

The Belgium-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (ranked 88)

Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 1,463 Belgium-born persons in Victoria (22.9% of Australia’s total), ranked 88th among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Belgium-born increased by 13.2% (171) from 1,292 persons in 2011. They are well distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with minor concentrations in Glen Eira (6.2%), Mornington Peninsula, Port Phillip, Bayside and City of Melbourne (each 4.6%). A significant proportion (17.3%) live in regional Victoria.

The Belgium-born reflected a fairly balanced age profile: 16.0% were aged 25 years and below; 29.7% were aged 26-44 years; 26.8% were aged 45-64 years; and 27.1% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 48 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 100 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 2,677 persons identified with Belgian ancestry. Most of them were born in Australia (48.3%) and Belgium (32.9%). Half (49.7%) of the Belgium-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 5.5% arrived in 1996-2000; 8.0% arrived in 2001-2005; 10.1% arrived in 2006-2010; and 23.5% arrived in 2011 and 2016.

The Belgium-born speak Dutch (22.9%) and French (20.4%) at home. Over a third (38.4%) of the Belgium-born are Catholic, 4.6% follow Judaism, 1.8% are Eastern Orthodox; 40.9% have no religion. Two-fifths (60.8%) have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

Location	2016 Census		2011 Census		2006 Census		Change 2011-2016		Change 2006-2011	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	% change
Metro Melbourne ^(a)	1,204	18.9	1,075	18.7	920	18.2	129	12.0	155	16.8
Rest of Victoria ^(b)	256	4.0	218	3.8	203	4.0	38	17.4	15	7.4
Total Victoria	1,463	22.9	1,292	22.4	1,130	22.3	171	13.2	162	14.3
Total Australia	6,378	100.0	5,762	100.0	5,061	100.0	616	10.7	701	13.9

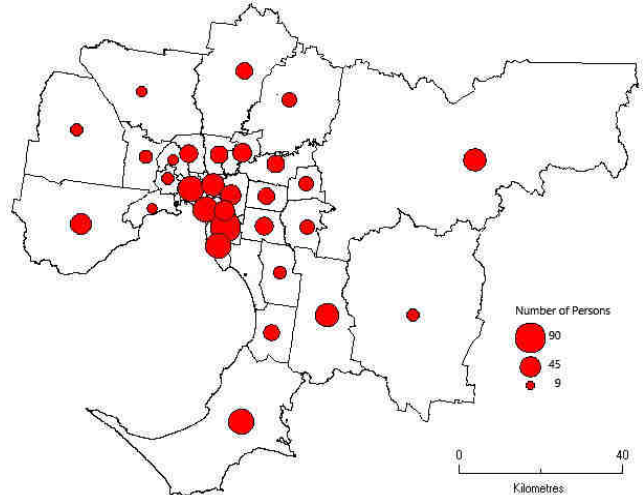
^(a) Metro Melbourne is equivalent to ABS's Greater Capital Statistical Area.
^(b) Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

Distribution of Belgium-born, Top 5 LGAs: 2016 Census

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Glen Eira (C)	90	6.2	91	7.0	1
Mornington Pen (S)	68	4.6	62	4.8	2
Port Phillip (C)	68	4.6	49	3.8	5
Bayside (C)	67	4.6	58	4.5	3
Melbourne (C)	67	4.6	39	3.0	12
Rest of Melbourne	840	57.4	750	58.0	-
Rest of Reg Vic ^(a)	253	17.3	216	16.7	-
Total Victoria	1,463	100.0	1,292	100.0	-

^(a) Includes "Unincorporated Vic" and "No Usual Address Vic".

Distribution of Belgium-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016

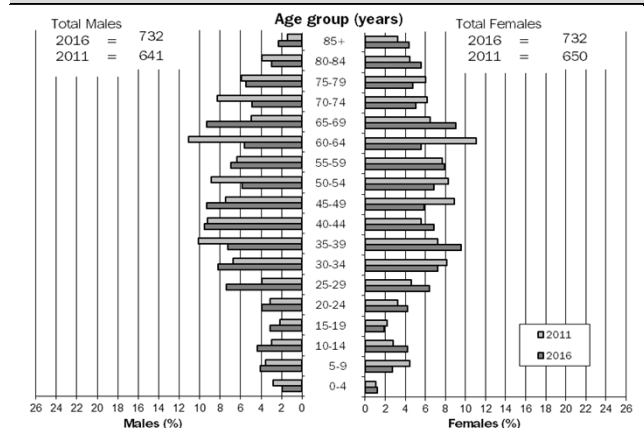


Age Distribution of Belgium-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	19	1.3	25	1.9	-24.0
5-11	69	4.7	64	5.0	7.8
12-18	64	4.4	40	3.1	60.0
19-25	82	5.6	53	4.1	54.7
26-44	435	29.7	354	27.4	22.9
45-54	198	13.5	213	16.5	-7.0
55-64	194	13.3	229	17.7	-15.3
65-74	199	13.6	165	12.8	20.6
75+	198	13.5	157	12.2	26.1
Total Victoria	1,463	100.0	1,292	100.0	13.2

Median Age: 48 (2016) vs 50 (2011)
 Sex Ratio: 100 (2016) vs 99 males per 100 females (2011)

Age and Gender Distribution of Belgium-born, Victoria, 2016



Top 5 Countries of Birth of Persons with Belgian Ancestry: 2016, 2011

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Belgium	881	32.9	729	33.5	20.9
England	79	3.0	76	3.5	3.9
Netherlands	67	2.5	34	1.6	97.1
South Africa	58	2.2	44	2.0	31.8
France	44	1.6	20	0.9	120.0
Australia	1,294	48.3	1,090	50.0	18.7
Other ^(a)	237	8.9	185	8.5	28.1
Total responses^(b)	2,677	100.0	2,178	100.0	22.9

^(a) Includes all other countries, and birthplace not stated.

^(b) Respondents have option of nominating several ancestries; only the 1st two responses were coded. This is the total of both 1st & 2nd responses.

This table is based on the ancestry with the most responses for Belgium-born persons.

Top 5 Languages Spoken at Home, Belgium-born: 2016, 2011

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Dutch	335	22.9	258	20.0	29.8
French	298	20.4	221	17.1	34.8
Italian	29	2.0	31	2.4	-6.5
Greek	16	1.1	16	1.2	-
German	14	1.0	13	1.0	7.7
Other languages ^(a)	82	5.6	92	7.1	-10.9
English only	650	44.4	653	50.5	-0.5
Not stated	13	0.9	8	0.6	62.5
Total Victoria	1,463	100.0	1,292	100.0	13.2

^(a) Includes "Inadequately described" and "Non-verbal, so described".

Top 5 Religious affiliation, Belgium-born: 2016, 2011

Religious affiliation ^(a)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Catholic	562	38.4	566	43.8	-0.7
Judaism	67	4.6	77	6.0	-13.0
Eastern Orthodox	26	1.8	25	1.9	4.0
Anglican	25	1.7	32	2.5	-21.9
Christian, nfd	21	1.4	17	1.3	23.5
Other religions	105	7.2	113	8.7	-7.1
No religion ^(b)	598	40.9	398	30.8	50.3
Not stated	69	4.7	64	5.0	7.8
Total Victoria	1,463	100.0	1,292	100.0	13.2

^(a) Religion based on 3 digit level of classification.

^(b) No Religion, so described.

Year of Arrival of Belgium-born: 2016

Year of arrival ^(a)	Belgium-born		Total OSB, Vic ^(c)	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	727	49.7	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	81	5.5	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	117	8.0	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	148	10.1	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 ^(b)	344	23.5	381,130	22.7
Not stated	46	3.1	58,517	3.5
Total Victoria	1,463	100.0	1,680,256	100.0

^(a) Records the year of arrival in Australia for people born overseas

who intend staying in Australia for at least one year.

^(b) Arrivals up to 9 Aug 2016.

^(c) OSB stands for Overseas-born.

Proficiency in English of Belgium-born: 2016, 2011

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	650	44.4	653	50.5	-0.5
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	652	44.6	534	41.3	22.1
Well	127	8.7	88	6.8	44.3
Not well	18	1.2	13	1.0	38.5
Not at all	-	-	5	0.4	-100.0
Not stated ^(a)	6	0.4	5	0.4	20.0
Total Victoria	1,463	100.0	1,292	100.0	13.2

^(a) Includes those who did not state a language and/or proficiency in English.

Belgium-born with Australian Citizenship by Age: 2016, 2011

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	8	0.9	13	1.5	-38.5
5-11	38	4.3	33	3.8	15.2
12-18	47	5.3	34	3.9	38.2
19-25	33	3.7	33	3.8	-
26-44	156	17.5	158	18.2	-1.3
45-64	282	31.7	345	39.7	-18.3
65-74	179	20.1	145	16.7	23.4
75+	149	16.8	119	13.7	25.2
Total	889	100.0	870	100.0	2.2
% of Belgium-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					60.8%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

Economic characteristics

The levels of education of the Belgium-born are higher than for total Victoria: 19.7% have a postgraduate degree and 20.1% have a bachelor degree, compared to 5.4% and 16.5% for total Victoria. Less of the Belgium-born have a certificate (10.8%) and school education only (29.2%), compared to 14.4% and 29.2% for Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the Belgium-born at 62.1% is fairly similar to total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate for the Belgium-born at 5.2% is lower than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Belgium-born are different from those for total Victoria: 35.0% work as professionals and 17.6% are managers, compared to 23.3% and 13.5% for total Victoria. Less of the Belgium-born work in the rest of the occupation categories compared to total Victoria, such as technicians and trades workers, community and personal service workers, clerical and administrative workers, sales workers and labourers.

The industry of employment patterns for the Belgium-born are fairly similar to those for total Victoria, the exception being that more of them are employed in professional, scientific, technical and administration (17.2%) and education and training (12.3%), compared with Victoria (11.4% and 8.6%). Less of them are employed in construction, finance and insurance and public administration and safety, compared to Victoria.

The weekly personal income distribution pattern of the Belgium-born is fairly similar to total Victoria, except that more of them receive higher incomes than Victoria: 31.5% receive \$1,250 or more, compared to 21.1% for total Victoria.

Highest level of educational attainment, Belgium-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Highest level of educational attainment ^(a)	Belgium-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	262	19.7	143	12.1	119	83.2	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	20	1.5	25	2.1	-5	-20.0	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	267	20.1	224	18.9	43	19.2	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	145	10.9	132	11.1	13	9.8	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	144	10.8	121	10.2	23	19.0	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only ^(b)	388	29.2	389	32.8	-1	-0.3	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment ^(c)	-	-	5	0.4	-5	-100.0	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc ^(d)	111	8.3	137	11.6	-26	-19.0	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
Victoria	1,331	100.0	1,186	100.0	145	12.2	4,845,710	100.0	4,355,243	100.0	490,467	11.3

^(a)This variable is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

^(b)Includes persons who completed school to between Year 8 or below, and Year 12 level.

^(c)Includes persons whose qualification is out of scope of this variable.

^(d)Includes "Inadequately described".

Labour force participation, Belgium-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation ^(a)	Belgium-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
<i>In the labour force</i>	829	56.7	701	54.3	128	18.3	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	786	53.7	662	51.2	124	18.7	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	43	2.9	39	3.0	4	10.3	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	493	33.7	468	36.2	25	5.3	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
Not stated	16	1.1	22	1.7	-6	-27.3	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
Not applicable ^(b)	128	8.7	105	8.1	23	21.9	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
Victoria	1,463	100.0	1,292	100.0	171	13.2	5,926,624	100.0	5,354,039	100.0	572,585	10.7
<i>Participation rate</i> ^(c)	62.1%		59.1%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ^(d)	5.2%		5.6%				6.6%		5.4%			

^(a)This variable is applicable to persons 15 years and over.

^(b)Persons aged under 15 years.

^(c)The participation rate represents the labour force (total employed and unemployed who are actively looking for work) expressed as a % of the civilian population aged 15 years and over, in the same age group.

^(d)The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed persons expressed as a % of the labour force.

Occupation, Belgium-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Occupation ^(a)	Belgium-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	138	17.6	106	16.0	32	30.2	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	275	35.0	222	33.5	53	23.9	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	74	9.4	80	12.1	-6	-7.5	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	56	7.1	46	6.9	10	21.7	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	85	10.8	90	13.6	-5	-5.6	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	61	7.8	39	5.9	22	56.4	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	30	3.8	26	3.9	4	15.4	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	48	6.1	36	5.4	12	33.3	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated ^(b)	18	2.3	13	2.0	5	38.5	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
Victoria	786	100.0	662	100.0	124	18.7	2,736,125	100.0	2,530,635	100.0	205,490	8.1

^(a)This variable is applicable to employed persons aged 15 years and over.

^(b)Includes "Inadequately described".

Industry of Employment, Belgium-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Industry of employment ^(a)	Belgium-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	14	1.8	15	2.3	-1	-6.7	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	67	8.5	72	10.9	-5	-6.9	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	12	1.5	7	1.1	5	71.4	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	45	5.7	38	5.7	7	18.4	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	95	12.1	91	13.7	4	4.4	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	51	6.5	32	4.8	19	59.4	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	31	3.9	15	2.3	16	106.7	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	14	1.8	23	3.5	-9	-39.1	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	22	2.8	28	4.2	-6	-21.4	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	14	1.8	8	1.2	6	75.0	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	135	17.2	109	16.5	26	23.9	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	28	3.6	23	3.5	5	21.7	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	97	12.3	76	11.5	21	27.6	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	92	11.7	85	12.8	7	8.2	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	39	5.0	29	4.4	10	34.5	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	37	4.7	17	2.6	20	117.6	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
Victoria	786	100.0	662	100.0	124	18.7	2,736,125	100.0	2,530,635	100.0	205,490	8.1

^(a)This variable is applicable to employed persons aged 15 and over.

Total Personal Income (Weekly), Belgium-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Total personal income, weekly ^(a)	Belgium-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	-	-	6	0.5	-6	-100.0	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	103	7.7	95	8.0	8	8.4	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	254	19.1	326	27.5	-72	-22.1	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	280	21.0	262	22.1	18	6.9	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	219	16.5	190	16.0	29	15.3	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	226	17.0	128	10.8	98	76.6	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	193	14.5	135	11.4	58	43.0	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	56	4.2	44	3.7	12	27.3	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
Victoria	1,331	100.0	1,186	100.0	145	12.2	4,845,710	100.0	4,355,243	100.0	490,467	11.3

^(a)Applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

This fact sheet is available for free download at www.multicultural.vic.gov.au, which also contains the Community Profiles series for birthplace groups, with more detailed tables on a wider range of demographic and socio-economic data.

Source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Census of Population and Housing, 2016, 2011, 2006*.