

Turkish migrants to Australia in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century were of diverse backgrounds, including Turkish Cypriots and Greeks born in Turkey. Many also had British nationality. The number of Turkey-born migrants to Australia increased substantially during the late 1960s and 70s, following an assisted migration agreement signed between Australia and Turkey in 1967.

At the 2006 Census, there were 15,284 Turkey-born persons in Victoria (50.1% of Australia's total), increasing by 0.4% from 15,220 persons in 2001. More than half (54.4%) of the Turkey-born population in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1986; the number of arrivals were fairly constant in the last decade or so, many arriving through family reunion. There were distinct concentrations of the Turkey-born community in the northern suburbs of Hume (37.7%) and Moreland (10.7%). There were 31,517 persons who identified with Turkish ancestry, including second and later generations. The Turkish-born also identified with Armenian, Kurdish, Greek and English ancestries.

The Turkey-born community showed a maturing age profile: 10.4% were aged 25 years or less; 47.9% were aged 26-44 years; and 32.9% were aged 45 and 64 years. The median age was 42 years, compared to 37 years for the total Victorian population. The sex ratio was 103 males to 100 females. Most (84.6%) spoke Turkish at home; 2.6% spoke Armenian; 2.0% spoke Greek; and 6.3% spoke English only. Almost one-third (31.9%) assessed themselves as speaking English not well or not at all. Over three-quarters (78.9%) of the Turkey-born were Muslim, and there were small numbers who followed a variety of Christian faiths. A large proportion (86.3%) held Australian Citizenship, compared to 67.5% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria.

### Demographic Background: 2006 Census

1 Persons born in Turkey in Victoria and Australia: 2006, 2001 and 1996 Census

	2006 Census		2001 Census		1996 Census		2001-2006 % change	1996-2001 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%		
Melbourne	14,123	46.3	13,996	46.9	13,780	47.7	0.9	1.6
Rest of Victoria <sup>1</sup>	1,161	3.8	1,224	4.1	1,038	3.6	-5.1	17.9
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>15,284</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>15,220</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>14,818</b>	<b>51.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>30,487</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>29,820</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>28,869</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>3.3</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria"

2 Distribution of Turkey-born, Top 5 Local Govt Areas: 2006, 2001 Census

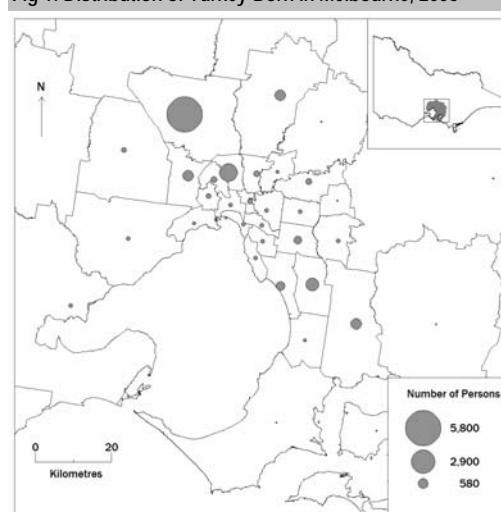
Local Government Area	2006 Census		2001 Census		Rank in 2001
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Hume (C)	5,763	37.7	5,254	34.6	1
Moreland (C)	1,641	10.7	1,872	12.3	2
Greater Dandenong (C)	916	6.0	987	6.5	3
Brimbank (C)	743	4.9	764	5.0	5
Casey (C)	737	4.8	579	3.8	7
Rest of LGAs in Metro Melb	4,326	28.3	4,522	29.8	
Rest of LGAs in Reg. Vic	1,159	7.6	1,199	7.9	
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>15,285</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,177</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

3 Persons Identifying with Turkish Ancestry, Total Responses, 2006, 2001

Turkish ancestry	2006 Census	2001 Census	2001-2006 % change
Total First & Second Responses <sup>1</sup>	31,517	29,635	6.4
Total Turkey-born, persons	15,284	15,220	0.4

<sup>1</sup> Respondents had the option of nominating several ancestries, but only the first two responses were processed in the Census.

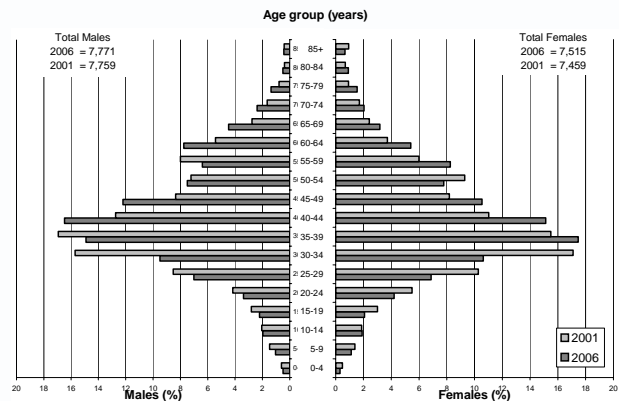
Fig 1: Distribution of Turkey-Born in Melbourne, 2006



#### 4 Age and Gender Distribution of Turkey-born: 2006, 2001

Age group (years)	2006 Census		2001 Census		2001-2006 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	61	0.4	83	0.5	-26.5
5-11	274	1.8	328	2.2	-16.5
12-18	421	2.8	539	3.5	-21.9
19-25	831	5.4	1,011	6.6	-17.8
26-44	7,329	47.9	8,014	52.7	-8.5
45-64	5,033	32.9	4,280	28.1	17.6
65-74	924	6.0	650	4.3	42.2
75+	413	2.7	313	2.1	31.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,286</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,218</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	<i>103</i>		<i>males per 100 females</i>		

Fig 2: Age and Gender Distribution of Turkey-Born, 2006



#### 5 Top 5 Languages Spoken at Home by Turkey-born: 2006, 2001

Language	2006 Census		2001 Census		2001-2006 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Turkish	12,932	84.6	12,913	84.9	0.1
Armenian	391	2.6	464	3.0	-15.7
Greek	306	2.0	356	2.3	-14.0
Kurdish	189	1.2	175	1.2	8.0
Assyrian	81	0.5	63	0.4	28.6
English only	963	6.3	812	5.3	18.6
Other languages <sup>1</sup>	285	1.9	320	2.1	-10.9
Not stated	139	0.9	111	0.7	25.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,286</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,214</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes 'Inadequately described' and 'Non-verbal so described'.

#### 6 Proficiency in English of Turkey-born: 2006, 2001

Proficiency in English	2006 Census		2001 Census		2001-2006 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	966	6.3	781	5.1	23.7
<i>Speaks other language and speaks English</i>					
Very well	4,815	31.5	4,675	30.7	3.0
Well	4,413	28.9	4,359	28.7	1.2
Not well	4,254	27.8	4,383	28.8	-2.9
Not at all	622	4.1	758	5.0	-17.9
Not stated <sup>1</sup>	213	1.4	255	1.7	-16.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,283</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,211</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes those who did not state a language or proficiency in English.

#### 7 Top 5 Religions of Turkey-born: 2006, 2001

Religion	2006 Census		2001 Census		2001-2006 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Islam	12,064	78.9	12,367	81.3	-2.5
Armenian Apost.	405	2.6	425	2.8	-4.7
Greek Orthodox	322	2.1	385	2.5	-16.4
Western Catholic	237	1.6	213	1.4	11.3
Eastern O'dox nfd	88	0.6	65	0.4	35.4
Other religions	336	2.2	258	1.7	30.2
No religion	1,121	7.3	803	5.3	39.6
Not stated <sup>1</sup>	716	4.7	698	4.6	2.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,289</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,214</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes 'Religious Belief, nfd and 'Not Defined'.

#### 8 Turkey-born with Australian Citizenship by Age, 2006, 2001

Age group (years)	2006 Census		2001 Census		2001-2006 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	40	0.3	51	0.4	-21.6
5-11	225	1.7	244	1.9	-7.8
12-18	343	2.6	433	3.3	-20.8
19-25	512	3.9	627	4.8	-18.3
26-44	6,096	46.2	6,735	52.0	-9.5
45-64	4,746	36.0	3,979	30.7	19.3
65-74	883	6.7	602	4.7	46.7
75+	342	2.6	275	2.1	24.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,946</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.9</b>

Source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 Population and Housing Census, Persons counted at Place of Usual Residence.

Some country background information is sourced from Jupp, J ed. (2001) *The Australian People*, Cambridge University Press, UK; and the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, *Country Information Summary* series, 2004.

For more detailed tables on a wider range of demographic and socio-economic variables from the 2006 Census, refer to *Community Profiles Series: 2006 Census* available on the Victorian Multicultural Commission website: [www.multicultural.vic.gov.au](http://www.multicultural.vic.gov.au)