FACT SHEET NUMBER A–98

THE GAZA STRIP AND WEST BANK-BORN COMMUNITY IN VICTORIA: 2011 CENSUS

At the 2011 Census, there were 735 Gaza Strip and West Bank-born persons in Victoria (27.3% of Australia's total), decreasing by 9.5% (77) from 812 persons in 2006. The Gaza Strip and West Bank-born were distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with slight concentrations in the local government areas of Knox (9.3%); Casey (8.9%); Whittlesea (8.0%); Manningham (5.9%); and Greater Dandenong (5.7%). Almost two-thirds (64.5%) of the Gaza Strip and West Bank-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1991; 16.2% had arrived between 1991 and 2000; and 16.2% had arrived between 2001 and 2011.

The Gaza Strip and West Bank-born community reflected an ageing profile: 7.0% were aged 25 years and below; 14.0% were aged 26-44 years; 25.3% were aged 45-64 years; 29.6% were aged 65-74 years; and 24.1% were aged 75 years and over. The median age was 66 years, compared to 37 years for the total Victorian population. The gender ratio was 118 males to 100 females, compared to 98 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

Almost one-third (32.9%) followed Islam; 13.6% were Greek Orthodox; 13.2% were Western Catholic; 13.2% followed Temple Society; 4.4% had no religion. Four-fifths (79.5%) spoke a language other than English; 12.5% assessed themselves as speaking English not well or not at all. Most (88.4%) held Australian Citizenship, compared to 63.1% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria. Over two-fifths (44.2%) of the Gaza Strip and West Bank-born aged 15 years and over received a weekly personal income of less than $400; 8.3% received no income.

Demographic Background

Persons born in Gaza Strip and West Bank in Victoria and Australia: 2011, 2006 and 2001 Census

	2011 Census		2006 Census		2001 Census		Change 2006-2011		Change 2001-2006	
Location	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	% change
Metropolitan Melbourne[a]	672	24.9	751	28.5	827	30.8	-79	-10.5	-76	-9.2
Rest of Victoria[b]	63	2.3	61	2.3	54	2.0	2	3.3	7	13.0
Total Victoria	735	27.3	812	30.8	881	32.8	-77	-9.5	-69	-7.8
Total Australia	2,694	100.0	2,637	100.0	2,684	100.0	57	2.2	-47	-1.8

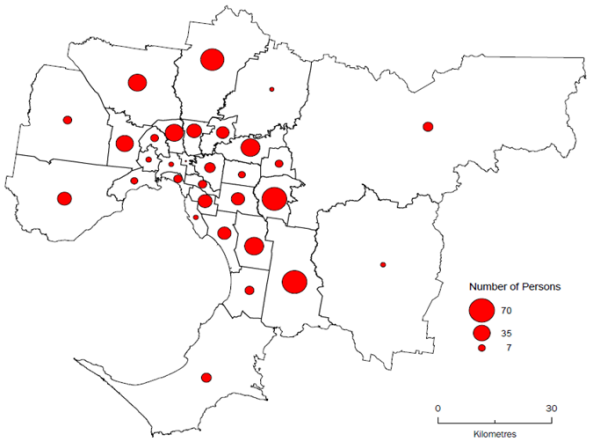
[a] Included "Undefined Melbourne" in 2001.

[b] Includes 'No Usual Address, Victoria'.

Distribution of Gaza Strip and West Bank-born,Top 5 Local Government Areas

	2011 Census		2006 Census		Rank in 2006
Local Government Area	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Knox	68	9.3	103	12.7	1
Casey	65	8.9	85	10.5	2
Whittlesea	59	8.0	43	5.3	5
Manningham	43	5.9	53	6.5	3
Greater Dandenong	42	5.7	44	5.4	4
Rest of LGAs, Metro Melb	395	53.8	421	51.9	
Rest of LGAs, Reg. Vic	62	8.4	62	7.6	
Total Victoria	734	100.0	811	100.0	

Distribution of Gaza Strip & West Bank-Born in Melbourne,2011



Year of Arrival of Gaza Strip and West Bank-born: 2011

	Gaza Strip and West Bank-born		Total OSB, Vic[a]	
Year of Arrival[b]	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1991	474	64.5	682,720	48.6
1991 - 1995	78	10.6	89,119	6.3
1996 - 2000	41	5.6	104,896	7.5
2001 - 2005	60	8.2	151,488	10.8
2006 - 2011	59	8.0	316,244	22.5
Not stated	23	3.1	60,867	4.3
Total	735	100.0	1,405,334	100.0

[a] OSB stands for Overseas-born.

[b] Records the year of arrival in Australia for people born overseas who intend staying in Australia for at least one year.

Compiled by Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship
Department of Premier and Cabinet, Victoria, www.multicultural.vic.gov.au

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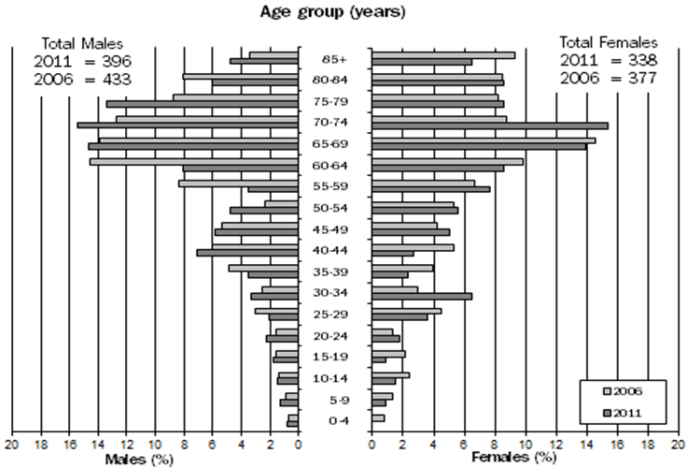
Age Distribution of Gaza Strip and West Bank-born: 2011, 2006

Age group (years)	2011 Census Persons	2011 Census %	2006 Census Persons	2006 Census %	2006-2011 % change
0-4	3	0.4	4	0.5	-25.0
5-11	13	1.8	18	2.2	-27.8
12-18	13	1.8	15	1.8	-13.3
19-25	22	3.0	23	2.8	-4.3
26-44	103	14.0	136	16.8	-24.3
45-54	86	11.7	68	8.4	26.5
55-64	100	13.6	159	19.6	-37.1
65-74	217	29.6	201	24.8	8.0
75+	177	24.1	187	23.1	-5.3
Total	734	100.0	811	100.0	-9.5
Sex Ratio	*118*		*males per 100 females*		
Median Age	*66*		*63*		

Age and Gender Distribution of Gaza Strip and West Bank-Born, 2011



Top 5 Religions of Gaza Strip and West Bank-born: 2011, 2006

Religion	2011 Census Persons	2011 Census %	2006 Census Persons	2006 Census %	2006-2011 % change
Islam	242	32.9	200	24.8	21.0
Greek Orthodox	100	13.6	111	13.7	-9.9
Western Catholic	97	13.2	127	15.7	-23.6
Temple Society	97	13.2	130	16.1	-25.4
Antiochian Orthodox	33	4.5	38	4.7	-13.2
Other religions	104	14.1	139	17.2	-25.2
No religion	32	4.4	32	4.0	0.0
Not stated[(a)]	30	4.1	31	3.8	-3.2
Total	735	100.0	808	100.0	-9.0

[(a)] Includes 'Religious Belief, not further defined' and 'Not Defined'.

Proficiency in English of Gaza Strip and West Bank-born: 2011, 2006

Proficiency in English	2011 Census Persons	2011 Census %	2006 Census Persons	2006 Census %	2006-2011 % change
Speaks English only	136	18.5	161	19.9	-15.5
Speaks other language and speaks English					
Very well	331	45.1	365	45.0	-9.3
Well	161	21.9	190	23.4	-15.3
Not well	81	11.0	65	8.0	24.6
Not at all	11	1.5	15	1.8	-26.7
Not stated[(a)]	14	1.9	15	1.8	-6.7
Total	734	100.0	811	100.0	-9.5

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

Gaza Strip & West Bank-born with Australian Citizenship by Age

Age group (years)	2011 Census Persons	2011 Census %	2006 Census Persons	2006 Census %	2006-2011 % change
0-4	4	0.6	-	-	-
5-11	8	1.2	15	2.1	-46.7
12-18	11	1.7	15	2.1	-26.7
19-25	16	2.5	14	2.0	14.3
26-44	82	12.6	105	14.6	-21.9
45-64	164	25.2	215	30.0	-23.7
65-74	207	31.8	187	26.1	10.7
75+	158	24.3	166	23.2	-4.8
Total	650	100.0	717	100.0	-9.3

nfd = not further defined

Total Personal Income (Weekly), Gaza Strip & West Bank-born: 2011

Total personal income (weekly)[(a)]	Gaza Strip and West Bank-born Persons	Gaza Strip and West Bank-born %	Tot Vic pop Persons	Tot Vic pop %
Negative/Nil	59	8.3	377,766	8.7
$1-199	41	5.8	341,700	7.8
$200-$399	274	38.4	882,992	20.3
$400-$599	108	15.1	504,498	11.6
$600-$799	55	7.7	459,629	10.6
$800-$999	38	5.3	367,453	8.4
$1,000-$1,499	45	6.3	584,245	13.4
$1,500-$1,999	24	3.4	255,935	5.9
$2,000 or more	27	3.8	246,378	5.7
Not stated	42	5.9	334,647	7.7
Total	713	100.0	4,355,243	100.0

[(a)]Applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

For more detailed tables on a wider range of demographic and socio-economic data for this community from the 2011 Census, refer to the Community Profiles series available for free download from www.multicultural.vic.gov.au.

Source of data : Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006, 2011.