

Humanitarian Youth Arrivals to Victoria (Update 1/04)

1. How Many Refugee Young People?

The information presented below is derived from statistics collated by the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) based on the data records of Humanitarian entrants.

This information is useful in providing a general overview of the primary source countries for young people from refugee backgrounds currently residing in Australia.

It should be noted that as the information was collected directly from Humanitarian entrants at the time visas were granted, some anomalies and issues around accuracy may arise.

An examination of the data in *Table 1* below reveals that there has been a 21% increase in the number of Youth arrivals in Victoria (860 in 2002/03, 1083 in 2003/04).

Table 1: Humanitarian Youth Entrants in Victoria (12-25) - Onshore & Offshore Arrivals by Visa Class (July 2003/June 2004)

Offshore Program (** Indicates less than 3 persons)				Onshore	Total
Refugee	Humanitarian: In Country SHP	Humanitarian: Global SHP	Women at Risk	Onshore Protection	
154	**	804	41	81	1083

2. Who are the Refugee Young People?

Young people from the Horn of Africa, the Middle East and the Former Yugoslavia represent the largest components of the Onshore and Offshore Humanitarian program for the age group 12-25 (see *Table 2* above).

Following the trends established in the 2002/03 Youth intake, Africa is the primary source of

Humanitarian arrivals with Sudan featuring prominently over the last few years.

The key African countries of refuge from which the Australian government has accepted refugee arrivals are Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan. These countries represent 56.4% (n = 611) of total Humanitarian Youth Arrivals.

Table 2: Humanitarian Youth Entrants in Victoria (12-25) – Onshore & Offshore Arrivals By C of Birth (July 2003/ June 2004)

Afghanistan	169	East Timor	6	Sudan	484
Bosnia-Herzegovina	**	Fed. Repub. Yugoslavia	**	Syria	**
Burma	10	Indonesia	38	Turkey	**
Croatia	8	Iran	39	Vietnam	**
Egypt	4	Iraq	124	Former Yugoslavia	41
Eritrea	20	Peoples Repub. China	**	Not Stated	10
Ethiopia	72	Somalia	35	TOTAL	1083

** Indicates less than 3 persons

*** Refugee young people on Temporary Protection Visas (TPVs) are not included in this data

While in recent years the intake from Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia has been quite high, arrivals from Sudan have now emerged as the largest proportion of the African intake (80% of arrivals from Africa). In fact young refugees from Sudan represent 44.6% of total Youth arrivals.

In relation to the Middle East, key source countries include Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran.

Reflecting the conflicts of recent years in the Middle East, the data for Afghanistan (15.6% of total Humanitarian Youth Arrivals in the last 12 months) and Iraq (11% of total Humanitarian Youth Arrivals in the last 12 months) demonstrate the predominance of these countries within the Humanitarian program.

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2. Who are the Refugee Young People (cont...)

New source countries for refugee young people accepted for settlement in Victoria through the Humanitarian program this year include Burma (n = 10) and East Timor (n = 6).

The composition and size of refugee flows are fluid and ever changing over time. Government settlement priorities are also subject to review and change.

3. Where are the Refugee Young People?

The data presented in *Table 3* below confirms the trends of recent years for newly arrived young people and their families to target particular Local Government Areas (LGA's) of Victoria for settlement.

Maribyrnong (6.6%), Moonee Valley (4.6%), Casey (4.5%) Darebin (4.4%) and Yarra (2.7%).

These include the Cities of Greater Dandenong (31% of total humanitarian youth arrivals in 2003-2004), Brimbank (9%), Hume (8%),

As may be noted from the data presented below, the City of Greater Dandenong has maintained it's standing of many years as the primary LGA destination for refugee young people settling in Victoria. In fact, this year, Greater Dandenong has increased it's intake of youth settlers overall (31% in 03/04, up from 24% in 02/03).

Table 3: Humanitarian Youth Entrants in Victoria (12-25) – Onshore & Offshore Arrivals By LGA (July 2003/June 2004)

Banyule	11	Hobsons Bay	20	Port Phillip	**
Bass Coast	**	Hume	87	Stonnington	**
Bayside	7	Kingston	16	Swan Hill	**
Boroondara	10	Know	7	Warrnambool	**
Brimbank	97	Manningham	4	Whitehorse	27
Casey	49	Maribyrnong	72	Whittlesea	18
Colac-Otway	**	Maroondah	15	Wyndham	12
Darebin	48	Melbourne	9	Yarra	30
Frankston	7	Melton	**	Yarra Ranges	**
Glen Eira	9	Mildura	**	Melbourne (unspecified)	**
Greater Dandenong	336	Monash	28	Not Stated	56
Greater Geelong	13	Moonee Valley	50	Invalid	4
Greater Shepparton	**	Moreland	24	TOTAL VICTORIA	1083

* Refugee young people on TPV's are not included in this data.

** Indicates less than three persons.

*** These statistics reflect the place of settlement at the time visas were granted.

There have been a number of demographic shifts in refugee settlement patterns in recent years. A key change has been the shift of refugees towards outer suburban fringe areas such as Brimbank and Casey. There have also been related decreases in settlers moving to suburbs such as Kingston, Monash and Whittlesea.

as Darebin, Yarra and Whitehorse have all experienced an increase in young settlers from Humanitarian backgrounds.

Discouraging easy characterisations of a general trend out of the inner city however, LGA's such

While the table does not indicate Greater Shepparton as a significant settlement point, this rural region has in the past settled large numbers of refugee young people seeking employment in the fruit picking and packing industries.