## GLOBAL ADELAIDE

# Immigration reform for a strong economy, workforce and community

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Global Adelaide advocates for immigration strategies that drive equitable economic growth across our region. We inform policy makers to shape immigration policy and practice that empowers government, business, industry and the community to create lasting regional change.

As a nonpartisan, not for profit organisation, we are focused on the development, revitalisation and prosperity for all South Australians. We produce nationally recognised immigration research to shape immigration policy and practice through:



Generating new ideas



Fostering public discussion



Informing policy makers

### Our goals

- Understand the economic value migrants bring to our state
- **?** Reform immigration programs to:
  - Facilitate population growth
  - Maximise economic value to SA
  - Power business and industry with a suitably skilled and experienced workforce
  - Revitalise and support regional communities

### South Australia's share of Australia's population

2021



Population growth comprises natural changes (births - deaths), net interstate migration and new overseas Migration. It is intrinsically linked to economic growth, as it affects demand for goods, services and infrastructure, as well as supply of labour to resource growth.

### South Australian permanent migration outcomes

Despite a 14% national increase in the permanent migration program between 2019-20 and 2020-21 reporting periods, SA's proportion of approvals continues to fall, with an **18.1% decrease in visa approvals** (Home Affairs 2020-21 Migration Program Report). Despite abundant job vacancies, only 6,320 skilled visas were approved during this period, our lowest outcome in 10 years.

With border closures in March 2020 we saw:

- The biggest decline on record of international student and tourism arrivals
- Only 67 80 out of every 100 casual roles were filled in South Australia
- Australia's GDP fall by 7%, guarter ending June 2020.

Immigrant owned unincorporated Australian businesses generated \$6.3 billion in 2016-17. ABS

**3** Attract skilled migrants to South Australia.

### Economic opportunity and value of migrants to SA

## SA's share of temporary resident (demand driven) skilled migrants

The Dept of Home Affairs BR008 Temporary resident (skilled) report shows that in the 2021-22 migration program year 61,990 subclass 482 temporary employer sponsored visas were granted nationally, including 32,060 primary applicants and 29,930 secondary applicants (family members). SA's share of this program was 2.8% (860 primary and 880 secondary). The SA Government sector employed 120 of these, leaving industry with 740 temporary 482 skilled migrant approvals.



There are currently 51,770 primary 482 visa holders in Australia, including 1,310 in SA.

Note: SA comprises 6.8% of the Australian population

Employing 3,000 demand driven migrants will create an additional 3,900 FTE local jobs and flow on effects of \$460 million of gross state product for South Australia. BDO Econsearch 2021

The international education and training sector in South Australia contributed \$1,285 million in value added and sustained a workforce of 8,853 full-time equivalent jobs in 2016-17. Deloitte Access Economics 2018

### South Australian job vacancies

Business and government are unable to fill the positions they have available with local talent. Seasonally adjusted estimates for May 2022, released by the ABS, found that total job vacancies were 480,100 across Australia. This represents an increase of 13.8% from February 2022. In South Australia, there were 24,500 job vacancies in May 2022.

### SA businesses reporting job vacancies ('000)



The proportion of Australian businesses reporting at least one vacancy was 25.2% in May 2022. In February 2020, only 11% of businesses were reporting vacancies. In South Australia, 17.3% of businesses reported at least one vacancy, increasing from only 8.1% in February 2020.

#### SA businesses reporting job vacancies

Feb 2020	8.1%	
May 2021		15.6%
Feb 2022		17.6%
May 2022		17.3%

### Net overseas migration (NOM)

NOM was significantly impacted by COVID-19 and the closure of international borders, attributing to SA's population decline. ABS National, state & territory population

12 months to Sep 2019

12 months to Dec 2021

Overseas arrivals

Overseas departures