

The United Arab Emirates-Born Community in Victoria – 2016 Census (71)

Demographic characteristics

At the 2016 Census, there were 2,735 UAE-born persons in Victoria (33.2% of Australia’s total), ranked 71<sup>st</sup> among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The UAE-born increased by 58.2% (1,006) from 1,729 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with concentrations in the LGAs of Casey (11.6%), Wyndham (8.2%), Monash (7.5%), Hume (7.0%) and Whittlesea (6.1%).

The UAE-born reflected a very young to adult age profile: 67.3% were aged 25 years and under; 31.8% were aged 26-44; 0.8% were aged 45-64; and 0.2% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 18 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 112 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 11,072 persons identified with Arab, not further defined ancestry. Most of them were born in Australia (29.6%), Iraq (18.8%), Saudi Arabia (12.5%), Lebanon (7.3%), Egypt (3.8%) and Syria (3.3%). Only 6.6% of the UAE-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 5.2% arrived in 1996-2000; 14.4% arrived in 2001-2005; 25.5% arrived in 2006-2010; and 45.0% arrived in 2011-2016.

The UAE-born speak Arabic (17.8%), Urdu (9.8%), Malayalam (8.9%), Sinhalese (3.6%) and Hindi (3.5%); 42.9% speak English only. Almost one-third (31.6%) of the UAE-born are Muslim; 24.4% are Catholic; 7.8% are Hindu; 3.8% are Oriental Orthodox; and 3.7% are Buddhist; 10.6% have no religion. Over half (55.5%) of UAE-born have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for overseas-born in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

United Arab Emirates-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>	2,616	31.8	1,640	33.5	959	32.2	976	59.5	681	71.0
Rest of Victoria <sup>(b)</sup>	117	1.4	89	1.8	36	1.2	28	31.5	53	147.2
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>1,006</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>73.9</b>
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>8,226</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,898</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,974</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,328</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>64.7</b>

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

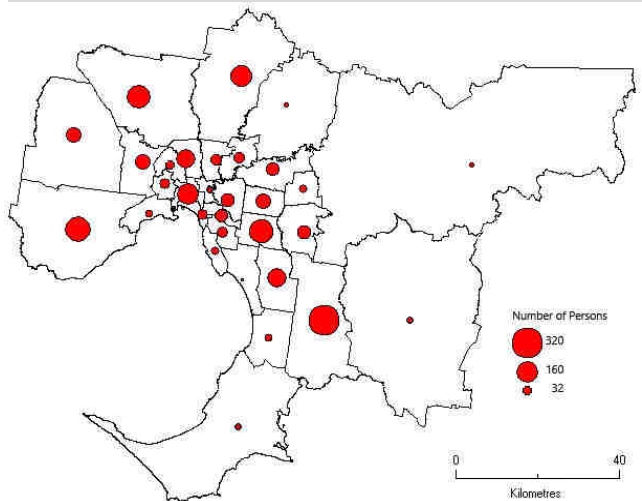
<sup>(b)</sup> Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

Distribution of United Arab Emirates-born, Top 5 LGAs: 2016 Census

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Casey (C)	316	11.6	218	12.6	1
Wyndham (C)	224	8.2	89	5.1	5
Monash (C)	205	7.5	167	9.7	2
Hume (C)	192	7.0	80	4.6	7
Whittlesea (C)	167	6.1	88	5.1	6
Rest of Melbourne	1,494	54.6	988	57.1	-
Rest of Reg Vic <sup>(a)</sup>	135	4.9	80	4.6	-
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>	-

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

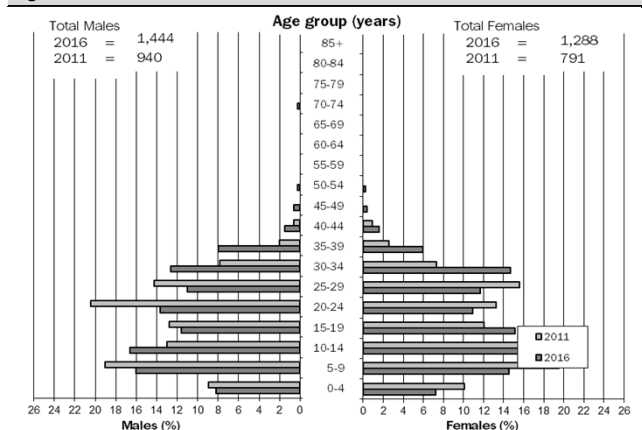
Distribution of United Arab Emirates-born in Metro Melb, 2016



Age Distribution of United Arab Emirates-born: 2016, 2011 Census

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	214	7.8	169	9.8	26.6
5-11	594	21.7	461	26.7	28.9
12-18	572	20.9	302	17.5	89.4
19-25	463	16.9	397	23.0	16.6
26-44	871	31.8	381	22.0	128.6
45-54	19	0.7	-	-	-
55-64	3	0.1	3	0.2	-
65-74	5	0.2	-	-	-
75+	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58.2</b>
<i>Median Age</i>	18		17		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	112		119		males per 100 females

Age, Gender Distribution of United Arab Emirates-born, Vic, 2016



**Top 5 COBs of Persons with Arab not further defined Ancestry: 2016, 2011**

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Iraq	2,085	18.8	1,309	17.0	59.3
Saudi Arabia	1,382	12.5	840	10.9	64.5
Lebanon	812	7.3	698	9.1	16.3
Egypt	425	3.8	435	5.6	-2.3
Syria	360	3.3	262	3.4	37.4
Australia	3,273	29.6	2,501	32.5	30.9
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	2,705	24.4	1,662	21.6	62.8
<b>Total responses<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>11,072</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7,707</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>43.7</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 most closely related to United Arab Emirates-born persons.

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

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Arabic	487	17.8	349	20.2	39.5
Urdu	267	9.8	103	6.0	159.2
Malayalam	243	8.9	145	8.4	67.6
Sinhalese	99	3.6	74	4.3	33.8
Hindi	95	3.5	62	3.6	53.2
Other languages <sup>(a)</sup>	331	12.1	159	9.2	108.2
English only	1,174	42.9	825	47.7	42.3
Not stated	11	0.4	12	0.7	-8.3
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58.2</b>

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

**Top 5 Religious affiliation, United Arab Emirates-born: 2016, 2011**

Religious affiliation <sup>(a)</sup>	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Islam	863	31.6	546	31.6	58.1
Catholic	667	24.4	504	29.1	32.3
Hinduism	214	7.8	132	7.6	62.1
Oriental Orthodox	103	3.8	71	4.1	45.1
Buddhism	100	3.7	74	4.3	35.1
Other religions	360	13.2	274	15.8	31.4
No religion <sup>(b)</sup>	290	10.6	97	5.6	199.0
Not stated	133	4.9	31	1.8	329.0
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58.2</b>

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

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

**Year of Arrival of United Arab Emirates-born: 2016**

Year of arrival <sup>(a)</sup>	United Arab Emirates-b		Total OSB, Vic <sup>(c)</sup>	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	181	6.6	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	142	5.2	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	394	14.4	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	698	25.5	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 <sup>(b)</sup>	1,230	45.0	381,130	22.7
Not stated	82	3.0	58,517	3.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</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 United Arab Emirates-born: 2016, 2011**

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	1,174	42.9	825	47.7	42.3
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	1,221	44.6	621	35.9	96.6
Well	236	8.6	205	11.9	15.1
Not well	62	2.3	36	2.1	72.2
Not at all	29	1.1	16	0.9	81.3
Not stated <sup>(a)</sup>	11	0.4	10	0.6	10.0
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58.2</b>

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

**United Arab Emirates-born with Alian Citizenship by Age: 2016, 2011**

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	58	3.8	74	8.0	-21.6
5-11	308	20.3	246	26.7	25.2
12-18	418	27.5	219	23.8	90.9
19-25	249	16.4	139	15.1	79.1
26-44	477	31.4	231	25.1	106.5
45-64	7	0.5	3	0.3	133.3
65-74	4	0.3	-	-	-
75+	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,518</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65.0</b>
% of United Arab Emirates-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					55.5%
% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016:					58.3%

## Economic characteristics

The education levels of the UAE-born are higher than for total Victoria; 14.8% have a postgraduate degree; and 32.1% have a bachelor degree, compared to 5.4% and 16.5% for total Victoria.

The labour force participation rate of the UAE-born at 65.9% is slightly higher than that of total Victoria at 60.5%. The unemployment rate for the UAE-born at 13.2% is also higher than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the UAE-born are different from those for total Victoria. More of the UAE-born are professionals (32.7%) and sales workers (13.0%), compared to 23.3% and 9.7% for Victoria. Less of them are technicians and trades workers (8.5%), community & personal service workers (7.4%) and labourers (6.3%), compared to 13.1%, 10.6% and 9.0% for Victoria.

The industry of employment patterns of the UAE-born are also different from total Victoria. Less of them are employed in construction (3.3%), compared to 8.3% for Victoria. More of them are employed in accommodation & food services (8.9%), information, media & telecommunications (5.0%), finance & insurance (6.5%) and professional, scientific, technical & administrative (14.3%), compared to 6.6%, 1.9%, 3.9% and 11.4% for Victoria.

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the UAE-born is fairly similar to that of total Victoria. A quarter (26.2%) of the UAE-born receive nil income compared to 9.7% for Victoria. Less of them (13.7%) receive \$400-\$799, compared to 23.1% for Victoria.

### Highest level of educational attainment, United Arab Emirates-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Highest level of educational attainment <sup>(a)</sup>	United Arab Emirates-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	244	14.8	97	10.1	147	151.5	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	41	2.5	11	1.1	30	272.7	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	529	32.1	269	28.0	260	96.7	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	112	6.8	66	6.9	46	69.7	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	50	3.0	24	2.5	26	108.3	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only <sup>(b)</sup>	606	36.8	441	45.9	165	37.4	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment <sup>(c)</sup>	-	-	4	0.4	-4	-100.0	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc <sup>(d)</sup>	68	4.1	48	5.0	20	41.7	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>1,648</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>71.5</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, United Arab Emirates-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation <sup>(a)</sup>	United Arab Emirates-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>	1,088	39.8	527	30.5	561	106.5	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	944	34.5	454	26.3	490	107.9	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	144	5.3	73	4.2	71	97.3	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	555	20.3	428	24.8	127	29.7	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	10	0.4	8	0.5	2	25.0	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> <sup>(b)</sup>	1,085	39.7	769	44.5	316	41.1	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,006</b>	<b>58.2</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>	65.9%		54.9%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> <sup>(d)</sup>	13.2%		13.9%				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, United Arab Emirates-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Occupation <sup>(a)</sup>	United Arab Emirates-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	99	10.5	36	7.9	63	175.0	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	309	32.7	158	34.8	151	95.6	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	80	8.5	27	5.9	53	196.3	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	70	7.4	42	9.3	28	66.7	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	139	14.7	69	15.2	70	101.4	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	123	13.0	66	14.5	57	86.4	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	40	4.2	10	2.2	30	300.0	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	59	6.3	35	7.7	24	68.6	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated <sup>(b)</sup>	19	2.0	17	3.7	2	11.8	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>107.9</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, United Arab Emirates-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Industry of employment <sup>(a)</sup>	United Arab Emirates-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	8	0.8	3	0.7	5	166.7	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	68	7.2	27	5.9	41	151.9	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	9	1.0	7	1.5	2	28.6	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	31	3.3	15	3.3	16	106.7	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	144	15.3	78	17.2	66	84.6	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	84	8.9	36	7.9	48	133.3	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	42	4.4	17	3.7	25	147.1	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	47	5.0	27	5.9	20	74.1	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	61	6.5	26	5.7	35	134.6	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	15	1.6	3	0.7	12	400.0	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	135	14.3	92	20.3	43	46.7	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	34	3.6	25	5.5	9	36.0	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	68	7.2	23	5.1	45	195.7	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	125	13.2	41	9.0	84	204.9	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	41	4.3	14	3.1	27	192.9	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	38	4.0	9	2.0	29	322.2	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>107.9</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), United Arab Emirates-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Total personal income, weekly <sup>(a)</sup>	United Arab Emirates-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	13	0.8	14	1.5	-1	-7.1	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	431	26.2	234	24.3	197	84.2	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	321	19.5	171	17.8	150	87.7	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	225	13.7	191	19.9	34	17.8	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	286	17.4	176	18.3	110	62.5	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	214	13.0	99	10.3	115	116.2	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	135	8.2	30	3.1	105	350.0	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	39	2.4	40	4.2	-1	-2.5	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>1,648</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>71.5</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*.