your business **lodged a sponsorship application before 1 July 2004** you will be responsible for meeting the following undertakings. The undertakings relate to any sponsored person who was granted a Temporary Business (Long Stay) visa under a sponsorship agreement which was lodged before 1 July 2004.

The business undertakes to do the following in relation to persons it has sponsored:

- accept responsibility for obligations to the Commonwealth for sponsored persons. For example:
 - ensure that the tax installments are deducted from salary or wages and eligible termination payments, Fringe Benefits Tax;
 - make superannuation contributions;
 - pay debts owed to the Commonwealth as a result of a sponsored person and/or dependents receiving or using Commonwealth benefits or services to which they have no entitlement eg. Medicare, social security benefits;
- comply with Australian industrial relations laws, Australian levels of remuneration, and conditions of employment;
- accept financial responsibility directly or through acceptable medical insurance arrangements, for all medical and hospital costs incurred in Australia by sponsored persons and their dependents;
- assure that sponsored persons hold the necessary licence, registration or membership where it is mandatory for work of the kind proposed in Australia;
- be responsible for repatriation costs for sponsored persons and their dependents;
- inform the department immediately if any sponsored person ceases to be in the business's service;
- comply with immigration requirements;
- co-operate fully with the department in monitoring sponsored persons, including providing monitoring reports as required by the Minister;
- co-operate fully in any audit checking relating to employment of persons from overseas;
- notify the department of any change in circumstances that may affect the business's capacity to honour its sponsorship obligations, or any change to the information provided on this form;

and for businesses operating in Australia:

- accept as good practice the desirability of creating appropriate career opportunities for Australian citizens and permanent residents both in Australia and, where the business operates internationally, overseas; and
- accept that the recruitment of labour from overseas must not counter Government training policies and objectives of producing a highly skilled and flexible Australian workforce.

If your business lodged the sponsorship application on or after 1 July 2004 you will be responsible for meeting the following undertakings. The undertakings relate to any sponsored person who was granted a Temporary Business (Long Stay) visa under a sponsorship agreement which was **lodged on or after 1 July 2004**.

The business undertakes to do the following in relation to persons it has sponsored:

- ensure that the cost of return travel by a sponsored person is met;
- not to employ a person who would be in breach of the immigration laws of Australia as a result of being employed;
- comply with its responsibilities under the immigration laws of Australia;
- notify Immigration of:
 - any change in circumstances that may affect the business's capacity to honour its sponsorship undertakings; or
 - any change to the information that contributed to the business's ability to be approved as a sponsor or the approval of a nomination;
- cooperate with the department's monitoring of the business or of any sponsored persons;
- this undertaking continues until the earlier of the following:
 - if the sponsored person ceases to hold the visa for which he or she was sponsored, the earlier of the time when the person leaves Australia and the time when the person is granted a substantive visa; and
 - the time when the sponsor ceases to be an approved sponsor of the sponsored person;
- notify Immigration within 5 working days after a sponsored person ceases to be in the business's employment;
- comply with laws relating to workplace relations that are applicable to the business and any workplace agreement that the business may enter into with a sponsored person;
- ensure that a sponsored person holds any licence, registration or membership that is mandatory for the performance of work by the person;
- ensure that, if there is a gazetted minimum salary in force in relation to the nominated position occupied by the sponsored person, the person will be paid at least that salary;
- ensure that, if it is a term of the approval of the nomination of a position that a sponsored person must be employed in a particular location, the business will notify Immigration of any change in the location which would affect the nomination approval;
- pay all medical or hospital expenses for a sponsored person arising from treatment administered in a public hospital (other than expenses that are met by health insurance or reciprocal health care arrangements):
 - this undertaking continues until any such expenses are paid;
- make any superannuation contributions required for a sponsored person while the sponsored person is in the business's employment;
- deduct tax installments, and make payments of tax, while the sponsored person is in the business's employment;
- pay the Commonwealth an amount equal to all costs incurred by the Commonwealth in relation to a sponsored person:
 - these costs may include those relating to locating and detaining the sponsored person, removing the sponsored person from Australia and processing any application for a protection visa made by a sponsored person;
 - this undertaking continues until all such costs are paid.

If there is insufficient space to adequately answer any question, please provide your answer on a separate sheet and attach it to this form.

Part B – Business sponsor details

1 Registered business and trading name

2 Client ID number (see covering letter)

3 Australian Business Number (ABN)

4 Current business street address (where you are located)

 POSTCODE

5 Postal address
(If the same as your street address, write 'AS ABOVE')

 POSTCODE

6 Contact officer name

7 Telephone number
 (AREA CODE)

8 Do you agree to the department communicating with you by fax, e-mail or other electronic means?
No All communication will be sent to your postal address
Yes Give e-mail address and/or fax number

Fax number (AREA CODE)

E-mail address

9 Since receiving your business sponsorship approval, has there been any significant changes with regards to the:

- business ownership; No Yes
- primary purpose or nature of business performed by the company/business; No Yes
- direct employer relationship with sponsored employee/s; (ie. is the business no longer the direct employer of the sponsored employee or is there third party involvement by a recruitment agency, overseas affiliated company etc.)? No Yes

If you answered 'Yes' to any of these questions, give details

10 Since being approved as a business sponsor, has your business, or any principal of your business been:

- subject to sponsorship cancellation or the imposition of sponsorship or nomination bars; or
- subject to bankruptcy or liquidation proceedings (external administration); or
- found to be in breach of workplace relations laws?

No
Yes Give details

11 Is your business, or any principal of your business, currently awaiting the outcome of any proceedings mentioned at Question 10?
No
Yes Give details

Part C – Your business' sponsored overseas employees

12 Have any sponsored employees holding a 457 (business) visa ceased employment with your business during the past 12 months?

No

Yes Give their name and date of birth along with the reason for, and the date of, their cessation

| Name (as it appears in passport) | Date of birth | | | Reason for cessation | Date of cessation | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-------|------|----------------------|-------------------|-------|------|
| | DAY | MONTH | YEAR | | DAY | MONTH | YEAR |
| | / | / | | | / | / | |
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13 Provide details of the remuneration paid to all sponsored employees holding a 457 (business) visa, who worked in your business at any time during the past 12 months. **Please provide 2 recent payslips and the most recent PAYG Payment Summary as evidence of salary paid. Where this is not available, the business may provide its bank statements as evidence of salary paid.**

| Name (as it appears in passport) | Date of birth | | | Position | Skill/Salary exemption* | Hours per week | Base salary | Total remuneration |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-------|------|----------|--|----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| | DAY | MONTH | YEAR | | | | | |
| | / | / | | | No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| | / | / | | | No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| | / | / | | | No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| | / | / | | | No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| | / | / | | | No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
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| | / | / | | | No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |

* In the 'Skill/Salary exemption' column you should indicate whether the nomination of this sponsored overseas employee's position was approved under the minimum skill and/or salary level exemption arrangements available to positions which are located in regional or low population areas of Australia.

14 Does your business currently employ any sponsored employees that hold a 457 (business) visa?

No Go to Part F

Yes

15 If a licence, registration or membership is mandatory for performance of work by the sponsored employee, does your sponsored employee hold the required licensing, registration or membership?

Note: The department may seek evidence of this.

No

Yes

16 If you have sponsored employees under the Regional Temporary Business (Long Stay) program, please provide the address/es of the premises where these employees usually work.

| Name (as it appears in passport) | Address |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| | POSTCODE |
| | POSTCODE |
| | POSTCODE |
| | POSTCODE |
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| | POSTCODE |
| | POSTCODE |

17 Do your business activities include recruitment, labour hire or contract management activities?

No

Yes Please provide details of where your sponsored employees work and any other businesses involved in the employees' work

| Name (as it appears in passport) | Business Name | Work site address | Type of business (eg. recruitment agency) |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---|
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18 Are all your sponsored overseas employees employed in accordance with Australian industrial relations laws, Australian levels of remuneration and Australian conditions of employment?

Note: The department may seek evidence of this.

No

Yes

19 Does your business deduct tax installments and make superannuation contributions in respect of all its sponsored overseas employees?

No Please specify reason

Yes

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Part D – Training

- 20 How many Australian workers do you employ (include Australian citizens, permanent residents and New Zealand citizens)?

Note: If your business employs more than 50 staff, your nearest estimate will do.

Of this total, how many are:

- (a) professionals;
- (b) tradepersons;
- (c) recent Australian university graduates with less than 2 years work experience;
- (d) apprentices employed under a training agreement or contract of training;
- (e) other trainees employed under a training agreement or contract of training?

- 21 How many of your employees hold a temporary visa?

Of this total, how many are:

- (a) temporary business entrants (ie. 457 (business) visa);
- (b) overseas students;
- (c) working holiday makers;
- (d) other?

- 22 Of the employees recruited by your business during the last 12 months, how many were:

- (a) Australian citizens or permanent residents or New Zealand citizen;
- (b) temporary visa holders?

- 23 What was your gross expenditure on wages and salaries for the most recent financial year? AUD

- 24 What was your expenditure on training your Australian employees for the most recent financial year? AUD

Note: Include paid study leave, accredited training courses, reimbursement of study related costs, employment of designated training officers and the cost of in-house training which follows a pre-determined plan and format.

- 25 Please give an outline of the training you provided to your Australian employees in the past 12 months.

Note: The department may seek evidence of this.

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- 26 What are your business' future training plans for Australian citizen and permanent resident staff?

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Part E – New technology or business skills

- 27 Was your business sponsorship approved on the basis that your business would introduce new or improved technology or business skills to Australia?

No ► Go to Part F

Yes ► Outline how your business organisation has met its commitment to introduce, utilise or create in Australia new or improved technology or business skills

| |
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Continued on the next page ►

Part F – Sponsor's declaration

28 I declare the details provided on this form are correct.

Signature of authorised officer*

Date / /

Full name (BLOCK LETTERS)

Position in the business

Telephone number (AREA CODE)

*This form must be signed by someone with legal authority to act on behalf of the business sponsor.

Part G – Agent details

29 Provide the details requested below about the agent who is authorised to act on your behalf and to receive all written communications about this application.

Migration Agent Registration Number (MARN) : : : : : : :

OR

Offshore Agent ID Number (if allocated by the department) : : : : :

Title: Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other

Family name

Given names

Business or company name

Postal address

 POSTCODE

Telephone number or daytime contact

Office hours () () ()

Mobile phone

30 As the agent named on this form, do you agree to the department communicating with you by fax, e-mail or other electronic means?

No

Yes Give details

Fax number () () ()

E-mail address

31 I understand and accept that I am the person appointed by the applicant to receive all written communications and act as his/her agent.

Signature of agent

Date / /