

# Iscah Migration Newsletter

Monthly Edition Number 240

18<sup>th</sup> June 2018

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Hey

Here is edition number 240, which given my great maths skills from school says 20 years this month of bringing the visa community all the latest breaking news we have heard of.

No party and fireworks pics here as planned as having a busy weekend with the kids. Maybe for our 25<sup>th</sup> year ha ...

This monthly newsletter is free and if you want backcopies go to our website at [www.iscah.com](http://www.iscah.com) If you want to get on the mailing list or unsubscribe, email us to [newsletter@iscah.com](mailto:newsletter@iscah.com)

On to June's news ...

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## **1) Call to bring 3000 migrants to the regions**

Population decline in the nation's regional areas could be stopped if communities could welcome an extra 3000 migrants a year, according to a regional think-tank, which is taking its pitch for changes to federal parliament.

The Regional Australia Institute has released a paper on Tuesday warning that in more than 150 regional local government areas across the country the number of Australian-born residents is decreasing.

That population loss has led to labour shortages in many areas, with the institute arguing there is currently no systematic way for migrant workers to link up with rural employers.

While there have been successful regional migration projects scattered across Australia, with some small towns increasing their population by 15 per cent, they are being carried out in isolation.

"Now we need to connect the dots and help other rural towns capitalise on the opportunities migrant settlement programs can deliver," the institute's chief executive Jack Archer said.

It uses the example of Pyramid Hill in Victoria, which has a population of 550 people with about 100 Filipinos.

For the first time in years, new homes are being built, schools have grown and there is even a Filipino grocery store.

The institute wants the government to develop a new way to work out priority labour shortages in regional areas and to offer incentives for migrants to move to those locations.

"We have a national opportunity here to alleviate some of the biggest issues affecting regional Australia," Mr Archer said.

The institute will launch the paper at an event in Canberra with Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack and Labor's agriculture spokesman Joel Fitzgibbon.

(Source: [www.9news.com.au](http://www.9news.com.au))

## **2) Update on PR for 405/410 Retiree visa holders**

Update on PR for 405/410 retiree visa holders -

This is from an outstanding lobby group called BEIRA -  
The Review Team in Canberra have advised us that “ from next year, retirement visa holders will be able to apply for permanent residence under the ONSHORE Contributory Parent (subclass 884 and 864) and ONSHORE Non-Contributory Parent (subclass 804) visas. Retirement visa holders will be exempted from some parent visa requirements, such as having family in Australia.

The Department of Home Affairs has been instructed to commence making relevant changes to give effect to this new policy. Further information about specific eligibility details will be provided when available and updates will be made via the Department’s website in 2019”.

We have also established that our pathway to PR is included in the Budget which will need to be approved by Parliament. Treasury have stated that they will not split the Budget so it will have to go through as one package.

In addition, we are advised that Minister Tudge will not make an announcement about our pathway until the Budget is approved. When he does so, he is likely to make an official announcement with a media release and details will also be posted on the Home Affairs website.

(Source: BERIA)

## **3) Migration key driver behind 1 million jobs**

More than half of the one million jobs created in Australia over the past five years are due to migration, Home Affairs officials have confirmed.

Immigration was a key driver in the creation of one million jobs in Australia over the past five years, a Senate committee has been told.

The Turnbull government loudly trumpeted reaching the jobs milestone last week, describing it as an excellent outcome for Australian workers and families. Former prime minister Tony Abbott set the benchmark in 2013 before he was deposed two years later, and has recently been an outspoken advocate for slashing Australia's annual migrant intake.

Home Affairs assistant secretary Jason Russo said Australia's immigration numbers were a significant driver of the jobs growth.

"Perhaps more than 50 per cent but I can look at the figures and provide that," Mr Russo told a Senate estimates hearing in Canberra on Tuesday. Home Affairs secretary Michael Pezzullo noted well over 50 per cent of country's population growth was driven by migration.

"It would be passing strange to think that your population is being driven in part by migration, but your jobs growth isn't," Mr Pezzullo told senators. "It would be illogical to think they were operating in different directions."

A recent study by Treasury and Home Affairs found migrants accounted for two-thirds of net jobs created over the past five years, with the percentage even more pronounced for full-time employment.

The joint report found migrants were not replacing Australian workers. "In fact, the study found almost no evidence that outcomes for those born in Australia have been harmed by immigration," the report said. "The most statistically significant associations were with stronger labour market outcomes for the Australian-born."

The departments said this was likely explained by the fact migrants were generally seen as complementary to the Australian-born labour force. "Some migrants also do not participate in the labour force or have limited work rights (for example, long-term visitors, students and working holiday makers) but still consume goods and services and therefore still add to job creation."

While employment has increased by more than one million since the coalition came to power in September 2013, the jobless rate is practically the same at 5.6 per cent.

(Source: sbs news)

#### **4) Important changes to South Australia state sponsorship**

##### Work experience changes

Immigration SA has revised its requirements for accessing the work experience waiver for international graduates of SA (rather than our usual requirement for at least one year of skilled work experience in the past three).

1. SA graduates will now need to have been working for the last 3 months in a skilled occupation at the time of application. This enables Immigration SA to collect appropriate evidence to verify applicants' current employment in South Australia and ensure that good employment outcomes are occurring. The updated requirements can be viewed on our website under [9.2.3](#) and [9.5.1](#). Please note: some occupations have additional work experience requirements, for example, some occupations require 12 months work experience in South Australia. For additional requirements, see the [occupation lists](#) and [international graduate page](#).
2. These changes will apply to all applications submitted after 28 May 2018.

3. Immigration SA reserves the right to obtain further evidence if there are concerns about the veracity of the work experience being claimed (this may include salary level and genuine need for the position). Immigration SA wants to ensure all employment outcomes are genuine.

### Chain migration

Changes are being made effective from **1 July 2018** to Immigration SA's chain migration pathway to ensure that this remains an option for families seeking to reunite with an immediate family member in South Australia.

1. The pathway will now be offered for the provisional 489 visa only. It is important that migrants in this pathway are genuinely settling with or near their family member and not using this as a pathway to settle in other states.
2. The existing family member in South Australia will need to have resided in South Australia for at least 24 months, rather than 12 months. This ensures closer ties and commitment to South Australia.
3. The existing family member in South Australia should be a permanent resident, Australian citizen or South Australian State nominated provisional visa holder (489 visa).
4. It remains important that chain migration applicants carefully consider their likelihood of achieving skilled employment, as they are being nominated primarily based on their family links. We expect that the existing family member will be on hand to provide considerable settlement support as required.

(Source: South Australian State government)

## **5) Cut to Migration is more politics than policy**

Media article :

This all came from the law enforcement playbook, but we can only speculate who will take credit for the cuts

Earlier this week, head of the home affairs department, Mike Pezzullo, confirmed Canberra's worst kept secret – the government will cut the 2017-18 migration program by around 20,000 from the "ceiling" of 190,000. On the basis of the data available, the bulk of the cut will be through the skill stream which makes up about two-thirds of the program.

It is remarkable for a Coalition government to cut skilled migration during an upswing in the economy. It's certainly not something Menzies or Holt ever did. The John Howard government significantly increased the skilled intake when the Australian economy surged from around 2001.

But more interesting are the different explanations for the cut and the question of who will be taking the credit.

Pezzullo tried to suggest at Senate estimates the shortfall may be due to more stringent visa checking using new linked systems and that such checking can cause additional delays.

Increased use of system alerts to identify visa applications and issues that require additional investigation has been a long-standing priority for Australia's immigration authorities. But from one year to the next, these lead to a tiny increase in the visa refusal rate, hardly 20,000. Linked systems will help to resolve issues more quickly as often as they lead to further delays.

Under Pezzullo, visa processing service standards have already increased to over 12 months for most permanent visa types. For partner visas (eg people who are married to an Australian and for whom the law does not allow the government to limit the number of visas issued), visa processing times often [exceed 30 months](#). How much further is he suggesting visa processing times will increase to explain a cut of 20,000 visas?

Australian immigration authorities are more than capable of delivering the program on target without any additional risk to visa integrity or national security. They would only deliver the program 20,000 below the "ceiling" if Dutton had instructed them to do so. The fact his department has been releasing places in the skilled independent category during 2017-18 at a rate significantly more slowly than the previous year proves this to be the case.

Pezzullo could not afford to admit delivering the program 20,000 below the 190,000 ceiling was the plan all along as that would risk demands he provide the money for the consequential hit to the budget. Scott Morrison has already warned us of this hit but has refrained from including it as a measure in the budget papers. Pezzullo and Morrison cannot say the cut would be beneficial to the economy and the budget because only a few weeks earlier, home affairs and treasury had issued a [joint paper extolling the benefits](#) of the program.

And he could not use Morrison's explanation that the program would only be delivered below the ceiling if there is a lack of demand. The pipeline of applications is more than enough to deliver the program at 190,000.

No, Pezzullo went to his standard law enforcement playbook for an explanation of the cut. That this explanation may help in his agenda of seeking an ever expanding range of powers and a bigger law enforcement budget would have made this explanation extra attractive.

So what is the real reason for the cut?

There is certainly no obvious policy reason. If there was, it would have been included in the recent treasury/home affairs joint report on the immigration intake. Indeed, that report warns of "far reaching effects" of lower economic growth if the current intake is not maintained.

No state/territory premier or chief minister is calling for a cut, and as usual the business community is supportive of maintaining the current program. Even the ACTU has come out in support.

The reason is more likely to be pure politics rather than policy – on this we can only speculate based on who is likely to take credit for the cut.

Surely it cannot be long before Tony Abbott and Pauline Hanson both come out with “I told you it was a good idea to cut immigration”? Could Hanson argue the government has cut immigration as part of her negotiations on the corporate tax cuts (but that the government has not gone far enough so she has withdrawn her support)?

Of course the real credit belongs to [Peter Dutton](#). But how will he secure credit for something his own department says will be a negative for the economy and the budget? Perhaps talk to Ray Hadley’s radio listeners, where some may not be following the debate too closely and will be happy with a cut to immigration irrespective of the explanation?

What we now need is for the prime minister to explain the cut. Will he also go to the Pezzullo law enforcement and national security playbook? Or will he devise some new reasons of his own, [having previously insisted](#) that cabinet never discussed any cuts to the 2017-18 migration program?

- Abul Rizvi is a former deputy secretary of the immigration department

(Source: [www.theguardian.com.au](http://www.theguardian.com.au))

## **6) Queues for Migration and Citizenship getting longer**

**As of April 30 this year, there were over 200,000 citizenship applications being processed by the Department of Home Affairs, and perhaps a comparable number of permanent residency applications.**

According to the Department of Home Affairs, the average time from lodging an application to receiving citizenship has been stretched from 12 to 16 months. The information was revealed to the Senate earlier this week when Home Affairs officer Luke Mansfield responded to queries relating to citizenship applications. According to Mr Mansfield, while the amount of applications continues to increase, the type of applications has also changed, with a spike from people who arrived in Australia years ago without any identity documentation.

### **Citizenship application backlog mounts to 120,000**

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection will process all citizenship applications received before 1 July 2018 under the current citizenship law.



The Senate committee was told that tightened national security requirements, as well as growth in the number of applications, has led to an increase in processing time of citizenship applications.

Mr Mansfield also mentioned that complaints about the processing times have also increased.

Confirming that as of April 30, more than 200,000 citizenship applications "are on hand", he stated that this number included applications still to be assessed and in the process of being scrutinised, as well as people who have not attended citizenship ceremonies.

Meanwhile, SBS Punjabi has received several reports from listeners and members from the Punjabi community about an inordinate amount of time being taken to process permanent residency applications.

In an interview with SBS Punjabi, Sahil Sharma from Queensland's Gold Coast bemoaned the frequently shifting goal posts, when it comes to permanent residency applications.

### **'Frequent' changes in migration rules sour migrants' Australian dream**

Many migrants on temporary visas are staring at an uncertain future, despite having spent years chasing their Australian dream, due to "frequently changing" migration rules.

He says that ever since he set foot in Australia as a student in 2008, whenever the time came to lodge a PR application, the rules changed. "My course of commercial cookery was removed from the Skilled Occupation list, so I couldn't apply in 2010."

After that, the IELTS requirements were changed, the rules to residency after working on a 457 visa also changed, and it was only in November 2016 that Mr Sharma could apply for an RSMS visa.

"It is now more than 18 months and I still don't know the outcome. I've lived here, worked here, studied, paid my fees and all the taxes, yet I don't know what the future holds."

Mr Sharma's experience has been echoed by many others on SBS Punjabi's Facebook page, after which SBS Punjabi contacted the Department of Home Affairs.

We requested for the latest data about the number of permanent residency applications still in the pipeline and also asked a question about the success rate of these applications - how many on average get rejected.

(Source [www.sbs.com.au](http://www.sbs.com.au))



## **7) Higher education standard due to migration**

Media article - In Higher Education in 'The Australian' 30 May, 2018

Australia's focus on skilled migration means that the educational standard of the workforce is rising rapidly, with both migrants and new entrants to the labour force having much higher education standards than retirees, an OECD study shows.

The number of people in the workforce with tertiary qualifications rose by an estimated 37 per cent in the decade to 2015. This was less than the 40 per cent growth in Europe, but well in excess of the US's 21 per cent.

The rise in Australia's tertiary educated workforce was more than three times the 11 per cent rise in the workforce overall.

The OECD's analysis shows that although migration has only a temporary effect on the age profile of the workforce, it can lift the overall education standard.

The educational profile of migrants is polarised, with refugees and family reunion migrants having lower education than the resident population while migrants seeking career opportunities have higher qualifications.

The OECD lists Australia as the only country where migrants have higher average educational standards than native new entrants to the labour market: 62 per cent of recent migrants have tertiary education, compared with 55 per cent of the young new entrants. Recent migrants accounted for 40 per cent of the growth in Australia's tertiary educated labour force over the decade to 2015, compared with 23 per cent in the US and 16 per cent in Europe.

Besides new entrants and migrants, the labour force is also shaped by retirement trends and workforce participation of prime-aged workers. Retiring baby boomers subtracted 14 per cent from Australia's labour force over the same period, while lower participation rates among older prime-age workers reduced numbers by 4 per cent.

This was offset by the 20 per cent growth in new entrants and 9.5 per cent growth in migrants.

The OECD study says retirement in Australia has been most marked among those with lower educational standards. With the higher educational standard of migrants and new entrants, the overall educational standard of the labour force is rising.

Over the decade to 2015, the OECD estimates that the number of people with low education standards has dropped by almost 60 per cent in Australia, due mainly to the retirement of almost one million people with low education.

Australia has also benefited from growth in workforce participation by tertiary educated prime-aged workers, adding 16 percentage points to the growth of the tertiary educated workforce.

(Source: The Australian newspaper)

## **8) Retirement visas closed for new applicants from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018**

405 retirement visa to close for new applicants from 1st June 2018 -

The closure of the Class UY visa, which consists of one visa subclass, the Subclass 405 (Investor Retirement) visa, was announced in the 2018-19 Federal Budget, as part of the establishment of a pathway to permanent residence for current holders of the Retirement (Temporary)(Class TQ) visas and the Class UY visa. The Class TQ visa, which consists of one visa subclass, the Subclass 410 (Retirement) visa, is already closed to new applicants. The reason for the closure of the Class UY visa is that the visa no longer aligns with Australia's economic priorities.

(Source: Australian government legislation)

## **9) Bridging visa surge due to long delays in processing**

**Massive growth in Australia's ballooning temporary migration is dwarfing the Government's cuts to the permanent intake.**

Key points:

- An extra 40,000 people are in Australia on bridging visas compared to a year ago
- The Government has revealed it plans to cut the permanent intake by up to 20,000 this year
- More than 2.2 million temporary visa holders are currently in Australia, a record high

The number of people who hold bridging visas — the same kind of visa given to the Commonwealth Games athletes who are seeking asylum — has hit a historic high.

At the end of March, 195,000 people with bridging visas were in Australia, including more than 37,000 whose nationality was not specified.

That is up more than 40,000 on a year ago, and close to 90,000 since 2014, according to official Department of Home Affairs figures.

It has pushed the number of people in Australia on temporary visas to more than 2.2 million — again, a record high.

Bridging visas are usually given to migrants whose substantive applications are currently being processed.

Jonathan Granger, director of Granger Australia and a former national president of the Migration Institute of Australia, described the migration program as "chaotic".

"The resources available to the department are limited every year by Government, and yet Government rolls out reform agendas that are not well thought through, that require transitional arrangements and require multiple layers of processing against regulations in the same visa areas," he said.

"The result of those things is significant delays."

Attempt to cut migration

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has said the Government was planning on cutting the permanent migration intake from its traditional level of 190,000 per year, down to approximately 170,000 this year.

But that number is dwarfed by the scale of the temporary visa program.

In the past year an additional 150,000 visitors are in Australia on temporary visas, including 33,000 more foreign students.

Many of these — such as students, backpackers and many bridging visa holders — have extensive work rights.

Mr Granger believes the spike in bridging visas was likely to be caused by a combination of factors, including more applications due to major program changes and cutbacks in resources at the department.

The Government has rolled out an overhaul of both temporary and permanent migration programs in the past year.

#### [How Howard changed migration](#)

Mr Granger said processing times in major visa streams including the temporary skill shortage (formerly code 457), employer-nominated scheme and skilled independent visas had all grown in recent years.

A Department of Home Affairs spokesperson said processing times were driven by a range of factors including:

- the volume of applications received,
- completeness of the application,
- how promptly applicants respond to any requests from the department, and
- the complexity of assessments in relation to health, character and national security requirements.

"The department monitors feedback, trends, and fluctuating processing times each month to identify issues in specific caseloads, opportunities for continuous business process improvement and client service efficiencies," they told the ABC.

The mystery 37,000

The boom in bridging visas has been driven by a mysterious component of 37,000 visa holders for whom the Department of Home Affairs will not reveal their nationality.

The Department of Home Affairs declined to provide more explanation about this group.

Mr Granger said the program changes and lack of resources meant there were growing numbers of visa refusals that ended up at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

"This results in a significant rise of unwarranted refusals, and transfers time delays and costs over to the Appeals Tribunal," he said.

"The Appeals Tribunal is wasting resources on expensive tribunal members deciding on simple visa matters."

The average processing time at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for temporary work visas is 381 days over the past six months, up from 286 for the corresponding period a year ago.

Wayne Parcell, immigration partner at EY, said it was impossible to determine the "root cause" of the increase in bridging visas without more information.

"A surge in application rates in different visa categories, and looking at visa refusal numbers in different categories, can just as much be a reason for the increase as an increase in processing times across a range of visa categories," he said.

Mr Parcell said many of his clients already on bridging visas were forced to request separate bridging visas if they needed to travel — for example for business or family visits — creating additional administrative load on the department.

"A reduction in the number of bridging visas is possible if a multiple entry travel facility was granted to all applicants who are legitimately awaiting a visa decision in Australia," he said.

"This would decrease administrative effort for the Department of Home Affairs and improve the service experience for clients."

(Source: [www.abc.net.au](http://www.abc.net.au))

## **10) Possible skilled list changes for 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018**

Possible Skills List changes -

The Department of Jobs and Small Business is responsible for undertaking a regular review of the Short-term Skilled Occupation List (STSOL), the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL) and the Regional Occupation List (ROL). These occupation lists are used for skilled migration to meet the needs of the Australian economy.

This page provides the list of occupations in the May 2018 traffic light bulletin that are under consideration for a proposed change in their status on the STSOL, MLTSSL or ROL.

This list is a draft for consultation purposes only.

[https://docs.jobs.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/180530 - tlb\\_brief\\_mid\\_year\\_update.pdf](https://docs.jobs.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/180530_-_tlb_brief_mid_year_update.pdf)

## **11) TRA delays in skills assessments**

## **Delay in processing for Migration Skills Assessment and Migration Points Advice programs**

**31 May 2018**

The TRA Migration Skills Assessment and Migration Points Advice programs are currently experiencing a major increase in application rates. This increase is affecting processing times and most assessments are now taking longer than 90 days to complete.

TRA apologises for any inconvenience and asks for your patience. Please do not contact us for status updates, as all applications are being assessed in the order they have been received. At this time, please allow 120 days to receive an outcome.

(Source: TRA)

## **12) Family visas to take 50 years to process**

**Limited places and a very high demand for some family visas have ballooned the waiting periods up to half a century.**

Indian migrant Puneet Mittal has always wanted his parents to live with his family in Australia. This year he applied for a permanent visa under the Non-Contributory Parent visa for his parents. But it won't be before 2048 that a decision on their visa applications is made.

Mr Mittal's father is in his late sixties and mother is in early sixties. They have been given bridging visas and can stay in Australia, but can't access Medicare benefit until their applications are decided.

Mr Mittal says the three-decade waiting period is "comical".

"By the time my parents' applications are processed, they will not be in good health as they are now and may not be considered medically fit for the visa grant," he tells SBS Punjabi.

"I am pretty sure, they are not going to get a permanent residency. I just applied for the visa so that they are saved the hassle of reapplying for the visa repeatedly."

The Department of Home Affairs has recently published the current processing timeframe for some family visas. While applications for parent visas are likely to take approximately 30 years, the timeframe for processing Aged Dependent Relative and Remaining Relative visa applications is "up to 50 years", according to the Department's website.

These applications are assessed in order of lodgement and are placed in a queue accordingly.

Once the cap for a particular year has been met, the remaining assessed applications are queued for processing in the subsequent year.

According to the information released by the Department of Home Affairs on migration planning levels, it will grant a maximum of 1500 parent visas, 7,175 contributory parent visas and 500 other family visas including Remaining Relative and Aged Dependent Relative visas. The cap of 500 on other family visas is down from last year's 900.

Jujhar Bajwa of Bajwa Migration in Melbourne says some family visas, especially parents visas are in high demand.

"Because the annual migration planning allows only a small number of visas under the parent category while the demand is increasing, a huge queue has now built up which will take decades to clear."

He says while parent visas are popular because applicants can stay with their children in Australia while on a bridging visa, other family visas, such as the Remaining Relative visa, are not very popular among his clients.

"In all the years that I have been in this profession, I haven't seen any of my clients getting this visa. The last one I know of was in 2003," Mr Bajwa told SBS Punjabi.

(Source: [www.sbs.com.au](http://www.sbs.com.au))

### **13) Unofficial Skill Select results from 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Another very small round of invitations overnight for the 6th June 2018 2018

Our observations include that :

- Total invites look again at around 300
- All invited occupations seem to have been no more than 25% of their normal round invitations

To produce our results we collect data from our own clients, online forums, other online sources, and feedback from our FB and newsletter followers. As well as using mathematical logical assumptions we know in the past to be correct.

If you aware of any more recent invites for any of these occupations please email us at [query@iscah.com](mailto:query@iscah.com) with some details so that we can see if this table can be updated over the next 24-48 hours.

(Please note it is highly likely there are more recent invites we are unaware of ... this is just the best we know so far)

Iscah estimated invitation dates after Skillselect round of :	EOI points score			All EOIs to this effect date we believe have been invited		
	65 points	70 points	75 points	80 points	85 points © Iscah2018	
6th June 2018						
2211 Accountants	6/10/2015	24/10/2016	18/10/2017	10/01/2018	01/06/2018*	
2212 Auditors - no invites seen this round	27/07/2015	26/12/2016	26/09/2017	12/02/2018	22/05/2018	
2334 Electronics Engineer - no invites seen yet this round	18/09/2017	6/12/2017	17/05/2018	22/05/2018	22/05/2018	
2335 Ind, Mech, Prod Engineers	27/04/2017	23/11/2017	30/05/2018*	05/06/2018*	05/06/2018*	
2339 Other Engineer Profs - no invites seen this round	3/01/2017	30/10/2017	3/04/2018	22/05/2018	22/05/2018	
2611 ICT Business Analysts - no invites seen this round	11/08/2016	13/09/2017	18/02/2018	22/05/2018	22/05/2018	
2613 Software Applications Programmer @ Iscah 2018	18/04/2017	30/10/2017	28/03/2018*	05/06/2018*	05/06/2018*	
2631 Computer Network Prof	4/03/2017	30/10/2017	26/04/2018*	05/06/2018*	05/06/2018*	
ALL the other NON-pro rata occupations	28/09/2017	6/12/2017	29/05/2018*	05/06/2018*	05/06/2018*	
Assumptions - All pro rata occupations were only invited up to a maximum of 25% of their normal round quota. . 300 total invitations						
* Iscah estimates of CHANGED DATES from the latest round have an asterisk next to them * and are in dark GREEN						

[http://www.iscah.com/wp\\_files/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/05June2018UnofficialResults.png](http://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/05June2018UnofficialResults.png)

(Source: Iscah and DoHA)

## 14) Estimated invite times for 189 visa

Here are Iscah's latest estimates of how long we think you will have to wait for a 189 invitation from TODAY - 10th June 2018. Depending on when you lodged your EOI, what the effect date is and the occupation.

We have extended it this time through to the new 2018/19 program year and listed some assumptions. As a result it allows us to say whether we think you will get an invitation before or after July 2019 also. These may not turn out to be DHA settings, we are just trying to give a rough estimate in this age of uncertainty.

We have also added the text of "Unlikely to get an invite" to some EOIs. This is because any that were lodged 12 months ago that we are predicting will not get an invite before July 2019 will mean that the 2 year period of the EOI will expire. So they cannot get an invite on current estimates.



Assumptions					
Pro rata to continue with a ceiling of approx 20% of their normal numbers until July 2018 average of 300 per round until June 2018 and then 1000 per round after that (full Pro Rata)					
Same occupational annual ceilings for 2018/19 as in 2017/18					
Approximately 25% wastage for fake and double invites to continue					
"not before July 2019" does not mean you will get an invite, just means unlikely before then					
Iscah Estimated Time period for an EOI invite - 189 visa as at 10th June 2018		EOI Lodged today (10th June 2018)	3 months ago	6 months ago	Copyright Iscah 2018 12 months ago
2211 Accountants © Iscah	80 points	3 months	8 weeks	invited	invited
	75 points	not before July 2019	12 months	9 months	invited
	70 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite
	65 points	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite
	60 points	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite
2212 Auditors ©	80 points	3 months	6 weeks	invited	invited
	75 points	13 months	10 months	7 months	invited
	70 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite
	65 points	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite
	60 points	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite
2334 Electronics Engineer ©	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited
	75 points	1 month	invited	invited	invited
	70 points	4 months	3 months	1 month	invited
	65 points	not before July 2019	10 months	9 months	invited
	60 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite © Iscah
2335 Ind, Mech, Prod Engineers © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited
	75 points	1 month	invited	invited	invited
	70 points	4 months	3 months	6 weeks	invited
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	9 months	6 months
	60 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite
2339 Other Engineering Professionals © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited
	75 points	6 weeks	invited	invited	invited
	70 points	8 months	6 months	3 months	invited
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite
	60 points	EOI to expire before invite © Iscah	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite © Iscah
2611 ICT Business Analysts ©	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited
	75 points	3 months	2 months	invited	invited
	70 points	11 months	9 months	5 months	invited
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite
	60 points	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite
2613 Software Applications Programmer ©	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited
	75 points	2 months	invited	invited	invited
	70 points	5 months	4 months	3 months	invited
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	7 months	invited
	60 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite
2631 Computer Network Professionals ©	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited
	75 points	6 weeks	invited	invited	invited
	70 points	10 months	7 months	10 weeks	invited
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite
	60 points	EOI to expire before invite © Iscah	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite	EOI to expire before invite © Iscah
ALL other NON pro rata occupations	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited
	75 points	1 month	invited	invited	invited
	70 points	5 months	3 months	2 months	invited
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	9 months	invited
	60 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	invited

Note that Non-Pro ratas may be invited much quicker if DHA decide to restrict Pro Ratras again from July 2018 or invite more than 1000 per round - we will update then

[http://www.iscah.com/wp\\_files/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/EstimateTableJune2018.png](http://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/EstimateTableJune2018.png)

These estimates are heavily influenced by the number of invitations that DoHA issue each round, the limitations against some of the pro rata occupations, and a number of other factors listed here - <http://www.iscah.com/use-189-eoi-predictions/>

(Source: Iscah and DoHA)

## **15) NSW update on 190 state sponsored visa**

### **Announcement – NSW skilled nominated migration 190 closed 2017-18**

New South Wales is pleased to announce that we have filled our program for the 2017-18 financial year. We will not send any further invitations to apply for NSW nomination before 30 June 2018. We will assess all received applications.

We will announce the opening of our program in the 2018-19 financial year.

(Source: NSW Government)

## **16) Update on 482 visa , training costs and advertising**

Update about 482 visa, training costs and advertising ..

Dear Registered Migration Agent

I am writing to provide you with an update in relation to the Skilling Australians Fund (SAF) proposed implementation and Labour Market Testing (LMT). Further information will be made available on the Department of Home Affairs website in future. Relevant procedural instructions will also be updated to reflect the changes and will include more detailed information relating to the SAF.

Please do NOT respond to this email as it is for information purposes only and responses will not be monitored.

Skilling Australians Fund (SAF) update

The Migration Amendment (Skilling Australians Fund) Bill 2018, passed by the Parliament of Australia on 9 May 2018, is expected to be implemented during the first quarter of 2018-19.

When implemented:

- the SAF Levy will be payable on Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS), subclass 186 and 187 nomination applications; and
- there will be changes to the LMT settings including requiring LMT to be conducted:
  - o for a period of four weeks
  - o no more than four months before the nomination is lodged
  - o such that advertisements set out any skills or experience requirements that are appropriate to the position.

Note: Until such time that the above changes are implemented, LMT should continue to be undertaken in accordance with the arrangements specified in the Procedural Instructions Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS) visa (subclass 482) – nominations, available in Legendcom and previous editions of the Skilled newsletter.

Labour Market Testing (LMT) for TSS update

Notwithstanding the LMT changes associated with the SAF Bill mentioned above, the list of acceptable mediums in which nominated positions may be advertised has been extended to include LinkedIn's online recruitment platform and industry specific recruitment websites that are relevant to the nominated occupation.

For further information on these changes see: [www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/visa-1/482-...](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/visa-1/482-...)

(Source: DoHA)

## **17)Mandatory English classes for new migrants**

### **Mandatory English language classes, new test under consideration for migrants**

**The Federal Government is considering new English language requirements for anyone seeking permanent residency, with figures showing close to 1 million people in Australia cannot speak basic English.**

Key points:

- Coalition figures suggest number of Australians who don't speak English is rising
- Government considering options including mandatory language classes, customised English tests
- Malcolm Turnbull says any new test would be assessing "conversational" or "primary-school" level English

Australia accepts up to 190,000 permanent migrants each year and while they need to prove they can understand English, their spouses, children and extended family accompanying them do not.

Multicultural Affairs Minister Alan Tudge argued this had created the "concerning situation" where "close to a million" Australians now do not speak the national language.

"That's not in the interests of those migrants but nor is it in the interests of social cohesion, because if we can't communicate with one another, it's very difficult to integrate," he said.

Figures released by the Coalition suggest the numbers have been steadily rising.

In 2016, about 820,000 permanent residents in Australia had little or no English, compared with 300,000 in 1981.

According to Mr Tudge, in some suburbs, up to one in three people "cannot speak the national language well or at all".

He said the Government was determined to ensure Australia did not repeat the experience of some European countries where migrants become isolated in "parallel communities".

"Australia's multicultural model has been built on integration where communities merge together, where we play together, where we work together," he said.

"But in order for that to occur you do need to have a common language."

The Government is considering a range of options, from mandatory language classes for anyone seeking permanent residency, to a new, customised English test.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull acknowledged concerns with the Government's previous attempt at toughening language requirements for migrants and said any new test would be assessing "conversational" or "primary-school" level English.

"Everyone should recognise that we all have a vested interest in being able to converse and engage in our national language," he said.

The Coalition has been forced to change tack after the [Senate blocked its controversial changes to citizenship laws](#), which would have required new citizens to pass a Level 6, or university-level, English test.

That proposal sparked a backlash, with a [Coalition-dominated Senate Committee warning it would "disqualify from citizenship many Australians"](#) who, in the past, and with a more basic competency in the English language, have proven valuable members of the Australian community".

Mr Tudge has spent the past six months consulting widely over the Government's plans and is likely to present a new, watered-down version of that bill to Parliament.

(Source: [www.abc.net.au](http://www.abc.net.au))

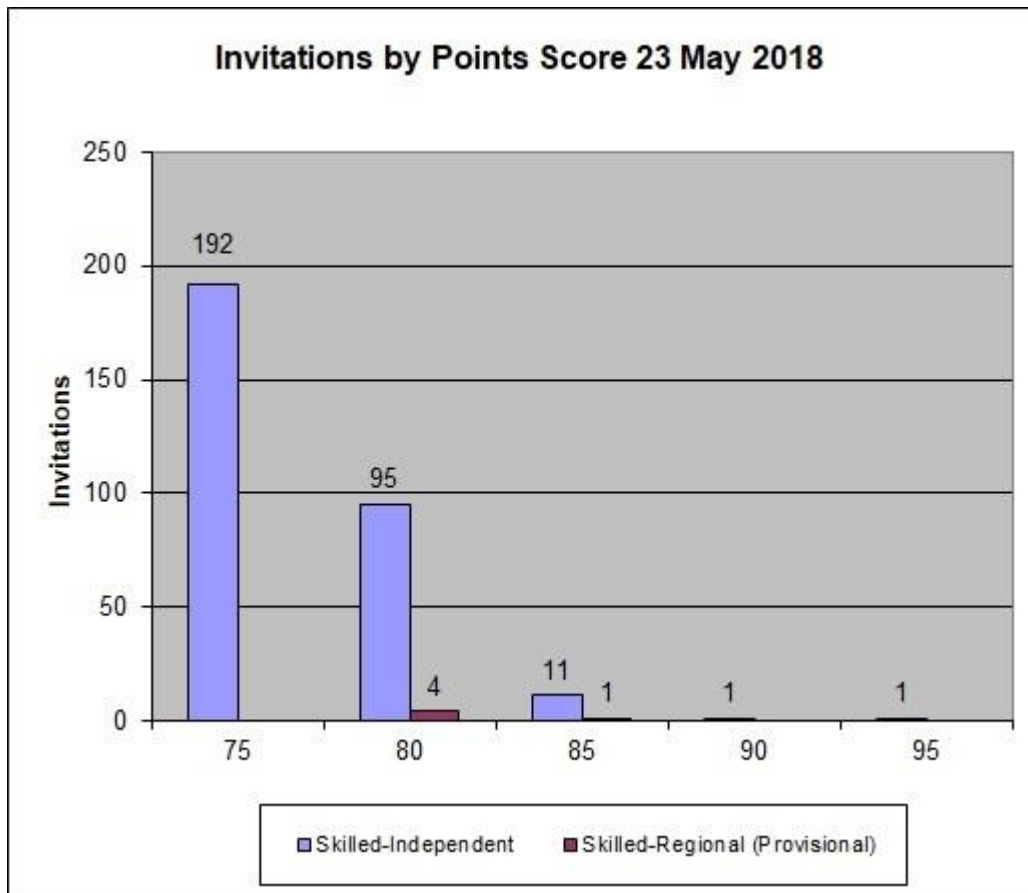
## **18) Official DoHA skill select results from 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018**

### **Invitations issued on 23 May 2018**

<b>Visa Subclass</b>	<b>Number</b>
Skilled - Independent (subclass 189)	300
Skilled - Regional (Provisional) (subclass 489)	5

### **23 May 2018 results**

The following graph shows the points for clients who were invited to apply in the 23 May 2018 round.



### Invitation process and cut offs

The highest ranked clients by points score are invited to apply for the relevant visa. For clients who have equal points scores, the time at which they reached their points score for that subclass (referred to as the date of effect) determines their order of invitation. Expressions of Interest with earlier dates of effect are invited before later dates.

SkillSelect first allocates available places to [Skilled – Independent visas \(subclass 189\)](#) and then the remaining to [Skilled – Regional \(Provisional\) visas \(subclass 489\)](#). If all places are taken up by subclass 189 visas then there will be no invitations issued for subclass 489 visas in these occupations.

Visa Subclass	Points score	Date of effect
Skilled - Independent (subclass 189)	75	18/05/2018 3:15 PM
Skilled - Regional Provisional (subclass 489)	80	26/04/2018 6:49 PM

Due to high levels of demand, and in keeping with previous years, the below occupation groups will be subject to pro rata arrangements to ensure availability of invitations across the program year.

### Point scores and the dates of effect cut off for the pro rata occupations in the 23 May 2018 invitation round.

Occupation	Description	Points	Date of effect
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<b>ID</b>		<b>score</b>	
2211	Accountants	80	17/01/2018 2:50 PM
2212	Auditors, Company Secretaries and Corporate Treasurers	80	12/02/2018 3:27 PM
2334	Electronics Engineer	75	17/05/2018 12:13 AM
2335	Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers	75	16/05/2018 7:41 PM
2339	Other Engineering Professionals	75	3/04/2018 11:27 PM
2611	ICT Business and System Analysts	75	18/02/2018 7:19 AM
2613	Software and Applications Programmers	75	26/03/2018 12:06 AM
2631	Computer Network Professionals	75	18/04/2018 7:08 PM

(Source: DoHA)

OK folks, see you all on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July

Enjoy the Football World Cup and have a great few weeks.

Steven O'Neil (Iscah Manager - MARN 9687267)

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