

The Cook Islands-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (ranked 80)

Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 1,900 Cook Islands-born persons in Victoria (27.8% of Australia's total), ranked 80th among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Cook Islands-born increased by 11.5% (196) from 1,704 persons in 2011. They are concentrated in a small number of LGAs in Metropolitan Melbourne, namely Casey (25.8%), Greater Dandenong (20.9%), Wyndham (7.5%), Kingston (6.8%), and Brimbank (6.6%).

The Cook Islands-born reflected a balanced age profile: 20.3% were aged 25 years and below; 36.9% were aged 26-44 years; 36.4% were aged 45-64 years; and 6.6% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 41 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 102 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for Victoria.

There were 5,476 persons identified with Cook Islander ancestry. Most of them were born in Australia (37.5%), New Zealand (33.8%) and Cook Islands (26.3%) Over a quarter (28.2%) of the Cook Islands-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 28.2% arrived in 1996-2000; 12.2% arrived in 2001-2005; 12.9% arrived in 2006-2010; and 15.2% arrived in 2011-2016.

Over half (58.3%) of the Cook Islands-born speak Cook Island Maori and 5.3% speak New Zealand Maori. The Cook Islands-born population follow a variety of Christian faiths: Christian not further defined (17.6%), Presbyterian/Reform (13.8%), Catholic (13.3%), Uniting Church (8.9%) and Seventh-Day Adventist (7.7%). Nearly one-fifth of the Cook Islands-born (18.5%) have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

Cook Islands-born in Victoria and Australia: 2016, 2011 and 2006 Census

Location	2016 Census		2011 Census		2006 Census		Change 2011-2016		Change 2006-2011	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	% change
Metro Melbourne ^(a)	1,804	26.4	1,617	26.5	1,399	27.8	187	11.6	218	15.6
Rest of Victoria ^(b)	97	1.4	89	1.5	69	1.4	8	9.0	20	29.0
Total Victoria	1,900	27.8	1,704	28.0	1,468	29.2	196	11.5	236	16.1
Total Australia	6,831	100.0	6,091	100.0	5,027	100.0	740	12.1	1,064	21.2

^(a) Metro Melbourne is equivalent to ABS's Greater Capital Statistical Area.

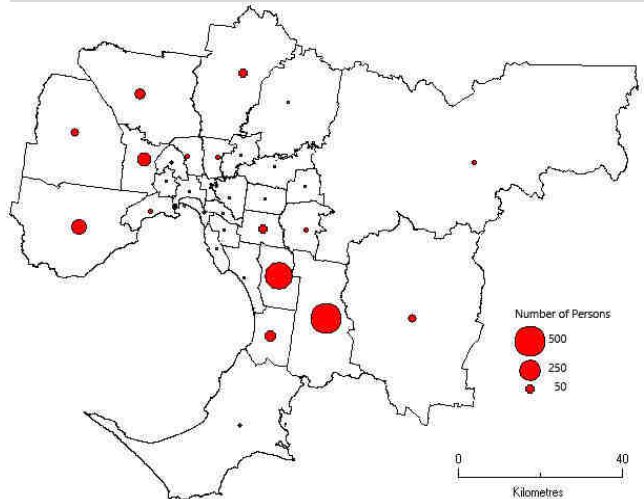
^(b) Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

Distribution of Cook Islands-born, Top 5 LGAs: 2016 Census

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Casey (C)	491	25.8	417	24.5	1
Gter Dandenong (C)	397	20.9	387	22.7	2
Wyndham (C)	142	7.5	90	5.3	5
Kingston (C)	129	6.8	145	8.5	3
Brimbank (C)	126	6.6	88	5.2	6
Rest of Melbourne	516	27.2	483	28.3	-
Rest of Reg Vic ^(a)	84	4.4	90	5.3	-
Total Victoria	1,900	100.0	1,704	100.0	-

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

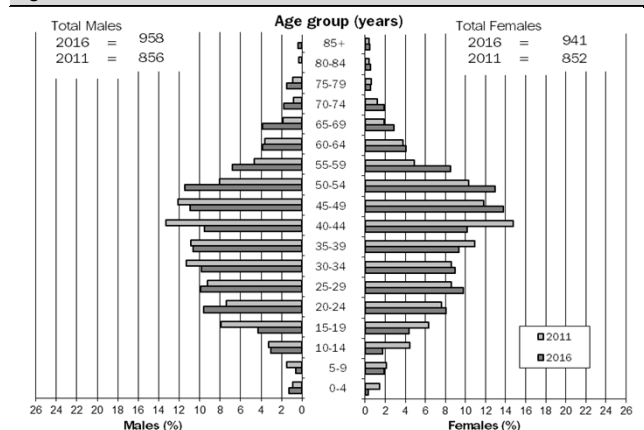
Distribution of Cook Islands-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016



Age Distribution of Cook Islands-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	17	0.9	16	0.9	6.3
5-11	45	2.4	49	2.9	-8.2
12-18	92	4.8	152	8.9	-39.5
19-25	231	12.2	175	10.3	32.0
26-44	701	36.9	719	42.2	-2.5
45-54	472	24.8	373	21.9	26.5
55-64	221	11.6	144	8.5	53.5
65-74	97	5.1	50	2.9	94.0
75+	29	1.5	22	1.3	31.8
Total Victoria	1,900	100.0	1,704	100.0	11.5
<i>Median Age</i>	<i>41</i>		<i>39</i>		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	<i>102</i>		<i>100</i>		<i>males per 100 females</i>

Age and Gender Distribution of Cook Islands-born, Victoria, 2016



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

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
New Zealand	1,853	33.8	1,344	35.0	37.9
Cook Islands	1,438	26.3	1,107	28.9	29.9
French Polynesia	6	0.1	4	0.1	50.0
Niue	3	0.1	-	-	-
Tonga	3	0.1	-	-	-
Australia	2,056	37.5	1,267	33.0	62.3
Other ^(a)	98	1.8	113	2.9	-13.3
Total responses^(b)	5,476	100.0	3,835	100.0	42.8

^(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 Cook Islands-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Maori (Cook Island)	1,107	58.3	994	58.3	11.4
Maori (New Zealand)	101	5.3	101	5.9	-
Pacific Austronesian	7	0.4	3	0.2	133.3
Tongan	6	0.3	3	0.2	100.0
Hindi	4	0.2	-	-	-
Other languages ^(a)	17	0.9	13	0.8	30.8
English only	645	33.9	553	32.5	16.6
Not stated	16	0.8	37	2.2	-56.8
Total Victoria	1,900	100.0	1,704	100.0	11.5

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

Top 5 Religious affiliation, Cook Islands-born: 2016, 2011

Religious affiliation ^(a)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Christian, nfd	335	17.6	200	11.7	67.5
Presbyterian/Reform	262	13.8	284	16.7	-7.7
Catholic	252	13.3	235	13.8	7.2
Uniting Church	170	8.9	165	9.7	3.0
7th-day Adventist	147	7.7	151	8.9	-2.6
Other religions	446	23.5	479	28.1	-6.9
No religion ^(b)	170	8.9	125	7.3	36.0
Not stated	122	6.4	65	3.8	87.7
Total Victoria	1,900	100.0	1,704	100.0	11.5

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

^(b) No Religion, so described.

Year of Arrival of Cook Islands-born: 2016

Year of arrival ^(a)	Cook Islands-born		Total OSB, Vic ^(c)	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	535	28.2	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	535	28.2	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	231	12.2	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	245	12.9	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 ^(b)	289	15.2	381,130	22.7
Not stated	66	3.5	58,517	3.5
Total Victoria	1,900	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 Cook Islands-born: 2016, 2011

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	645	33.9	553	32.5	16.6
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	789	41.5	793	46.5	-0.5
Well	373	19.6	297	17.4	25.6
Not well	61	3.2	30	1.8	103.3
Not at all	5	0.3	3	0.2	66.7
Not stated ^(a)	30	1.6	23	1.3	30.4
Total Victoria	1,900	100.0	1,704	100.0	11.5

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

Cook Islands-born with Australian Citizenship by Age: 2016, 2011

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	-	-	-	-	-
5-11	-	-	6	1.7	-100.0
12-18	-	-	11	3.1	-100.0
19-25	19	5.4	29	8.2	-34.5
26-44	106	30.2	133	37.7	-20.3
45-64	167	47.6	137	38.8	21.9
65-74	31	8.8	22	6.2	40.9
75+	14	4.0	12	3.4	16.7
Total	351	100.0	353	100.0	-0.6
% of Cook Islands-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					18.5%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

Economic characteristics

The education levels of the Cook Islands-born are lower than for total Victoria. Only 1.3% of the Cook Islands-born have a bachelor degree or higher and 6.0% have an advanced diploma or diploma, compared to 24.4% and 16.5% for Victoria. Almost two-thirds (63.0%) have school education only, compared to 38.7% for Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the Cook Islands-born at 65.7% is slightly higher than for total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate at 13.4% is higher than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Cook Islands-born are very different from those for total Victoria. Most of them work as labourers (40.2%) and machinery operators and drivers (28.4%), compared to 9.0% and 5.8% for Victoria. Very few of them work as managers (3.9%) or professionals (2.7%) compared to Victoria (13.5% and 23.3%).

The industry of employment patterns for the Cook Islands-born are also fairly different from total Victoria. More of them are employed in manufacturing (26.3%), construction (15.9%) and transport, postal and warehousing (10.1%) compared to 7.8%, 8.3% and 4.8% for Victoria. Less of the Cook Islands-born are employed in wholesale and retail trade, scientific, technical, education and health industries compared to total Victoria.

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the Cook Islands-born is different from that for total Victoria. Over a quarter (28.1%) receive \$400-\$799 and 23.2% receive \$800-\$1,249 (23.1% and 16.7% for Victoria). Less of the Cook Islands-born (12.3%) receive \$1,250 or more, compared to 21.1% for Victoria.

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

Highest level of educational attainment ^(a)	Cook Islands-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	5	0.3	3	0.2	2	66.7	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	-	-	3	0.2	-3	-100.0	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	24	1.3	27	1.7	-3	-11.1	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	109	6.0	63	4.0	46	73.0	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	268	14.8	149	9.4	119	79.9	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only ^(b)	1,141	63.0	1,017	64.3	124	12.2	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment ^(c)	35	1.9	21	1.3	14	66.7	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc ^(d)	224	12.4	293	18.5	-69	-23.5	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
Victoria	1,812	100.0	1,582	100.0	230	14.5	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, Cook Islands-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation ^(a)	Cook Islands-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>	1,191	62.7	1,038	60.9	153	14.7	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	1,031	54.3	944	55.4	87	9.2	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	160	8.4	94	5.5	66	70.2	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	582	30.6	470	27.6	112	23.8	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	43	2.3	69	4.0	-26	-37.7	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> ^(b)	87	4.6	124	7.3	-37	-29.8	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
Victoria	1,900	100.0	1,704	100.0	196	11.5	5,926,624	100.0	5,354,039	100.0	572,585	10.7
<i>Participation rate</i> ^(c)	65.7%		65.7%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ^(d)	13.4%		9.1%				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, Cook Islands-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Occupation ^(a)	Cook Islands-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	40	3.9	33	3.5	7	21.2	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	28	2.7	25	2.6	3	12.0	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	69	6.7	86	9.1	-17	-19.8	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	91	8.8	42	4.4	49	116.7	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	58	5.6	44	4.7	14	31.8	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	15	1.5	15	1.6	-	-	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	293	28.4	280	29.7	13	4.6	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	414	40.2	378	40.0	36	9.5	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated ^(b)	29	2.8	42	4.4	-13	-31.0	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
Victoria	1,031	100.0	944	100.0	87	9.2	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, Cook Islands-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Industry of employment ^(a)	Cook Islands-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	17	1.6	13	1.4	4	30.8	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	271	26.3	388	41.1	-117	-30.2	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	3	0.3	5	0.5	-2	-40.0	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	164	15.9	110	11.7	54	49.1	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	80	7.8	91	9.6	-11	-12.1	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	39	3.8	18	1.9	21	116.7	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	104	10.1	78	8.3	26	33.3	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	3	0.3	7	0.7	-4	-57.1	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	9	0.9	15	1.6	-6	-40.0	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	21	2.0	17	1.8	4	23.5	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	76	7.4	64	6.8	12	18.8	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	14	1.4	15	1.6	-1	-6.7	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	22	2.1	5	0.5	17	340.0	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	75	7.3	44	4.7	31	70.5	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	20	1.9	13	1.4	7	53.8	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	118	11.4	58	6.1	60	103.4	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
Victoria	1,031	100.0	944	100.0	87	9.2	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), Cook Islands-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Total personal income, weekly ^(a)	Cook Islands-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	20	1.1	19	1.2	1	5.3	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	235	13.0	184	11.6	51	27.7	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	311	17.2	330	20.9	-19	-5.8	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	510	28.1	517	32.7	-7	-1.4	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	420	23.2	260	16.4	160	61.5	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	169	9.3	113	7.1	56	49.6	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	54	3.0	34	2.1	20	58.8	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	91	5.0	136	8.6	-45	-33.1	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
Victoria	1,812	100.0	1,582	100.0	230	14.5	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*.