

Chapter 4

THE WORKING HOLIDAY VISA SCHEME

For this research project the records of the 213,120 people who held 417 visas from 1996 to 2006 were obtained from the Department of Immigration and analysed and their names and details were removed to enable anonymity. The key findings from that analysis are presented below.

Simple Frequencies

Total gender

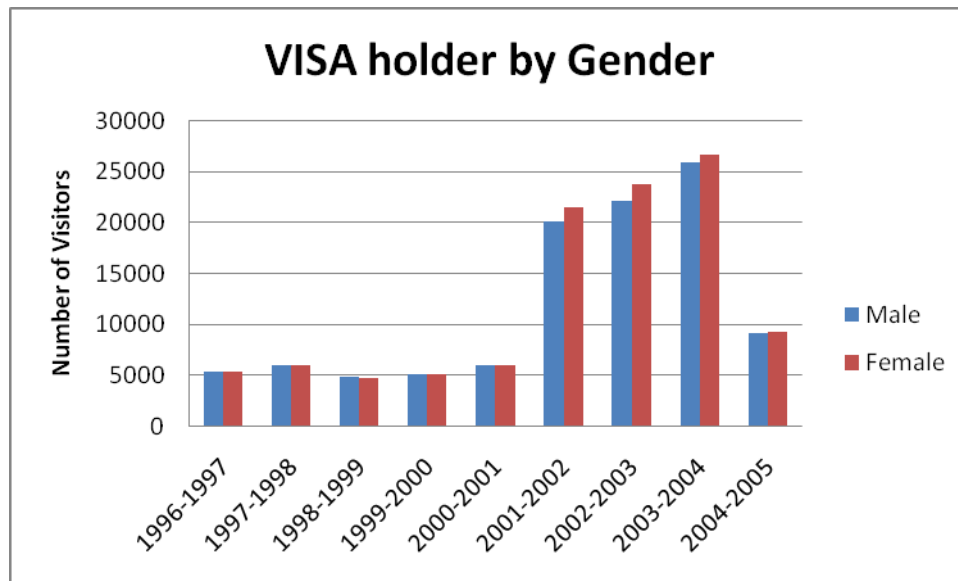
- Over the 9-year period (1996–2005) the number of arrivals of each gender has been **extremely balanced**, with 104,782 males and 108,338 females, making up 49.17% and 50.83% of arrivals respectively.

	Frequency	Percent
Male	104782	49.17
Female	108338	50.83
Total	213120	100

Gender over years (not useful)

- As mentioned above, gender balance over the total period has been very balanced. Evidently, this balance exists over each of the 9 year periods, with the biggest variance in gender being 1,575 occurring in 2002–2003.
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Year	Male	Female	Total
1996–1997	5387	5378	10765
1997–1998	6045	5996	12041
1998–1999	4889	4743	9632
1999–2000	5115	5093	10208
2000–2001	5981	6003	11984
2001–2002	20125	21471	41596
2002–2003	22162	23737	45899
2003–2004	25890	26695	52585
2004–2005	9188	9222	18410
Total	104782	108338	213120

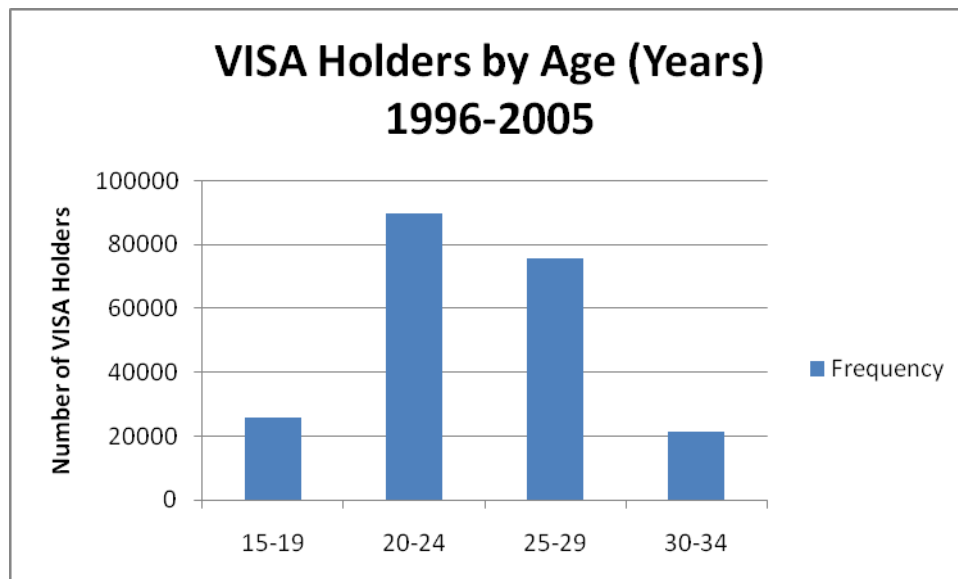


Total age

* 258 or 0.12% of age data was missing.

- Over the total 9 year period, the largest number of arrivals has been in the **20–24 year** group, with 89,763 or 42.12% of arrivals falling into this category.
- The second most frequent was those from the **25–29 year** group, with 75,641 or 35.49% of total arrivals categorised as such.
- 47,458 or 22.27% of arrivals were in the remaining categories, 15–19 years and 30–34 years, with 25,858 (12.13%) and 21,600 (10.14%) respectively.

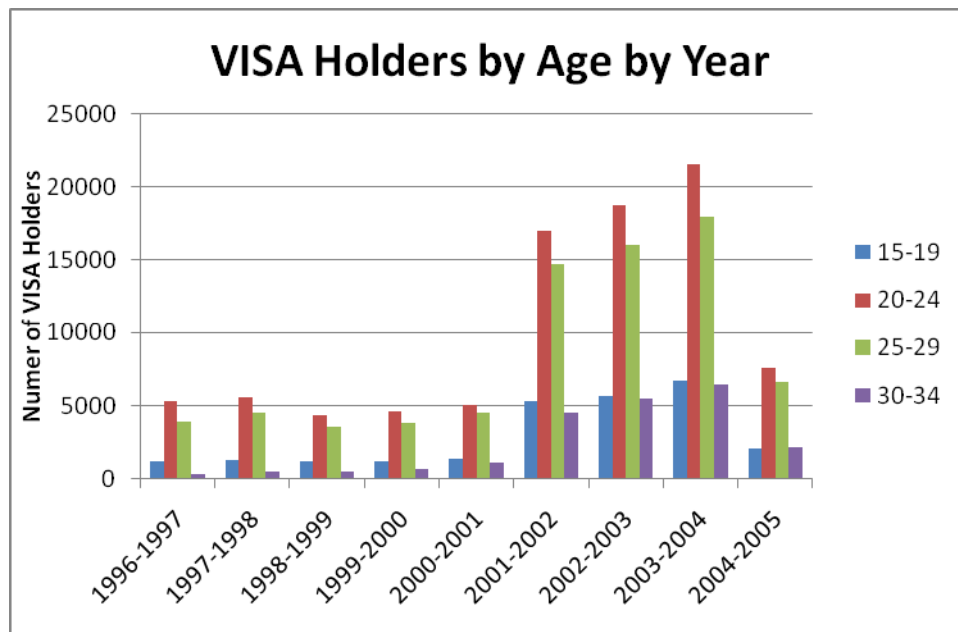
Age	Frequency	Percent
15–19 years	25858	12.13
20–24 years	89763	42.12
25–29 years	75641	35.49
30–34 years	21600	10.14
Total	212862	99.88
Missing	258	0.12
Total	213120	100



Age over years

- The most significant change in arrivals by age group over the years is the 30–34 year group, which has varied by 28.36% over the 9-year period.
- The lowest changes are in the 25–29 and 20–24 groups, which have varied by 19.02% and 19.11% respectively.
- There has been relatively little change in the level of 15–19 year old and 25–29 year group arrivals over the 9-year period. However, there has been a reduction in the number of 20–24 year olds (1996-1997 49.85% and 2004-2005 41.21%) and an increase in the number of 30–34 year olds (1996–1997 2.99% and 2004–2005 11.36%).

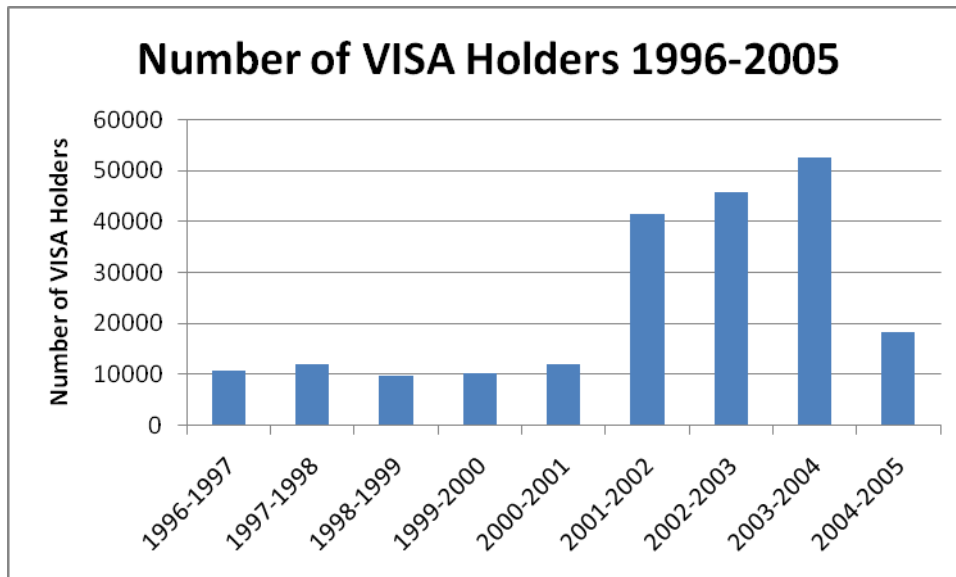
Year	15–19 years	20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	Total
1996–1997	1179	5341	3875	320	10715
1997–1998	1307	5600	4556	509	11972
1998–1999	1185	4366	3557	499	9607
1999–2000	1167	4599	3790	640	10196
2000–2001	1358	5054	4490	1069	11971
2001–2002	5296	16982	14763	4528	41569
2002–2003	5622	18716	16068	5448	45854
2003–2004	6663	21518	17942	6446	52569
2004–2005	2081	7587	6600	2141	18409
Total	25858	89763	75641	21600	212862



Total numbers over time

- In the last 9 years (period 1996–2005) a **total** of 213,120 Working Holiday Visa Holders (WHV) have arrived.
- In the **last four years** (period 2001–2005) 74.37% of WHV have arrived.
- **Peak arrivals** occurred in 2003–2004 with 52,585 arrivals, 24.67% of the total arrivals in the total 9-year period 1996–2005. The **lowest** number of arrivals is at the third year of data (1998–1999) when there were 9,632 arrivals, 4.52% of the total number over 9 years.
- A **significant jump** in arrivals occurred in 2001–2002 when arrivals rose from 11,984 in the previous year, to 41,596, an increase of 29,612 arrivals. This increase can also be compared to an average of 10,926 arrivals over the previous 5-year period.
- Over the next 2 years, arrivals **continued to rise**, by 4,303 and 6,686 respectively.
- However, after the peak arrivals in 2003–2004, arrival numbers **dropped significantly**, from 52,585 to 18,410, a drop of 34,175 arrivals.

Year	Frequency	Percent
1996–1997	10765	5.05
1997–1998	12041	5.65
1998–1999	9632	4.52
1999–2000	10208	4.79
2000–2001	11984	5.62
2001–2002	41596	19.52
2002–2003	45899	21.54
2003–2004	52585	24.67
2004–2005	18410	8.64
Total	213120	100.00



Total numbers by country

- Of the total 213,120 arrivals over the 9-year period, a very significant 88,687 or 41.61% of these have been citizens of the **United Kingdom**.
- **Irish** citizens are the next significant numbers, with 30,050 or 14.10% of arrivals over the total period.
- Norway, Denmark, Sweden, South Korea, Japan, Germany, the Netherlands and Canada each record citizen arrivals of more than 1% of the total arrivals, while the remaining 55 countries listed constituted less than 1% each of total citizen arrivals.

Country	Frequency	Percent
Italy	1589	0.75
France	1905	0.89
Norway	2339	1.10
Denmark	4243	1.99
Sweden	7002	3.29
Korea, Republic of (South)	8022	3.76
Japan	16003	7.51
Germany	16161	7.58
Netherlands	16201	7.60
Canada	16712	7.84
Ireland	30050	14.10
United Kingdom, nfd	88687	41.61
Total	213120	100

Region of birth versus citizenship versus residence

- Significant spike in arrivals of Asian residents during 2001–2004.
- Significant trough in arrivals of UK residents during 2001–2004.
- General rise in arrivals of European natives and citizens matched by an overall fall in arrivals of UK natives and citizens between 2000–2005.

