

The Poland-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (ranked 31)

Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 14,706 Poland-born persons in Victoria (32.4% of Australia's total), ranked 31st among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Poland-born decreased by 10.2% (1,677) from 16,383 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with concentrations in the LGAs of Glen Eira (9.8%), Casey (8.6%), Brimbank (7.2%), Monash (4.8%) and Greater Dandenong (4.7%); 8.1% of the Poland-born in Victoria live in regional Victoria.

The Poland-born reflected an ageing profile: 2.7% were aged 25 years and under; 21.9% were aged 26-44; 34.0% were aged 45-64; and 41.6% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 61 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 73 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 56,548 persons identified with Polish ancestry. Most of them were born in Australia (61.1%) and Poland (24.0%). Most (81.8%) of the Poland-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 3.4% arrived in 1996-2000; 3.7% arrived in 2001-2005; 3.6% arrived in 2006-2010; and 4.6% arrived in 2011-2016.

Most of the Poland-born speak Polish (69.1%); 25.2% speak English only. Of those who speak a language other than English at home, 11.0% speak English not well/not at all. Two-thirds (66.0%) of the Poland-born are Catholic; 8.1% are Jewish; and 2.1% are 7th-day-Adventist; 13.6% have no religion. Most (88.8%) of the Poland-born have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

Poland-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)	13,581	29.9	15,059	30.9	16,497	31.6	-1,478	-9.8	-1,438	-8.7
Rest of Victoria ^(b)	1,123	2.5	1,329	2.7	1,572	3.0	-206	-15.5	-243	-15.5
Total Victoria	14,706	32.4	16,383	33.7	18,071	34.6	-1,677	-10.2	-1,688	-9.3
Total Australia	45,368	100.0	48,677	100.0	52,254	100.0	-3,309	-6.8	-3,577	-6.8

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

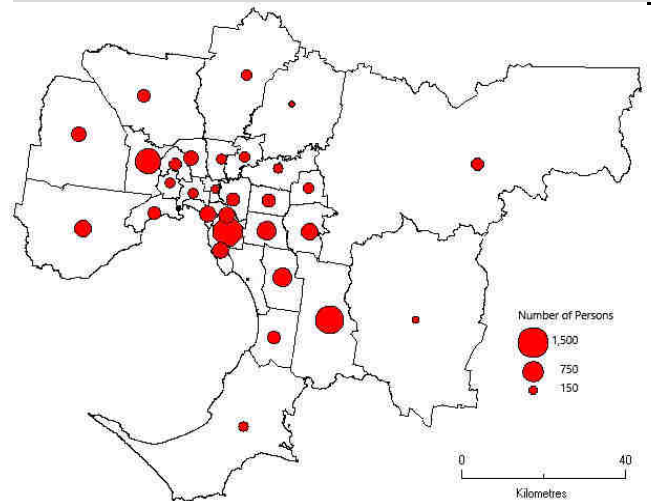
^(b) Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

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

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Glen Eira (C)	1,440	9.8	1,849	11.3	1
Casey (C)	1,261	8.6	1,277	7.8	3
Brimbank (C)	1,059	7.2	1,284	7.8	2
Monash (C)	700	4.8	777	4.7	5
Gter Dandenong (C)	693	4.7	865	5.3	4
Rest of Melbourne	8,339	56.7	8,955	54.7	-
Rest of Reg Vic ^(a)	1,191	8.1	1,379	8.4	-
Total Victoria	14,706	100.0	16,383	100.0	-

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

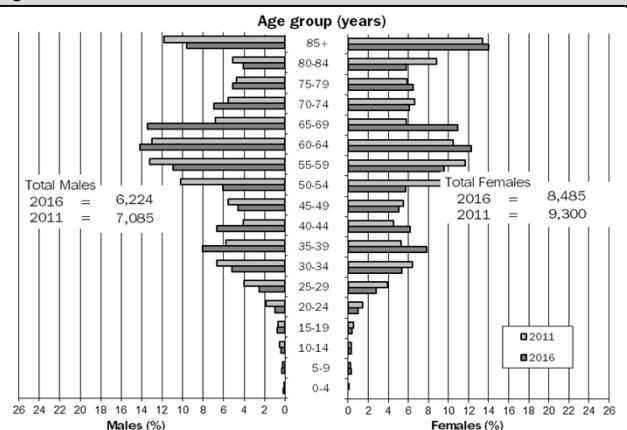
Distribution of Poland-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016



Age Distribution of Poland-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	11	0.1	17	0.1	-35.3
5-11	55	0.4	59	0.4	-6.8
12-18	96	0.7	103	0.6	-6.8
19-25	220	1.5	383	2.3	-42.6
26-44	3,224	21.9	3,229	19.7	-0.2
45-54	1,582	10.8	2,494	15.2	-36.6
55-64	3,410	23.2	3,922	23.9	-13.1
65-74	2,706	18.4	2,024	12.4	33.7
75+	3,405	23.2	4,148	25.3	-17.9
Total Victoria	14,706	100.0	16,383	100.0	-10.2
<i>Median Age</i>	61		59		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	73		76 males per 100 females		

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



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

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Poland	13,592	24.0	14,892	28.0	-8.7
Germany	2,473	4.4	2,472	4.6	0.0
England	1,111	2.0	933	1.8	19.1
USA	639	1.1	453	0.9	41.1
Israel	510	0.9	441	0.8	15.6
Australia	34,538	61.1	31,029	58.3	11.3
Other ^(a)	3,674	6.5	2,978	5.6	23.4
Total responses^(b)	56,548	100.0	53,198	100.0	6.3

^(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 Poland-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Polish	10,158	69.1	11,260	68.7	-9.8
Yiddish	204	1.4	331	2.0	-38.4
German	139	0.9	153	0.9	-9.2
Hebrew	75	0.5	107	0.7	-29.9
Russian	60	0.4	57	0.3	5.3
Other languages ^(a)	233	1.6	287	1.8	-18.8
English only	3,711	25.2	4,017	24.5	-7.6
Not stated	105	0.7	171	1.0	-38.6
Total Victoria	14,706	100.0	16,383	100.0	-10.2

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

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

Religious affiliation ^(a)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Catholic	9,700	66.0	11,249	68.7	-13.8
Judaism	1,187	8.1	1,664	10.2	-28.7
7th-day Adventist	303	2.1	340	2.1	-10.9
Christian, nfd	212	1.4	214	1.3	-0.9
Eastern Orthodox	101	0.7	153	0.9	-34.0
Other religions	512	3.5	678	4.1	-24.5
No religion ^(b)	2,006	13.6	1,471	9.0	36.4
Not stated	662	4.5	614	3.7	7.8
Total Victoria	14,706	100.0	16,383	100.0	-10.2

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

^(b) No Religion, so described.

Year of Arrival of Poland-born: 2016

Year of arrival ^(a)	Poland-born		Total OSB, Vic ^(c)	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	12,029	81.8	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	504	3.4	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	545	3.7	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	533	3.6	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 ^(b)	682	4.6	381,130	22.7
Not stated	415	2.8	58,517	3.5
Total Victoria	14,706	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 Poland-born: 2016, 2011

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	3,711	25.2	4,017	24.5	-7.6
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	5,474	37.2	5,672	34.6	-3.5
Well	3,757	25.5	4,705	28.7	-20.1
Not well	1,428	9.7	1,608	9.8	-11.2
Not at all	190	1.3	193	1.2	-1.6
Not stated ^(a)	149	1.0	185	1.1	-19.5
Total Victoria	14,706	100.0	16,383	100.0	-10.2

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

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

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	6	0.0	11	0.1	-45.5
5-11	31	0.2	32	0.2	-3.1
12-18	62	0.5	70	0.5	-11.4
19-25	136	1.0	315	2.1	-56.8
26-44	2,439	18.7	2,633	17.6	-7.4
45-64	4,673	35.8	6,091	40.7	-23.3
65-74	2,576	19.7	1,933	12.9	33.3
75+	3,145	24.1	3,874	25.9	-18.8
Total	13,056	100.0	14,956	100.0	-12.7
% of Poland-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					88.8%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

Economic characteristics

The education levels of the Poland-born are fairly similar to total Victoria: 10.5% have a postgraduate degree, 16.7% have a bachelor degree and 12.6% have an advanced diploma or diploma, compared to 5.4%, 16.5% and 9.2% for Victoria; 31.9% have school education only, compared to 38.7% for Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the Poland-born at 49.1% is lower than that for total Victoria at 60.5%. The unemployment rate for the Poland-born at 5.8% is also lower than for total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Poland-born are similar to those for total Victoria, with some exceptions. More of the Poland-born work as professionals (29.2%) and technicians and trades workers (14.8%), compared to 23.3% and 13.1% for total Victoria. Less of them are sales workers (5.7%) compared to 9.7% for Victoria.

The employment patterns of the Poland-born are also fairly similar to total Victoria. More of them are employed in manufacturing (11.1%), professional, scientific, technical & administration (14.7%) and healthcare & social assistance (17.0%), compared to 7.8%, 11.4% and 12.5% for Victoria. Less of the Poland-born are employed in wholesale & retail trade (10.2%) and accommodation & food services (3.2%) compared to 13.4% and 6.6% for Victoria.

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the Poland-born is slightly different from total Victoria. More of them receive \$1-\$399 (24.4%) and \$400-\$799 (28.6%), compared to 20.1% and 23.1% for Victoria. Less of the Poland-born receive nil income (6.4%) and \$800-\$1,249 (15.1%), compared to 9.7% and 16.7% for Victoria.

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

Highest level of educational attainment ^(a)	Poland-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	1,526	10.5	1,267	7.8	259	20.4	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	242	1.7	249	1.5	-7	-2.8	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	2,439	16.7	2,363	14.5	76	3.2	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	1,842	12.6	1,803	11.1	39	2.2	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	2,080	14.2	2,276	14.0	-196	-8.6	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only ^(b)	4,660	31.9	5,717	35.1	-1,057	-18.5	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment ^(c)	157	1.1	207	1.3	-50	-24.2	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc ^(d)	1,659	11.4	2,394	14.7	-735	-30.7	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
Victoria	14,601	100.0	16,274	100.0	-1,673	-10.3	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, Poland-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation ^(a)	Poland-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>	7,167	48.7	7,983	48.7	-816	-10.2	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	6,754	45.9	7,548	46.1	-794	-10.5	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	413	2.8	435	2.7	-22	-5.1	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	7,173	48.8	7,800	47.6	-627	-8.0	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	256	1.7	493	3.0	-237	-48.1	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> ^(b)	107	0.7	107	0.7	-	-	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
Victoria	14,706	100.0	16,383	100.0	-1,677	-10.2	5,926,624	100.0	5,354,039	100.0	572,585	10.7
<i>Participation rate</i> ^(c)	49.1%		49.0%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ^(d)	5.8%		5.4%				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, Poland-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Occupation ^(a)	Poland-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	792	11.7	830	11.0	-38	-4.6	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	1,970	29.2	2,029	26.9	-59	-2.9	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	999	14.8	1,221	16.2	-222	-18.2	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	692	10.2	687	9.1	5	0.7	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	809	12.0	892	11.8	-83	-9.3	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	384	5.7	453	6.0	-69	-15.2	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	430	6.4	514	6.8	-84	-16.3	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	553	8.2	703	9.3	-150	-21.3	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated ^(b)	131	1.9	231	3.1	-100	-43.3	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
Victoria	6,754	100.0	7,548	100.0	-794	-10.5	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, Poland-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Industry of employment ^(a)	Poland-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	51	0.8	55	0.7	-4	-7.3	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	747	11.1	1,168	15.5	-421	-36.0	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	71	1.1	69	0.9	2	2.9	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	516	7.6	637	8.4	-121	-19.0	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	692	10.2	839	11.1	-147	-17.5	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	215	3.2	240	3.2	-25	-10.4	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	340	5.0	334	4.4	6	1.8	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	161	2.4	165	2.2	-4	-2.4	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	236	3.5	247	3.3	-11	-4.5	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	127	1.9	109	1.4	18	16.5	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	994	14.7	1,092	14.5	-98	-9.0	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	355	5.3	376	5.0	-21	-5.6	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	473	7.0	458	6.1	15	3.3	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	1,149	17.0	1,197	15.9	-48	-4.0	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	300	4.4	350	4.6	-50	-14.3	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	333	4.9	218	2.9	115	52.8	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
Victoria	6,754	100.0	7,548	100.0	-794	-10.5	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), Poland-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Total personal income, weekly ^(a)	Poland-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	70	0.5	80	0.5	-10	-12.5	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	933	6.4	942	5.8	-9	-1.0	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	3,558	24.4	6,060	37.2	-2,502	-41.3	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	4,176	28.6	3,278	20.1	898	27.4	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	2,204	15.1	2,482	15.3	-278	-11.2	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	1,958	13.4	1,695	10.4	263	15.5	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	1,072	7.3	885	5.4	187	21.1	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	633	4.3	851	5.2	-218	-25.6	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
Victoria	14,601	100.0	16,274	100.0	-1,673	-10.3	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*.