



Australian Government  
Department of Immigration  
and Citizenship

## Futureproofing the nexus

### The Role of Skilled Migration in Meeting Australia's Future Workforce Needs

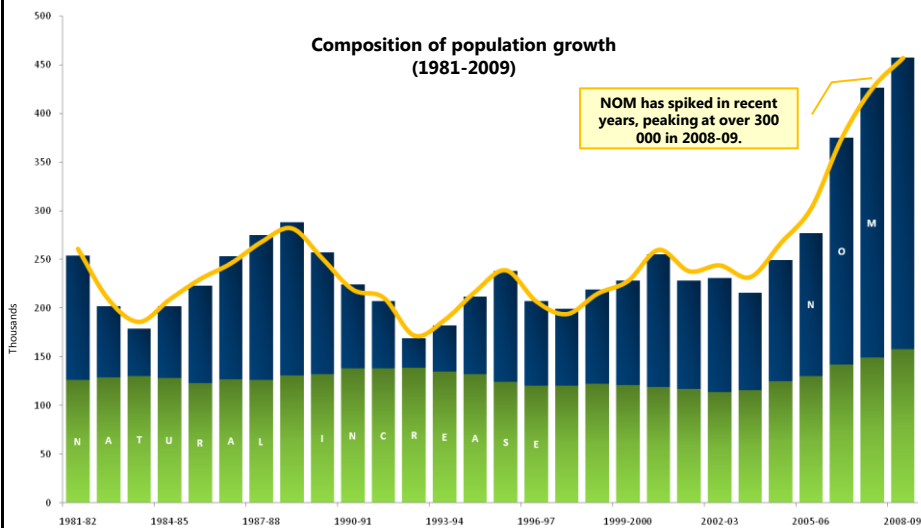
AIEC

Sydney 14 October 2010

Peter Speldewinde  
Assistant Secretary  
Labour Market Branch

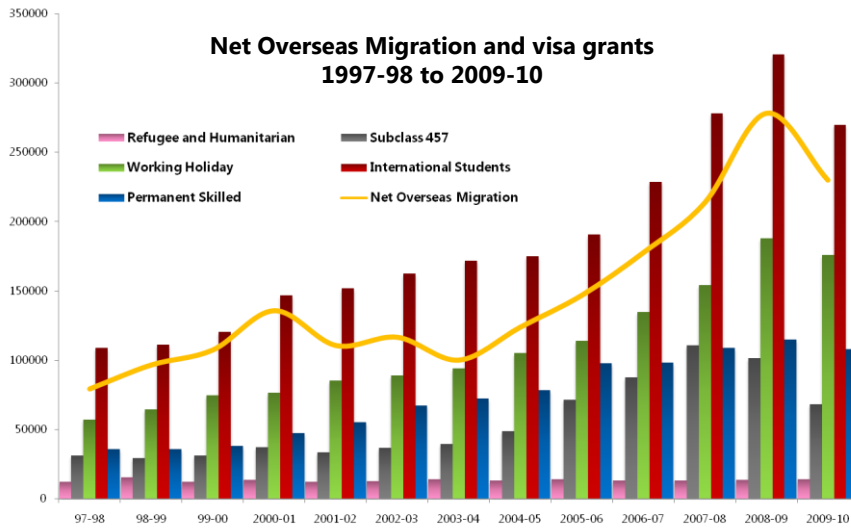
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## Migration has replaced natural increase as the main driver behind population growth.



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## Trends in Net Overseas Migration and visa grants



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## What are we trying to achieve?

### A skilled migration program that is:

Responsive to economic conditions and the labour market

Targeted to meet skill needs not a first-in-first-granted approach

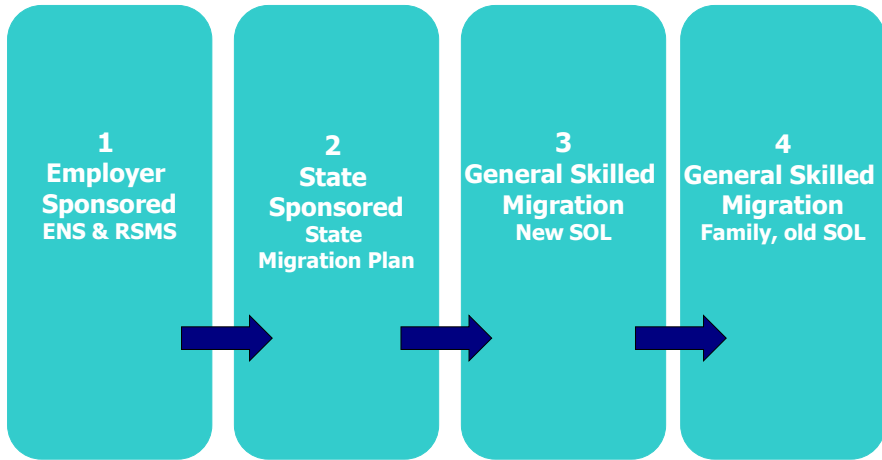
Demand driven rather than supply driven

Complementary to domestic training and employment programs

Focussed on highly skilled and high value occupations

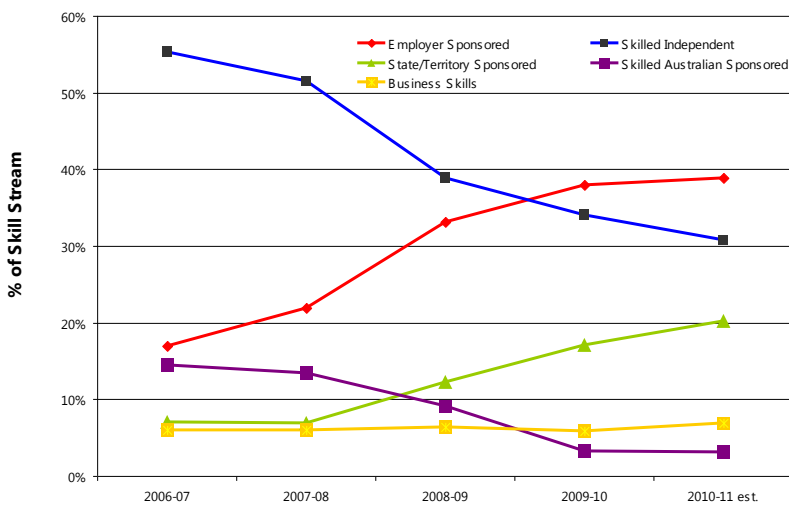
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## What are the new processing priorities?



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## The pattern of permanent skilled migration is changing



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## What path have students been taking?

Category	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
<b>Employer Sponsored</b>	141	175	223	775
<b>Subclass 457</b>	2509	2827	3168	2767
<b>Skilled Independent</b>	21 314	14 465	8133	11 080
<b>Subclass 485</b>		11 807	22 888	28 126
<b>State/Territory Nominated</b>	293	718	4693	3325
<b>Skilled Australian Sponsored</b>	2682	2930	4409	5207
<b>Family Migration</b>	3578	4118	5162	6744
<b>Grand Total</b>	30 517	37 040	48 676	58 054

\* Onshore application where the last substantive visa held prior to application was a student visa (principals only).

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## Focus on highly skilled and high value occupations

### Introduction of the new Skilled Occupation List (SOL)

#### Developed by Skills Australia, to reflect:

- Workforce Development
- Planning Requirements

#### 183 occupations

- The former list had over 400 occupations

#### Specialised, High-Value Occupations

- Occupations which require a long lead time of formal education and training

#### Reviewed Annually

- To deliver a mix of skills across the professions and trades in areas such as healthcare, engineering, mining and construction

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## Options available to international students

### Temporary

- Skilled Graduate (subclass 485)
- Business Long Stay (subclass 457)

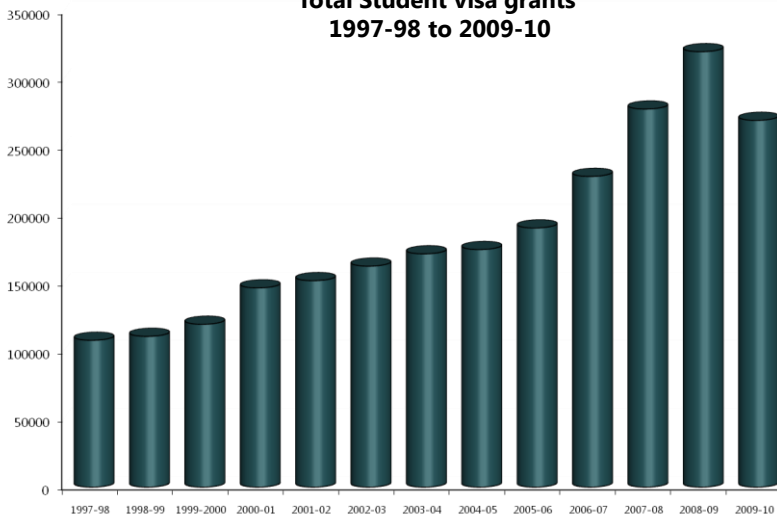
### Permanent

- Employer Nomination Scheme
- Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme
- State Sponsored arrangement

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## Re-appraising the international student-migration nexus The 'Commercialisation Phase'

Total Student visa grants  
1997-98 to 2009-10



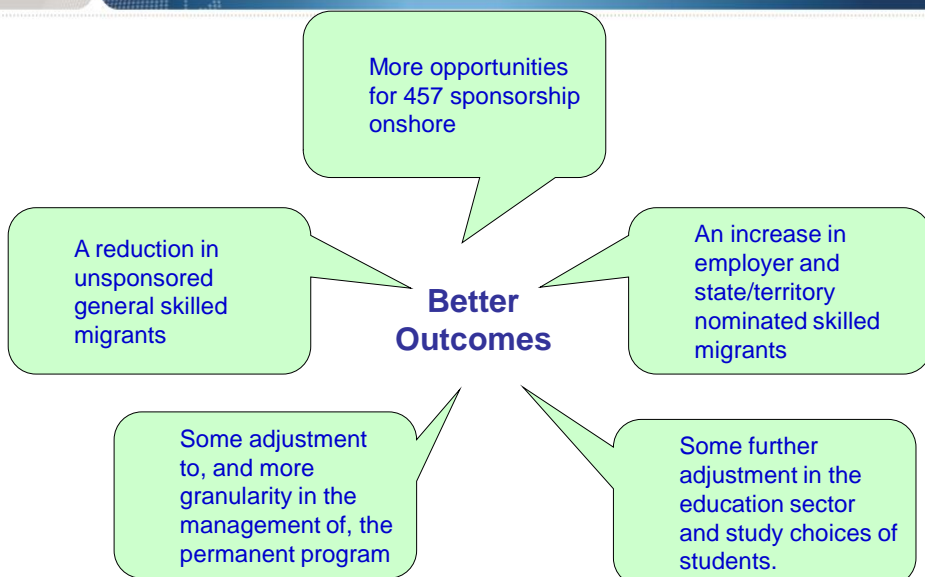
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## Re-appraising the international student-migration nexus The 'Sustainable Phase'

	Commercialisation	Sustainable
Student as consumer	Maximise growth Export income	Growth on a scale which recognises co-consumers with domestic students. Education providers not financially dependent upon overseas students
Student as part of resident population	Not considered	Implied obligation for student welfare. Regard to spill-over effects Better planning
Student as a potential skilled migrant	Win-win Liberalise pathways to residence Advantage in entry to residence	Win-win for some Implied obligation to develop employability (to justify advantage)

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## What the skilled migration changes mean

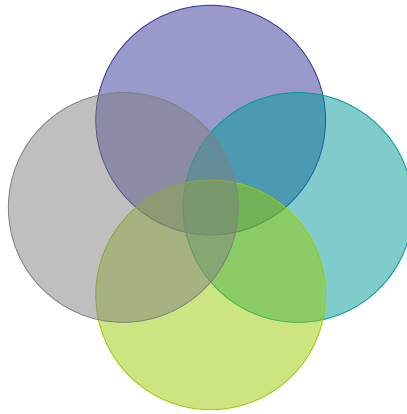


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## The result

Excellence in education delivery

Enhanced  
partnerships with all  
levels of government  
and industry



Genuine international  
students with  
realistic expectations

Strong and open lines of communication with  
peak bodies to bring issues to Government

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