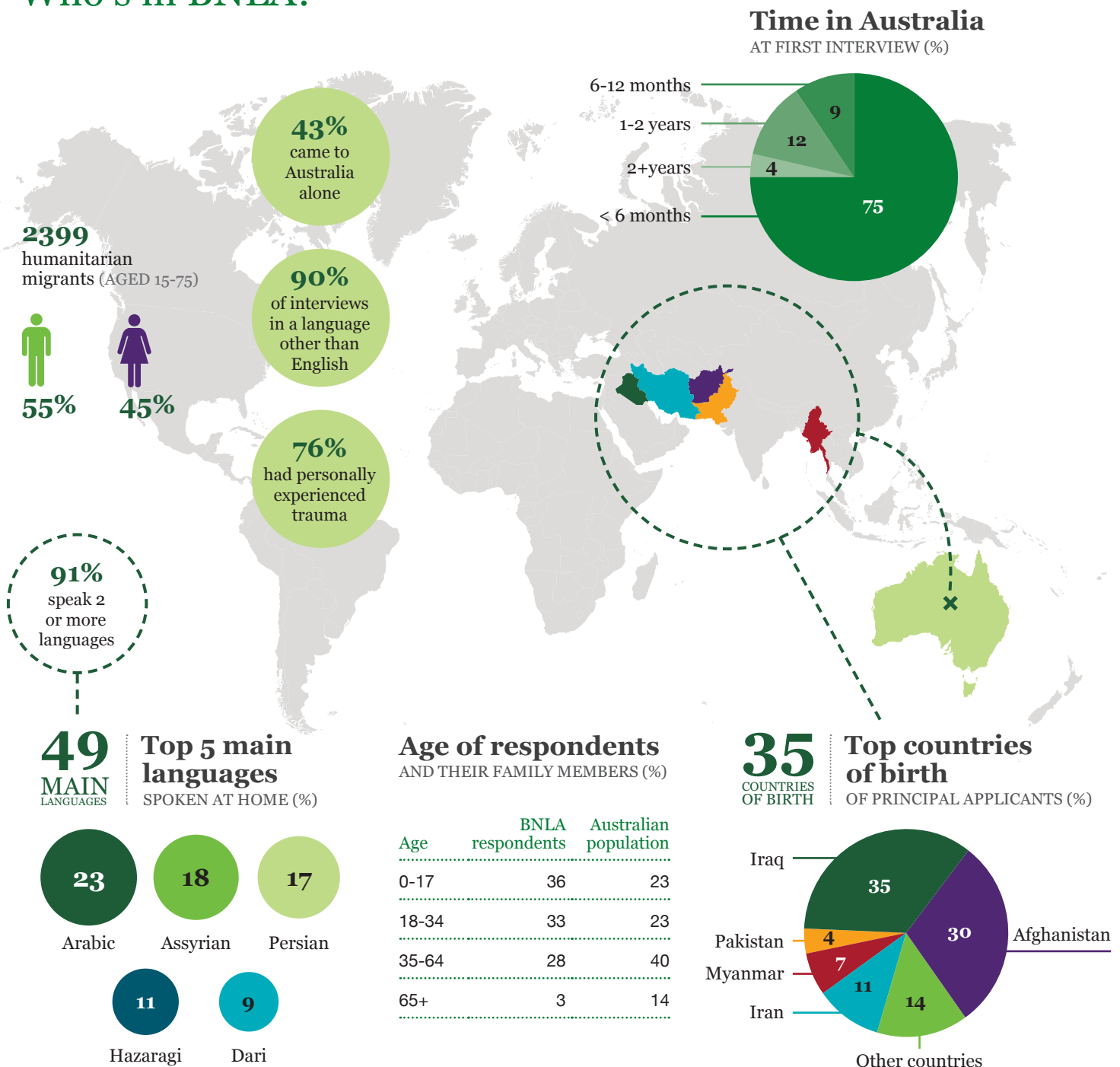




# Building a New Life in Australia (BNLA): The Longitudinal Study of Humanitarian Migrants

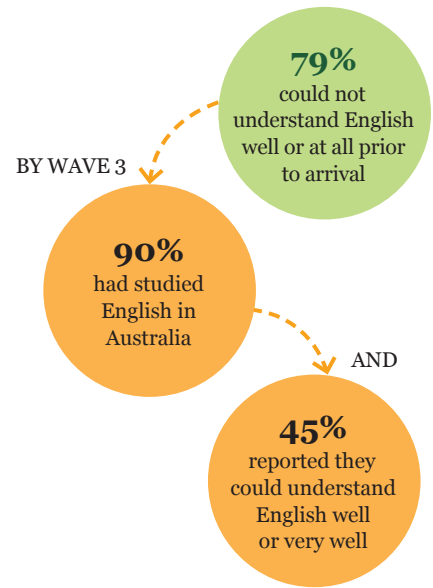
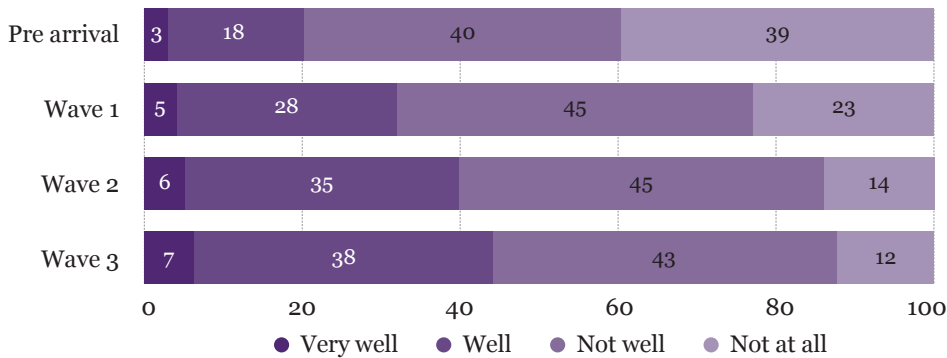
A snapshot of findings from the first three waves (2013, 2014 and 2015)

## Who's in BNLA?

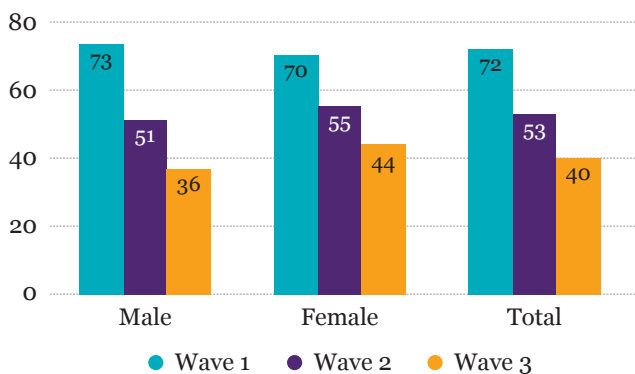


# English

## How well respondents report understanding English ACROSS WAVES (%)



## Proportion who responded in all waves who studied English BY WAVE (%)



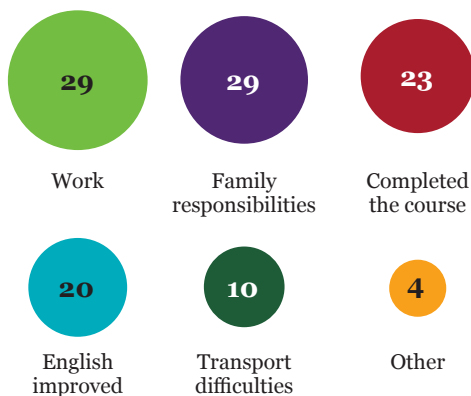
Around half the respondents found using government services difficult because of language barriers.

## When asked about pre-arrival expectations about the length of time it would take to learn English:

- 26%** of respondents thought it was better than expected
- 50%** the same as expected
- 24%** thought it was worse than expected

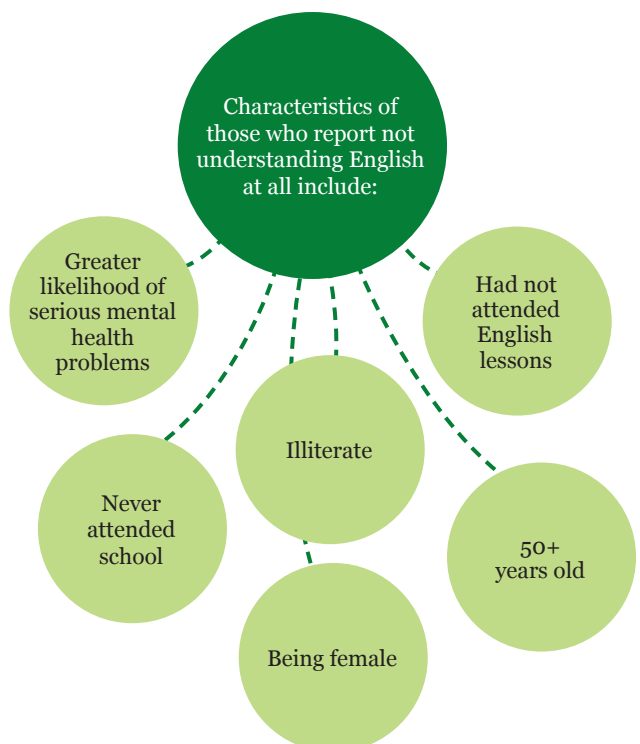
## Reasons for stopping English lessons

IN YEAR PRIOR TO WAVE 3 (%) (666 RESPONDENTS)



Men were more likely to stop studying for work reasons

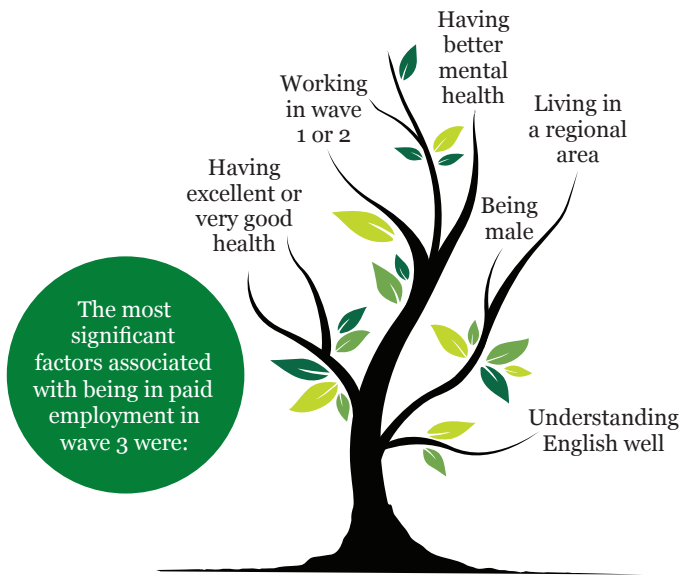
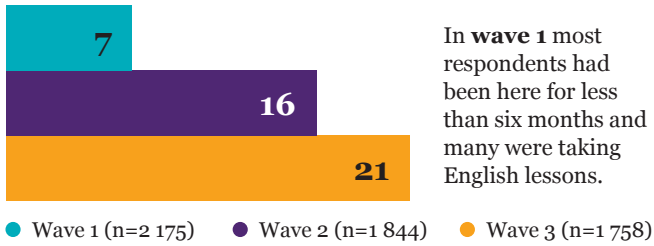
Women were more likely to stop studying for family reasons



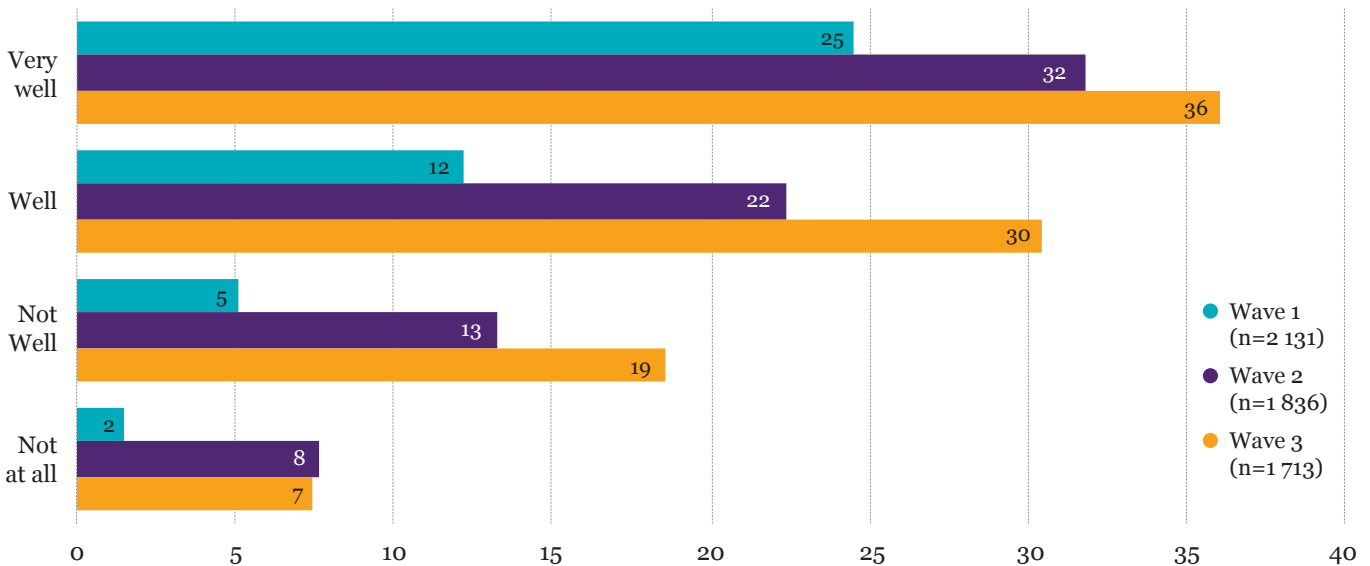
# Employment

## Proportion in paid employment

AT TIME OF EACH INTERVIEW, BY WAVE (%)



## Proportion in paid employment by how well respondents speak English ACROSS WAVES (%)



Note: Includes only respondents aged 18 to 64 years of age.

## Top 3 difficulties in finding paid employment

- 1 Lack of necessary qualifications or skills
- 2 Lack of Australian work experience
- 3 Poor English language skills



**38%** who worked in wave 3 worked as labourers.



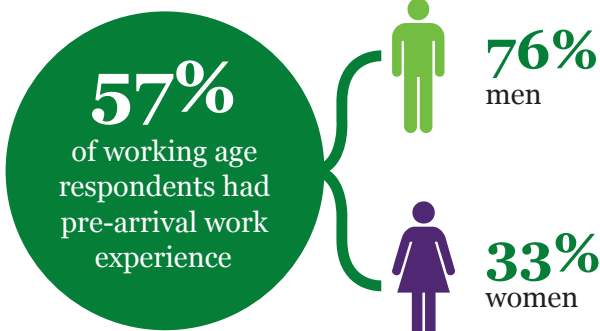
**12%** of those working in wave 3 were self employed.



**67%** of families in wave 3 were reliant on government benefits as their main source of income, down from **88%** in wave 1.



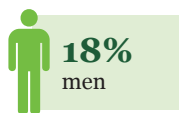
Around **40%** of families experienced one or more type of financial stress each year.



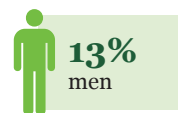
# Education

## Pre-arrival level of education

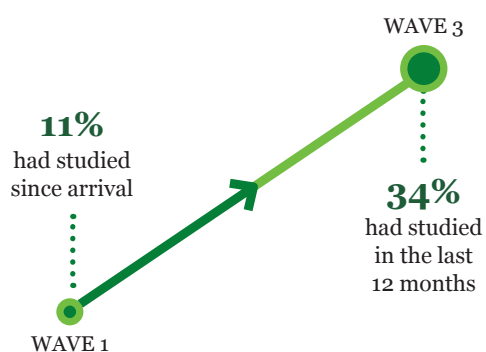
**16%** had a university degree or trade or technical qualification



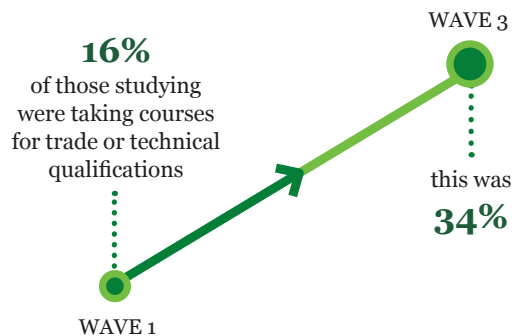
**16%** had never attended school



## Study other than English



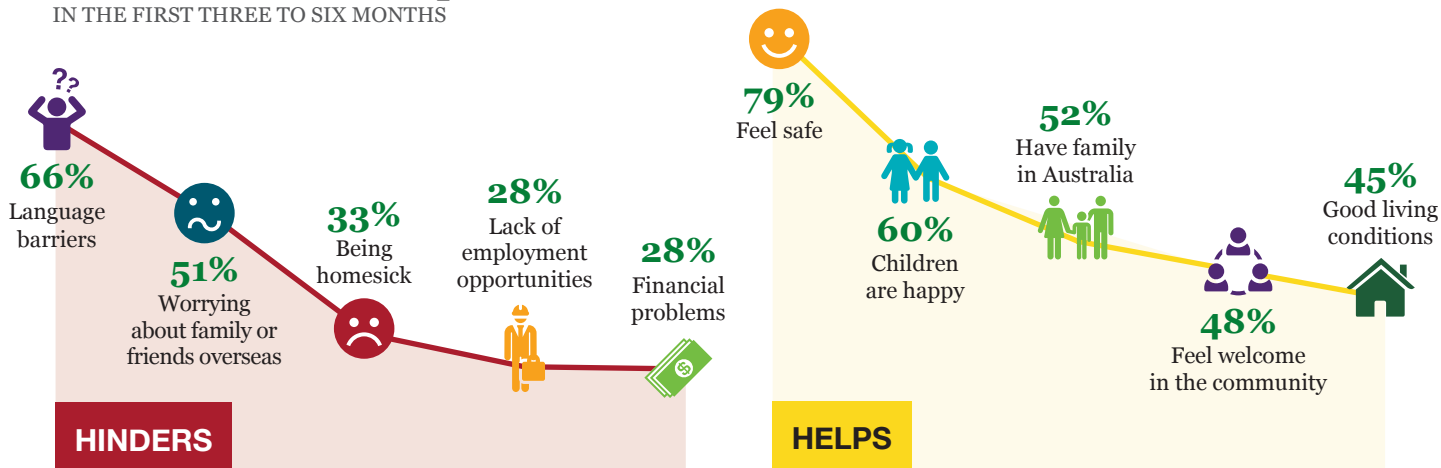
By wave 3, **39%** of respondents who had participated in all waves had undertaken some study other than English since arrival in Australia.



# Engagement in Australian life

## What hinders and helps settlement

IN THE FIRST THREE TO SIX MONTHS



In wave 3, nearly a quarter of respondents who were not able to get access to interpreting services when needed said they were told their English was too good.

## Becoming part of the Australian community (%)

