



Community Information Summary

New Zealand-born

Historical Background

The New Zealand-born now make up the second largest overseas-born group in Australia after the United Kingdom born.

Since colonial times, there have been close links between the two countries. So close in fact, that from 1828 until 1840 New Zealand was under the jurisdiction of the Governor of New South Wales.

Movement between the two countries has also been significant, the direction depending on the economic situation in each country. During the gold rushes of the 1860s in New Zealand for example, more Australians moved to New Zealand than vice versa. This trend continued for the next century.

The 1881 Censuses both of Australia and of New Zealand for instance, revealed that there were 16 100 Australians living in New Zealand compared with only 6800 New Zealanders living in Australia. This net gain in favour of New Zealand continued until the 1950s.

In the ensuing decades and particularly during the 1960s there was a dramatic shift. By the 1971 Australian Census the number of New Zealand-born living in Australia had jumped to 80 466. By 1981 this number had more than doubled to 176 713.

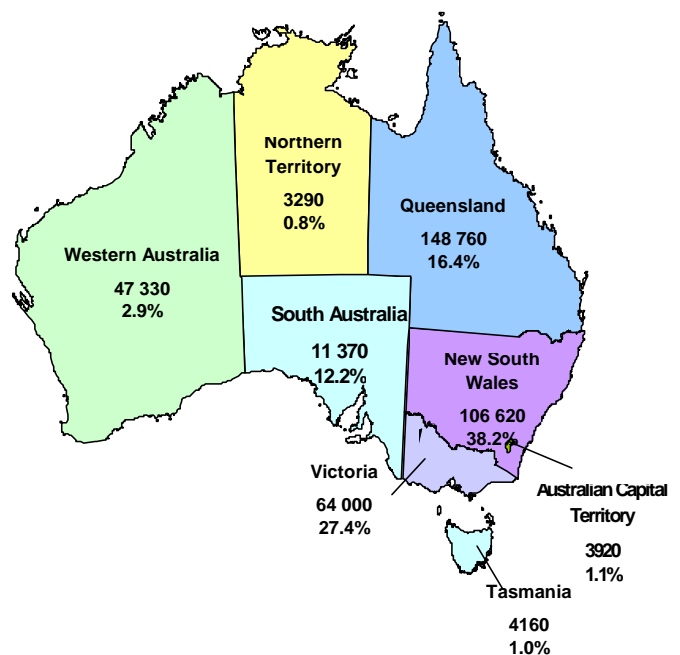
At that stage, this was more than three times the recorded number of Australians living in New Zealand (52 600). By 1991 the number of New Zealand-born living in Australia had increased by a further 100 000 to 276 070. The most significant gain for Australia (136 000 New Zealand-born) occurred in the ten years between 1974 and 1984.

It has been estimated that New Zealanders of Maori descent make up around 10 per cent of Australia's New Zealand-born population.

Today

Geographic Distribution

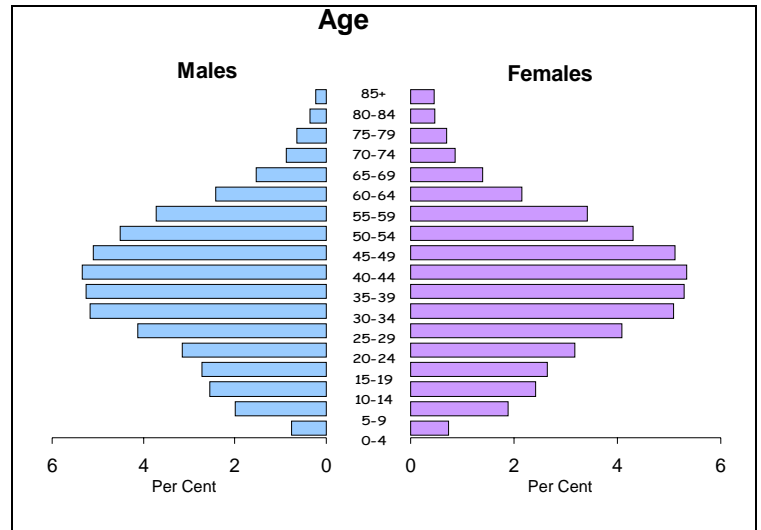
The latest Census in 2006 recorded 389 470 New Zealand-born people in Australia, an increase of 9.5 per cent from the 2001 Census. The 2006 distribution by state and territory showed Queensland had the largest number with 148 760 followed by New South Wales (106 620), Victoria (64 000) and Western Australia (47 330).



Age and Sex

The median age of the New Zealand-born in 2006 was 39.5 years compared with 46.8 years for all overseas-born and 37.1 years for the total Australian population. The age distribution showed 10.3 per cent were aged 0-14 years, 11.7 per cent were 15-24 years, 39.7 per cent were 25-44 years, 30.7 per cent were 45-64 years and 7.5 per cent were 65 and over.

Of the New Zealand-born in Australia, there were 196 440 males (50.4 per cent) and 193 020 females (49.6 per cent). The sex ratio was 101.8 males per 100 females.

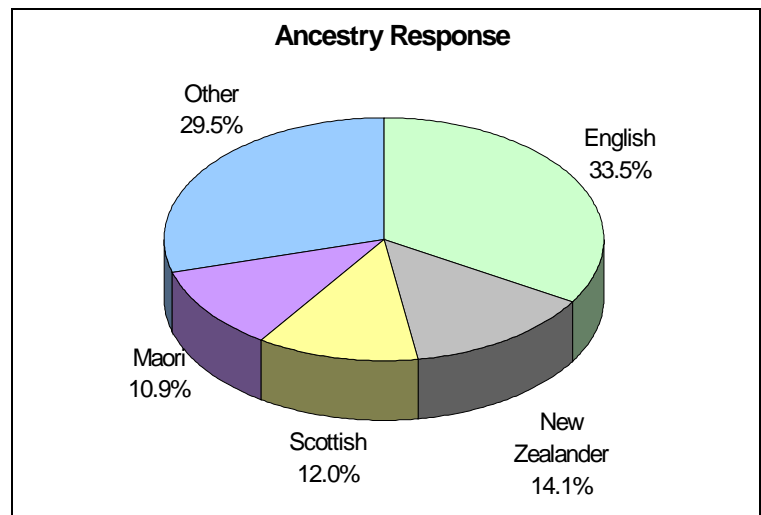


Ancestry

In the 2006 Census, the top three ancestry responses* that New Zealand-born people reported were, English (181 460), New Zealander (76 240) and Scottish (64 910).

In the 2006 Census, Australians reported more than 250 different Ancestries. From the total ancestry responses*, 0.6 per cent responded as having a New Zealander ancestry.

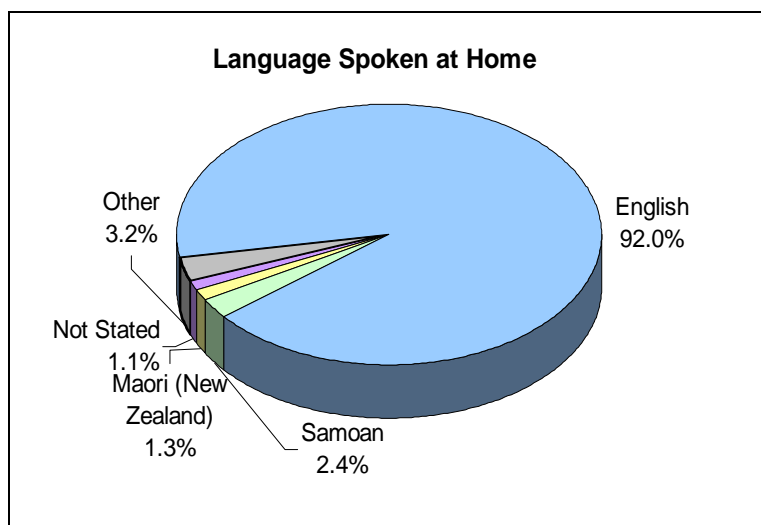
*At the 2006 Census up to two responses per person were allowed for the Ancestry question; therefore providing the total responses and not persons count.



Language

The main languages spoken at home by New Zealand-born people in Australia were English (92.0 per cent), Samoan (2.4 per cent) and Maori (New Zealand) (1.3 per cent).

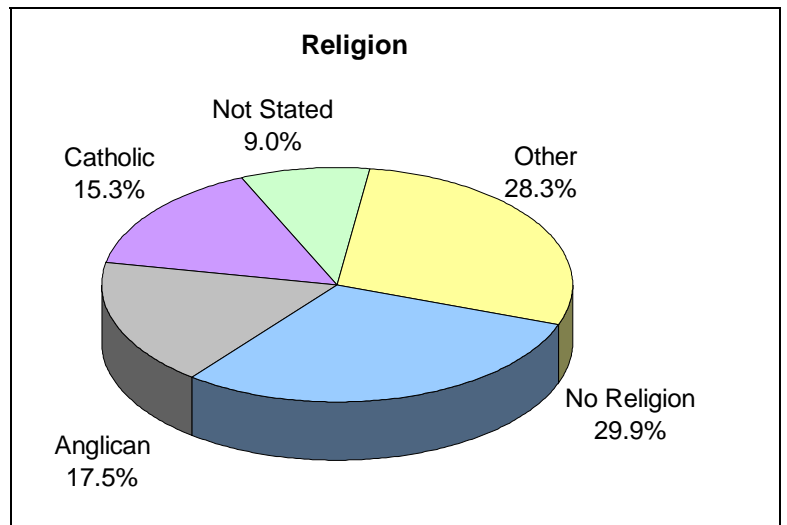
Of the 28 310 New Zealand-born who spoke a language other than English at home, 94.1 per cent spoke English very well or well and 4.1 per cent spoke English not well or not at all.



Religion

At the 2006 Census the major religious affiliations amongst New Zealand-born were No Religion (116 460 persons), Anglican (68 180 persons) and Catholic (59 620 persons).

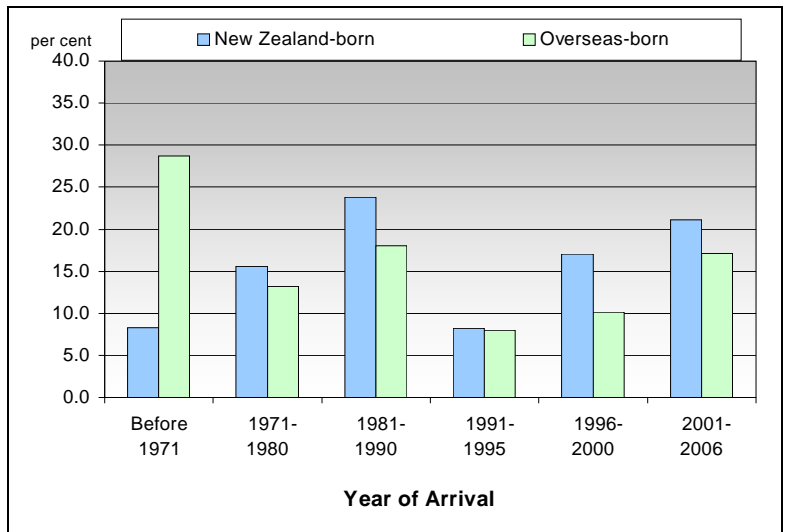
Of the New Zealand-born, 29.9 per cent stated 'No Religion', this was higher than that of the total Australian population (18.7 per cent). 9.0 per cent of the New Zealand-born did not state a religion.



Arrival

Compared to 67.9 per cent of the total overseas-born population, 56.0 per cent of the New Zealand-born people in Australia arrived in Australia prior to 1996.

Among the total New Zealand-born in Australia at the 2006 Census, 17.0 per cent arrived between 1996 and 2000 and 21.1 per cent arrived during 2001 and 2006.



Citizenship

At the 2006 Census, the estimated rate of Australian Citizenship for the New Zealand-born in Australia was 40.0 per cent. The estimated rate for all overseas-born was 75.6 per cent. This rate includes adjustments for people not meeting the residential requirement for citizenship, temporary entrants to Australia and underenumeration at the Census.

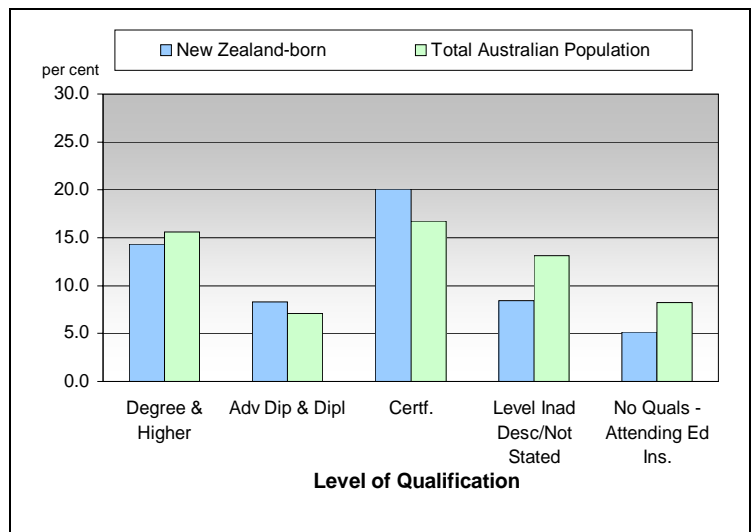
Median Income

At the time of the 2006 Census, the median individual weekly income for the New Zealand-born in Australia aged 15 years and over was \$616, compared with \$431 for all overseas-born and \$488 for all Australia-born. The total Australian population had a median individual weekly income of \$466.

Qualifications

At the 2006 Census, 51.2 per cent of the New Zealand-born aged 15 years and over had some form of higher non school qualifications compared to 52.5 per cent of the Australian population. Among the New Zealand-born, 22.6 per cent had Diploma level or higher* qualifications and 20.1 per cent had Certificate level qualifications. From the New Zealand-born, 166 930 had no higher non school qualification, of which 10.7 per cent were still attending an educational institution.

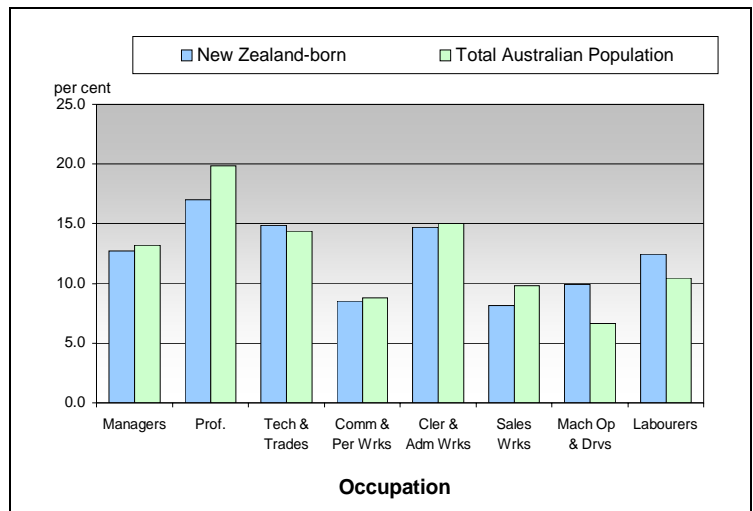
* Diploma level or higher qualification includes Degree level or higher, Advanced Diploma and Diploma level.



Employment

Among New Zealand-born people aged 15 years and over, the participation rate in the labour force was 76.3 per cent and the unemployment rate was 4.9 per cent. The corresponding rates in the total Australian population were 64.6 and 5.2 per cent respectively.

Of the 249 440 New Zealand-born who were employed, 25.4 per cent were employed in a Skill Level 1 occupation, 10.8 per cent in Skill Level 2 and 15.4 per cent in Skill Level 3. The corresponding rates in the total Australian population were 28.7, 10.7 and 15.1 per cent respectively.



Jointly produced by Multicultural Affairs Branch and the Programme Statistics and Monitoring Section of DIAC

All data used in this summary is sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing Sources for the Historical Background available at <http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/comm-summ/source.htm>

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