

The Malaysia-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (ranked 9)

Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 50,049 Malaysia-born persons in Victoria (36.2% of Australia’s total), ranked 9th among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Malaysia-born increased by 25.8% (10,259) from 39,790 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with concentrations in the LGAs of Melbourne (13.2%), Monash (12.1%), Whitehorse (8.8%), Manningham (7.8%) and Boroondara (6.7%).

The Malaysia-born reflected a young adult to balanced age profile: 26.0% were aged 25 years and below; 36.9% were aged 26-44 years; 26.4% were aged 45-64 years; and 10.8% were aged 65 years and over. Their median age was similar to total Victoria at 37 years. Their gender ratio was 87 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 14,268 persons identified with Malay ancestry. Most of them were born in Malaysia (54.1%), Australia (28.5%) and Singapore (8.0%). One-third (34.5%) of Malaysia-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 5.8% arrived in 1996-2010; 11.0% arrived in 2001-2005; 16.2% arrived in 2006-2010; and 29.3% arrived in 2011-2016.

One-third (32.1%) of the Malaysia-born speak Mandarin; 21.0% speak Cantonese; 6.1% speak Malay; 4.7% speak Min Nan; and 2.2% speak Tamil. One-quarter (26.4%) of the Malaysia-born are Buddhist, 10.3% are Catholic, 5.9% are Christian not further defined, 5.6% are Pentecostal and 4.3% follow Islam; 21.3% have no religion. Two-fifths (40.7%) of the Malaysia-born have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for the total overseas-born in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

Malaysia-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)	47,642	34.4	38,027	32.7	29,216	31.6	9,615	25.3	8,811	30.2
Rest of Victoria ^(b)	2,401	1.7	1,758	1.5	1,257	1.4	643	36.6	501	39.9
Total Victoria	50,049	36.2	39,790	34.2	30,474	33.0	10,259	25.8	9,316	30.6
Total Australia	138,364	100.0	116,196	100.0	92,335	100.0	22,168	19.1	23,861	25.8

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

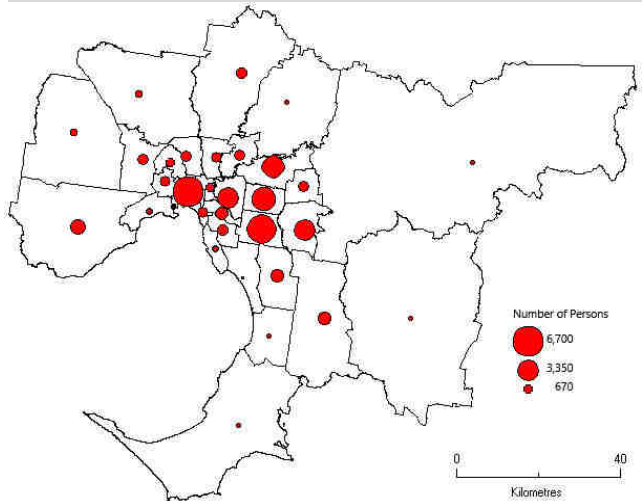
^(b) Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

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

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Melbourne (C)	6,623	13.2	5,106	12.8	2
Monash (C)	6,076	12.1	5,489	13.8	1
Whitehorse (C)	4,427	8.8	3,352	8.4	3
Manningham (C)	3,880	7.8	3,198	8.0	4
Boroondara (C)	3,333	6.7	2,925	7.4	5
Rest of Melbourne	23,214	46.4	17,890	45.0	-
Rest of Reg Vic ^(a)	2,503	5.0	1,813	4.6	-
Total Victoria	50,049	100.0	39,790	100.0	-

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

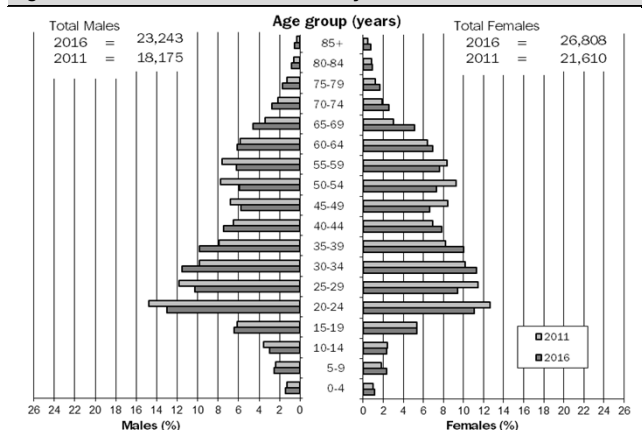
Distribution of Malaysia-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016



Age Distribution of Malaysia-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	621	1.2	439	1.1	41.5
5-11	1,732	3.5	1,278	3.2	35.5
12-18	2,682	5.4	2,224	5.6	20.6
19-25	7,937	15.9	7,174	18.0	10.6
26-44	18,482	36.9	13,543	34.0	36.5
45-54	6,453	12.9	6,466	16.3	-0.2
55-64	6,755	13.5	5,640	14.2	19.8
65-74	3,784	7.6	2,089	5.3	81.1
75+	1,607	3.2	933	2.3	72.2
Total Victoria	50,049	100.0	39,790	100.0	25.8
Median Age	37		36		
Sex Ratio	87		84		males per 100 females

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



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

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Malaysia	7,722	54.1	5,621	57.8	37.4
Singapore	1,138	8.0	792	8.1	43.7
Philippines	405	2.8	187	1.9	116.6
Sri Lanka	133	0.9	106	1.1	25.5
England	130	0.9	103	1.1	26.2
Australia	4,071	28.5	2,510	25.8	62.2
Other ^(a)	659	4.6	402	4.1	63.9
Total responses^(b)	14,268	100.0	9,721	100.0	46.8

^(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 most related to Malaysia-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Mandarin	16,058	32.1	9,970	25.1	61.1
Cantonese	10,522	21.0	10,385	26.1	1.3
Malay	3,031	6.1	2,785	7.0	8.8
Min Nan	2,364	4.7	2,174	5.5	8.7
Tamil	1,118	2.2	769	1.9	45.4
Other languages ^(a)	2,493	5.0	1,802	4.5	38.3
English only	14,237	28.4	11,734	29.5	21.3
Not stated	199	0.4	171	0.4	16.4
Total Victoria	50,049	100.0	39,790	100.0	25.8

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

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

Religious affiliation ^(a)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Buddhism	13,207	26.4	10,919	27.4	21.0
Catholic	5,171	10.3	4,718	11.9	9.6
Christian, nfd	2,961	5.9	1,847	4.6	60.3
Pentecostal	2,790	5.6	2,436	6.1	14.5
Islam	2,139	4.3	2,056	5.2	4.0
Other religions	10,892	21.8	9,851	24.8	10.6
No religion ^(b)	10,674	21.3	6,572	16.5	62.4
Not stated	2,215	4.4	1,391	3.5	59.2
Total Victoria	50,049	100.0	39,790	100.0	25.8

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

^(b) No Religion, so described.

Year of Arrival of Malaysia-born: 2016

Year of arrival ^(a)	Malaysia-born		Total OSB, Vic ^(c)	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	17,266	34.5	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	2,915	5.8	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	5,519	11.0	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	8,091	16.2	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 ^(b)	14,686	29.3	381,130	22.7
Not stated	1,566	3.1	58,517	3.5
Total Victoria	50,049	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 Malaysia-born: 2016, 2011

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	14,237	28.4	11,734	29.5	21.3
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	21,208	42.4	17,991	45.2	17.9
Well	10,997	22.0	8,186	20.6	34.3
Not well	2,952	5.9	1,388	3.5	112.7
Not at all	395	0.8	265	0.7	49.1
Not stated ^(a)	257	0.5	220	0.6	16.8
Total Victoria	50,049	100.0	39,790	100.0	25.8

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

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

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	68	0.3	40	0.2	70.0
5-11	416	2.0	312	1.8	33.3
12-18	929	4.6	670	3.9	38.7
19-25	1,255	6.2	1,251	7.3	0.3
26-44	6,026	29.6	5,066	29.7	18.9
45-64	7,940	39.0	7,640	44.8	3.9
65-74	2,635	12.9	1,445	8.5	82.4
75+	1,088	5.3	623	3.7	74.6
Total	20,353	100.0	17,041	100.0	19.4
% of Malaysia-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					40.7%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

Economic characteristics

The education levels of the Malaysia-born are higher than for total Victoria: 11.6% have a postgraduate degree and 36.9% have a bachelor degree, compared to 5.4% and 16.5% for total Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the Malaysia-born at 65.6% is higher than that for total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate at 9.0% is also higher than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Malaysia-born are fairly similar to total Victoria, with some exceptions: 42.1% work as professionals compared to 23.3% for total Victoria. Less of the Malaysia-born work as technicians and sales workers (7.9%), sales workers (6.5%), machinery operators and drivers (1.9%) and labourers (5.8%), compared to 13.1%, 9.7%, 5.8% and 9.0% for Victoria.

The industry of employment patterns for the Malaysia-born are different from total Victoria. Less are employed in manufacturing (5.7%) and construction (2.8%), compared to 7.8% and 8.3% for total Victoria. More of them are employed in accommodation and food services (11.1%), finance and insurance (7.4%), professional, scientific, technical and administration (16.5%) and healthcare and social assistance (16.1%), compared to 6.6%, 3.9%, 11.4% and 12.5% for Victoria.

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the Malaysia-born is different from total Victoria. More of them (18.4%) receive nil income, as well as receive higher incomes of \$1,250-\$1,999 (17.3%) and \$2,000 or more (12.1%), compared to 9.7%, 13.6% and 7.5% for Victoria.

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

Highest level of educational attainment ^(a)	Malaysia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	5,438	11.6	3,990	10.7	1,448	36.3	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	1,561	3.3	1,227	3.3	334	27.2	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	17,317	36.9	14,788	39.6	2,529	17.1	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	4,916	10.5	3,749	10.0	1,167	31.1	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	1,773	3.8	1,248	3.3	525	42.1	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only ^(b)	13,306	28.4	10,180	27.3	3,126	30.7	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment ^(c)	346	0.7	226	0.6	120	53.1	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc ^(d)	2,241	4.8	1,938	5.2	303	15.6	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
Victoria	46,901	100.0	37,345	100.0	9,556	25.6	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, Malaysia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation ^(a)	Malaysia-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>	30,750	61.4	24,924	62.6	5,826	23.4	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	27,995	55.9	23,087	58.0	4,908	21.3	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	2,755	5.5	1,837	4.6	918	50.0	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	15,912	31.8	12,215	30.7	3,697	30.3	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	234	0.5	203	0.5	31	15.3	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> ^(b)	3,145	6.3	2,445	6.1	700	28.6	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
Victoria	50,049	100.0	39,790	100.0	10,259	25.8	5,926,624	100.0	5,354,039	100.0	572,585	10.7
<i>Participation rate</i> ^(c)	65.6%		66.7%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ^(d)	9.0%		7.4%				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, Malaysia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Occupation ^(a)	Malaysia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	3,537	12.6	2,731	11.8	806	29.5	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	11,774	42.1	10,633	46.1	1,141	10.7	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	2,192	7.8	1,700	7.4	492	28.9	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	2,357	8.4	1,501	6.5	856	57.0	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	3,734	13.3	3,357	14.5	377	11.2	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	1,810	6.5	1,350	5.8	460	34.1	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	540	1.9	376	1.6	164	43.6	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	1,613	5.8	977	4.2	636	65.1	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated ^(b)	431	1.5	456	2.0	-25	-5.5	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
Victoria	27,995	100.0	23,087	100.0	4,908	21.3	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, Malaysia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Industry of employment ^(a)	Malaysia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	296	1.1	179	0.8	117	65.4	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	1,606	5.7	1,801	7.8	-195	-10.8	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	304	1.1	236	1.0	68	28.8	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	793	2.8	557	2.4	236	42.4	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	3,277	11.7	3,031	13.1	246	8.1	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	3,098	11.1	1,873	8.1	1,225	65.4	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	800	2.9	634	2.7	166	26.2	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	692	2.5	580	2.5	112	19.3	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	2,085	7.4	2,064	8.9	21	1.0	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	656	2.3	347	1.5	309	89.0	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	4,614	16.5	4,075	17.7	539	13.2	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	926	3.3	906	3.9	20	2.2	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	2,008	7.2	1,594	6.9	414	26.0	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	4,520	16.1	3,994	17.3	526	13.2	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	1,034	3.7	808	3.5	226	28.0	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	1,272	4.5	419	1.8	853	203.6	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
Victoria	27,995	100.0	23,087	100.0	4,908	21.3	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), Malaysia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Total personal income, weekly ^(a)	Malaysia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	361	0.8	258	0.7	103	39.9	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	8,643	18.4	6,335	17.0	2,308	36.4	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	8,568	18.3	7,539	20.2	1,029	13.6	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	7,798	16.6	6,038	16.2	1,760	29.1	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	7,007	14.9	6,607	17.7	400	6.1	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	8,131	17.3	6,378	17.1	1,753	27.5	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	5,664	12.1	3,624	9.7	2,040	56.3	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	741	1.6	573	1.5	168	29.3	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
Victoria	46,901	100.0	37,345	100.0	9,556	25.6	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*.