

The Singapore-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (ranked 25)

Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 16,063 Singapore-born persons in Victoria (29.2% of Australia's total), ranked 25th among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Singapore-born increased by 17.3% (2,367) from 13,696 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with concentrations in Melbourne (12.2%), Monash (11.0%), Wyndham (6.7%), Boroondara (6.0%) and Whitehorse (6.0%).

The Singapore-born reflected a balanced age profile: 36.2% were aged 25 years and under; 32.5% were aged 26-44; 23.6% were aged 45-64; and 7.8% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 34 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 83 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 2,280 persons identified with Singaporean ancestry. Most of them were born in Singapore (57.2%); 34.0% were born in Australia. One-quarter (25.1%) of Singapore-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 8.1% arrived in 1996-2000; 16.7% arrived in 2001-2005; 19.2% arrived in 2006-2010; and 28.4% arrived in 2011-2016.

Most of the Singapore-born speak English (44.1%), Mandarin (32.8%), Malay (7.5%), Cantonese (4.9%) and Tamil (3.7%); 15.6% are Catholic; 9.0% are Buddhist; 8.8% are Muslim; 6.3% are Christian, not further defined; and 5.2% are Pentecostal; 25.5% of the Singapore-born have no religion. Half (48.5%) of the Singapore-born have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for overseas-born in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

Singapore-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)	15,349	27.9	13,048	26.8	9,884	24.7	2,301	17.6	3,164	32.0
Rest of Victoria ^(b)	712	1.3	652	1.3	591	1.5	60	9.2	61	10.3
Total Victoria	16,063	29.2	13,696	28.2	10,477	26.2	2,367	17.3	3,219	30.7
Total Australia	54,939	100.0	48,647	100.0	39,972	100.0	6,292	12.9	8,675	21.7

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

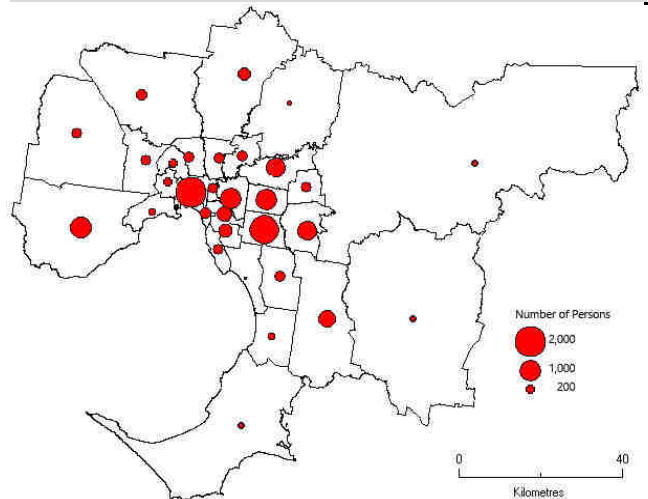
^(b) Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

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

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Melbourne (C)	1,964	12.2	1,836	13.4	1
Monash (C)	1,769	11.0	1,467	10.7	2
Wyndham (C)	1,073	6.7	806	5.9	5
Boroondara (C)	966	6.0	865	6.3	3
Whitehorse (C)	957	6.0	771	5.6	7
Rest of Melbourne	8,547	53.2	7,222	52.7	-
Rest of Reg Vic ^(a)	800	5.0	716	5.2	-
Total Victoria	16,063	100.0	13,696	100.0	-

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

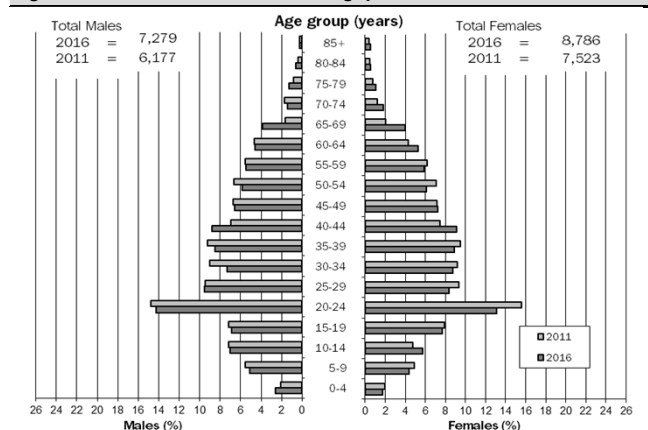
Distribution of Singapore-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016



Age Distribution of Singapore-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	334	2.1	273	2.0	22.3
5-11	1,121	7.0	1,011	7.4	10.9
12-18	1,524	9.5	1,292	9.4	18.0
19-25	2,827	17.6	2,630	19.2	7.5
26-44	5,224	32.5	4,509	32.9	15.9
45-54	2,070	12.9	1,900	13.9	8.9
55-64	1,713	10.7	1,420	10.4	20.6
65-74	900	5.6	448	3.3	100.9
75+	351	2.2	204	1.5	72.1
Total Victoria	16,063	100.0	13,696	100.0	17.3
<i>Median Age</i>	34		32		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	83		82		<i>males per 100 females</i>

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



Top 5 COBs of Persons with Singaporean Ancestry: 2016, 2011

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Singapore	1,304	57.2	1,002	64.5	30.1
Malaysia	39	1.7	14	0.9	178.6
England	27	1.2	9	0.6	200.0
New Zealand	22	1.0	9	0.6	144.4
Sri Lanka	10	0.4	5	0.3	100.0
Australia	775	34.0	474	30.5	63.5
Other ^(a)	89	3.9	40	2.6	122.5
Total responses^(b)	2,280	100.0	1,553	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 closely related to Singapore-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Mandarin	5,262	32.8	4,464	32.6	17.9
Malay	1,204	7.5	981	7.2	22.7
Cantonese	790	4.9	1,008	7.4	-21.6
Tamil	594	3.7	502	3.7	18.3
Min Nan	202	1.3	182	1.3	11.0
Other languages ^(a)	844	5.3	779	5.7	8.3
English only	7,076	44.1	5,720	41.8	23.7
Not stated	60	0.4	60	0.4	-
Total Victoria	16,063	100.0	13,696	100.0	17.3

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

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

Religious affiliation ^(a)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Catholic	2,502	15.6	2,179	15.9	14.8
Buddhism	1,448	9.0	1,562	11.4	-7.3
Islam	1,413	8.8	1,212	8.8	16.6
Christian, nfd	1,014	6.3	760	5.5	33.4
Pentecostal	834	5.2	697	5.1	19.7
Other religions	4,012	25.0	4,080	29.8	-1.7
No religion ^(b)	4,102	25.5	2,727	19.9	50.4
Not stated	756	4.7	479	3.5	57.8
Total Victoria	16,063	100.0	13,696	100.0	17.3

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

^(b) No Religion, so described.

Year of Arrival of Singapore-born: 2016

Year of arrival ^(a)	Singapore-born		Total OSB, Vic ^(c)	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	4,024	25.1	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	1,297	8.1	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	2,682	16.7	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	3,090	19.2	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 ^(b)	4,561	28.4	381,130	22.7
Not stated	413	2.6	58,517	3.5
Total Victoria	16,063	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 Singapore-born: 2016, 2011

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	7,076	44.1	5,720	41.8	23.7
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	7,406	46.1	6,435	47.0	15.1
Well	1,295	8.1	1,303	9.5	-0.6
Not well	173	1.1	152	1.1	13.8
Not at all	42	0.3	24	0.2	75.0
Not stated ^(a)	68	0.4	70	0.5	-2.9
Total Victoria	16,063	100.0	13,696	100.0	17.3

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

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

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	105	1.3	100	1.5	5.0
5-11	554	7.1	524	8.1	5.7
12-18	948	12.2	751	11.6	26.2
19-25	955	12.2	593	9.1	61.0
26-44	1,938	24.9	1,827	28.2	6.1
45-64	2,399	30.8	2,175	33.5	10.3
65-74	620	8.0	346	5.3	79.2
75+	273	3.5	157	2.4	73.9
Total	7,796	100.0	6,484	100.0	20.2
% of Singapore-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					48.5%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

Economic characteristics

The education levels of the Singapore-born are higher than for total Victoria: 13.5% have a postgraduate degree; 32.9% have a bachelor degree; and 12.0% have an advanced diploma or diploma, compared to 5.4%, 16.5% and 9.2%.

The labour force participation rate of the Singapore-born at 63.2% is lower than that of total Victoria at 60.5%. The unemployment rate for the Singapore-born at 9.8% is higher than for total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Singapore-born are different to those for total Victoria. Almost half (44.5%) work as professionals, compared to 23.3% for total Victoria. Less of the Singapore-born are technicians and trades workers (6.4%); machinery operators & drivers (2.3%); and labourers (3.6%), compared to 13.1%, 5.8% and 9.0% for total Victoria.

The industry of employment patterns of the Singapore-born are also significantly different to those of total Victoria. Less of them are employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing & mining (0.6%), manufacturing (5.3%) and construction (2.1%), compared to 2.6%, 7.8% and 8.3% for total Victoria. More are employed in professional, scientific, technical & administrative (16.4%), education & training (13.2%) and health care & social assistance (17.6%), compared to 11.4%, 8.6% and 12.5% for Victoria.

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the Singapore-born is different to total Victoria. More of them receive nil income (23.8%), \$1,250-\$1,999 (17.8%) and \$2,000 or more (10.2%), compared to 9.7%, 13.6% and 7.5% for total Victoria. Less of the Singapore-born receive \$1-\$399 (16.0%), \$400-\$799 (15.2%) and \$800-\$1,249 (14.9%), compared to 20.1%, 23.1% and 16.7% for Victoria.

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

Highest level of educational attainment ^(a)	Singapore-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	1,885	13.5	1,308	11.0	577	44.1	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	500	3.6	366	3.1	134	36.6	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	4,600	32.9	3,746	31.4	854	22.8	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	1,674	12.0	1,451	12.2	223	15.4	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	678	4.9	610	5.1	68	11.1	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only ^(b)	4,104	29.4	3,796	31.9	308	8.1	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment ^(c)	43	0.3	46	0.4	-3	-6.5	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc ^(d)	478	3.4	594	5.0	-116	-19.5	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
Victoria	13,963	100.0	11,916	100.0	2,047	17.2	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, Singapore-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation ^(a)	Singapore-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>	8,822	54.9	7,319	53.4	1,503	20.5	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	7,954	49.5	6,679	48.8	1,275	19.1	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	868	5.4	640	4.7	228	35.6	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	5,093	31.7	4,552	33.2	541	11.9	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	47	0.3	51	0.4	-4	-7.8	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> ^(b)	2,099	13.1	1,782	13.0	317	17.8	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
Victoria	16,063	100.0	13,696	100.0	2,367	17.3	5,926,624	100.0	5,354,039	100.0	572,585	10.7
<i>Participation rate</i> ^(c)	63.2%		61.4%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ^(d)	9.8%		8.7%				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, Singapore-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Occupation ^(a)	Singapore-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	1,004	12.6	831	12.4	173	20.8	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	3,536	44.5	2,840	42.5	696	24.5	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	506	6.4	484	7.2	22	4.5	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	649	8.2	536	8.0	113	21.1	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	1,107	13.9	1,005	15.0	102	10.1	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	583	7.3	480	7.2	103	21.5	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	179	2.3	132	2.0	47	35.6	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	283	3.6	224	3.4	59	26.3	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated ^(b)	110	1.4	146	2.2	-36	-24.7	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
Victoria	7,954	100.0	6,679	100.0	1,275	19.1	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, Singapore-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Industry of employment ^(a)	Singapore-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	45	0.6	44	0.7	1	2.3	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	424	5.3	554	8.3	-130	-23.5	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	73	0.9	62	0.9	11	17.7	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	170	2.1	143	2.1	27	18.9	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	897	11.3	805	12.1	92	11.4	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	468	5.9	393	5.9	75	19.1	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	280	3.5	231	3.5	49	21.2	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	212	2.7	194	2.9	18	9.3	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	546	6.9	480	7.2	66	13.8	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	150	1.9	112	1.7	38	33.9	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	1,305	16.4	1,165	17.4	140	12.0	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	337	4.2	279	4.2	58	20.8	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	1,053	13.2	788	11.8	265	33.6	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	1,400	17.6	1,056	15.8	344	32.6	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	325	4.1	258	3.9	67	26.0	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	271	3.4	108	1.6	163	150.9	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
Victoria	7,954	100.0	6,679	100.0	1,275	19.1	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), Singapore-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Total personal income, weekly ^(a)	Singapore-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	101	0.7	118	1.0	-17	-14.4	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	3,326	23.8	2,783	23.4	543	19.5	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	2,240	16.0	2,343	19.7	-103	-4.4	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	2,119	15.2	1,831	15.4	288	15.7	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	2,087	14.9	1,970	16.5	117	5.9	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	2,481	17.8	1,826	15.3	655	35.9	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	1,428	10.2	880	7.4	548	62.3	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	176	1.3	167	1.4	9	5.4	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
Victoria	13,963	100.0	11,916	100.0	2,047	17.2	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*.