

The Tonga-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (ranked 82)

Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 1,696 Tonga-born persons in Victoria (17.0% of Australia's total), ranked 82nd among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Tonga-born increased by 17.4% (251) from 1,445 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with major concentrations in the LGAs of Wyndham (17.2%), Brimbank (14.0%), Mildura (9.2%), Swan Hill (7.8%) and Casey (4.8%).

The Tonga-born reflected an adult to mature age profile: 10.2% were aged 25 years and under; 34.9% were aged 26-44; 43.3% were aged 45-64; and 11.7% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 46 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 107 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 5,555 persons identified with Tongan ancestry. Most of them were born in Australia (43.3%), New Zealand (25.7%) and Tonga (25.6%). Two-fifths (41.5%) of the Tonga-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 11.2% arrived in 1996-2000; 7.7% arrived in 2001-2005; 13.0% arrived in 2006-2010; and 20.3% arrived in 2011-2016.

Most (81.8%) of the Tonga-born speak Tongan; 14.8% speak English only. Of those who speak a language other than English, 10.0% speak English not well/not at all. One-fifth (22.2%) of the Tonga-born are Uniting Church; 16.3% are Catholic; 15.9% are Other Protestant; 11.8% are Latter-day Saints; 10.7% are Christian not further defined; 4.4% have no religion. Almost two-fifths (44.0%) of the Tonga-born have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for overseas-born in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

Tonga-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)	1,307	13.1	1,040	11.3	820	10.8	267	25.7	220	26.8
Rest of Victoria ^(b)	389	3.9	403	4.4	370	4.9	-14	-3.5	33	8.9
Total Victoria	1,696	17.0	1,445	15.7	1,192	15.7	251	17.4	253	21.2
Total Australia	9,963	100.0	9,209	100.0	7,582	100.0	754	8.2	1,627	21.5

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

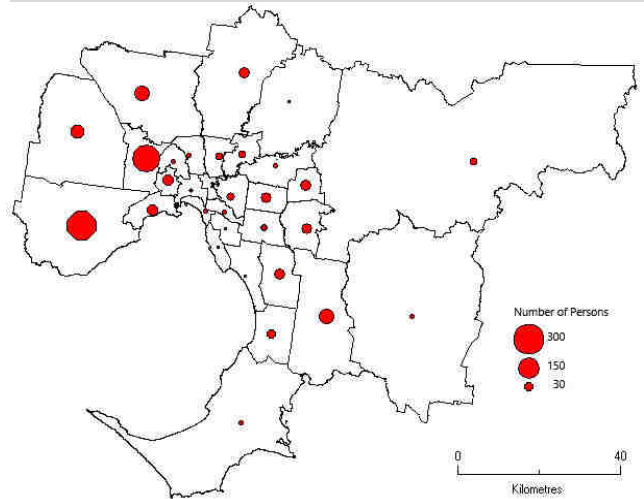
^(b) Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

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

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Wyndham (C)	291	17.2	199	13.8	1
Brimbank (C)	238	14.0	152	10.5	4
Mildura (RC)	156	9.2	157	10.9	3
Swan Hill (RC)	132	7.8	159	11.0	2
Casey (C)	81	4.8	71	4.9	5
Rest of Melbourne	702	41.4	613	42.4	-
Rest of Reg Vic ^(a)	85	5.0	69	4.8	-
Total Victoria	1,696	100.0	1,445	100.0	-

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

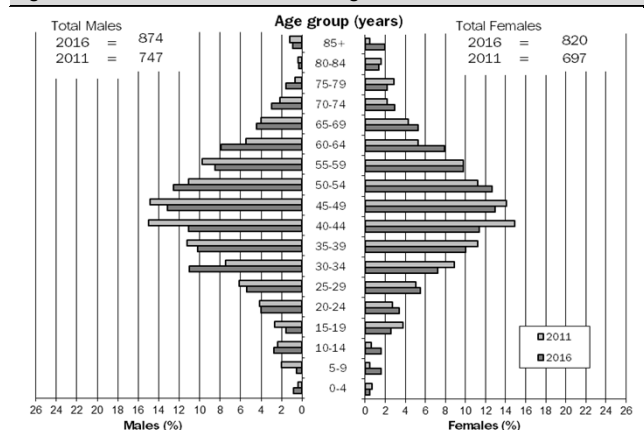
Distribution of Tonga-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016



Age Distribution of Tonga-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	11	0.6	10	0.7	10.0
5-11	23	1.4	23	1.6	-
12-18	55	3.2	54	3.7	1.9
19-25	85	5.0	74	5.1	14.9
26-44	592	34.9	566	39.2	4.6
45-54	442	26.1	369	25.5	19.8
55-64	291	17.2	218	15.1	33.5
65-74	132	7.8	94	6.5	40.4
75+	66	3.9	49	3.4	34.7
Total Victoria	1,696	100.0	1,445	100.0	17.4
<i>Median Age</i>	<i>46</i>		<i>45</i>		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	<i>107</i>		<i>107</i>		<i>males per 100 females</i>

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



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

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
New Zealand	1,429	25.7	798	20.4	79.1
Tonga	1,423	25.6	1,176	30.0	21.0
Samoa	58	1.0	18	0.5	222.2
Fiji	42	0.8	21	0.5	100.0
USA	25	0.5	21	0.5	19.0
Australia	2,403	43.3	1,735	44.2	38.5
Other ^(a)	172	3.1	152	3.9	13.2
Total responses^(b)	5,555	100.0	3,921	100.0	41.7

^(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 Tonga-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Tongan	1,387	81.8	1,184	81.9	17.1
Mandarin	11	0.6	3	0.2	266.7
Samoa	11	0.6	6	0.4	83.3
Tok Pisin	6	0.4	-	-	-
French	3	0.2	-	-	-
Other languages ^(a)	9	0.5	13	0.9	-30.8
English only	251	14.8	219	15.2	14.6
Not stated	21	1.2	20	1.4	5.0
Total Victoria	1,696	100.0	1,445	100.0	17.4

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

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

Religious affiliation ^(a)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Uniting Church	376	22.2	410	28.4	-8.3
Catholic	277	16.3	269	18.6	3.0
Other Protestant	269	15.9	220	15.2	22.3
Latter-day Saints	200	11.8	151	10.4	32.5
Christian, nfd	182	10.7	103	7.1	76.7
Other religions	251	14.8	205	14.2	22.4
No religion ^(b)	75	4.4	43	3.0	74.4
Not stated	71	4.2	44	3.0	61.4
Total Victoria	1,696	100.0	1,445	100.0	17.4

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

^(b) No Religion, so described.

Year of Arrival of Tonga-born: 2016

Year of arrival ^(a)	Tonga-born		Total OSB, Vic ^(c)	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	703	41.5	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	190	11.2	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	131	7.7	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	220	13.0	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 ^(b)	344	20.3	381,130	22.7
Not stated	103	6.1	58,517	3.5
Total Victoria	1,696	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 Tonga-born: 2016, 2011

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	251	14.8	219	15.2	14.6
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	683	40.3	546	37.8	25.1
Well	571	33.7	489	33.8	16.8
Not well	153	9.0	141	9.8	8.5
Not at all	17	1.0	15	1.0	13.3
Not stated ^(a)	25	1.5	29	2.0	-13.8
Total Victoria	1,696	100.0	1,445	100.0	17.4

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

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

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	-	-	3	0.4	-100.0
5-11	19	2.5	10	1.4	90.0
12-18	17	2.3	15	2.1	13.3
19-25	14	1.9	27	3.7	-48.1
26-44	177	23.7	238	32.8	-25.6
45-64	389	52.1	353	48.7	10.2
65-74	86	11.5	53	7.3	62.3
75+	43	5.8	34	4.7	26.5
Total	747	100.0	725	100.0	3.0

% of Tonga-born with Australian citizenship, 2016: 44.0%

% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016: 58.3%

Economic characteristics

The education levels of the Tonga-born are lower than for total Victoria. Less of them (2.0%) have a postgraduate degree; 5.7% have a bachelor degree; and 8.4% have an advanced diploma or diploma, compared to Victoria (5.4%, 16.5% and 9.2%). More of them have school education only (56.3%) and no educational attainment (2.3%), compared to Victoria (38.7% and 1.0%).

The labour force participation rate of the Tonga-born at 60.6% is similar to total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate at 12.5% is higher than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Tonga-born are different from those for total Victoria. Less of them work as managers (4.4%), professionals (10.9%), clerical & administrative workers (6.8%) and sales workers (1.5%), compared to Victoria (13.5%, 23.3%, 13.3% and 9.7%). More of them work as machinery operators & drivers (28.2%) and labourers (19.5%), compared to Victoria (5.8% and 9.0%).

The industry of employment patterns of the Tonga-born are also different from those for total Victoria. More of them are employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing & mining (7.1%), manufacturing (16.1%), transport, postal & warehousing (12.9%), compared to Victoria (2.6%, 7.8% and 4.8%). Less of them are employed in construction (5.9%), wholesale & retail trade (6.2%) and education & training (3.9%), compared to Victoria (8.3%, 13.4% and 8.6%).

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the Tonga-born is different from total Victoria. More of them receive nil income (12.0%), \$400-\$799 (29.4%) and \$800-\$1,249 (21.5%), compared to 9.7%, 23.1% and 16.7% for Victoria. Less of them receive \$1,250-\$1,999 (8.7%) and \$2,000 or more (2.0%), compared to 13.6% and 7.5% for Victoria.

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

Highest level of educational attainment ^(a)	Tonga-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	32	2.0	20	1.4	12	60.0	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	21	1.3	7	0.5	14	200.0	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	94	5.7	73	5.2	21	28.8	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	138	8.4	70	5.0	68	97.1	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	210	12.8	133	9.5	77	57.9	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only ^(b)	920	56.3	850	60.5	70	8.2	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment ^(c)	37	2.3	26	1.9	11	42.3	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc ^(d)	194	11.9	218	15.5	-24	-11.0	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
Victoria	1,635	100.0	1,404	100.0	231	16.5	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, Tonga-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation ^(a)	Tonga-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>	992	58.5	794	54.9	198	24.9	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	868	51.2	692	47.9	176	25.4	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	124	7.3	102	7.1	22	21.6	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	619	36.5	555	38.4	64	11.5	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	34	2.0	58	4.0	-24	-41.4	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> ^(b)	60	3.5	42	2.9	18	42.9	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
Victoria	1,696	100.0	1,445	100.0	251	17.4	5,926,624	100.0	5,354,039	100.0	572,585	10.7
<i>Participation rate</i> ^(c)	60.6%		56.6%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ^(d)	12.5%		12.8%				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, Tonga-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Occupation ^(a)	Tonga-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	38	4.4	40	5.8	-2	-5.0	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	95	10.9	77	11.1	18	23.4	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	65	7.5	48	6.9	17	35.4	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkr	162	18.7	94	13.6	68	72.3	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	59	6.8	54	7.8	5	9.3	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	13	1.5	19	2.7	-6	-31.6	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	245	28.2	142	20.5	103	72.5	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	169	19.5	187	27.0	-18	-9.6	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated ^(b)	24	2.8	38	5.5	-14	-36.8	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
Victoria	868	100.0	692	100.0	176	25.4	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, Tonga-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Industry of employment ^(a)	Tonga-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	62	7.1	50	7.2	12	24.0	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	140	16.1	181	26.2	-41	-22.7	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	5	0.6	4	0.6	1	25.0	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	51	5.9	39	5.6	12	30.8	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	54	6.2	51	7.4	3	5.9	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	10	1.2	24	3.5	-14	-58.3	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	112	12.9	45	6.5	67	148.9	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	3	0.3	8	1.2	-5	-62.5	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	21	2.4	12	1.7	9	75.0	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	11	1.3	7	1.0	4	57.1	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	70	8.1	49	7.1	21	42.9	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	37	4.3	42	6.1	-5	-11.9	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	34	3.9	19	2.7	15	78.9	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	152	17.5	107	15.5	45	42.1	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	33	3.8	16	2.3	17	106.3	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	69	7.9	35	5.1	34	97.1	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
Victoria	868	100.0	692	100.0	176	25.4	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), Tonga-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Total personal income, weekly ^(a)	Tonga-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	19	1.2	16	1.1	3	18.8	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	196	12.0	195	13.9	1	0.5	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	332	20.3	367	26.1	-35	-9.5	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	480	29.4	408	29.1	72	17.6	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	351	21.5	230	16.4	121	52.6	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	142	8.7	73	5.2	69	94.5	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	33	2.0	16	1.1	17	106.3	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	82	5.0	99	7.1	-17	-17.2	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
Victoria	1,635	100.0	1,404	100.0	231	16.5	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*.