

20 March 2025

OUT-OF-CONTROL MIGRATION INTAKE SMASHES BUDGET AND MYEFO FORECASTS

"New ABS data shows the federal government's own migration intake target is set to be exceeded by 38 per cent this financial year. The promises to rein in out-of-control intakes, which are driving Australia's housing and cost-of-living crises, are completely worthless," said Morgan Begg, Director of Research at the Institute of Public Affairs.

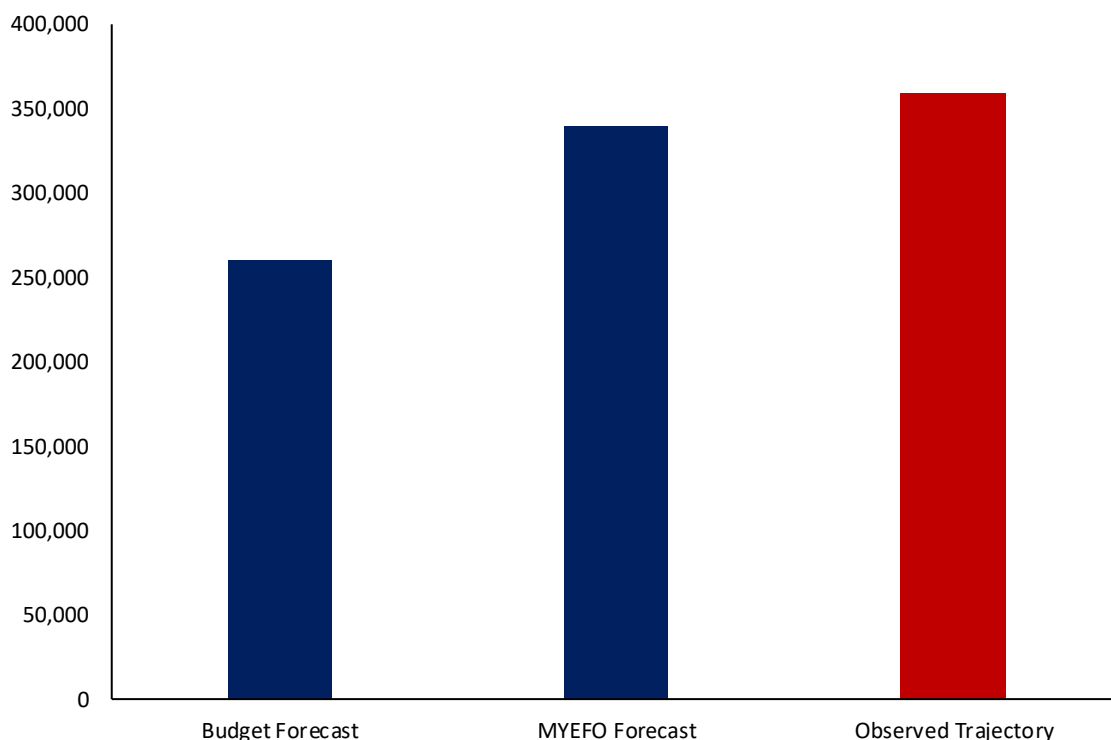
New Australian Bureau of Statistics' National State and Territory Population data, released today, reveal:

- **Net overseas migration for the September 2024 quarter was more than 89,800.**
- **At the current level, annual net overseas migration is on track to reach roughly 359,200 by June 2025.**
- **This will be more than 38 per cent above of the federal government's 2024-25 budget forecast and still higher than the revised forecast in the latest Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook.**

"Today's data shows that despite the rhetoric, the federal government is not serious about reining in Australia's out-of-control migration intake. Not only has the federal government's budget forecast been exceeded, so too has the dramatically revised MYEFO target," said Mr Begg.

"The Prime Minister is setting Australia up for an economic and humanitarian disaster. Failing to rein in unsustainable migration intakes actively undermines Australians who are struggling with rapidly rising house prices and rental costs. It is also fuelling high inflation and a per capita recession."

Forecast and estimated net migration for the financial year ending 2025 (Source: IPA, ABS, MYEFO)



Recent IPA analysis also demonstrates that net migrant intake was more than double the number of new housing approvals in the September 2024 quarter.

"The number of new houses approved remains drastically below the number of new arrivals, meaning the great Australian dream of owning a home is being denied to the next generation of Australians and new arrivals alike," said Mr Begg.

"The idea that elevated migration levels are temporary is a myth. Net migration for the September 2024 quarter is still significantly higher than pre-covid September quarters on record."

"Migration has always been an important part of our national story and Australians are tolerant and welcoming. However, migration intake must be planned for, enjoy the support of the community, and not overstretch critical social infrastructure like housing, schools, roads, and hospitals," said Mr Begg.

To download the IPA's previous research [click here](#).

For media and comment: Andrew Hudgson, Director of Communications, on 0404 020 896, or at ahudgson@ipa.org.au