



The Census in a Multicultural Australia

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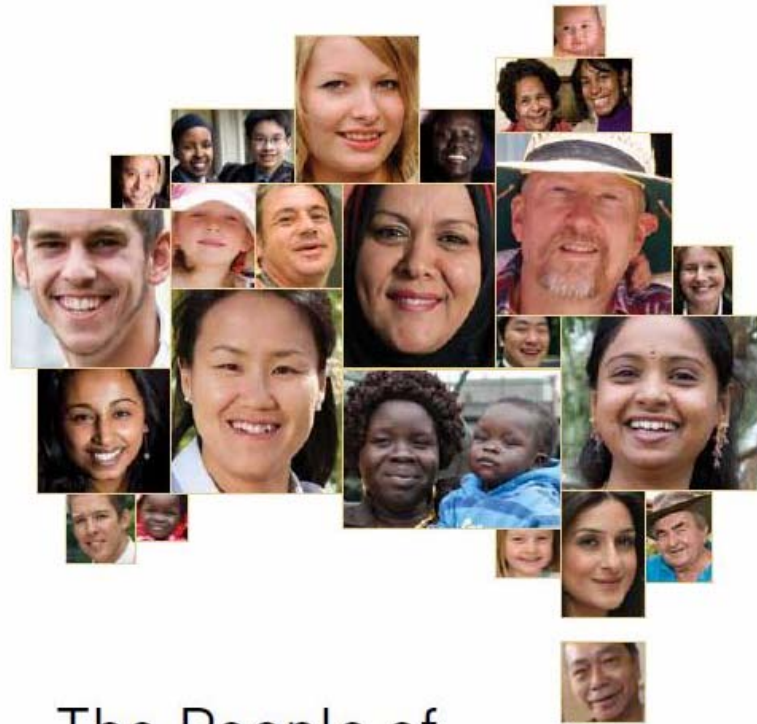
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Multicultural Australia

- One in four Australians was born overseas.
- 45 per cent of all Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was born overseas.
- We speak more than 260 languages.
- We identify with 270 ancestries.
- Nearly 87 per cent of Australians think it is a good thing for society to be made up of different cultures.

Multicultural Policy



The People of
AUSTRALIA

Australia's Multicultural Policy



Multicultural Policy

The People of Australia

- Launched 16 February 2011
- Available online at:
www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/a-diverse-australia/multicultural-policy/
- ‘Australia’s multicultural composition is at the heart of our national identity and is intrinsic to our history and character.’
- ‘Multiculturalism is about all Australians and for all Australians.’



Multicultural Policy

The People of Australia

Enshrines four principles committing the Australian Government to:

- celebrating cultural diversity
- building an inclusive and participative society
- welcoming the economic benefits arising from multiculturalism, and
- promoting understanding and acceptance while responding with strength to expressions of intolerance and discrimination.



Multicultural Policy

The People of Australia

- Rights and responsibilities:
 - enshrined in our citizenship pledge
 - ‘loyalty to Australia and its people’
 - ‘uphold our laws and democracy’
 - ‘respect our rights and liberties’
 - entitlement to ‘celebrate, practise and maintain’ ‘cultural heritage, traditions and language’



Multicultural Policy

The People of Australia

- Key initiatives include:
 - Establishment of the Australian Multicultural Council (AMC)
 - National Anti-Racism Partnership and Strategy
 - Strengthening Access and Equity
 - Multicultural Arts and Festivals Grants
 - Multicultural Youth Sports Partnership Program



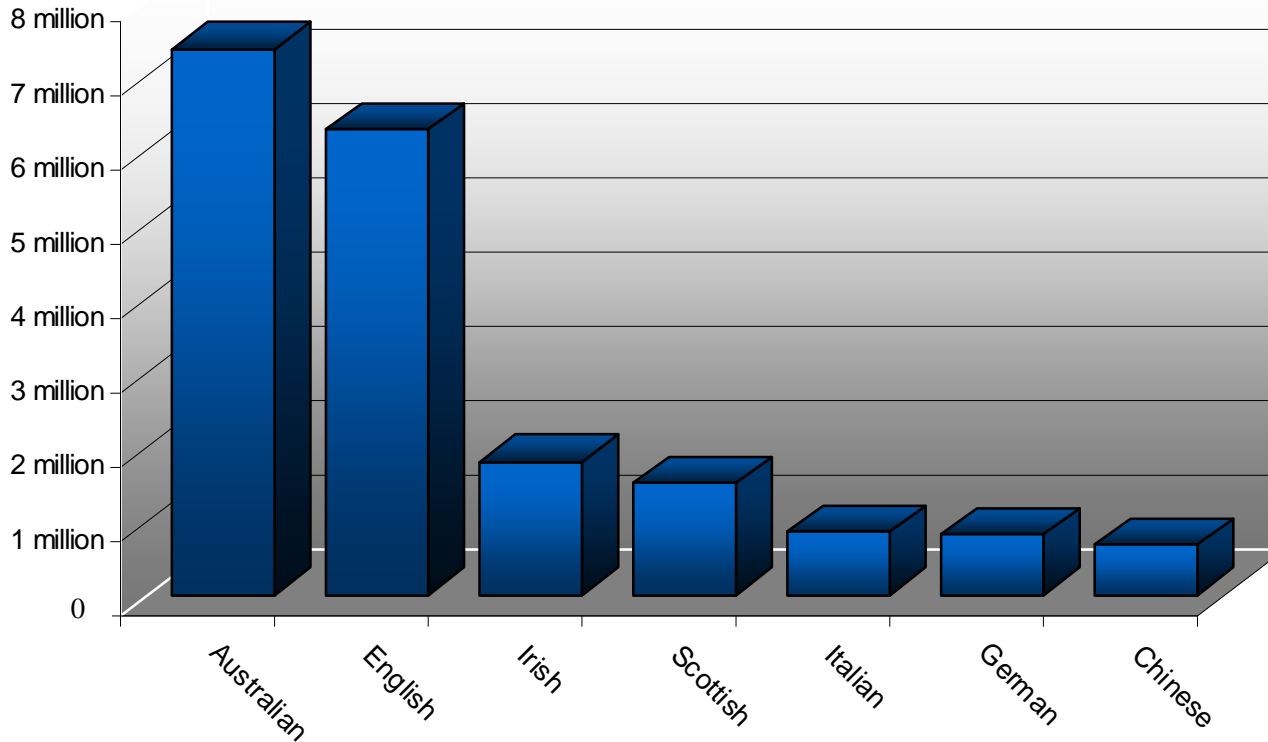
Understanding Australia's communities

Why?

- To inform policies and programs developed by DIAC related to multicultural affairs
- To inform policies and programs developed by other government agencies relating to social inclusion, access and equity and related fields
- To advise political leaders and diplomats, prior to public or diplomatic engagements

Understanding Australia's communities

Top ancestries in Australia





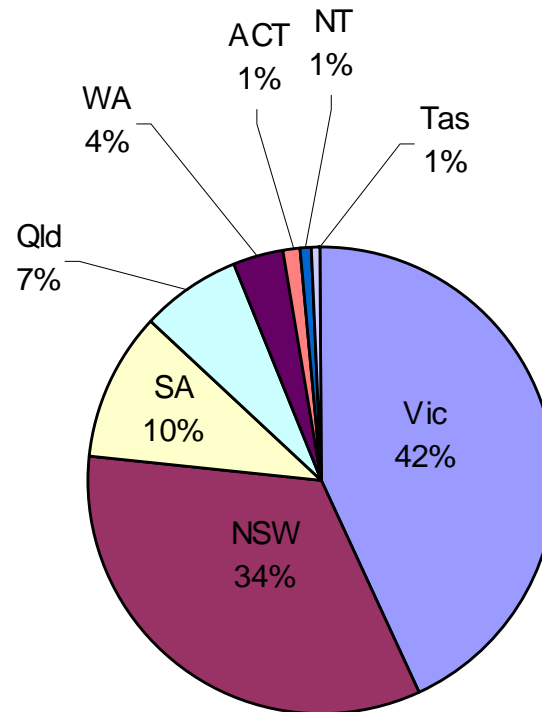
Understanding Australia's communities

Italian Australian community

- There were **852 486** Italian **ancestry** responses in the 2006 Census.
- Comparatively, only **199 120** Australians were born in Italy, which was 9 per cent fewer than at the time of the 2001 Census.
- If we only used country of birth responses, we would perceive the community to be decreasing in size, which it is not.
- There was an increase in Italian ancestry responses between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses of about 9 per cent.

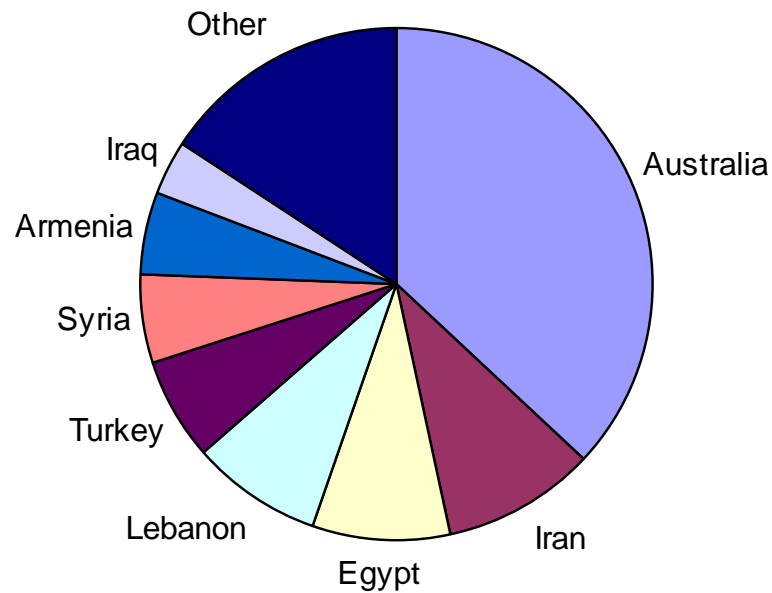
Understanding Australia's communities

Australia's Greek communities (ancestry) by state of residence



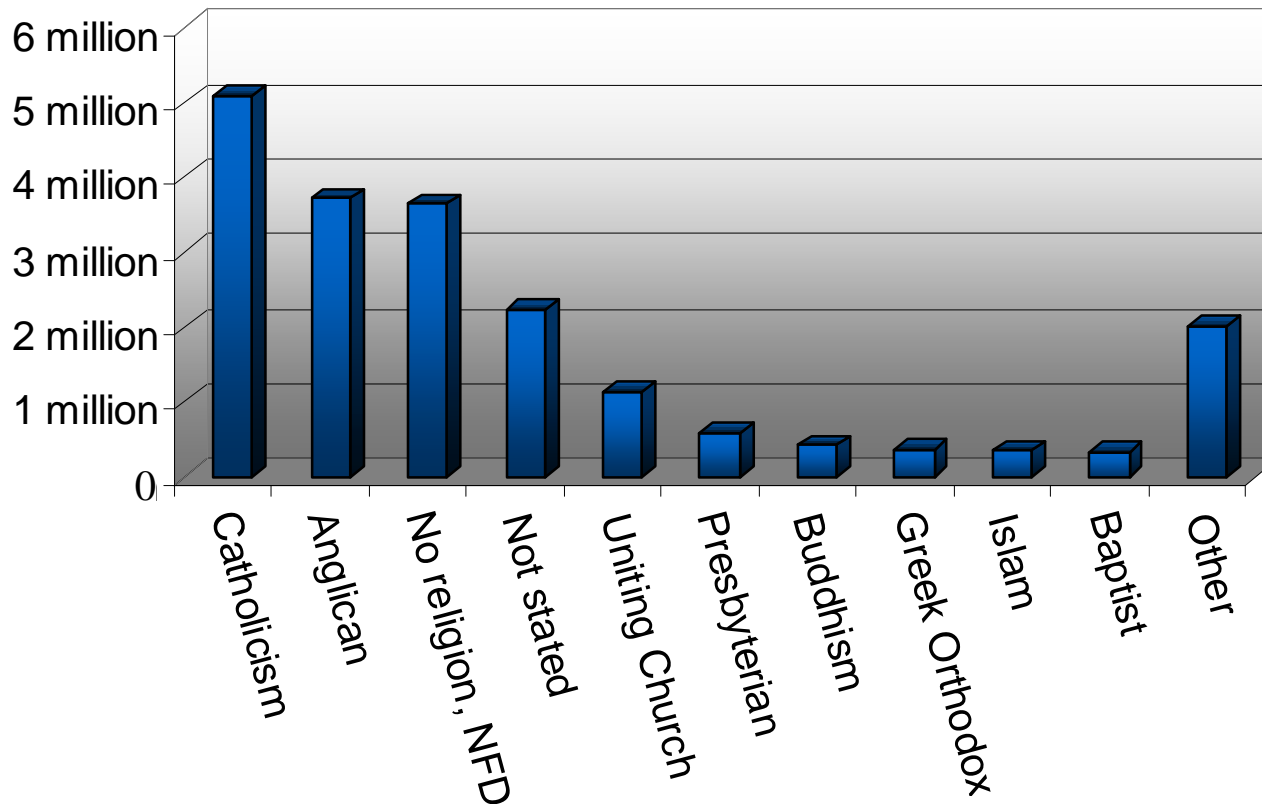
Understanding Australia's communities

Armenian ancestry by country of birth



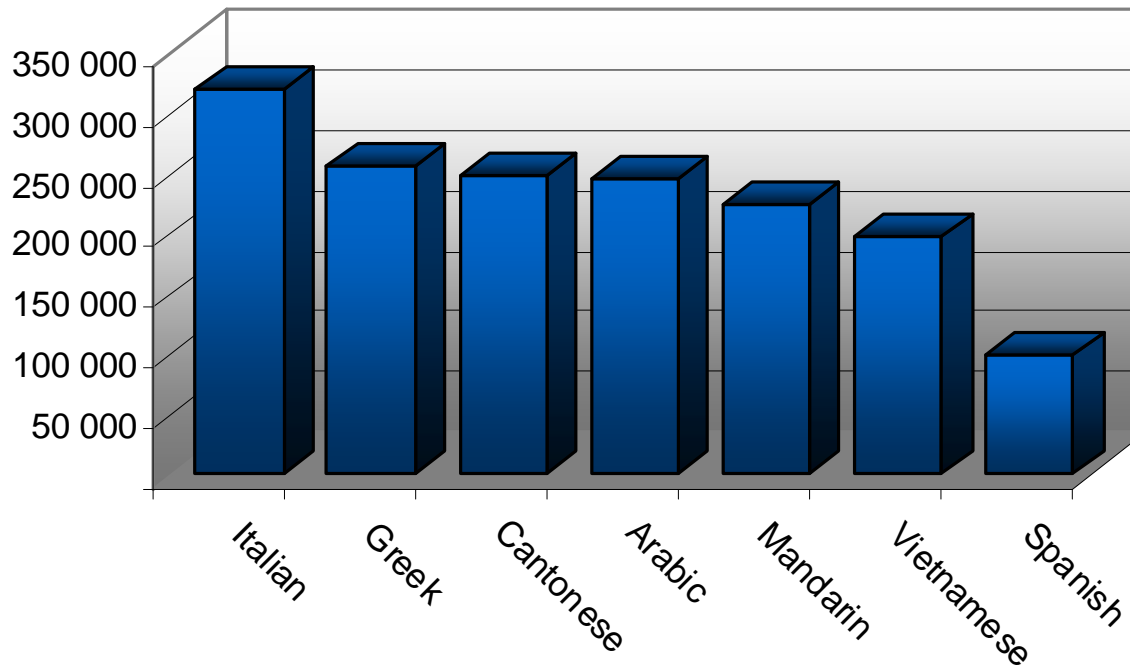
Understanding Australia's communities

Top 10 religions in Australia



Understanding Australia's communities

Top languages (other than English) in Australia





Individual communities

Some variables to understanding a community

- country of birth
- ancestry
- location
- citizenship
- year of arrival
- place of birth of mother and father
- ancestry and country of birth of spouse
- religion
- English proficiency
- language spoken at home
- income
- educational qualifications
- employment characteristics



Individual communities

Burmese community

- 2006 Census counts 12 378 people who were born in Burma.
- Between the 2006 Census and 31 December 2010, there were an additional 8847 permanent arrivals from Burma.
- The 2011 Census will give us a clearer picture of ethnicity, religion and other variables for this community and other growing communities.

Individual communities

Community Information Summaries

www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/comm-summ/

Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Community Information Summary

India-born

Historical Background

Indians were brought to Australia between 1800 and 1860, mainly to work as labourers and domestic workers. Between 1860 and 1901 many arrived to work as agricultural labourers and hawkers in country towns. A number of Indians also worked in the gold fields.

They were mainly Sikhs and Muslims from the Punjab region in northwest India and the majority settled in Woolgoolga in New South Wales. Today, the Sikh settlement in Woolgoolga is one of the largest Indian rural communities in Australia.

Migration from India was curtailed after the Australian Government introduced the Immigration Restriction Act 1901. Following India's independence from Britain in 1947, the number of Anglo-Indians and India-born British citizens immigrating to Australia increased.

In 1966, the Australian Government changed its policies to permit non-European Indians to immigrate to Australia. By 1981, the India-born population numbered 41 657 and the new arrivals included many professionals, such as doctors, teachers, computer programmers and engineers. Unlike the earlier settlers, those arriving after the 1950s came from many parts of India and belonged to various religious, linguistic and cultural groups.

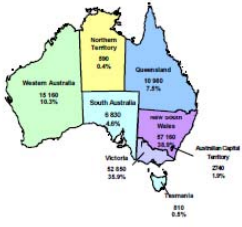
While the majority of Indians in Australia are Hindus, some are followers of other religious faiths such as Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism.

There were 95 460 India-born people in Australia at the 2001 Census, making up 2.3 per cent of the overseas-born population and 0.5 per cent of the total Australian population.

Today

Geographic Distribution

The latest Census in 2006 recorded 147 110 India-born people in Australia, an increase of 54.1 per cent from the 2001 Census. The 2006 distribution by state and territory showed New South Wales had the largest number with 57 160 followed by Victoria (52 850), Western Australia (15 160) and Queensland (10 960).



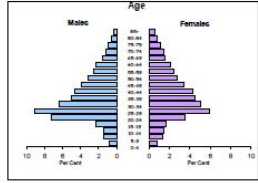
State/Territory	Population	Percentage
Western Australia	15 160	10.3%
Northern Territory	800	0.6%
Queensland	10 960	7.4%
South Australia	6 830	4.6%
New South Wales	57 160	38.8%
Victoria	52 850	35.9%
Tasmania	810	0.5%
Australian Capital Territory	290	0.2%

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Age and Sex

The median age of the India-born in 2006 was 35.6 years compared with 45.8 years for all overseas-born and 37.1 years for the total Australian population. The age distribution showed 7.3 per cent were aged 0-14 years, 14.9 per cent were 15-24 years, 45.0 per cent were 25-44 years, 22.8 per cent were 45-64 years and 10.2 per cent were 65 and over.

Of the India-born in Australia, there were 81 190 males (55.2 per cent) and 65 910 females (44.8 per cent). The sex ratio was 123.2 males per 100 females.

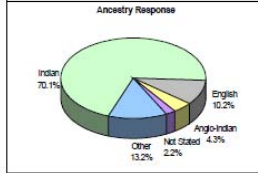


Ancestry

In the 2006 Census, the top three ancestry responses* that India-born people reported were: Indian (112 600), English (16 340) and Anglo-Indian (6560).

In the 2006 Census, Australians reported more than 250 different Ancestries. From the total ancestry responses*, 0.9 per cent responded as having an Indian ancestry.

*At the 2006 Census up to two responses per person were allowed for the Ancestry question. Therefore providing the total responses and not persons count.

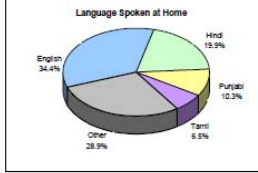


Ancestry	Percentage
Indian	70.1%
English	10.2%
Anglo-Indian	4.3%
Other	13.2%
Not Stated	2.2%

Language

The main languages spoken at home by India-born people in Australia were English (34.4 per cent), Hindi (19.9 per cent) and Punjabi (10.3 per cent).

Of the 95 010 India-born who spoke a language other than English at home, 54.0 per cent spoke English very well or well and 5.0 per cent spoke English not well or not at all.

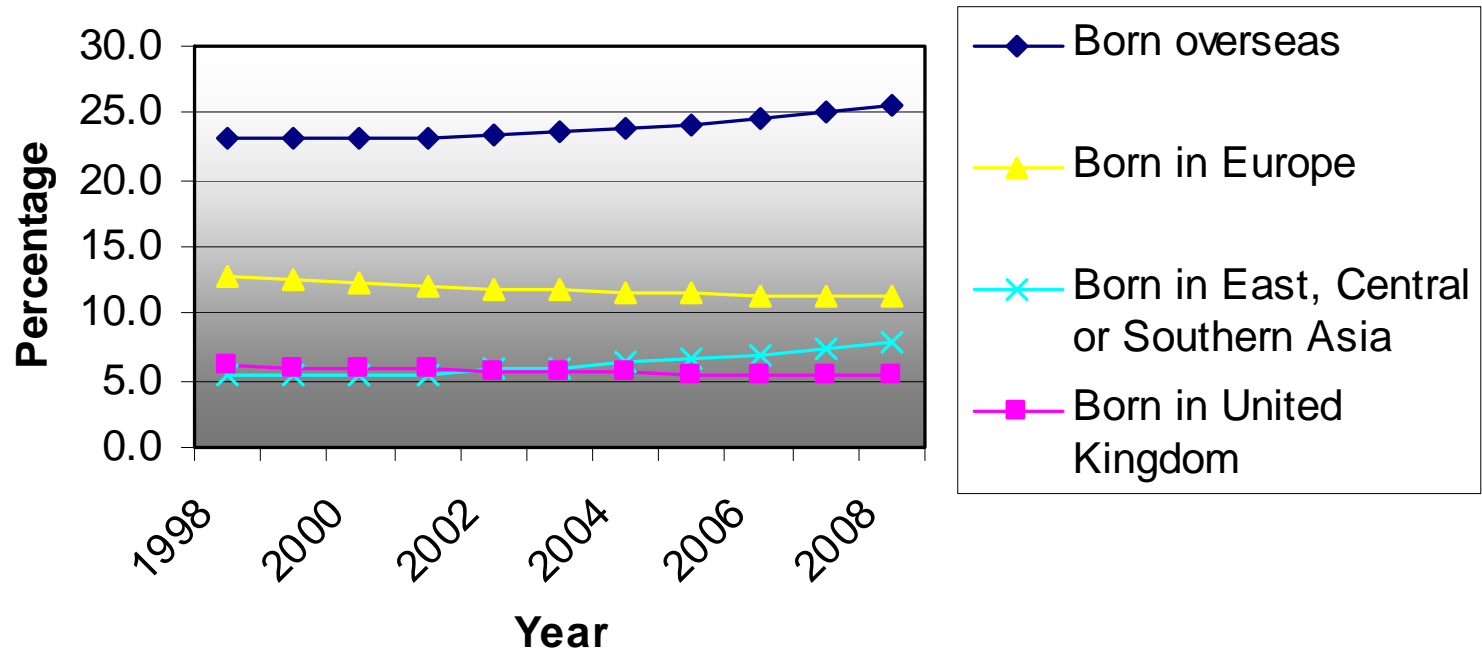


Language	Percentage
English	34.4%
Hindi	19.9%
Punjabi	10.3%
Tamil	6.8%
Other	28.9%

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Australian societal trends

Country of birth over 10 years



Australian societal trends

Comparison of ancestry responses over 20 years

1986			2006		
	Ancestry	% of population		Ancestry	% of population
1	English	42.3	1	Australian	37.1
2	Australian	21.8	2	English	31.6
3	Irish	5.8	3	Irish	9.1
4	Scottish	4.3	4	Scottish	7.6
5	Italian	4.0	5	Italian	4.3
6	German	3.3	6	German	4.1
7	Greek	2.2	7	Chinese	3.4
8	Dutch	1.5	8	Greek	1.8
9	Chinese	1.3	9	Dutch	1.6
10	Maltese	0.8	10	Indian	1.2
11	Lebanese	0.6	11	Lebanese	0.9
12	Indian	0.5	12	Vietnamese	0.9
13	Vietnamese	0.4	13	Polish	0.8
14	Filipino	0.2	14	New Zealander	0.8
15	Turkish	0.2	15	Filipino	0.8



Thank you