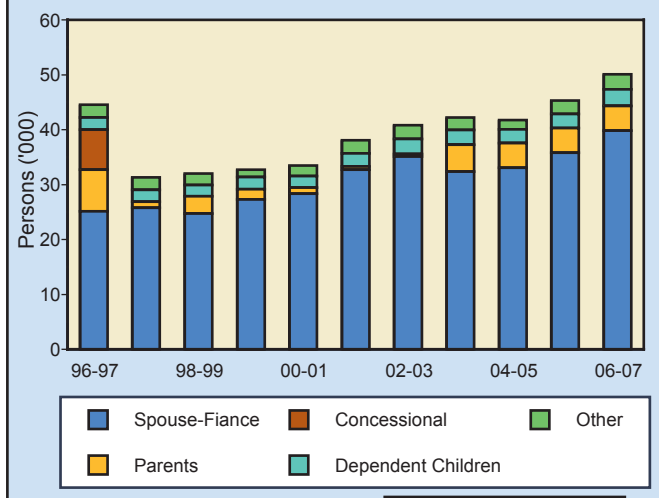


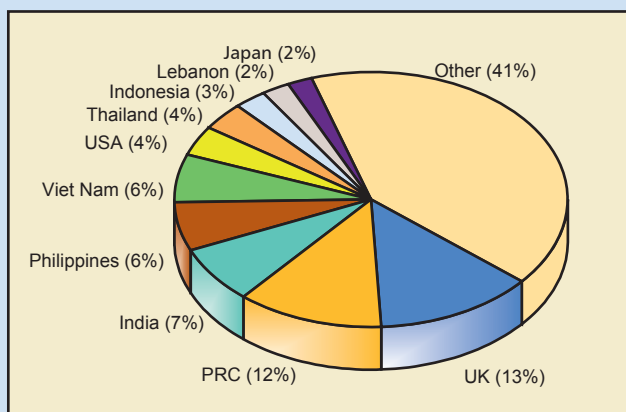
Family migration

Fig. 2-17: Family Stream outcomes by visa



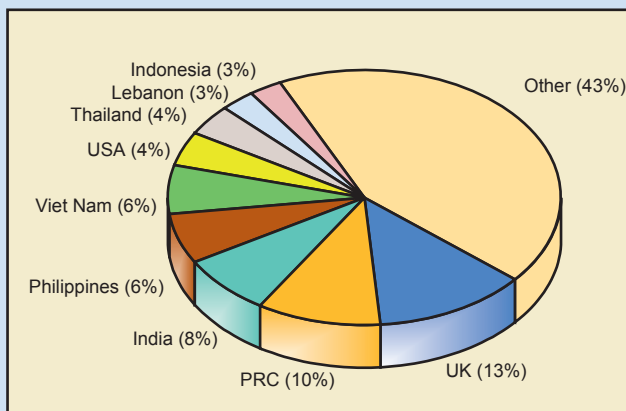
Source Data: MPMS and IMIRS

Fig. 2-18: Family Stream outcomes by country of citizenship 2006-07



Source Data: MPMS and IMIRS

Fig. 2-19: Partner outcomes by citizenship 2006-07



Source Data: MPMS and IMIRS

The Family Stream of Australia's Migration Program enables the migration of immediate family members such as spouses, children, parents and certain other members of extended families. Migrants in the Family Stream are selected on the basis of their family relationship with their sponsor in Australia. There is no test for skills or language ability as there is for Skilled Stream migrants.

The Family Stream has grown from 32 040 places in 1998-99 to 50 080 places in 2006-07. This reflects the continuing strong commitment to family migration. Over the same period, the Family Stream's share of the Migration Program increased slightly from 31.9 to 33.0 per cent, however the Skill Stream grew at a much faster rate. The shift in the balance of the Migration Program reflects a growing focus on skilled migration and its contribution towards Australia's social and economic welfare.

In 2006-07, the largest number of Family Stream visas were granted to citizens of the UK (13.1 per cent), followed by the PRC (12.1 per cent), India (7.3 per cent) and the Philippines (6.2 per cent).

The planned level for the Family Stream in 2007-08 is 50 000 places, which represents 32.7 per cent of the total Migration Program (at the top of the range of planned outcomes).

Partner

Partner visas include the Spouse, Prospective Marriage (fiancé) and Interdependency visa subclasses. In 2006-07, partners accounted for 80.7 per cent (40 430 persons) of Family Stream places. Most of the partner places were spouse (32 790), with 7040 prospective marriage and 605 interdependency (generally same sex partner).

In 2006-07, the largest number of partner places was for people who held citizenship in the UK (12.6 per cent), followed by the PRC (10.2 per cent), India (7.6 per cent), the Philippines (6.4 per cent) and Viet Nam (6.2 per cent). Women outnumbered men as primary applicants in the grant of Spouse and Prospective Marriage visas in 2006-07; females accounted for 64.9 per cent of places. However, men outnumbered women as the primary applicants in the grant of Interdependency visas, accounting for 65.4 per cent of these places.

Although persons granted partner visas in 2006-07 included some 230 applicants aged 65 years or over, most were much younger. While Prospective Marriage visa recipients were generally younger than Spouse and Interdependency visa recipients, almost 73.7 per cent of primary applicants in all three visa categories were aged between 20 and 39 years. In 2006-07, partner visa holders also brought with

them 4660 dependants, mainly children, (mostly under 19) who migrated as secondary applicants on partner visas.

Child

The child category includes visas for dependent children, orphan relatives and adopted children. In 2006-07, a total of 3008 visas were granted (an 18.1 per cent increase on the 2005-06 total of 2550) which represented 6.0 per cent of grants in the Family Stream.

In 2006-07, the largest number of visas in the child category was granted to citizens of the PRC (15.4 per cent), followed by the Philippines (10.3 per cent), the UK (8.5 per cent) and Thailand (6.2 per cent).

Other family

The Other family category includes visas for aged dependent relatives, remaining relatives and carers. In 2006-07, a total of 2136 visas were granted in the Other Family category, representing 4.3 per cent of the Family Stream outcome grants. Of these grants, around 65 per cent were remaining relatives, 26 per cent were carers and 9 per cent were aged dependent relatives. This compares with a total of 1870 visas granted in the Other Family category in 2005-06, representing 4.1 per cent of Family Stream places.

In 2006-07, the largest number of visas in the Preferential/Other Family category was granted to citizens of the PRC (16.3 per cent), followed by the United Kingdom (9.3 per cent), Viet Nam (8.5 per cent) and the Philippines (7.0 per cent).

Parents

Since 1999-2000, the Australian government has limited the number of parent places available to parents each year. This measure was based on research indicating that migrants in the parent category pose a relatively high ongoing cost to the Australian community. In 2003-04, the contributory parent category was introduced, thus creating two distinct parent visa categories.

All applications for parent visas previously lodged at overseas offices are now processed centrally at the Perth Offshore Parents Centre (POPC). This includes applications for the contributory parent category. Economies of scale and specialisation have enabled POPC to develop more efficient and effective processing procedures

Parents (non-contributory)

In 2006-07, 1000 (non-contributory) parent visas were granted – the same outcome as in 2005-06.

In 2006-07, the largest number of non-contributory parent visas was granted to citizens of the PRC, followed by the UK, India and Fiji.

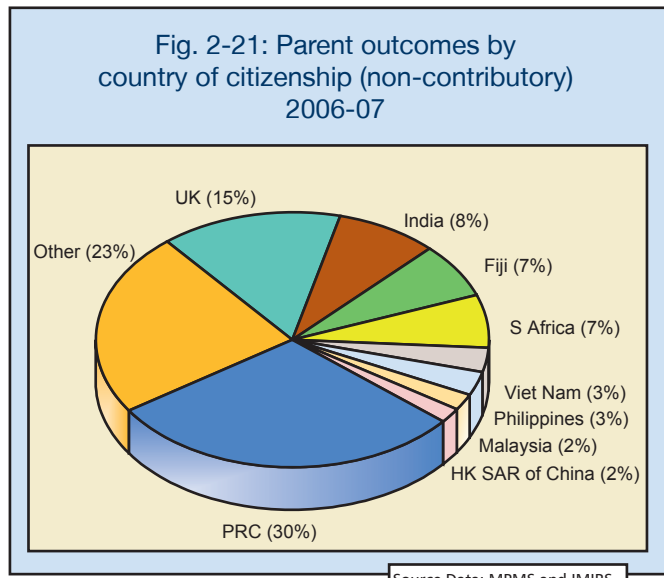
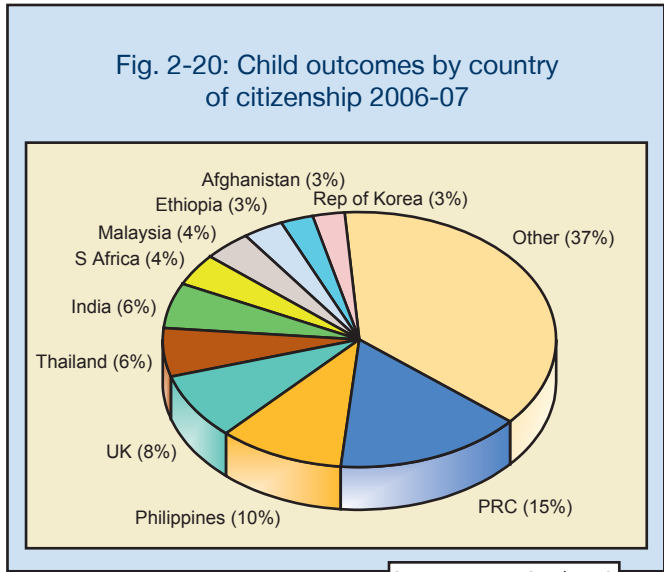
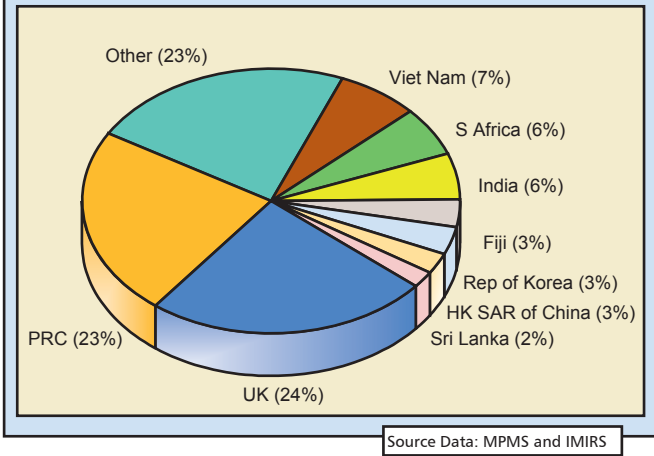


Fig. 2-22: Parent outcomes by country of citizenship (contributory) 2006-07



At 30 June 2007, some 22 835 persons remained in the parent pipeline with some 17 481 (76.0 per cent) in the queue. The offshore component of this pipeline is around 17 362 persons while around 5473 persons are in the onshore component. This compares with 15 950 and 4920 respectively at the end of 2005-06.

Parents (contributory)

Legislation creating the contributory parent category was passed by parliament in March 2003 and commenced on 27 June 2003 (offshore applicants) and 1 July 2003 (onshore applicants).

This category substantially increases the number of places available for parents to migrate each year on the basis that they or their sponsor make a fairer contribution to their health and welfare costs. In the contributory parent category, parents are required to pay a more substantial second visa application charge, and a ten-year \$10 000 Assurance of Support bond for the main applicant and \$4000 for adult secondary applicants.

In 2006-07, 3500 contributory parent visas were granted. Of these, the largest number of visas was granted to citizens of the UK (24.0 per cent), followed by the PRC (23.0 per cent), Viet Nam (7.0 per cent) and South Africa (6.0 per cent).