MYAN NSW
Multicultural Youth Affairs Network

NSW Youth Settlement Snapshot

A report on the data: 2016 – 2017

ABOUT MYAN NSW

The Multicultural Youth Affairs Network is the first state-wide multicultural youth specialist organisation in NSW. We engage, connect and build the capacity of the youth, settlement and multicultural sectors to effectively meet the needs of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds. We work with young people to build skills, networks and knowledge as they settle in NSW and support them to engage in advocacy to influence the local, state and national agenda.

Our vision is that all young people from multicultural backgrounds in NSW can access the support and opportunities they need to be active citizens in Australian society.

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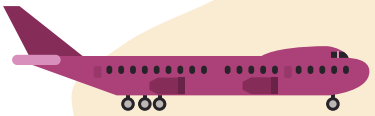
Snapshot: Humanitarian Youth Arrivals to NSW

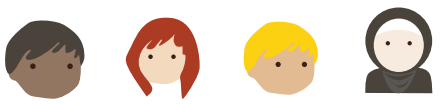
1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

MYAN NSW
Multicultural Youth Affairs Network

Australia welcomed
24,490
humanitarian arrivals



25% were young people



NSW welcomed the largest number
2,638
of humanitarian youth arrivals

44% of all humanitarian youth arrivals

23% of the 11,240 humanitarian arrivals to NSW were young people

Humanitarian youth arrivals in NSW more than doubled in 2016/17

7,226
young people arrived via 3 migration streams

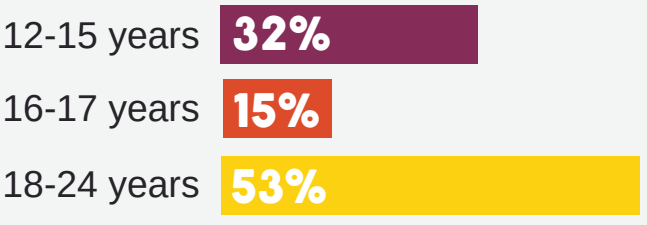
23% skilled

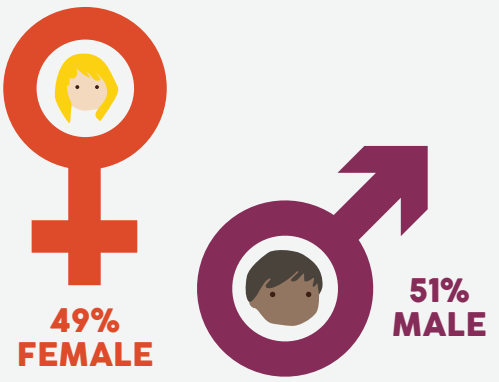
37% humanitarian

and 41% family

HUMANITARIAN YOUTH ARRIVALS

AGE ON ARRIVAL





TOP 5 COUNTRIES OF BIRTH

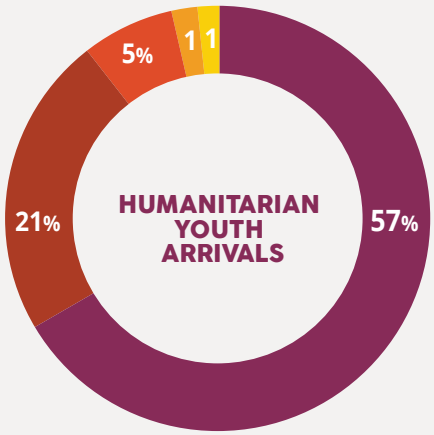
HUMANITARIAN YOUTH ARRIVALS

- 51% IRAQ
- 36% SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
- 4% AFGHANISTAN
- 2% IRAN
- 1% MYANMAR

SKILLED & FAMILY YOUTH ARRIVALS

- 4% PAKISTAN
- 7% VIETNAM
- 7% PHILLIPINES
- 14% INDIA
- 17% CHINA

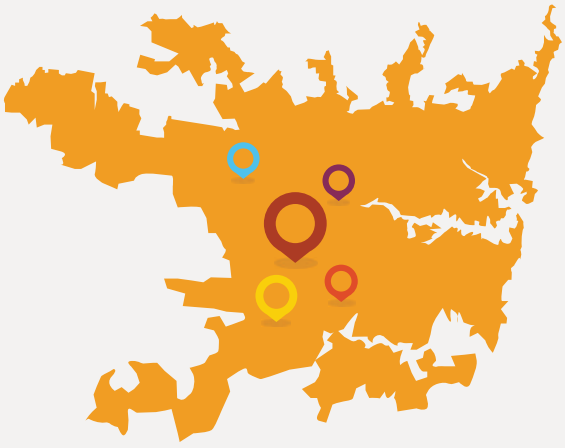
TOP 5 LANGUAGES



- ARABIC / 1,512
- ASSYRIAN / 545
- FARSI, DARI, HAZARAGI / 142
- ARMENIAN / 38
- KAREN LANGUAGES / 32

90% of humanitarian youth arrivals in NSW had nil or poor English proficiency.

TOP 5 LOCAL GOVT AREAS FOR HUMANITARIAN YOUTH ARRIVALS



- FAIRFIELD / 50%
- LIVERPOOL / 17%
- PARRAMATTA / 5%
- BLACKTOWN / 5%
- BANKSTOWN / 5%

TOP 5 RELIGIONS OF HUMANITARIAN YOUTH ARRIVALS

- 12% ISLAM
- 8% SABEAN MANDEAN
- 4% YAZIDISM
- 1% BUDDHISM

MYAN NSW is the first state-wide multicultural youth specialist organisation. The data in this report is sourced from the DSS Settlement Database. There are a number of caveats to consider when reviewing this information.

Details can be found at: http://bit.ly/2D1Ahmp

Published in October 2018

MYAN NSW

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of the settlement trends and basic demographic data, provided by the Department of Social Services (DSS), for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds in NSW, with a focus on the period between 1 July, 2016 and 30 June, 2017. It also includes a brief overview of some of the issues facing young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds during the settlement process. These issues have been identified by MYAN NSW and the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN Australia) through its policy and advocacy work. Further information can be found in the MYAN Australia's Young people from Refugee and Migrant Backgrounds resource.

As well as providing the most recent quantitative data about young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds arriving in NSW, the report interprets the wider implications of this information for service provision and planning, policy making and sector development. This report may also be read in conjunction with previous Humanitarian Arrivals to NSW fact sheets. These, and other relevant resources, are available on the MYAN NSW and MYAN Australia websites. The data in this report is subject to a number of caveats that should be considered when reviewing this information (see Appendix 2).

2. Young people, the refugee and migration experience, and settlement

Young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds come to NSW with a range of strengths and skills. These include cross-cultural knowledge, multilingual skills, adaptability and resourcefulness, resilience, a strong desire to achieve and succeed, aspirations for the future, positive and hopeful attitudes, and high levels of wellbeing. Overall, they are well placed to thrive[1]. However, the particular support and opportunities young people need to thrive as active participants in Australian society often remain unrecognised and under-resourced. Young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds bring indisputable expertise and knowledge on the issues affecting them. Policymakers and service providers in NSW are paying increased attention to the voices, agency and potential of young people as the drivers of solutions that will positively affect their lives.

The refugee experience is far from homogenous and there is no common experience for young people settling in NSW through the Humanitarian Programme. Young people from refugee backgrounds often experience a myriad of issues unique to the settlement process: forced migration, trauma and torture from conflict-affected situations, family separation, exposure to violence, time spent in limbo in transition countries, time spent idle waiting for visas, time in immigration detention, disrupted education or employment, adjusting to a new culture and language, and the overall frustration, isolation and confusion associated with this. As a result, a targeted or specialist approach to policy and service delivery is essential to address the needs of young people from refugee backgrounds and ensure they achieve their potential as active and engaged members of Australian society.

Young people have unique settlement experiences that are different from adults, families and children. They face particular challenges in navigating the demands of settling in a new country and their settlement journey has additional layers of complexity because of their age and developmental stage. The particular issues facing young people from a refugee background in the settlement context include, but are not limited to: learning a new language; adjusting to a new culture and education system (often with disrupted or limited schooling prior to Australia); finding work and establishing themselves in the Australian workforce; negotiating family relationships in the context of new concepts of independence, freedom, and child and youth rights; negotiating cultural identity and expectations from family and community; and establishing new peer relationships[2]. Young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds often face additional and more complex transitions to adolescence and adulthood than their Australian-born peers as they respond to the trauma and dislocation of settlement during this transformative period.

In recognition of the additional challenges, recent shifts and developments show an increase in targeted programs directed toward young people from refugee backgrounds that acknowledge and support their unique settlement experience. Youth-specific services for young people from refugee backgrounds are offered through a variety of programs, including the Humanitarian Settlement program (HSP), the Settlement Engagement and

Transition Support program (SETS), the Youth Transition Support (YTS) program, the Refugee Youth Peer Mentoring program (RYPM) and the NSW Refugee Youth Policy Initiative. While acknowledging these vital developments, there remain gaps in service delivery and opportunities to further develop the capacity of a wide range of services to understand and be responsive to the needs of young people in the settlement context.

Many young people who arrive in Australia through the Family and Skilled Migration Programmes may also come from refugee or refugee-like situations, with their experiences akin to those of young people entering through the Humanitarian Programme. Young people who arrive through family or skilled streams are not generally entitled to settlement support services, yet may have needs that are similar to their humanitarian stream counterparts. This can place additional pressure on family and community supports, and may mean that the needs of this group go unmet. Unlike those young people arriving through the offshore Humanitarian Programme, young people seeking asylum in Australia have not had access to pre-arrival orientation and may face additional challenges as a result of the asylum-seeking process. This can include: stress involved with ineligibility for most settlement services or other mainstream services; being subjected to mandatory detention; lack of work rights; restricted access to English language classes; punitive policy changes that impact options to study, receive casework service or income support; and feeling a sense of uncertainty and social isolation. They may also have less formal structures and supports in place when they begin their settlement journey in Australia.

The National Youth Settlement Framework

The insights and analysis of this data is underpinned by MYAN's National Youth Settlement Framework (NYSF). The NYSF provides conceptual and practical information for achieving good settlement outcomes for young people, to support them to become active and engaged members of Australian society. The NYSF includes information on policy development, service planning, and delivery across areas like settlement, education and community participation. It provides the foundation for improvements in service delivery across the youth and settlement sectors, supporting a more targeted approach to addressing the settlement needs of young people in all areas of their engagement with the service system.

A set of eight practice capabilities sit at the foundation of the NYSF that reflect good practice in responding to the particular circumstances of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds in the settlement context:

1. Cultural competency
2. Youth-centred and strengths-based
3. Youth development and participation
4. Trauma informed
5. Family-aware
6. Flexibility and responsiveness
7. Collaboration
8. Advocacy

3. Australia's Humanitarian Programme

In the 2016-17 financial year, Australia welcomed a total of 24,490 humanitarian arrivals, of which 6,008 were young people aged 12 to 25[3]. Young people represented 25% of all humanitarian arrivals. In September 2015, the Australian Government announced an additional 12,000 Humanitarian Programme places for those displaced by conflicts in Syria and Iraq, in addition to the 13,750 allocated places set for 2016-17. Priority for the 12,000 additional humanitarian places was given to people displaced by conflict in Syria and Iraq who were:

- assessed as being most vulnerable, including persecuted minorities, and women, children and families with the least prospect of ever returning safely to their homes; and
- located in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey[4].

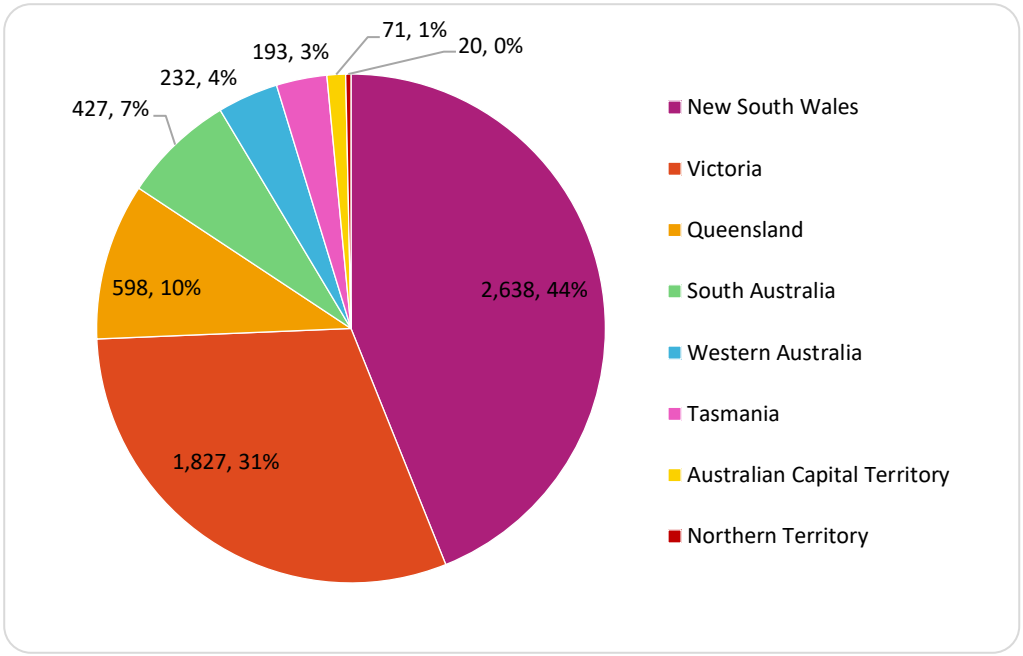
These 12,000 places were in addition to places available to Syrians and Iraqis under Australia's existing Humanitarian Programme. In March 2017, the last of the additional 12,000 visas for people displaced by conflicts in Syria and Iraq were granted. The additional intake of people from Syria and Iraq in 2016-17 demonstrates

Australia's capacity to resettle 24,490 people in one year. In 2017-18, there will be a minimum of 16,250 places, and the Humanitarian Programme is set to increase to 18,750 places in 2018–19.[5]

4. Number of young people settling in NSW

Of the 11,240 humanitarian arrivals to NSW, 2,638 were young people, accounting for 23%. A grand total of 6,008 young people, aged 12 to 25, arrived in Australia under the Humanitarian Programme in 2016-17. Figure 1 presents the numbers of humanitarian youth arrivals settling throughout the states and territories of Australia during 2016-17. As seen in Figure 1, young people arriving in NSW accounted for 44% of the humanitarian youth arrivals to Australia, compared with Victoria (31%), Queensland (10%), South Australia (7%), Western Australia (4%), Tasmania (3%), the Australian Capital Territory (1%) and the Northern Territory (<1%).

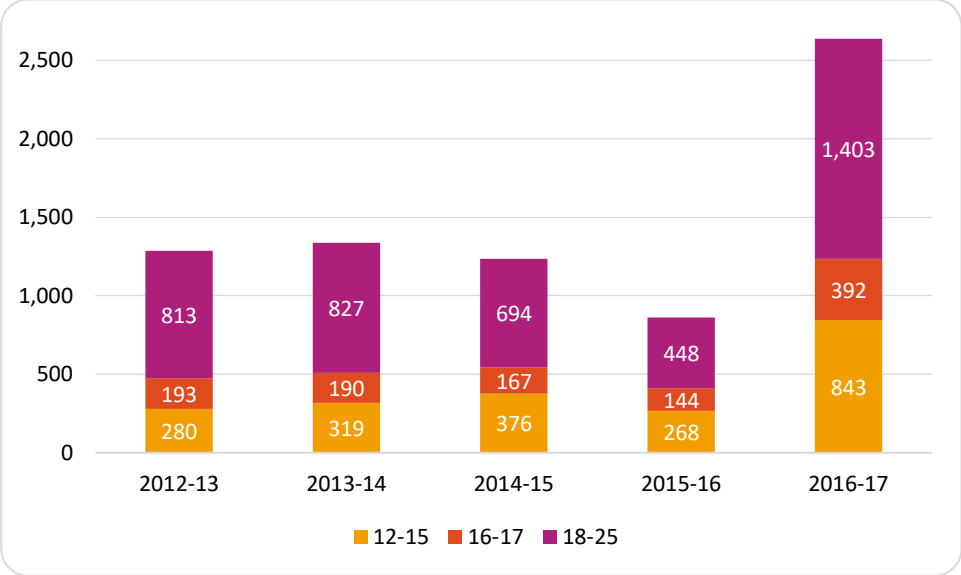
Figure 1: Total number of humanitarian youth arrivals in states across Australia during 2016-17



Half of the humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW during 2016-17 were aged between 18 and 25. Figure 2 presents the number of humanitarian youth arrivals over five financial years, from 2012 to 2017. A total of 7,357 young people aged 12 to 25 arrived in NSW under the Humanitarian Programme over the five-year period. In previous years, the number of youth humanitarian arrivals has remained relatively stable, with a total of: 1,286 humanitarian youth arrivals in 2012-13; 1,336 in 2013-14; and 1,237 in 2014-15. In 2015-16 only 860 humanitarian youth arrived in NSW. During 2016-17, humanitarian youth arrivals more than doubled compared with previous years.

The data also presents the humanitarian youth arrivals in three distinct age groups, which correspond with the Australian schooling system: 12-15, 16-17 and 18-25. Despite an increase in total humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17, the corresponding age brackets have remained relatively proportionate across the five-year period.

Figure 2: Total number of humanitarian youth arrivals in NSW by age group over last 5 years, 2012-2017

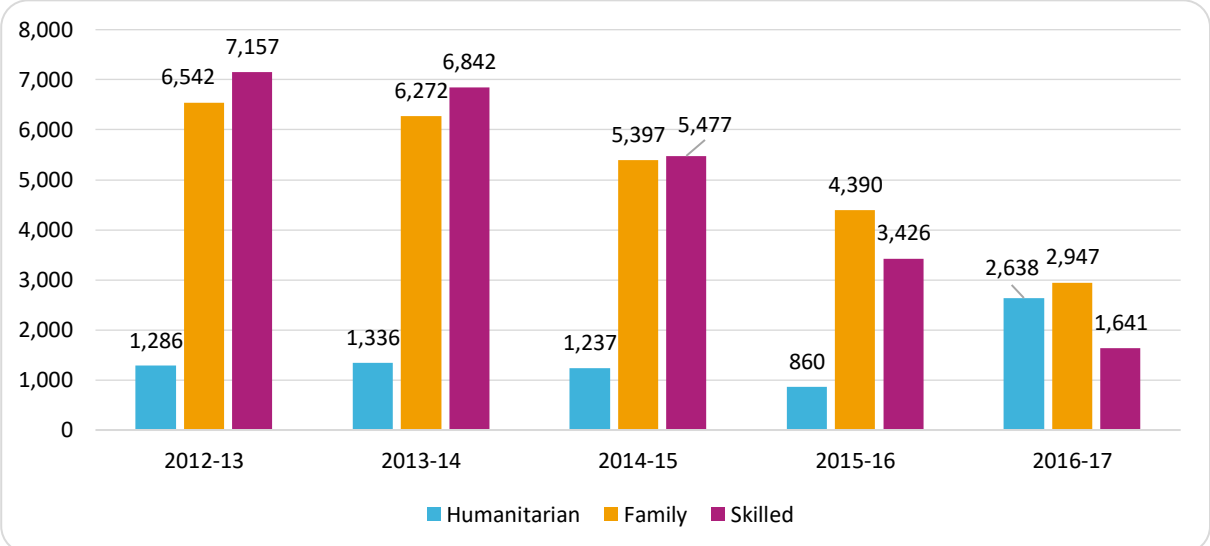


5. Migration streams

Young people arriving into NSW, arrive through three migration streams: humanitarian, family or skilled. The humanitarian stream involves the settlement of people requiring humanitarian assistance to Australia who do not have any other durable solution available to them. The family stream involves people selected on the basis of a family relationship with their sponsor in Australia. The skilled stream involves people with skills that will contribute to the Australian economy[6].

During 2016-17, humanitarian youth arrivals represented 37% of all youth arrivals through NSW's Migration Programmes. Family and skilled migration represented 41% and 23% respectively. Table 1 shows 1,641 young people arrived through the Skilled Programme, while 2,947 young people arrived through the Family Programme.

Figure 3: Total number of youth arrivals in NSW by migration stream over last 5 years, 2012-2017



Over the previous four-year period, from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2016, humanitarian youth arrivals consistently represented 9-10% of all youth arrivals to NSW across the combined humanitarian, family and skilled programs. However, as shown in Table 1, during 2016-17, humanitarian youth arrivals represented a significantly larger proportion (37%) of all the young people arriving in NSW, the highest percentage during the five-year period.

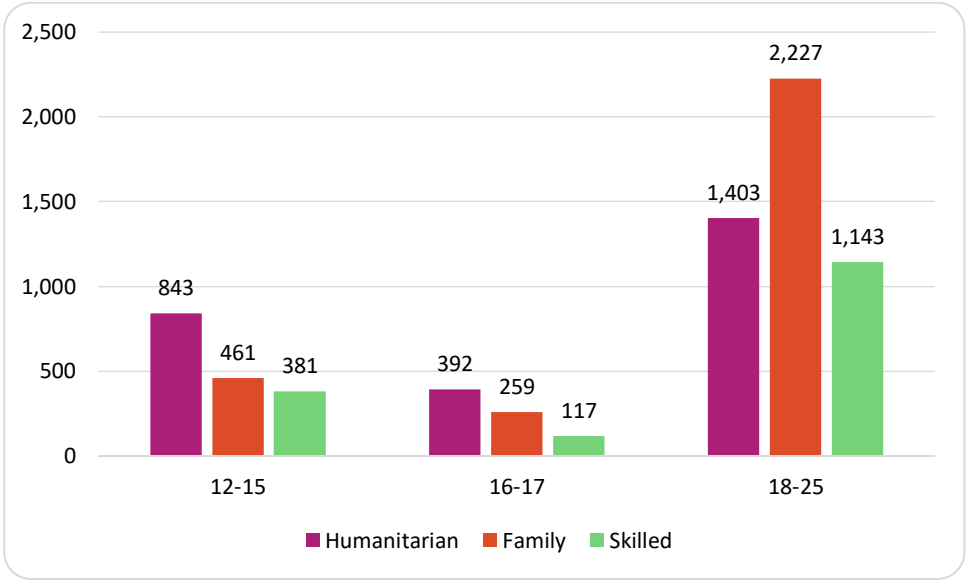
Table 1 also shows an overall decline in the total number of young people arriving to NSW through the skilled and family streams, as well as the overall migration program during the five-year period, from 14,985 youth arrivals in 2012-13 to 7,226 in 2016-17.

Table 1: Youth arrivals by migration stream (% per year) over last 5 years, 2012-2017

Financial Year of Arrival	Humanitarian	Family	Skilled	Total
2012-13	1,286 (8%)	6,542 (44%)	7,157 (48%)	14,985
2013-14	1,336 (9%)	6,272 (44%)	6,842 (47%)	14,450
2014-15	1,237 (10%)	5,397 (45%)	5,477 (45%)	12,111
2015-16	860 (10%)	4,390 (51%)	3,426 (39%)	8,676
2016-17	2,638 (36%)	2,947 (41%)	1,641 (23%)	7,226
Total	**7,357**	**25,548**	**24,543**	**57,448**

Young people arriving through the Humanitarian Programme made up the largest number of arrivals across both the 12-15 and 16-17 age groups during the 2016-17 period, as seen in Figure 4. While young adults aged between 18 and 25 represent the largest numbers overall, they were much more likely to have arrived via the Family Programme.

Figure 4: Number of youth arrivals by age group and migration stream during 2016-17



6. Visa types

There are two categories of visas under the offshore Humanitarian Programme: the Refugee Category and the Special Humanitarian Programme category. The data below shows humanitarian youth arrivals that were welcomed to NSW in both categories.

1. **Refugee category** visas are for people who are experiencing persecution in their home country, according to the five grounds of persecution under the 1951 Refugee Convention, who are typically outside that country and in need of resettlement. Refugee Category visas include: Refugee Visa (Subclass 200), In-country Special Humanitarian (Subclass 201), Emergency Rescue Visa (Subclass 203) and Woman at Risk (Subclass 204). For further description of these visas, please see Appendix 2.

2. **Special Humanitarian Programme category** visas are for people who are subject to substantial discrimination amounting to gross violations of their human rights in their home country. Special Humanitarian Programme visas include: Global Special Humanitarian Visa (Subclass 202). This visa supports people who do not meet the requirements of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, but are owed protection. For instance, in 2011 complementary protection was introduced to domestic legislation to give effect to international obligations ratified by Australia under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Table 2 and Figure 5 depict trends over the past five years, from 2012-2017 for humanitarian arrivals, with a focus on the top five visa subclasses. Of note, there is a significant increase in the Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202) in 2016-17. As seen in Table 2, the intake for In-country Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 201) was larger in 2013-14 after the Australian Government announced measures to enable former locally engaged staff from Afghanistan to apply for resettlement in Australia through this program.

Accurate data for the Onshore Protection visa (subclass 866) is difficult to source from the Department of Settlement Service Settlement Database. However, the Department of Home Affairs report, Australia's Offshore Humanitarian Program: 2016-17, indicates that 1,711 people were granted an Onshore Protection visa in 2016-17. A state/territory and age breakdown is not available for this visa.

Table 2: Visa subclasses of humanitarian youth arrivals, 2012-2017

Visa subclass	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Refugee visa (subclass 200)	584 (45%)	625 (47%)	368 (30%)	411 (48%)	634 (24%)
In-country Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 201)	4 (<1%)	94 (7%)	11 (1%)	2 (<1%)	19 (1%)
Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202)	26 (2%)	329 (25%)	704 (57%)	339 (39%)	1,861 (71%)
Emergency Rescue Visa (subclass 203)	0 (<1%)	0 (<1%)	0 (<1%)	0 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
Woman At Risk visa (subclass 204)	89 (7%)	134 (10%)	79 (6%)	79 (9%)	119 (5%)
Onshore Protection Visa (subclass 866)	583 (45%)	154 (12%)	74 (6%)	29 (3%)	4 (<1%)
Total	1,286	1,336	1,237	860	2,638

Figure 5: Humanitarian youth arrivals by year and visa subclass, 2012-2017

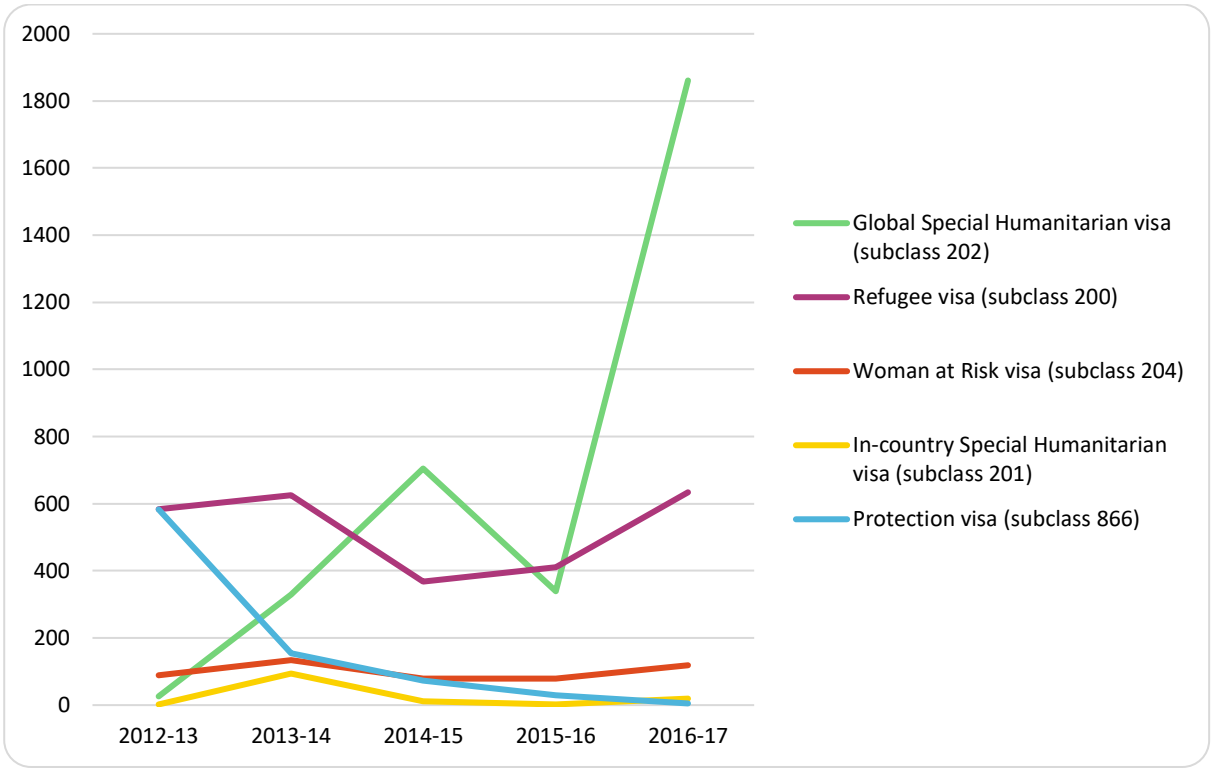


Figure 6 presents the proportion of young people by select visa subclass types arriving through the Humanitarian Programme during 2016-17. Over this period, most humanitarian youth settled in NSW under the Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202), accounting for 71% of all humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17. This is a reflection of legislative and policy changes that attribute highest processing priority to offshore Humanitarian visas, including the Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202), Refugee visa (subclass 200), Emergency rescue visa (subclass 203) and Woman at Risk visa (subclass 204).

Figure 6: Visa subclass of humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17

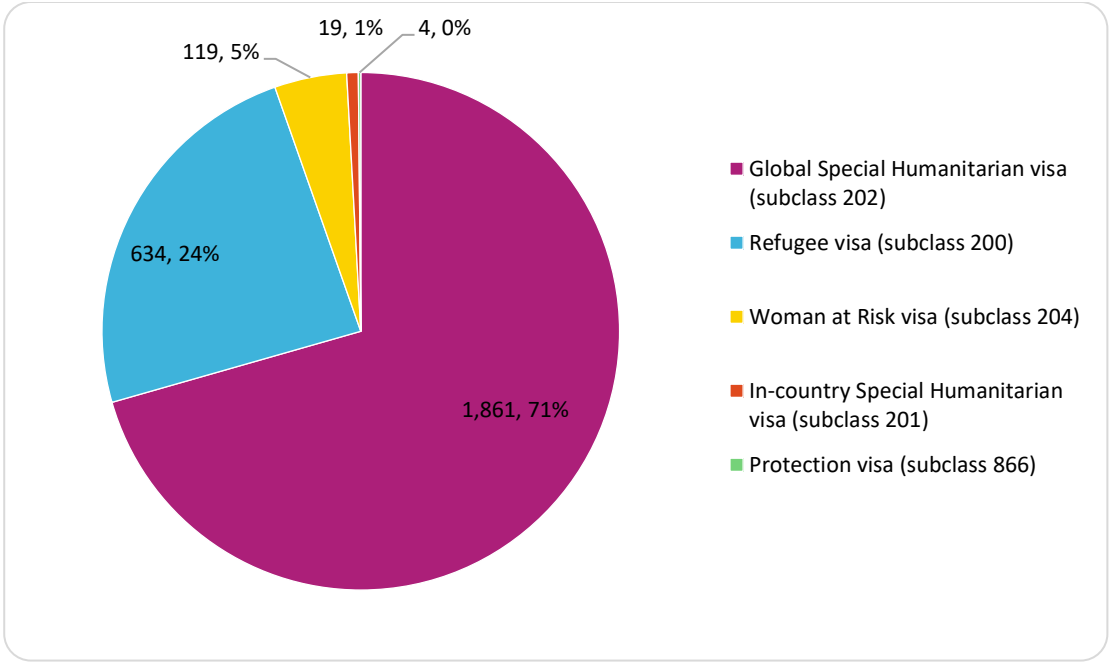


Table 3 shows young people aged 12-25 in NSW with a Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202) over the past five years. As Table 3 shows, the number of young people with this visa has substantially increased from 26 young people in 2012 to 1,861 young people in 2017. The Global Special Humanitarian Programme visa (subclass 202), which places emphasis on 'substantial links' to the Australian community, is for people who have been proposed for entry by an Australian citizen or permanent resident over the age of 18, an eligible New Zealand citizen or an organisation operating in Australia. There are concerns that prioritising resettlement of people with community links undermines the principle that Australia should in fact be prioritising resettlement of young people identified by UNHCR and considered most in need of a durable solution.

For young people holding a Global Special Humanitarian visa, it is a requirement that their proposer will help them settle in Australia. This means that settlement support and orientation is incumbent on family and community members, many of whom are former humanitarian arrivals themselves[7]. MYAN NSW believes that the orientation and support required places pressure, including financial pressure, on families and the community and requires time and resources. Often proposers do not have the capacity to provide the required level of settlement support, in which case a service provider must provide the appropriate settlement services. Young people require targeted support to settle well, which is further outlined in the National Youth Settlement Framework.

Table 3: Young people in NSW with Global Special Humanitarian visas (subclass 202) over last 5 years, 2012-2017

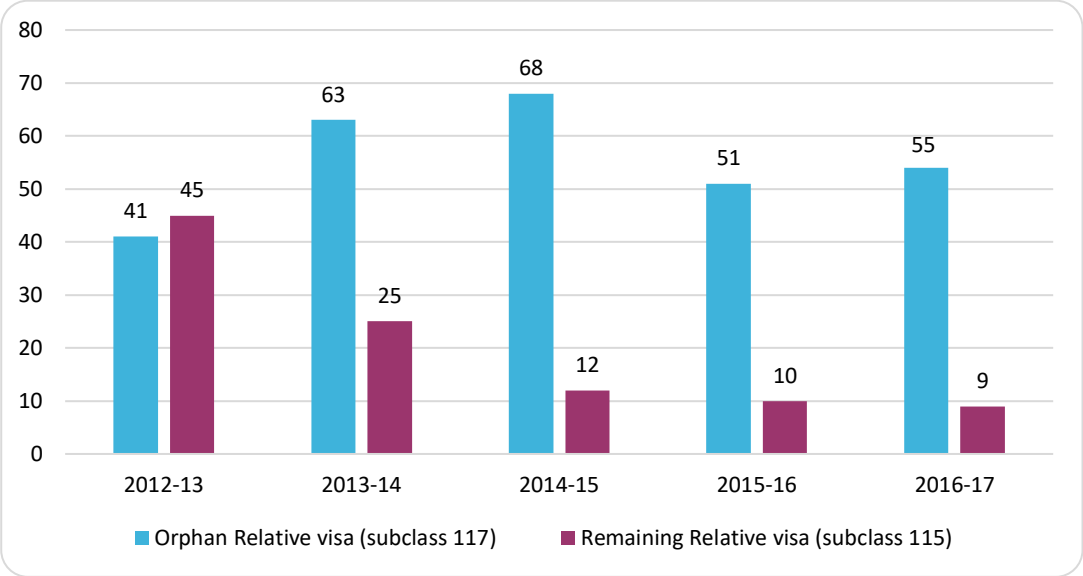
Visa	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202)	26	329	704	339	1,861

Young people arriving on Remaining Relative visas (subclass 115) or Orphan Relative visas (subclass 117) are typically living in Australia in kinship care arrangements and may have particular vulnerabilities related to their pre-migration experiences and their transition to a new country and culture. As these young people have arrived through the Family Programme, they are not always eligible for the same settlement services available as those arriving through the Humanitarian Programme even though many of them have a refugee experience. This can place additional pressure on family and community supports, and may mean that their often complex needs go unmet.[8]

Remaining Relative visas (subclass 115) and Orphan Relative visas (subclass 117) are granted to young people who are under 18 years upon application, and are orphans or whose parents are unable to care for them because of severe disability or because their whereabouts are unknown. These young people have no other legal guardians, and are sponsored by near relatives who are Australian citizens or residents.

Often young people arriving on an Orphan Relative visa or a Remaining Relative visa are from refugee backgrounds but are not provided the appropriate settlement support and may experience significant barriers to accessing education and other services. While the number of young people arriving under the Orphan Relative visa (subclass 117) has remained relatively consistent over the past five-year period, the number of young people arriving under the Remaining Relative visa (subclass 115) has significantly declined over the past five-year period. As seen in Figure 7, the number of young people arriving under the Remaining Relative visa (subclass 115) declined from 45 young people in 2012-13 to 9 young people in 2016-17. Remaining Relative visas (subclass 115) visas are subject to capping and queuing. There was a significant reduction in the number of visa places made available by the government for Other Family visas in 2013-14[9]. Orphan Relative visa (subclass 117) cannot be capped.

Figure 7: Youth arrivals to NSW through Orphan Relative visa (subclass 117) and Remaining Relative visa (subclass 115) over last 5 years, 2012-2017



7. Young people seeking asylum in New South Wales

According to the Department of Home Affairs, as of 30 June 2017, a total of 36,182 Bridging Visa E have been granted to people seeking asylum in Australia. Of these, 22,143 people remain in the community, with 20,138 people holding a current Bridging Visa E and 2,005 people awaiting grant of a further Bridging Visa E[10]. The remaining 14,039 people seeking asylum in Australia, who were granted a Bridging Visa E have either been granted a substantive visa, departed Australia, returned to immigration detention or are deceased[11]. Of the grand total of 22,143 people seeking asylum living in the community, 8,784 people are living in NSW, accounting for 40%.

Table 5 presents the number of young people with a Bridging Visa E in NSW, by age bracket. As seen in in Table 5, 18% of all people with a Bridging Visa E are aged 12-25 years. Young people holding a Bridging Visa E are subject to a lack of work rights, minimal financial assistance that is significantly below the poverty line[12], strict reporting requirements and surveillance through a 'code of behaviour'[13]. Furthermore, the government's pursual of a punitive policy agenda combined with regular changes in these policies results in instability and heightened levels of uncertainty. This precarious situation can often result in deteriorated mental health, distress and worsened wellbeing.

Table 6 presents the number of people with a Bridging Visa E in NSW, by gender. As seen in Table 6, far more men (85%) than women (25%) are living in NSW with a Bridging Visa E. No data on the gender breakdown for young people is available.

Table 5: Young people with a Bridging Visa E by age group in NSW, 30 June 2017[14]

Age bracket	Young People with a Bridging Visa E in NSW
12-15 years	139
16-17 years	65
18-25 years	1,379
Total	**1,583 (18%)**

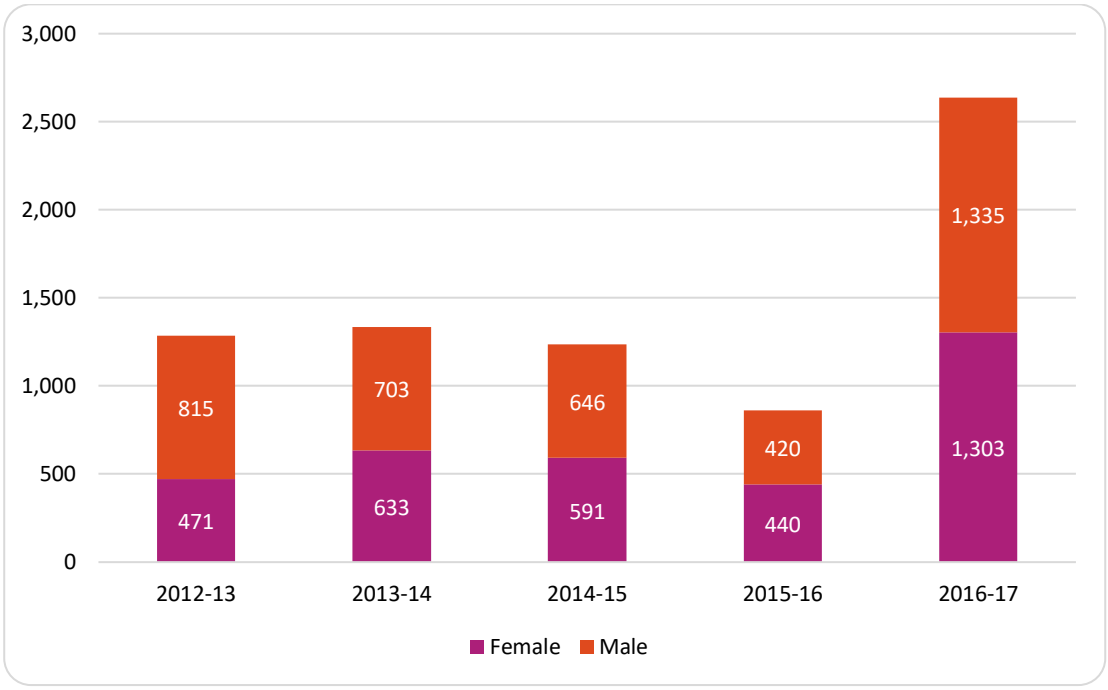
Table 6: People with a Bridging Visa E by gender in NSW, September 2017 [15]

Gender	People with a Bridging Visa E in NSW
Female	1,359
Male	7,425
Total	**8,784**

8. Gender

Figure 8 presents the number of humanitarian youth arrivals by year of arrival and gender, over the five-year period from 2012-2017. The figure shows an unequal gender composition at the beginning of the five-year period in 2012, with 36% young women to 64% young men arriving in NSW. This gap has significantly closed over the past five years with 49% young women to 51% young men arriving in NSW in 2016-17. Considering gender as an intersecting and cross-cutting factor when planning and programming for service provision and policy making is essential.

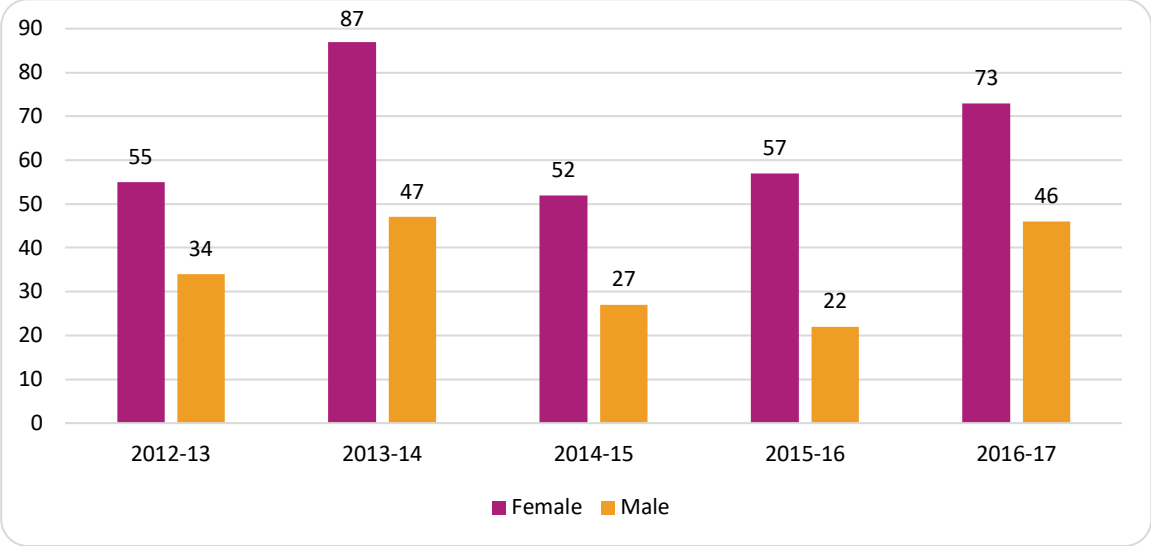
Figure 8: Humanitarian youth arrivals by year and by gender over last 5 years, 2012-2017



In 2016-17, only 3% of humanitarian youth arrivals have been settled under the Woman at Risk visa (subclass 204). The purpose of the Women at Risk visa is to provide protection for women and their dependants who are persecuted because of their gender including danger of victimisation, harassment, or serious abuse.

Figure 9 shows the total number of young people aged 12-25 years over the past 5 years who have arrived under the Woman at Risk visa (subclass 204). The Woman at Risk visa also offers protection to dependent children and relatives including family members who are men and boys, and family members who are proposed under split family provisions. A gender breakdown of Figure 9 shows that while majority of young people arriving on the visa are women and girls, many are also men and boys.

Figure 9: Humanitarian youth arriving under the Woman at Risk visa (subclass 204) by gender composition over last 5 years, 2012-2017



9. Religion

Humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW identify with a wide range of religions. Figure 10 presents the top five reported religions of humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW during 2016-17. While the predominant religions presented reflect the broader category, within each religion exists various denominations or branches. For instance, by breaking down the Christian denominations we see that young people arriving from Syria and Iraq identified with a variety of denominations including Syriac Catholic, Chaldean Catholic, Armenian Apostolic Church, Assyrian Church of the East, Assyrian Catholic and Greek Orthodox. As seen in Figure 10, during 2016-17, Christianity was recorded as the religion of almost three quarters of all humanitarian youth arrivals. 13% of young people identified with Islam (including Ahmadi, Shia and Sunni), 9% identified with Sabean Mandean, 4% identified with Yazidism and 1% identified with Buddhism and Hinduism. It is important to note that the while the significant number of humanitarian youth arrivals identify with Christianity, this is not representative of the predominant religion of Syria and Iraq.

Figure 10: Predominant religions of humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17[16]

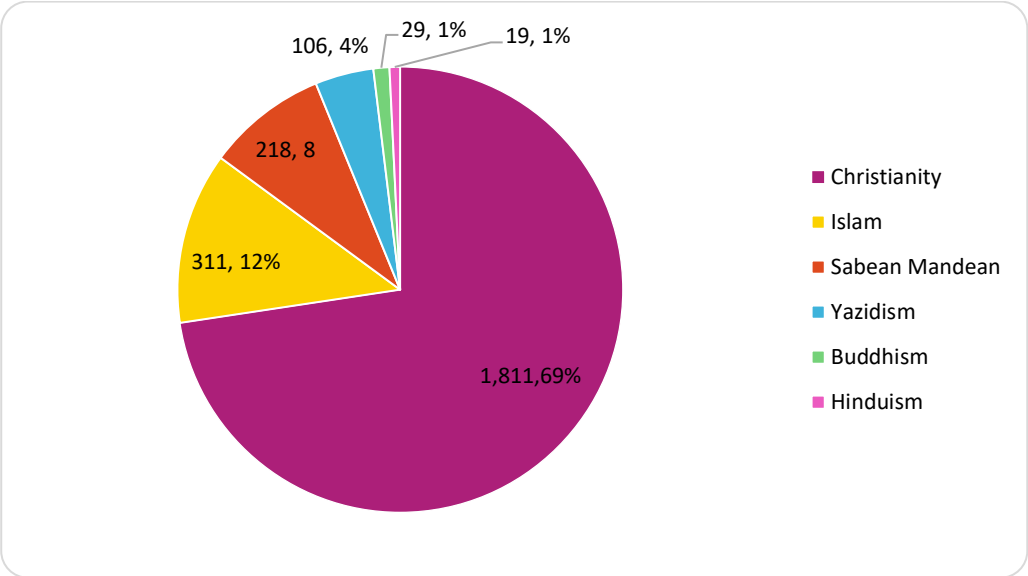
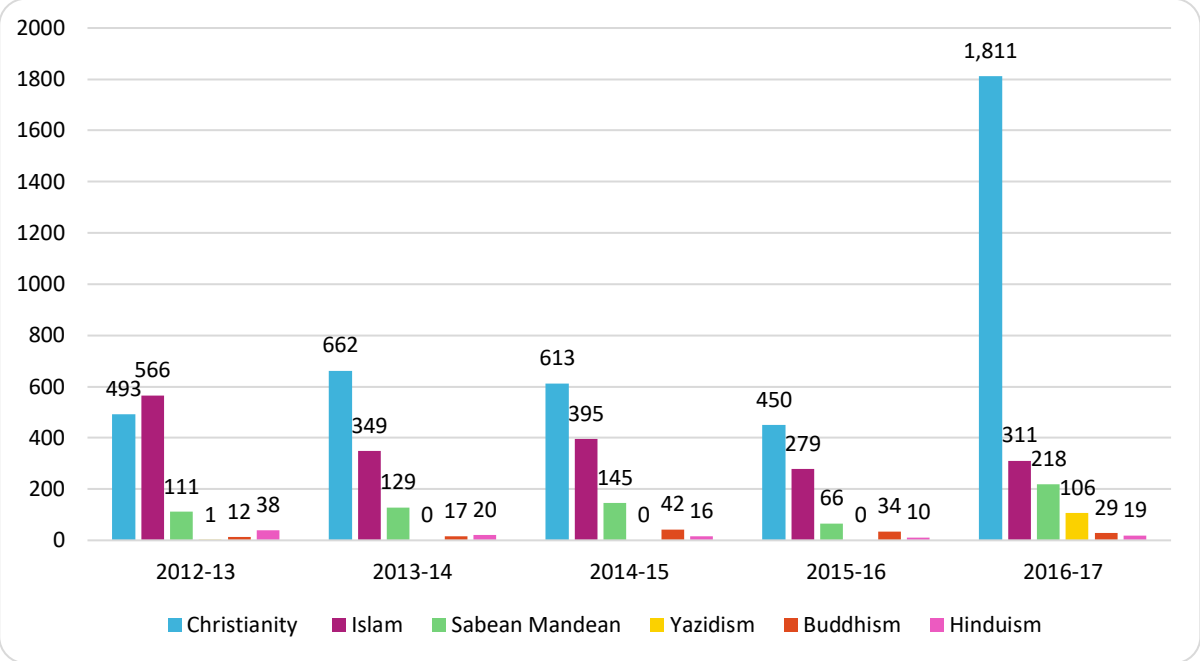


Figure 11 presents the top 5 religions of humanitarian youth arrivals reported from July 2012 to June 2017. It shows that humanitarian youth arrivals in 2016-17 identifying with Christianity has increased significantly from the previous years. Figure 11 also presents a substantial increase of young people identifying with Yazidism, from 1 young person from 2012-2015, to 106 young people in 2016-17. The arrival of this persecuted religious minority can be attributed to the additional Syrian and Iraqi intake.

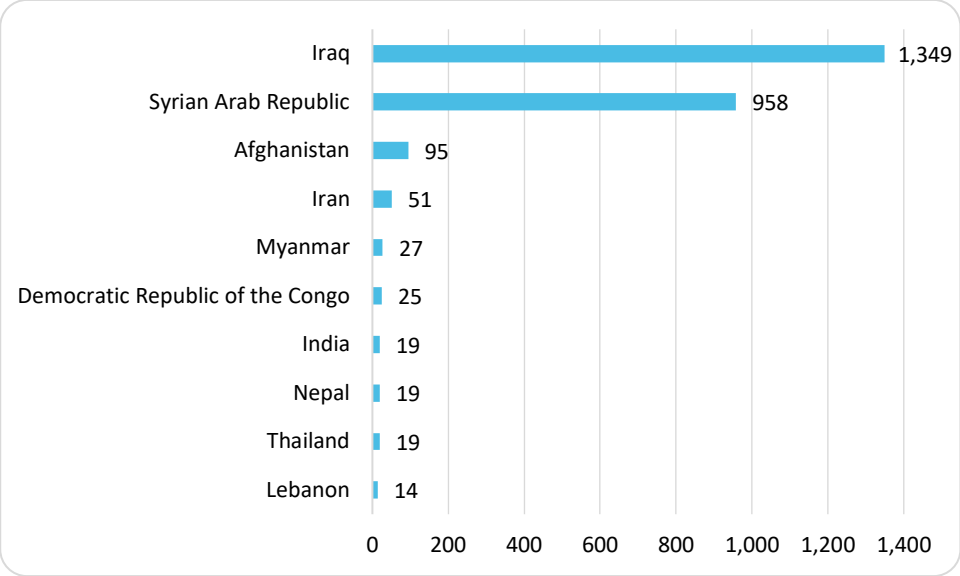
Figure 11: Top 5 religions of humanitarian youth arrivals over last 5 years, 2012-2017[17]



10. Country of birth

More than half (51%) of all humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW in 2016-17 were born in Iraq, while 36% of humanitarian youth arrivals were born in Syria, followed by 4% in Afghanistan, 2% in Iran and 1% in Myanmar. The top 10 countries of birth can be seen in Figure 12. It is important to note that a young person's country of birth does not necessarily reflect their cultural background, as many young people will have been born or spent much of their lives in countries not considered their country of origin. For instance, young people displaced by conflicts may have been internally displaced, or experienced secondary movement before resettlement. Furthermore, persecution and marginalisation of certain ethnic groups means many young people will have settled in diasporas communities that live outside their traditional homelands. For instance, the Hazara are an ethnic group native to Afghanistan, however many young people have never lived in their traditional homelands of Afghanistan, instead growing up in diaspora communities in regions like Quetta, Pakistan. While recognising that every young person is unique and their experiences diverse, understanding and navigating cultural background, as distinct from country of birth or even language or ethnicity, is important because culture is an essential part of every individual's identity.

Figure 12: Top 10 countries of birth of humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17



Tables 7 and 8 present the countries of birth of skilled youth arrivals and family youth arrivals during 2016-17. Combined family and skilled stream data for 2016-17 shows that 17% of youth arrivals recorded People's Republic of China as their country of birth, followed by 14% from India, 7% from the Philippines and 3% from Pakistan. An analysis of Tables 7, 8 and Figure 12 show that not all young people arriving from a particular country or region will have entered Australia via the Humanitarian Programme. While the focus of the skilled and family program is not providing protection, many young people that arrive through the family and skilled migration streams may have had refugee or refugee-like experiences.

Table 7: Top 10 countries of birth for skilled youth arrivals during 2016-17

Country of Birth	Skilled Youth Arrivals	%
People's Republic of China	410	25%
India	315	19%
Philippines	113	7%
Pakistan	100	6%
United Kingdom	85	5%
South Africa	60	4%
Nepal	52	3%
Bangladesh	50	3%
Vietnam	41	2%
Malaysia	31	2%
Other	384	23%
TOTAL	**1641**	**100%**

Table 8: Top 10 countries of birth for family youth arrivals during 2016-17

Country of Birth	Family Youth Arrivals	%
People's Republic of China	348	12%
India	336	11%
Vietnam	257	9%
Philippines	224	8%
Lebanon	170	6%
Afghanistan	164	6%
Bangladesh	155	5%
Nepal	123	4%
Pakistan	100	3%
Thailand	83	3%
Other	987	33%
TOTAL	**2947**	**100%**

Table 9 represents the top 10 countries of birth for humanitarian youth arrivals over the five-year period from 2012-2017. Reflected in this data is the additional intake of young people displaced by conflict in Syria and Iraq, with only 9 humanitarian youth arrivals from Syria in 2012-13, compared to 956 in 2016-17. Furthermore, humanitarian youth arrivals from Iraq have more than doubled since the beginning of this five year period, increasing from 523 in 2012-13 to 1,261 in 2016-17. An analysis of the top 10 countries of birth for humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW over the five-year period sheds light on the effect of geopolitical priorities on resettlement. While the humanitarian programme has responded to the displacement caused by conflict in Syria and Iraq, only one African country is evident in the top 10. This does not reflect resettlement needs of those affected by the ongoing conflicts in African countries such as South Sudan and Burundi.

Table 9: Top 10 countries of birth for humanitarian youth arrivals over last 5 years, 2012-2017

Country of Birth	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Total
Iraq	523	608	494	341	1,349	**3,315**
Syrian Arabic Republic	10	124	403	217	958	**1,712**
Afghanistan	198	181	68	101	95	**643**
Iran	144	116	41	35	51	**387**
Pakistan	95	63	27	24	7	**216**
Myanmar	26	27	31	44	27	**155**
Democratic Republic of Congo	3	26	17	22	25	**93**
Egypt	63	10	8	1	0	**82**
Nepal	20	16	9	8	19	**72**
India	4	7	17	10	19	**57**

11. Settlement locations in NSW

In 2016-17, the vast majority of humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW were settled in Western Sydney with half settling in the Fairfield Local Government Area (LGA). As seen in Table 11, the past five years show a similar settlement pattern in Western Sydney with regional settlement focused on Wagga Wagga, Illawarra, Coffs Harbour and Newcastle.

Table 10: Top 10 Local Government Areas for humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17

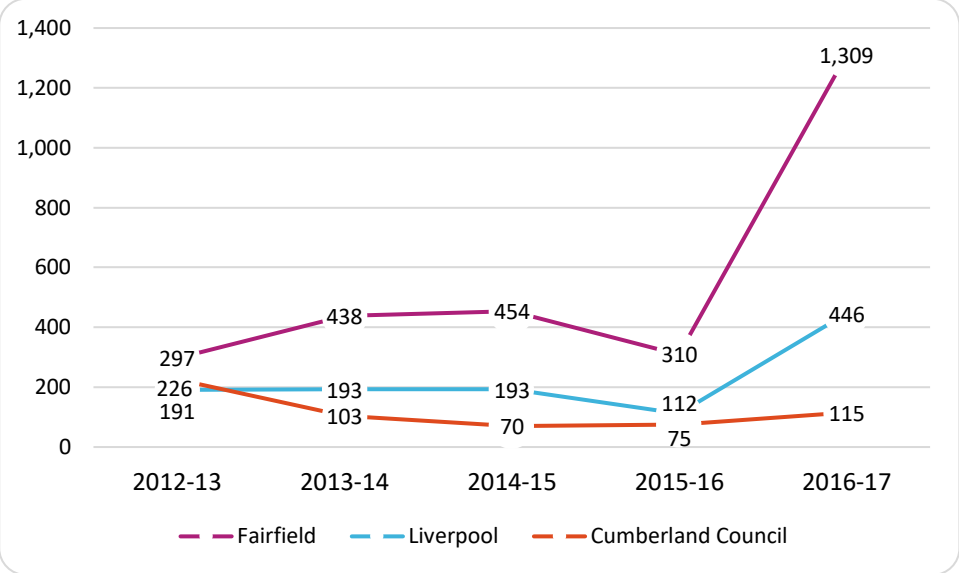
Local Government Area/region	Humanitarian youth arrivals
Fairfield	1,309 (50%)
Liverpool	446 (17%)
Parramatta	123 (5%)
Blacktown	123 (5%)
Canterbury-Bankstown	121 (5%)
Cumberland	115 (4%)
Wagga Wagga	97 (4%)
Illawarra region	78 (3%)
Coffs Harbour region	50 (2%)
Newcastle	27 (1%)

Table 11: Top 10 Local Government Areas for humanitarian youth arrivals over last 5 years, 2012-2017

Local Government Area/region	Total humanitarian youth arrivals
Fairfield	2,808
Liverpool	1,135
Cumberland	589
Blacktown	492
Canterbury-Bankstown	427
Parramatta	372
Illawarra region	326
Coffs Harbour region	243
Newcastle	148
Wagga Wagga	133

As seen in Figure 13, there was dramatic increase in humanitarian youth arrivals settling in Fairfield during 2016-17, from an average of 375 young people per year over 2012-2016 to 1,309 young people settling in 2016-17.

Figure 13: Top 3 Local Government Areas for humanitarian youth arrivals over last 5 years, 2012- 2017



As seen in Figure 14, 89% of all humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW, settled in metropolitan areas, with the remaining 11% settling in regional areas.

Figure 14: Humanitarian youth arrivals settling in metropolitan versus regional Local Government Areas during 2016-17

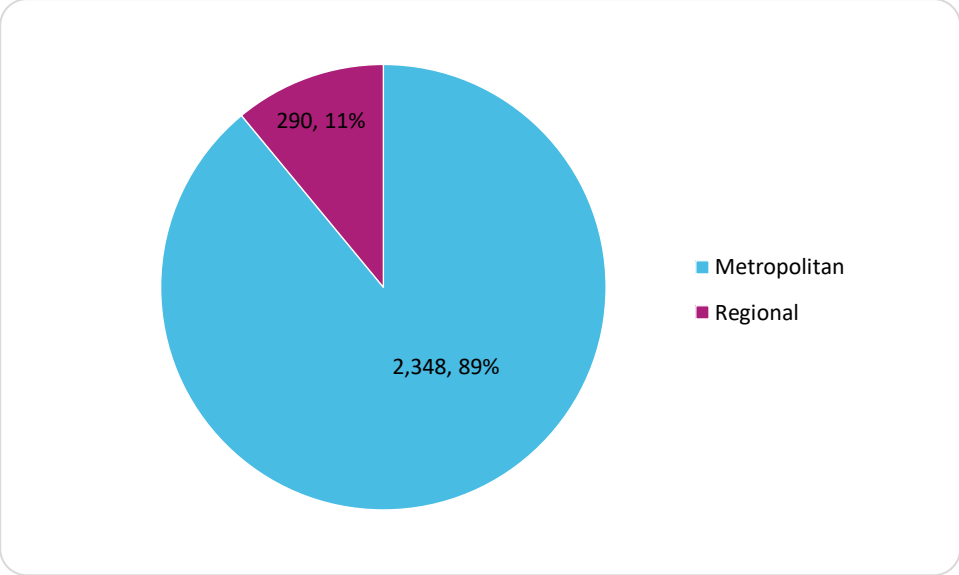
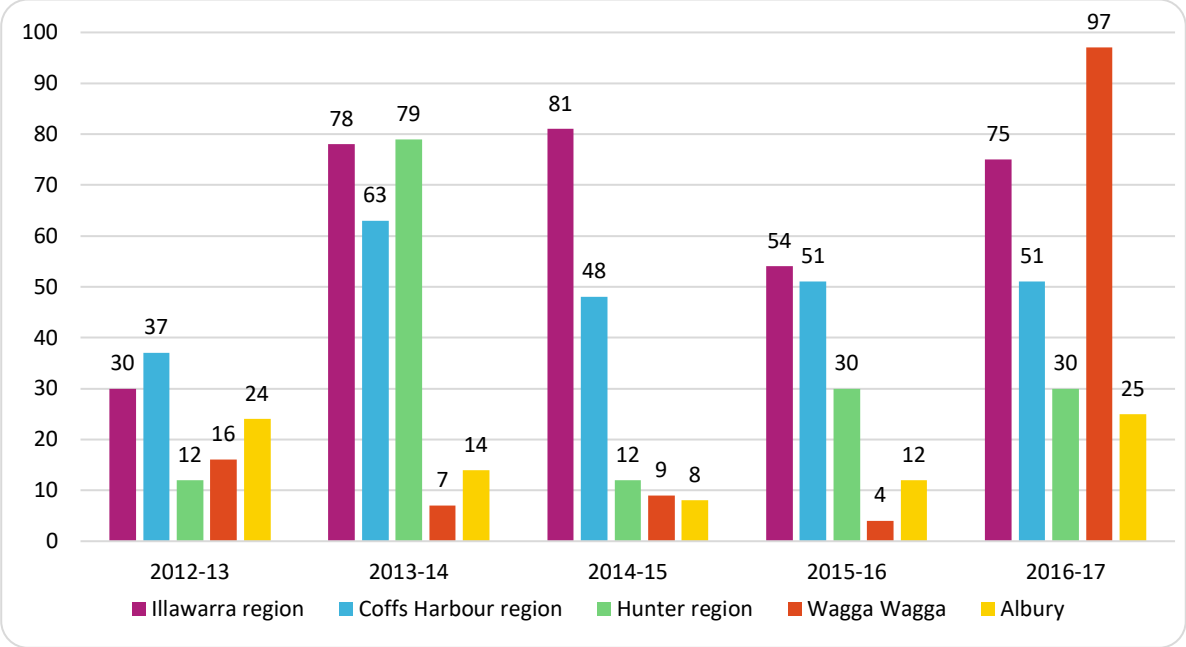


Figure 15 presents the top regional settlement areas in NSW for humanitarian youth arrivals over the five-year period of 2012-2017. Please see Appendix 3 for more details regarding regional settlement areas. Humanitarian youth arrivals to Wagga Wagga significantly increased from 16 young people settled from 2012-2016 to 97 young people settled in 2016-17. This increase is reflective of the additional intake of people displaced by the conflicts in Syria and Iraq.

Figure 15: Top regional settlement areas in NSW for humanitarian youth arrivals over last 5 years, 2012-2017



12. Language

Table 12 presents the trends in languages spoken by humanitarian youth arrivals over the five-year period from 2012-2017. Arabic is the most common language spoken by humanitarian youth arrivals in 2016-17. Notably, Arabic speaking humanitarian youth arrivals more than tripled from 502 in 2012-13 to 1,512 in 2016-17. In addition, an increase in humanitarian youth arrivals reported Karen languages (including Karen, Karen S'gaw, Eastern Kayah and Karen Pwo) from 4 young people in 2012-13 to 22 young people in 2016-17.

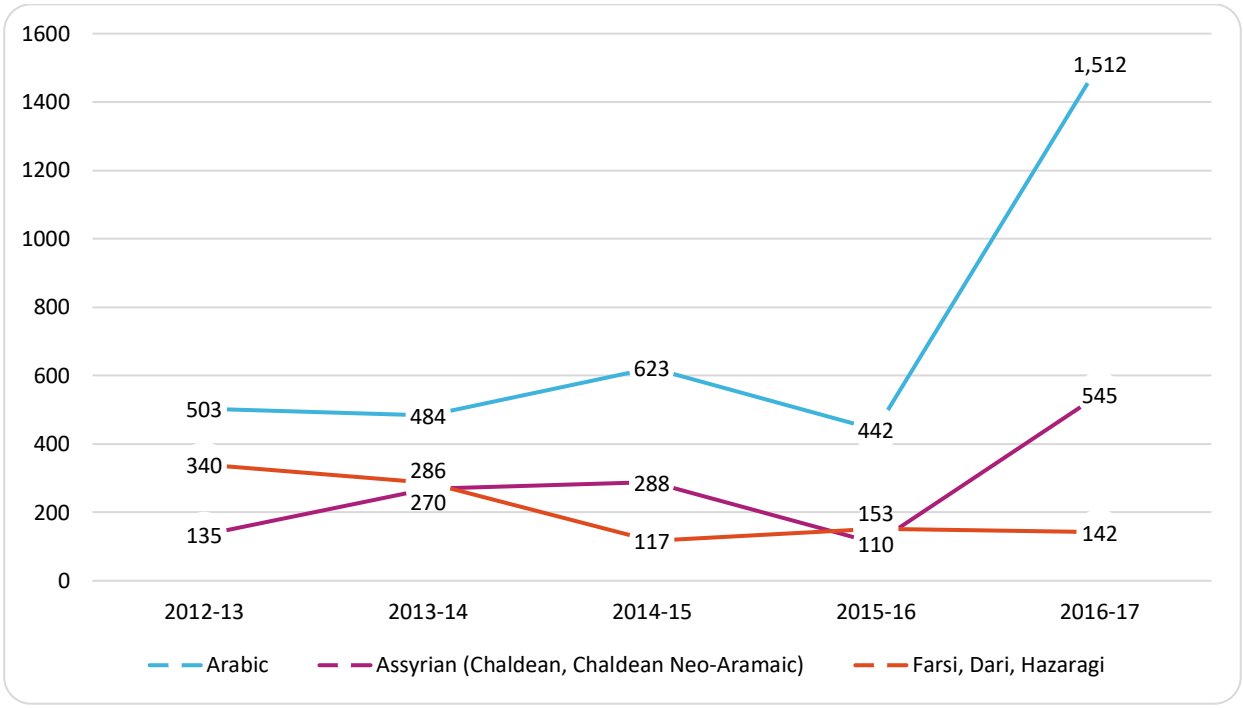
The main languages reported by humanitarian youth arrivals closely reflect the top countries of birth across the same period, with some exceptions. This is because the main language reported by a newly arrived humanitarian young person may not reflect their country of birth, just as country of birth may not reflect cultural or ethnic identity. For instance, Arabic, Assyrian, Farsi, Dari and Hazaragi are spoken throughout Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Iran, as well as by many humanitarian youth arrivals born in Pakistan. Arabic is also widely spoken in the countries of birth of other newly arrived young people, including for example those born in Eritrea and Ethiopia. Nepali is spoken by arrivals from Nepal and Bhutan, while Swahili is spoken by young people who report their country of birth as the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as by those from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

Table 12: Top 10 languages spoken by humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17

Languages	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Totals
Arabic	503	484	623	442	1512	**3564**
Assyrian (Chaldean, Chaldean Neo-Aramaic)	135	270	288	110	545	**1348**
Farsi, Dari, Hazaragi	340	286	117	153	142	**1038**
Tibetan	2	13	37	22	29	**103**
Nepali	31	23	14	8	20	**96**
Swahili	3	27	12	20	30	**92**
Armenian	2	8	15	10	38	**73**
Karen Languages[18]	4	21	2	13	32	**72**
Urdu	22	35	4	0	4	**65**
Burmese	7	11	14	9	9	**50**

Figure 16 visually presents the most commonly spoken languages amongst humanitarian youth arrivals from 2012-2017.

Figure 16: Top languages trends (select languages) over last 5 years, 2012-2017



English Language Proficiency

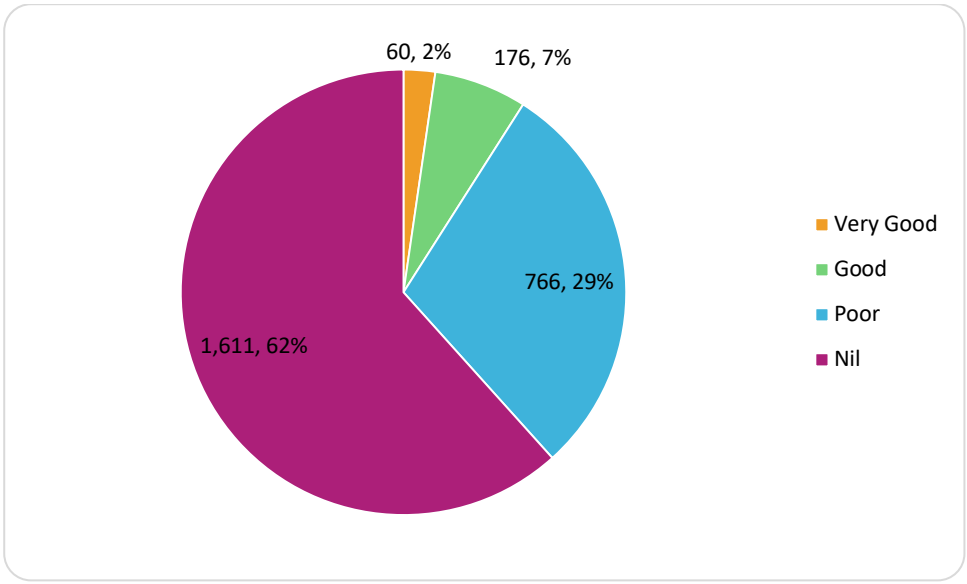
Figure 17 presents the English language proficiency among humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17. 91% of all humanitarian youth arrivals to NSW had 'nil' or 'poor' English language proficiency. Followed by 7% of humanitarian youth arrivals with 'good' English language proficiency, and only 2% with 'very good' English language proficiency.

While Figure 17 shows that the majority of humanitarian youth arrivals come with nil or poor English proficiency, it is important to note that these figures are gathered on arrival. Young people generally acquire strong English language skills in a short amount of time and it is common for these young people to act as interpreters for their

family and community. In the long term there are many factors that which can affect English proficiency in young people, including disrupted education, minimal literacy in their first language, or oral-based cultures.

The 'nil' or 'poor' English language proficiency of humanitarian youth arrivals will have implications for settlement service provision and policy. For instance, an increased need for interpreter and bicultural workers in service provision, translation into appropriate community languages, expansion of Intensive English Centres (IEC), and further support for education and employment assistance. It is vital that newly arrived young people have access to appropriately targeted and consistent English language support throughout settlement.

Figure 17: English proficiency of humanitarian youth arrivals during 2016-17



13. Conclusion

One of the key underpinnings of MYAN's National Youth Settlement Framework is that young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds require a targeted and consistent approach in policy and service delivery in order to most effectively capitalise on their strengths and address their particular circumstances and needs. A targeted approach to supporting young people in the settlement context also reflects the intersection of both youth-specific needs and settlement needs, and it is at this intersection that good practice with young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can be found. Rather than a 'one-size fits all' approach, a targeted approach also involves taking into account specific nuances of the refugee and migration experience for young people such as gender, cultural background, age of arrival in Australia, settlement location (metropolitan or regional), family structures and dynamics, mode of migration to Australia and migration experiences and level of education prior to arrival in Australia.

Appendix 1: Caveats

The following information should be read in conjunction with this report:

- Terms:
  - 'young people' refers to those aged 12-25 years.
  - 'youth arrivals' refers to young people who have received a permanent visa under Australia's Migration Programme;
  - 'humanitarian youth' refers to young people who have received a permanent visa under Australia's Humanitarian Programme.
- While this report provides an overview of primarily young people settling under Australia's Humanitarian Programme, it is important to note that some young people arriving under the Family and Skilled Programmes may come from situations, countries and regions where they may have experienced refugee and refugee-like situations;
- Data displayed as 'year of arrival' was provided by the Department of Social Services on 25 October, 2017. All data presented is accurate as at this date within noted caveats of the Settlement Reporting Facility (SRF);
- Many young people and their families move between LGAs and states in the months and years after their arrival in Australia. They move for a variety of reasons, including:
  - Housing affordability and availability;
  - Education and employment opportunities (including in regional areas);
  - Availability of accessible services and community support networks;
  - Being close to family and friends.
- Given the mobility of many newly arrived young people and the challenges of maintaining up-to-date data in this area, the data provided here should be considered a guide only;
- The statistics provided refer to financial years and not calendar years, with the year reported referring to 'Settlement Date'. (Settlement Date is 'date of visa grant' for settlers who were in Australia when their visa was granted and 'date of arrival in Australia' for settlers who were overseas when their visa was granted.)

Caveats

The data in our reports are sourced from the Settlement Database (SDB). There are limitations in the data capture and the actual data.

Data Capture

SDB collects data concerning settlers who have been granted a permanent (or provisional) visa.

SDB data is compiled from a number of sources including Department of Home Affairs, other Commonwealth agencies and service providers.

Data Limitations

The Settlement Database has not been adjusted to reflect settlers who:

- are deceased.
- have permanently departed Australia.
- have had their visas cancelled.

The Settlement Database includes:

- some duplicate settler records.
- many data items that are not mandatory.
- only the settler's latest known residential (or intended residential) address. Address information is only updated if the Department is notified. Some settlers have no address details recorded.
- only the latest permanent (or provisional) visa for a settler.

The Settlement Database location data is based on the 2011 Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC).

Reporting Limitations

- reports including numbers of settlers in specified locations may be inaccurate due to limitations in address data.
- settlers with an existing permanent (or provisional) visa may appear in different reporting categories over time if they are granted a subsequent permanent (or provisional) visa.
- data suppression rules have been applied for client confidentiality.
- reports including 'not stated', 'invalid' or 'not recorded' labels indicate that the data is unavailable.

Appendix 2: Refugee visas and Global Special Humanitarian visas

Visa Subclasses	Description
Refugee visa (subclass 200)	This visa is for people who are subject to persecution in their home country and are in need of resettlement. The majority of applicants who are considered under this category are identified by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and referred to the Australian Government for resettlement consideration.
In-country Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 201)	This visa offers resettlement to people who have suffered persecution in their country of nationality or usual residence and who have not been able to leave that country to seek refuge elsewhere. This visa is only used in exceptional cases and there is no regular allocation of places, as these people are outside the mandate of UNHCR.
Emergency Rescue visa (subclass 203)	This visa offers an accelerated processing arrangement for people who satisfy refugee criteria and whose lives or freedom depend on urgent resettlement. It is for those subject to persecution in their home country and assessed to be in a situation such that delays due to normal processing could put their life or freedom in danger. This visa is used primarily for emergency cases referred by UNHCR and there is no regular allocation of places.
Woman at Risk visa (subclass 204)	This visa is for female applicants, and their dependents, who are subject to persecution or are of concern to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), are living outside their home country without the protection of a male relative and are in danger of victimisation, harassment or serious abuse because of their gender. The majority of applicants who are considered under this category are identified and referred to the Australian Government by the UNHCR.
Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202)	The Global Special Humanitarian visa is for people who are living outside their home country and who are subject to substantial discrimination and human rights abuses. People who wish to be considered for a Special Humanitarian Programme visa must be proposed for entry by an Australian citizen or permanent resident over the age of 18, an eligible New Zealand citizen or an organisation operating in Australia.
Protection visa (subclass 866)	The Protection visa is granted to individuals found to be owed protection under the Refugees Convention or Australia's complementary protection obligations who arrived Australia regularly and apply for protection onshore in Australia. In some cases, the 866 visa may also be granted to family members of those found to be owed protection who are also onshore in Australia.

Endnotes

1 Correa-Velez, I. Gifford, S. Barnett, A. (2010). 'Longing to belong: Social inclusion and wellbeing among youth with refugee backgrounds in the first three years in Melbourne, Australia'. Social Science & Medicine. 71 (8): pp1399-1408.

2 MYAN (2016) National Youth Settlement Framework. Available at: www.myan.org.au; CMY (2013) Settling or surviving: Unaccompanied Young Adults Aged 18-25 Years. CMY: Carlton. Available at: http://cmy.net.au/publications/settling-or- surviving

3 The definition of 'young people' for the purposes of this Information Sheet refers to a person aged from 12-25 years.

4 Department of Home Affairs (2017) Annual Report: 2016-17, p3. Available at: https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/reports-and-pubs/files/2016-17/Complete.pdf

5 Department of Home Affairs (2017) Discussion Paper: Australia's Humanitarian Programme 2018-19, p3. Available at: https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/reports-and-pubs/files/2018-19-discussion-paper.pdf

6 The Settlement Database currently includes data on two temporary visas under the Skilled stream; the Temporary Graduate Visa (subclass 485) and the Skilled-Recognised Graduate visa (subclass 476). Given the temporary nature of these two visas and in the absence of any direct link between these two visas and a permanent visa, the data presented in this information sheet excludes the data for these two visa subclasses, as this information sheet pertains only to permanent or provisional visas granted to young people. Please note these visa subclasses have been excluded from all reporting in this information sheet for the current and previous financial years.

7 Obligations include: meeting at the airport, providing accommodation on arrival, helping to find permanent accommodation, and familiarising with services and service providers such as: Centrelink, banks, public transport, translating and interpreting service, health care, permanent housing, education, employment services, childcare.

8 Service providers may be unclear about what supports they can provide and what referral options exist, resulting in young people not accessing the support they need to navigate the settlement journey. Source: The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) (2014) Young People on Remaining Relative visas (115) and Orphan Relative visas (117). Available at: http://bit.ly/2Bh5Zr0

9 Many applications had already been released from the queue in 2012-13 but due to the reduction in visa places for the following year, in many cases final processing has not been able to progress. For Remaining Relative visa applications, final processing is progressing with a queue date up to 8 March 2011. This delay in final processing remains for the 2017-18 programme year. More information available at Department of Home Affairs (2017) 'Other Family Visa Queue', Available at: https://archive.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/brin/fami/capping-and-queuing/other-family-visa-queue

10 Home Affairs (June 2017) Illegal Maritime Arrivals on Bridging Visa E. Available at: https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-stats/files/illegal-maritime-arrivals-bve-june-17.pdf

11 Ibid.

12 Fleay, C. and Hartley, L (2016) '"I Feel Like a Beggar": Asylum Seekers Living in the Australian Community Without the Right to Work'. Journal of International Migration and Integration. 17 (4): pp1031-1048.

13 Methven, E. and Vogl, A. (2016) 'Regulating asylum seeker behaviour'. Legaldate. 28 (2): pp8-12.

14 Department of Home Affairs (June 2017) Illegal Maritime Arrivals on Bridging Visa E. Available at: https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-stats/files/illegal-maritime-arrivals-bve-june-17.pdf

15 Department of Home Affairs (September 2017) Illegal Maritime Arrivals on Bridging Visa E. Available at: https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-stats/files/illegal-maritime-arrivals-bve-30-sept-17.pdf

16 The classification follows the ABS 1266.0 Australian Standard Classification of Religious Groups, 2017. Religion was not recorded for 5% of the data (113 humanitarian youth arrivals).

17 Some figures were not recorded, including 30 figures not recorded in 2015-16 and 119 figures not recorded in 2016-17.

18 Including: Karen, Karen S'gaw, Eastern Kayah, and Karen Pwo.