

# STATISTICAL FOCUS

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2001 CLASSIFICATION  
OF COUNTRIES INTO  
ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS



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## INTRODUCTION

The English Proficiency (EP) Country Groups is a classification of the source countries of Australia's immigrants based on the English proficiency of recent arrivals. This *Statistical Focus* contains the determination of the 2001 EP groups based on the results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

In 1996, the Bureau of Immigration, Multicultural and Population Research (BIMPR) publication *English Proficiency and Immigrant Groups*, introduced the concept of EP Groups. This first classification was based on the 1991 Census. An updated classification was produced based on the 1996 Census. This publication introduces the third EP Group classification.

The EP Groups classification was developed in response to a perceived need for refinement of the much used main English speaking countries and non-English speaking countries (or MES/NES) dichotomy. While this split was useful statistically, the NES group of countries was criticised as being too diverse and insufficiently aligned with settlement needs. The EP group classification addressed this concern by splitting the NES group into three more homogenous subgroups increasing the utility of these groups.

More detail on the original development of the EP groups is contained in Appendix 1. Appendix 1 contains the original article introducing the 1991 Census EP classification. The determination of the 2001 EP groups is discussed in the first chapter.

Table One shows to which EP group, Countries of Birth have been allocated according to the 2001 EP classification and it shows the data used in determining the result.

Table Two shows the Countries of Birth in the order in which they appear in the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC) with their corresponding EP group.

For completeness, Table Three allocates an EP group to the birthplaces in the SACC that have no Usual Residents at the 2001 Census. This imputation is based on the EP group of the SACC Minor Group to which the birthplace belongs.

## THE DETERMINATION OF THE 2001 EP GROUP CLASSIFICATION

*The EP index is defined as the percentage of recent immigrants (those entering in the five years before the Census) who speak English only or another language and good English. Good English is defined as those who reported at the Census that they spoke 'English Only' or spoke English 'Very Well' or 'Well'.*

The overall EP index for all overseas born has increased between 1996 and 2001 from 78.8 to 85.2. This increase may be attributed to changes in immigration policy over this period, favouring English language ability in selection procedures, as well as an historical trend towards increasing use of English around the world.

The improvement is apparent for most countries of origin of immigrants, but the greatest improvements occur for countries at the lower end of the EP index scale ie. for countries in EP country groups 3 and 4. In 2001, the overall increase in the EP index for countries that were in EP group 3 in 1996 was 5.1 percentage points and, for countries that were in EP group 4 in 1996, the overall increase was 9.1 percentage points.

As a result, it was found that if the same levels of the index were used to define the EP groups as were used in 1996, there would only be 2 numerically significant immigrant source countries remaining in EP group 4 (Viet Nam and Cambodia). This isolation of too few countries in the lowest proficiency group and the numeric imbalance with the other groups was considered to be undesirable.

Since the EP groups are intended to be a categorisation of countries into groups with relatively different English proficiency levels and hence different settlement outcomes, it can be argued that the relativities should be maintained rather than the absolute levels. While from one point of view the improvement in the absolute levels of English proficiency could be expected to be associated with commensurate improvements in settlement outcomes, the relative levels of English proficiency may also be relevant in determining outcomes such as employment – the pool of available jobs will not necessarily have increased commensurately.

Further support for maintaining the relative levels of the EP groups comes from the needs of users who are interested in a relative index to differentiate the countries in what used to be treated as one homogenous group of Non-English speaking countries. It can then be used as a tool:

- to summarise sub-groups in the population which can be used as indicators of settlement success;
- to determine relative priority for targeting settlement assistance; and
- to provide a means of benchmarking populations for comparison purposes.

In order to determine the amounts to shift the cut-off levels of the EP index which define the EP groups, the average increase of the EP index, weighted by the number of recent arrivals for each country, was calculated for countries either side of the cut-off levels as follows (see Appendix 2 for details):

2001 EP Group	Countries used to determine the new cut-off levels (based on the 1996 EP Index)	Change * in lower boundary
EP1	EP1 countries + top half of EP2 countries (ie countries above 90.0, the mid-point between 80 and 100)	+0.5
EP2	Bottom half of EP2 countries (ie below 90.0) + top half of EP3 countries (ie countries above 65, the mid-point between 50 and 80)	+4.5
EP3	Bottom half of EP3 countries (ie below 65) + EP4 countries	+7.5

\* Rounded to the nearest 0.5 percentage point.

Adding these amounts to the 1996 levels gives the 2001 EP groups:

- EP1 = All countries rating 98.5% or higher with at least 10,000 residents in Australia**
- EP2 = Countries rating 84.5% or higher on the EP index, other than those in EP1**
- EP3 = Countries rating 57.5% to less than 84.5%**
- EP4 = Countries rating less than 57.5%**

It is appropriate to use these new EP group definitions for data extending back to 1996 since the definitions are based on the cohort of arrivals between the 1996 and 2001 Censuses. For earlier data the 1996 or 1991 EP groups should be used.

The rate of unemployment is a good measure of settlement success of recently arrived migrants. In order to confirm that the boundaries of the EP groups are a satisfactory measure, the analysis of the EP Group boundaries includes a comparison of the EP index and unemployment rates.

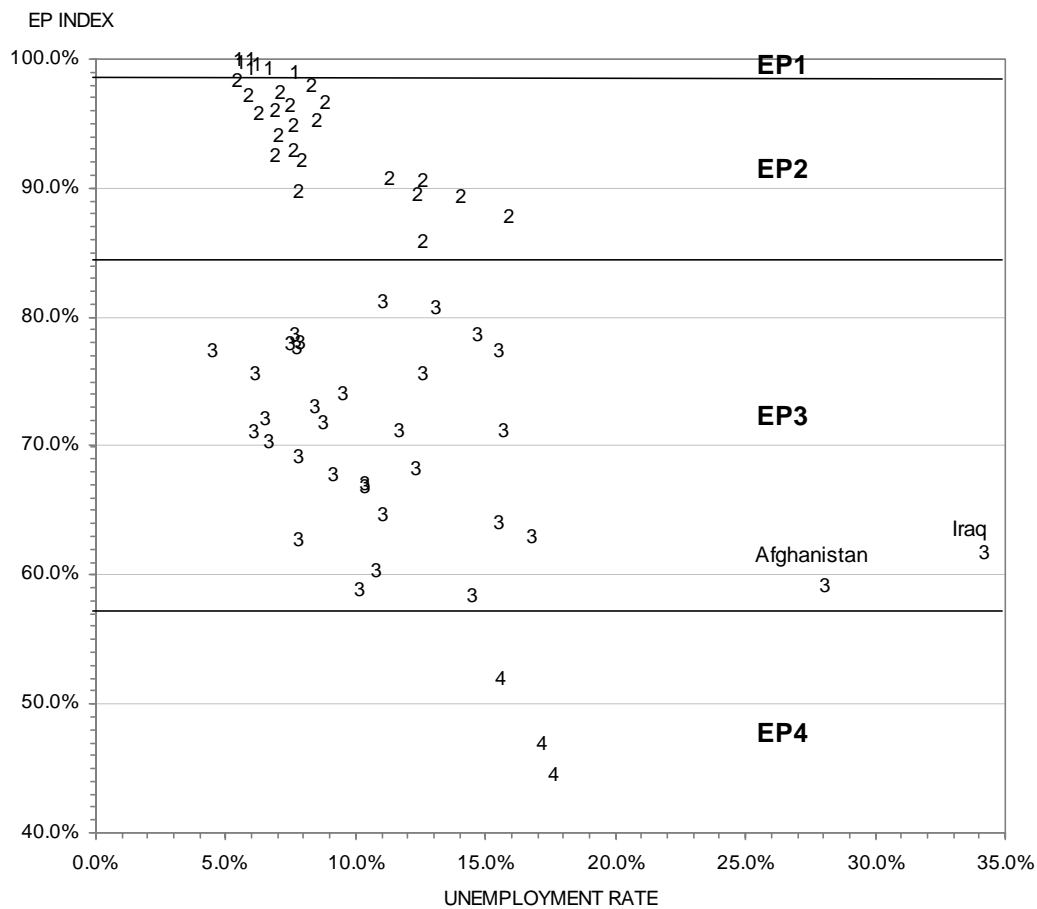
Figure 1 shows the 2001 Census English Proficiency index for 64 major countries of birth plotted against the unemployment rate (calculated at the 2001 Census) for these countries. Each number plotted represents a country and the number used as a plotting point shows the English Proficiency Group into which the country falls. The boundaries of the English Proficiency Groups are indicated by a solid line at the 98.5, 84.5 and 57.5 per cent levels.

An examination of the clusters in the chart reveals that there is an argument for placing the boundary between EP2 and EP3 at about 91% and the boundary between EP3 and EP4 at 62%. However increases of these magnitudes are not tenable given that these would be increases of around 12 percentage points from the

1996 levels. The overall increase of the EP Index between 1996 and 2001 was only about 6 percentage points.

With the 2001 Census EP boundaries set as they are, Afghanistan and Iraq are outliers within the EP3 group when considered on the basis of unemployment rates alone. For settlement planning purposes EP groups 3 and 4 are often combined. If this is done then the outlying nature of Afghanistan and Iraq are not of concern. For some purposes if the EP3 and EP4 are to be considered separately then there may be value in including Afghanistan and Iraq together with the EP4 group.

**Figure 1: Plot of English Proficiency Index by Unemployment Rate of Recent Arrivals for Major Countries of Birth Showing English Proficiency Groups, 2001 Census**



## Significant Changes to the EP Group Classification in 2001

Based on the 2001 EP group classification, the overseas born population can be split into the following groups:

<b>OVERSEAS BORN POPULATION</b>		
<b>EP Group</b>	<b>No.*</b>	<b>%</b>
EP1 Countries	1,614,400	39.3
EP2 Countries	971,300	23.7
EP3 Countries	1,293,100	31.5
EP4 Countries	226,900	5.5
<b>Total Overseas Born</b>	<b>4,105,700</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Rounded to the nearest 100.

Source: 2001 Census Customised Matrix Table C01\_10

Although the cut-off levels of the EP index which define the EP groups have been adjusted to take into account the overall improved English proficiency of the overseas born, there are still changes in the relative size of the groups compared to the 1996 classification. These changes are mainly due to the movement of countries from a lower EP group to a higher EP group. The most significant of these differences is a decrease in the relative size of the EP4 group from 8.2 per cent of all overseas born in 1996 to 5.5 per cent in 2001. This was largely due to China, which has a relatively large population, moving from EP 4 to EP3 because its EP index had increased from 49.0 in 1996 to 58.7 in 2001.

The following two tables show countries that have significant numbers of recent arrivals, which have changed EP group:

<b>Countries with More Proficiency in English</b>	<b>Total Usual Resident Population*</b>	<b>1996 EP Group</b>	<b>2001 EP GROUP</b>
Angola	360	EP3	EP2
China (excl SARs & Taiwan Province)	142,780	EP4	EP3
Costa Rica	300	EP3	EP2
Indonesia	47,160	EP3	EP2
Latvia	6,690	EP3	EP2
Panama	140	EP3	EP2
Saudi Arabia	1,630	EP3	EP2
Senegal	180	EP3	EP2
Tokelau	260	EP3	EP2
Tunisia	430	EP3	EP2
Zimbabwe	11,730	EP2	EP1

\* Figures rounded to the nearest 10.

<b>Countries with Less Proficiency in English</b>	<b>Total Usual Resident Population*</b>	<b>1996 EP Group</b>	<b>2001 EP GROUP</b>
Algeria	980	EP2	EP3
Azerbaijan	150	EP3	EP4
East Timor	9,390	EP3	Ep4
Estonia	2,390	EP2	EP3
Jordan	3,330	EP2	EP3
Kuwait	2,440	EP2	EP3
Libya	1,440	EP2	EP3
Yemen	370	EP2	EP3

\* Figures rounded to the nearest 10.

- The EP 1 group has, in previous classifications, been the equivalent of the Main English Speaking (MES) group of countries (ie comprised of the UK, New Zealand, South Africa, USA, Ireland and Canada) but in 2001, Zimbabwe moved to EP 1. This occurred because the number of Usual Residents increased to more than 10,000 in the 2001 Census meeting the criteria for inclusion in EP 1.
- Indonesia moved from EP3 to EP2 because of a significant increase in its EP index from 75.6 in 1996 to 89.1 in 2001.
- East Timor, which was included with Indonesia in 1996, appears in EP4 in 2001.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF EP GROUPS

The EP groups have a number of uses in relation to the characterisation of advantage/disadvantage amongst immigrant populations. They are useful in:

- Needs analysis – involving comparison between sub-groups of the population on the basis of indicators of need, one such indicator being provided by the number or proportion in the lower proficiency EP groups;
- Targeting need – whereby funding or other assistance is directed towards those sub-groups or areas most in need, again indicated by the concentration of numbers in the lower proficiency EP groups;
- Benchmarking – where the characteristics of a client group are compared with those of a standard comparison population to determine whether over- or under-servicing is occurring in particular areas; and
- Statistical presentation – which is facilitated by the ability to summarise data for countries of birth into four distinct groups which correlate strongly with settlement need and disadvantage.

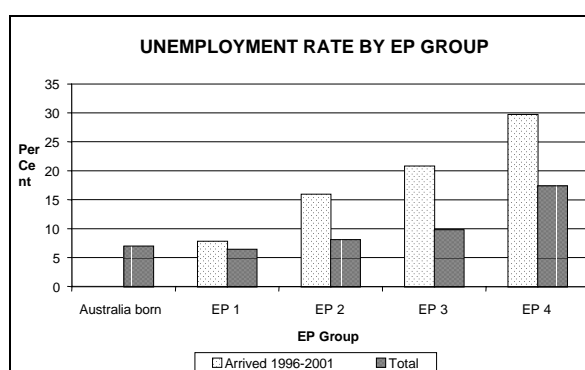
### Some Examples Using the EP Groups in Statistical Presentation

The EP country groups provide a convenient means of summarising statistical data to simplify the presentation and interpretation of the data. For example, several rates and indicators of labour market success are shown below for each of the EP groups, together with the Australian born for comparison. Another series for the more recently arrived (ie persons arriving Australia in the period 1996 to 2001) is also shown. It is clear that the rates for the recently arrived and the total overseas born may differ in magnitude but the trends are similar. That is, the EP groups can be used as an explanatory variable not only for the recent arrivals but also for the total overseas born population.

### Unemployment Rates

	Unemployment Rate	
	Arrived 1996-2001	Total
Australia born	na	7.0
EP 1	7.8	6.4
EP 2	15.9	8.1
EP 3	20.8	9.8
EP 4	29.7	17.4

Source: 2001 Census Customised Table C01\_04



This table and chart show that:

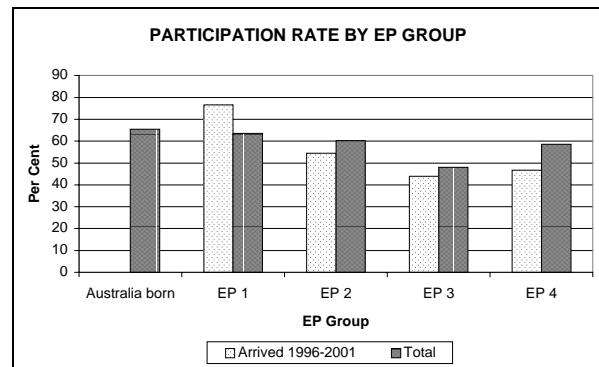
- Unemployment rates increase as the EP group number increases for both recent arrivals and all overseas born.
- The overseas born from EP1 countries are more likely to be employed than the Australia born.

## Participation Rates

### Participation Rate

	Participation Rate	
	Arrived 1996-2001	Total
Australia born	na	65.5
EP 1	76.6	63.6
EP 2	54.5	60.1
EP 3	43.9	48.0
EP 4	46.7	58.5

Source: 2001 Census Customised Table C01\_04



This table and chart show that:

- Participation rates decrease as the EP group number increases until EP4 where there is a rise in the rate. This is probably due to the large numbers of older migrant groups in EP3 (eg Italians and Greeks) who are no longer in the labour force.
- The only group having a higher participation rate than the Australia born were recent (ie arrived 1996-2001) EP1 arrivals.

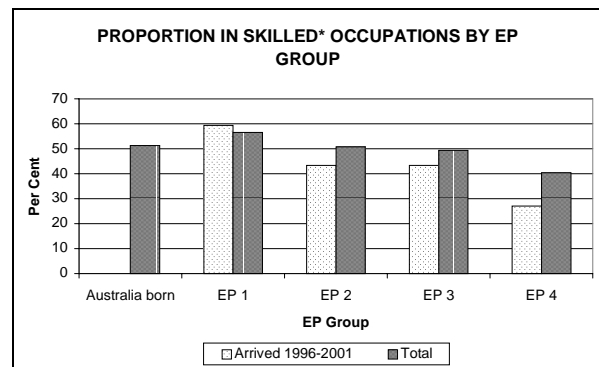
## Level of Skill

### Proportion in Skilled\* Occupations

	% Skilled	
	Arrived 1996-2001	Total
Australia born	na	51.4
EP 1	59.4	56.5
EP 2	43.3	50.8
EP 3	43.3	49.4
EP 4	27.0	40.4

\* Includes Managers & Administrators, Professionals & Associate Professionals and Tradepersons & Related Workers.

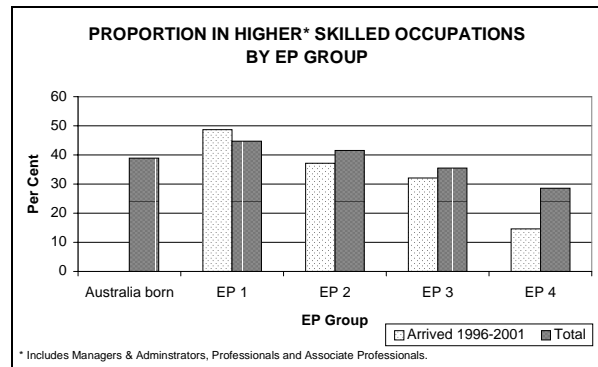
Source: 2001 Census Customised Table C01\_05



This table and chart show that:

- The proportion of people in skilled occupations tends to decrease as the EP group number increases.
- The overseas born from EP1 countries tend to be more skilled than the Australia born.

- If we look at the highly skilled group of occupations (see chart at right) ie Managers & Administrators, Professional and Associate Professionals, the correlation between skill level and EP group is even more pronounced.



## Level of Income

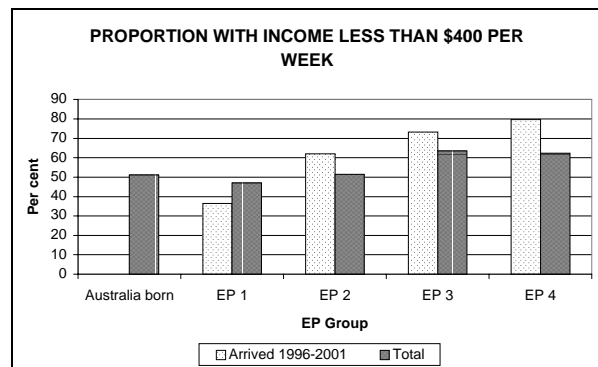
### Proportion with Low <sup>(a)</sup> Incomes

	% <sup>(b)</sup> with income less than \$400 per week	
	Arrived 1996-2001	Total
Australia born	na	51.1
EP 1	36.5	47.1
EP 2	62.0	51.4
EP 3	73.3	63.5
EP 4	79.6	62.3

(a) Defined as less than \$400 per week.

(b) % excludes 'Not Stated' responses.

Source: 2001 Census Customised Table C01\_23



The table and chart show that:

- The proportion on low incomes tends to increase with an increase in the EP number.
- The exception to this trend occurs for the overseas born in EP4 where the proportion on low incomes was lower than that of EP3. This is probably related to the large numbers of older migrants such as the Italians and Greeks in EP3 who are no longer in the labour force and are therefore more likely to depend on social security benefits.
- The overseas born from EP1 countries are less likely than the Australia born to have low incomes.

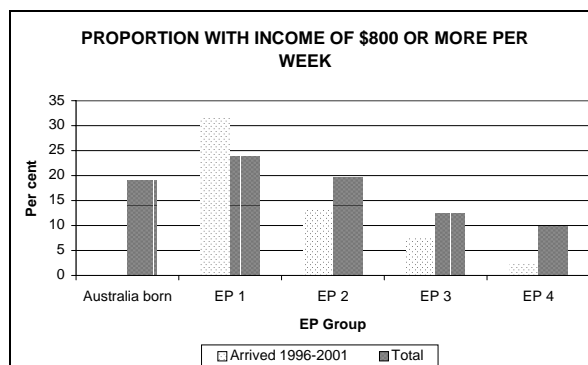
### Proportion with High <sup>(a)</sup> Incomes

	% <sup>(b)</sup> with income \$800 or more per week	
	Arrived 1996-2001	Total
Australia born	na	19.1
EP 1	31.4	23.9
EP 2	13.1	19.7
EP 3	7.3	12.4
EP 4	2.4	9.8

(a) Defined as \$800 or more per week.

(b) % excludes 'Not Stated' responses.

Source: 2001 Census Customised Table C01\_23



The table and chart show that:

- The proportion of people with high incomes declines as the EP number increases.
- The overseas born from the EP1 countries are more likely than the Australia born to be on higher incomes.
- This is particularly true of the recently arrived EP1 group where 31.4 percent are likely to have high incomes compared with only 19.1 per cent for the Australia born. This may reflect the comparatively large numbers of temporary business entrants from the EP1 countries.
- The total of all overseas born from the EP2 countries are also more likely have higher incomes than the Australia born. This is in contrast to the recent arrivals from the EP2 countries who are more likely to be on lower incomes.

As these examples illustrate, there is a high degree of positive correlation between EP group number and greater disadvantage. Using this observed correlation, the EP groups also have potential in statistical modelling. Alternatively, if a more continuous variable is required, for example in regression modelling, the EP index value for each country of birth could be used as an explanatory variable.

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# TABLES

**TABLE ONE: CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>	
	No. Persons	% with 'Good' English	No. Persons	EP Index (%)
<b>EP Group 1</b>				
Canada	27,189	99.7	6,348	99.2
Ireland	49,885	99.9	6,035	99.7
New Zealand	352,819	99.5	94,439	98.9
South Africa	79,122	99.8	27,465	99.6
United Kingdom	1,029,321	99.9	67,366	99.8
United States of America	53,440	99.6	15,338	99.2
Zimbabwe	11,709	99.8	3,209	99.5
<b>Total EP Group 1</b>	<b>1,603,485</b>	<b>99.8</b>	<b>220,200</b>	<b>99.3</b>
<b>EP Group 2</b>				
Americas, nfd	3	100.0	-	100.0
Andorra	8	100.0	3	100.0
Angola	350	93.1	38	86.8
Antigua and Barbuda	24	100.0	4	100.0
Aruba	40	100.0	6	100.0
At Sea	135	100.0	3	100.0
Australian External Territories, nec	3	100.0	-	100.0
Austria	19,126	98.6	693	95.5
Bahamas	178	100.0	15	100.0
Bahrain	653	98.8	123	95.9
Bangladesh	8,910	94.5	4,591	92.2
Barbados	307	100.0	31	100.0
Belgium	4,873	98.1	677	94.1
Belize	50	100.0	8	100.0
Benin	20	100.0	10	100.0
Bermuda	364	100.0	47	100.0
Bhutan	67	94.0	55	92.7
Botswana	698	99.1	525	98.9
Brazil	4,649	92.0	1,702	87.7
Brunei Darussalam	2,052	96.8	642	95.3
Bulgaria	2,538	89.3	663	87.3
Burkina Faso	17	100.0	5	100.0
Burundi	29	100.0	14	100.0
Cameroon	64	95.3	32	100.0
Cape Verde	25	88.0	-	88.0
Caribbean, nfd	252	100.0	8	100.0
Cayman Islands	9	100.0	6	100.0
Central African Republic	9	100.0	3	100.0
Central America, nfd	46	93.5	8	100.0
Chad	30	80.0	5	100.0
Chilean Antarctic Territory	3	100.0	-	100.0
Comoros	22	86.4	7	100.0
Congo, Democratic Republic of	265	97.7	40	92.5
Cook Islands	4,620	95.6	2,059	93.2
Costa Rica	294	91.2	43	93.0
Côte D'Ivoire	72	100.0	21	100.0
Czech Republic	6,910	95.8	688	91.1
Denmark	8,969	98.9	904	97.1

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

**TABLE ONE: CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>	
	No. Persons	% with 'Good' English	No. Persons	EP Index (%)
<b>EP Group 2 - continued</b>				
Dominica	9	100.0	-	100.0
Dominican Republic	55	89.1	20	85.0
Eastern Europe, nfd	6,829	96.4	160	85.0
Equatorial Guinea	6	100.0	-	100.0
Faeroe Islands	18	100.0	-	100.0
Falkland Islands	110	100.0	6	100.0
Fiji	43,683	96.9	10,416	95.1
Finland	8,203	87.9	406	90.6
France	17,107	95.7	3,229	92.3
French Guiana	7	100.0	3	100.0
French Polynesia	345	91.0	103	89.3
Gabon	20	85.0	4	100.0
Gambia	49	87.8	11	100.0
Germany	107,368	98.4	6,715	93.6
Ghana	1,977	95.0	577	94.1
Gibraltar	411	100.0	37	100.0
Greenland	42	85.7	7	100.0
Grenada	115	97.4	7	100.0
Guadeloupe	9	100.0	-	100.0
Guam	52	100.0	11	100.0
Guatemala	278	92.1	35	91.4
Guinea-Bissau	12	100.0	-	100.0
Guyana	489	99.4	59	100.0
Haiti	71	95.8	9	100.0
Holy See	3	100.0	-	100.0
Iceland	456	96.5	61	93.4
India	94,770	97.0	26,582	94.8
Indonesia	46,451	90.7	21,960	89.1
Israel	6,498	96.9	1,119	94.4
Jamaica	743	98.9	114	97.4
Kenya	6,821	98.1	2,033	95.0
Kiribati	405	89.4	96	86.5
Latvia	6,621	95.0	196	84.7
Lesotho	51	100.0	16	100.0
Liberia	125	97.6	45	93.3
Liechtenstein	15	100.0	3	100.0
Luxembourg	136	100.0	21	100.0
Madagascar	158	92.4	29	86.2
Malawi	487	98.8	96	96.9
Malaysia	78,374	94.8	15,195	92.2
Maldives	173	95.4	134	94.0
Mali	27	88.9	-	88.9
Malta	46,471	93.5	284	96.5
Maritime South-East Asia, nfd	197	98.5	6	100.0
Marshall Islands	18	100.0	3	100.0
Martinique	29	100.0	8	100.0
Mauritania	6	100.0	-	100.0

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

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Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>	
	No. Persons	% with 'Good' English	No. Persons	EP Index (%)
<b>EP Group 2 - continued</b>				
Mauritius	16,790	96.3	1,239	97.1
Melanesia, nfd	3	100.0	-	100.0
Mexico	1,145	94.0	410	94.6
Micronesia, Federated States of	6	100.0	6	100.0
Monaco	39	100.0	10	100.0
Montserrat	9	100.0	3	100.0
Morocco	1,145	94.4	170	89.4
Mozambique	540	94.6	144	88.9
Namibia	435	100.0	164	100.0
Nauru	461	95.7	119	85.7
Nepal	2,577	95.6	1,661	94.9
Netherlands	82,807	98.9	3,193	98.3
Netherlands Antilles	117	100.0	9	100.0
New Caledonia	1,064	90.5	189	87.3
Niger	15	80.0	3	100.0
Nigeria	1,709	99.6	632	98.9
Niue	491	96.9	206	94.2
Norfolk Island	197	100.0	51	100.0
North Africa, nec	3	100.0	-	100.0
North Africa, nfd	129	96.1	7	100.0
Northern America, nfd	57	100.0	6	100.0
Northern Europe, nfd	27	88.9	3	100.0
Northern Mariana Islands	8	100.0	-	100.0
Norway	4,280	98.5	2,076	97.6
Not Elsewhere Classified	3	100.0	3	100.0
Oceania and Antarctica, nfd	12	100.0	3	100.0
Oman	364	89.0	217	86.2
Pakistan	11,736	91.9	4,722	85.9
Palau	17	100.0	7	100.0
Panama	137	92.7	24	87.5
Papua New Guinea	23,440	98.9	2,739	96.5
Philippines	102,682	97.5	19,444	95.8
Polynesia(excludes Hawaii), nec	83	96.4	3	100.0
Polynesia(excludes Hawaii), nfd	9	100.0	3	100.0
Puerto Rico	65	100.0	18	100.0
Qatar	259	93.4	108	88.0
Réunion	70	90.0	19	100.0
Rwanda	45	93.3	20	85.0
Samoa	12,966	89.0	4,832	87.7
Samoa, American	149	96.6	62	91.9
San Marino	3	100.0	3	100.0
Sao Tomé and Príncipe	10	100.0	-	100.0
Saudi Arabia	1,604	92.1	686	85.1
Senegal	179	92.7	41	100.0
Seychelles	2,421	96.7	147	100.0
Sierra Leone	349	93.4	199	89.9
Singapore	33,292	97.7	11,360	97.8

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

**TABLE ONE: CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>	
	No. Persons	% with 'Good' English	No. Persons	EP Index (%)
<b>EP Group 2 - continued</b>				
Slovakia	2,954	94.5	607	90.4
Slovenia	6,593	94.1	154	89.6
Solomon Islands	1,318	96.2	408	92.4
South America, nec	848	93.9	62	91.9
Southern and East Africa, nec	3	100.0	3	100.0
Southern and East Africa, nfd	719	99.2	36	100.0
Southern and Eastern Europe, nfd	6	100.0	-	100.0
Southern Asia, nfd	52	100.0	10	100.0
Spain	12,463	81.7	511	91.0
Sri Lanka	53,056	96.6	11,234	92.0
St Helena	24	100.0	3	100.0
St Kitts and Nevis	21	100.0	3	100.0
St Lucia	18	100.0	6	100.0
St Pierre and Miquelon	3	100.0	3	100.0
St Vincent and the Grenadines	35	100.0	5	100.0
Suriname	61	100.0	12	100.0
Swaziland	205	98.5	69	95.7
Sweden	6,790	98.8	1,687	97.7
Switzerland	10,670	98.1	1,895	95.0
Tajikistan	37	83.8	10	100.0
Tanzania	1,701	98.4	293	95.2
Tokelau	257	87.9	132	88.6
Tonga	7,533	88.3	1,378	86.6
Trinidad and Tobago	1,156	100.0	123	100.0
Tunisia	413	92.3	51	92.2
Turks and Caicos Islands	7	100.0	-	100.0
Tuvalu	93	95.7	40	90.0
Uganda	1,209	97.9	178	93.3
United Arab Emirates	1,447	94.8	628	92.8
Vanuatu	893	97.2	147	95.2
Venezuela	1,101	96.3	390	93.3
Virgin Islands, British	9	100.0	3	100.0
Virgin Islands, United States	9	100.0	6	100.0
Wallis and Futuna	14	100.0	-	100.0
Western Sahara	6	100.0	3	100.0
Zambia	3,065	99.8	660	100.0
<b>Total EP Group 2</b>	<b>961,859</b>	<b>96.2</b>	<b>179,243</b>	<b>93.3</b>
<b>EP Group 3</b>				
Afghanistan	10,035	70.6	4,612	59.0
Albania	1,410	79.8	535	69.3
Algeria	964	91.7	281	81.1
Argentina	10,666	88.5	728	77.7
Armenia	890	76.6	176	63.6
Belarus	1,023	75.1	202	68.8
Bolivia	646	90.2	106	83.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	23,574	71.2	10,724	63.3

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

**TABLE ONE: CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>	
	No. Persons	% with 'Good' English	No. Persons	EP Index (%)
<b>EP Group 3 - continued</b>				
Burma (Myanmar)	10,893	89.9	1,914	72.6
Central and West Africa, nfd	178	94.4	17	82.4
Chile	23,121	83.9	1,129	67.0
China(excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	140,997	61.0	44,712	58.7
Colombia	4,240	82.2	1,758	76.1
Croatia	51,295	80.1	4,718	62.6
Cuba	401	83.5	67	73.1
Cyprus	19,278	78.8	424	75.5
Djibouti	65	87.7	12	58.3
Ecuador	1,311	84.9	209	71.8
Egypt	33,085	91.6	2,323	77.6
El Salvador	9,562	82.0	384	71.6
Eritrea	1,570	80.3	611	72.5
Estonia	2,375	94.9	65	83.1
Ethiopia	3,436	89.0	1,503	83.7
Fmr Yugoslav Rep of Macedonia (FYROM)	42,765	72.6	2,687	68.4
Gaza Strip and West Bank	2,656	86.9	264	78.4
Georgia	306	76.5	139	69.8
Greece	114,747	67.9	1,500	71.1
Honduras	176	92.6	25	80.0
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	66,590	85.5	15,060	78.5
Hungary	22,477	91.4	662	77.9
Inadequately Described	17,006	83.6	3,200	72.2
Iran	18,008	81.7	4,307	64.3
Iraq	23,878	72.9	11,250	61.2
Italy	215,091	77.6	2,355	78.4
Japan	25,215	77.0	11,399	70.7
Jordan	3,279	90.6	817	82.9
Kazakhstan	429	80.0	240	75.8
Korea, Democratic People's Rep of (North)	39	53.8	13	61.5
Korea, Republic of (South)	38,519	66.0	16,189	60.2
Kuwait	2,386	88.8	968	78.0
Kyrgyz Republic	106	71.7	77	71.4
Lebanon	70,524	77.5	6,109	58.3
Libya	1,412	88.9	136	83.1
Lithuania	3,634	91.9	164	77.4
Macau (SAR of China)	1,938	78.0	385	70.6
Micronesia, nfd	24	87.5	16	81.3
Middle East, nfd	98	89.8	13	69.2
Moldova	467	73.7	140	70.7
Mongolia	123	74.0	79	73.4
Nicaragua	676	83.9	32	71.9
North Africa and the Middle East, nfd	54	75.9	13	69.2
Paraguay	308	86.4	38	63.2
Peru	5,442	84.8	964	67.0
Poland	57,450	87.6	2,038	73.0
Portugal	15,186	75.9	445	73.7

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

**TABLE ONE: CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>	
	No. Persons	% with 'Good' English	No. Persons	EP Index (%)
<b>EP Group 3 - continued</b>				
Romania	12,571	88.5	1,761	82.5
Russian Federation	14,813	77.6	3,769	74.5
Somalia	3,555	80.4	1,978	76.2
South Eastern Europe, nfd	4,711	69.6	2,187	57.8
South-East Asia, nfd	14	78.6	-	78.6
Sudan	4,829	81.1	2,622	72.8
Syria	6,533	74.8	943	58.1
Taiwan	22,168	75.4	8,696	71.0
Thailand	23,282	84.7	7,890	77.2
Togo	18	83.3	10	70.0
Turkmenistan	26	69.2	14	64.3
Ukraine	13,882	76.8	2,015	64.3
Uruguay	9,365	81.4	264	59.5
Uzbekistan	415	80.0	128	75.8
Yemen	374	90.4	96	70.8
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	54,581	82.4	7,660	65.9
<b>Total EP Group 3</b>	<b>1,273,161</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>198,967</b>	<b>66.4</b>
<b>EP Group 4</b>				
Antarctica, nfd	11	54.5	-	54.5
Azerbaijan	142	74.6	38	47.4
Cambodia	22,559	56.4	3,354	45.7
Central Asia, nfd	108	64.8	34	32.4
Chinese Asia (includes Mongolia), nfd	9	33.3	3	-
East Timor	9,218	66.5	495	55.6
Guinea	30	76.7	4	-
Japan and the Koreas, nfd	3	0.0	-	-
Laos	9,385	66.7	596	55.4
Mainland South-East Asia, nfd	13	76.9	3	-
Southern Europe, nfd	3	0.0	-	-
Turkey	29,357	68.3	3,382	51.9
Viet Nam	152,488	57.3	14,013	44.3
<b>Total EP Group 4</b>	<b>223,326</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>21,922</b>	<b>46.2</b>
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>4,061,831</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>620,332</b>	<b>85.2</b>

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

Source: 2001 Census Customised Matrix Table C01\_10

**TABLE TWO: GEOGRAPHIC LISTING OF COUNTRIES SHOWING CLASSIFICATION INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

SACC Code	Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>		EP Index (b) (%)	EP Group
		No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English	No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English		
<u>Oceania and Antarctica</u>							
1000	Oceania and Antarctica, nfd	12	12	3	3	100.0	2
1102	Norfolk Island	197	197	51	51	100.0	2
1199	Australian External Territories, nec	3	3	-	-	100.0	2
1201	New Zealand	352,819	351,177	94,439	93,368	98.9	1
1300	Melanesia, nfd	3	3	-	-	100.0	2
1301	New Caledonia	1,064	963	189	165	87.3	2
1302	Papua New Guinea	23,440	23,173	2,739	2,642	96.5	2
1303	Solomon Islands	1,318	1,268	408	377	92.4	2
1304	Vanuatu	893	868	147	140	95.2	2
1400	Micronesia, nfd	24	21	16	13	81.3	3
1401	Guam	52	52	11	11	100.0	2
1402	Kiribati	405	362	96	83	86.5	2
1403	Marshall Islands	18	18	3	3	100.0	2
1404	Micronesia, Federated States of	6	6	6	6	100.0	2
1405	Nauru	461	441	119	102	85.7	2
1406	Northern Mariana Islands	8	8	-	-	100.0	2
1407	Palau	17	17	7	7	100.0	2
1500	Polynesia(excludes Hawaii), nfd	9	9	3	3	100.0	2
1501	Cook Islands	4,620	4,415	2,059	1,918	93.2	2
1502	Fiji	43,683	42,334	10,416	9,908	95.1	2
1503	French Polynesia	345	314	103	92	89.3	2
1504	Niue	491	476	206	194	94.2	2
1505	Samoa	12,966	11,536	4,832	4,238	87.7	2
1506	Samoa, American	149	144	62	57	91.9	2
1507	Tokelau	257	226	132	117	88.6	2
1508	Tonga	7,533	6,650	1,378	1,194	86.6	2
1511	Tuvalu	93	89	40	36	90.0	2
1512	Wallis and Futuna	14	14	-	-	100.0	2
1599	Polynesia (excludes Hawaii), nec	83	80	3	3	100.0	2
1600	Antarctica, nfd	11	6	-	-	54.5	4
1605	Chilean Antarctic Territory	3	3	-	-	100.0	2
<u>North-West Europe</u>							
	United Kingdom	1,029,231	1,028,785	67,260	106	99.7	1
2100	- United Kingdom, nfd	929	915	123	117	95.1	1
2101	- Channel Islands	1,916	1,916	171	171	100.0	1
2102	- England	842,097	841,746	56,671	56,594	99.9	1
2103	- Isle of Man	668	665	47	47	100.0	1
2104	- Northern Ireland	21,632	21,626	1,118	1,118	100.0	1
2105	- Scotland	136,157	136,017	7,325	7,308	99.8	1
2106	- Wales	25,922	25,900	1,911	1,905	99.7	1
2201	Ireland	49,885	49,816	6,035	6,018	99.7	1
2301	Austria	19,126	18,853	693	662	95.5	2
2302	Belgium	4,873	4,781	677	637	94.1	2
2303	France	17,107	16,373	3,229	2,980	92.3	2
2304	Germany	107,368	105,631	6,715	6,282	93.6	2
2305	Liechtenstein	15	15	3	3	100.0	2
2306	Luxembourg	136	136	21	21	100.0	2
2307	Monaco	39	39	10	10	100.0	2
2308	Netherlands	82,807	81,917	3,193	3,140	98.3	2
2311	Switzerland	10,670	10,463	1,895	1,801	95.0	2
2400	Northern Europe, nfd	27	24	3	3	100.0	2
2401	Denmark	8,969	8,866	904	878	97.1	2
2402	Faeroe Islands	18	18	-	-	100.0	2
2403	Finland	8,203	7,214	406	368	90.6	2

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

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**TABLE TWO: GEOGRAPHIC LISTING OF COUNTRIES SHOWING CLASSIFICATION INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

SACC Code	Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>			EP Group
		No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English	No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English	EP Index <sup>(b)</sup> (%)	
2404	Greenland	42	36	7	7	100.0	2
2405	Iceland	456	440	61	57	93.4	2
2406	Norway	4,280	4,216	2,076	2,027	97.6	2
2407	Sweden	6,790	6,710	1,687	1,649	97.7	2
<u>Southern and Eastern Europe</u>							
3000	Southern and Eastern Europe, nfd	6	6	-	-	100.0	2
3100	Southern Europe, nfd	3	-	-	-	-	4
3101	Andorra	8	8	3	3	100.0	2
3102	Gibraltar	411	411	37	37	100.0	2
3103	Holy See	3	3	-	-	100.0	2
3104	Italy	215,091	166,894	2,355	1,846	78.4	3
3105	Malta	46,471	43,459	284	274	96.5	2
3106	Portugal	15,186	11,525	445	328	73.7	3
3107	San Marino	3	3	3	3	100.0	2
3108	Spain	12,463	10,186	511	465	91.0	2
3200	South Eastern Europe, nfd	4,711	3,277	2,187	1,263	57.8	3
3201	Albania	1,410	1,125	535	371	69.3	3
3202	Bosnia and Herzegovina	23,574	16,793	10,724	6,785	63.3	3
3203	Bulgaria	2,538	2,267	663	579	87.3	2
3204	Croatia	51,295	41,102	4,718	2,954	62.6	3
3205	Cyprus	19,278	15,193	424	320	75.5	3
3206	Fmer Yugoslav Rep of Macedonia (FYROM)	42,765	31,028	2,687	1,839	68.4	3
3207	Greece	114,747	77,940	1,500	1,067	71.1	3
3208	Moldova	467	344	140	99	70.7	3
3211	Romania	12,571	11,124	1,761	1,453	82.5	3
3212	Slovenia	6,593	6,201	154	138	89.6	2
3213	Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	54,581	44,955	7,660	5,049	65.9	3
3300	Eastern Europe, nfd	6,829	6,583	160	136	85.0	2
3301	Belarus	1,023	768	202	139	68.8	3
3302	Czech Republic	6,910	6,619	688	627	91.1	2
3303	Estonia	2,375	2,253	65	54	83.1	3
3304	Hungary	22,477	20,541	662	516	77.9	3
3305	Latvia	6,621	1,023	196	166	84.7	2
3306	Lithuania	3,634	3,339	164	127	77.4	3
3307	Poland	57,450	50,329	2,038	1,487	73.0	3
3308	Russian Federation	14,813	11,488	3,769	2,807	74.5	3
3311	Slovakia	2,954	2,793	607	549	90.4	2
3312	Ukraine	13,882	10,657	2,015	1,296	64.3	3
<u>North Africa and the Middle East</u>							
4000	North Africa and the Middle East, nfd	54	41	13	9	69.2	3
4100	North Africa, nfd	129	124	7	7	100.0	2
4101	Algeria	964	884	281	228	81.1	3
4102	Egypt	33,085	30,313	2,323	1,803	77.6	3
4103	Libya	1,412	1,255	136	113	83.1	3
4104	Morocco	1,145	1,081	170	152	89.4	2
4105	Sudan	4,829	3,917	2,622	1,910	72.8	3
4106	Tunisia	413	381	51	47	92.2	2
4107	Western Sahara	6	6	3	3	100.0	2
4199	North Africa, nec	3	3	-	-	100.0	2
4200	Middle East, nfd	98	88	13	9	69.2	3
4201	Bahrain	653	645	123	118	95.9	2
4202	Gaza Strip and West Bank	2,656	2,307	264	207	78.4	3
4203	Iran	18,008	14,710	4,307	2,768	64.3	3
4204	Iraq	23,878	17,414	11,250	6,890	61.2	3
4205	Israel	6,498	6,294	1,119	1,056	94.4	2

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

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**TABLE TWO: GEOGRAPHIC LISTING OF COUNTRIES SHOWING CLASSIFICATION INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

SACC Code	Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>			EP Group
		No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English	No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English	EP Index <sup>(b)</sup> (%)	
4206	Jordan	3,279	2,971	817	677	82.9	3
4207	Kuwait	2,386	2,119	968	755	78.0	3
4208	Lebanon	70,524	54,675	6,109	3,561	58.3	3
4211	Oman	364	324	217	187	86.2	2
4212	Qatar	259	242	108	95	88.0	2
4213	Saudi Arabia	1,604	1,478	686	584	85.1	2
4214	Syria	6,533	4,889	943	548	58.1	3
4215	Turkey	29,357	20,052	3,382	1,754	51.9	4
4216	United Arab Emirates	1,447	1,372	628	583	92.8	2
4217	Yemen	374	338	96	68	70.8	3
<u>South-East Asia</u>							
5000	South-East Asia, nfd	14	11	-	-	78.6	3
5100	Mainland South-East Asia, nfd	13	10	3	-	0.0	4
5101	Burma (Myanmar)	10,893	9,797	1,914	1,389	72.6	3
5102	Cambodia	22,559	12,722	3,354	1,532	45.7	4
5103	Laos	9,385	6,258	596	330	55.4	4
5104	Thailand	23,282	19,731	7,890	6,091	77.2	3
5105	Viet Nam	152,488	87,425	14,013	6,202	44.3	4
5200	Maritime South-East Asia, nfd	197	194	6	6	100.0	2
5201	Brunei Darussalam	2,052	1,986	642	612	95.3	2
5202	Indonesia	46,451	42,151	21,960	19,575	89.1	2
5203	Malaysia	78,374	74,283	15,195	14,015	92.2	2
5204	Philippines	102,682	100,132	19,444	18,626	95.8	2
5205	Singapore	33,292	32,519	11,360	11,106	97.8	2
5206	East Timor	9,218	6,132	495	275	55.6	4
<u>North-East Asia</u>							
6100	Chinese Asia (includes Mongolia), nfd	9	3	3	-	-	4
6101	China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	140,997	85,956	44,712	26,241	58.7	3
6102	Hong Kong (SAR of China)	66,590	56,904	15,060	11,826	78.5	3
6103	Macau (SAR of China)	1,938	1,512	385	272	70.6	3
6104	Mongolia	123	91	79	58	73.4	3
6105	Taiwan	22,168	16,719	8,696	6,170	71.0	3
6200	Japan and the Koreas, nfd	3	-	-	-	-	4
6201	Japan	25,215	19,426	11,399	8,064	70.7	3
6202	Korea, Democratic People's Rep of (North)	39	21	13	8	61.5	3
6203	Korea, Republic of (South)	38,519	25,428	16,189	9,745	60.2	3
<u>Southern and Central Asia</u>							
7100	Southern Asia, nfd	52	52	10	10	100.0	2
7101	Bangladesh	8,910	8,422	4,591	4,231	92.2	2
7102	Bhutan	67	63	55	51	92.7	2
7103	India	94,770	91,905	26,582	25,195	94.8	2
7104	Maldives	173	165	134	126	94.0	2
7105	Nepal	2,577	2,464	1,661	1,576	94.9	2
7106	Pakistan	11,736	10,789	4,722	4,055	85.9	2
7107	Sri Lanka	53,056	51,271	11,234	10,339	92.0	2
7200	Central Asia, nfd	108	70	34	11	32.4	4
7201	Afghanistan	10,035	7,086	4,612	2,723	59.0	3
7202	Armenia	890	682	176	112	63.6	3
7203	Azerbaijan	142	106	38	18	47.4	4
7204	Georgia	306	234	139	97	69.8	3
7205	Kazakhstan	429	343	240	182	75.8	3
7206	Kyrgyz Republic	106	76	77	55	71.4	3
7207	Tajikistan	37	31	10	10	100.0	2
7208	Turkmenistan	26	18	14	9	64.3	3
7211	Uzbekistan	415	332	128	97	75.8	3

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

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		No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English	No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English		
<u>Americas</u>							
8000	Americas, nfd	3	3	-	-	100.0	2
8100	Northern America, nfd	57	57	6	6	100.0	2
8101	Bermuda	364	364	47	47	100.0	2
8102	Canada	27,189	27,113	6,348	6,298	99.2	1
8103	St Pierre and Miquelon	3	3	3	3	100.0	2
8104	United States of America	53,440	53,200	15,338	15,219	99.2	1
8201	Argentina	10,666	9,444	728	566	77.7	3
8202	Bolivia	646	583	106	88	83.0	3
8203	Brazil	4,649	4,276	1,702	1,492	87.7	2
8204	Chile	23,121	19,395	1,129	756	67.0	3
8205	Colombia	4,240	3,486	1,758	1,338	76.1	3
8206	Ecuador	1,311	1,113	209	150	71.8	3
8207	Falkland Islands	110	110	6	6	100.0	2
8208	French Guiana	7	7	3	3	100.0	2
8211	Guyana	489	486	59	59	100.0	2
8212	Paraguay	308	266	38	24	63.2	3
8213	Peru	5,442	4,616	964	646	67.0	3
8214	Suriname	61	61	12	12	100.0	2
8215	Uruguay	9,365	7,624	264	157	59.5	3
8216	Venezuela	1,101	1,060	390	364	93.3	2
8299	South America, nec	848	796	62	57	91.9	2
8300	Central America, nfd	46	43	8	8	100.0	2
8301	Belize	50	50	8	8	100.0	2
8302	Costa Rica	294	268	43	40	93.0	2
8303	El Salvador	9,562	7,842	384	275	71.6	3
8304	Guatemala	278	256	35	32	91.4	2
8305	Honduras	176	163	25	20	80.0	3
8306	Mexico	1,145	1,076	410	388	94.6	2
8307	Nicaragua	676	567	32	23	71.9	3
8308	Panama	137	127	24	21	87.5	2
8400	Caribbean, nfd	252	252	8	8	100.0	2
8402	Antigua and Barbuda	24	24	4	4	100.0	2
8403	Aruba	40	40	6	6	100.0	2
8404	Bahamas	178	178	15	15	100.0	2
8405	Barbados	307	307	31	31	100.0	2
8406	Cayman Islands	9	9	6	6	100.0	2
8407	Cuba	401	335	67	49	73.1	3
8408	Dominica	9	9	-	-	100.0	2
8411	Dominican Republic	55	49	20	17	85.0	2
8412	Grenada	115	112	7	7	100.0	2
8413	Guadeloupe	9	9	-	-	100.0	2
8414	Haiti	71	68	9	9	100.0	2
8415	Jamaica	743	735	114	111	97.4	2
8416	Martinique	29	29	8	8	100.0	2
8417	Montserrat	9	9	3	3	100.0	2
8418	Netherlands Antilles	117	117	9	9	100.0	2
8421	Puerto Rico	65	65	18	18	100.0	2
8422	St Kitts and Nevis	21	21	3	3	100.0	2
8423	St Lucia	18	18	6	6	100.0	2
8424	St Vincent and the Grenadines	35	35	5	5	100.0	2
8425	Trinidad and Tobago	1,156	1,156	123	123	100.0	2
8426	Turks and Caicos Islands	7	7	-	-	100.0	2
8427	Virgin Islands, British	9	9	3	3	100.0	2
8428	Virgin Islands, United States	9	9	6	6	100.0	2

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

(b) Where there are no recent arrivals the EP index is calculated from the Usual Residents.

**TABLE TWO: GEOGRAPHIC LISTING OF COUNTRIES SHOWING CLASSIFICATION INTO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**

SACC Code	Birthplace	Usual Residents <sup>(a)</sup>		Recent Arrivals <sup>(a)</sup>		EP Index ( <sup>(b)</sup> %)	EP Group
		No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English	No. Persons	No. with 'Good' English		
<u>Sub-Saharan Africa</u>							
9100	Central and West Africa, nfd	178	168	17	14	82.4	3
9101	Benin	20	20	10	10	100.0	2
9102	Burkina Faso	17	17	5	5	100.0	2
9103	Cameroon	64	61	32	32	100.0	2
9104	Cape Verde	25	22	-	-	88.0	2
9105	Central African Republic	9	9	3	3	100.0	2
9106	Chad	30	24	5	5	100.0	2
9107	Congo	137	131	37	34	91.9	2
9108	Congo, Democratic Republic of	265	259	40	37	92.5	2
9111	Côte d'Ivoire	72	72	21	21	100.0	2
9112	Equatorial Guinea	6	6	-	-	100.0	2
9113	Gabon	20	17	4	4	100.0	2
9114	Gambia	49	43	11	11	100.0	2
9115	Ghana	1,977	1,878	577	543	94.1	2
9116	Guinea	30	23	4	-	0.0	4
9117	Guinea-Bissau	12	12	-	-	100.0	2
9118	Liberia	125	122	45	42	93.3	2
9121	Mali	27	24	-	-	88.9	2
9122	Mauritania	6	6	-	-	100.0	2
9123	Niger	15	12	3	3	100.0	2
9124	Nigeria	1,709	1,702	632	625	98.9	2
9125	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	10	10	-	-	100.0	2
9126	Senegal	179	166	41	41	100.0	2
9127	Sierra Leone	349	326	199	179	89.9	2
9128	Togo	18	15	10	7	70.0	3
9200	Southern and East Africa, nfd	719	713	36	36	100.0	2
9201	Angola	350	326	38	33	86.8	2
9202	Botswana	698	692	525	519	98.9	2
9203	Burundi	29	29	14	14	100.0	2
9204	Comoros	22	19	7	7	100.0	2
9205	Djibouti	65	57	12	7	58.3	3
9206	Eritrea	1,570	1,261	611	443	72.5	3
9207	Ethiopia	3,436	3,059	1,503	1,258	83.7	3
9208	Kenya	6,821	6,693	2,033	1,931	95.0	2
9211	Lesotho	51	51	16	16	100.0	2
9212	Madagascar	158	146	29	25	86.2	2
9213	Malawi	487	481	96	93	96.9	2
9214	Mauritius	16,790	16,167	1,239	1,203	97.1	2
9216	Mozambique	540	511	144	128	88.9	2
9217	Namibia	435	435	164	164	100.0	2
9218	Réunion	70	63	19	19	100.0	2
9221	Rwanda	45	42	20	17	85.0	2
9222	St Helena	24	24	3	3	100.0	2
9223	Seychelles	2,421	2,341	147	147	100.0	2
9224	Somalia	3,555	2,858	1,978	1,507	76.2	3
9225	South Africa	79,122	78,942	27,465	27,343	99.6	1
9226	Swaziland	205	202	69	66	95.7	2
9227	Tanzania	1,701	1,674	293	279	95.2	2
9228	Uganda	1,209	1,184	178	166	93.3	2
9231	Zambia	3,065	3,059	660	660	100.0	2
9232	Zimbabwe	11,709	11,683	3,209	3,194	99.5	1
9299	Southern and East Africa, nec	3	3	3	3	100.0	2
<u>Supplementary Codes</u>							
0000	Inadequately Described	17,006	14,209	3,200	2,309	72.2	3
0001	At Sea	135	135	3	3	100.0	2
0002	Not Elsewhere Classified	3	3	3	3	100.0	2

(a) Only includes persons who answered the English Proficiency question.

(b) Where there are no recent arrivals the EP index is calculated from the Usual Residents.

Source: 2001 Census Customised Matrix Table C01\_10

**TABLE THREE: IMPUTED <sup>(a)</sup> EP GROUPS FOR BIRTHPLACES WITH NO USUAL RESIDENTS**

SACC Code	Birthplace	SACC Minor Group	EP Index	
			%	EP Group
1100	Australia (incl External Territories), nfd	Australia (incl External Territories)	100.0	2
1601	Adelie Land (France)	Antarctica	64.3	3
1602	Argentinian Antarctic Territory	Antarctica	64.3	3
1603	Australian Antarctic Territory	Antarctica	64.3	3
1604	British Antarctic Territory	Antarctica	64.3	3
1606	Queen Maud Land (Norway)	Antarctica	64.3	3
1607	Ross Dependency (New Zealand)	Antarctica	64.3	3
2000	North-West Europe, nfd	North-West Europe	98.9	2
2300	Western Europe, nfd	Western Europe	97.6	2
6000	North-East Asia, nfd	North-East Asia	64.0	3
7000	Southern and Central Asia, nfd	Southern and Central Asia	88.7	2
8200	South America, nfd	South America	84.4	3
8401	Anguilla	Caribbean	97.0	2
9000	Sub-Saharan Africa, nfd	Sub-Saharan Africa	97.3	2
9215	Mayotte	Southern and East Africa	97.4	2

(a) For completeness, birthplaces in the SACC with no Usual Residents were imputed by allocating the EP group of the SACC Minor Group.

Source: 2001 Census Customised Matrix Table C01\_10

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### Original Article Introducing the 1991 EP Group Classification

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*The following article originally appeared in 'English Proficiency and Immigrant Groups', Statistical Report No. 21 published by the Bureau of Immigration, Multicultural and Population Research, August 1996. It introduced the 1991 classification and provides the reader with a detailed description of the statistical and conceptual basis of the EP group classification.*

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### 3 SPLITTING THE NES GROUP

#### 3.1 BACKGROUND

In the presentation of statistics on the overseas born it has become standard practice to show separately the two groups of countries usually labelled Main English Speaking (MES) and Non English Speaking (NES). Sometimes the word 'Country' is added, ie MESC and NESC, and sometimes the word 'Background', particularly in association with NES, ie NESB. See for example Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), 1989, Flatau, Petrides & Wood, 1995 and Pearce, Bertoni & Stephens, 1995.

The MES group of countries is defined in the Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS) as: Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States of America (ABS, 1990, App III). The ABS provides the following rationale for this selection of countries:

*The list of Main English Speaking Countries provided here is not an attempt to classify countries on the basis of whether or not English is the predominant language of each country. It is a list of the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. The list therefore includes South Africa. Although large numbers of South Africans do not speak English as their first language, those who migrate to Australia are likely to speak English. The list does not include country units which are statistically insignificant in the Australian context, although they are English speaking countries. (ibid)*

All other countries, not in the MES group, are customarily described as NES, even though this

larger group is very heterogeneous and includes many countries where English is widely spoken.

This dichotomy of migrant source countries has been found to be very useful in the analysis of data relating to the settlement success of immigrants. The English proficiency variable, analysed in the first two parts of this report, is not always available in data sets other than from the Census. Country of birth, however, is nearly always available in any data set relating to immigrants. In such cases, a workable alternative is to use the MES/NES split of countries to proxy English proficiency.

What is more, these country groupings do not capture just the English proficiency of immigrants, there is a cultural background aspect to them which enhances their explanatory value. The MES countries all have cultural traditions and institutional structures which closely resemble those of Australia. This makes the process of adaptation to life in Australia easier for the newly arrived migrant and facilitates their employment.

However, the MES grouping has been criticised as separately identifying white, English speaking immigrants whilst consigning all others, including many highly educated migrants who also speak English, into what could be considered a second-class category (ABS, 1994a). This criticism must be admitted as having some validity, particularly when the MES/NES distinction is used as more than just a convenient tool in data analysis. Membership of the NES group is often seen as an indicator of disadvantage. Recently, there has been a move to eliminate the NES acronym (or more precisely, the NESB acronym) from official communications because of this association with disadvantage (this was an outcome of the Conference of Ministers for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Canberra, 17 May 1996).

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Part of the difficulty with MES/NES is the use of a country classification to proxy a wider cultural diversity which has language use as a key element, but not the only one. While this is a problem in that there is not a complete correspondence between country of birth and culture, to the extent that it does work it is a solution in that country of birth is easily and unambiguously identified and is widely collected in social surveys. English proficiency is less often collected and less easily measured, and in any case it does not nearly capture the entire range of cultural characteristics that lead to the disadvantage of the NESB. Hence the utility of a country based classification.

Rather than dispensing with the MES/NES classification and its considerable explanatory value in the study of migrant settlement, it is considered better to refine the classification to take account of the criticism and in the process make it more useful analytically. It must be stressed, however, that the purpose of any such classification is to provide some broad aggregate groups for statistical analysis, not to typecast individual immigrants on the basis of their birthplace.

Previous researchers have noted the heterogeneity of the NES group and the suggestion has been made that splitting the group would be beneficial for analytical purposes. For example, in the preamble to their analysis of BIMPR's longitudinal survey data, Iredale and Nivison-Smith wrote:

*For the purposes of this analysis and in line with previous findings of the researchers, the people from NESCs were divided into those originating from NESB(A) and NESB(B) countries. NESB(A) are people from those countries, such as Hong Kong, Malaysia, India, Sri Lanka, Fiji and the Philippines, where English is widely spoken and British type institutions exist. NESB(B) people are those from countries where English is not widely spoken and where the institutions are quite different from the British model - Africa (unspecified), Germany, El Salvador, Indian Ocean Islands, Indonesia, Lebanon, People's Republic of China, Taiwan, the former USSR and Viet Nam. ... The separation of NESB immigrants into NESB(A) and NESB(B) sub-groups produced dramatically different results. This approach represents a major breakthrough when it is not possible to disaggregate by individual birthplace groups. (Iredale & Nivison-Smith, 1995, pp xiii, xvi)*

Iredale and Nivison-Smith's idea was to further classify the NES countries according to the characteristics of the source country. Aspects of the country's history and culture could be considered as well as the extent of English language use. Whilst this is relatively easy to do for some

countries, it would be a major task to carry out a complete classification for the several hundred countries from which Australia's immigrants are derived. There would be many borderline cases and problems would arise where the immigrants to Australia are not representative of the population of the source country. The solution lies in statistically classifying each country in terms of the characteristics of the immigrants to Australia from that country.

In what follows, data from the 1991 Census are used to obtain a complete classification of countries, from which Australia has received immigrants, into four broad groups based on the English proficiency of the recently arrived. It will be shown that this classification has considerable value in explaining the socio-economic situation of the different birthplace groups. In combining country of origin with English proficiency, it is better able to reflect the cultural background of immigrants than either birthplace or English proficiency variables separately, and it can do this dynamically in response to the changing nature of source countries or their immigrants to Australia. It offers a simple statistical tool which can be regularly updated.

Firstly, it is found that the MES grouping can be supported in purely statistical terms based on an index of the English proficiency of recently arrived immigrants. Using this same index, the remaining countries can be further classified into those with a high level of English proficiency among recently arrived immigrants to Australia, those with a moderate level and those with a low level.

### 3.2 DEFINING THE MES GROUP

**Take as an English proficiency index the percentage of recent immigrants (those entering in the five years before the Census) who speak English only or another language and good English.**

This percentage is the complement of the percentage who speak poor English, which was the focus of attention in the first two parts of this report. This complementary measure was chosen as the basis for the index to emphasise the positive side of immigrants' English skills and to avoid being forced to refer to a 'poor proficiency index' or an 'inproficiency index'.

The index is restricted to recent immigrants because this gives the best indication of an English speaking background in the country of origin. Migrants will often acquire good English skills after a significant period of residence in Australia, however the index is intended to be a measure of the extent of English

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speaking background (or non English speaking background as the case may be).

**The MES countries can be defined as those rating 98 per cent or higher on this English proficiency index and having a sizeable immigrant population in Australia (at least 10,000 usual residents).**

This definition is compatible with that given in the ASCSS (ABS, 1990, op cit) in terms of there being 'significant numbers of overseas settlers' from these countries and in terms of their likelihood of speaking English.

There is a statistical justification for imposing the minimum population size criterion. There are a considerable number of countries that have an English proficiency index rating above 98 per cent, but their numbers of Australian residents are so small that the high rating may not be statistically reliable. Around 60 countries, each with only a few hundred residents in Australia, have a 100 per cent index rating based on under 100 arrivals in the five years prior to the Census. Literally a few more non-English speaking immigrants arriving from one of these countries would drop their rating below 98 per cent and the country would move out of the narrow band defining the MES. Since the MES grouping has been used in statistical publications for a long time it would not be desirable to change it without good cause. Adding small English speaking countries would not greatly enhance the analytical value of the classification but it would unnecessarily upset the stability of the classification. The country not presently in the MES group which has strongest claims to be included is Zimbabwe, with an English proficiency index rating of 99.7 per cent and 8235 usual residents of Australia at the 1991 Census. The minimum 10,000 usual residents criterion has been chosen to exclude Zimbabwe at present, but if the Zimbabwe-born population of Australia continues to grow it could be included. The smallest Australian resident population among the present MES group is Canada with 22,478 usual residents at the 1991 Census.

### 3.3 SPLITTING THE NES GROUP

**It is proposed that the NES group be split on the basis of the English proficiency index into three groups:**

- ❑ **those countries with a rating of 80 per cent or higher, which will be called the English Proficiency group 2 (or EP 2),**
- ❑ **those with a rating of at least 50 per cent but less than 80 per cent, which will be called the English Proficiency group 3 (or EP 3) and**

- ❑ **the remaining countries, with a rating below 50 per cent, which will be called the English Proficiency group 4 (or EP 4).**

The Main English Speaking group could be renamed within this scheme as the English Proficiency group 1 (or EP 1).

The full classification, based on 1991 Census data, is shown in Table A3-1<sup>a</sup> (pp45-49). The countries in each group are sorted by the numbers of usual residents in Australia at the 1991 Census. All countries of birth with usual residents recorded at the Census are included. In cases where there were no recent arrivals from a country, those countries had to be classified on the basis of all former immigrants.

It is suggested that this classification be reviewed after each Australian Census, with the inter-censal arrivals providing the basis for the calculation of the English proficiency index. The levels of the English proficiency index that demarcate the various English Proficiency groups were chosen by a combination of statistical cluster analysis and visual inspection of the data. The cluster analysis was carried out using recently arrived unemployment rates for each country in conjunction with the English proficiency index ratings. The unemployment rate was chosen as being the most unambiguous indicator of settlement success. Other labour market indicators, such as the labour force participation rate, income or occupational status can depend on the capital stock that the migrants bring with them as much as their success in implementing that capital in the Australian context. Unemployment, the lack of achievement of employment among those who seek it, can affect those who bring capital and occupational qualifications from their home country as much as those who come without. Unemployment is known to be strongly related to English proficiency (Wooden, Holton, Hugo & Sloan, 1994, p223) and it is difficult to think of any other economic or social indicators that are as widely relevant as the unemployment rate.

The English proficiency index ratings for 61 major countries of birth are plotted against the corresponding unemployment rates for the recently arrived in Figure 3-1. The plotting points are numbers representing the English Proficiency group into which each country falls. These groupings are, with one exception, the same as those found by statistical cluster analysis using a minimum variance criterion (Ward's method (SAS Institute, 1990, p535)) once the MES (EP 1) group has been separated. The one exception is the transfer of the People's Republic of China (PRC) from EP 3 to EP 4. Since the PRC born recent arrivals had a

<sup>a</sup> Refer to Statistical Report No.21 English Proficiency and Immigrant Groups.

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relatively low unemployment rate (18.8 per cent at the 1991 Census) for a country rating less than 50 per cent on the English proficiency index, the clustering technique placed it in EP 3. However, the PRC had a lower English proficiency rating than El Salvador which had a recently arrived unemployment rate of 64.7 per cent and consequently is a clear candidate for the EP 4 grouping. In order to unambiguously define the EP 4 group in terms of the English proficiency index alone, it was decided to place the PRC in the lower group.

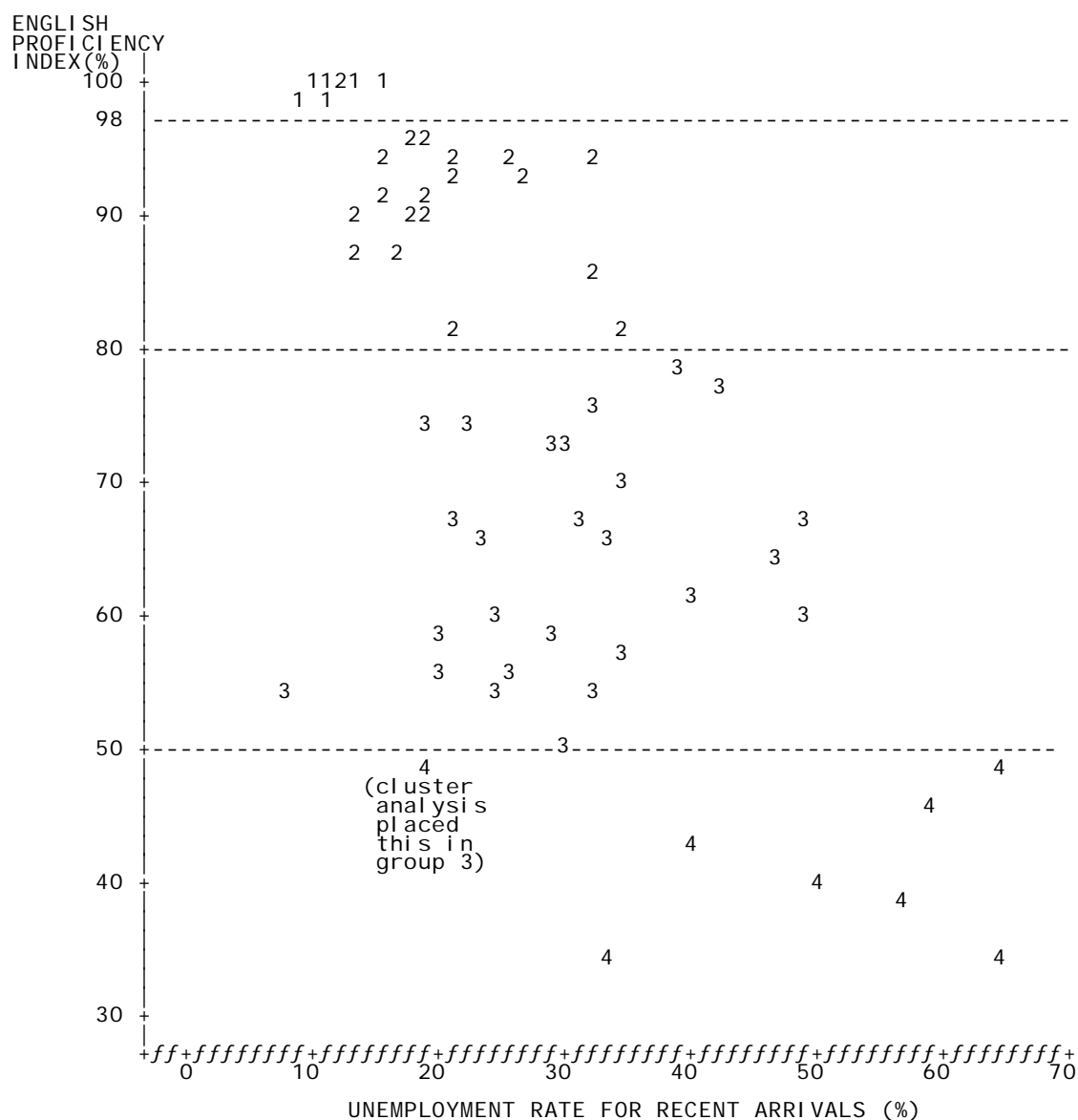
The Census question on English proficiency, where the assessment of proficiency is made by the person themselves or whoever fills out the Census form on their behalf, is known to produce, quite frequently, an erroneous measure of an individual's English proficiency. In particular, many people overstate their proficiency. In a test of the Census question prior to the 1981 Census the Australian Bureau of Statistics found that about one quarter of people shown on the Census as having good English actually had an Australian Second Language Proficiency Rating (ASLPR) below 'minimum social' (ABS, 1978). However, at a group level, the average ASLPR rating for those claiming to speak good English was 4.6 (ie between 'minimum social' and 'minimum professional'), while the average ASLPR rating for those claiming to speak poor English was 2.0 (ie 'minimum survival'). So a group where more than 50 per cent claim to speak poor English (EP 4) will be statistically quite distinct from a group where more than 80 per cent claim to speak good English or English only (EP 2). While the English proficiency data from the Census may not be useful for determining who in the community needs English language training, it is quite adequate as a basis for a statistical classification of country of birth groups. This reinforces the point made previously that a country classification such as this, although a useful statistical tool, should not be used to include or exclude people from the scope of Government policies and programs.

The effect of the restriction of the English proficiency index to recent immigrants is apparent in the data of Table A3-1<sup>a</sup> in that there are a number of countries that would be classified in a higher group if longer term residents were included in the calculation of the index. Examples are the Eastern European countries such as Hungary and Poland which would move from EP 3 to EP 2. This may be due to the changing characteristics of the immigrants from those countries, but it is more likely to be due to the improvement in the English language skills of these longer term residents. In either case it is considered appropriate to restrict the index to recent arrivals, primarily because the most common use of the classification is likely to be the assessment of the settlement situation of recent immigrants. However, even where the classification is being used to study immigrants who have been resident for much longer, their non-English speaking background can still be a factor influencing their socio-economic situation and the English proficiency of recent immigrants is the best indicator of this.

There are also cases where the longer resident population have a lower English proficiency than the recent arrivals. This may be due to the changing nature of the immigrants from a country, but it is often due to small numbers of recent arrivals providing an unstable estimate of the characteristics of that country's immigrants. All instances of this were examined to determine whether there was a case for over-riding the grouping given by the mechanical application of the classification rules. This was not found necessary, although some countries with no recent arrivals had to be classified on the basis of all former immigrants from that country. Where numbers of immigrants from a country are very small, it is not worthwhile debating at length about the particular group into which it is classified because it will not have a statistically significant effect on the aggregates.

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**FIGURE 3-1: PLOT OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY INDEX BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE SHOWING ENGLISH PROFICIENCY GROUPS**



Source: 1991 Census Matrix Table USC6393

There are a couple of notable differences between the groupings of NES countries defined in this way and those proposed by Iredale and Nivison-Smith. First on the list of their A sub-group was Hong Kong, being a country 'where English is widely spoken and British type institutions exist'. However, the English proficiency of immigrants from Hong Kong has been falling in recent Censuses

(see Table 3-1) with the result that Hong Kong is placed in the EP 3 grouping in our classification. On the other hand, Germany, which was listed in Iredale and Nivison-Smith's B sub-group, has a high English proficiency rating (89.7%) and appears in our EP 2 grouping along with all of the other Western European countries.

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**Table 3-1: English Proficiency Rating of Recently Arrived Hong Kong Born at the Last Three Censuses**

Census year	English proficiency rating (%)
1981 <sup>1</sup>	80.6
1986	75.2
1991	73.7

Note: 1. The period of residence category for 1981 was 0-4 years compared with 0-5 years for 1986 and 1991. This is likely to have slightly reduced the 1981 rating.

Sources: ABS Censuses of Population and Housing, Matrix Tables MT44, CX251 and PCUNESAB;

The numeric size of each of these English Proficiency groupings is shown in the Table 3-2 together with the overall English proficiency index value for each.

**Table 3-2: Number of Usual Residents and English Proficiency Index Value for each Grouping of the Classification**

Country grouping	No. of usual residents at the 1991 Census	English proficiency index for the group as a whole
MES (EP 1)	1,538,226	99.6%
EP 2	760,295	92.4%
EP 3	1,095,554	63.6%
EP 4	291,332	41.8%

Source: ABS 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Customised Matrix Table PCUNESAB

These country groupings are expected to change if the classification is reviewed following the 1996 Census. This responsiveness of the classification to the changing characteristics of immigrants from particular countries is seen as an advantage. As the process of globalisation proceeds, the cultural gaps between countries are likely to diminish. With English being the lingua franca of mass communications, the English language proficiency of the people of the more developed countries will tend to rise. Consequently, the English proficiency level of the immigrants that Australia receives from those countries will be higher and they may move to a higher EP group.

Another possible explanation for temporal change in the English proficiency level of a particular birthplace group is a change in the characteristics of the migrants received from that country. For example, a shift in migrant category from Humanitarian to Concessional Family or Independent could cause an increase in English proficiency level because proficiency in English carries some weight in the selection of Concessional

Family and Independent category migrants. While English Proficiency will not be included in the points test for Concessional Family until November 1996, after the Census, migrants in both categories qualified to work in one of the listed Occupations Requiring English are required to communicate effectively in English in at least 3 of the 4 skills of reading, speaking, understanding and writing.

The phenomenon of adjustment of the classification with each Census revision may be seen if the classification procedure described above is undertaken retrospectively using 1986 Census data and the result compared with the 1991 classification. Most of the countries of Europe and South America show a substantial increase in their English proficiency index rating from 1986 to 1991, in some cases by more than 10 percentage points. In some instances this results in a move from the EP group the country would have been in based on 1986 Census data, to a higher group based on the 1991 Census data. Table 3-3 indicates the changes that would have occurred. It can be seen that some of Australia's major immigrant source countries would have been differently classified on the basis of 1986 Census data. However, this reflects significant changes in the level of English proficiency of recent immigrants from these countries, with former Yugoslavia, Greece and Lebanon all increasing their English proficiency index rating between 1986 and 1991 by around 12 percentage points. There is also evidence that the immigrant flows from these countries contained increased proportions of educated people. The only immigrant countries to move downwards in the classification are Albania and the Ukraine (there may be other smaller countries but the 1986 Census output did not provide as full a list of countries as did the 1991 Census).

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## APPENDIX 2

### CALCULATION OF THE CUT-OFF LEVELS FOR THE 2001 EP GROUPS

Birthplace	(A) Recent Arrivals 1996-2001	(B) 2001 EP Index	(C) 1996 EP Index	(D) = (B)-(C) EP Index Difference	(E) = (A) x (D) Weighted Difference	(F) = (E) / Total (A) Weighted Sum of Differences
<b>EP1 countries + top half of EP2 countries</b>						
Canada	6,348	99.2	98.7	0.5	3,345.0	0.0098
United States of America	15,338	99.2	98.9	0.4	5,640.0	0.0166
New Zealand	94,439	98.9	98.5	0.4	34,558.5	0.1017
United Kingdom	67,366	99.8	99.7	0.1	9,609.8	0.0283
Ireland	6,035	99.7	99.8	0.0	-233.4	-0.0007
South Africa	27,465	99.6	99.7	-0.1	-3,269.2	-0.0096
Seychelles	147	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Trinidad and Tobago	123	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Norfolk Island	51	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Bermuda	47	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Gibraltar	37	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Cameroon	32	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Barbados	31	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Luxembourg	21	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Côte d'Ivoire	21	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Réunion	19	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Bahamas	15	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Burundi	14	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Suriname	12	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Gambia	11	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Southern Asia, nfd	10	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Monaco	10	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Tajikistan	10	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Benin	10	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Netherlands Antilles	9	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Haiti	9	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Caribbean, nfd	8	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Central America, nfd	8	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Martinique	8	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Grenada	7	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Palau	7	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Maritime South-East Asia, nfd	6	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Falkland Islands	6	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Northern America, nfd	6	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
St Lucia	6	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Cayman Islands	6	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Virgin Islands, United States	6	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
St Vincent & the Grenadines	5	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Chad	5	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Antigua and Barbuda	4	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Gabon	4	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Polynesia (excl Hawaii), nec	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Northern Europe, nfd	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
St Helena	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
St Kitts and Nevis	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Marshall Islands	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Niger	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Oceania and Antarctica, nfd	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Montserrat	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Virgin Islands, British	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Central African Republic	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Andorra	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
French Guiana	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
San Marino	3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000

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Birthplace	(A) Recent Arrivals 1996-2001	(B) 2001 EP Index	(C) 1996 EP Index	(D) = (B)-(C) EP Index Difference	(E) = (A) x (D) Weighted Difference	(F) = (E) / Total (A) Weighted Sum of Differences
Faeroe Islands	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Wallis and Futuna	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Guinea-Bissau	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Sao Tomé and Príncipe	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Dominica	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Guadeloupe	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Northern Mariana Islands	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Turks and Caicos Islands	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Equatorial Guinea	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Mauritania	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Holy See	0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0000
Jamaica	114	97.4	100.0	-2.6	-300.0	-0.0009
Bahrain	123	95.9	100.0	-4.1	-500.0	-0.0015
Bhutan	55	92.7	100.0	-7.3	-400.0	-0.0012
Samoa, American	62	91.9	100.0	-8.1	-500.0	-0.0015
Congo	37	91.9	100.0	-8.1	-300.0	-0.0009
Mali	0	88.9	100.0	-11.1	0.0	0.0000
Madagascar	29	86.2	100.0	-13.8	-400.0	-0.0012
Eastern Europe, nfd	160	85.0	100.0	-15.0	-2,400.0	-0.0071
Dominican Republic	20	85.0	100.0	-15.0	-300.0	-0.0009
Rwanda	20	85.0	100.0	-15.0	-300.0	-0.0009
Central and West Africa, nfd	17	82.4	100.0	-17.6	-300.0	-0.0009
Micronesia, nfd	16	81.3	100.0	-18.8	-300.0	-0.0009
Togo	10	70.0	100.0	-30.0	-300.0	-0.0009
Guinea	4	0.0	100.0	-100.0	-400.0	-0.0012
Zimbabwe	3,209	99.5	99.5	0.0	-48.0	-0.0001
Nigeria	632	98.9	98.2	0.7	457.0	0.0013
At Sea	3	100.0	98.1	1.9	5.7	0.0000
Zambia	660	100.0	97.8	2.2	1,463.4	0.0043
Botswana	525	98.9	97.3	1.6	818.9	0.0024
Singapore	11,360	97.8	97.3	0.5	5,524.7	0.0163
Uganda	178	93.3	97.0	-3.8	-672.6	-0.0020
Netherlands	3,193	98.3	96.6	1.7	5,567.4	0.0164
Denmark	904	97.1	95.9	1.2	1,077.3	0.0032
Malawi	96	96.9	95.9	1.0	95.9	0.0003
Sweden	1,687	97.7	95.7	2.0	3,431.9	0.0101
Ghana	577	94.1	95.7	-1.6	-895.8	-0.0026
Papua New Guinea	2,739	96.5	95.2	1.3	3,429.5	0.0101
Fiji	10,416	95.1	95.2	0.0	-515.9	-0.0015
Guyana	59	100.0	95.2	4.8	285.5	0.0008
Maldives	134	94.0	94.9	-0.9	-118.6	-0.0003
Philippines	19,444	95.8	94.7	1.1	21,202.7	0.0624
Namibia	164	100.0	94.3	5.7	937.1	0.0028
India	26,582	94.8	94.1	0.7	17,909.9	0.0527
Nepal	1,661	94.9	94.1	0.8	1,372.0	0.0040
Swaziland	69	95.7	93.6	2.0	140.4	0.0004
Nauru	119	85.7	93.6	-7.9	-935.0	-0.0028
Belgium	677	94.1	93.5	0.6	372.6	0.0011
Brunei Darussalam	642	95.3	93.4	1.9	1,237.2	0.0036
Norway	2,076	97.6	93.4	4.3	8,863.5	0.0261
Kenya	2,033	95.0	93.2	1.7	3,555.4	0.0105
Switzerland	1,895	95.0	92.8	2.3	4,337.0	0.0128
Iceland	61	93.4	92.7	0.7	43.6	0.0001
Tanzania	293	95.2	92.7	2.5	738.7	0.0022
Solomon Islands	408	92.4	92.4	0.0	-9.1	0.0000

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Kuwait	968	78.0	92.4	-14.4	-13,900.5	-0.0409
Southern and East Africa, nfd	36	100.0	92.1	7.9	284.4	0.0008
Niue	206	94.2	91.9	2.2	461.3	0.0014
Cook Islands	2,059	93.2	91.8	1.4	2,873.8	0.0085
Israel	1,119	94.4	91.7	2.7	3,034.7	0.0089
Finland	406	90.6	91.3	-0.6	-257.1	-0.0008
Venezuela	390	93.3	91.2	2.1	830.6	0.0024
Vanuatu	147	95.2	91.1	4.1	602.5	0.0018
Germany	6,715	93.6	91.0	2.6	17,135.0	0.0504
Liberia	45	93.3	90.9	2.4	109.1	0.0003
Austria	693	95.5	90.5	5.0	3,489.2	0.0103
Qatar	108	88.0	90.3	-2.3	-250.0	-0.0007
Sierra Leone	199	89.9	90.2	-0.3	-58.5	-0.0002
Malaysia	15,195	92.2	90.1	2.1	31,869.0	0.0938
Oman	217	86.2	90.1	-3.9	-853.8	-0.0025
Mexico	410	94.6	90.0	4.6	1,881.4	0.0055
<b>Total EP1 Countries + Top half of EP2 Countries</b>	<b>339,837</b>				<b>169,874.1</b>	<b>0.4999</b>
						<b>Weighted Average</b>
<b>Bottom half of EP2 countries + top half of EP3 countries</b>						
France	3,229	92.3	89.8	2.5	8,134.6	0.0626
Mauritius	1,239	97.1	89.7	7.4	9,120.2	0.0702
Libya	136	83.1	89.5	-6.4	-876.7	-0.0067
Lesotho	16	100.0	88.9	11.1	177.8	0.0014
Yemen	96	70.8	88.5	-17.6	-1,692.3	-0.0130
Estonia	65	83.1	88.0	-4.9	-320.0	-0.0025
Guatemala	35	91.4	87.7	3.7	130.8	0.0010
Malta	284	96.5	87.6	8.9	2,523.6	0.0194
North Africa, nfd	7	100.0	87.4	12.6	88.2	0.0007
United Arab Emirates	628	92.8	86.9	6.0	3,742.5	0.0288
Mozambique	144	88.9	86.7	2.1	308.4	0.0024
Kiribati	96	86.5	86.5	0.0	-4.8	0.0000
French Polynesia	103	89.3	86.0	3.3	337.2	0.0026
Greenland	7	100.0	85.7	14.3	100.0	0.0008
Slovakia	607	90.4	85.2	5.2	3,183.6	0.0245
Congo, Democratic Republic of	40	92.5	84.9	7.6	304.0	0.0023
Morocco	170	89.4	84.8	4.6	779.3	0.0060
Tonga	1,378	86.6	84.8	1.8	2,515.1	0.0194
Brazil	1,702	87.7	84.6	3.1	5,238.4	0.0403
Bangladesh	4,591	92.2	84.6	7.6	34,828.0	0.2681
Sri Lanka	11,234	92.0	84.4	7.6	85,667.4	0.6595
Bulgaria	663	87.3	84.2	3.2	2,091.6	0.0161
Samoa	4,832	87.7	83.7	4.0	19,361.6	0.1491
Algeria	281	81.1	83.6	-2.5	-701.8	-0.0054
Pakistan	4,722	85.9	83.6	2.3	10,625.0	0.0818
Czech Republic	688	91.1	83.0	8.1	5,603.9	0.0431
Slovenia	154	89.6	82.6	7.0	1,078.3	0.0083
New Caledonia	189	87.3	81.3	6.0	1,128.0	0.0087
Spain	511	91.0	80.3	10.7	5,476.1	0.0422
Jordan	817	82.9	80.1	2.8	2,255.0	0.0174
Belize	8	100.0	80.0	20.0	160.0	0.0012
Liechtenstein	3	100.0	80.0	20.0	60.0	0.0005
Tuvalu	40	90.0	80.0	10.0	400.0	0.0031
Argentina	728	77.7	79.8	-2.0	-1,486.5	-0.0114

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Ethiopia	1,503	83.7	79.7	4.0	6,020.7	0.0463
Tunisia	51	92.2	79.1	13.1	667.4	0.0051
Egypt	2,323	77.6	78.8	-1.1	-2,666.2	-0.0205
Puerto Rico	18	100.0	78.6	21.4	385.7	0.0030
Angola	38	86.8	78.3	8.6	326.1	0.0025
Tokelau	132	88.6	78.0	10.6	1,400.0	0.0108
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	15,060	78.5	77.7	0.8	12,438.0	0.0958
Romania	1,761	82.5	77.6	4.9	8,697.5	0.0670
South America, nec	62	91.9	77.4	14.5	901.2	0.0069
Honduras	25	80.0	76.8	3.2	80.4	0.0006
Senegal	41	100.0	76.7	23.3	956.7	0.0074
Panama	24	87.5	76.2	11.3	271.4	0.0021
Paraguay	38	63.2	76.2	-13.0	-495.2	-0.0038
Azerbaijan	38	47.4	75.7	-28.3	-1,075.7	-0.0083
East Timor	495	55.6	75.6	-20.0	-9,922.0	-0.0764
Indonesia	21,960	89.1	75.6	13.5	297,374.0	2.2893
Latvia	196	84.7	75.5	9.2	1,795.7	0.0138
Aruba	6	100.0	75.0	25.0	150.0	0.0012
Cuba	67	73.1	74.0	-0.9	-58.0	-0.0004
Poland	2,038	73.0	73.9	-1.0	-1,943.4	-0.0150
Hungary	662	77.9	73.8	4.1	2,745.7	0.0211
Lithuania	164	77.4	73.5	3.9	638.6	0.0049
Georgia	139	69.8	73.0	-3.2	-447.0	-0.0034
Bolivia	106	83.0	72.8	10.2	1,080.4	0.0083
Saudi Arabia	686	85.1	72.6	12.5	8,578.8	0.0660
Southern and Eastern Europe, nfd	0	100.0	72.6	27.4	0.0	0.0000
South Eastern Europe, nfd	2,187	57.8	72.6	-14.8	-32,476.2	-0.2500
Italy	2,355	78.4	71.6	6.8	15,967.9	0.1229
Americas, nfd	0	100.0	71.2	28.8	0.0	0.0000
Inadequately Described	3,200	72.2	71.2	1.0	3,060.0	0.0236
Central Asia, nfd	34	32.4	71.2	-38.8	-1,320.8	-0.0102
Sudan	2,622	72.8	71.2	1.7	4,368.6	0.0336
Cyprus	424	75.5	71.0	4.5	1,906.1	0.0147
Gaza Strip and West Bank	264	78.4	70.4	8.0	2,114.4	0.0163
Peru	964	67.0	69.5	-2.4	-2,361.3	-0.0182
Thailand	7,890	77.2	69.2	8.0	62,734.5	0.4830
Colombia	1,758	76.1	69.0	7.1	12,558.6	0.0967
Costa Rica	43	93.0	68.5	24.5	1,053.7	0.0081
Iran	4,307	64.3	68.0	-3.7	-16,054.4	-0.1236
Eritrea	611	72.5	67.5	5.0	3,076.8	0.0237
Uzbekistan	128	75.8	67.2	8.6	1,101.0	0.0085
Russian Federation	3,769	74.5	66.9	7.6	28,569.4	0.2199
Afghanistan	4,612	59.0	66.9	-7.9	-36,206.4	-0.2787
Comoros	7	100.0	66.7	33.3	233.1	0.0018
Burkina Faso	5	100.0	66.7	33.3	166.7	0.0013
Somalia	1,978	76.2	66.4	9.8	19,303.4	0.1486
Macau (SAR of China)	385	70.6	65.9	4.7	1,828.5	0.0141
El Salvador	384	71.6	65.8	5.8	2,216.2	0.0171
Armenia	176	63.6	65.7	-2.1	-367.5	-0.0028
Croatia	4,718	62.6	65.3	-2.7	-12,895.8	-0.0993
<b>Total bottom half of EP2 countries + top half of EP3 countries</b>	<b>129,897</b>				<b>586,813.8</b>	<b>4.5175</b>
						<b>Weighted Average</b>

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<b>Bottom half of EP3 countries + EP4 countries</b>						
Burma (Myanmar)	1,914	72.6	64.7	7.8	14,978.6	0.0995
Ecuador	209	71.8	64.7	7.1	1,487.1	0.0099
Japan	11,399	70.7	64.4	6.4	72,738.9	0.4832
Taiwan	8,696	71.0	64.2	6.8	58,716.8	0.3900
Nicaragua	32	71.9	63.5	8.3	266.7	0.0018
Iraq	11,250	61.2	63.4	-2.1	-24,002.8	-0.1594
Guam	11	100.0	62.5	37.5	412.5	0.0027
Moldova	140	70.7	61.4	9.3	1,300.0	0.0086
Greece	1,500	71.1	61.3	9.8	14,744.5	0.0979
Albania	535	69.3	61.0	8.3	4,449.3	0.0296
Kyrgyz Republic	77	71.4	60.9	10.5	810.7	0.0054
Mongolia	79	73.4	60.4	13.0	1,027.1	0.0068
Portugal	445	73.7	60.3	13.4	5,966.4	0.0396
Chile	1,129	67.0	59.9	7.0	7,935.4	0.0527
Fmer Yugoslav Rep of Macedonia	2,687	68.4	59.0	9.4	25,367.0	0.1685
Lebanon	6,109	58.3	57.9	0.4	2,362.4	0.0157
Djibouti	12	58.3	57.9	0.4	5.3	0.0000
Cape Verde	0	88.0	57.1	30.9	0.0	0.0000
Turkmenistan	14	64.3	57.1	7.1	100.0	0.0007
Uruguay	264	59.5	56.8	2.7	709.7	0.0047
Syria	943	58.1	56.5	1.6	1,520.9	0.0101
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10,724	63.3	55.5	7.8	83,318.0	0.5534
Belarus	202	68.8	55.1	13.7	2,771.9	0.0184
Ukraine	2,015	64.3	54.7	9.6	19,322.6	0.1284
Kazakhstan	240	75.8	54.1	21.8	5,222.2	0.0347
Korea, Republic of (South)	16,189	60.2	53.8	6.4	103,531.8	0.6877
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	7,660	65.9	51.0	14.9	114,240.0	0.7588
China (excl SARs & Taiwan Province)	44,712	58.7	49.0	9.7	433,212.0	2.8776
Laos	596	55.4	46.3	9.1	5,428.0	0.0361
Turkey	3,382	51.9	46.2	5.6	19,026.1	0.1264
Korea, Dem People's Rep of (North)	13	61.5	40.0	21.5	280.0	0.0019
Viet Nam	14,013	44.3	37.3	7.0	97,657.7	0.6487
Cambodia	3,354	45.7	32.2	13.4	45,066.8	0.2994
Chilean Antarctic Territory	0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0000
<b>Total of bottom half of EP3 countries + EP4 countries</b>	<b>150,545</b>				<b>1,119,973.4</b>	<b>7.4395</b>
					<b>Weighted Average</b>	

## NOTES AND DEFINITIONS

### STANDARD AUSTRALIAN CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES (SACC)

This was the geographic classification used for birthplace at the 2001 Census. The SACC replaces *the Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS)* used at the 1996 Census. For further information see the ABS publication *Standard Australian Classification of Countries* (catalogue No.1269.0).

### ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Question 15 in the 2001 Census asked:

*'Does the person speak a language other than English at home?'*

For those who did speak a language other than English at home, Question 16 asked:

*'How well does the person speak English?'*

The possible responses were: *'Very Well'*, *'Well'*, *'Not Well'* and *'Not At All'*.

For the EP groups, 'Good' English was defined as those who spoke *'English only'*, or spoke *English 'Very Well'* or *'Well'*.

### USUAL RESIDENTS

*Usual Residents* at the 2001 Census, are persons who have resided or intend to reside in Australia for 12 months or more. This differs from the definition used in the 1996 Census. *Usual Residents* at the 1996 Census were those who resided or intended to reside at least 6 months of 1996 in Australia. Apart from a minor change in numbers, this difference does not affect the outcome of the EP groups.

### RECENT ARRIVALS

For the purposes of this report, *Recent Arrivals* are defined as *Usual Residents* who arrived in Australia in the period from 1996 to the Census date of 7 August, 2001.

### FURTHER INFORMATION OR ELECTRONIC FILES OF THE COUNTRIES AND THEIR EP GROUPS

For inquiries about this publication [or electronic copies of the tables in this publication](#), please contact the Economic and Demographic Analysis Section on (02) 6264 2780.

### ABBREVIATIONS

-	=	Nil
EP	=	English Proficiency
incl	=	includes
nfd	=	Not Further Defined
nec	=	Not Elsewhere Classified
SACC	=	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SAR	=	Special Administrative Region