

Labour market analysis of persons from non–English speaking backgrounds in Queensland

2011 Census of Population and Housing

Government Statistician

Economic and Structural Policy

Queensland Treasury and Trade

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Summary

Queensland has proportionally fewer persons from non-English speaking backgrounds compared with the rest of Australia

Persons from non-English speaking backgrounds accounted for 9.5 per cent of the Queensland population in the 2011 Census, substantially lower than the proportion for the rest of Australia (17.3 per cent).

The non-English speaking background population in Queensland is older than the rest of the population

The median age of persons of non-English speaking background in Queensland (41.0 years) was higher than the rest of the Queensland population (36.2 years).

Queensland's non-English speaking background population is highly urbanised

Queensland residents from non-English speaking backgrounds are more urbanised, with 42.4 per cent living in the five Brisbane based SA4s, compared with only 23.6 per cent of Queenslanders born in Australia.

Labour force status differed to that of the rest of the Queensland population

The unemployment rate for persons from non-English speaking backgrounds in Queensland was higher (8.1 per cent compared with 5.8 per cent), while the labour force participation rate was lower (60.8 per cent compared with 67.9 per cent).

Time since arrival in Australia is a key factor in determining labour force status

The year of arrival of a migrant from a non-English speaking country has an important bearing on their labour force status with the most recent arrivals more likely to be unemployed compared with the rest of the non-English speaking background population.

Queensland's employed migrants from non-English speaking backgrounds have higher levels of non-school educational attainment

The non-school qualifications profile of employed migrants from non-English speaking backgrounds was much higher than the rest of Queensland's employed population, with 70.6 per cent having a non-school qualification (compared with 58.2 per cent), and 38.0 per cent holding a Bachelor degree or higher (compared with 19.7 per cent).

1. Introduction

This publication provides an overview of Queensland residents at the time of the 2011 Census of Population and Housing conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) who were born overseas in a non–English speaking country¹.

It is intended to present similar data to that reported in the [*Queensland's Labour Market Progress: A 2006 Census of Population and Housing Profile Issue No. 8: Persons of non–English Speaking Background*](#). However, users should be aware that data in each report are not directly comparable due to slightly different definitions used for the 'Australian', mainly English speaking background (MESB) and non–English speaking background (NESB) categories, and differently sourced 2006 data.

Data presented in this publication are mainly sourced from the ABS 2011 Census, based on the reported place of usual residence. Some comparisons with the 2006 Census are included to examine any change over the five year period. Both 2006 Census and 2011 Census data in this report are sourced from the ABS TableBuilder Pro online tool. TableBuilder Pro independently applies a confidentiality process and random cell adjustments to each table of data during its extraction. As a result, data presented here may show some minor differences to the same data sourced and/or reported elsewhere.

Complete accuracy of census data is not claimed by the ABS and should not be assumed. Figures included in the text, tables and charts throughout this report are rounded to the nearest 100, although all calculations and percentages are based on unrounded data.

¹ Persons born in a mainly non–English speaking country, which is defined as any overseas country with the exception of: Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) and its crown dependencies of Guernsey (Channel Island), Isle of Man and Jersey (Channel Island), the United States of America, and the Australian external territories of Norfolk Island, Australian Antarctic Territory, Heard and McDonald Islands, Ashmore and Cartier Islands and Coral Sea Territory. It also includes all people whose country of birth was categorised as inadequately described, at sea or not elsewhere classified (nec).

2. Queensland's population

2.1 Overview

The 2011 Census of Population and Housing counted 4.3 million people who usually reside in Queensland. Of these, 410,200 reported that they were migrants born in a country of non-English speaking background, accounting for 9.5 per cent of the State's population, up from 7.9 per cent in 2006 (Table 1). The proportion of persons from a non-English speaking background in the rest of Australia was nearly double that of Queensland, and had also increased proportionally over the intercensal period, from 15.3 per cent in 2006 to 17.3 per cent in 2011. This indicated that the number of persons from a non-English speaking background increased at a faster rate than the overall population. In Queensland, this group increased by 102,700 persons or 33.4 per cent. By comparison, the rest of the Queensland² population grew by 10.3 per cent.

Table 1: Usual resident population by country of birth, Queensland and rest of Australia, 2006 and 2011

Country of birth	2006		2011	
	Population	Share of population	Population	Share of population
	('000)	% Queensland	('000)	%
Australia	2,935.3	75.2	3,192.1	73.7
Mainly English speaking background (MESB)	391.9	10.0	478.4	11.0
Non-English speaking background (NESB)	307.5	7.9	410.2	9.5
Not stated	269.8	6.9	252.0	5.8
Total	3,904.5	100.0	4,332.7	100.0
Rest of Australia				
Australia	11,137.7	69.8	11,825.7	68.9
Mainly English speaking background (MESB)	1,283.7	8.0	1,438.9	8.4
Non-English speaking background (NESB)	2,432.9	15.3	2,966.6	17.3
Not stated	1,096.5	6.9	943.7	5.5
Total	15,950.8	100.0	17,175.0	100.0

Note: Population figures are rounded to the nearest 100.

Source: ABS, 2006 and 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

2.2 Population by age and gender

On the whole, persons from a non-English speaking background had an older age profile (Figure 1) compared with that of the rest of the population (RoP) in Queensland. The median age³ for persons of non-English speaking background was 41.0 years compared with 36.2 years⁴ for the rest of the population. There were 217,100 females and 193,100 males in the population from non-English speaking backgrounds in Queensland, with 15.0 per cent of the total population aged 65 years and over at the time of the 2011 Census.

It is important to note that any children born to migrants from non-English speaking backgrounds after their arrival in Australia will be counted in the census as Australian born, which creates the unusual

² Does not include Queensland residents who did not state their country of birth.

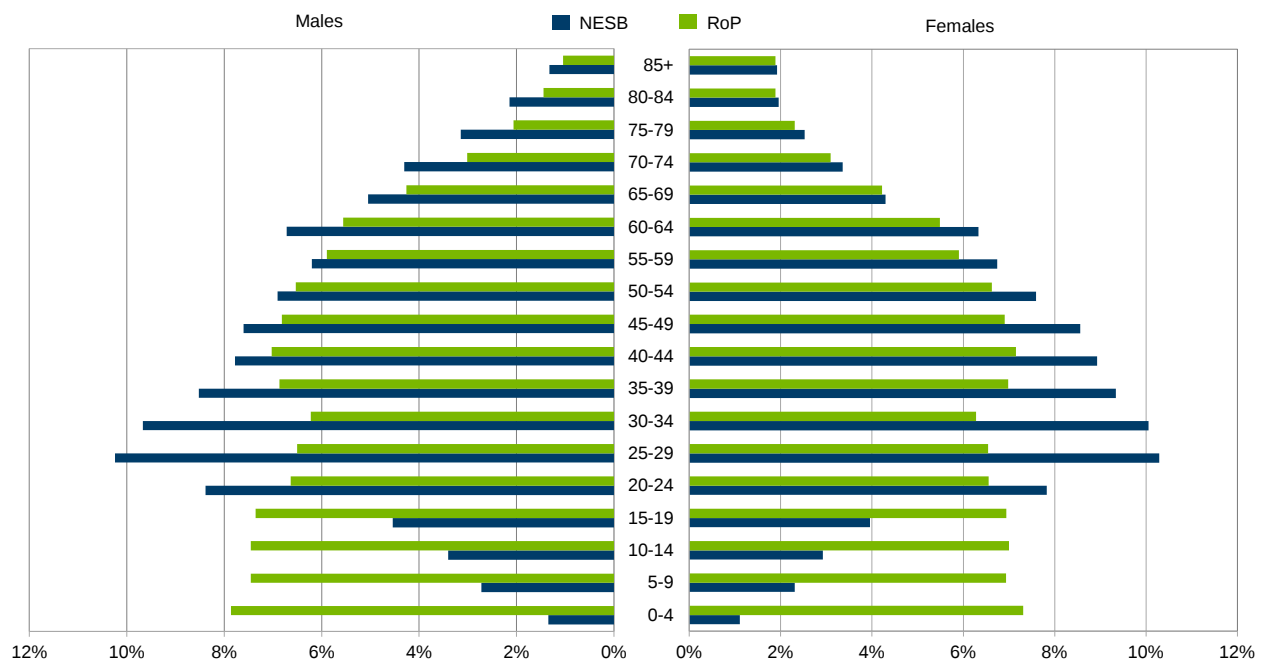
³ Government Statistician estimate using single-year age groups up to 85+ years.

⁴ It should also be noted that children born to non-English speaking migrants, after arrival in Australia, will be counted in the census as Australian born.

shape in the age profile graph for migrants from non-English speaking backgrounds in the younger age groups. Within the population from non-English speaking backgrounds, the largest proportions of persons were in the 25–29 years and 30–34 years age groups, which together accounted for 20.1 per cent of the total.

There were more females than males from non-English speaking backgrounds living in Queensland in 2011, with a gender ratio of 88.9 males per 100 females, compared with the gender ratio for the rest of the Queensland population of 98.4 males per 100 females.

Figure 1: Population by age and gender, persons from NESB and RoP, Queensland, 2011



Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

2.3 Population by region

Persons from non-English speaking backgrounds were more likely to live in South East Queensland rather than elsewhere with more than 80 per cent (330,400 persons) of the population residing in this region at the time of the 2011 Census. At the same time, around 65 per cent of the rest of the Queensland population lived in South East Queensland. This is even more pronounced when looking at the five Statistical Area Level 4s (SA4s) that comprise the Brisbane region (Brisbane–East, North, South, West and Inner City), with 42.4 per cent of persons from non-English speaking backgrounds in Queensland living in the Brisbane region, while only 23.6 per cent of Queensland's population that were born in Australia reside in those SA4s.

The SA4 with the highest number of persons from non-English speaking backgrounds was Brisbane – South, with nearly one-fifth (18.6 per cent) of persons from non-English speaking backgrounds in Queensland residing in that region. Also within Brisbane–South, nearly one-quarter of the population was born in a non-English speaking country (76,400 persons). Outside of the south-east, the SA4 with

the highest number of persons of non–English speaking background was Cairns, with 21,400 persons or 5.2 per cent of the Queensland total (Table 2).

Table 2: Population by country of birth and SA4, Queensland, 2011

SA4	NESB			Born in Australia	MESB	Not stated	Total
	(‘000)	% SA4 total population	% Qld NESB	(‘000)	(‘000)	(‘000)	(‘000)
<i>South East Queensland</i>	330.4	..	80.5	2,015.9	380.7	153.6	2,880.5
Brisbane – East	14.8	7.0	3.6	155.2	32.7	8.7	211.4
Brisbane – North	23.4	12.3	5.7	139.9	18.7	9.0	191.1
Brisbane – South	76.4	24.3	18.6	193.4	29.6	14.7	314.1
Brisbane – West	25.3	14.9	6.2	116.9	21.8	6.4	170.4
Brisbane Inner City	33.9	15.1	8.3	149.2	25.8	15.2	224.0
Gold Coast	52.7	10.4	12.8	332.1	88.4	34.4	507.6
Ipswich	31.5	11.2	7.7	206.2	28.9	15.3	281.8
Logan – Beaudesert	32.8	11.3	8.0	200.0	41.2	16.4	290.4
Moreton Bay – North	12.2	5.6	3.0	163.7	26.9	12.8	215.5
Moreton Bay – South	10.5	6.3	2.6	128.5	22.8	5.6	167.4
Sunshine Coast	16.9	5.5	4.1	231.0	43.9	15.2	306.9
<i>Balance of Queensland</i>	78.7	..	19.2	1,168.0	95.5	97.0	1,439.2
Mackay	7.8	4.7	1.9	133.6	12.1	13.3	166.8
Queensland – Outback	3.8	4.6	0.9	68.3	3.6	7.2	82.9
Cairns	21.4	9.6	5.2	166.8	19.4	16.8	224.4
Darling Downs – Maranoa	3.9	3.2	0.9	105.2	5.2	8.0	122.3
Fitzroy	8.9	4.2	2.2	174.1	12.7	15.7	211.3
Toowoomba	8.6	6.1	2.1	117.1	7.4	7.2	140.2
Townsville	12.7	5.8	3.1	177.4	13.9	13.9	217.9
Wide Bay	11.6	4.2	2.8	225.4	21.2	15.1	273.3
Queensland	410.2	..	100.0	3,192.1	478.4	252.0	4,332.7

.. not applicable

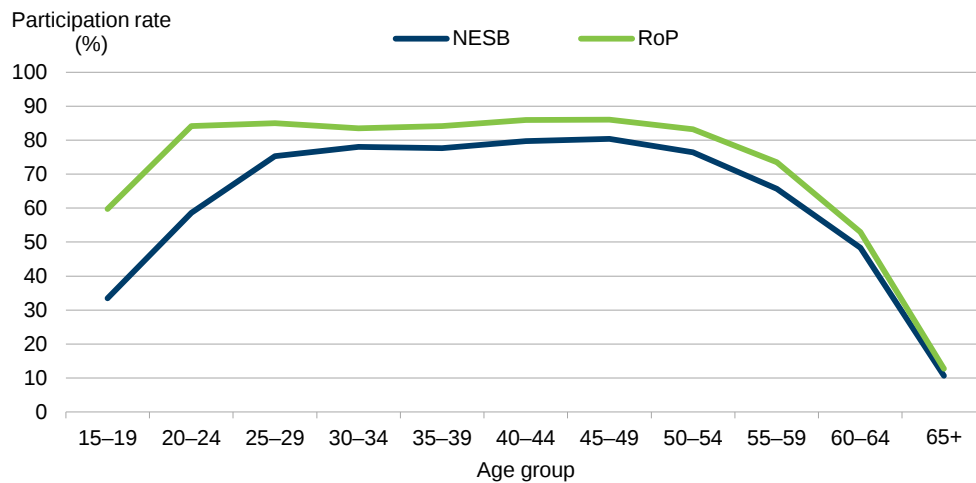
Queensland total includes categories No Usual Address (Qld) and Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Qld).

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

2.4 Labour force

In 2011, around 209,500 Queensland residents from non–English speaking backgrounds aged 15 years and over were employed, while 18,500 were unemployed. The corresponding labour force participation rate⁵ was lower (60.8 per cent) than for the rest of the population (67.9 per cent) (Figure 2 and Table 3). However, compared with 2006 (57.3 per cent), the labour force participation rate in 2011 was higher, and the overall gap between the labour force participation of persons from non–English speaking backgrounds and the rest of Queensland had narrowed by 3.2 percentage points to 7.1 percentage points.

⁵ See glossary for labour force participation rate definition.

Figure 2: Labour force participation rates by country of birth, persons from NESB and RoP, Queensland, 2011

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Table 3: Labour force status by country of birth and age group, persons from NESB and RoP, Queensland, 2011

Country of birth / age group	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labour force	Total Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	—persons ('000)—				—%—	
NESB						
15-19	4.3	1.5	11.4	17.2	25.9	33.5
20-24	16.2	3.1	13.6	32.8	16.0	58.6
25-29	28.4	2.9	10.3	41.6	9.2	75.3
30-34	29.2	2.1	8.8	40.1	6.8	78.0
35-39	26.2	2.0	8.1	36.3	7.0	77.6
40-44	25.3	1.8	6.9	34.0	6.8	79.7
45-49	24.8	1.6	6.5	32.9	6.2	80.3
50-54	21.2	1.3	6.9	29.5	5.9	76.4
55-59	16.1	1.1	9.0	26.3	6.6	65.7
60-64	11.9	0.8	13.5	26.2	6.2	48.4
65+	6.0	0.2	51.9	58.1	3.1	10.7
Total	209.5	18.5	147.0	374.9	8.1	60.8
RoP						
15-19	129.9	25.2	104.7	259.9	16.3	59.7
20-24	183.2	18.8	38.0	240.1	9.3	84.2
25-29	190.4	11.7	35.8	237.8	5.8	85.0
30-34	180.9	9.4	37.5	227.8	4.9	83.5
35-39	202.7	9.6	40.0	252.3	4.5	84.1
40-44	212.8	9.3	36.2	258.3	4.2	86.0
45-49	206.8	8.4	35.0	250.1	3.9	86.0
50-54	192.1	7.4	40.2	239.7	3.7	83.2
55-59	151.9	6.0	57.0	214.9	3.8	73.5
60-64	101.8	4.4	94.2	200.5	4.2	53.0
65+	55.4	1.3	390.3	446.9	2.3	12.7
Total	1,807.8	111.5	908.9	2,828.3	5.8	67.9

Notes:

Data in the table are for persons aged 15 years and over.

Total population and participation rate excludes those persons who did not state their labour force status.

Rest of population excludes those who did not state country of birth.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

The participation rate of males from non-English speaking backgrounds was higher (67.2 per cent) than for females (55.2 per cent), in keeping with the trend for the total Queensland population (Table 4). These rates were both higher than the rates recorded in 2006 (63.9 per cent and 51.5 per cent respectively). In 2011, the participation rates for males from non-English speaking background were much higher than females in age cohorts from 25 years and over. For 15–19 year olds, females had a slightly higher participation rate than males (34.8 per cent compared with 32.2 per cent).

Table 4: Labour force status of persons from NESB by age and gender, Queensland 2011

Gender / age group	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labour force	Total Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	—persons ('000)—				—%—	
Males						
15–19	2.0	0.8	5.9	8.6	27.4	32.2
20–24	8.4	1.5	6.0	16.0	15.3	62.2
25–29	14.6	1.2	3.6	19.5	7.8	81.5
30–34	15.6	0.8	2.1	18.5	5.1	88.9
35–39	13.9	0.8	1.7	16.3	5.1	89.8
40–44	12.7	0.7	1.5	14.9	5.3	89.9
45–49	12.1	0.7	1.7	14.5	5.3	88.1
50–54	10.5	0.6	2.0	13.2	5.6	84.6
55–59	8.4	0.6	2.8	11.8	6.9	76.5
60–64	7.0	0.5	5.2	12.8	7.2	59.1
65+	4.1	0.2	25.0	29.3	3.6	14.6
Total	109.3	8.5	57.5	175.3	7.2	67.2
Females						
15–19	2.2	0.7	5.6	8.5	24.4	34.8
20–24	7.7	1.6	7.5	16.8	16.8	55.3
25–29	13.8	1.7	6.7	22.1	10.7	69.8
30–34	13.6	1.3	6.8	21.6	8.7	68.7
35–39	12.4	1.2	6.5	20.0	8.9	67.8
40–44	12.6	1.1	5.4	19.2	8.2	71.7
45–49	12.7	1.0	4.8	18.4	7.0	74.2
50–54	10.7	0.7	4.9	16.3	6.1	69.8
55–59	7.7	0.5	6.2	14.4	6.3	56.8
60–64	4.9	0.2	8.3	13.4	4.6	38.1
65+	1.9	0.0	26.9	28.8	1.9	6.7
Total	100.1	10.0	89.5	199.6	9.1	55.2

Notes:

Data in the table are for persons aged 15 years and over.

Total population and participation rate exclude those persons who did not state their labour force status.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Table 5 shows immigrants to Queensland from non-English speaking backgrounds by year of arrival. New migrants (arriving in 2006 or later) had a higher unemployment rate and a lower labour force participation rate than earlier arrivals. This may reflect a combination of lower levels of English proficiency and local labour market experience. The lower participation rate of arrivals before 1986 reflects the older age profile of longer term migrants who are approaching retirement.

Table 5: Labour force status of persons from NESB by year of arrival, Queensland, 2011

Year of arrival	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labour force	Total Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	—persons ('000)—				—%—	
2006 or later	56.8	7.8	36.9	101.5	12.0	63.6
1996–2005	49.9	4.4	22.3	76.6	8.1	70.9
1986–1995	40.6	2.7	17.5	60.7	6.2	71.2
Before 1986	55.3	2.8	62.0	120.1	4.9	48.4
Total	209.5	18.5	147.0	374.9	8.1	60.8

Notes:

Data in the table are for persons aged 15 years and over.

Total population includes those persons who did not state their year of arrival.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

2.5 Employment by industry

The industry of employment profile for persons from non–English speaking backgrounds is notably different to that for the rest of the Queensland population (Table 6). Employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds were employed in health care and social assistance (15.4 per cent), accommodation and food services (11.9 per cent) and manufacturing (10.4 per cent) at higher proportions than the rest of the population. These three industries also each had the largest proportion of employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds in 2006 (manufacturing (8.8 per cent), health care and social assistance (8.6 per cent) and accommodation and food services (8.1 per cent)). Industries with the largest proportion of employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds were accommodation and food services (17.7 per cent), followed by administrative and support services and health care and social assistance (13.5 per cent each).

Table 6: Employment by country of birth and industry, persons from NESB and RoP, Queensland, 2011

Industry	NESB		RoP		NESB share of industry
	('000)	%	('000)	%	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4.8	2.3	49.7	2.7	8.9
Mining	3.2	1.5	49.2	2.7	6.1
Manufacturing	21.7	10.4	147.9	8.2	12.8
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1.8	0.9	22.8	1.3	7.5
Construction	11.3	5.4	170.5	9.4	6.2
Wholesale trade	7.1	3.4	66.4	3.7	9.7
Retail trade	17.4	8.3	197.9	10.9	8.1
Accommodation and food services	24.9	11.9	115.4	6.4	17.7
Transport, postal and warehousing	10.1	4.8	95.6	5.3	9.5
Information media and telecommunications	2.1	1.0	23.0	1.3	8.5
Financial and insurance services	5.1	2.4	48.7	2.7	9.4
Rental, hiring and real estate services	2.9	1.4	33.7	1.9	8.0
Professional, scientific and technical Services	16.4	7.9	115.6	6.4	12.5
Administrative and support services	8.7	4.1	55.6	3.1	13.5
Public administration and safety	10.0	4.8	125.7	7.0	7.3
Education and training	13.8	6.6	145.8	8.1	8.7
Health care and social assistance	32.3	15.4	207.5	11.5	13.5
Arts and recreation services	2.4	1.1	25.8	1.4	8.4
Other services	7.1	3.4	70.8	3.9	9.1
Total	209.5	100.0	1,807.8	100.0	10.4

Notes:

Industry classified to the 1 digit level (division) according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006, revision 1.

Rest of population excludes those who did not state country of birth.

Total population includes industry not stated and inadequately described.

Data in the table are for employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Industries with the lowest representation of employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds were mining (6.1 per cent of this industry's workforce) and construction (6.2 per cent), followed by public administration and safety (7.3 per cent) and electricity, gas, water and waste services (7.5 per cent).

2.6 Employment by occupation

Data on the occupational distribution of employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds in Queensland also reveals some differences relative to the rest of the state's population (Table 7). A larger share of employed persons from non–English speaking background were employed at the higher end of the skill spectrum as professionals (24.1 per cent compared with 18.4 per cent of the rest of Queensland's population), and also at the lower end, as labourers (15.0 per cent compared with 10.0 per cent).

Employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds were less commonly found in the occupational groups of sales workers (7.5 per cent), and clerical and administrative workers (7.7 per cent).

Table 7: Employment by country of birth and occupation, persons from NESB and RoP, Queensland, 2011

Occupation	NESB		RoP		NESB share of occupation
	('000)	%	('000)	%	%
Managers	21.3	10.2	221.9	12.3	8.7
Professionals	50.4	24.1	332.5	18.4	13.0
Technicians and trades workers	28.1	13.4	273.1	15.1	9.2
Community and personal service workers	23.6	11.3	177.1	9.8	11.6
Clerical and administrative workers	23.1	11.0	273.7	15.1	7.7
Sales workers	15.1	7.2	182.5	10.1	7.5
Machinery operators and drivers	12.0	5.7	135.1	7.5	8.0
Labourers	31.4	15.0	180.5	10.0	14.5
Total	209.5	100.0	1,807.8	100.0	10.2

Notes:

Occupation classified to the 1 digit level (major group) according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), 2006, revision 1.

Rest of population excludes those who did not state country of birth.

Total population includes occupation not stated and inadequately described.

Data in the table are for employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

2.7 Non-school qualifications

Employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds were more likely to hold a non-school qualification (70.6 per cent) than their counterparts in the rest of the population. This was mainly due to the much larger number of employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds possessing a university qualification (Table 8).

According to the 2011 Census, over a third of all employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds (38.0 per cent) held a Bachelor degree or higher qualification, compared with 19.7 per cent of employed persons in the rest of the Queensland population. In contrast, employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds were less likely to hold a Certificate III or IV qualification: while 22.5 per cent of employed persons in the rest of the population held these qualifications, only 13.3 per cent of employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds held them.

Table 8: Employed persons by highest non-school qualification and country of birth, persons from NESB and RoP, Queensland, 2011

Level of non-school qualification	NESB		RoP		NESB share of qualification
	('000)	%	('000)	%	%
<i>Non-school qualification</i>	<i>147.9</i>	<i>70.6</i>	<i>1,051.8</i>	<i>58.2</i>	<i>12.3</i>
Bachelor and above	79.6	38.0	356.5	19.7	18.3
Advanced diploma and diploma level	23.3	11.1	165.3	9.1	12.4
Certificate III/IV	27.8	13.3	407.6	22.5	6.4
Certificate I/II and nfd	5.1	2.4	58.8	3.3	8.0
Level of education not stated or inadequately described	12.0	5.7	63.5	3.5	15.9
<i>Without non-school qualifications</i>	<i>61.6</i>	<i>29.4</i>	<i>756.0</i>	<i>41.8</i>	<i>7.5</i>
Total	209.5	100.0	1,807.8	100.0	10.4

Notes:

Rest of population excludes those who did not state country of birth.

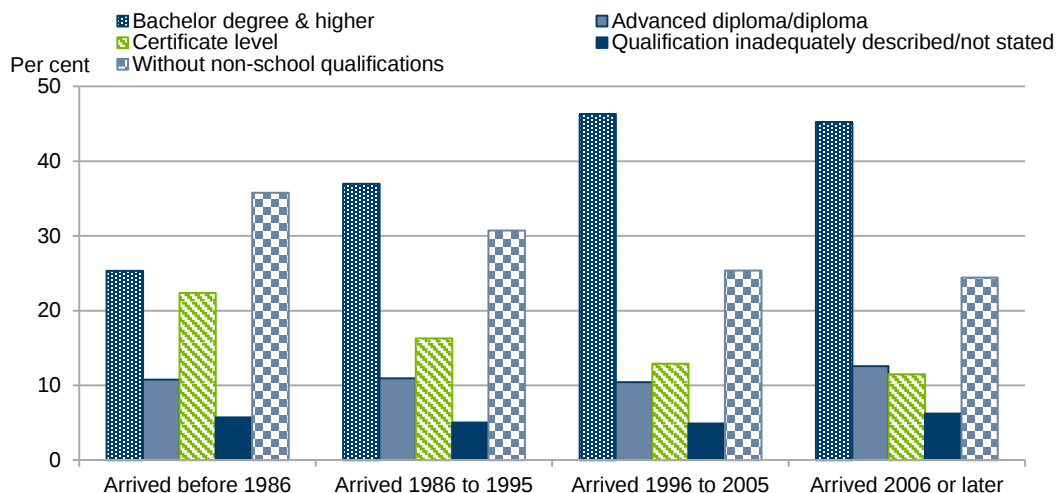
Data in the table are for employed persons aged 15 years and over.

ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Nearly one-fifth (18.3 per cent) of all employed persons with a qualification level of Bachelor degree or higher were from a non–English speaking background, almost twice as high as their share among all employed persons (10.4 per cent).

Figure 3 shows the change in the proportion of employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds with respect to year of arrival and highest qualification. Higher proportions of employed recent arrivals possess a non-school qualification than earlier arrivals, reflecting an increased policy emphasis on attracting skilled migrants. Of the earlier arrivals (before 1986), 64.2 per cent of employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds held a non-school qualification; for those who arrived between 1986 and 1995, the proportion was higher at 69.3 per cent and higher again at 74.6 per cent for arrivals during the period 1996 to 2005. A similar proportion of arrivals during the most recent period (2006 or later) also held a non-school qualification (75.6 per cent). This increase was predominately in the Bachelor degree or above category — up from 25.3 per cent for those non–English speaking background persons who arrived prior to 1986, peaking at 46.3 per cent for those who arrived between 1996 and 2005. Employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds were less likely to hold a certificate level qualification the more recently they had arrived.

Figure 3: Employed persons from NESB by highest non-school qualification and year of arrival, Queensland, 2011



Data in the table are for employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

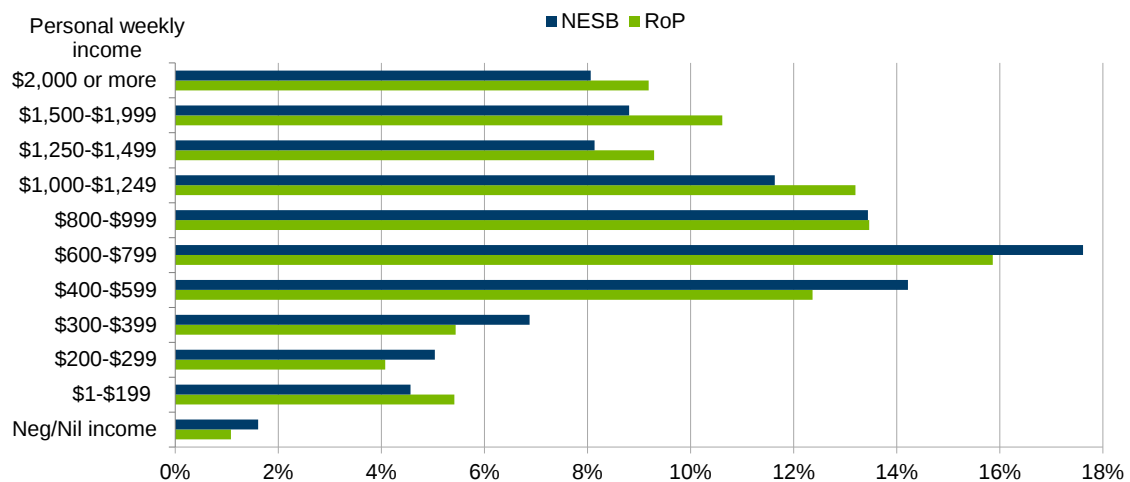
2.8 Income

According to the 2011 Census, the median⁶ weekly personal income for employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds was \$801, lower than the \$885 for the rest of Queensland's employed population aged 15 years and over. Individual weekly income bands for employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds were generally similar to those for the rest of Queensland's employed population. However, in the bands over \$800 the proportions were lower (Figure 4). Since

⁶ Median calculated from income ranges.

2006 there has been an increase in the proportion of employed income earners from non-English speaking backgrounds incomes between \$1,000 and \$1,999, up from 20.3 per cent to 28.6 per cent. The proportion of the rest of the Queensland's employed population aged 15 years and over that reported having incomes between \$1,000 and \$1,999 also increased since 2006, up from 23.2 per cent to 33.1 per cent.

Figure 4: Income distribution by country of birth, employed persons from NESB and RoP, Queensland, 2011



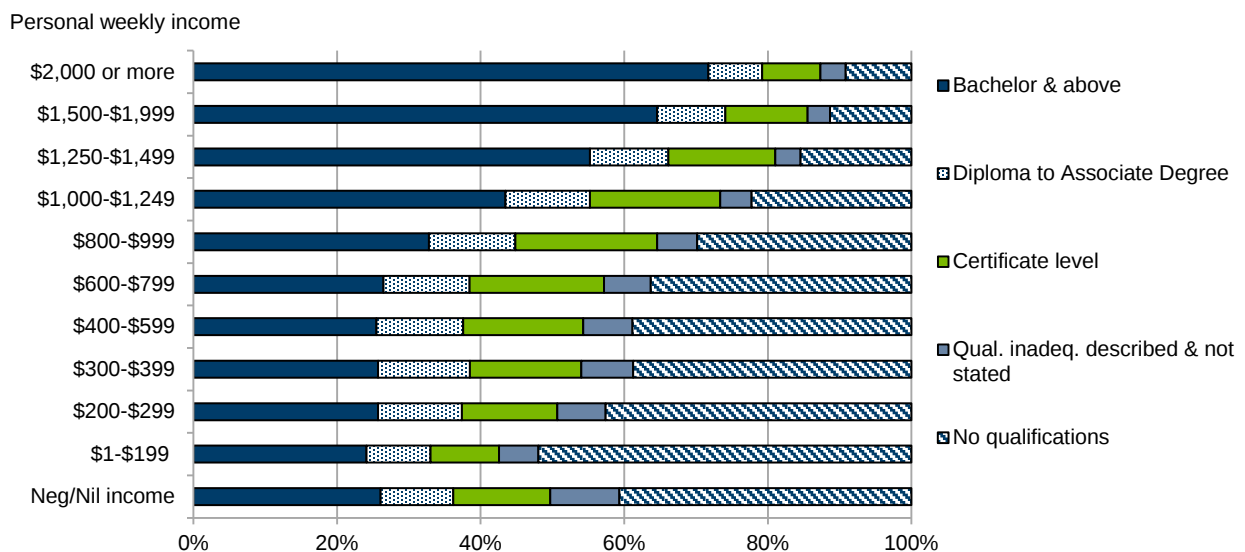
Data in the figure are for employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Persons who did not state their personal weekly income are excluded from this figure.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Incomes varied considerably among the employed population from non-English speaking backgrounds, with higher incomes associated with higher qualifications (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Income distribution of employed persons from NESB by non-school qualification, Queensland, 2011



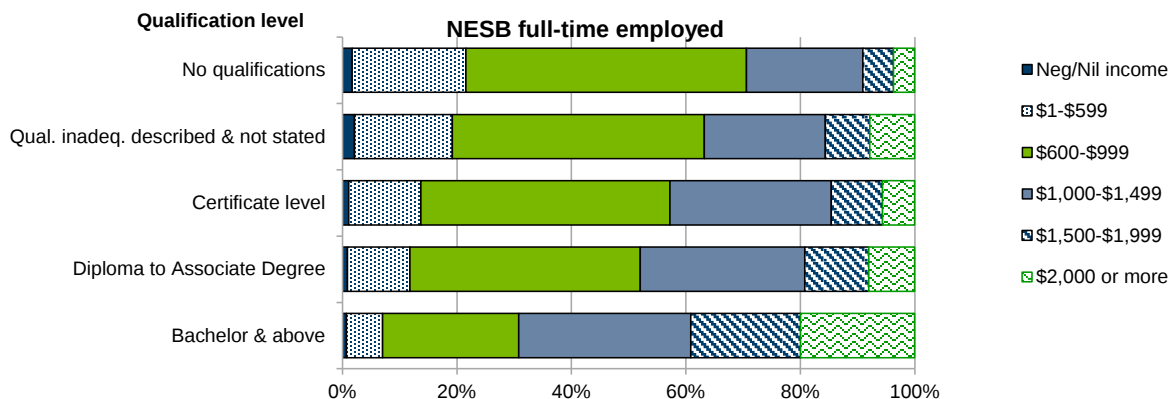
Data in the figure are for employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Excludes personal weekly income not stated.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

A smaller proportion of employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds with non-school qualifications equivalent to Bachelor level or higher earn in the top four (\$1,000 or more) personal weekly income brackets compared with the rest of the Queensland population (54.9% compared with 70.6%). A comparison of only full-time employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds and the rest of the Queensland population with Bachelor or higher non-school qualifications, shows that the disparity is still evident with 69.2% and 83.1% of people respectively having weekly incomes of \$1,000 or more (Figures 6 and 7).

Figure 6: Income distribution of full-time employed persons from NESB by non-school qualification, Queensland, 2011

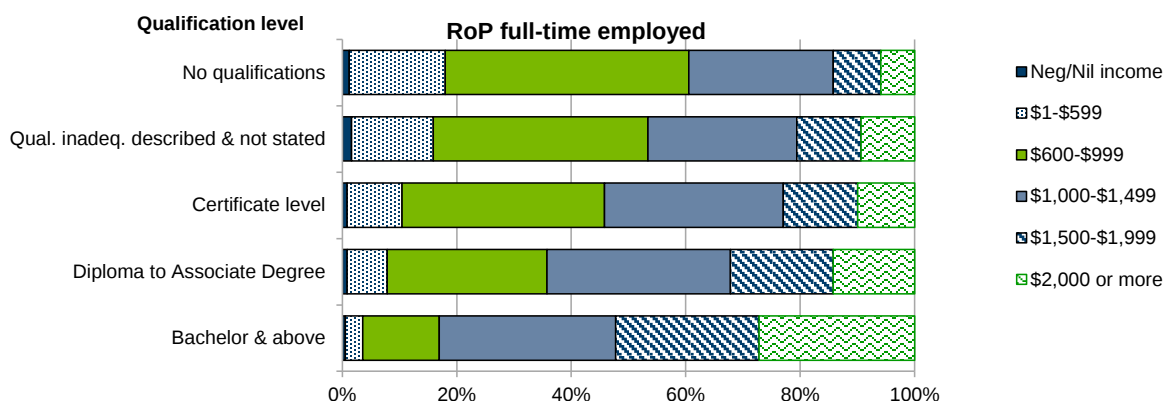


Data in the figure are for full-time employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Excludes personal weekly income not stated.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Figure 7: Income distribution of full-time employed persons from RoP by non-school qualification, Queensland, 2011



Data in the figure are for full-time employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Excludes personal weekly income not stated.

Source: ABS, 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

These trends may be linked to the year in which a person from a non-English speaking background arrived to live in Australia and their proficiency in English. While 60.4% of full-time employed persons from non-English speaking backgrounds with a Bachelor degree or higher who arrived after 2006 earned \$1,000 or more per week, that proportion increased to 67.7% for arrivals between 1996 and 2005, to 71.1% for arrivals between 1986 and 1995, and to 82.2% for arrivals before 1986.

A higher proportion of full-time employed persons from non–English speaking backgrounds with a Bachelor degree or higher who self-reported a higher level of English proficiency earned a personal weekly income in one of the top four income brackets (\$1,000 or more) than those who self-reported lower levels of English proficiency (earned \$1,000 or more and speaks English: ‘very well’, 71.6%; ‘well’, 50.7%; ‘not well’ 24.3%).

Glossary

This glossary provides a guide to terms used in this report. It is in alphabetical order. Further details about census data definitions can be obtained from the ABS publication *Census Dictionary, 2011* (ABS 2901.0).

Australia

Australia, according to the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC) Second Edition, Revision 1, is coded as '1101 Australia'. It includes the states and territories and the other territories of Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay Territory, but excludes Norfolk Island and the other Australian external territories of Australian Antarctic Territory, Heard and McDonald Islands, Ashmore and Cartier Islands and Coral Sea Territory.

Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS)

A geographical framework covering all spatial areas of Australia and its external territories. The ASGS was developed by the ABS to allow statistics from different collections to be spatially comparable. The ASGS came into effect in July 2011, replacing the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). The 2011 edition of the ASGS has been used for the data in this report.

Census count

The Census of Population and Housing enumerates persons on the basis of where they were located on census night. The census also compiles information on people according to their place of usual residence. This means that census counts of people can be produced according to their location on census night as well as their place of usual residence. Data in this report are presented on a place of usual residence basis.

Labour force participation rate

In this report, for any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the total population (excluding persons who did not state their labour force status) aged 15 years and over in the same group.

Mainly English speaking background (MESB)

For the purposes of this publication this grouping includes all people born in Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) and its crown dependencies of Guernsey (Channel Island), Isle of Man and Jersey (Channel Island), the United States of America, and the Australian external territories of Norfolk Island, Australian Antarctic Territory, Heard and McDonald Islands, Ashmore and Cartier Islands and Coral Sea Territory.

Non-English speaking background (NESB)

Persons born in a mainly non-English speaking country, which is defined as any overseas country with the exception of: Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) and its crown dependencies of Guernsey (Channel Island), Isle of Man and Jersey (Channel Island), the United States of America, and the Australian external territories of Norfolk Island, Australian Antarctic Territory, Heard and McDonald Islands, Ashmore and Cartier Islands and Coral Sea Territory. It also includes all people whose country of birth was categorised as inadequately described, at sea or not elsewhere classified (nec).

Rest of population (RoP)

The 'rest of population' is the sum of the Australian born and mainly English speaking background (MESB) populations. It excludes persons who did not state their country of birth.

Usual residence

Usual residence within Australia refers to that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in a given reference year.