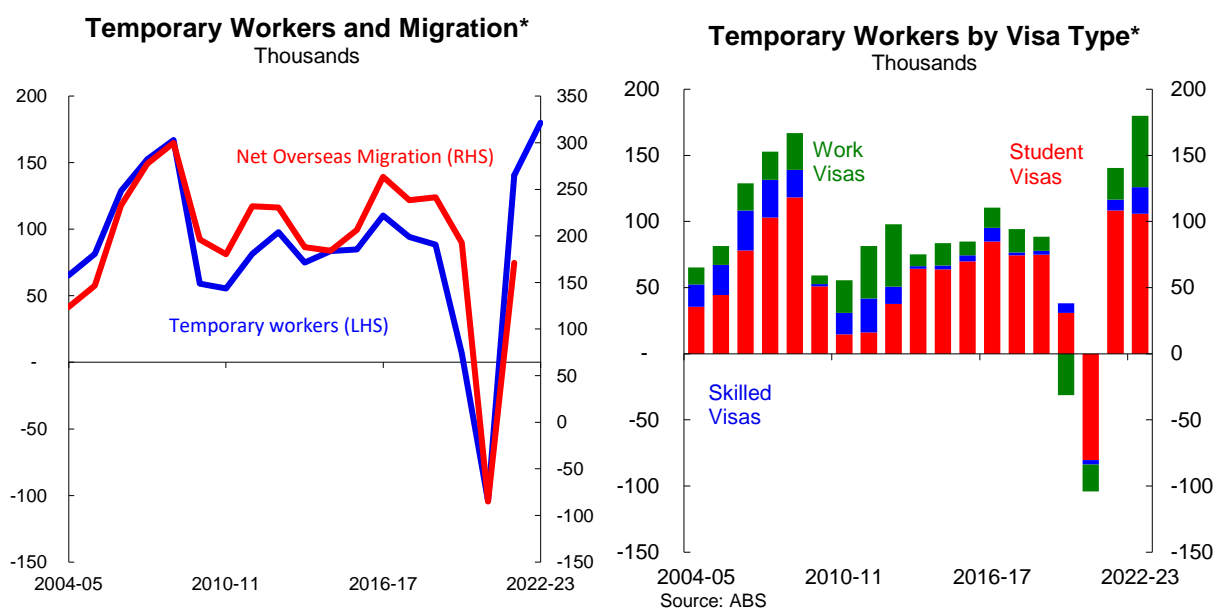


Tuesday, 17 January 2023

## Overseas Arrivals and Departures

### Workers Arrive in Record Numbers!

- Data today showed that net temporary overseas arrivals reached a record high in November.
- Over the 5-month period July to November 2022, there have been just under 180k net temporary arrivals in Australia that are able to work and fill skills shortages. This includes people arriving with temporary skilled visas, temporary work visas and temporary student visas.
- This is the highest for a 5-month period on record! It is also the highest peak when comparing full financial year outcomes. The second highest was 2008-09 at 167k.
- Importantly, in 2008-09, net overseas migration (NOM) reached a historic high of 300k. At the current rate, this record could be broken in 2022-23 (see bottom left chart). To be considered in NOM, a person must arrive and stay in Australia for at least 12 out of 16 consecutive months.
- Today's read suggests there is upside for the NOM forecast of 235k in 2022-23. Further, if China continues to open and we experience a rebound in Chinese students and workers, there is even further upside. Today's data shows that China has dropped out of the top 5 sources of visitors.
- This has implications for policy. On the demand side, workers add to spending on goods, housing, and other services, including infrastructure and health services. However, workers also help to meet skills shortages and reduce the risk of unsustainably wages growth.
- International students have no restrictions on the number of hours they can work. This is a temporary measure that will remain in place until June 2023. People entering the country on temporary skills and worker visas can stay in Australia for 2 to 5 years depending on their visa.



## Contact Listing

### Chief Economist

Besa Deda  
dedab@banksa.com.au  
+61 404 844 817

### Senior Economist

Jarek Kowcza  
jarek.kowcza@banksa.com.au  
+61 481 476 436

### Senior Economist

Pat Bustamante  
pat.bustamante@banksa.com.au  
+61 468 573 786

### Economist

Jameson Coombs  
jameson.coombs@banksa.com.au  
+61 401 102 789

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