



Community Information Summary

Kenya-born

Historical Background

The early Kenya-born migrants to Australia were of European background who arrived after World War II. The challenges to colonial rule in Kenya including the Mau Mau uprising (1953-1960) and the uncertainties about the future, made many Kenya-born settlers of both European and Indian backgrounds migrate to other countries, including Australia.

The new settlers had no difficulty in obtaining work and settling into the Australian community. The majority of early Kenya-born settled in Western Australia.

Today

Geographic Distribution

The latest Census in 2011 recorded 13 832 Kenya-born people in Australia, an increase of 39.2 per cent from the 2006 Census. The 2011 distribution by state and territory showed Western Australia had the largest number with 4397 followed by Victoria (2850), New South Wales (2764) and Queensland (2062).

Refer to Figure 1.

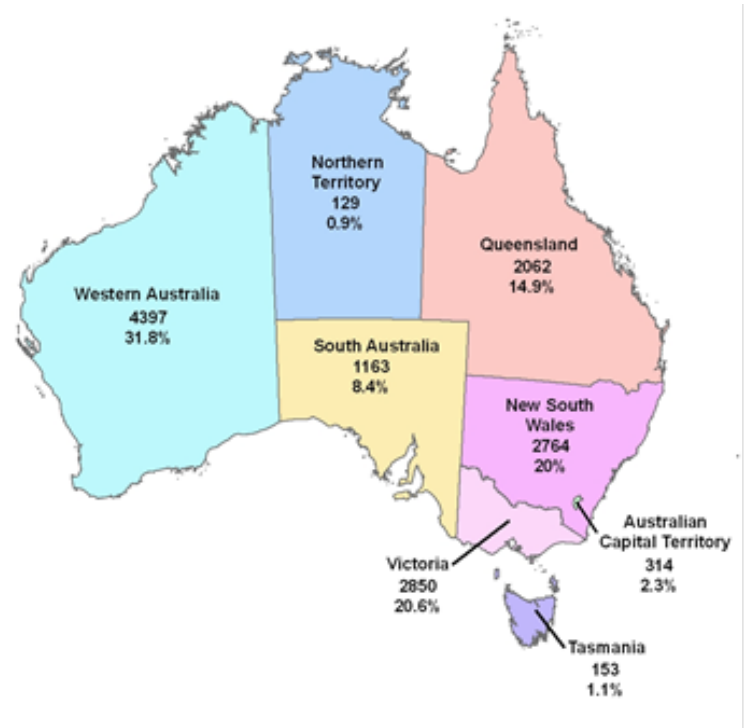


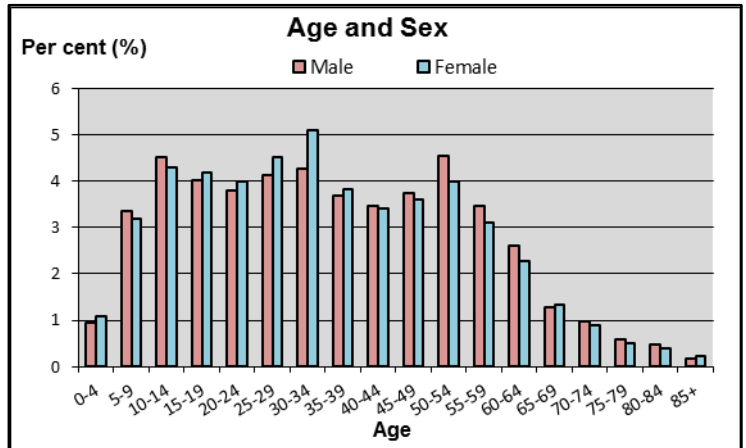
Figure 1

Age and Sex

The median age of the Kenya-born in 2011 was 34 years compared with 45 years for all overseas-born and 37 years for the total Australian population.

The age distribution showed 17.4 per cent were aged 0-14 years, 16 per cent were 15-24 years, 32.4 per cent were 25-44 years, 27.3 per cent were 45-64 years and 6.9 per cent were 65 years and over.

Of the Kenya-born in Australia, there were 6924 males (50.1 per cent) and 6907 females (49.9 per cent). The sex ratio was 100.2 males per 100 females.

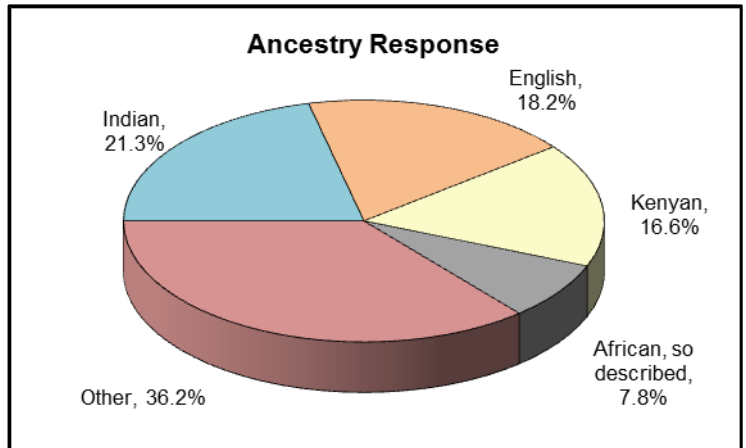


Ancestry

In the 2011 Census, the top ancestry responses* that Kenya-born people reported were Indian (3372), English (2878) and Kenyan (2628).

In the 2011 Census, Australians reported around 300 different ancestries. Of the total ancestry responses*, 3786 responses were towards Kenyan ancestry.

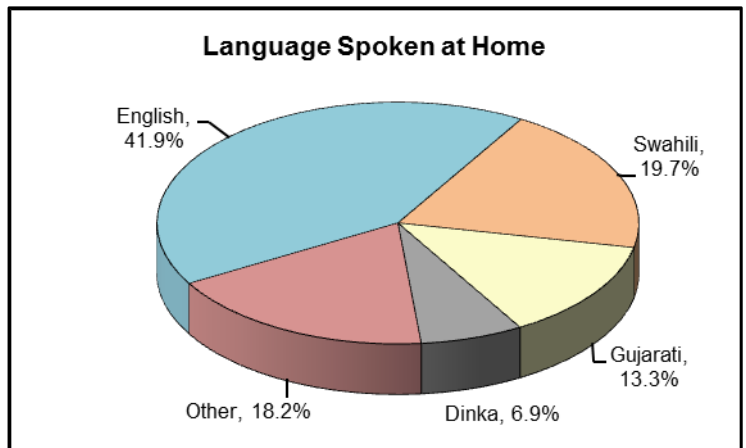
*At the 2011 Census up to two responses per person were allowed for the Ancestry question; therefore providing the total responses and not persons count.



Language

The main languages spoken at home by Kenya-born people in Australia were English (5793), Swahili (2728) and Gujarati (1837).

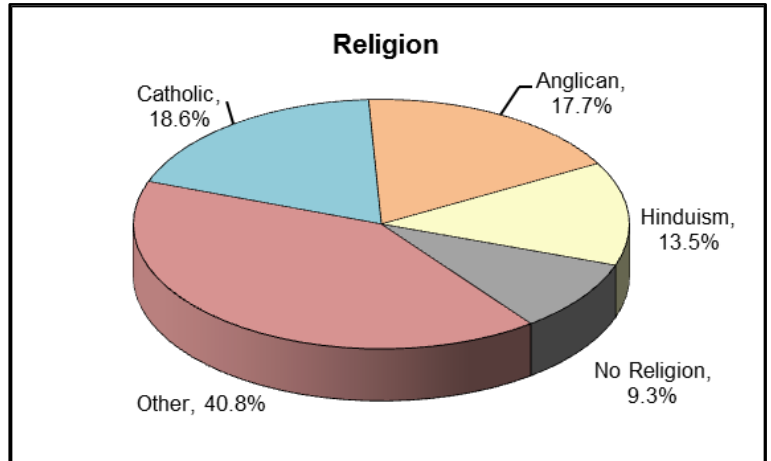
Of the 8040 Kenya-born who spoke a language other than English at home, 93.6 per cent spoke English very well or well, and 4.4 per cent spoke English not well or not at all.



Religion

At the 2011 Census the major religious affiliations amongst Kenya-born were Catholic (2576), Anglican (2453) and Hinduism (1861).

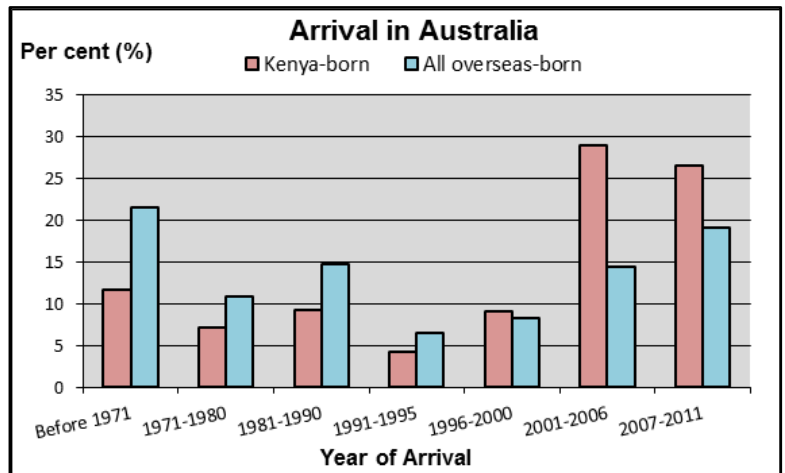
Of the Kenya-born, 9.3 per cent stated 'No Religion' which was lower than that of the total Australian population (22.3 per cent), and 2.9 per cent did not state a religion.



Arrival

Compared to 62 per cent of the total overseas-born population, 41.5 per cent of the Kenya-born people in Australia arrived in Australia prior to 2001.

Among the total Kenya-born in Australia at the 2011 Census, 29 per cent arrived between 2001 and 2006 and 26.5 per cent arrived between 2007 and 2011.



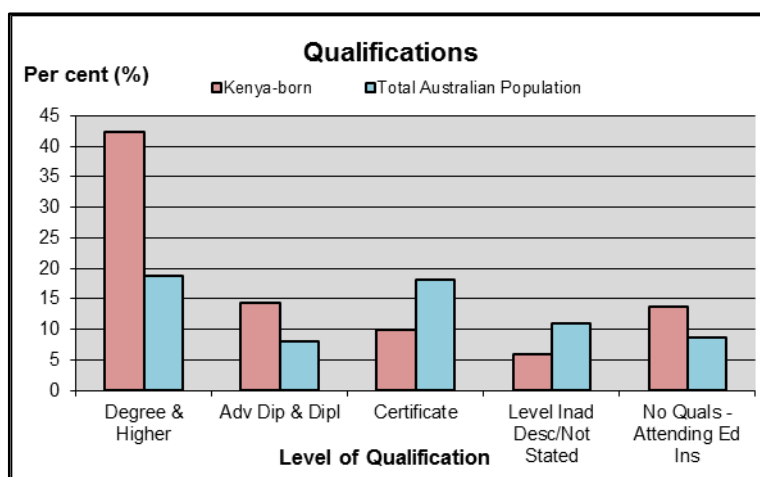
Median Income

At the time of the 2011 Census, the median individual weekly income for the Kenya-born in Australia aged 15 years and over was \$744, compared with \$538 for all overseas-born and \$597 for all Australia-born. The total Australian population had a median individual weekly income of \$577.

Qualifications

At the 2011 Census, 72.5 per cent of the Kenya-born aged 15 years and over had some form of higher non-school qualifications compared to 55.9 per cent of the Australian population.

Of the Kenya-born aged 15 years and over, 13.7 per cent were still attending an educational institution. The corresponding rate for the total Australian population was 8.6 per cent.

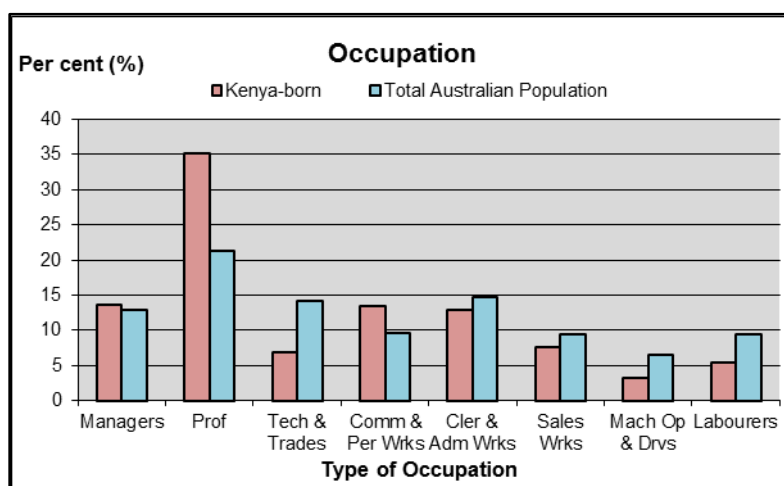


Level Inad Desc/Not Stated = Education level inadequately described or not stated
No Quals - Attending Ed Ins = No qualifications and still attending educational institution

Employment

Among Kenya-born people aged 15 years and over, the participation rate in the labour force was 74.8 per cent and the unemployment rate was 6.2 per cent. The corresponding rates in the total Australian population were 65 per cent and 5.6 per cent respectively.

Of the 7942 Kenya-born who were employed, 55.5 per cent were employed in either a skilled managerial, professional or trade occupation. The corresponding rate in the total Australian population was 48.4 per cent.



Comm & Per Wrks = Community & Personal Service Workers

Produced by Community Relations Section of DIAC

All data used in this summary is sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing. Sources for the Historical Background available at <http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/comm-summm/source.htm>