

Fact Sheet 2 Migrants definitions and categories

There are many different categories available to people that wish to migrate to Australia. Many of these categories will have restrictions which may be related to rights to employment or geographical areas of settlement.

People can seek entry to Australia either through the Migration Program (for skilled and family migrants) or the Humanitarian Program (for refugees and others in humanitarian need).

The skilled migration program allows individuals with Australian assessed and recognised skills to enter Australia to seek employment. Australian employers also have the ability to sponsor employees into Australia.

The Humanitarian Program comprises two components: **offshore** resettlement for people in humanitarian need overseas; and **onshore** protection for those people already in Australia who arrived on temporary visas or in an unauthorised manner, and who claim Australia's protection.

The Australia situation 2005-2007

Figures from the settlement database Australian humanitarian arrivals 2006-07
Top 10 migration categories for all settlers in Australia
1 Nov 2006 – 1 Nov 2007

Skill – independent	31,480	- 27%
Family – Spouse/fiancé	29,739	-25.5%
Skill – Australia/ regional linked	13,496	-11.6%
Skill – Employer nomination	6,841	-5.9%
Onshore: Skill	6,447	-5.5%
Humanitarian –Refugee	6,021	-5.2%
Skill - Business	4,896	-4.2%
Humanitarian- SHP	4,787	-4.1%
Family- Parent	4,146	-3.6%
Onshore: family-Spouse/fiancé	3,344	-2.9%
Others	5,210	-4.5%
Total	116,407	-100%

The settlement database may not be able to provide specific information around countries of origin where there are insufficient numbers and there is a risk of identification of individuals.

How to be eligible?

Eligibility for migration through DIAC can take a long time and be very costly due to accessing documents, certifying their authenticity and the need to translate documents all at applicant's expense.