



Summary results from the 2025 Introductory Survey of Recent Migrants to Australia

The Survey of Recent Migrants to Australia aims to understand the characteristics and experiences of migrants who have recently arrived in Australia, or who were recently granted a permanent or provisional visa. This survey is completed by primary applicant migrants and their spouses (regardless of whether their spouse is also a migrant). This report provides a snapshot of English proficiency, reasons for migrating, experiences of working in Australia, and other activities of recent migrants. Migrants are invited to complete the survey on three occasions, one year apart. These summary results report on the findings from the first of these three surveys, the Introductory Survey, conducted in 2025, and includes only primary applicant responses.

Who completes the survey

Recent migrants who completed the first survey were most likely to be aged 26–35 years, with similar proportions of males and females completing the survey. However, these patterns vary by visa type.

What types of visas migrants are on

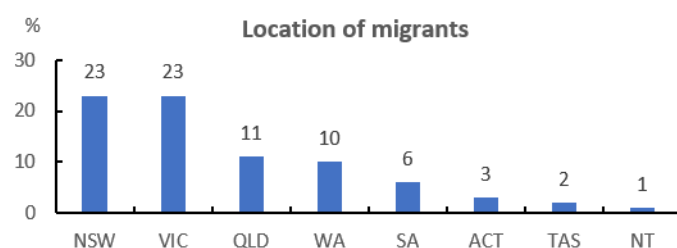
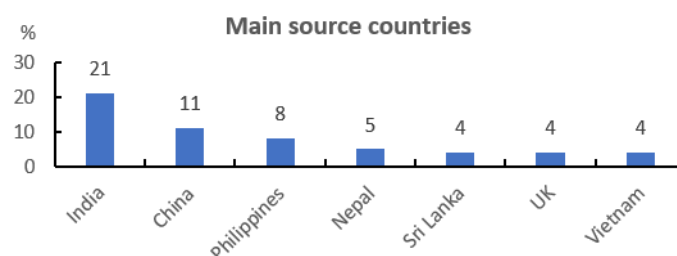
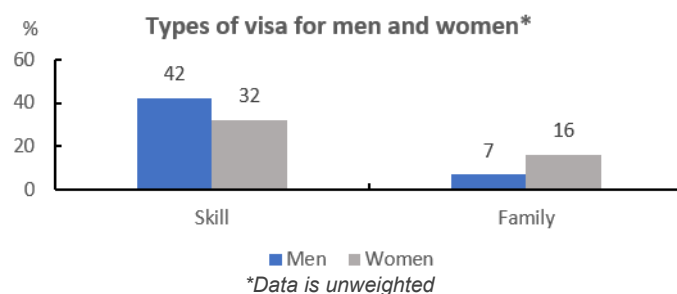
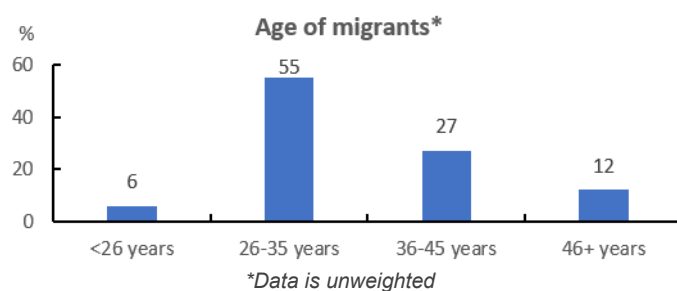
For primary applicants who completed the first survey, most arrived through the Skill stream, where men make up the majority. In contrast, women make up most primary applicants in the Family stream.

Where recent migrants come from

India remains the leading source country for migration, accounting for around 21 per cent of migrants who completed the first survey, followed by the People's Republic of China, the Philippines and Nepal.

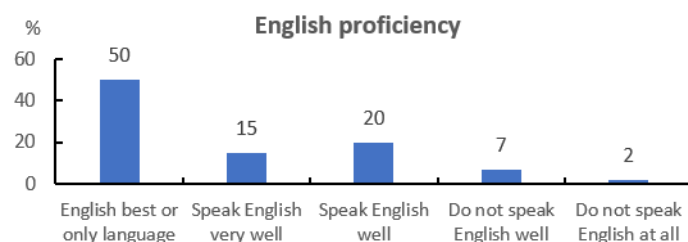
Where they are living

Migrants who completed the Introductory Survey most commonly live in New South Wales or Victoria, followed by Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia.



English proficiency and education

Most surveyed migrants speak English well and have high levels of education. Almost all speak English as their first language or rate their English as good or very good. Around two thirds have a university qualification at a bachelor degree level or higher.

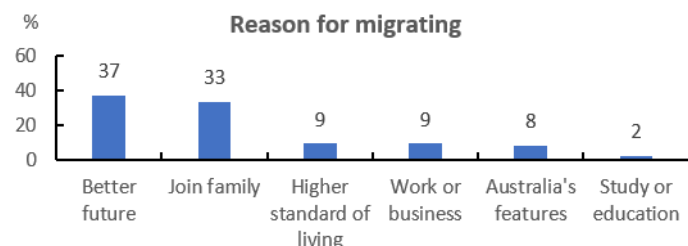


Why migrants come to Australia

Reasons for migrating to Australia differ by visa stream.

For surveyed migrants in the Family stream, the main reason for migrating is to join their partner, family or relatives.

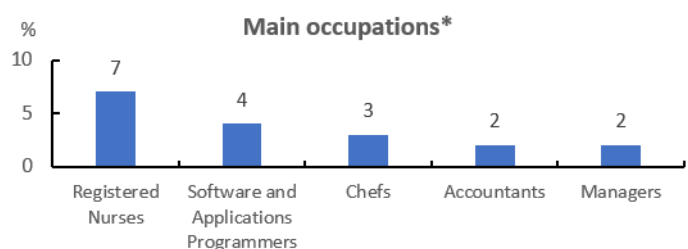
For those in the Skill stream, the main reason is to build a better future for themselves or their family.



Experiences in work

More than two thirds of migrants were employed at the time of the first survey, mainly in full-time roles and in highly skilled or semi-skilled work.

The most common occupations among recent migrants are nurses, software and applications programmers, chefs and accountants.

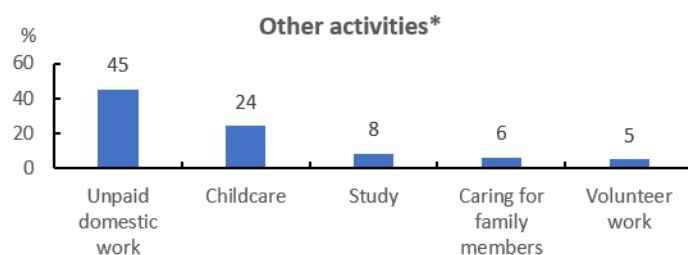


*Excludes 'not known' and 'not working' responses

Other activities

Beyond paid work, migrants take part in a range of other activities. Among those who completed the first survey, the most common were unpaid domestic work and caring for their own or others' children.

Some also undertook study, cared for elderly, disabled or ill family members, or volunteered through an organisation or group. For example, almost one in ten recent surveyed migrants studied in Australia.



*Migrants may be engaged in more than one activity

Note: Data is sourced from the 2025 Introductory Survey of Recent Migrants to Australia (based on the primary applicant). Apart from 'Age of migrants' and 'Types of visa for men and women', all data presented are weighted percentages. 'Not known' responses have been included in calculating weighted percentages, however, they have been suppressed across all charts, except 'Main occupations'.