

Multicultural Victoria

The Agenda

Victoria's Cultural, Linguistic and Religious Diversity

A Brief History of Multicultural Affairs

The Victorian Multicultural Commission

The Commission's Community Grants Program

Promoting Community Harmony

Demographic Trends

Major Strategic Priorities & Challenges

Horn of African Communities in the West

Q&A

General Discussion

Where to from Here?

Overview of Victoria's Diversity

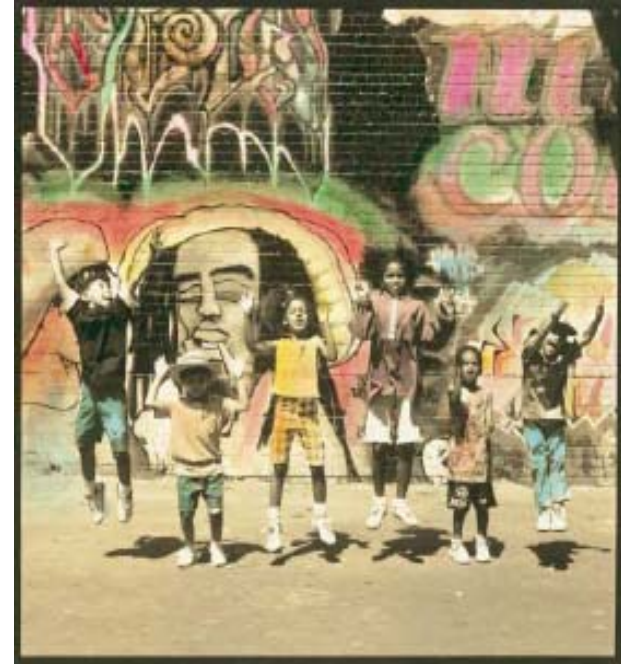
The State of Victoria has been enriched by the presence of people from all over the world.

The 2001 Census identified that Victorians:

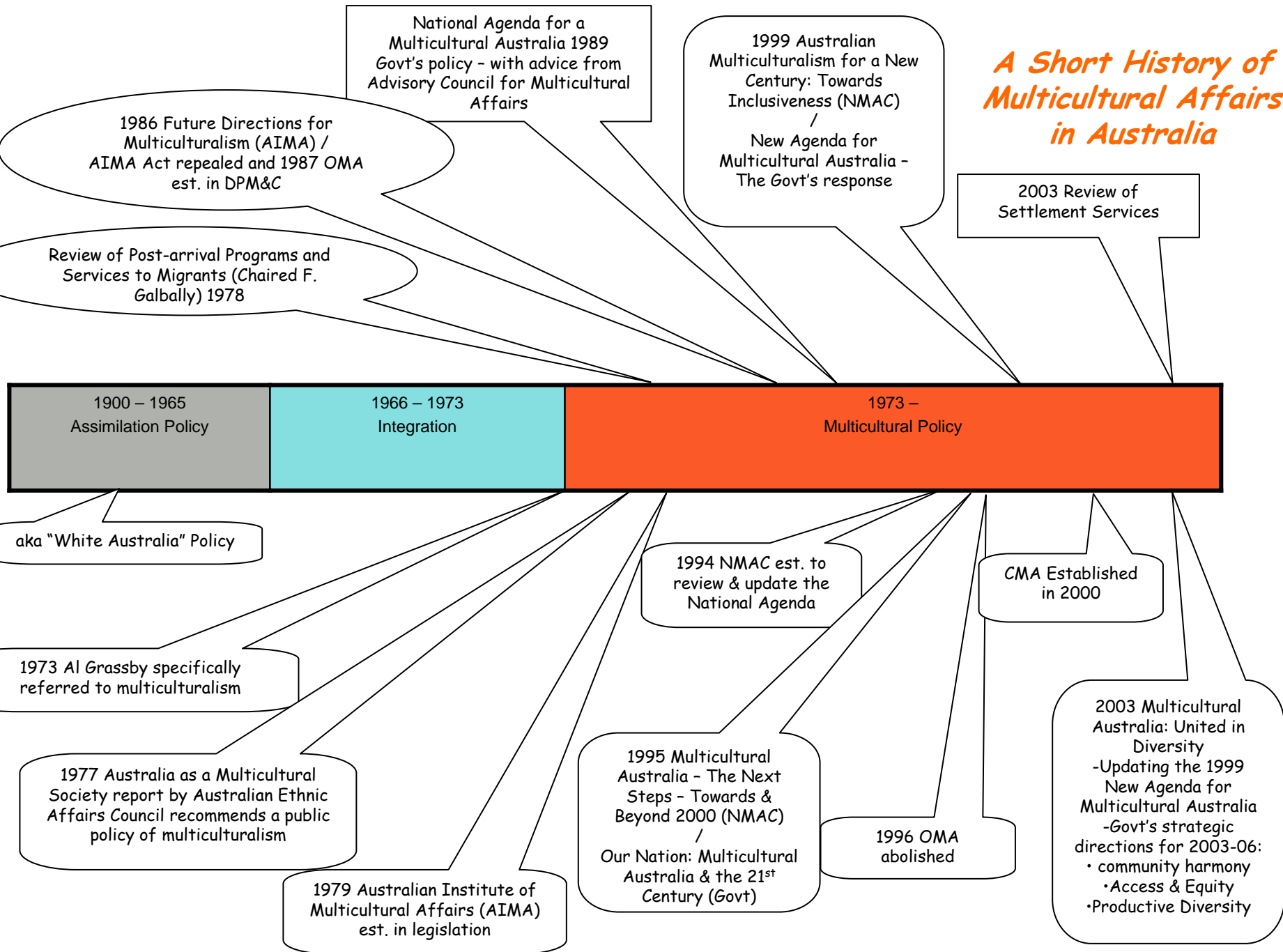
- come from over 230 countries;
- speak more than 180 languages & dialects; &
- follow more than 110 religious faiths.

Almost half of Victoria's population was either born overseas, or have at least one parent who was.

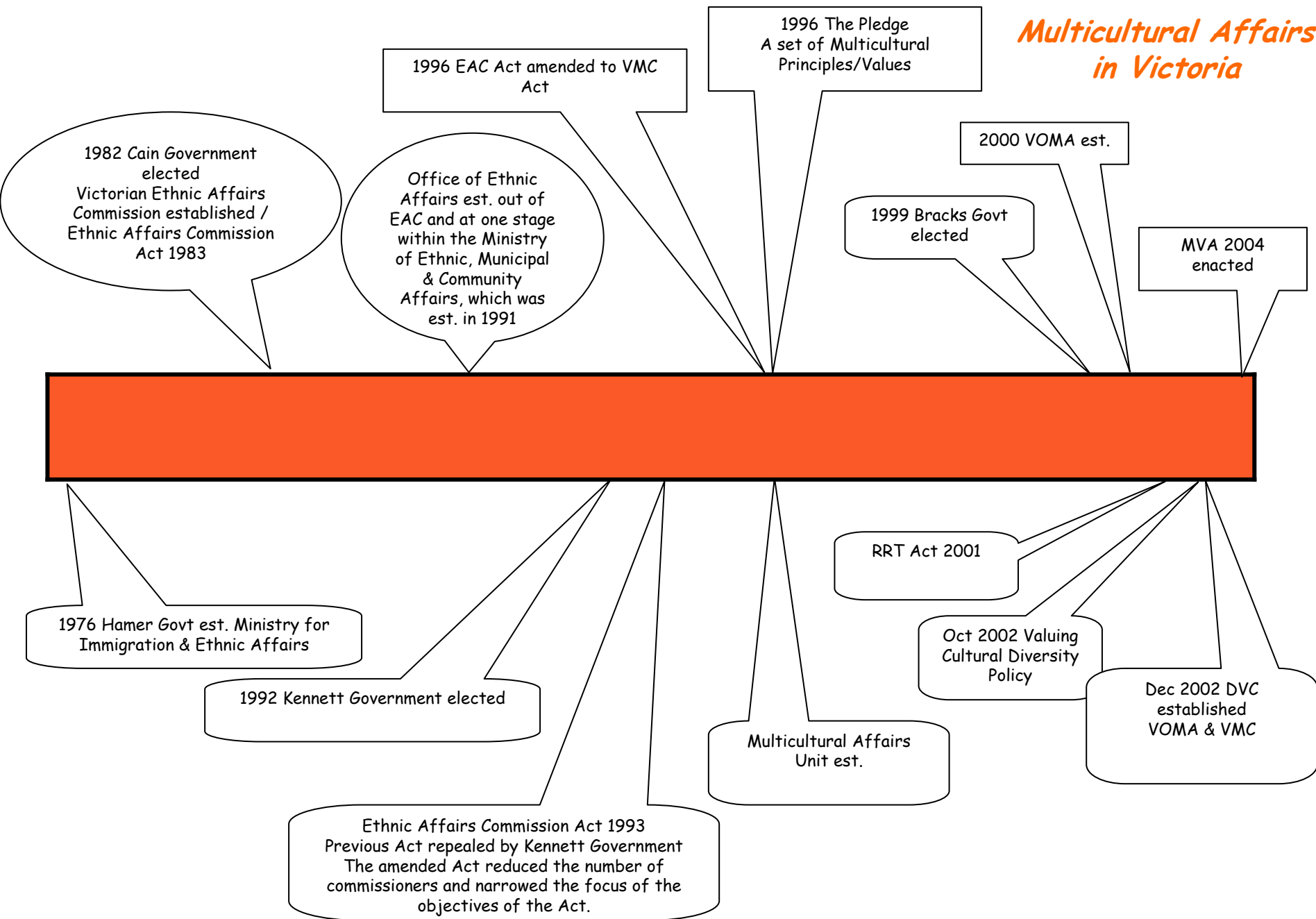
- The Commission's database contains more than 3,000 ethno-specific, religious and multicultural organisations of which we funded more than 1,600 in 2005-06.



A Short History of Multicultural Affairs in Australia



Multicultural Affairs in Victoria



Key Achievements in Multicultural Affairs since 2000 have included:

Multicultural Victoria Act 2004

Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001

Expansion of the **VMC's Community Grants Program** from \$750,000pa to \$3.6m currently

Establishment of the **Whole-of-Government Multicultural Affairs Departmental Reporting Framework**

The **Community Accord** renewed in March 2005 and promoted extensively

VMC's **Local Government** report & establishment of the **Standing Committee on Local Government & Cultural Diversity**

Increased funding to **Language Services** (interpreting & translating services)

Victorian Awards for Multicultural Excellence established in 2002

Celebrate Cultural Diversity Week established in 2003

Increased provision for **after hours LOTE classes**

Increased representation of people from CALD backgrounds on **statutory boards & advisory councils & committees**

Recruitment strategies to increase the number of **police** officers and **nurses** from ethnic backgrounds

Skilled Migration Program, designed to bring new immigrants to areas of need, particularly in regional Victoria

Increased funding towards attracting a **greater proportion of Australia's migration intake**

Communication: Increased the proportion of the Government's campaign advertising expenditure towards ethnic media

Established **regional police multicultural liaison units**

Premier's Multifaith Forum held September 2005

CALD Arts Report

CALD Women's Report

Overview

Minister

The Premier is the Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Overarching Legislation

- Multicultural Victoria Act (MVA) 2004 enshrines in legislation a preamble and a set of principles that respects one of the State's greatest assets – its cultural, religious and linguistic diversity. In effect, it declares that Victorians value community harmony and commits all of us to work together towards a prosperous and united future in which diversity is respected, cultural heritage preserved, all individuals are equally entitled to access opportunities and participate in and contribute to the State. These commitments are made within the overarching framework of abiding by the State's laws and respecting the democratic processes under which those laws are made.
- Charter of Human Rights & Responsibilities Act 2006
- Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001, which recognises the importance of freedom of expression while protecting the right of all Victorians to participate in our society by protecting Victorians from fear of racial or religious vilification and providing a means of redress.
- Equal Opportunity Act 1995



The VMC

The Victorian Multicultural Commission, which was first established in 1982 as the Ethnic Affairs Commission, is a statutory body established under the MVA. Further details regarding its legislated objectives and functions as well as many of its activities is outlined in the 2005-06 Annual Report.

It's core responsibilities include:

- conducting community consultations;
- establishing and coordinating initiatives which build community harmony;
- managing a \$3.6m community grants program, aimed at strengthening local community groups, including faith networks so that they are better able to support their communities and assist their members to more effectively participate within and engage with the broader Victorian community.;
- running the annual Celebrate our Cultural Diversity Week (17-23 March), which centres around the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racism (21st March), and which has exponentially expanded since its inaugural year in 2003 with approximately 50 events across the State to more than 300 events in March 2006. Furthermore, in close collaboration with the organisers of Melbourne's Commonwealth Games as well as public and corporate sector support, more than 400,000 orange ribbons were distributed;
- Running the annual Excellence in Multicultural Affairs Awards which recognises achievements by Victorians in supporting and promoting our diversity and the Victorian Refugee Recognition Record, which provides due and important acknowledgment of the contributions made by refugees to Victoria;
- Co-chairs the Police and Multicultural Advisory Committee (PACMAC) and active member of the Victoria Police Multifaith Council
- Chairs the Local Government Standing Committee
- Promotes the Community Accord , which the Commission continued to promote and which has now been embraced by an even larger number of organisations and individuals, including the AFL, the ANZ Bank, St Vincent's Health, Victoria University, a number of local governments and a myriad of other community organisations;

VMC's Community Engagement

The Commission's community engagement is quite extensive. For example, in 2005-06, the Commission:

- Conducted more than 50 community consultations, including 10 whole-of-government consultations conducted throughout metropolitan and regional Victoria;
- through its inclusive “open door” policy met individually with the representatives of more than 200 community groups; and
- attended more than 390 community events and functions.

VMC Grants Program

The Commission's grants program provides assistance to multicultural and community-based organisations with programs and activities that respond to the needs of Victoria's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

The 2006-07 Community Grants Program, with a budget of approximately \$3.6m, includes the following categories:

1. Strengthening Multicultural Communities Grants
2. Organisational Support Grants
3. Senior Citizens Grants;
4. Buildings and Facilities Improvement Grants;
5. Educational Program Grants.
6. Multicultural Festivals and Events Grants;

In 2004-05, the Commission provided grants to 1,470 community organisations. In 2005-06, the Commission provided grants to 1,618 community organisations

VMC Grants Program - Examples

New Programs and Partnerships

The following VMC funded projects provide an illustration of the range and nature of the Commission's grants program as well as an illustration of the various needs that exist within Victoria's culturally and linguistically diverse communities:

- The Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council to provide a range of multicultural services to meet the needs of migrants and CALD communities in the Grampians region;
- A Chinese Community Social Services Centre project aimed at organising activities for Mandarin-speaking men and consolidating the development of the Jing Song Men's Club, which is the only club for the Mandarin-speaking men in Victoria, and to support Chinese-speaking parents of children with special needs and a disability;
- The City of Kingston's Emerging Soccer Stars Program to target youth from new and emerging communities to develop relationships with registered Soccer Clubs to further enhance their soccer skills and develop ongoing relationships leading to participation in formalised organised sport;
- Dinka (Jieng) Community Council of Australia to provide access to driver training programs for those with little or no English;
- The Eritrean Women's Association of Victoria for a project focussing on the development of an integrated and accessible sporting and recreational activities for young Eritrean women across metropolitan Melbourne;
- The Ethiopian Community Association in Victoria to provide 55 newly arrived Ethiopian refugees with information and support on work readiness training and positive parenting skills;
- Gippsland Multicultural Services to provide an outreach service for women from refugee/humanitarian backgrounds in Gippsland, and to assist the newly emerging Sudanese community in Gippsland;
- Hotham Mission (Asylum Seekers Program) to strengthen existing asylum seeker specific volunteer programs, such as the Support Programs, including Link Up, Asylum Seeker Men's Groups and Asylum Seeker Support Networks;

VMC Grants Program – Examples *cont.*'

- The Islamic Girls and Women's Group to continue to provide an environment for new and emerging multicultural communities to participate in community life by providing tuition and vocational assistance;
- Kastellozorian Association of Victoria to publish an 80th Anniversary Commemorative Celebrations book.
- Multicultural Arts Victoria for Project Connect to encourage refugee youth participation in the arts;
- National Council of Jewish Women of Australia to facilitate an interfaith gathering of Jewish, Muslim and Christian children, parents and grandparents to discuss and experience the traditions and customs of each faith;
- The Nuer Womens' Group to provide a state wide life-skills mentoring support program for Nuer women from South Sudan through a series of information sessions on practical day-to-day life skills and issues;
- Project Respect to provide support, accommodation, legal and financial assistance to trafficked women working as prostitutes;
- The Refugee Council of Australia to coordinate Refugee Week 2006 and in collaboration with the VMC to offer a small grants program;
- The Sports Without Borders program to assist young people from newly arrived refugee and first and second generation migrant backgrounds to
 - integrate into their local communities by facilitating their participation in sport;
- The Tongan Australian Association to undertake research to identify the unmet needs of the Tongan community in Victoria;
- Western Region Ethnic Communities' Council to undertake advocacy on behalf of and in partnership with ethnic communities living in Melbourne's western suburbs; and
- Whittlesea Multicultural Communities' Council to develop the capacity of the new and established CALD communities in Whittlesea to actively engage in community life.

Celebrate our Cultural Diversity Week 2006

SPONSORS

AMES	ANZ
Australian Bureau of Statistics	Australian Multicultural Foundation
Crazy Johns	Cultural Perspectives
Department for Victorian Communities	Department of Education and Training
Department of Justice	Equal Opportunity Commission of Victoria
Grollo Australia Pty Ltd	Melbourne Water
Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board	Office of Commonwealth Games Coordination/M2006
Parks Victoria	Victoria Police
VITS Language Link	

Supporters

Australian Football League (AFL)	City of Melbourne
Football Federation of Victoria	Immigration Museum
McDonalds Restaurants	Multicultural Arts Victoria
Municipal Association of Victoria	Victorian Local Governance Association
Yarra Trams	

Media Partners

Herald Sun
Channel 31
SBS Radio

VMC – Promoting the Community Accord

Community Accord Signatories

3ZZZ
ANZ Bank
Australian Multicultural Foundation
Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues
City of Yarra and local community groups
Darebin and Moreland City Councils and local community groups
Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria
Glenrowan Primary School
Islamic Women and Girls Association
Latrobe City Council and local community groups
Monash City Council and local community groups
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne
Shire of Alpine
Sikh Interfaith Council of Victoria
Uniting Church in Victoria
Victoria University
Victorian Council of Churches
Whittlesea City Council and local community groups

AFL
Australian Federation of International Students
Buddhist Council of Victoria
City of Brimbank and local community groups
Croatian Senior Citizens Club of St Albans
Ethnic Communities' Council of the South East
Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia
Islamic Council of Victoria
Jewish Community Council of Victoria
Leo Baeck Centre for Progressive Judaism
Multicultural Arts Victoria
Rural City of Wangaratta and local community groups
Shire of Indigo
St Vincent's Health
Victoria Police – Chief Commissioner Nixon
Victoria's Lions International Clubs
Victorian Safety Community Network

Plus a large number of other community organisations and individuals

Demographic Trends

There are significant demographic trends that need to be taken into account when identifying key priorities and issues within the multicultural affairs portfolio and more specifically when endeavouring to address the needs of CALD communities. Some of the issues are inter-related to varying degrees and include:

- The varying needs between the so-called “established” communities and the smaller & newly emerging communities;
- The ageing trend amongst some ethnic communities is quite significant;
- Population increases and decreases within some of the communities which has a bearing on the nature, type and extent of support;
- socio-economic composition of the community;
- geographic distribution of the community;
- education and qualification composition within the community; and,
- the type of migration patterns (family, skill, humanitarian), both to date and possibly in the future.



Demographic Trends

Birthplace

Amongst Victoria's Top 30 birthplace populations there have been decreases and increases (between 1996 and 2001 Censuses):

Decreases in those born in England, Italy, Greece, Germany, Netherlands, Malta, Poland, Egypt, Cyprus.

Increases in those born in China (31%), India (26.7%), Sri Lanka (13.7%) and South Africa (34.2%).

Emerging Communities

However, there was also significant population increases amongst the smaller and newly emerging communities, such as the following:

Bosnia & Herzegovina (83.1%)

Iraq (75.4%)

Afghanistan (70%)

Pakistan (63%)

Somalia (63.2%)

Samoa (43.4%)

Ethiopia (46.6%)

Bangladesh (50.4%)

Cook Islands (75.3%)

Eritrea (33.3%)

Sudan (186%)

Demographic Trends

Language Spoken at Home

Examples of increases in the following languages spoken at home (between 1996 and 2001 Censuses):

- Vietnamese (18.3%);
- Cantonese (12.6%);
- Arabic (19.6%);
- Mandarin (51.9%);
- Hindi (47.2%);
- Sinhalese (34.7%); and
- Bosnian (38.7%).

Religion

Increases in the following religions in Victoria between 1996 and 2001 Censuses:

- Buddhism (77.6%);
- Islam (38.3%);
- Judaism (6.7%);
- Hinduism (45.6%); and
- Sikhism (54.4%).

Ageing Trend

Communities with large proportion in the 65-plus age group include:

- Italy 41.1%
- Poland 40.5%
- Netherlands 32.6%
- Germany 29.6%
- Greece 29.3%
- Malta 23.6%

Arrivals Data – 1 Jan 2001 – 1 Oct 2006

Number of Settlers in Victoria: 160,469

• Humanitarian Program:	19,005
• Family Stream:	55,160
• Skill Stream:	86,051
• Special/Other:	234

Top Countries of Birth

India	19,018
China:	16,517
UK	15,616
Malaysia	7,685
Sudan	6,572
Sri Lanka	6,017
Philippines	5,888
Viet Nam	5,207
Indonesia	5,127
South Africa	4,412
Singapore	4,330
Iraq	3,557
Afghanistan	2,802
USA	2,545
Hong Kong	2,404
Thailand	2,041
South Korea	1,791
Lebanon	1,737
Former Yugoslavia (nfd)	1,720
Unknown	6,592
Others	38,873

Top 10 languages for Settlers

English	36,683
Arabic	9,281
Mandarin	5,405
Chinese (nfd)	3,774
Vietnamese	3,357
Indonesian	2,452
Cantonese	1,793
Sinhalese	1,534
Dari	1,519
Tagalog	1,354
<u>Others</u>	<u>27,608</u>
Total Known	94,760
<u>Language unknown</u>	<u>65,691</u>
Total	160,451

Top 10 Religions for Settlers

Christian (nfd)	14,696
Islam	9,233
No religion (nfd)	8,477
Buddhism	5,067
Catholic (nec)	4,876
Hinduism	3,089
Catholic/Western Catholic	2,482
Anglican	1,444
Orthodox (nfd)	770
Chaldean Catholic	704
Others	5,436
Total Religion Known	56,274

Major Strategic Priorities & Challenges

- Promoting Social Cohesion & Harmony
- Multicultural / multifaith community relations
- Needs of emerging communities, particularly humanitarian/refugee communities
- Interpreting & Translating Services
- Skilled Migration and Population Policy
- Local Government
- Commonwealth's Policies on Settlement Services
- CALD Women's Project
- Ageing Population

Challenges Facing the Horn of African Communities in the West

Presentation by
Commissioner Elleni Bereded-Samuel

Q & A

Where to from Here?

VMC willing to provide strategic &/or specific advice &/or assistance – inc meeting regularly

Direct potential projects to ANZ Trustees and the various Foundations

Work collaboratively on joint projects – eg, training sessions for organisations to seek funding



APPENDIX – Relevant Data from the 2001 Census

Victoria, Top 30 Birthplaces: 2001 & 1996 Census

Victoria, Top 30 Languages Spoken at Home: 2001 & 1996 Census

Victoria, Top 30 Ancestry Groups (First Response) Compared with Corresponding Birthplace Group

Population Birthplace Group Population: 2001 Census

Victoria, Top 30 Religions: 2001 and 1996 Census

Victoria, Emerging Overseas-born Birthplace Groups: 2001 and 1996 Census

Victoria, Emerging Language Groups (Language Spoken at Home): 2001 and 1996 Census

Victoria, Top 30 Birthplaces: 2001 & 1996 Census

		2001 Census		1996 Census(a)		1996-2001
Rank in 2001	Birthplace of individual	Persons	% of total	Persons	% of total	% change
	Australia	3,277,042	(71.1)	3,168,848	(72.8)	3.4
	<i>Born in overseas countries</i>					
1	England	162,851	3.5	169,274	3.9	-3.8
2	Italy	90,039	2.0	98,231	2.3	-8.3
3	Greece	57,590	1.2	61,683	1.4	-6.6
4	Viet Nam	56,540	1.2	55,141	1.3	2.5
5	New Zealand	55,227	1.2	42,489	1.0	30.0
6	China (excl. SARs and Taiwan Province)	36,813	0.8	28,101	0.6	31.0
7	Scotland	31,609	0.7	34,236	0.8	-7.7
8	India	30,629	0.7	24,170	0.6	26.7
9	Germany	28,679	0.6	29,686	0.7	-3.4
10	Sri Lanka	26,550	0.6	23,458	0.5	13.2
11	Malaysia	24,709	0.5	23,035	0.5	7.3
12	Netherlands	23,503	0.5	26,253	0.6	-10.5
13	Philippines	22,502	0.5	20,101	0.5	11.9
14	Malta	22,310	0.5	24,279	0.6	-8.1
15	Poland	19,937	0.4	22,211	0.5	-10.2
16	Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	19,602	0.4	4,136	0.1	373.9
17	Former Yugoslav Rep of Macedonia (FYROM)	19,506	0.4	18,992	0.4	2.7
18	Croatia	18,898	0.4	17,506	0.4	8.0
19	Hong Kong (SAR of China)	16,004	0.3	15,601	0.4	2.6
20	South Africa	15,620	0.3	11,640	0.3	34.2
21	Turkey	15,173	0.3	14,765	0.3	2.8
22	Lebanon	14,161	0.3	13,942	0.3	1.6
23	Egypt	11,542	0.3	11,911	0.3	-3.1
24	Ireland	11,522	0.2	11,920	0.3	-3.3
25	United States of America	11,215	0.2	10,332	0.2	8.5
26	Indonesia	10,959	0.2	12,126	0.3	-9.6
27	Cambodia	8,976	0.2	8,256	0.2	8.7
28	Cyprus	8,828	0.2	9,341	0.2	-5.5
29	Bosnia and Herzegovina	8,575	0.2	4,762	0.1	80.1
30	Mauritius	8,250	0.2	8,177	0.2	0.9
	Top 30 birthplaces	888,319	19.3			
	Rest of birthplaces (203)	186,261	4.0	158,802	3.6	17.3
	Inadequately described	5,602	0.1	1,370	0.0	308.9
	At sea	19	0.0	41	0.0	-53.7
	Total born overseas ^(b)	1,080,201	(23.4)	1,040,077	(23.9)	3.9
	Not stated	254,699	(5.5)	145,192	(3.3)	75.4
	Total persons (excluding overseas visitors)	4,611,942	(100.0)	4,354,117	(100.0)	5.9
	Overseas visitors	32,851		19,394		
	Total	4,644,941		4,373,511		6.2

Victoria, Top 30 Languages Spoken at Home: 2001 & 1996 Census

		2001 Census		1996 Census ^(a)		1996-2001
Rank in 2001	Language spoken at home	Persons	% of total	Persons	% of total	% change
	English only	3,474,068	79.0	3,357,652	79.5	3.5
	<i>Other languages</i>					
1	Italian	149,185	3.4	159,001	3.8	-6.2
2	Greek	122,351	2.8	124,333	2.9	-1.6
3	Vietnamese	63,816	1.5	53,959	1.3	18.3
4	Cantonese	60,583	1.4	53,810	1.3	12.6
5	Arabic (including Lebanese)	47,182	1.1	39,436	0.9	19.6
6	Mandarin	38,880	0.9	25,602	0.6	51.9
7	Macedonian	32,632	0.7	32,949	0.8	-1.0
8	Turkish	28,441	0.6	25,796	0.6	10.3
9	Croatian	25,555	0.6	25,257	0.6	1.2
10	Spanish	22,874	0.5	22,612	0.5	1.2
11	Maltese	21,488	0.5	23,602	0.6	-9.0
12	German	20,253	0.5	26,757	0.6	-24.3
13	Polish	19,576	0.4	20,573	0.5	-4.8
14	Tagalog (Filipino)	18,010	0.4	16,020	0.4	12.4
15	Serbian	16,036	0.4	12,163	0.3	31.8
16	Russian	13,911	0.3	12,279	0.3	13.3
17	Sinhalese	11,641	0.3	8,639	0.2	34.7
18	French	11,093	0.3	11,284	0.3	-1.7
19	Hindi	10,723	0.2	7,285	0.2	47.2
20	Netherlandic	10,621	0.2	10,854	0.3	-2.1
21	Indonesian	9,138	0.2	5,563	0.1	64.3
22	Hungarian	8,913	0.2	9,479	0.2	-6.0
23	Khmer	8,546	0.2	7,303	0.2	17.0
24	Tamil	7,968	0.2	6,251	0.1	27.5
25	Bosnian	5,884	0.1	3,708	0.1	58.7
26	Persian	5,875	0.1	4,619	0.1	27.2
27	Albanian	5,680	0.1	4,859	0.1	16.9
28	Japanese	5,153	0.1	4,396	0.1	17.2
29	South Slavic, nfd	4,626	0.1	5,940	0.1	-22.1
30	Assyrian (including Aramaic)	4,605	0.1	2,191	0.1	110.2
	Rest of Other Languages outside top 30	98,608	2.2	81,002	1.9	21.7
	Total: Other Languages	909,847		853,953		6.5
	Inadequately described	7,924	0.2	14,248	0.3	-44.4
	Non-verbal so described	3,053	0.1	262	0.2	1,065.3
	Total: English & Other Languages ^(b)	4,394,892	100.0	4,226,115	100.0	
	Not stated	217,209		127,999		
	Total persons (excluding overseas visitors)	4,612,101		4,354,114		
	Overseas visitor	32,853		19,394		
	Total	4,644,954		4,373,508		

Victoria, Top 30 Ancestry Groups (First Response) Compared with Corresponding Birthplace Group Population Birthplace Group Population: 2001 Census

	Ancestry (First response)^(a)			Corresponding Birthplace Group			
Rank in 2001	Ancestry	Persons	% of total	Birthplace	Rank in 2001	Persons	% of total
1	English	1,391,624	30.2	England	2	162,896	3.5
2	Australian	1,240,846	26.9	Australia	1	3,277,042	71.1
3	Italian	253,813	5.5	Italy	3	90,056	2.0
4	Irish	229,892	5.0	Ireland	25	11,515	0.2
5	Greek	145,847	3.2	Greece	4	57,595	1.2
6	Chinese	143,960	3.1	China (excl SARs,Taiwan)	7	36,791	0.8
7	German	86,150	1.9	Germany	10	28,704	0.6
8	Scottish	63,222	1.4	Scotland	8	31,607	0.7
9	Vietnamese	54,169	1.2	Viet Nam	5	56,563	1.2
10	Dutch	51,197	1.1	Netherlands	13	23,503	0.5
11	Maltese	45,346	1.0	Malta	15	22,327	0.5
12	Indian	37,236	0.8	India	9	30,628	0.7
13	Polish	36,528	0.8	Poland	16	19,950	0.4
14	Macedonian	33,732	0.7	FYROM	18	19,539	0.4
15	Croatian	31,035	0.7	Croatia	19	18,899	0.4
16	Lebanese	28,315	0.6	Lebanon	23	14,167	0.3
17	Turkish	27,863	0.6	Turkey	22	15,182	0.3
18	Sinhalese	25,487	0.6	Sri Lanka	11	26,556	0.6
19	Serbian	25,070	0.5	Yugoslavia, Fed Rep	17	19,644	0.4
20	Filipino	24,311	0.5	Philippines	14	22,474	0.5
21	Hungarian	15,019	0.3	Hungary	34	6,870	0.1
22	Russian	13,304	0.3	Russian Federation	37	5,860	0.1
23	New Zealander	11,322	0.2	New Zealand	6	55,238	1.2
24	Spanish	11,066	0.2	Spain	54	2,912	0.1
25	French	9,142	0.2	France	48	3,945	0.1
26	Jewish	8,841	0.2	-	-	-	-
27	Ukrainian	8,541	0.2	Ukraine	39	5,740	0.1
28	South African	8,172	0.2	South Africa	21	15,617	0.3
29	Egyptian	7,785	0.2	Egypt	24	11,525	0.2
30	Welsh	7,227	0.2	Wales	46	4,485	0.1
	Top 30 ancestries	(4,076,062)					
	Rest of ancestries	198,422	4.3				
	Inadequately described	13,950	0.3	Inadequately described		5,585	0.1
	Not stated	323,661	7.0	Not stated		254,699	5.5
	<i>Total Ancestries (exclu overseas visitors)</i>	<i>4,612,095</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>Total Birthplace (exclu overseas visitors)</i>		<i>4,612,088</i>	<i>100.0</i>
	Overseas visitors	32,853				32,853	
	Total	4,644,948				4,644,941	

Victoria, Top 30 Religions: 2001 and 1996 Census

Rank in 2001	Religion	2001 Census		1996 Census ^(a)		1996-2001
		Persons	% of total	Persons	% of total	% change
1	Western Catholic	1,304,543	28.3	1,262,077	29.0	3.4
2	Anglican	705,110	15.3	716,356	16.5	-1.6
3	Uniting Church	296,773	6.4	319,901	7.3	-7.2
4	Greek Orthodox	158,882	3.4	156,108	3.6	1.8
5	Presbyterian	152,152	3.3	168,718	3.9	-9.8
6	Buddhism	111,498	2.4	62,784	1.4	77.6
7	Islam	92,742	2.0	67,047	1.5	38.3
8	Christian, nfd	67,255	1.5	39,886	0.9	68.6
9	Baptist	66,421	1.4	63,285	1.5	5.0
10	Lutheran	41,531	0.9	43,099	1.0	-3.6
11	Judaism	38,374	0.8	35,963	0.8	6.7
12	Hinduism	24,328	0.5	16,708	0.4	45.6
13	Macedonian Orthodox	23,704	0.5	23,526	0.5	0.8
14	Churches of Christ (Conference)	16,338	0.4	20,887	0.5	-21.8
15	Salvation Army	15,332	0.3	16,186	0.4	-5.3
16	Jehovah's Witnesses	14,159	0.3	14,427	0.3	-1.9
17	Pentecostal, not further defined	14,012	0.3	17,986	0.4	-22.1
18	Serbian Orthodox	13,615	0.3	10,027	0.2	35.8
19	Orthodox, nfd	13,149	0.3	10,268	0.2	28.1
20	Church of Jesus Christ of LDS (Mormons)	8,577	0.2	7,525	0.2	14.0
21	Seventh-day Adventist	8,319	0.2	7,907	0.2	5.2
22	Other Protestant, nfd	5,255	0.1	6,320	0.1	-16.9
23	Russian Orthodox	5,043	0.1	3,746	0.1	34.6
24	Coptic Orthodox Church	4,965	0.1	3,969	0.1	25.1
25	Sikhism	4,614	0.1	2,989	0.1	54.4
26	Assemblies of God	4,144	0.1	9,742	0.2	-57.5
27	Brethren	3,737	0.1	4,312	0.1	-13.3
28	Reformed	2,852	0.1	3,082	0.1	-7.5
29	Born Again Christian	2,479	0.1			
30	Maronite Catholic	2,426	0.1			
	Other religions	40,315	0.9	26,330	0.6	53.1
	No religion ^(b)	798,393	17.3	815,014	18.7	-2.0
	Inadequately described ^(c)	93,773	2.0	11,278	0.3	731.5
	Not stated	457,286	9.9	386,673	8.9	18.3
	<i>Total religion (exclu overseas visitors)</i>	<i>4,612,096</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>4,354,126</i>	<i>100.0</i>	
	Overseas visitors	32,853		19,394		
	Total	4,644,949		4,373,520		

Victoria, Emerging Overseas-born Birthplace Groups: 2001 and 1996 Census

	Birthplace (^(a) Emerging birthplace groups)	2001 Census		1996 Census		Change 1996-2001	
		Persons	As % of total overseas- born	Persons	As % of total overseas- born	Persons	% increase
1	Bosnia and Herzegovina	8,556	0.8	4,673	0.4	3,883	83.1
2	Fiji	7,127	0.7	5,942	0.6	1,185	19.9
3	Iraq	6,093	0.6	3,474	0.3	2,619	75.4
4	Thailand	5,487	0.5	4,445	0.4	1,042	23.4
5	Japan	4,682	0.4	3,947	0.4	735	18.6
6	Taiwan	4,367	0.4	3,545	0.3	822	23.2
7	Korea, Republic of (South)	3,530	0.3	2,514	0.2	1,016	40.4
8	Afghanistan	3,245	0.3	1,909	0.2	1,336	70.0
9	Iran	3,182	0.3	2,674	0.3	508	19.0
10	Pakistan	2,810	0.3	1,724	0.2	1,086	63.0
11	Samoa	2,384	0.2	1,662	0.2	722	43.4
12	Somalia	2,311	0.2	1,416	0.1	895	63.2
13	Ethiopia	1,970	0.2	1,344	0.1	626	46.6
14	Bangladesh	1,415	0.1	941	0.1	474	50.4
15	Sweden	1,379	0.1	1,159	0.1	220	19.0
16	Cook Islands	1,346	0.1	768	0.1	578	75.3
17	Zimbabwe	1,283	0.1	1,016	0.1	267	26.3
18	Tonga	1,231	0.1	1,001	0.1	230	23.0
19	Burma (Myanmar)	1,191	0.1	999	0.1	192	19.2
20	Kenya	1,113	0.1	909	0.1	204	22.4
21	Eritrea	996	0.1	747	0.1	249	33.3
22	Sudan	987	0.1	344	0.0	643	186.9
23	Albania	847	0.1	687	0.1	160	23.3
24	Brazil	803	0.1	561	0.1	242	43.1
25	Colombia	751	0.1	520	0.0	231	44.4
26	Norway	717	0.1	510	0.0	207	40.6
27	Kuwait	616	0.1	452	0.0	164	36.3
28	Slovakia	579	0.1	451	0.0	128	28.4
29	Belarus	572	0.1	456	0.0	116	25.4
30	Zambia	449	0.0	379	0.0	70	18.5
31	Nepal	443	0.0	272	0.0	171	62.9
32	Saudi Arabia	419	0.0	306	0.0	113	36.9
33	Nigeria	418	0.0	272	0.0	146	53.7
	<i>Total born overseas^(b)</i>	1,080,201		1,040,077			
	<i>Total born in Australia</i>	3,277,042		3,168,848			
	<i>Not stated</i>	254,699		145,192			
	<i>Overseas visitors</i>	32,851		19,394			
	Total Victoria	4,644,793		4,373,511			

Victoria, Emerging Language Groups (Language Spoken at Home): 2001 and 1996 Census

		2001 Census			1996 Census			Change 1996-2001	
	Language spoken at home, other than English ('Emerging languages') ^(a)	Persons	As % of other lang		Persons	As % of other lang		Persons	% increase
1	Japanese	4,896	0.5		4,109	0.4		787	19.2
2	Assyrian (incl. Aramaic)	4,060	0.4		1,992	0.2		2,068	103.8
3	Thai	3,768	0.3		2,683	0.3		1,085	40.4
4	Samoan	3,723	0.3		2,277	0.2		1,446	63.5
5	Punjabi	3,471	0.3		2,389	0.2		1,082	45.3
6	Korean	2,974	0.3		2,100	0.2		874	41.6
7	Somali	2,582	0.2		1,382	0.1		1,200	86.8
8	Urdu	2,680	0.2		1,426	0.1		1,254	87.9
9	Bengali	1,834	0.2		1,188	0.1		646	54.4
10	Southern Asian, nfd	1,762	0.2		1,475	0.1		287	19.5
11	Tongan	1,517	0.1		1,211	0.1		306	25.3
12	Afrikaans	1,426	0.1		806	0.1		620	76.9
13	Telugu	1,069	0.1		566	0.1		503	88.9
14	Swedish	960	0.1		815	0.1		145	17.8
15	Gujarati	929	0.1		643	0.1		286	44.5
16	Malayalam	903	0.1		649	0.1		254	39.1
17	Danish	942	0.1		811	0.1		131	16.2
18	Maori (Cook Island)	941	0.1		506	0.0		435	86.0
19	Auslan	823	0.1		394	0.0		429	108.9
20	Maori (New Zealand)	831	0.1		660	0.1		171	25.9
21	Pashto	752	0.1		459	0.0		293	63.8
22	Amharic	705	0.1		439	0.0		266	60.6
23	Kannada	621	0.1		342	0.0		279	81.6
24	Tigrinya	567	0.1		408	0.0		159	39.0
25	Marathi	510	0.0		313	0.0		197	62.9
26	Burmese	507	0.0		332	0.0		175	52.7
27	Norwegian	452	0.0		176	0.0		276	156.8
28	Kurdish	450	0.0		309	0.0		141	45.6
29	Nepali	412	0.0		196	0.0		216	110.2
	<i>Speaks other languages, total</i>	1,080,201			1,040,077				
	<i>Speaks English only</i>	3,277,042			3,168,848				
	<i>Not stated</i>	254,699			145,192				
	<i>Overseas visitors</i>	32,851			19,394				
	Total Victoria	#####			#####				