

# The Ethiopia-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (ranked 48)

## Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 6,368 Ethiopia-born persons in Victoria (54.0% of Australia's total), ranked 48<sup>th</sup> among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Ethiopia-born increased by 41.9% (1,879) from 4,489 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with significant concentrations in the LGAs of Wyndham (20.1%), Brimbank (15.2%), Moonee Valley (8.1%), Maribyrnong (7.9%) and Greater Dandenong (6.8%).

The Ethiopia-born reflected a young to mature age profile: 24.5% were aged 25 years and below; 44.9% were aged 26-44 years; 27.9% were aged 45-64 years; and 2.8% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 37 years, similar to total Victoria. The gender ratio was 90 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 7,383 persons identified with Ethiopian ancestry. Most were born in Ethiopia (56.0%) and Australia (31.9%). Almost one-fifth (17.6%) of the Ethiopian-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 12.2% arrived in 1996-2000; 18.4% arrived in 2001-2005; 21.6% arrived in 2006-2010; and 26.4% arrived in 2011-2016.

The Ethiopia-born speak Amharic (42.3%), Oromo (20.9%), Tigrinya (11.2%) and Somali (3.4%). Of those who speak a language other than English, 12.5% speak English not well/not at all. The Ethiopia-born follow a variety of religions: Islam (30.3%), Oriental Orthodox (24.1%), Christian not further defined (11.8%), Eastern Orthodox (9.7%) and other Protestant (4.7%). Two-thirds (65.7%) have Australian citizenship, compared to 53.8% for the total overseas-born in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

### Ethiopia-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>	6,172	52.3	4,321	51.1	3,032	53.8	1,851	42.8	1,289	42.5
Rest of Victoria <sup>(b)</sup>	191	1.6	167	2.0	68	1.2	24	14.4	99	145.6
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>3,098</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>1,391</b>	<b>44.9</b>
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>11,792</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,452</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,634</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,340</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>2,818</b>	<b>50.0</b>

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

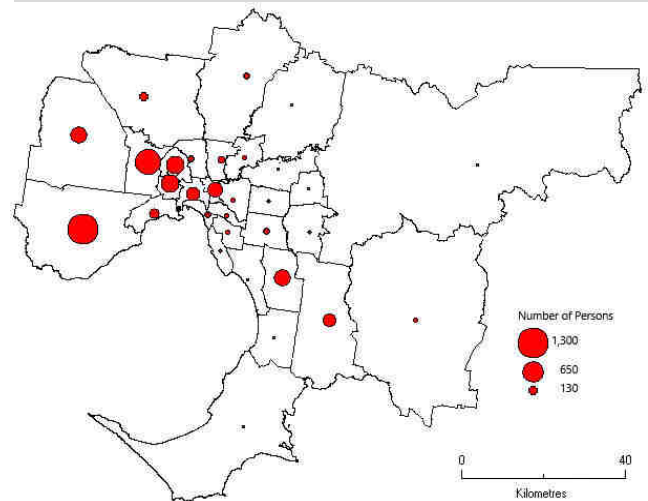
<sup>(b)</sup> Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

### Distribution of Ethiopia-born, Top 5 LGAs: 2016 Census

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Wyndham (C)	1,278	20.1	689	15.3	1
Brimbank (C)	966	15.2	624	13.9	2
Moonee Valley (C)	513	8.1	439	9.8	3
Maribyrnong (C)	502	7.9	432	9.6	4
Greater Dandenong (C)	431	6.8	316	7.0	5
Rest of Melbourne	2,493	39.1	1,822	40.6	-
Rest of Reg Vic <sup>(a)</sup>	196	3.1	161	3.6	-
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>100.0</b>	-

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

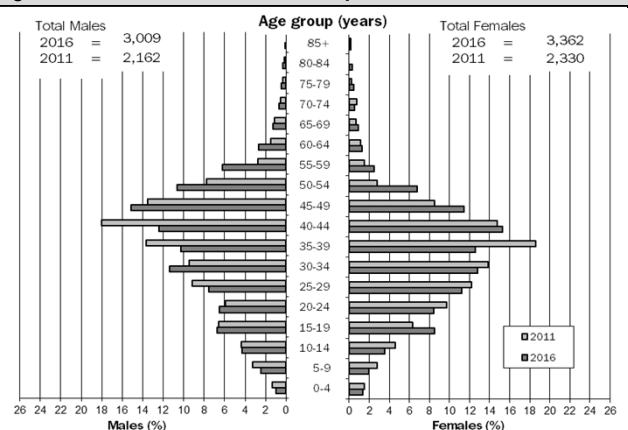
### Distribution of Ethiopia-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016



### Age Distribution of Ethiopia-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	75	1.2	58	1.3	29.3
5-11	228	3.6	194	4.3	17.5
12-18	534	8.4	379	8.4	40.9
19-25	719	11.3	497	11.1	44.7
26-44	2,862	44.9	2,378	53.0	20.4
45-54	1,391	21.8	727	16.2	91.3
55-64	386	6.1	153	3.4	152.3
65-74	113	1.8	69	1.5	63.8
75+	63	1.0	23	0.5	173.9
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>41.9</b>
<i>Median Age</i>	<i>37</i>		<i>36</i>		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	<i>90</i>		<i>93 males per 100 females</i>		

### Age and Gender Distribution of Ethiopia-born, Victoria, 2016



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

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Ethiopia	4,134	56.0	2,662	59.6	55.3
Sudan	258	3.5	188	4.2	37.2
New Zealand	102	1.4	56	1.3	82.1
Kenya	78	1.1	26	0.6	200.0
Eritrea	68	0.9	34	0.8	100.0
Australia	2,358	31.9	1,238	27.7	90.5
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	374	5.1	260	5.8	43.8
<b>Total responses<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>7,383</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,464</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65.4</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 Ethiopia-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Amharic	2,695	42.3	1,788	39.8	50.7
Oromo	1,332	20.9	920	20.5	44.8
Tigrinya	715	11.2	425	9.5	68.2
Harari	224	3.5	218	4.9	2.8
Somali	214	3.4	161	3.6	32.9
Other languages <sup>(a)</sup>	672	10.6	554	12.3	21.3
English only	432	6.8	346	7.7	24.9
Not stated	68	1.1	77	1.7	-11.7
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>41.9</b>

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

**Top 5 Religious affiliation, Ethiopia-born: 2016, 2011**

Religious affiliation <sup>(a)</sup>	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Islam	1,927	30.3	1,489	33.2	29.4
Oriental Orthodox	1,536	24.1	946	21.1	62.4
Christian, nfd	751	11.8	109	2.4	589.0
Eastern Orthodox	615	9.7	853	19.0	-27.9
Other Protestant	297	4.7	148	3.3	100.7
Other religions	813	12.8	742	16.5	9.6
No religion <sup>(b)</sup>	190	3.0	88	2.0	115.9
Not stated	237	3.7	114	2.5	107.9
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>41.9</b>

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

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

**Year of Arrival of Ethiopia-born: 2016**

Year of arrival <sup>(a)</sup>	Ethiopia-born		Total OSB, Vic <sup>(c)</sup>	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	1,123	17.6	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	778	12.2	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	1,174	18.4	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	1,377	21.6	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 <sup>(b)</sup>	1,679	26.4	381,130	22.7
Not stated	245	3.8	58,517	3.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</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 Ethiopia-born: 2016, 2011**

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	432	6.8	346	7.7	24.9
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	2,586	40.6	1,742	38.8	48.5
Well	2,428	38.1	1,746	38.9	39.1
Not well	673	10.6	474	10.6	42.0
Not at all	120	1.9	83	1.8	44.6
Not stated <sup>(a)</sup>	133	2.1	96	2.1	38.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>41.9</b>

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

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

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	32	0.8	25	0.8	28.0
5-11	110	2.6	106	3.4	3.8
12-18	245	5.9	203	6.5	20.7
19-25	331	7.9	261	8.4	26.8
26-44	1,833	43.8	1,666	53.7	10.0
45-64	1,487	35.5	770	24.8	93.1
65-74	94	2.2	60	1.9	56.7
75+	54	1.3	18	0.6	200.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,102</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>34.9</b>
% of Ethiopia-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					65.7%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

## Economic characteristics

The education levels of the Ethiopia-born are lower than for total Victoria: 13.2% have a bachelor degree or higher and 4.6% have no educational attainment, compared to 24.3% and 1.0% for Victoria. More of the Ethiopia-born have an advanced diploma and diploma (9.0%) and a certificate (18.3%), compared to 9.2% and 14.4% for Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the Ethiopia-born at 62.4% is fairly similar to total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate at 17.2% is much higher than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Ethiopia-born are different from those for total Victoria. Less of them work as managers (4.1%), professionals (11.5%), technicians and trades workers (5.2%) and clerical and administrative workers (5.5%), compared to total Victoria (13.5%, 23.3%, 13.1% and 13.3%). More of the Ethiopia-born work as community and personal service workers (28.7%), machinery operators and drivers (18.5%) and labourers (18.9%), compared to Victoria (10.6%, 5.8% and 9.0%).

The industry of employment patterns for the Ethiopia-born are also different from those for total Victoria. Less of them are employed in construction (1.3%), wholesale and retail trade (6.7%) and education and training (3.1%), compared to 8.3%, 13.4% and 8.6% for Victoria. More of them are employed in transport, postal and warehousing (14.4%) and healthcare and social assistance (32.7%), compared to Victoria (4.8% and 12.5%).

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the Ethiopia-born is different from total Victoria. More of them receive \$1-\$399 (28.8%) and \$400-\$799 (28.7%), compared to Victoria (20.1% and 23.1%). Less of them receive \$1,250-\$1,999 (6.3%) and \$2,000 or more (1.8%), compared to Victoria (13.6% and 7.5%).

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

Highest level of educational attainment <sup>(a)</sup>	Ethiopia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	185	3.1	99	2.4	86	86.9	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	66	1.1	32	0.8	34	106.3	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	529	9.0	339	8.3	190	56.0	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	764	12.9	384	9.4	380	99.0	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	1,077	18.3	596	14.6	481	80.7	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only <sup>(b)</sup>	2,249	38.1	1,742	42.6	507	29.1	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment <sup>(c)</sup>	273	4.6	220	5.4	53	24.1	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc <sup>(d)</sup>	756	12.8	690	16.9	66	9.6	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,091</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,809</b>	<b>44.2</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, Ethiopia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation <sup>(a)</sup>	Ethiopia-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>	3,688	57.9	2,469	55.0	1,219	49.4	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	3,053	47.9	2,090	46.6	963	46.1	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	635	10.0	379	8.4	256	67.5	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	2,089	32.8	1,458	32.5	631	43.3	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	125	2.0	171	3.8	-46	-26.9	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> <sup>(b)</sup>	462	7.3	400	8.9	62	15.5	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>41.9</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>	62.4%		60.4%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> <sup>(d)</sup>	17.2%		15.4%				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, Ethiopia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Occupation <sup>(a)</sup>	Ethiopia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	125	4.1	68	3.3	57	83.8	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	352	11.5	280	13.4	72	25.7	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	158	5.2	131	6.3	27	20.6	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	877	28.7	526	25.2	351	66.7	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	169	5.5	124	5.9	45	36.3	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	129	4.2	73	3.5	56	76.7	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	566	18.5	389	18.6	177	45.5	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	578	18.9	391	18.7	187	47.8	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated <sup>(b)</sup>	97	3.2	100	4.8	-3	-3.0	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>3,053</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>46.1</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, Ethiopia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Industry of employment <sup>(a)</sup>	Ethiopia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	10	0.3	13	0.6	-3	-23.1	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	297	9.7	330	15.8	-33	-10.0	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	12	0.4	7	0.3	5	71.4	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	39	1.3	34	1.6	5	14.7	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	204	6.7	165	7.9	39	23.6	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	142	4.7	83	4.0	59	71.1	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	440	14.4	314	15.0	126	40.1	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	13	0.4	10	0.5	3	30.0	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	47	1.5	27	1.3	20	74.1	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	8	0.3	5	0.2	3	60.0	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	301	9.9	148	7.1	153	103.4	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	79	2.6	55	2.6	24	43.6	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	95	3.1	57	2.7	38	66.7	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	997	32.7	654	31.3	343	52.4	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	99	3.2	49	2.3	50	102.0	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	279	9.1	132	6.3	147	111.4	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>3,053</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>46.1</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), Ethiopia-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Total personal income, weekly <sup>(a)</sup>	Ethiopia-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	99	1.7	62	1.5	37	59.7	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	656	11.1	346	8.5	310	89.6	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	1,701	28.8	1,537	37.6	164	10.7	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	1,695	28.7	1,119	27.4	576	51.5	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	901	15.3	477	11.7	424	88.9	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	374	6.3	160	3.9	214	133.8	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	106	1.8	49	1.2	57	116.3	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	375	6.4	348	8.5	27	7.8	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,091</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,809</b>	<b>44.2</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*.