

## A Brief Statistical Profile of Pacific Islanders in Victoria

These notes present a brief outline of the population, social conditions and economic circumstances of residents who were born in Pacific Island nations and are of Pacific Island ancestry (hereafter referred to as 'Pacific Islanders'). Their birthplaces include Samoa, Fiji, Cook Islands, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Niue, American Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Tokelau and New Caledonia.

This information is drawn from the findings of the 2016 Census.

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### Summary



Among Victorians who were born in Pacific Island nations and who are of Pacific Island ancestry:

- Early school leaving rates are 46% higher than State levels;
- Youth disengagement levels (not at school or in education) are slightly higher than for Victoria;
- The proportion of employed persons in professional or managerial occupations is a third that of employed persons throughout Victoria;
- Unemployment rates are twice Victorian levels;
- The median personal income is similar to the State level;
- The rate of childbirth among young women is four times the Victorian level;
- The proportion of families with children that are one-parent families is lower than State levels; and
- The percentage of families which rent their home is twice that for Victorians overall.

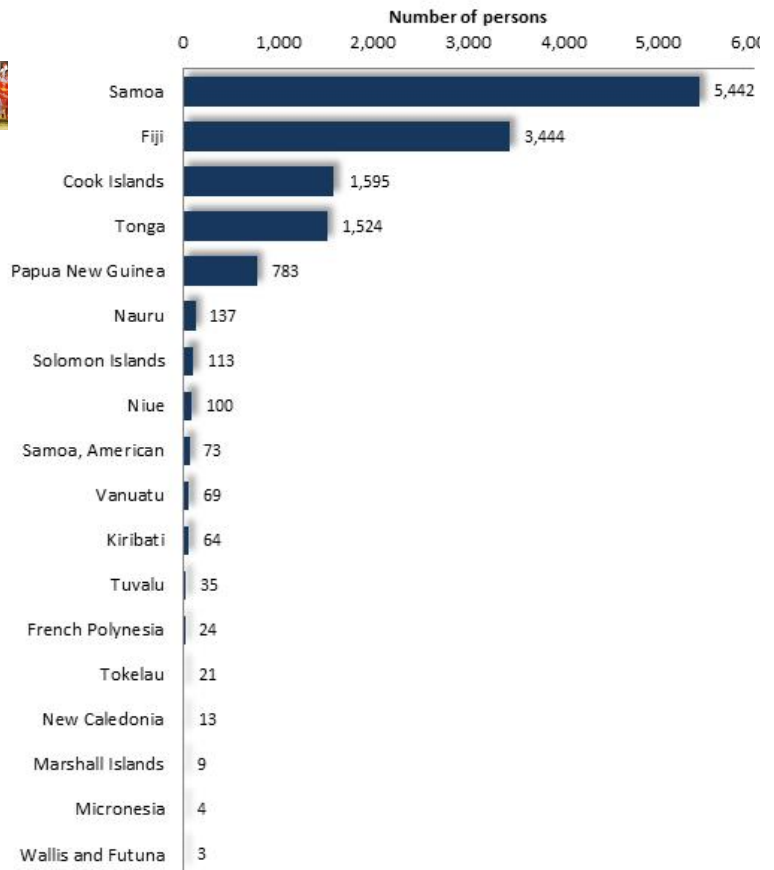
## Population



Approximately 13,450 residents of Victoria were born in Pacific Island nations and descended from people of this region. They represent a little over half (55%) of the 24,400 people in this state who were born in Pacific Islands.

Nine in ten Pacific Islanders in Victoria were born in Samoa, Fiji, Cook Islands, Tonga or Papua New Guinea.

Others are from Nauru, Solomon Islands, Niue, American Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Tuvalu, French Polynesia, Tokelau, New Caledonia and others.

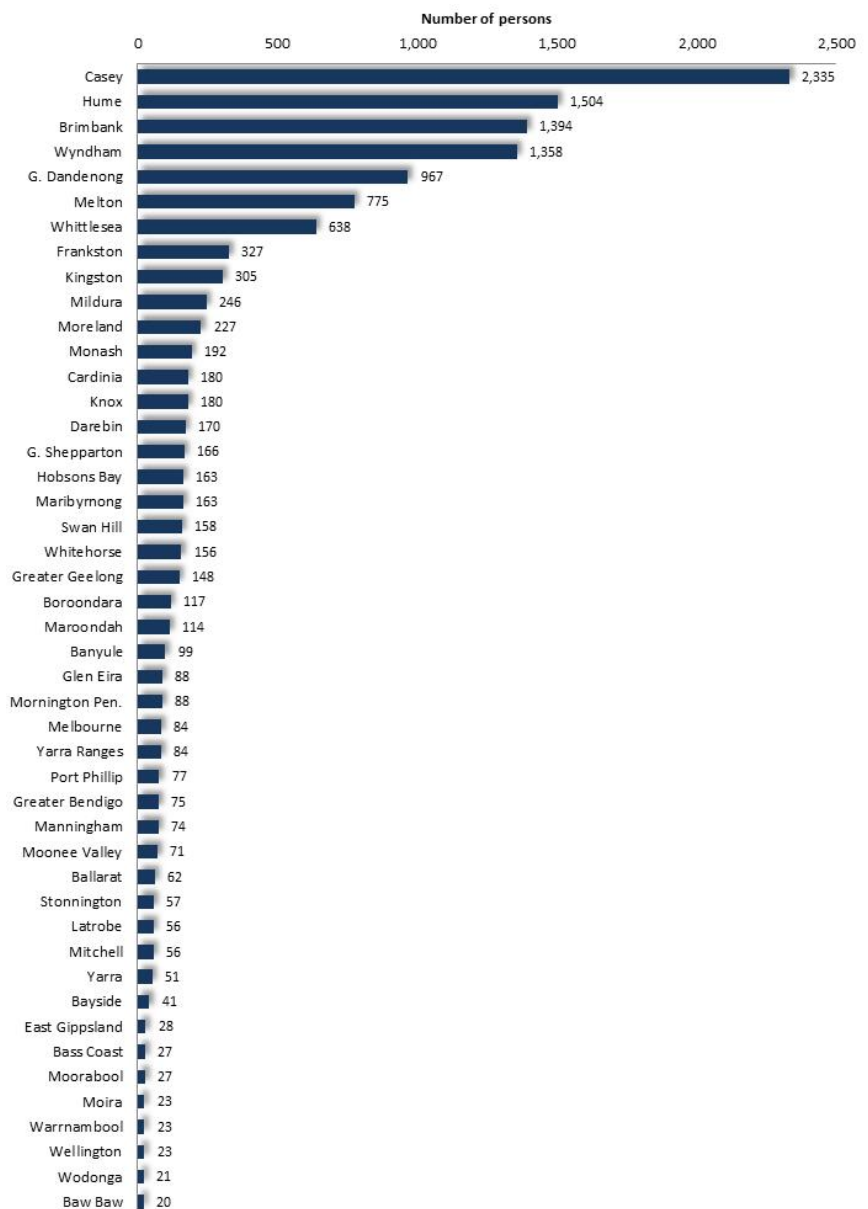


## Geographic Distribution

Nearly half (49%) of these Pacific Islanders live in Casey, Hume, Brimbank or Wyndham, while others are distributed among 62 other Victorian municipalities. Overall, nine-tenths live in metropolitan Melbourne.

In addition, Mildura, Greater Shepparton, Swan Hill and Greater Geelong feature substantial numbers of Pacific Island residents. The numbers of Pacific Islander residents, by birthplace and municipality, are shown in Appendix Two of this report, while the geographic distribution of Pacific Islanders across Melbourne is illustrated in Appendix One.

**Note:** *Municipalities with fewer than ten Pacific Islanders are omitted from this chart.*

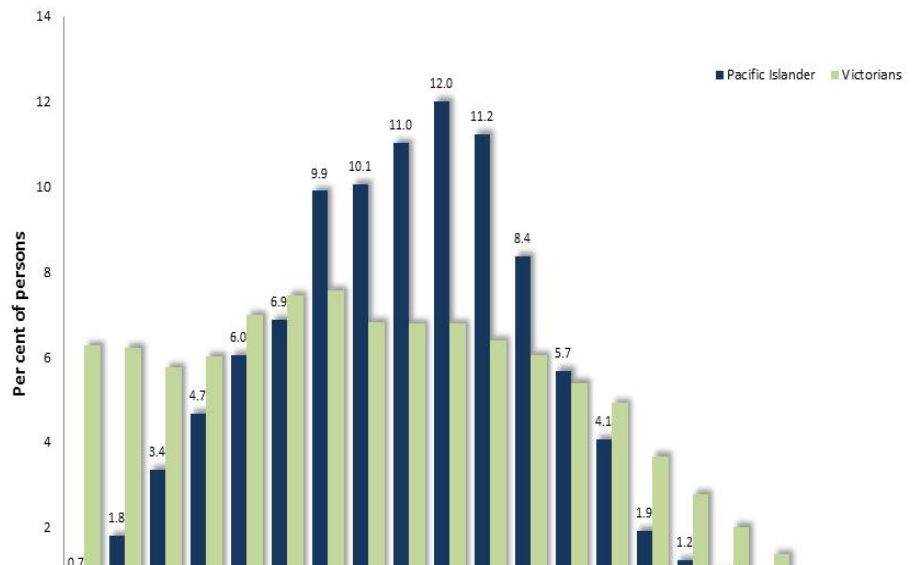


## Age Profile



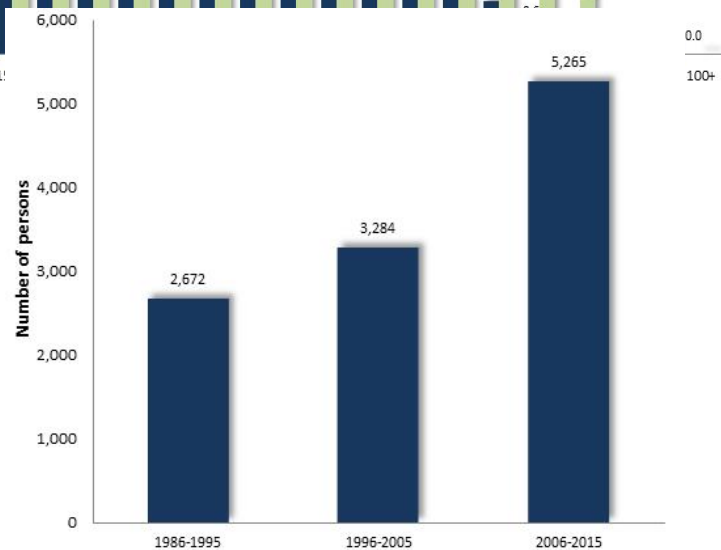
Pacific Islanders are largely of working age, with fewer younger and older members than the state-wide population.

Six per cent of Pacific Islanders are aged 0-4 years, compared with 18% of all people in this state; and 8% are of retirement age, compared with 16% of Victorians.

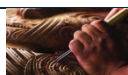


### Settlement Trends

Rates of settlement of Pacific Islanders doubled in the two decades to 2015, to an average of approximately 1,000 per annum.



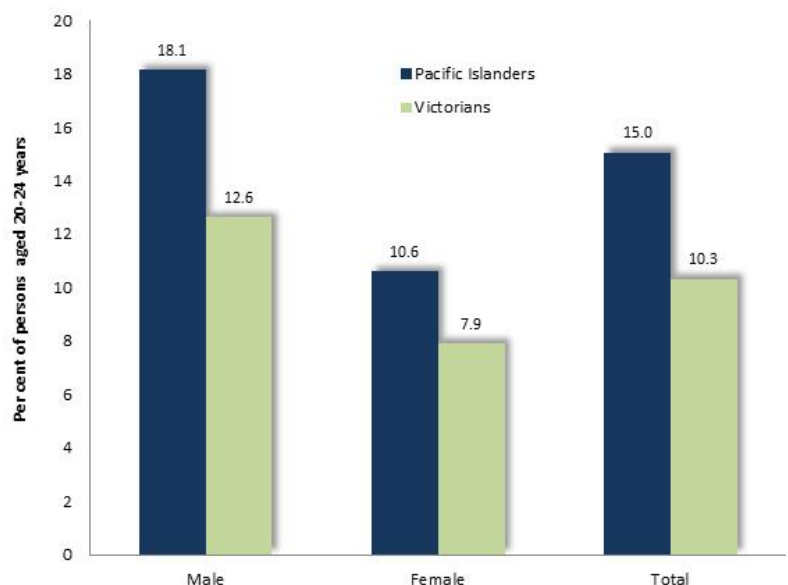
### Educational Outcomes



Contemporary educational outcomes are measured here as the proportion of 20-24 year-olds who had left school before completing year 11.

Fifteen per cent of Pacific Islanders aged 20-24 years had left school early – higher than the corresponding proportion of 10.3% for Victorians overall.

Notably, rates of early school leaving among Pacific Islanders are almost twice as high among young men (at 18.1%) as among women (10.6%).

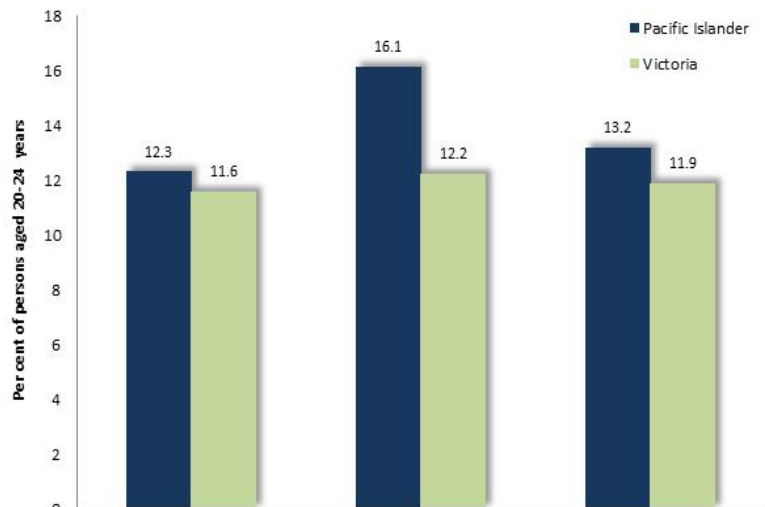


## Youth Disengagement



Over 13% of 20-24 year-old Pacific Islanders are not in paid employment or enrolled in education, slightly higher than the corresponding Victorian disengagement level of 11.9%.

Disengagement rates among Pacific Islanders are higher among young women (16.1%) than men (12.3%).

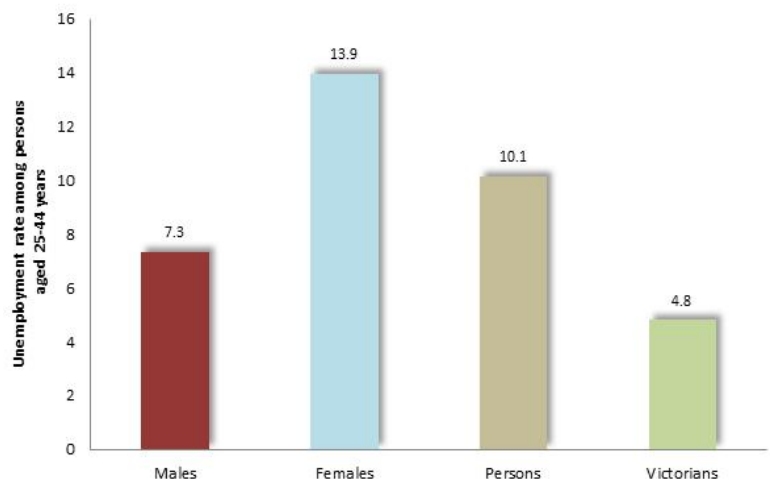


## Unemployment



In this summary, unemployment rates are examined for people aged 25 to 44 years, as a high proportion of them are employed or seeking paid work.

At 10.1%, unemployment rates among Pacific Islanders aged 25 to 44 years, are more than twice State levels, of 4.8%. Unemployment rates of 13.9% among female Pacific Islanders, are twice those of men (7.3%).

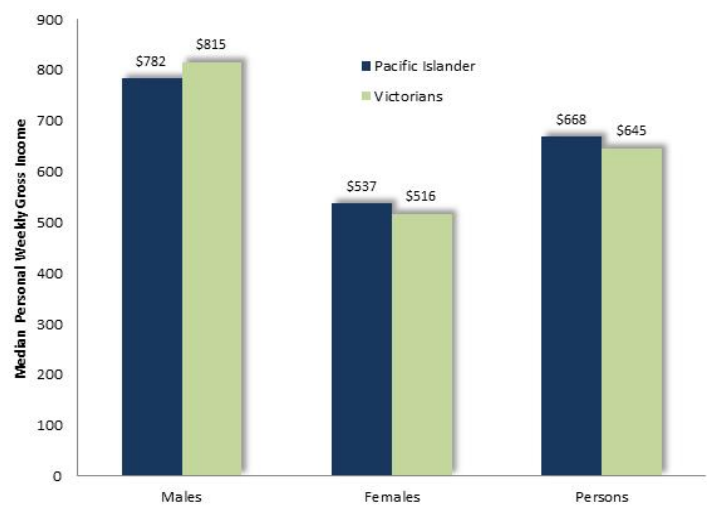


## Incomes



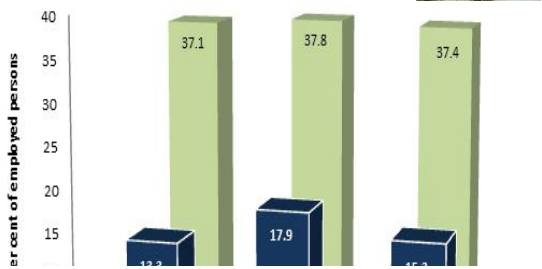
In 2016, the median personal income<sup>1</sup> among Pacific Islanders was similar to the Victorian rate.

Among Pacific Islanders, the median income among women was 69% that of males – a similar disparity to that between women and men across Victoria.

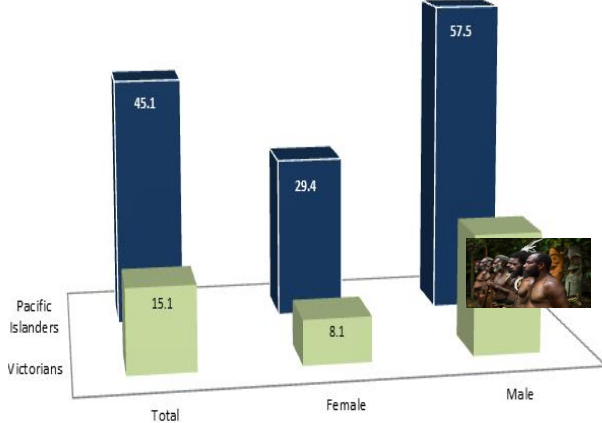


<sup>1</sup> Median personal weekly gross incomes, including nil incomes

## Occupations



Fifteen per cent of employed Pacific Islanders hold professional or managerial occupations, compared with 37% of employed Victorians.

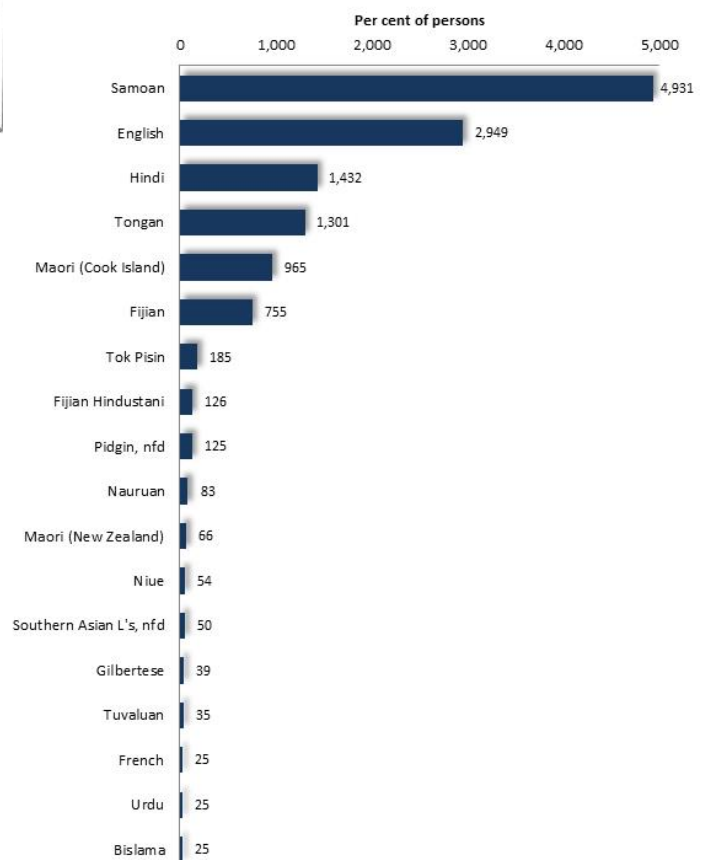


Conversely, employed Pacific Islanders are approximately three times more likely than Victorians to work as labourers, machinery operators or drivers.

## Spoken Languages

Just over one-fifth (22%) of Pacific Islanders speak English at home.

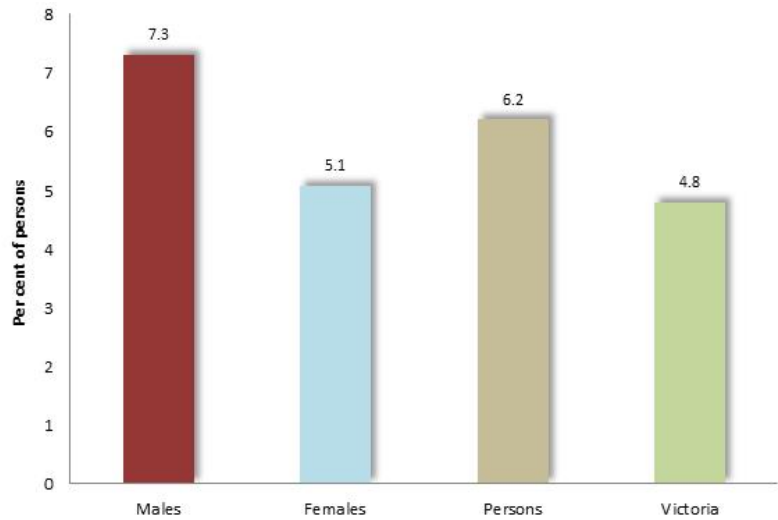
The remainder speak one or more of at least 37 other languages. These languages include Samoan, Tongan, Hindi and Cook Island Maori – which together account for over half of the non-English languages spoken.



## English Fluency

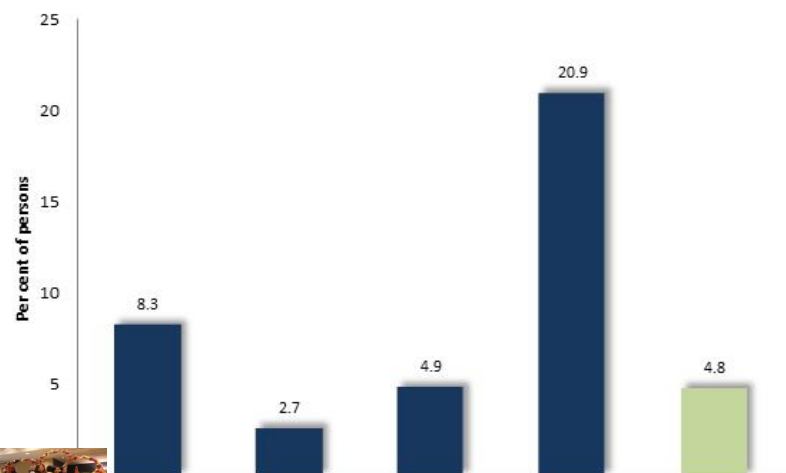


Approximately 6% of Pacific Islanders have limited fluency in the use of spoken English, including a higher proportion of males than of females.



About one in five Pacific Islanders of retirement age has limited fluency in the use of spoken English.

By contrast just 2.7% of young adult Pacific Islanders have limited fluency.

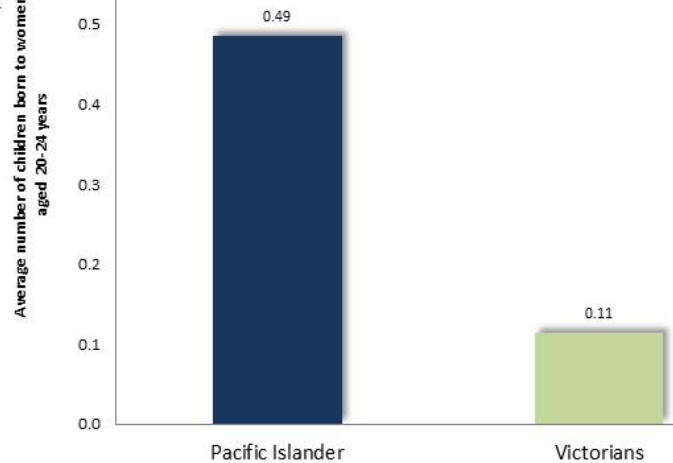


## Birth Rates



One measure of child birth among young women, is the average number of children ever born to women aged 20 to 24 years.

The average number of children born to Victorian women of this age is 0.11 (or about one for every nine women aged 20-24). The corresponding rate among Pacific Islander women is 0.49, representing one for every two women of this age - over four times the Victorian rate.



The relatively high rate of youth disengagement among Pacific Islander women is largely due to their elevated birth rates and accompanying child-caring responsibilities, which for some, may delay or prevent their entry into paid work or their pursuit of further study.

## Housing and Family Structure



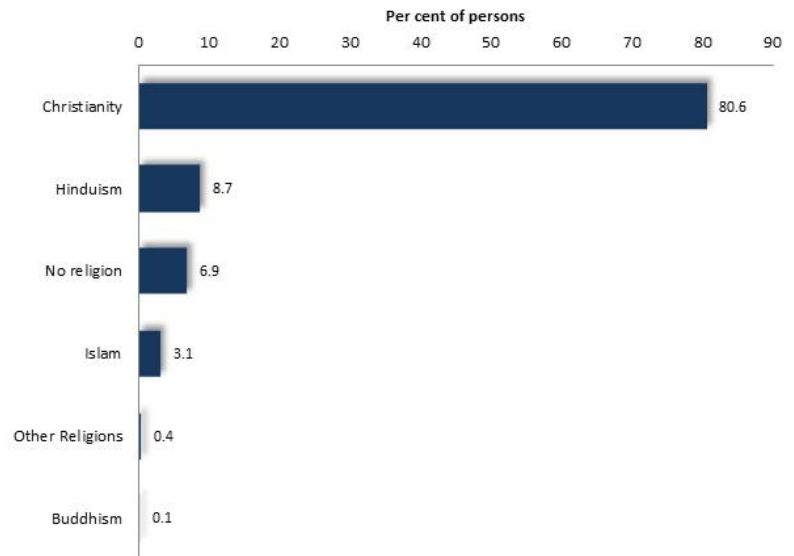
One-parent families account for 15% of Pacific Islander families with children – lower than the corresponding figure of 25% of families with children across Victoria.

Pacific Islanders more often rent their homes than people across Victoria, with 59% living in rented accommodation, compared with 27% of Victorians.<sup>2</sup>

## Religion



Four-fifths of Pacific Islanders adhere to Christianity, with lesser numbers following Hinduism, Islam and Buddhism.



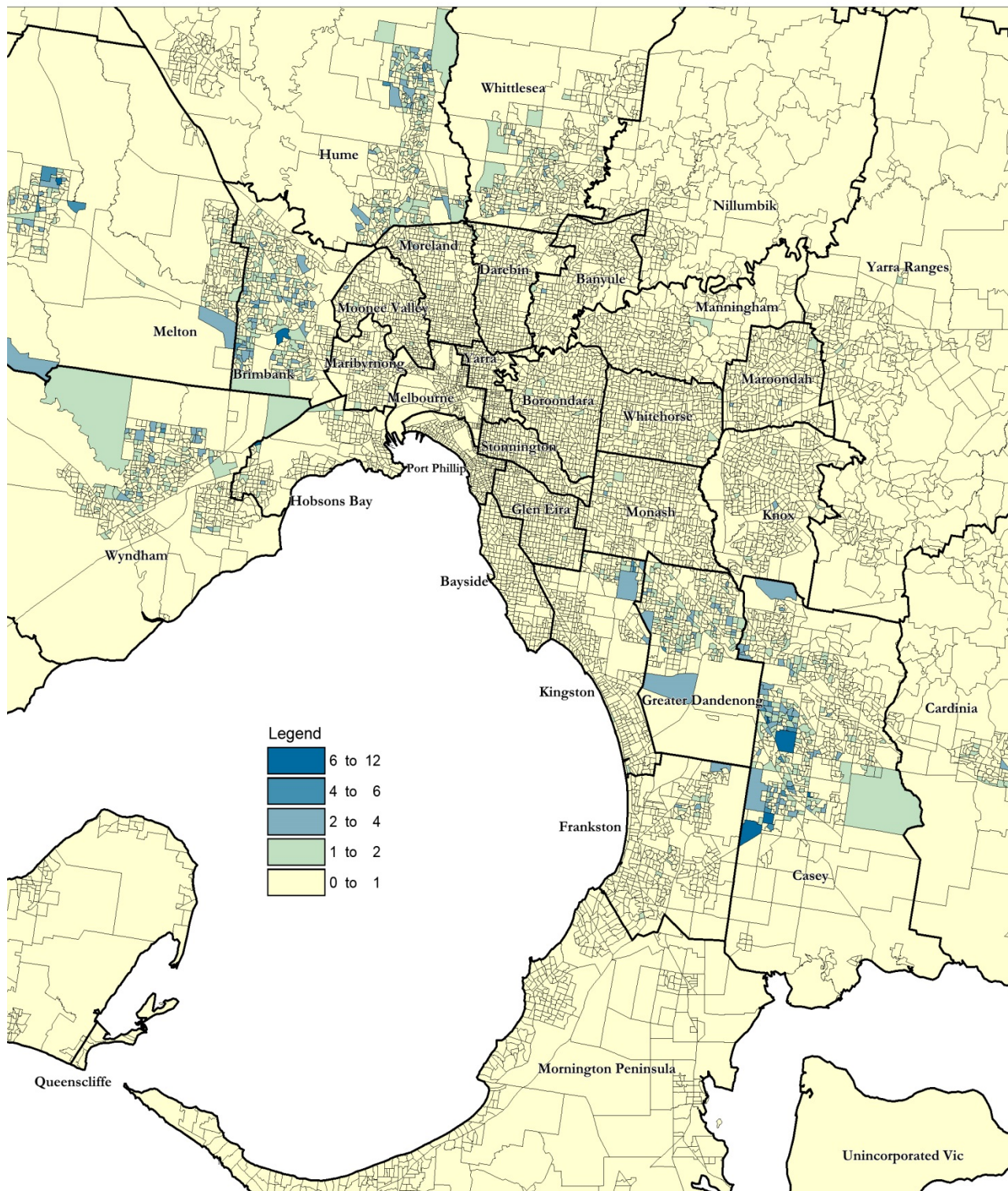
<sup>2</sup> These figures represent proportions of persons who are residing in private accommodation.



APPENDIX ONE:

# Persons Born in Pacific Island Nations (%)

From the findings of the 2016 Census



## APPENDIX TWO:

### Population of Pacific Islanders, descended from Pacific Islanders, by Municipality: Victoria 2016

	Samoa	Fiji	Cook Islands	Tonga	Papua New Guinea	Nauru	Solomon Islands	Niue	Samoa, American	Vanuatu
Casey	1,195	564	434	78	14	8	5	10	13	0
Hume	935	329	74	71	41	19	0	0	13	17
Brimbank	701	227	102	230	67	5	8	6	18	0
Wyndham	562	316	116	272	41	5	3	16	13	5
G Dandenong	364	204	329	37	21	0	4	10	0	0
Melton	434	171	39	69	11	9	12	9	6	3
Whittlesea	349	168	51	40	28	0	0	3	5	0
Frankston	90	87	70	24	34	14	0	6	0	0
Kingston	35	123	101	8	17	8	0	3	0	6
Mildura	34	22	34	138	0	3	9	3	0	0
Moreland	79	86	20	9	22	0	0	0	0	3
Knox	40	69	19	36	13	0	0	0	4	0
Monash	23	79	40	13	26	0	0	0	0	0
G. Shepparton	117	29	0	22	3	0	0	0	0	0
Darebin	47	63	20	11	24	0	4	0	0	0
Cardinia	60	45	39	10	5	3	5	0	0	0
Maribyrnong	27	51	3	43	31	0	0	3	0	0
Hobsons Bay	45	41	14	39	9	3	0	5	0	0
Swan Hill	4	36	4	108	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greater Geelong	22	54	0	16	36	10	4	0	0	5
Whitehorse	9	59	3	34	26	6	0	3	0	0
Boroondara	10	50	0	24	23	0	7	0	0	0
Maroondah	9	43	4	37	9	8	0	0	0	3
Banyule	36	22	3	19	15	3	0	0	0	0
Mornington Pen	12	35	12	11	13	4	0	0	0	0
Melbourne	9	36	0	10	18	0	6	0	0	0
Yarra Ranges	12	26	14	16	6	5	0	0	0	0
Port Phillip	13	24	11	5	18	0	0	5	0	0
Glen Eira	19	28	8	4	13	0	3	0	0	0
Greater Bendigo	5	38	0	3	18	0	10	0	0	0
Moonee Valley	17	19	10	4	15	0	0	0	0	5
Manningham	3	34	0	12	16	0	0	0	0	0
Ballarat	12	29	0	5	11	3	0	0	0	0
Latrobe	9	14	15	7	8	0	0	0	0	3
Mitchell	28	18	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Stonnington	10	31	0	8	7	0	0	0	0	0
Yarra	5	26	4	0	11	5	0	0	0	0
Bayside	10	12	0	4	5	5	0	0	0	0
East Gippsland	5	19	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
Moorabool	9	7	0	6	4	0	0	0	3	0
Warrnambool	0	11	0	0	6	0	0	4	0	0
Wellington	4	9	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Central Goldfields	0	9	7	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Moira	0	13	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0
Wodonga	0	11	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Wangaratta	7	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bass Coast	0	3	0	3	7	0	0	0	0	0
Campaspe	0	5	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,423</b>	<b>3,449</b>	<b>1,613</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>50</b>

A few municipalities with small numbers of Pacific Island residents are omitted from this table