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Temporary entrants: An emerging issue for Australian demography

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Abstract

The level of temporary entrants to Australia (excluding tourists) has increased significantly in recent years in response to changes in Government policy and globalization forces. To date this topic has been subject to limited research from Australian demographers.

Many of these movers stay in Australia for a considerable period of time in aggregated terms, but because they are often not in Australia for a 12-month continuous period, they are generally not included in Australia's estimates of resident population.

These people, however, consume goods and services the same as the rest of the population, are part of the labour market, and, in some respects, are meeting the nation's needs previously met by immigration.

With increasing trends in the internationalisation of the labour market it is timely to analyse available data on temporary entrants.

Analysis includes their spatial distribution within Australia, duration of stay, country of citizenship, broad visa category and a comparison of stock and flow data.