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Languages spoken by residents in the Eastern Region¹.

- There is a total population of 938592 people living in the Eastern Region. 76% (715495) of these people speak English at home whilst 20% (186963) do not speak English at home.²
- One hundred and fifty one different languages are spoken across the Eastern Region.
- The largest Non English Speaking Background (NESB) population speak Greek (33290) at home, followed by Cantonese (27908), Italian (24948), Mandarin (17493), German (6206), Vietnamese (5816) and Arabic (5145).
- Within the local government areas across the Eastern Region Monash has the largest NESB speaking population with 34% (52455) of its population speaking a language other than English at home. The figures for the other 6 LGA's in the region are Manningham 35% (37633), Whitehorse 22% (31276), Boroondara 18% (27096), Knox 16% (22888) Maroondah 8% (8258) and Shire of Yarra Ranges 5% (7583)
- Within the largest 30 NESB communities the oldest population in the Eastern Region is the Dutch speaking population with 53% (1686) of the community 60 years of age or more. Other communities with a quarter or more of their population aged 60 years plus are the German speaking community with 48% (3001), Hungarian 45% (1126), Italian 35% (8710), Croatian 26% (697), Polish 25% (946). Across the English speaking population 17% (120673) are aged 60 years plus whilst across NESB communities 19% (35865) of the population is aged 60 years plus. The largest NESB population aged 60 years or over is the Italian community (8710) followed by the Greek community (7388) and the Cantonese (3040) community.
- Within the largest 30 NESB communities the youngest population in the Eastern Region is the Indonesian speaking community with 81% (2203) of its population under 40 years of age. Other communities with 60% or more of their population under 40 years of age are, Korean 74% (1100), Japanese 70% (1025), Hindi 69% (2018), Khmer 68% (808), Vietnamese 66% (3857), Punjabi 66% (695), Mandarin 64% (11130), Turkish 64% (738), Persian 63% (1416) and Arabic 61% (3117). The largest NESB population aged 40 years or less is the Greek community (17403) followed by the Cantonese (15653) speaking community and the Mandarin (11130) speaking community.

¹ All figures are sourced from the ABS Census 2001

² A further 4% (36134) of responses were either not stated, non-verbal, auslan, and invented languages or not indicated.

Table 1 Top 30 languages spoken in the Eastern Region

	Total	% of total NESB population	0-19yrs	% of 0-19 yrs as a % of total language population	20-39yrs	% of 20-39 yrs as a % of total language population	< 40 years	% of total population < 40 yrs	40-59 yrs	% 40-59 yrs as a % of total language population	60+ yrs	% 60+ yrs as a % of total language population
NESB	186963	20%	38483	21%	58234	31%	96717	52%	54375	29%	35865	19%
English	715495	76%	197126	28%	201394	28%	398520	55%	196302	27%	120673	17%
Total	938592		248850	27%	267925	29%	495237	53%	257460	27%	164357	18%
Arabic	5145	3%	1546	30%	1571	31%	3117	61%	1502	29%	526	10%
Armenian	1152	1%	245	21%	320	28%	565	49%	336	29%	251	22%
Cantonese	27908	15%	7024	25%	8629	31%	15653	56%	9215	33%	3040	11%
Chinese, nfd	1723	1%	526	31%	513	30%	1039	60%	507	29%	177	10%
Croatian	2676		411	15%	745	28%	1156	43%	823	31%	697	26%
French	2233	1%	391	18%	580	26%	971	43%	787	35%	475	21%
German	6206	3%	583	9%	1034	17%	1617	26%	1588	26%	3001	48%
Greek	33290	18%	6041	18%	11362	34%	17403	52%	8499	26%	7388	22%
Hindi	2934	2%	776	26%	1242	42%	2018	69%	728	25%	188	6%
Hokkien	1587	1%	231	15%	446	28%	677	43%	731	46%	179	11%
Hungarian	2476	1%	238	10%	399	16%	637	26%	713	29%	1126	45%
Indonesian	2733	1%	810	30%	1393	51%	2203	81%	431	16%	99	4%
Italian	24948	13%	2600	10%	6622	27%	9222	37%	7016	28%	8710	35%
Japanese	1470	1%	466	32%	559	38%	1025	70%	359	24%	86	6%
Khmer	1183	1%	359	30%	449	38%	808	68%	301	25%	74	6%
Korean	1483	1%	482	33%	618	42%	1100	74%	320	22%	63	4%
Macedonian	1787	1%	260	15%	515	29%	775	43%	583	33%	429	24%
Mandarin	17493	9%	5108	29%	6022	34%	11130	64%	5037	29%	1326	8%
Netherlandic	3160	2%	163	5%	420	13%	583	18%	891	28%	1686	53%
Persian	2231	1%	725	32%	691	31%	1416	63%	655	29%	160	7%
Polish	3729	2%	680	18%	649	17%	1329	36%	1454	39%	946	25%
Punjabi	1058	1%	279	26%	416	39%	695	66%	252	24%	111	10%
Russian	1674	1%	392	23%	478	29%	870	52%	491	29%	313	19%
Serbian	1735	1%	388	22%	496	29%	884	51%	557	32%	294	17%
Sinhalese	3027	2%	654	22%	1139	38%	1793	59%	1013	33%	221	7%
Spanish	3127	2%	636	20%	1065	34%	1701	54%	1015	32%	411	13%
Tagalog	2254	1%	390	17%	819	36%	1209	54%	859	38%	186	8%
Tamil	2778	1%	677	24%	787	28%	1464	53%	1013	36%	301	11%
Turkish	1161	1%	340	29%	398	34%	738	64%	306	26%	117	10%
Vietnamese	5816	3%	1633	28%	2224	38%	3857	66%	1550	27%	409	7%

Country of Birth of residents in the Eastern Region³

- People from over 190 countries have settled in the Eastern Region.
- The largest number of people born outside of Australia or England were born in China 15742 followed by Italy 15516, Greece 14444, Malaysia 12661, Hong Kong 9217 and India 8739.
- 30% (287342) of the total population were born outside of Australia and 26% (246001) of the total population was born outside of Australia and England.
- Within the largest 30 communities the oldest community is the Hungarian born community with 62% (1267) of the population over 60 years of age. Other communities with more than 40% of its population aged 60 years or more are: Italian 54% (8391) and Greece 45% (6506). 14% (92,246) of the Australian born population is aged 60 years or more. The largest number of people aged 60 years or over were born in England (13296), Italy (8391) and Greece (6506)
- Within the largest 30 communities the youngest community is the South Korean born community where 72% (1135) of the population is aged under 40 years. Other communities with more than 50% of their population aged less than 40 years of age are: Indonesian 70% (2307), Taiwan 69% (1884), USA 59% (1766), Hong Kong 58% (5382), Singapore 55% (1594), Cambodia 55% (938), Philippines 54% (1691), Vietnam 52% (3497), Iran 52% (823), South Africa 52% (2864) and India 51% (4428). 62% (405354) of the Australian born population is aged less than 40 years. The largest number of people aged 40 years or less were born in England (10391), China (7359) and Malaysia (6028)

³All figures are sourced from the ABS Census 2001

Table 2 Top 30 Country of Births in the Eastern Region⁴

	Total Population	0-19yrs	% of 0-19 yrs as a % of total COB population	20-39yrs	% of 20-39 yrs as a % of total COB population	< 40 years	% of total population < 40 yrs	40-59 yrs	% 40-59 yrs as a % of total COB population	60+ yrs	% 60+ yrs as a % of total COB population
Australia	651386	210165	32%	195189	30%	405,354	62%	153786	24%	92246	14%
Cambodia	1713	110	6%	828	48%	938	55%	611	36%	164	10%
China	15742	2318	15%	5041	32%	7,359	47%	5450	35%	2933	19%
Croatia	2189	72	3%	319	15%	391	18%	935	43%	863	39%
Cyprus	1651	29	2%	245	15%	274	17%	803	49%	574	35%
Egypt	2698	122	5%	328	12%	450	17%	1300	48%	948	35%
England	41341	1903	5%	8488	21%	10,391	25%	17654	43%	13296	32%
Germany	7316	260	4%	834	11%	1,094	15%	2990	41%	3232	44%
Greece	14444	144	1%	1264	9%	1,408	10%	6530	45%	6506	45%
Hong Kong	9217	1895	21%	3487	38%	5,382	58%	3250	35%	585	6%
Hungary	2039	21	1%	116	6%	137	7%	635	31%	1267	62%
India	8739	1175	13%	3253	37%	4,428	51%	3028	35%	1283	15%
Indonesia	3297	682	21%	1625	49%	2,307	70%	681	21%	309	9%
Iran	1591	294	18%	529	33%	823	52%	619	39%	149	9%
Ireland	2651	135	5%	564	21%	699	26%	1035	39%	917	35%
Italy	15516	97	1%	841	5%	938	6%	6187	40%	8391	54%
Lebanon	1400	78	6%	464	33%	542	39%	635	45%	223	16%
Malaysia	12661	1582	12%	4446	35%	6,028	48%	5403	43%	1230	10%
Netherlands	6354	92	1%	530	8%	622	10%	2895	46%	2837	45%
Philippines	3124	524	17%	1167	37%	1,691	54%	1217	39%	216	7%
Poland	3764	193	5%	592	16%	785	21%	1530	41%	1449	38%
Scotland	6863	202	3%	1039	15%	1,241	18%	2985	43%	2637	38%
Singapore	2893	563	19%	1031	36%	1,594	55%	1040	36%	259	9%
South Africa	5537	1135	20%	1729	31%	2,864	52%	2031	37%	642	12%
Sri Lanka	7911	830	10%	2423	31%	3,253	41%	3254	41%	1404	18%
Sth Korea,	1569	457	29%	678	43%	1,135	72%	337	21%	97	6%
Taiwan	2713	666	25%	1218	45%	1,884	69%	764	28%	65	2%
USA	3002	847	28%	919	31%	1,766	59%	975	32%	261	9%
Viet Nam	6757	279	4%	3218	48%	3,497	52%	2692	40%	568	8%
Yugoslavia FR	2389	128	5%	468	20%	596	25%	1011	42%	782	33%
Total	938,728	248928	27%	267886	29%	516,814	55%	257496	27%	164418	18%

⁴ All figures are sourced from the ABS Census 2001