

THE IRAN-BORN COMMUNITY IN VICTORIA: 2011 CENSUS

At the 2011 Census, there were 7,449 Iran-born persons in Victoria (21.6% of Australia's total), increasing by 68.1% (3,018) from 4,431 persons in 2006. The Iran-born were distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with slight concentrations in the local government areas of Manningham (14.3%); Whitehorse (6.8%); Monash (5.7%); Boroondara (5.3%); and Whittlesea (4.8%). Less than a quarter (23.4%) of the Iran-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1991; 16.6% had arrived between 1991 and 2000; and 56.4% had arrived between 2001 and 2011.

The Iran-born community reflected a relatively young age profile: 21.2% were aged 25 years and below; 48.9% were aged 26-44 years; 23.4% were aged 45-64 years; and 6.5% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 30 years, compared to 37 years for the total Victorian population. The gender ratio was 114 males to 100 females, compared to 98 males to 100 females for Victoria.

Over two-fifths (43.6%) of the Iran-born followed Islam; 18.3% were Baha'i; 3.4% were Western Catholic; 19.4% had no religion. Most (90.8%) spoke a language other than English; 15.6% assessed themselves as speaking English not well or not at all. Over half (55.9%) held Australian Citizenship, compared to 63.1% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria. Almost one-third (31.2%) of the Iran-born aged 15 years and over received a weekly personal income of less than \$400; 15.7% received no income.

Demographic Background

Persons born in Iran in Victoria and Australia: 2011, 2006 and 2001 Census

Location	2011 Census		2006 Census		2001 Census		Change 2006-2011		Change 2001-2006	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	% change
Metropolitan Melbourne ^(a)	6,970	20.2	4,127	18.3	3,038	16.2	2,843	68.9	1,089	35.8
Rest of Victoria ^(b)	479	1.4	304	1.3	144	0.8	175	57.6	160	111.1
Total Victoria	7,449	21.6	4,431	19.7	3,182	16.9	3,018	68.1	1,249	39.3
Total Australia	34,458	100.0	22,545	100.0	18,789	100.0	11,913	52.8	3,756	20.0

^(a) Included "Undefined Melbourne" in 2001.

^(b) Includes 'No Usual Address, Victoria'.

Distribution of Iran-born, Top 5 Local Government Areas: 2011, 2006

Local Government Area	2011 Census		2006 Census		Rank in 2006
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Manningham	1,066	14.3	724	16.4	1
Whitehorse	506	6.8	375	8.5	2
Monash	428	5.7	298	6.7	3
Boroondara	397	5.3	199	4.5	6
Whittlesea	360	4.8	182	4.1	8
Rest of LGAs, Metro Melb	4,216	56.6	2,346	53.0	
Rest of LGAs, Reg. Vic	473	6.4	304	6.9	
Total Victoria	7,446	100.0	4,428	100.0	

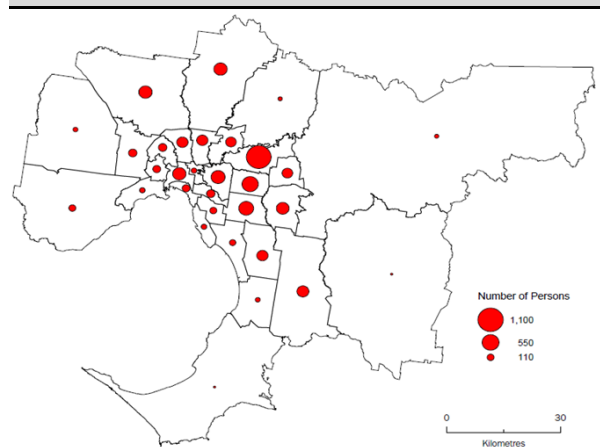
Year of Arrival of Iran-born: 2011

Year of Arrival ^(b)	Iran-born		Total OSB, Vic ^(a)	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1991	1,741	23.4	682,720	48.6
1991 - 1995	555	7.5	89,119	6.3
1996 - 2000	681	9.1	104,896	7.5
2001 - 2005	1,016	13.6	151,488	10.8
2006 - 2011	3,188	42.8	316,244	22.5
Not stated	265	3.6	60,867	4.3
Total	7,446	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.

Distribution of Iran-Born in Melbourne, 2011



Age Distribution of Iran-born: 2011, 2006

Age group (years)	2011 Census		2006 Census		2006-2011 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	86	1.2	43	1.0	100.0
5-11	303	4.1	207	4.7	46.4
12-18	499	6.7	318	7.2	56.9
19-25	690	9.3	552	12.5	25.0
26-44	3,639	48.9	1,694	38.2	114.8
45-54	1,080	14.5	826	18.6	30.8
55-64	665	8.9	466	10.5	42.7
65-74	301	4.0	202	4.6	49.0
75+	183	2.5	125	2.8	46.4
Total	7,446	100.0	4,433	100.0	68.0
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>males per 100 females</i>			
<i>Median Age</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>39</i>			

Top 5 Religions of Iran-born: 2011, 2006

Religion	2011 Census		2006 Census		2006-2011 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Islam	3,243	43.6	1,566	35.3	107.1
Baha'i	1,364	18.3	1,179	26.6	15.7
Western Catholic	256	3.4	271	6.1	-5.5
Zoroastrianism	71	1.0	50	1.1	42.0
Assyrian Church ^(a)	63	0.8	44	1.0	43.2
Other religions	405	5.4	413	9.3	-1.9
No religion	1,444	19.4	533	12.0	170.9
Not stated ^(a)	600	8.1	377	8.5	59.2
Total	7,446	100.0	4,433	100.0	68.0

^(a) Assyrian Church of the East.

^(b) Includes 'Religious Belief, not further defined' and 'Not Defined'.

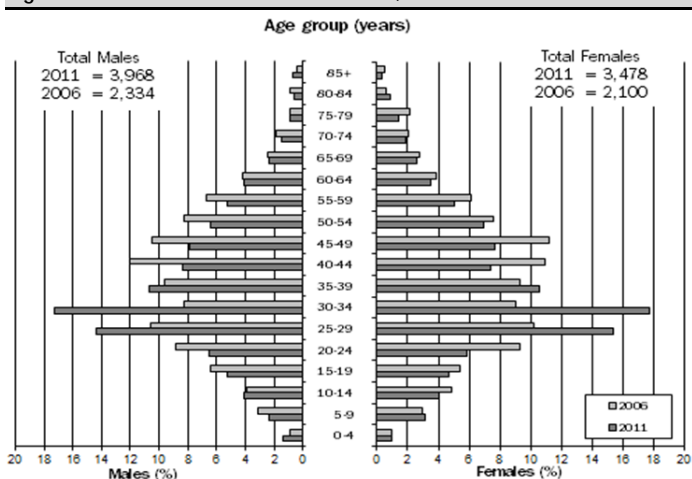
Iran-born with Australian Citizenship by Age: 2011, 2006

Age group (years)	2011 Census		2006 Census		2006-2011 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	3	0.1	9	0.3	-66.7
5-11	86	2.1	76	2.3	13.2
12-18	267	6.4	199	6.1	34.2
19-25	327	7.9	379	11.7	-13.7
26-44	1,550	37.3	1,140	35.2	36.0
45-64	1,502	36.1	1,148	35.5	30.8
65-74	277	6.7	186	5.7	48.9
75+	149	3.6	100	3.1	49.0
Total	4,161	100.0	3,237	100.0	28.5

nfd = not further defined

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.

Age and Gender Distribution of Iran-Born, 2011



Proficiency in English of Iran-born: 2011, 2006

Proficiency in English	2011 Census		2006 Census		2006-2011 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	585	7.9	412	9.3	42.0
<i>Speaks other language and speaks English</i>					
Very well	3,124	42.0	1,895	42.8	64.9
Well	2,480	33.3	1,396	31.5	77.7
Not well	974	13.1	553	12.5	76.1
Not at all	186	2.5	133	3.0	39.8
Not stated ^(a)	97	1.3	43	1.0	125.6
Total	7,446	100.0	4,432	100.0	68.0

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

Total Personal Income (Weekly), Iran-born: 2011

Total personal income (weekly) ^(a)	Iran-born		Tot Vic pop	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative/Nil	1,074	15.7	377,766	8.7
\$1-199	642	9.4	341,700	7.8
\$200-\$399	1,493	21.8	882,992	20.3
\$400-\$599	738	10.8	504,498	11.6
\$600-\$799	538	7.8	459,629	10.6
\$800-\$999	466	6.8	367,453	8.4
\$1,000-\$1,499	811	11.8	584,245	13.4
\$1,500-\$1,999	432	6.3	255,935	5.9
\$2,000 or more	404	5.9	246,378	5.7
Not stated	257	3.7	334,647	7.7
Total	6,855	100.0	4,355,243	100.0

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

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