

**Demographic characteristics**

At the 2016 Census, there were 14,797 South Korea-born persons in Victoria (15.0% of Australia’s total), ranked 30<sup>th</sup> among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The South Korea-born increased by 45.2% (4,605) from 10,192 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with significant concentrations in the LGAs of Melbourne (21.1%), Monash (13.8), Whitehorse (5.3%), Manningham (5.3%) and Wyndham (4.9%).

The South Korea-born reflected a young to mature age profile: 29.5% were aged 25 years and below; 52.7% were aged 26-44 years; 15.5% were aged 45-64 years; and 2.4% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 32 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 85 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 14,234 persons identified with Korean ancestry. Most of them were born in South Korea (79.8%) and Australia (15.7%). Only 9.2% of the South Korea-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 6.9% arrived in 1996-2000; 15.7% arrived in 2001-2005; 28.7% arrived in 2006-2010; and 34.5% arrived in 2011-2016.

Most (87.8%) of the South Korea-born speak Korean; 10.6% speak English only. Of those who speak a language other than English, 24.8% speak English not well/not at all. The South Korea-born follow a variety of religions: Catholic (16.7%), Uniting Church (10.9%), Presbyterian/Reform (9.9%), Baptist (4.7%) and Buddhism (4.1%); 43.2% have no religion. Less than a third (31.2%) of the South Korea-born have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

**Korea, Republic of (South)-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 <sup>(a)</sup>	14,074	14.2	9,813	13.2	5,986	11.3	4,261	43.4	3,827	63.9
Rest of Victoria <sup>(b)</sup>	721	0.7	385	0.5	332	0.6	336	87.3	53	16.0
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>6,313</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>4,605</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>3,879</b>	<b>61.4</b>
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>98,776</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>74,538</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>52,763</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,238</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>21,775</b>	<b>41.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Metro Melbourne is equivalent to ABS's Greater Capital Statistical Area.

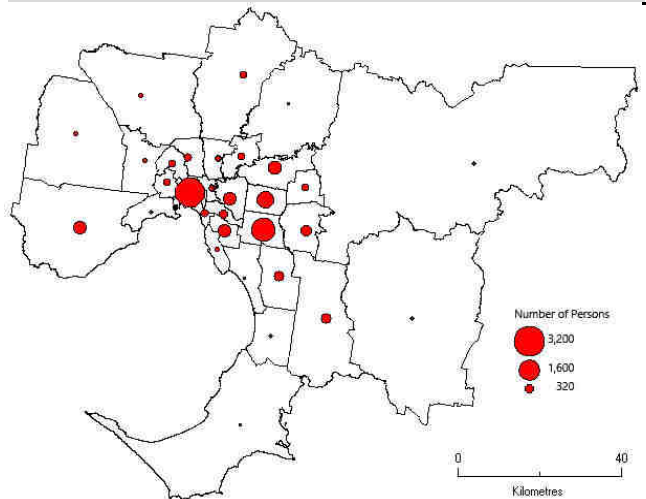
<sup>(b)</sup> Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

**Distribution of Korea, Republic of (South)-born, Top 5 LGAs: 2016 Census**

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Melbourne (C)	3,118	21.1	1,430	14.0	2
Monash (C)	2,036	13.8	1,997	19.6	1
Whitehorse (C)	1,095	7.4	870	8.5	3
Manningham (C)	787	5.3	651	6.4	6
Wyndham (C)	718	4.9	366	3.6	7
Rest of Melbourne	6,295	42.5	4,483	44.0	-
Rest of Reg Vic <sup>(a)</sup>	734	5.0	383	3.8	-
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	-

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes "Unincorporated Vic" and "No Usual Address Vic".

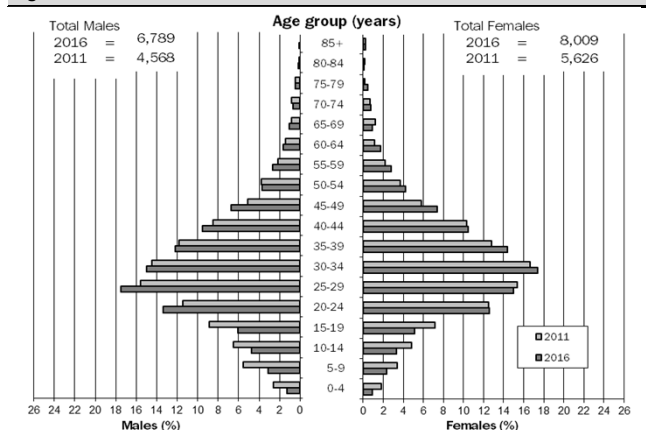
**Distribution of South Korea-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016**



**Age Distribution of South Korea)-born: 2016, 2011 Census**

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	157	1.1	220	2.2	-28.6
5-11	596	4.0	664	6.5	-10.2
12-18	976	6.6	951	9.3	2.6
19-25	2,627	17.8	1,687	16.6	55.7
26-44	7,797	52.7	5,149	50.5	51.4
45-54	1,641	11.1	935	9.2	75.5
55-64	646	4.4	344	3.4	87.8
65-74	249	1.7	180	1.8	38.3
75+	105	0.7	58	0.6	81.0
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>
<i>Median Age</i>	32		30		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	85		81		<i>81 males per 100 females</i>

**Age and Gender Distribution of South Korea-born, Victoria, 2016**



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

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
S Korea	14,234	79.8	9,790	83.0	45.4
New Zealand	139	0.8	86	0.7	61.6
China	130	0.7	33	0.3	293.9
Japan	115	0.6	64	0.5	79.7
USA	93	0.5	62	0.5	50.0
Australia	2,807	15.7	1,498	12.7	87.4
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	324	1.8	258	2.2	25.6
<b>Total responses<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>17,848</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,791</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>51.4</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes all other countries, and birthplace not stated.

<sup>(b)</sup> 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 Korea, Republic of (South)-born persons.

**Top 5 Languages Spoken at Home, South Korea-born: 2016, 2011**

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Korean	12,988	87.8	8,866	87.0	46.5
Mandarin	50	0.3	48	0.5	4.2
Japanese	33	0.2	31	0.3	6.5
Cantonese	14	0.1	14	0.1	-
Russian	11	0.1	7	0.1	57.1
Other languages <sup>(a)</sup>	69	0.5	48	0.5	43.8
English only	1,569	10.6	1,144	11.2	37.2
Not stated	42	0.3	34	0.3	23.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes "Inadequately described" and "Non-verbal, so described".

**Top 5 Religious affiliation, South Korea-born: 2016, 2011**

Religious affiliation <sup>(a)</sup>	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Catholic	2,476	16.7	2,116	20.8	17.0
Uniting Church	1,613	10.9	1,606	15.8	0.4
Presbyterian/Reform	1,467	9.9	1,196	11.7	22.7
Baptist	697	4.7	421	4.1	65.6
Buddhism	608	4.1	699	6.9	-13.0
Other religions	1,172	7.9	912	8.9	28.5
No religion <sup>(b)</sup>	6,396	43.2	2,962	29.1	115.9
Not stated	360	2.4	280	2.7	28.6
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Religion based on 3 digit level of classification.

<sup>(b)</sup> No Religion, so described.

**Year of Arrival of Korea, Republic of (South)-born: 2016**

Year of arrival <sup>(a)</sup>	Korea, Republic of (South)		Total OSB, Vic <sup>(c)</sup>	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	1,356	9.2	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	1,025	6.9	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	2,321	15.7	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	4,244	28.7	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 <sup>(b)</sup>	5,108	34.5	381,130	22.7
Not stated	742	5.0	58,517	3.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,680,256</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Records the year of arrival in Australia for people born overseas

who intend staying in Australia for at least one year.

<sup>(b)</sup> Arrivals up to 9 Aug 2016.

<sup>(c)</sup> OSB stands for Overseas-born.

**Proficiency in English of South Korea-born: 2016, 2011**

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	1,569	10.6	1,144	11.2	37.2
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	3,929	26.6	2,492	24.5	57.7
Well	5,503	37.2	3,879	38.1	41.9
Not well	3,373	22.8	2,326	22.8	45.0
Not at all	297	2.0	227	2.2	30.8
Not stated <sup>(a)</sup>	125	0.8	136	1.3	-8.1
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>

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

**South Korea-born with Australian Citizenship by Age: 2016, 2011**

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	36	0.8	54	1.8	-33.3
5-11	202	4.4	229	7.6	-11.8
12-18	508	11.0	306	10.2	66.0
19-25	636	13.8	400	13.4	59.0
26-44	1,810	39.2	1,170	39.1	54.7
45-64	1,174	25.4	660	22.0	77.9
65-74	167	3.6	133	4.4	25.6
75+	78	1.7	42	1.4	85.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,614</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,996</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>54.0</b>

% of Korea, Republic of (South)-born with Australian citizenship, 2016: 31.2%

% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016: 58.3%

## Economic characteristics

The education levels of the South Korea-born are higher than for total Victoria: 7.5% have a postgraduate degree, 31.7% have a bachelor degree and 13.5% have an advanced diploma or diploma, compared to 5.4%, 16.5% and 9.2% for Victoria. Less of them have a certificate (5.5%) and school education only (34.9%) compared to 14.1% and 38.7% for Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the South Korea-born at 64.4% is higher than total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate at 10.1% is also higher than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the South Korea-born are different from those for total Victoria. More of them work as technicians and trades workers (24.1%) and community and personal workers (15.9%), compared to Victoria (13.1% and 10.6%). Less of them work as professionals (21.7%), clerical and administrative workers (6.0%) and machinery operators and drivers (2.2%), compared to 23.3%, 13.3% and 5.8% for Victoria.

The industry of employment patterns for the South Korea-born are fairly to total Victoria, with some exceptions. More of them are employed in accommodation and food services (23.8%) and arts, recreation and other services (8.8%) than Victoria (6.6% and 5.5%). Less of them are employed in construction (5.0%) and public administration and safety (1.4%) than Victoria (8.3% and 5.3%).

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the South Korea-born is fairly different from that for total Victoria. More of them receive nil income (24.6%) compared to 9.7% for Victoria. Less of them (12.3%) receive \$1,249 or more, compared to 21.1% for Victoria.

### Highest level of educational attainment, Korea, Republic of (South)-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Highest level of educational attainment <sup>(a)</sup>	Korea, Republic of (South)-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	1,029	7.5	676	7.5	353	52.2	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	208	1.5	124	1.4	84	67.7	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	4,328	31.7	2,837	31.7	1,491	52.6	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	1,847	13.5	1,085	12.1	762	70.2	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	745	5.5	402	4.5	343	85.3	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only <sup>(b)</sup>	4,766	34.9	3,178	35.5	1,588	50.0	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment <sup>(c)</sup>	157	1.1	105	1.2	52	49.5	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc <sup>(d)</sup>	561	4.1	559	6.2	2	0.4	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>13,656</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,960</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,696</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>4,845,710</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,355,243</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490,467</b>	<b>11.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

<sup>(b)</sup>Includes persons who completed school to between Year 8 or below, and Year 12 level.

<sup>(c)</sup>Includes persons whose qualification is out of scope of this variable.

<sup>(d)</sup>Includes "Inadequately described".

### Labour force participation, Korea, Republic of (South)-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation <sup>(a)</sup>	Korea, Republic of (South)-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>	8,801	59.5	4,982	48.9	3,819	76.7	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	7,909	53.5	4,481	44.0	3,428	76.5	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	892	6.0	501	4.9	391	78.0	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	4,790	32.4	3,889	38.2	901	23.2	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	67	0.5	89	0.9	-22	-24.7	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> <sup>(b)</sup>	1,140	7.7	1,234	12.1	-94	-7.6	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>14,797</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,605</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>5,926,624</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,354,039</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>572,585</b>	<b>10.7</b>
<i>Participation rate</i> <sup>(c)</sup>	64.4%		55.6%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> <sup>(d)</sup>	10.1%		10.1%				6.6%		5.4%			

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to persons 15 years and over.

<sup>(b)</sup>Persons aged under 15 years.

<sup>(c)</sup>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.

<sup>(d)</sup>The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed persons expressed as a % of the labour force.

**Occupation, Korea, Republic of (South)-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Occupation <sup>(a)</sup>	Korea, Republic of (South)-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	798	10.1	497	11.1	301	60.6	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	1,717	21.7	1,107	24.7	610	55.1	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	1,928	24.4	1,010	22.5	918	90.9	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	1,257	15.9	519	11.6	738	142.2	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	472	6.0	346	7.7	126	36.4	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	543	6.9	333	7.4	210	63.1	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	172	2.2	80	1.8	92	115.0	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	878	11.1	474	10.6	404	85.2	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated <sup>(b)</sup>	145	1.8	115	2.6	30	26.1	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>7,909</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,481</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,428</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>2,736,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,530,635</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,490</b>	<b>8.1</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to employed persons aged 15 years and over.

<sup>(b)</sup>Includes "Inadequately described".

**Industry of Employment, Korea, Republic of (South)-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Industry of employment <sup>(a)</sup>	Korea, Republic of (South)-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	43	0.5	18	0.4	25	138.9	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	542	6.9	337	7.5	205	60.8	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	22	0.3	12	0.3	10	83.3	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	396	5.0	251	5.6	145	57.8	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	927	11.7	683	15.2	244	35.7	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	1,881	23.8	835	18.6	1,046	125.3	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	188	2.4	95	2.1	93	97.9	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	64	0.8	73	1.6	-9	-12.3	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	167	2.1	125	2.8	42	33.6	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	61	0.8	26	0.6	35	134.6	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	936	11.8	626	14.0	310	49.5	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	113	1.4	78	1.7	35	44.9	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	494	6.2	278	6.2	216	77.7	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	941	11.9	478	10.7	463	96.9	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	695	8.8	394	8.8	301	76.4	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	419	5.3	170	3.8	249	146.5	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>7,909</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,481</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,428</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>2,736,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,530,635</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,490</b>	<b>8.1</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to employed persons aged 15 and over.

**Total Personal Income (Weekly), Korea, Republic of (South)-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Total personal income, weekly <sup>(a)</sup>	Korea, Republic of (South)-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	210	1.5	246	2.7	-36	-14.6	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	3,365	24.6	2,682	29.9	683	25.5	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	2,558	18.7	2,060	23.0	498	24.2	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	3,149	23.1	1,810	20.2	1,339	74.0	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	2,514	18.4	1,217	13.6	1,297	106.6	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	1,227	9.0	558	6.2	669	119.9	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	448	3.3	170	1.9	278	163.5	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	179	1.3	216	2.4	-37	-17.1	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>13,656</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,960</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,696</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>4,845,710</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,355,243</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490,467</b>	<b>11.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>Applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

This fact sheet is available for free download at [www.multicultural.vic.gov.au](http://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*.