Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Australian Citizenship Test Snapshot Report

30 June 2015

Background

The Australian citizenship test is designed to assess whether citizenship applicants satisfy a number of legislative requirements to become an Australian citizen, including:

- an understanding of the nature of their application
- a basic knowledge of the English language
- an adequate knowledge of Australia and the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship.

The test is available as a computer-based or course-based test. In this document, "test" refers to both types of tests. The computer-based test, which is undertaken by most citizenship applicants consists of 20 multiple-choice questions in English and has a pass mark of 75 per cent. The course-based test is an alternative citizenship test for a small group of clients with low levels of English literacy who have difficulty with the computer-based test and are referred by the department.
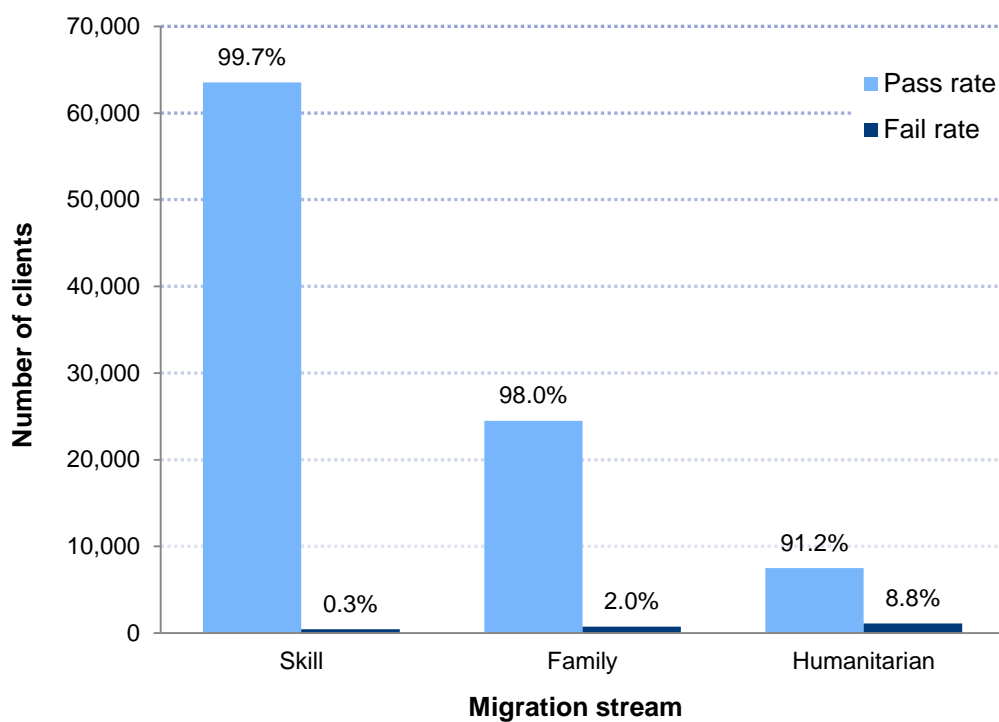
2014-15 programme year summary

- 114,109 clients sat the Australian citizenship test
- 112,474 clients (or 98.6 per cent) passed the test
- The department administered 141,998 tests, including re-sits of the computer-based test where clients did not pass on their first attempt
- On average there were 1.2 tests administered per client
- The percentage of Skill Stream clients who passed the test was 99.7 per cent
- The percentage of Family Stream clients who passed the test was 98.0 per cent
- The percentage of Humanitarian Programme clients who passed the test was 91.2 per cent

Programme analysis for 2014-15

Programme/ Stream	Clients	Per cent of all clients	Tests	Per cent of all tests	Pass	Fail	Client pass rate (per cent)	Avg. number of tests per client
Skill Stream	63,710	55.8	67,731	47.7	63,540	170	99.7	1.1
Family Stream	24,989	21.9	34,608	24.4	24,500	489	98.0	1.4
Other	17,172	15.0	19,978	14.1	16,924	248	98.6	2.2
Humanitarian Programme	8,238	7.2	19,681	13.9	7,510	728	91.2	2.4
Total	**114,109**	**100**	**141,998**	**100**	**112,474**	**1,635**	**98.6**	**1.2**

Citizenship test outcomes by migration stream

Country of birth analysis for 2014-15

During the 2014–15 programme year, clients born in more than 200 countries sat the test. The following table shows the top ten countries of birth

Country of birth	Number of clients	Per cent of total	Pass	Fail
India	21,077	18.5	21,023	54
United Kingdom	14,654	12.8	14,650	4
China	7,006	6.1	6,877	129
Philippines	6,617	5.8	6,594	23
South Africa	4,397	3.9	4,396	1
Vietnam	3,649	3.2	3,497	152
Ireland	2,906	2.5	2,905	1
Sri Lanka	2,723	2.4	2,691	32
Nepal	2,601	2.3	2,587	14
New Zealand	2,319	2.0	2,319	0
Other countries	46,160	40.5	44,935	1,225
Total	**114,109**	**100**	**112,474**	**1,635**