



Oceania Community

The Oceania Community includes people of Polynesian, Micronesian and Melanesian cultural backgrounds. These cultures had settled the Oceania or Pacific region for thousands of years. Today these cultures call many other parts of the world, including Australia home.

POPULATION IN AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA

415,033

Individuals of Oceania descent
(1.6% OF TOTAL AUSTRALIAN POPULATION)

VICTORIA

73,068

Individuals
MAKING UP 1.1% OF THE STATE'S POPULATION

MELTON: APPROXIMATELY

5,000

Residents of oceania heritage



MIGRATION GROWTH FUELLED BY
Better education, employment
AND FAMILY CONNECTIONS OPPORTUNITIES



FUTURE GROWTH TIED TO
Growing social and
economic integration
BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE REGION

DEMOGRAPHICS IN MELTON



POPULATION: MELTON IS HOME TO APPROXIMATELY

5,000

residents of oceania heritage

THE LARGEST COMMUNITIES ARE

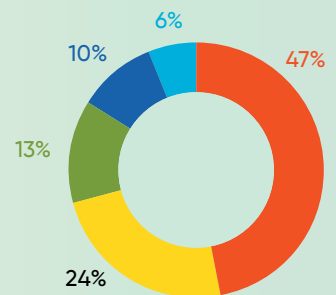
47% Samoan

24% Māori

13% Tongan

10% Fijian

6% Other Pacific Islanders
(such as PNG, Kiribati, Niue)



SIGNIFICANT POPULATIONS ARE FOUND IN

Truganina, Harkness,
Caroline Springs,
and Melton South



COMMUNITY INSIGHTS

CURRENT TRENDS

- The Oceania community in Melton is young, with a large proportion under 30 years of age.
- A focus on preserving cultural identity while adapting to life in Australia.

FUTURE ASPIRATIONS

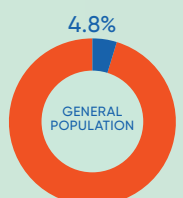
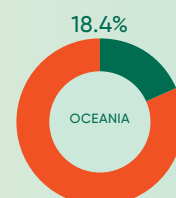
- Strengthening community cohesion.
- Enhancing access to education, employment, and social services.

FAMILY PROFILE (VICTORIA)

OCEANIA HOUSEHOLDS FREQUENTLY INCLUDE **MULTIPLE**

Generations

AND EXTENDED FAMILY STRUCTURES, WITH HIGHER INCIDENCES OF TWO OR THREE FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS COMPARED TO THE GENERAL POPULATION



KEY CHALLENGES

- Disproportionate health issues, such as chronic diseases and lower life expectancy compared to the general population.
- Limited access to government support due to residency or citizenship status.
- Employment concentrated in low-income and unskilled labor sectors.
- Limited education pathways for young people due lack of support.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Growing participation in education and professional occupations, spurred by social integration and improved access to resources.
- Develop health programs to address chronic diseases and improve life expectancy.
- Advocate for policy changes to improve access to government support.
- Create skill development and employment programs to transition from low-income jobs to skilled positions.
- Establish educational support programs for young people to pursue higher education and vocational training.

OCEANIA CULTURE

VALUES

- Family and community are central to Oceania culture, often expressed through collectivist and kinship practices.
- Respect, commitment to community, and hospitality are significant cultural attributes.

RELIGION

- Predominantly Judeo-Christian, with various denominations (especially, Catholicism, Methodist and Protestant beliefs) may have more adherents depending on the Oceania country in which it first took root.

CUSTOMS AND ETIQUETTE

- Community gatherings or activities play a critical role in maintaining cultural identity and integrity.
- Oceania traditions include some of the most unique forms of artistic expression including folk tales, music, dance, and buildings.

OCEANIA IN AUSTRALIA

SETTLEMENT HISTORY IN AUSTRALIA

- Migration began in the 19th century due to labor opportunities, with significant growth post-WWII and during the late 20th century.

OCEANIA REGION

- The Pacific Ocean, covering approximately 168 million square kilometres, is the world's largest ocean.

POPULATION

- The region has a population of around 43 million people, with diverse ethnic groups and languages.

ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Oceania is home to vital ecosystems, including Coral reefs and faces challenges like climate change and rising sea levels.

ECONOMIES

- Economies vary:
 - agriculture-based (e.g., Samoa, Tonga)
 - resource-rich (e.g., Papua New Guinea)
 - tourism-driven (e.g., Fiji, Tahiti)

CULTURAL RICHNESS

- Known for
 - traditional practices
 - art
 - music
 - celebrations
- the region has a strong emphasis on community and family.



For more information
visit melton.vic.gov.au/curiousaboutculture
or call 9747 7200

All the stats are based on current census data.