



JING LEE
Better Community



Multiculturalism in South Australia

Presented by

The Honourable Jing Lee MLC
Member of Parliament in the Legislative Council
Leader of Jing Lee - Better Community

Association of Public Sector Superannuants
28th July 2025



JING LEE

Better Community



Hi, I'm Jing!

HOW I'M PUTTING COMMUNITY FIRST

- ✓ Represent all South Australians, no matter where you live
- ✓ Help you navigate state government agencies
- ✓ Advocate on behalf of you or your community
- ✓ Connect you with appropriate service providers
- ✓ Stand up for your values and the issues that matter to you most

**With 15 years of experience in Parliament,
I will work with you to build a better community**

"My vision for South Australia is about building a better, more resilient, and interconnected society"

- Honourable Jing Lee MLC



Member of Parliament | Legislative Council of South Australia | Leader of Jing Lee - Better Community

About Jing

Jing Lee is a proud Australian, a passionate South Australian leader, a strong business and industry advocate, and a trailblazer in multicultural representation. With over 15 years in parliament, including in senior leadership roles, and extensive community service, she has consistently championed small and family businesses, social and cultural policies, and economic development—driven by a deep belief in the power of community and enterprise to shape a better future.

Born in Malaysia and migrating to South Australia in 1979, Jing brings a unique perspective to public service; one shaped by lived experience, cultural diversity, and gratitude for the opportunities Australia has provided to her and her family.

In 2010, she made history and became the first Malaysian-born Member of the South Australian Parliament and has since become one of the state's most respected voices in multicultural affairs, business, and grassroots engagement.

In January 2025, Jing began serving as an Independent Member of the Legislative Council. Her time as an Independent has been marked by active patronage and engagement, open dialogue with constituents, practical problem-solving, and a renewed focus on putting community first.

In May of 2025, Jing Lee announced her intention to run for re-election, under her own banner:





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Better Community

Policy

**Her new party
JING LEE – Better Community
is a direct response to the
community's call for a more
positive, inclusive, and
accountable approach to politics.**

- ✓ **Easing the cost-of-living burden on individuals and families**
- ✓ **Reducing red tape and the cost of doing business**
- ✓ **Supporting industries and initiatives to grow our economy**
- ✓ **Better access to quality healthcare, education and social services for all South Australians**
- ✓ **Conserving our environment and natural resources**
- ✓ **Building a safe and inclusive community**

***As we approach the 2026 state election,
Jing is more committed than ever to
working for all South Australians!***



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Multiculturalism in South Australia

OFFICIAL

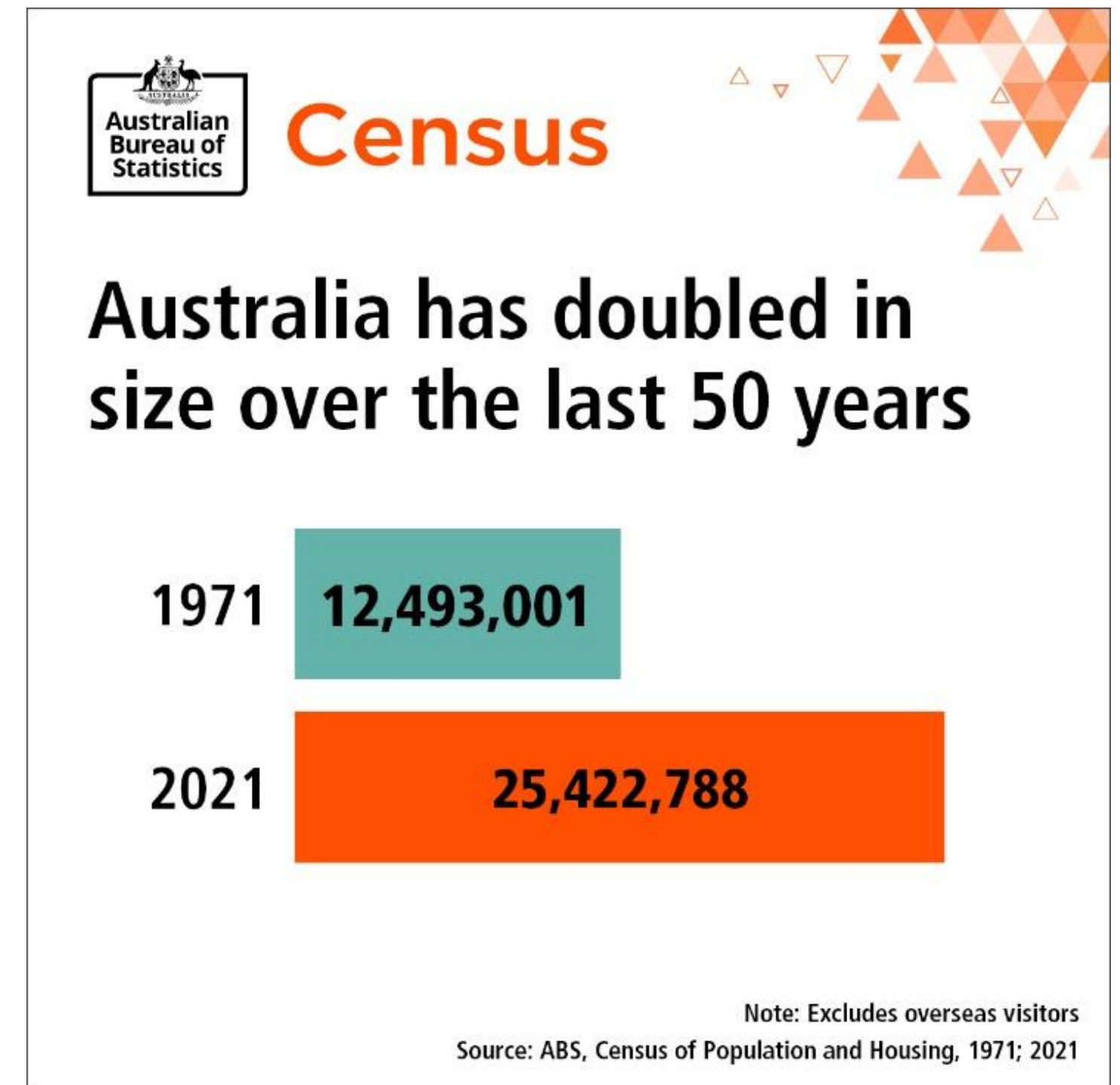
OFFICIAL

The results of the latest national Census 2021 reveal we are a fast changing, growing and culturally diverse nation.

The 2021 Census counted nearly 25.5 million people (25,422,788) in Australia, excluding overseas visitors, on Census night.

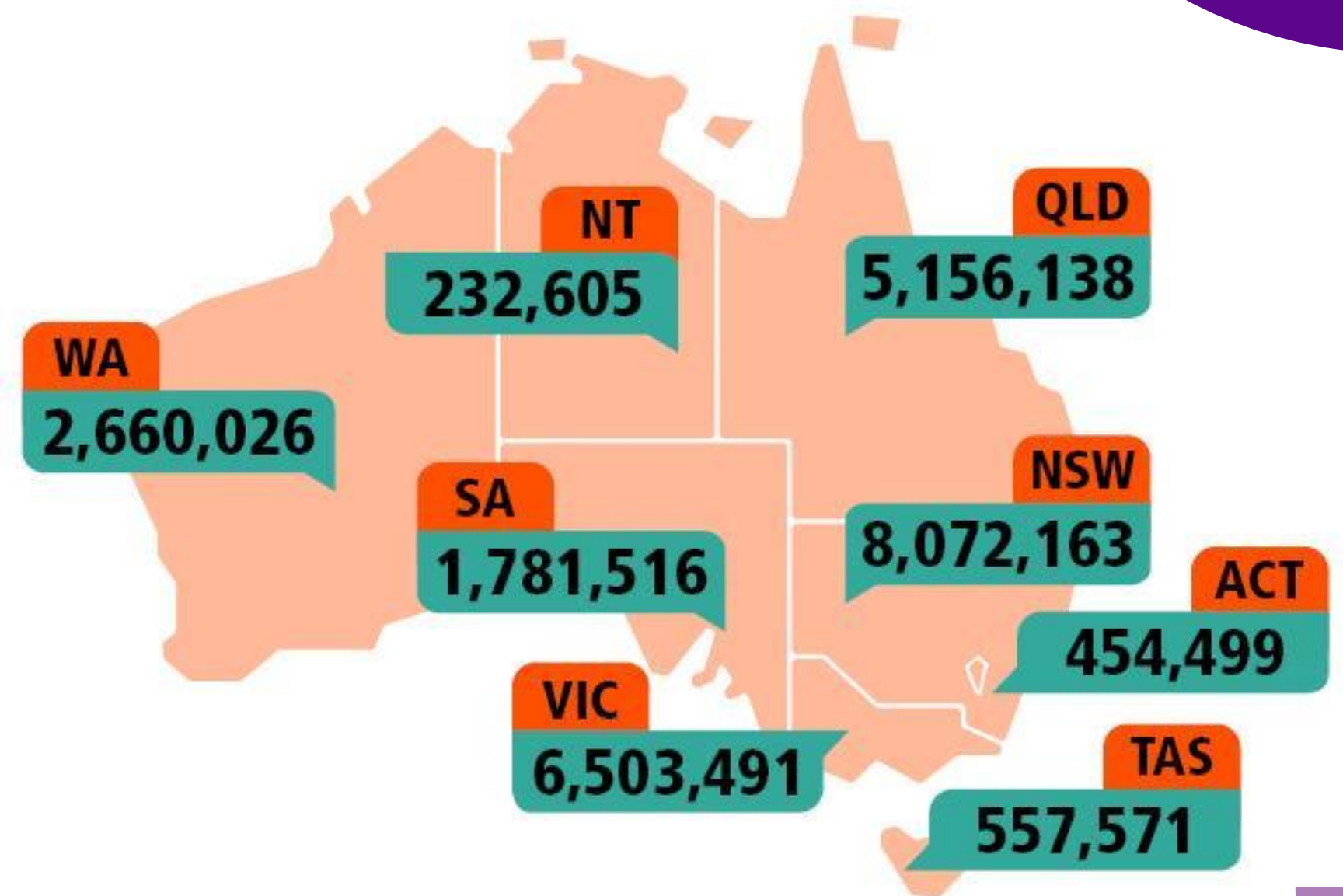
This is an increase of over two million people (2,020,896), or 8.6 per cent, since the 2016 Census.

Australia's Census count has more than doubled in the last 50 years, with the 1971 Census counting over 12 million people (12,493,001).



The 2021 Census:

- Almost 80 per cent of Australian residents live in eastern Australia in NSW, VIC, QLD and ACT
- NSW continues to be the largest state with over 8 million people, with Victoria not far behind with 6.5 million people.
- ACT had the fastest growth with a 14.4 per cent (57,102 people) increase since 2016.
- South Australia remains one of the smallest State with over 1.7million people



State/Territory	Population			
	2021	2016	Difference	% Growth
Australia	25,422,788	23,401,892	2,020,896	8.64%
ACT	454,499	397,397	57,102	14.37%
VIC	6,503,491	5,926,624	576,867	9.73%
QLD	5,156,138	4,703,193	452,945	9.63%
TAS	557,571	509,965	47,606	9.34%
NSW	8,072,163	7,480,228	591,935	7.91%
WA	2,660,026	2,474,410	185,616	7.50%
SA	1,781,516	1,676,653	104,863	6.25%
NT	232,605	228,833	3,772	1.65%

South Australia 2021 Household Composition



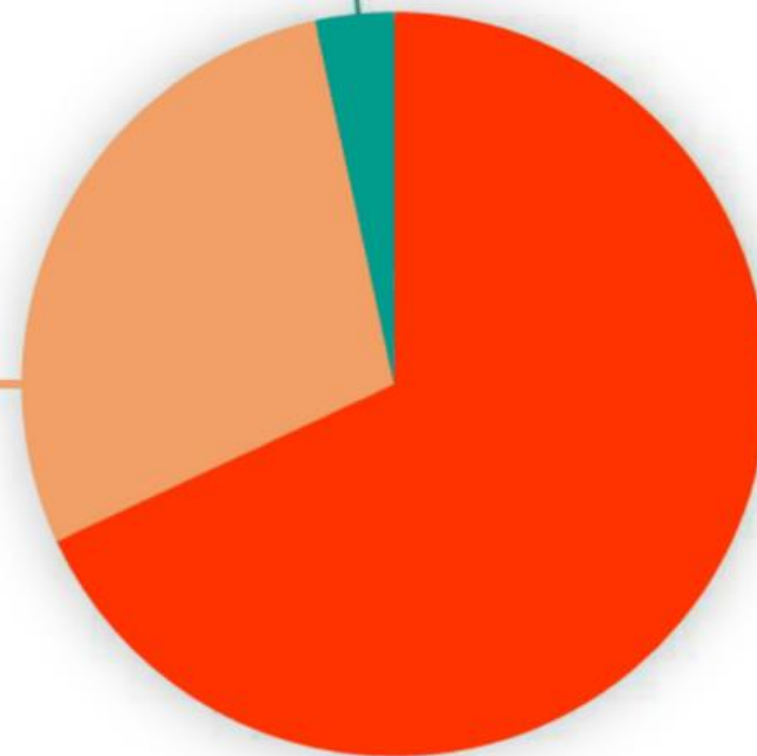
3.4%

Group
households



28.5%

Lone
households



68.1%

Family
households

South Australia's population by **generational group**

Gen Alpha 0-9 years 11.1%

Gen Z 10-24 years 17.6%

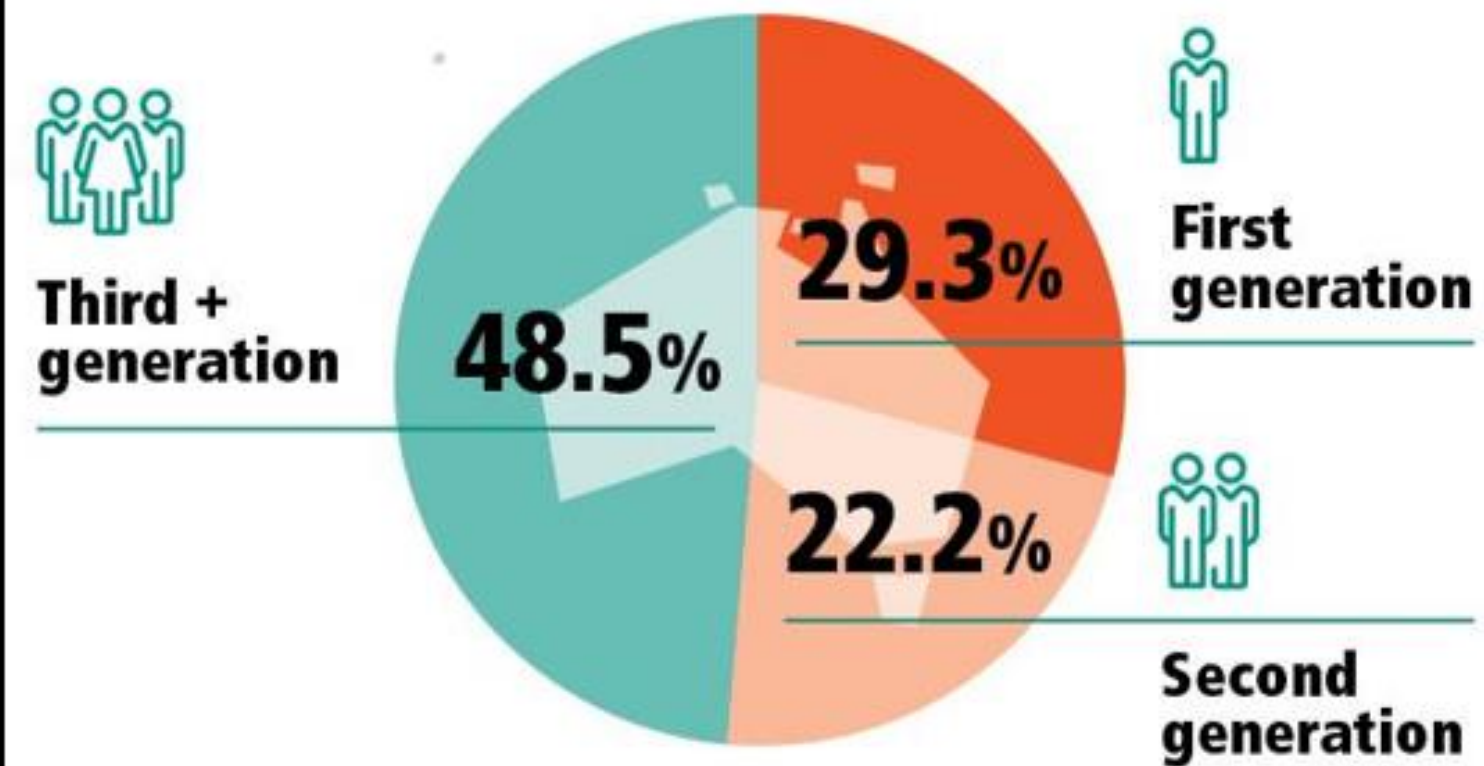
Millennials 25-39 years 19.9%

Gen X 40-54 years 18.7%

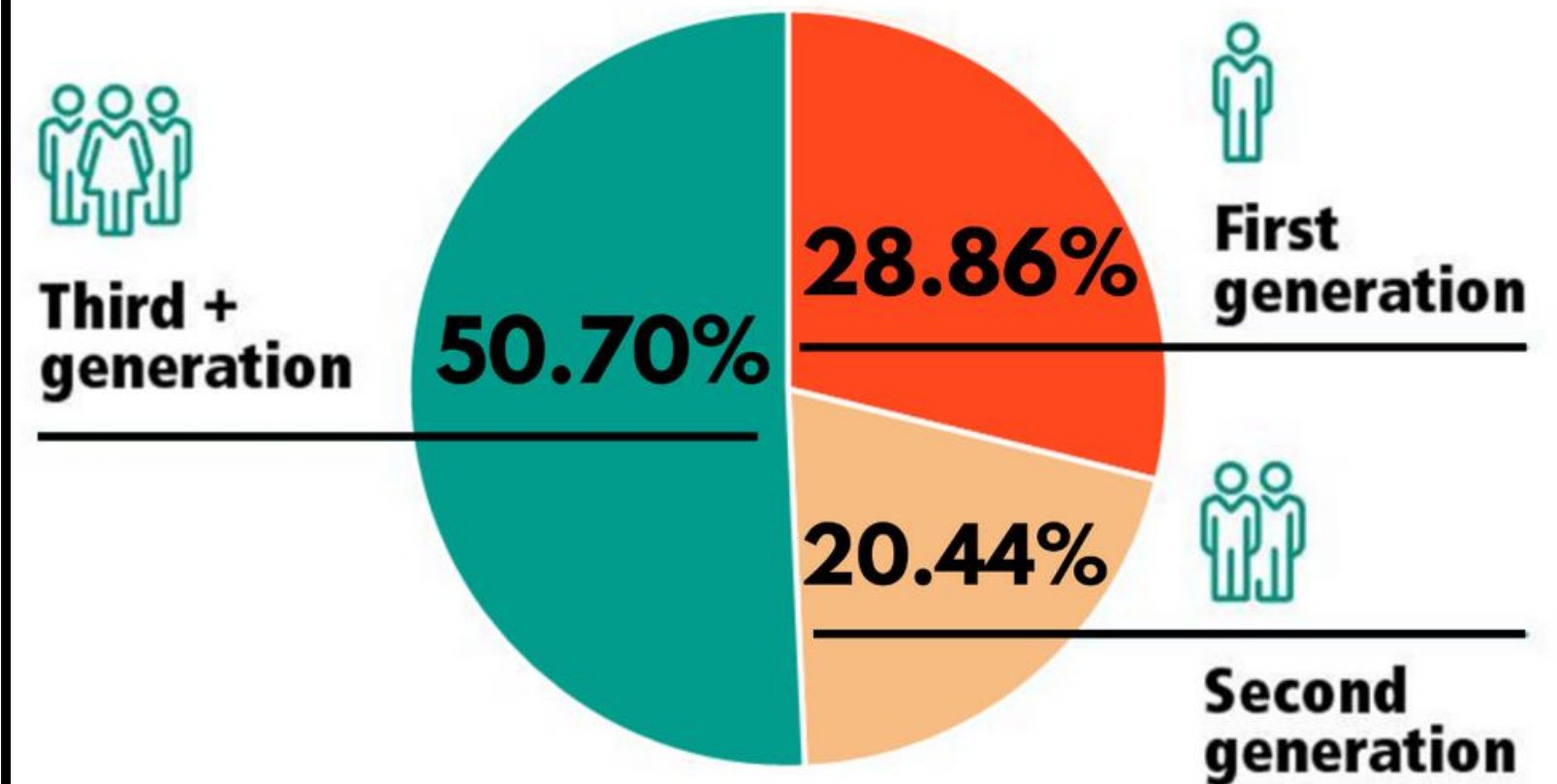
Baby Boomers 55-74 years 23.8%

**Interwar
75+ years 9.0%**

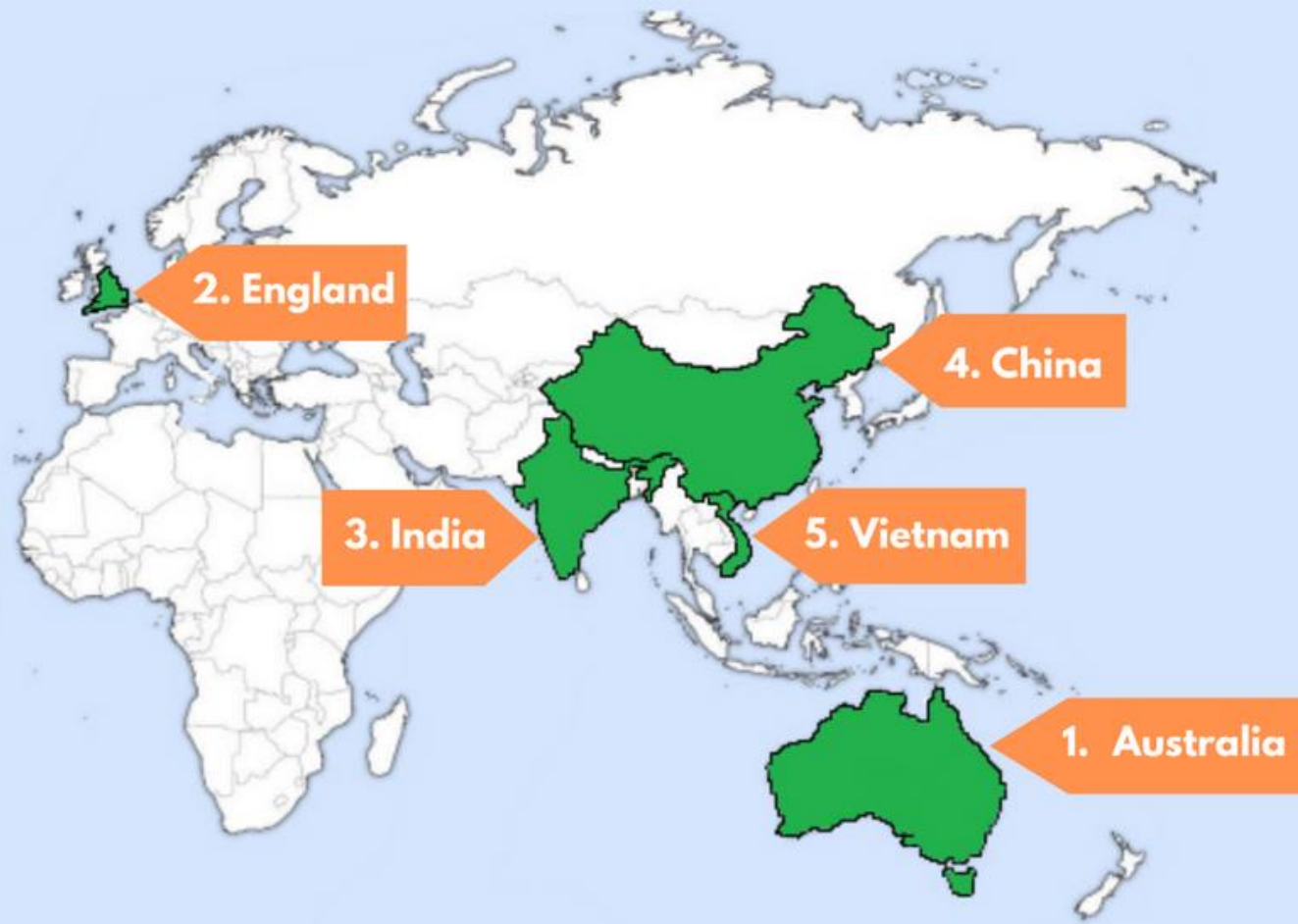
Migrant Generation Composition in Australia 2021



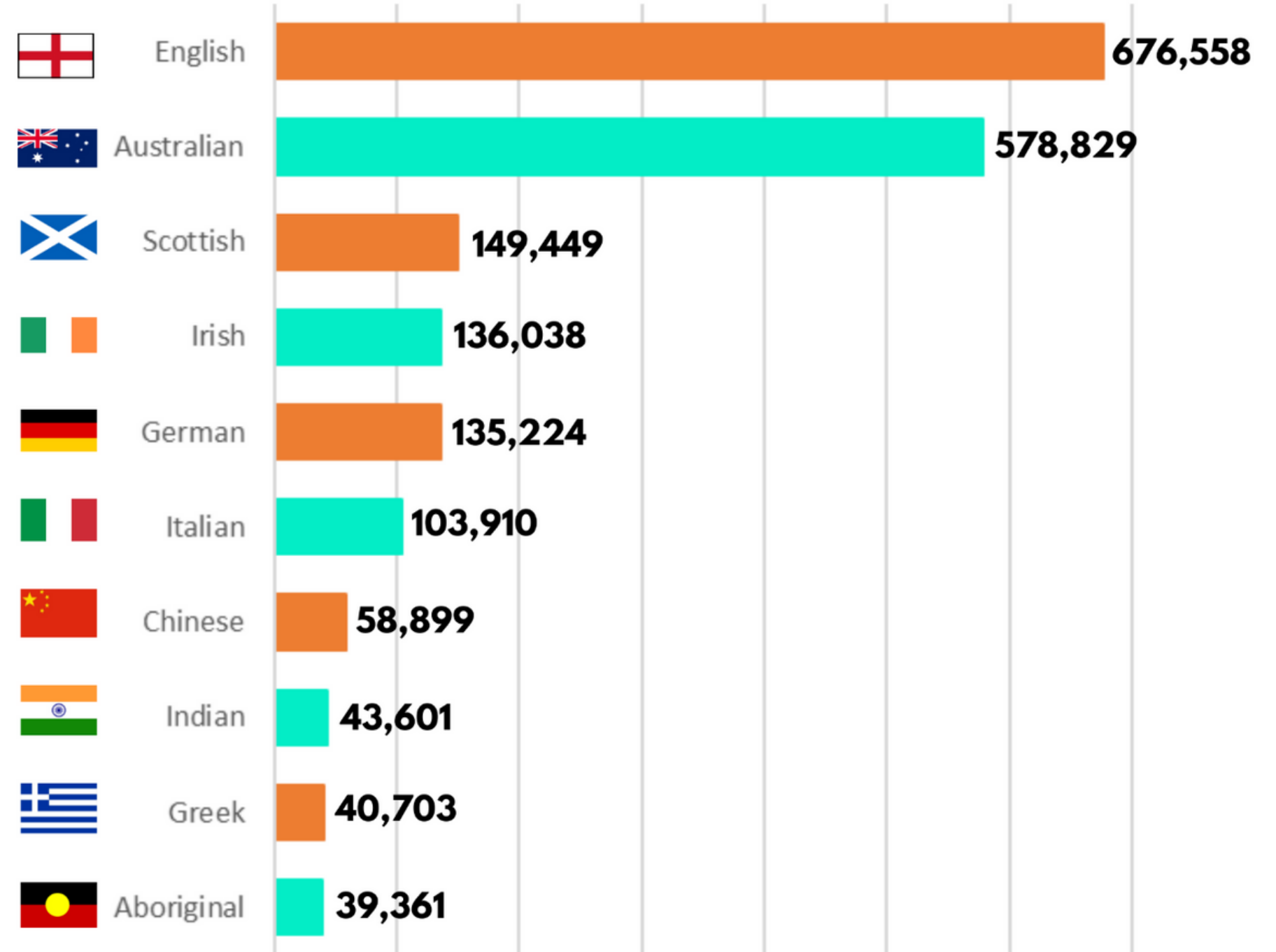
Migrant Generation Composition in South Australia 2021



Top 5 countries of birth for South Australia



Top 10 Ancestries in South Australia 2021





Top 5 non-English languages in South Australia 2021

		Population count
1	Mandarin Chinese	32,133
2	Italian	23,828
3	Greek	21,882
4	Vietnamese	21,855
5	Punjabi	20,004

In total, 398,565 people in South Australia, speak a language other than English at home which is 22.4% of the population.

Over 70 different languages are spoken in South Australia other than English.

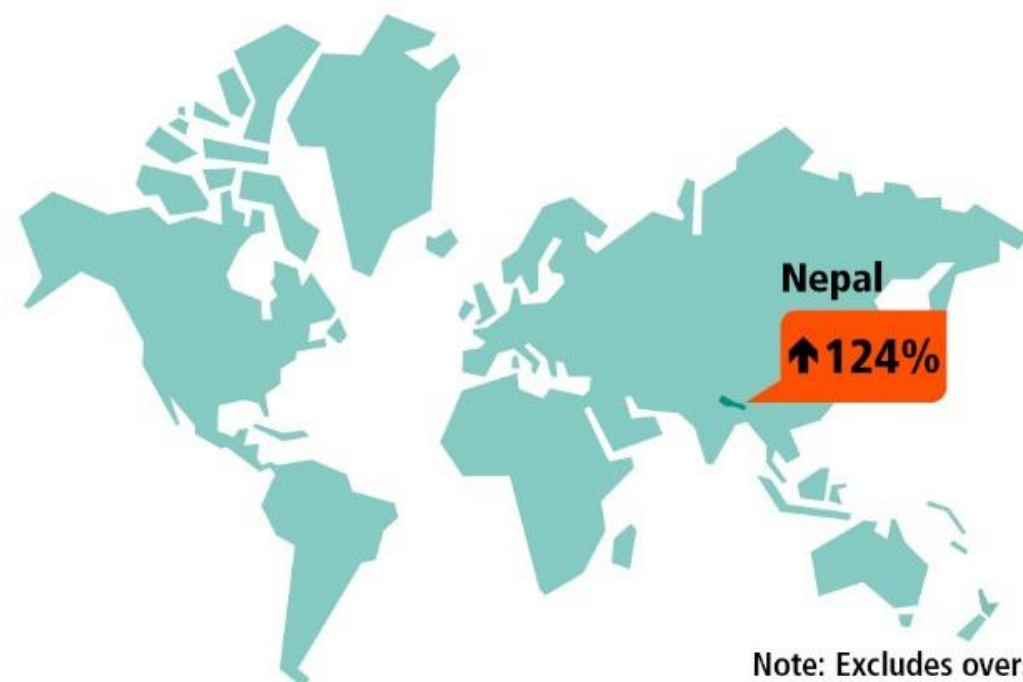
The most widely spoken languages, other than English, used at home in South Australia are

- Mandarin Chinese with 32,133 people (1.8% of the population)
- Italian with 23,828 people (1.3%)
- Greek with 21,882 people (1.2%)
- Vietnamese with 21,855 people (1.2%) and
- Punjabi with 20,004 people (1.1%).



Census

The Nepali born population living in Australia has more than doubled since 2016



Note: Excludes overseas visitors
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016; 2021

Overseas Countries Top 10 Growth from 2016 to 2021

Country of Birth	Population in South Australia			
	2021	2016	Difference ^(a)	% Growth ^(b)
Nepal	7,250	2,856	4,394	153.85%
Pakistan	5,666	3,445	2,221	64.47%
India	44,881	27,594	17,287	62.65%
Sri Lanka	5,311	3,787	1,524	40.24%
Afghanistan	8,214	6,313	1,901	30.11%
Thailand	3,604	2,846	758	26.63%
Philippines	15,503	12,465	3,038	24.37%
South Africa	8,212	6,610	1,602	24.24%
Hong Kong	4,252	3,576	676	18.90%
Vietnam	17,033	14,337	2,696	18.80%

Ancestry	Population in South Australia				Number of registered organisations in South Australia
	2021	2016	Difference ^(a)	% Growth ^(b)	
German	135,224	129,923	5,301	4.08%	15
Italian	103,910	96,010	7,900	8.22%	72
Chinese	58,899	52,301	6,598	12.61%	59
Indian	43,601	33,069	10,532	31.84%	63
Greek	40,703	38,186	2,517	6.59%	70
Dutch	29,589	26,489	3,100	11.70%	8
Vietnamese	22,902	20,291	2,611	12.86%	41
Filipino	21,250	15,890	5,360	33.73%	36
Polish	20,394	18,710	1,684	9.00%	34
Croatian	10,183	8,175	2,008	24.56%	24

Registered Multicultural Organisations (Categories):

- Aged Care
- Business
- Community
- Education
- Media
- Performance
- Religious
- Regional
- Sports
- Women
- Youth



Indian Community in South Australia

Very diverse in cultures,
religions and languages

28 States in India

Indians also come from
Fiji, South East Asia and
other countries

Country of Birth Data:
2021 Census: 44,881
2016 Census: 27,594
Increase by : 17,287
62.65% growth

Chinese Community in South Australia

Very diverse in cultures,
religious and languages

People of Chinese Ancestry come
from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan,
Macau, Singapore, Malaysia,
Thailand, South East Asia and
other parts of the world.

Country of Birth Data (China):
2021 Census: 25,709
2016 Census: 24,610
Increase by: 1,099
4.17% growth

2021 Census: 58,899 (Ancestry)

MIGRANTS POWER SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMY

300,000 TOTAL MIGRANTS
OF WORKING AGE

MIGRANT ARRIVALS IN
AUSTRALIA WITH A
TERTIARY QUALIFICATION **69%**

SNAP SHOT

\$5B+

Migrants contribute
over \$5 Billion annually
to South Australia's
economy

Socially, migrants bring
cultural diversity and provide
opportunity for multilingual
service delivery.



TOP SECTORS



HEALTH CARE

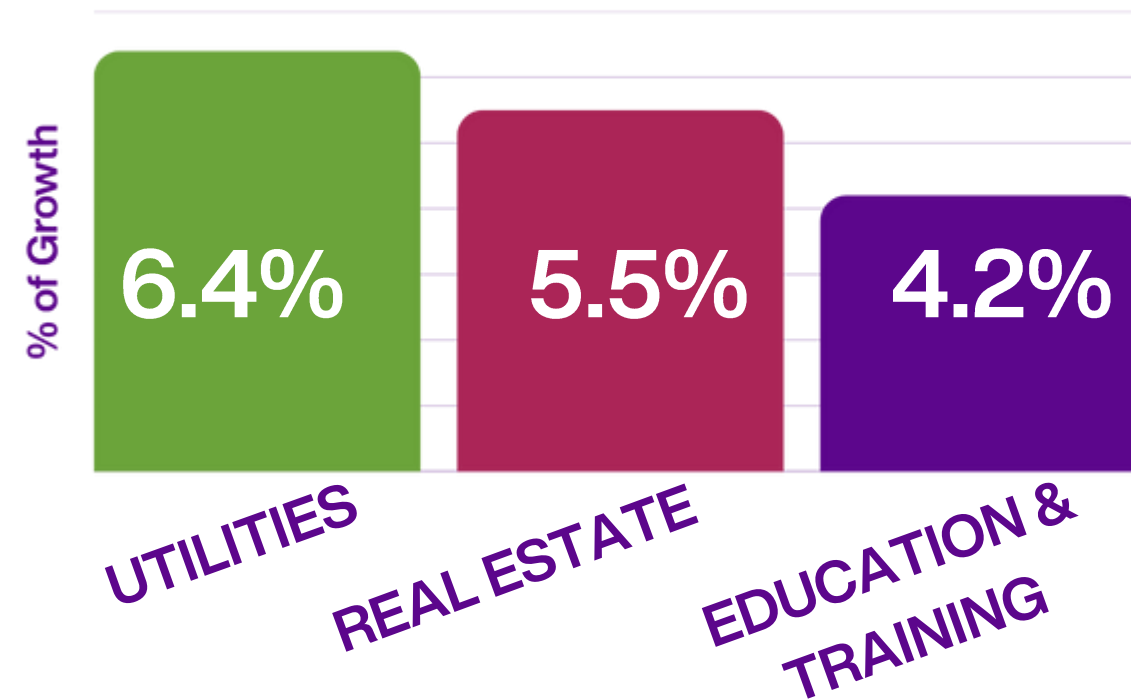


EDUCATION

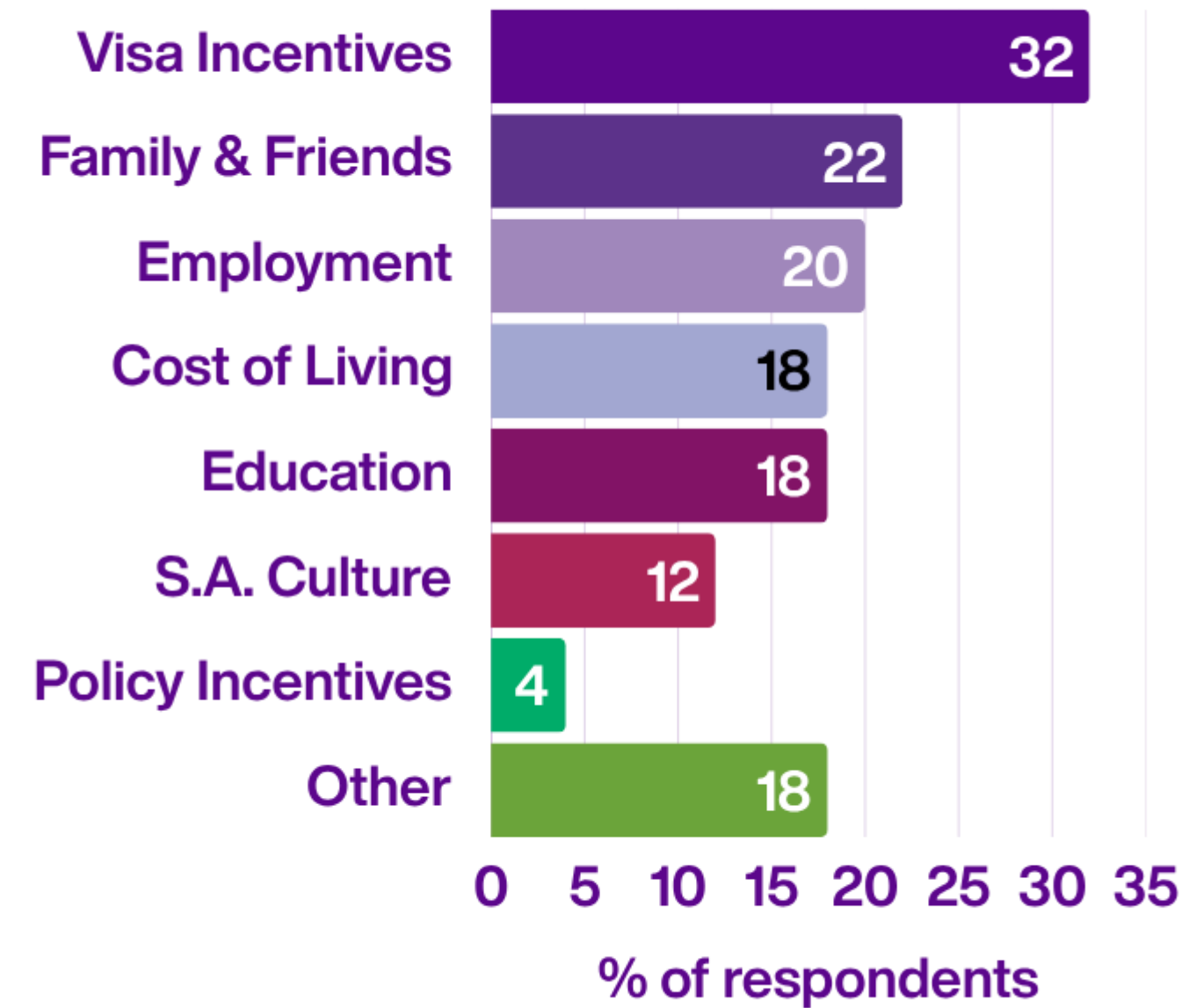


CONSTRUCTION

GROWTH SECTORS



WHY SOUTH AUSTRALIA?



Visa incentives was the most popular reason to come to S.A. This includes Adelaide's classification as a Category 2 designated regional area, which allows skilled migrants access for a variety of incentives such as priority processing of visas and a greater list of eligible occupations.

UNDER EMPLOYMENT REASONS



SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Adult Migrant English Program

Helps eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants improve their English language skills

Skilling South Australia

Aims to increase access to vocational education and training (VET).

Designated Area Migration Agreements

Special migration agreements between the federal and state governments that allow employers in regional and designated areas to sponsor skilled migrants

Skilled Migration Talent and Industry Connection Programs

Aims to reduce underemployment and improve job matching for migrants with overseas qualifications

SELF EMPLOYMENT

Migrants represent
over 30% of Small
- Medium Business
Owners in SA

30%

2X

Migrant-owned businesses are twice
as likely to export goods and services
compared to non-migrant businesses



JING LEE

Better Community



*Putting
Community
First*

THE HONOURABLE JING LEE MLC

MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PARLIAMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
LEADER OF JING LEE - BETTER COMMUNITY



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