

**Demographic characteristics**

At the 2016 Census, there were 27,184 South Africa-born persons in Victoria (16.7% of Australia’s total), ranked 11<sup>th</sup> among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The South Africa-born increased by 11.2% (2,738) from 24,446 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with concentrations in the LGAs of Glen Eira (11.8%), Casey (7.6%), Kingston (4.6%), Manningham (4.4%) and Wyndham (4.3%); 12.0% live in regional Victoria

The South Africa-born reflected a balanced age profile: 19.3% were aged 25 years and under; 34.1% were aged 26-44; 32.7% were aged 45-64; and 13.9% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 43 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 96 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 21,915 persons identified with South African ancestry. Most of them were born in South Africa (56.1%); 36.7% were born in Australia. One-third (35.0%) of the South Africa-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 12.9% arrived in 1996-2000; 15.3% arrived in 2001-2005; 19.3% arrived in 2006-2010; and 15.7% arrived in 2011-2016.

Most (77.4%) of the South Africa-born speak English only; 18.1% speak Afrikaans. They follow a variety of religions: 12.6% are Anglican; 12.4% are Catholic; 12.2% are Jewish; 8.8% are Christian not further defined and 4.5% are Baptist; 21.4% have no religion. Three-quarters (74.4%) of the South Africa-born have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for the overseas-born in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

**South Africa-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>	24,168	14.9	21,813	15.0	17,420	16.7	2,355	10.8	4,393	25.2
Rest of Victoria <sup>(b)</sup>	3,017	1.9	2,640	1.8	1,926	1.8	377	14.3	714	37.1
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>24,446</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>19,348</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>2,738</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>5,098</b>	<b>26.3</b>
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>162,449</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>145,683</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>104,132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>16,766</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>41,551</b>	<b>39.9</b>

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

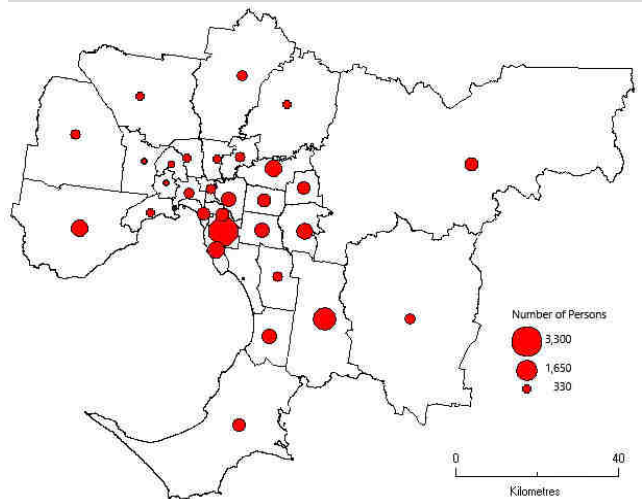
<sup>(b)</sup> Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

**Distribution of South Africa-born, Top 5 LGAs: 2016 Census**

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Glen Eira (C)	3,214	11.8	3,026	12.4	1
Casey (C)	2,059	7.6	1,933	7.9	2
Kingston (C)	1,254	4.6	1,056	4.3	5
Manningham (C)	1,208	4.4	1,406	5.8	3
Wyndham (C)	1,170	4.3	911	3.7	9
Rest of Melbourne	15,001	55.2	13,312	54.5	-
Rest of Reg Vic <sup>(a)</sup>	3,261	12.0	2,801	11.5	-
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>	-

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

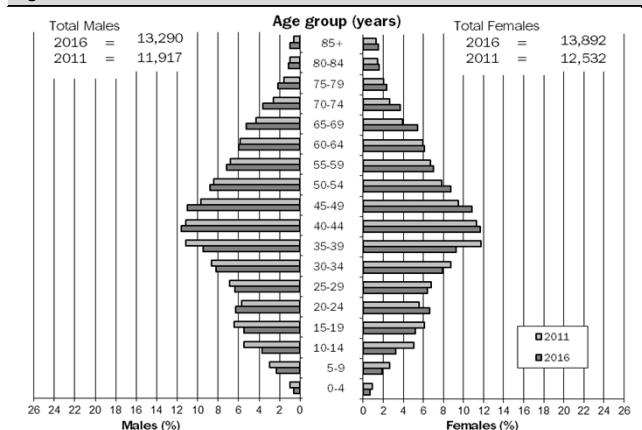
**Distribution of South Africa-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016**



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

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	174	0.6	230	0.9	-24.3
5-11	924	3.4	1,126	4.6	-17.9
12-18	1,700	6.3	2,075	8.5	-18.1
19-25	2,442	9.0	1,984	8.1	23.1
26-44	9,263	34.1	9,026	36.9	2.6
45-54	5,339	19.6	4,329	17.7	23.3
55-64	3,573	13.1	3,082	12.6	15.9
65-74	2,440	9.0	1,633	6.7	49.4
75+	1,326	4.9	960	3.9	38.1
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<i>Median Age</i>	43		40		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	96		95		<i>males per 100 females</i>

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



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

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
South Africa	12,291	56.1	12,335	61.9	-0.4
England	437	2.0	323	1.6	35.3
New Zealand	230	1.0	147	0.7	56.5
Zimbabwe	227	1.0	216	1.1	5.1
USA	72	0.3	47	0.2	53.2
Australia	8,052	36.7	6,322	31.7	27.4
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	588	2.7	544	2.7	8.1
<b>Total responses<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>21,915</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>19,934</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9.9</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 South Africa-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Afrikaans	4,931	18.1	3,995	16.3	23.4
Greek	120	0.4	109	0.4	10.1
German	107	0.4	91	0.4	17.6
Hebrew	74	0.3	51	0.2	45.1
Cantonese	62	0.2	49	0.2	26.5
Other languages <sup>(a)</sup>	678	2.5	652	2.7	4.0
English only	21,037	77.4	19,366	79.2	8.6
Not stated	131	0.5	133	0.5	-1.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11.2</b>

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

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

Religious affiliation <sup>(a)</sup>	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Anglican	3,422	12.6	3,731	15.3	-8.3
Catholic	3,362	12.4	3,480	14.2	-3.4
Judaism	3,318	12.2	3,451	14.1	-3.9
Christian, nfd	2,293	8.4	1,467	6.0	56.3
Baptist	1,216	4.5	1,251	5.1	-2.8
Other religions	6,494	23.9	6,749	27.6	-3.8
No religion <sup>(b)</sup>	5,827	21.4	3,451	14.1	68.8
Not stated	1,223	4.5	866	3.5	41.2
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11.2</b>

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

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

**Year of Arrival of South Africa-born: 2016**

Year of arrival <sup>(a)</sup>	South Africa-born		Total OSB, Vic <sup>(c)</sup>	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	9,522	35.0	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	3,520	12.9	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	4,159	15.3	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	5,237	19.3	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 <sup>(b)</sup>	4,259	15.7	381,130	22.7
Not stated	479	1.8	58,517	3.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</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 Africa-born: 2016, 2011**

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	21,037	77.4	19,366	79.2	8.6
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	5,620	20.7	4,555	18.6	23.4
Well	383	1.4	377	1.5	1.6
Not well	43	0.2	40	0.2	7.5
Not at all	11	0.0	4	0.0	175.0
Not stated <sup>(a)</sup>	83	0.3	94	0.4	-11.7
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11.2</b>

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

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

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	18	0.1	24	0.1	-25.0
5-11	375	1.9	407	2.4	-7.9
12-18	1,207	6.0	1,297	7.5	-6.9
19-25	1,892	9.4	1,424	8.3	32.9
26-44	6,064	30.0	5,753	33.5	5.4
45-64	7,361	36.4	6,036	35.1	22.0
65-74	2,155	10.7	1,442	8.4	49.4
75+	1,149	5.7	819	4.8	40.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,226</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17,191</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17.7</b>
% of South Africa-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					74.4%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

## Economic characteristics

The education levels of the South Africa-born are higher than those for total Victoria. More of them (9.3%) have a postgraduate degree, 28.6% have a bachelor degree and 15.6% have an advanced diploma or diploma, compared to 5.4%, 16.5% and 9.2% for Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the South Africa-born at 75.3% is higher than that of total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate at 5.5% is lower than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the South Africa-born are different from those for total Victoria. More of the South Africa-born are managers (18.3%) and professionals (36.4%), compared to 13.5% and 23.3% for Victoria. Less of them are technicians and trades workers (8.8%), machinery operators & drivers (2.0%) and labourers (3.7%), compared to 13.1%, 5.8% and 9.0% for Victoria.

The industry of employment patterns of the South Africa-born are similar to those for total Victoria, with some exceptions. Less of them (5.0%) are employed in construction; 4.2% are in accommodation & food services; and 2.8% are in transport, postal & warehousing, compared to 8.3%, 6.6% and 4.8% for Victoria. More of them are employed in finance & insurance (6.1%), professional, scientific, technical & administration (17.1%) and healthcare & social assistance (14.8%), compared to 3.9%, 11.4% and 12.5% for Victoria.

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the South Africa-born is higher than total Victoria. More of them receive \$1,250-\$1,999 (19.7%) and \$2,000 or more (19.0%), compared to 13.6% and 7.5% for Victoria. Less of them receive \$1-\$399 (14.5%) and \$400-\$799 (16.8%), compared to 20.1% and 23.1% for Victoria.

### Highest level of educational attainment, South Africa-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Highest level of educational attainment <sup>(a)</sup>	South Africa-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	2,374	9.3	1,749	7.9	625	35.7	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	885	3.5	719	3.2	166	23.1	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	7,292	28.6	5,881	26.4	1,411	24.0	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	3,981	15.6	3,435	15.4	546	15.9	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	2,848	11.2	2,430	10.9	418	17.2	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only <sup>(b)</sup>	6,576	25.8	6,444	29.0	132	2.0	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment <sup>(c)</sup>	14	0.1	8	0.0	6	75.0	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc <sup>(d)</sup>	1,536	6.0	1,596	7.2	-60	-3.8	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>25,511</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>22,255</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,256</b>	<b>14.6</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, South Africa-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation <sup>(a)</sup>	South Africa-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>	19,202	70.6	16,686	68.3	2,516	15.1	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	18,139	66.7	15,903	65.1	2,236	14.1	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	1,063	3.9	783	3.2	280	35.8	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	6,173	22.7	5,371	22.0	802	14.9	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	135	0.5	194	0.8	-59	-30.4	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> <sup>(b)</sup>	1,673	6.2	2,189	9.0	-516	-23.6	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>27,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,738</b>	<b>11.2</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>	75.3%		75.0%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> <sup>(d)</sup>	5.5%		4.7%				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, South Africa-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Occupation <sup>(a)</sup>	South Africa-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	3,319	18.3	2,612	16.4	707	27.1	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	6,594	36.4	5,880	37.0	714	12.1	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	1,593	8.8	1,573	9.9	20	1.3	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	1,494	8.2	1,142	7.2	352	30.8	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	2,514	13.9	2,350	14.8	164	7.0	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	1,373	7.6	1,135	7.1	238	21.0	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	371	2.0	328	2.1	43	13.1	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	664	3.7	595	3.7	69	11.6	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated <sup>(b)</sup>	222	1.2	279	1.8	-57	-20.4	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>18,139</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,903</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,236</b>	<b>14.1</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, South Africa-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Industry of employment <sup>(a)</sup>	South Africa-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	245	1.4	161	1.0	84	52.2	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	1,404	7.7	1,609	10.1	-205	-12.7	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	213	1.2	163	1.0	50	30.7	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	902	5.0	822	5.2	80	9.7	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	2,252	12.4	2,238	14.1	14	0.6	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	762	4.2	600	3.8	162	27.0	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	508	2.8	394	2.5	114	28.9	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	447	2.5	332	2.1	115	34.6	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	1,098	6.1	1,061	6.7	37	3.5	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	284	1.6	199	1.3	85	42.7	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	3,098	17.1	2,783	17.5	315	11.3	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	719	4.0	586	3.7	133	22.7	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	1,878	10.4	1,527	9.6	351	23.0	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	2,689	14.8	2,357	14.8	332	14.1	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	912	5.0	790	5.0	122	15.4	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	724	4.0	281	1.8	443	157.7	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>18,139</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,903</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,236</b>	<b>14.1</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), South Africa-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Total personal income, weekly <sup>(a)</sup>	South Africa-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	103	0.4	97	0.4	6	6.2	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	2,634	10.3	2,310	10.4	324	14.0	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	3,687	14.5	4,089	18.4	-402	-9.8	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	4,277	16.8	3,666	16.5	611	16.7	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	4,242	16.6	4,104	18.4	138	3.4	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	5,024	19.7	3,861	17.3	1,163	30.1	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	4,858	19.0	3,516	15.8	1,342	38.2	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	681	2.7	607	2.7	74	12.2	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>25,511</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>22,255</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,256</b>	<b>14.6</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*.