

Community report

Melbourne (C)

Prepared from Community Explorer topic selections for briefing, planning and reporting use.

AREA

Melbourne (C)

COMPARISON

Greater Melbourne

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

1 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Birthplace

Sources and method

- Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 and, where available, 2016 comparison data.
- Percentages are calculated from the denominator supplied for each topic. Change (pp) is the 2021 percentage minus the 2016 percentage when the topic is comparable across years.
- Usual residence topics describe where people usually live, rather than where they were counted on Census night.

Birthplace

Melbourne (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, 54.7% (81,877) of people in Melbourne (C) were born overseas, compared with 35.7% in Greater Melbourne. A further 38% (56,834) of people were born in Australia.

About this topic

Birthplace records the country in which a person was born. It is a core measure of migration history and cultural diversity and helps distinguish Australia-born and overseas-born populations.

This topic is useful for understanding settlement patterns and the likely language, service, and support needs of different communities. It should be interpreted together with ancestry, language used at home, and religion for a fuller view of cultural diversity.

Interpretation notes

- Country of birth measures birthplace only; it does not capture ancestry, ethnicity, or current citizenship on its own.
- Use birthplace with ancestry and language when interpreting cultural background, because many cultural groups include both Australia-born and overseas-born people.

Birthplace - Ranked by size

Melbourne (C) - Overseas born (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	110	0.1%	0.1%	132	0.1%	0.1%	-22	0.0
At sea	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Oceania and Antarctica, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Australia	56,834	38.0%	59.9%	44,439	32.7%	59.8%	+12,395	+5.3
Norfolk Island	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
New Zealand	3,191	2.1%	1.7%	2,846	2.1%	1.8%	+345	0.0
New Caledonia	16	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0
Papua New Guinea	67	0.0%	0.0%	63	0.0%	0.0%	+4	0.0
Solomon Islands	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	-2	0.0
Vanuatu	3	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	0.0%	-4	0.0
Micronesia, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Guam	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Kiribati	9	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Marshall Islands	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Nauru	5	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Northern Mariana Islands	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Palau	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Cook Islands	13	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	—
Fiji	190	0.1%	0.2%	136	0.1%	—
French Polynesia	—	—	0.0%	5	0.0%	—
Niue	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Samoa	26	0.0%	0.1%	15	0.0%	—
Samoa, American	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Tokelau	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Tonga	11	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	—
Tuvalu	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Wallis and Futuna	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Antarctica, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	—
Australian Antarctic Territory	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man, nfd	37	0.0%	0.0%	56	0.0%	—
England	3,497	2.3%	2.7%	3,141	2.3%	—
Isle of Man	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Northern Ireland	97	0.1%	0.1%	78	0.1%	—
Scotland	409	0.3%	0.4%	399	0.3%	—
Wales	109	0.1%	0.1%	89	0.1%	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Guernsey	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Jersey	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Ireland	571	0.4%	0.3%	462	0.3%	–
Austria	76	0.1%	0.1%	72	0.1%	–
Belgium	64	0.0%	0.0%	65	0.0%	–
France	600	0.4%	0.1%	592	0.4%	–
Germany	570	0.4%	0.4%	547	0.4%	–
Liechtenstein	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Luxembourg	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Monaco	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Netherlands	223	0.1%	0.2%	206	0.2%	–
Switzerland	94	0.1%	0.0%	93	0.1%	–
Denmark	45	0.0%	0.0%	46	0.0%	–
Faroe Islands	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Finland	39	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	–
Greenland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Iceland	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Norway	41	0.0%	0.0%	55	0.0%	–
Sweden	99	0.1%	0.0%	119	0.1%	–
Aland Islands	–	–	–	–	–	–
Andorra	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Gibraltar	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Italy	1,135	0.8%	1.2%	1,254	0.9%	–
Malta	90	0.1%	0.3%	98	0.1%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Portugal	46	0.0%	0.1%	60	0.0%	
Spain	250	0.2%	0.1%	237	0.2%	
South Eastern Europe, nfd	90	0.1%	0.1%	76	0.1%	
Albania	36	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	106	0.1%	0.2%	101	0.1%	
Bulgaria	41	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	
Croatia	135	0.1%	0.3%	132	0.1%	
Cyprus	50	0.0%	0.1%	40	0.0%	
North Macedonia	116	0.1%	0.4%	101	0.1%	
Greece	263	0.2%	0.9%	229	0.2%	
Moldova	12	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Romania	98	0.1%	0.1%	78	0.1%	
Slovenia	38	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
Montenegro	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Serbia	155	0.1%	0.2%	133	0.1%	
Kosovo	10	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Eastern Europe, nfd	22	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Belarus	21	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Czechia	38	0.0%	0.0%	40	0.0%	
Estonia	27	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Hungary	66	0.0%	0.1%	76	0.1%	
Latvia	23	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Lithuania	25	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Poland	268	0.2%	0.3%	217	0.2%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Russian Federation	332	0.2%	0.1%	257	0.2%	
Slovakia	30	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Ukraine	111	0.1%	0.1%	111	0.1%	
North Africa and the Middle East, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
North Africa, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Algeria	15	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Egypt	241	0.2%	0.3%	211	0.2%	
Libya	12	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Morocco	34	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Sudan	166	0.1%	0.1%	172	0.1%	
Tunisia	10	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
South Sudan	33	0.0%	0.1%	27	0.0%	
Middle East, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Bahrain	35	0.0%	0.0%	37	0.0%	
Gaza Strip and West Bank	7	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Iran	912	0.6%	0.4%	564	0.4%	
Iraq	121	0.1%	0.5%	70	0.1%	
Israel	70	0.0%	0.1%	58	0.0%	
Jordan	53	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Kuwait	74	0.0%	0.0%	140	0.1%	
Lebanon	128	0.1%	0.4%	101	0.1%	
Oman	36	0.0%	0.0%	57	0.0%	
Qatar	19	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Saudi Arabia	567	0.4%	0.1%	505	0.4%	
Syria	52	0.0%	0.2%	26	0.0%	
Turkey	412	0.3%	0.4%	252	0.2%	
United Arab Emirates	178	0.1%	0.1%	158	0.1%	
Yemen	12	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
South-East Asia, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Mainland South-East Asia, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Myanmar	414	0.3%	0.3%	203	0.1%	
Cambodia	202	0.1%	0.3%	149	0.1%	
Laos	60	0.0%	0.0%	79	0.1%	
Thailand	2,181	1.5%	0.4%	1,740	1.3%	
Vietnam	2,892	1.9%	1.8%	1,894	1.4%	
Maritime South-East Asia, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Brunei Darussalam	127	0.1%	0.0%	123	0.1%	
Indonesia	3,284	2.2%	0.4%	3,283	2.4%	
Malaysia	6,059	4.1%	1.2%	6,623	4.9%	
Philippines	2,315	1.5%	1.2%	1,129	0.8%	
Singapore	1,426	1.0%	0.3%	1,963	1.4%	
Timor-Leste	62	0.0%	0.1%	54	0.0%	
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	16,777	11.2%	3.4%	21,418	15.8%	
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1,998	1.3%	0.5%	1,912	1.4%	
Macau (SAR of China)	94	0.1%	0.0%	114	0.1%	
Mongolia	192	0.1%	0.0%	62	0.0%	
Taiwan	1,371	0.9%	0.2%	1,598	1.2%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Japan	1,079	0.7%	0.2%	1,104	0.8%	
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of (North)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Korea, Republic of (South)	2,424	1.6%	0.3%	3,118	2.3%	
Southern and Central Asia, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern Asia, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bangladesh	288	0.2%	0.2%	149	0.1%	
Bhutan	16	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
India	10,036	6.7%	4.9%	6,074	4.5%	
Maldives	16	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Nepal	798	0.5%	0.4%	112	0.1%	
Pakistan	396	0.3%	0.6%	247	0.2%	
Sri Lanka	949	0.6%	1.3%	674	0.5%	
Central Asia, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Afghanistan	123	0.1%	0.5%	56	0.0%	
Armenia	11	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Azerbaijan	9	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Georgia	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Kazakhstan	44	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	
Kyrgyzstan	16	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Tajikistan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkmenistan	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Uzbekistan	18	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Northern America, nfd	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Mel
Bermuda	11	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Canada	477	0.3%	0.2%	510	0.4%	
United States of America	1,380	0.9%	0.4%	1,092	0.8%	
South America, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Argentina	218	0.1%	0.1%	129	0.1%	
Bolivia	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Brazil	806	0.5%	0.1%	624	0.5%	
Chile	418	0.3%	0.2%	270	0.2%	
Colombia	2,533	1.7%	0.2%	1,039	0.8%	
Ecuador	65	0.0%	0.0%	63	0.0%	
Falkland Islands	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
French Guiana	–	–	–	–	–	
Guyana	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Paraguay	13	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Peru	135	0.1%	0.0%	88	0.1%	
Suriname	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Uruguay	35	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Venezuela	112	0.1%	0.0%	106	0.1%	
Central America, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Belize	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Costa Rica	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
El Salvador	73	0.0%	0.1%	70	0.1%	
Guatemala	9	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Honduras	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Mexico	274	0.2%	0.0%	233	0.2%	
Nicaragua	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Panama	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Caribbean, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anguilla	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antigua and Barbuda	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Aruba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bahamas	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Barbados	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Cayman Islands	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Cuba	4	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Dominica	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dominican Republic	7	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Grenada	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Guadeloupe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Haiti	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Jamaica	8	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Montserrat	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Puerto Rico	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
St Kitts and Nevis	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
St Lucia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
St Vincent and the Grenadines	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Trinidad and Tobago	17	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Turks and Caicos Islands	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Curacao	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Sint Maarten (Dutch part)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Central and West Africa, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Benin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Burkina Faso	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Cameroon	11	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Cabo Verde	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Central African Republic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Chad	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Congo, Republic of	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Congo, Democratic Republic of	7	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	–
Cote d'Ivoire	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Equatorial Guinea	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Gabon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Gambia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Ghana	24	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	–
Guinea	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Liberia	4	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Mali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Mauritania	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Niger	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Nigeria	55	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	–
Sao Tome and Principe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Senegal	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Sierra Leone	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Togo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Southern and East Africa, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Angola	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Botswana	28	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	–
Burundi	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Comoros	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Djibouti	9	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	–
Eritrea	211	0.1%	0.1%	224	0.2%	–
Ethiopia	309	0.2%	0.2%	303	0.2%	–
Kenya	179	0.1%	0.1%	141	0.1%	–
Lesotho	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Madagascar	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Malawi	5	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	–
Mauritius	289	0.2%	0.2%	273	0.2%	–
Mozambique	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Namibia	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Reunion	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Rwanda	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
St Helena	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Seychelles	7	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Somalia	434	0.3%	0.1%	543	0.4%	–
South Africa	637	0.4%	0.6%	486	0.4%	–
Eswatini	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Mel
Tanzania	27	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Uganda	31	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Zambia	21	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Zimbabwe	171	0.1%	0.1%	90	0.1%	
Not stated	10,849	7.3%	4.4%	15,724	11.6%	
Total	149,560	100.0%	100.0%	135,943	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes countries of birth with fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.