

PART 2:

Current and projected patterns of ageing in CALD communities Victoria

2.1 The mosaic of ageing in culturally and linguistically diverse communities

2.1.1 Diversity in size, age and language groups

The ageing of Victoria’s culturally and linguistically diverse communities can well be described as a mosaic, made up of tiles representing the population of different ages who speak differ-

ent languages, spread across different Local Government Areas. These tiles and the patterns they make in the overall mosaic are seen in the figures below that show the age structure of the 20 main language groups in Victoria.

Figure 2.1 shows the absolute numbers in four age groups across the middle and older age range. The picture reveals two large groups, made up of speakers of Italian and Greek, and many smaller communities, with the numbers in each age group fluctuating across the CALD communities.

Figure 2.1: Size of aged populations in culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Victoria, 2001, by number in age groups 45-70+, ranked

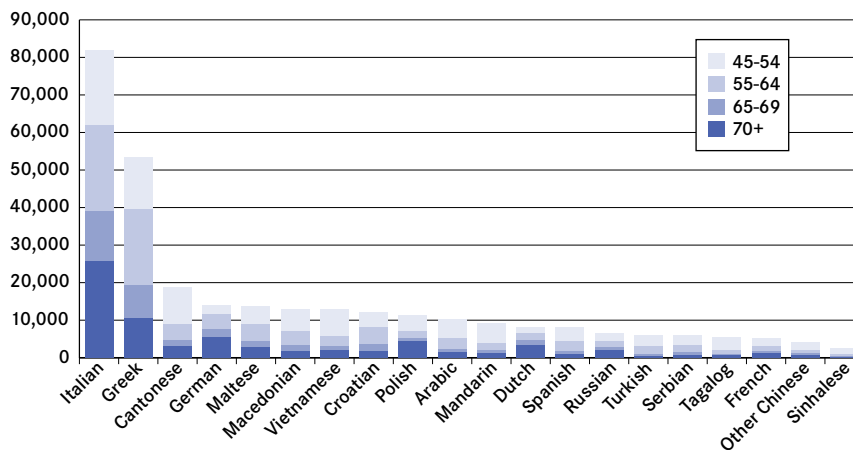


Figure 2.2 shows the proportion in each age group in each community. In this mosaic, each bar represents 100% of the population aged 45 and over, divided into the proportion in the age groups 45-54, 55-64, 65-69 and 70 and over. The bars are ranked in order of the proportion of the total population aged 65 and over. The old-old communities are those with longer tiles in the dark colours at the base of the bars, and young-old communities are those with longer tiles in lighter colours at the top of the bars.

2.1.2 Age, language spoken and proficiency in English

At the 2001 Census, 944,954 Victorians of all ages or one in five of the total population spoke a language other than English at home. Of these, 130,683 were aged 65 and over and 228,776 were aged 45-64; 20% of the population in both these cohorts spoke a language other than English (LOTE) at home, and of these, just on 21% were not proficient in English.

Table 2.1 shows that the relationship between age and speaking a language other than English

at home is quite different to the relationship between age and proficiency in English among LOTE speakers.

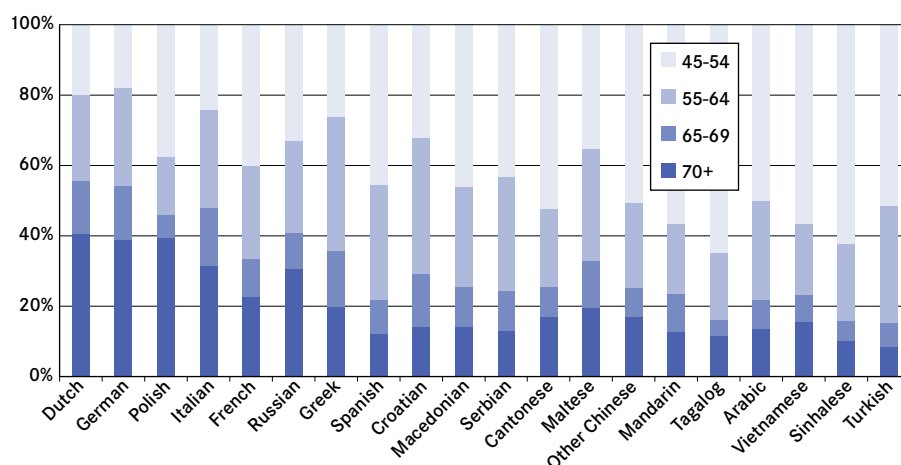
The proportion speaking a language other than English at home:

- ▶ is remarkably constant across all age groups, at around 20%;
- ▶ peaks at almost 27% for those aged 65-69;
- ▶ is markedly lower (14%) only at age 85 and over (perhaps because many in this age group came to Australia at a time when language tests still applied);
- ▶ is the same for the ageing and aged cohorts; and
- ▶ is 19% for the under-45 age groups, although this average is likely to mask a gradient from a higher proportion for ages closer to 45 to lower proportions at younger ages.

The proportion of the total population *not proficient in English*:

- ▶ is 4% overall;

Figure 2.2: Relative age structure of culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Victoria, 2001, by percent in age groups 45-70+, ranked in order of percent of total population aged 65+



- peaks at 10% for the 65-69 years age group;
- falls consistently over lower ages to only some 3% for those aged under 45.
- is 5% among those aged 45-64 compared to 9% for all those aged 65+.

The proportion of *LOTE speakers who are not proficient in English* (defined as speaking English not well or not at all):

- is 21% overall;
- shows a pronounced age gradient:

- 56% of those aged 85-plus are not proficient,
- 24% of those aged 45-64
- but only 12% of those under 45.
- This is in contrast to the similarity of the proportion of LOTE speakers in each age group.

Further detailed data on age structure and levels of proficiency in English for the 20 main language groups and the “other languages” group are given by in Appendix 1.

Table 2.1: Language spoken at home and proficiency in English, by age group, Victoria, 2001

LOTE = Language other than English

Age Group	Speaks English only	Speaks LOTE) and English (1)		Total LOTE	Not Stated (2)	Total (3)	% of age group speaking LOTE	% Total speaking English not well or not at all	% LOTE speakers who speak English not well or not at all (4)
		very well or well	not well or not at all						
0-44	2,271,371	502,661	82,926	585,587	128,102	2,985,060	19.1%	2.8%	14.2%
45-49	249,389	51,922	13,581	65,503	10,588	325,480	20.1%	4.2%	20.7%
50-54	234,751	48,809	13,489	62,298	9,062	306,111	20.4%	4.4%	21.7%
55-59	179,637	36,932	13,595	50,527	7,989	238,153	21.2%	5.7%	26.9%
60-64	139,069	33,533	16,915	50,448	7,225	196,742	25.6%	8.6%	33.5%
Total 45-64	802,846	171,196	57,580	228,776	34,864	1,066,486	21.5%	5.4%	25.2%
65-69	115,839	27,589	17,287	44,876	7,424	168,139	26.7%	10.3%	38.5%
70-84	274,164	43,280	32,593	75,873	22,084	372,121	20.4%	8.8%	43.0%
85 +	53,517	4,265	5,669	9,934	5,851	69,302	14.3%	8.2%	57.1%
Total 65+	443,520	75,134	55,549	130,683	35,359	609,562	21.3%	9.1%	42.5%
Total No	3,517,737	748,991	195,991	944,954	198,325	4,661,108	20.3%	4.2%	20.7%
Total %	75.5	16.1	4.2	20.3	4.2	100.0			

Notes: Columns may not add exactly to totals as ABS makes random adjustments to cells with very small values to avoid the release of confidential data.

(1) Includes LOTE speakers who did not state which language other than English; those who did not state proficiency in English are included as not proficient.

(2) Not stated = did not state whether spoke English only or LOTE

(3) Total includes non-verbal and inadequately defined language

(4) LOTE speakers not stating proficiency in English (1) are included as not proficient.

2.1.3 Indicators of need

The figures reported so far provide a range of indicators of how many people are likely to need culturally oriented services:

- ▶ If the proportion of the population speaking a language other than English at home is taken as an indicator of the need for culturally oriented HACC services, just on 20% of the aged population (65+) and of the ageing population (45-65) are identified as having such a need.
- ▶ If the proportion who are not proficient in English is used, the proportions are 9.1% of the aged population and 5.4% of the ageing population.

These figures might best be taken as identifying upper and lower limits of the total CALD population needing culturally oriented services, with the most likely figure being somewhere in between, and possibly varying for different kinds of service.

There are four further qualifications to these estimates.

1. It has to be remembered that the target population for HACC is not the total CALD population, but only those members of the CALD population with a moderate, severe or profound disability. The Literature Review has pointed to disability levels in CALD communities being similar to rates of disability in the general community.
2. The size of the CALD population overall and the size of particular communities may be reduced by the extent to which speaking a language other than English at home is under-reported in the Census. The proportion not stating whether or not they spoke a LOTE at home was low overall, at less than 5%. If under-reporting was associated with speaking a LOTE, it would be expected that the proportion of people not stating which language they use at home would be higher in LGAs with higher proportions of their

population born in a non-English speaking country. Data presented in the regional profiles in Part 3 however shows no such consistent relationship; markedly higher proportions “not stated” on language spoken at home were found in only a small number of LGAs and appear to be due to other factors, such as overall population mobility.

3. Some observers have argued that the Census data may overstate levels of proficiency in English. The Census relies on self reporting of proficiency, and it is possible that some LOTE speakers over-estimate their proficiency in English when filling in the Census. Whether intentional or not, some may self-report that they speak English ‘very well’ or ‘well’ when against more objective criteria they would be categorised as speaking English ‘well’ or ‘not well’. If there is such an effect, it has not been quantified. Overall, any overstatement of proficiency is unlikely to have more than a marginal effect on the patterns and interpretations presented in this report. The *ranking* of communities in order of levels of proficiency is unlikely to change even though the actual proportions not proficient in English may be slightly higher; in particular, the communities with the highest and lowest proportions not proficient in English will still rank highest and lowest. Further, although only some 1.7% of LOTE speakers did not state their proficiency in English, the numbers ‘not stated’ have been included in the ‘not proficient’ category in the tables reporting proficiency in this report. To some extent this will counter a possible overstatement.
4. Finally, to reiterate the point made in the Literature Review, the data on languages spoken and proficiency are only surrogate measures of cultural background. In turn, they provide only *indicators* of need for culturally oriented services; but they are not direct measures of such need.

2.2 Ageing in CALD communities now

2.2.1 Why ageing is important in planning HACC services

The close relationship between advancing age and the likelihood of disability means that age can be taken as a sound indicator of the need for community care services, especially at a population level. The relationship between age and use of HACC services is seen in Table 2.2. The age distribution of HACC users is virtually the inverse of the total population:

- ▶ Almost two thirds of the total population are under 45, but just over 10% of HACC users are this young.
- ▶ Only about 10% of the total population is over the age of 70, but two thirds of HACC users are in this age group. Some 20% of users are in the 85+ age group that accounts for only 1.5% of the total population.
- ▶ The rate of use of HACC services is very low in the under-45 age group, at 8 per 1000. While increasing steadily over the middle age range, it is at age 70 and over that rates of use increase markedly. At age 70-84, one in four of the population uses a HACC service, and at ages 85 and over, this increases to close to 6 out of 10.

The overall ageing of the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) population in Victoria, the uneven ageing of different CALD communities, and the steep age gradient in the rate of use of HACC services, all have significant implications. The varying distribution of communities across the 31 LGAs that make up Metropolitan Melbourne and 47 LGAs in regional Victoria must also be taken into account, since most HACC services are delivered by councils and other agencies operating in local geographic areas. Even where agencies representing different CALD communities operate across larger geographic areas, there is a need for close liaison with more local agencies.

Taken together, these factors call for a detailed analysis of the age structure of CALD communities at the LGA level. This analysis is presented in Part 3 of this report.

2.2.2 Comparison of age structure of CALD and English speaking populations

Comparison of the age structure of CALD communities taken together and the population speaking English only requires careful examination by each 5-year age group. The CALD population has a more uneven age structure, reflecting past migration waves. Table 2.3 compares the age distribution of the population

Table 2.2: Age of HACC users compared to total population

Age Group	HACC users	rate per 1000	% all users	Total population
0-44	23,103	8	11.3%	64.0%
45-49	4,709	14	2.3%	7.0%
50-54	5,997	20	2.9%	6.6%
55-59	7,629	32	3.7%	5.1%
60-64	10,497	53	5.1%	4.2%
65-69	15,912	95	7.8%	3.6%
70-84	97,196	261	47.6%	8.0%
85+	38,947	562	19.1%	1.5%
Total all ages	203,990	44	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Compiled from Who Gets HACC 2002-03 (DHS) and ABS population data, 2001.

Table 2.3: Age structure of speakers of English only and languages other than English compared to total population, 2001

Age Group	Language spoken at home		Total
	English only	Language other than English	
0-44	64.6%	62.0%	64.0%
45-49	7.1%	6.9%	7.0%
50-54	6.7%	6.6%	6.6%
55-59	5.1%	5.3%	5.1%
60-64	4.0%	5.3%	4.2%
65-69	3.3%	4.7%	3.6%
70-84	7.8%	8.0%	8.0%
85+	1.5%	1.1%	1.5%
Total all ages	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

speaking English only, the CALD population and the total Victorian population.

- ▶ Among LOTE speakers, higher proportions are in every age group from 55 to 84 than are speakers of English only. At age 85+, the pattern is reversed.
- ▶ The most marked difference is in the 60-64 and 65-69 age groups: 10.0% of LOTE speakers are in these age groups compared to 7.3% of the English-speaking population. Over the next two decades, these cohorts will be moving into the advanced age range at which use of HACC services increases markedly.
- ▶ The higher proportions of the English speaking population in the 45-49 and 50-54 age groups compared to the CALD population reflects the beginning of the ageing of the baby boomers born in Australia in the post-war years.
- ▶ The aggregate figures for the CALD population mask considerable variations in the age structure of different communities. These differences imply variations in future ageing.
- ▶ The impending growth in the CALD aged population overall, and the shifts in age structure in different communities, signal the need to enhance the responsiveness of community care services.

2.2.3 Differences in ageing between CALD communities

Ageing in CALD communities varies widely in both absolute and relative terms, and both these dimensions of ageing need to be taken into account in planning and delivering services. In Table 2.4, the top 20 CALD communities are ranked by the absolute number and the proportion aged 65 and over.

In terms of absolute size:

- ▶ There are two large groups:
 - Older Italians are by far the largest group. With twice as many aged 65 and over as the next largest group, the Italian aged account for just over a third of the total CALD population aged 65 and over.
 - Greek speakers are the second largest group.
 - Together these two groups account for fully 60% of the total CALD population aged 65 and over.
- ▶ The other 50% of the CALD aged population is made up of 18 communities that vary widely in size:
 - The German community is the largest of these, accounting for 6%. Another four communities each account for over 3.5% of the total CALD population aged 65+.

Table 2.4: Ranking of CALD communities by number and proportion aged 65 and over, 2001

Absolute size			Rank	Relative ageing	
Number	Share of total				Proportion aged 65+
39,129	31.2%	Italian	1	Dutch	41.4%
19,194	15.3%	Greek	2	German	36.6%
7,576	6.0%	German	3	Polish	26.3%
5,177	4.1%	Polish	4	Italian	26.1%
4,779	3.8%	Cantonese	5	French	20.9%
4,545	3.6%	Dutch	6	Russian	19.2%
4,523	3.6%	Maltese	7	Greek	15.6%
3,520	2.8%	Croatian	8	Spanish	15.5%
3,024	2.4%	Macedonian	9	Croatian	13.7%
3,024	2.4%	Vietnamese	10	Macedonian	10.2%
2,683	2.1%	Russian	11	Serbian	9.1%
2,251	1.8%	Arabic*	12	Cantonese	7.9%
2,119	1.7%	Mandarin	13	Maltese	7.7%
1,762	1.4%	Spanish	14	Other Chinese	7.6%
1,735	1.4%	French	15	Mandarin	5.5%
1,465	1.2%	Serbian	16	Tagalog	4.9%
1,034	0.8%	Other Chinese	17	Arabic *	4.8%
937	0.7%	Turkish	18	Vietnamese	4.7%
981	0.8%	Tagalog	19	Sinhalese	3.5%
412	0.3%	Sinhalese	20	Turkish	3.3%
15,689	12.5%	Other languages		Other languages	9.7%

* Arabic includes Lebanese

– The four communities with the smallest number aged 65 and over each account for less than 1% of the total CALD aged population.

- ▶ Speakers of languages other than the 20 major languages account for 12.5% of the total CALD population; there are very small numbers of speakers of any one of these other languages.

In terms of relative ageing:

- ▶ Six communities are markedly older than the English-speaking population.
 - The Dutch community stands out as the oldest of all CALD communities, with over

40% aged 65 and over. This reflects the concentrated period of post-war migration from the Netherlands to Australia, and also includes some Dutch who came to Australia on leaving Indonesia.

– The other five communities are from Northern European countries and Italy, from which major migration to Australia occurred in the early post war years, with lower levels of migration subsequently. Further migration of people of all ages from Poland and the former USSR from the 1980s has rejuvenated these two communities, and they are now younger on average than they would have been otherwise.

- ▶ The next group of seven European language communities have around 15% aged, similar to the English-speaking population. The “other languages” group can be included here also.

 - The Greek community leads this group, followed closely by the French-speaking community, which has been drawn from diverse places as much as from metropolitan France.
 - The proportions of older people in the Croatian, Macedonian and Serbian communities are lower, due to a wave of recent migration from the nations of the former Yugoslavia. The mix of past and recent waves of migration means that there is considerable diversity within these communities; while most members have spent many years in Australia and have grown older here, there are some who have arrived more recently, and at older ages.
- ▶ The remaining seven communities are all much younger than the English-speaking population; the proportion aged 65-plus ranges from just on 6% in the Mandarin-speaking community to only some 3% in the Turkish and Sinhalese communities. None of these young communities have more than 3,000 aged 65 and over, and when their dispersal across the metropolitan area is taken into account, the number likely to need support in any one local area is small. It is the small number and great diversity of these clients that poses a challenge for delivering culturally responsive services. Consider, for example, that the minimum size of a planned activity group is probably around ten people.

2.3 Ageing in CALD communities in future

2.3.1 Future ageing indicated by age structure of CALD communities

Trends in ageing of different communities can be seen by comparing the proportions in three broad age groups – under 45, 45–64 and 65 and over. Three sets of CALD communities identified on the basis of these comparisons are detailed in Table 2.5. The language groups are set out in order of the size of the 65+ cohort.

- ▶ Five communities are already ageing, with some 20% or more already aged 65 and over (see segment A of Table 2.5).

 - These are communities in which immigration had peaked by the late 1960s: Italian, German, Polish, Dutch and Russian.
 - The Dutch are the oldest of all CALD communities, with four out of 10 people aged 65 and over, and only one in four younger than 45.
 - With little subsequent immigration, less than around 50% are younger than 45; only the Russian and Polish communities have become somewhat “younger” due to recent immigration.
 - The number of older members of these communities will peak in the near future and then begin to decline.
- ▶ Another six communities have age structures similar to the total population, with around 15% aged 65 and over and around 60% aged under 45 (see segment B of Table 2.5).

 - These are communities from the southern European countries from which migration peaked in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The language groups are Greek, Maltese, Macedonian, Croatian, Serbian, French and Spanish.
 - The Greek community is by far the largest in this group and will age ahead of the other communities apart from the Maltese.

- ▶ The other eight communities are all young, with less than 5% aged 65 and over, and 75% under 45 (see segment C of Table 2.5).
 - With some 6,000 people aged 65 and over, the Cantonese and other Chinese speakers together have the largest number and proportion aged 65 and over, and in the 45-64 age groups.
 - The Middle-Eastern and Asian communi-

ties have small numbers now aged 65 and over; the 45-64 age groups are also small.

- The Turkish, Sinhalese and Tagalog speaking communities each have less than 1000 speakers aged 65 and over, and relatively small numbers aged 45-64.
- It will not be until after 2020 that these groups reach age 65 in substantial numbers.

Table 2.5: Future ageing of CALD communities

A. Ageing communities: ~ 20% or more aged 65+, and less than ~ 50% younger than 45 in 2001

Age Group	Italian		German		Polish		Dutch		Russian	
0-44	68,248	45.5%	6,726	32.5%	8,412	42.7%	2,802	25.5%	7,400	53.0%
45-49	8,905	5.9%	1,187	5.7%	2,103	10.7%	678	6.2%	1,037	7.4%
50-54	10,853	7.2%	1,331	6.4%	2,126	10.8%	936	8.5%	1,122	8.0%
55-59	9,957	6.6%	1,567	7.6%	1,074	5.5%	932	8.5%	702	5.0%
60-64	12,945	8.6%	2,318	11.2%	800	4.1%	1,095	10.0%	1,006	7.2%
65-69	13,445	9.0%	2,131	10.3%	732	3.7%	1,214	11.0%	685	4.9%
70-84	22,999	15.3%	4,818	23.3%	3,900	19.8%	2,816	25.6%	1,691	12.1%
85 +	2,685	1.8%	627	3.0%	545	2.8%	515	4.7%	307	2.2%
Total	150,037	100.0%	20,705	100.0%	19,692	100.0%	10,988	100.0%	13,950	100.0%
% aged 65+	26.1%		36.6%		26.3%		41.4%		19.2%	
% aged 70+	17.1%		26.3%		22.6%		30.3%		14.3%	

* percentages may not sum exactly due to rounding

Table 2.5: Future ageing of CALD communities

B. Communities with age structure similar to English speakers: ~ 15% aged 65+, ~ 60% younger than 45 in 2001

Age Group	Greek	Macedonian	Maltese	Croatian	Serbian	French	Spanish
0-44	69,188	19,718	14,771	13,530	10,093	7,846	6,013
45-49	6,093	2,915	1,747	1,710	1,307	2,091	1,035
50-54	7,962	3,045	1,932	2,175	1,284	2,754	1,031
55-59	9,800	1,959	1,606	2,250	923	2,457	748
60-64	10,465	1,680	1,045	2,469	1,006	1,924	620
65-69	8,605	1,515	761	1,797	689	1,853	568
70-84	9,610	1,621	903	1,568	720	2,440	983
85 +	979	182	98	155	56	230	184
Total	122,702	32,635	22,863	25,654	16,078	21,595	11,182
% aged 65+	15.6%	10.2%	7.7%	13.7%	9.1%	20.9%	15.5%
% aged 70+	8.6%	5.5%	4.4%	6.7%	4.8%	12.4%	10.4%

* percentages may not sum exactly due to rounding

Table 2.5: Future ageing of CALD communities

C. Young communities: ~ 5% aged 65+, ~ 75% younger than 45 in 2001

Age Group	Arabic incl. Lebanese	Turkish	Sinhalese	Vietnamese	Tagalog	Cantonese	Mandarin	Other Chinese
0-44	36,905	22,366	9,075	50,920	12,528	41,988	29,869	9,612
45-49	2,802	1,587	954	4,744	2,054	5,571	3,372	1,192
50-54	2,332	1,568	658	2,611	1,492	4,193	1,727	866
55-59	1,667	1,242	371	1,491	655	2,238	932	550
60-64	1,227	812	189	1,122	384	1,927	858	419
65-69	877	422	148	998	257	1,597	961	340
70-84	1,216	466	233	1,792	568	2,812	1,061	581
85 +	158	49	31	234	66	370	97	113
Total all ages	47,184	28,512	11,659	63,912	18,004	60,696	38,877	13,673
% aged 65+	4.8%	3.3%	3.5%	4.7%	4.9%	7.9%	5.5%	7.6%
% aged 70+	2.9%	1.8%	2.3%	3.2%	3.5%	5.2%	3.0%	5.1%

* percentages may not sum exactly due to rounding

2.3.2 Projections of ageing populations in CALD communities

Projection methods

Projections of the populations in the 20 main language groups to 2021 were prepared for the project by Cumpston Sargeant Consulting Actuaries. The projections were based on the 2001 Census, using data on the 20 main language groups. As with all projections, the results are subject to a number of technical considerations regarding the data and methods used to calculate mortality and survival rates. In the present case, the main considerations were:

- ▶ The projections allowed for improvements in mortality as determined by the ABS.
- ▶ Language and migration were held stable. That is, there were no losses due to individuals coming to speak English only, and no additions due to further immigration at older ages.
- ▶ The data are in five-year age groups from 45-69, then single age groups 70-84 and 85 and over (to age 100). Mortality for each age group was calculated as the average of the two ages on either side of the central age in each group, using the individual age mortality rates for the medium mortality assumptions published by the ABS. The effects of averaging mortality in this way are most pronounced for the 70-84 age group; underestimates in projections will be greater the greater the proportion of the population under the central age (77) relative to the proportion above the central age.
- ▶ Data was for the total population, not males and females separately. The population was assumed to be divided evenly between males and females, and male and female mortality rates were applied to 50% of the total. This method tends to an underestimate of survival at older ages where women outnumber

men, and the effect is more pronounced for populations with older age structures.

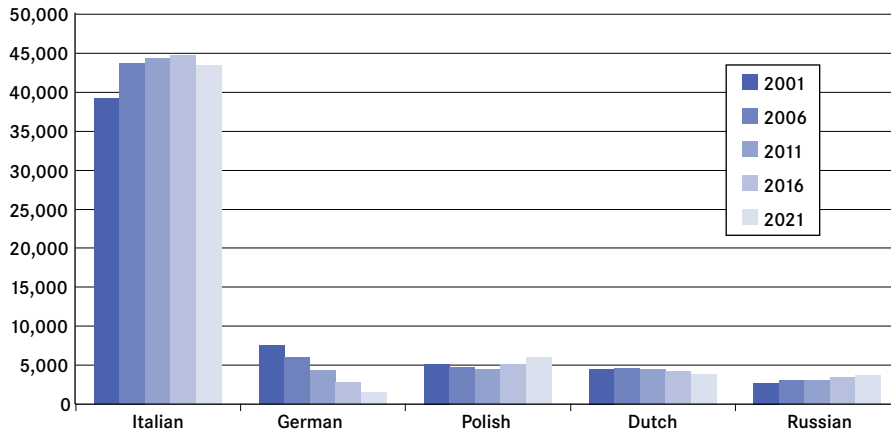
- ▶ These two sources of underestimation mean that the projections are somewhat lower overall than those prepared by AIHW based on the 1996 Census and using individual age mortality rates published by the ABS (see Literature Review).

Projected CALD populations aged 65 and over

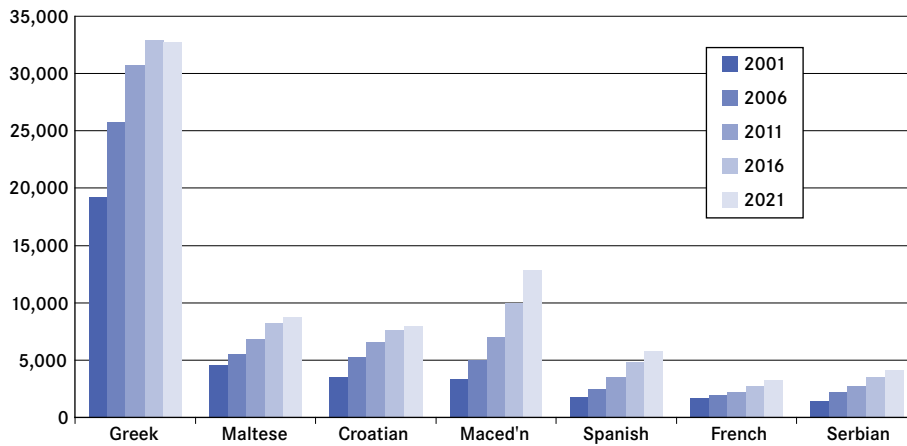
- ▶ The projected populations aged 65 and over for the 20 main language groups are plotted in Figures 2.3 A, B and C, grouped into the same sets of countries as for the preceding tables. The graphs have been drawn to approximately the same scale to facilitate comparison of the size of the different communities as well as changes over time within each community.
- ▶ Two of the five language groups that are already ageing, the German and Dutch, are declining; of the other three, the Italian community will have very low growth from 2006-2016 and will then decline by 2021, while ageing in the Russian and Polish communities has been forestalled by recent but small-scale migration.
- ▶ The populations aged 65 and over in communities that approximate the age structure of the total population will continue to grow during the next 20 years, as the currently middle aged reach 65. The Greek community increases markedly from 2001-2011, then more slowly. Increases in other communities are more even, but numbers are smaller.
- ▶ The young communities show lower growth earlier in the 20-year period than later; the young age structure of these communities means that marked increases in the populations aged 65 years and over do not occur until 2016.

Figure 2.3: Projections of CALD populations aged 65 and over, 2001-2021

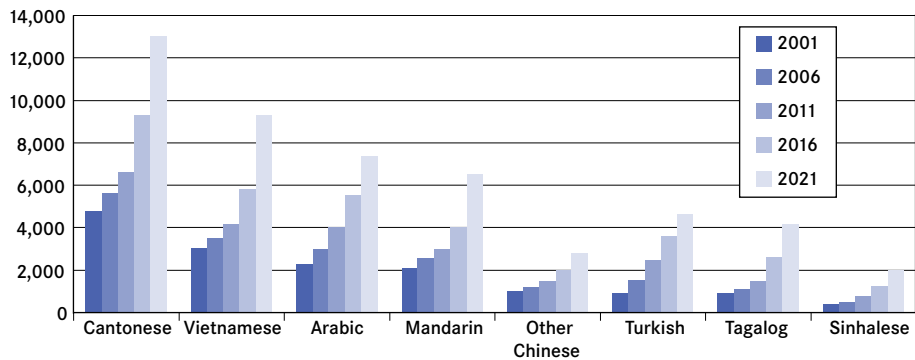
A. Ageing communities



B. Communities with age structure similar to total age structure



C. Young communities



Absolute size and rates of growth

Rather than providing precise estimates of the numbers who will be aged 65 and over in any particular communities in 5, 10, 15 or 20 years time, the value of the projections lies in showing both the changes in *absolute* size and *relative* changes in the future.

Table 2.6 shows that percentage changes between 2001 and 2021 are generally the inverse of the size of the community: that is, the largest, and oldest, communities show negative or only small positive percentage changes, while very high percentage increases in some of the younger communities represent relatively small numbers of people.

The continuing large absolute size of some CALD communities (even with only modest growth), and rapid growth but smaller absolute size of others, both present challenges to service delivery.

Notwithstanding rapid rates of growth in the aged populations of many communities, even by 2021 none will come close to the size of the Italian or Greek populations already aged 65-plus in 2001. It is important to recognise that large percentage increases do not always amount to large numbers:

- ▶ The Italian community in 2021 will be only 11% larger than it is in 2001, but it will remain dominant with a projected population of close to 45,000 people aged 65-plus in 2021.

Table 2.6: Projections of CALD populations aged 65 and over, 2001–2021

Language Spoken at Home	Population aged 65+ in 2001	Projected population aged 65 and over in				% change 2001–2021
		2006	2011	2016	2021	
A. Ageing communities						
Italian	39129	43787	44371	44766	43483	+11%
German	7576	5995	4389	2802	1559	-79%
Polish	5177	4715	4454	5166	6007	+17%
Dutch	4545	4580	4401	4188	3833	-16%
Russian	2683	3040	3049	3410	3705	+38%
B. Communities with age structures similar to total population						
Greek	19194	25786	30714	32896	32722	+70%
Maltese	4523	5537	6841	8196	8783	+94%
Croatian	3520	5290	6617	7627	7995	+127%
Macedonian	3318	4998	6957	10002	12917	+289%
Spanish	1762	2440	3541	4813	5775	+228%
French	1735	1960	2261	2776	3266	+88%
Serbian	1465	2177	2708	3477	4169	+185%
C. Young communities						
Cantonese	4779	5656	6648	9282	13032	+173%
Vietnamese	3024	3485	4187	5818	9333	+209%
Arabic	2251	2991	4027	5552	7371	+227%
Mandarin	2119	2570	2995	4057	6556	+209%
Other Chinese	1034	1214	1488	2020	2820	+173%
Turkish	937	1544	2478	3616	4648	+396%
Tagalog	891	1073	1472	2605	4190	+370%
Sinhalese	412	512	761	1254	1987	+382%

- ▶ The next largest, the Greek community, will be 70% larger in 2021 compared to 2001, with an aged population of close to 33,000 projected by 2016 and remaining around that size to 2021.
- ▶ In contrast, the older German-speaking community will decline very significantly; and the older Dutch community, already smaller, will decline by a lesser degree. While the Polish and Russian communities will increase, their growth is small in absolute and relative terms.
- ▶ Several other communities will be almost 200% or more larger in 2021 than in 2001, but of these, only the Macedonian and Cantonese communities reach over 10,000 by 2021.
- ▶ The Turkish, Tagalog and Sinhalese communities in 2021 will be almost 400% their size in 2001, but all remain small. The Turkish community has the highest percentage increase, and reaches close to 5,000 people aged 65-plus by 2021, while the Sinhalese remains the smallest community, with an aged population of just under 2000 projected for 2021.

2.4 Where are CALD populations ageing?

2.4.1 Metropolitan and regional differences

The Victorian Office of Multicultural Affairs' report *Victoria Local Government Areas Top 30 Birthplace Groups (overseas born)* has 2001 Census Statistics for the population of all ages for all LGAs. Summary data compiled for regional and metropolitan LGAs, as set out in Table 2.7 show that:

- ▶ Fully 93% of the population born in non-English speaking countries live in Melbourne; another 7% live in regional Victoria, of which Geelong accounts for around half.
- ▶ Compared to the Victorian average of just on 17%, a higher proportion (21%) of the metropolitan population, but less than 5% of the regional population, were born in non-English speaking countries.

The distribution of the ageing CALD population between the four metropolitan regions and regional Victoria is given in Table 2.8 and Figure 2.4; note that the data in Table 2.8 and Figure 2.4 are for the population speaking a language

Table 2.7: Country of birth of population in metropolitan and regional LGAs, for top 30 countries, all ages, 2001 Census

LGAs	Country of Birth				Total
	Overseas English Speaking	Non-Overseas English Speaking	Australia	Not stated	
Victoria	780,319	308,548	3,314,844	257,369	4,661,080
Regional LGAs	53,851	59,128	1,035,644	62,952	1,211,575
Metropolitan LGAs	726,468	249,420	2,279,200	194,417	3,449,505
	% of birthplace group in LGAs				
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Regional LGAs	6.9	19.2	31.2	24.5	26.0
Metropolitan	93.1	80.8	68.8	75.5	74.0
	% of LGA population by country of birth				
Total	16.7	6.6	71.1	5.5	100.0
Regional LGAs	4.4	4.9	85.5	5.2	100.0
Metropolitan	21.1	7.2	66.1	5.6	100.0

Source: Victorian Office of Multicultural Affairs, 2003. *Victoria Local Government Areas Top 30 Birthplace Groups (overseas born)*. 2001 Census Statistics No 1-1. Melbourne: Department of Victorian Communities.

other than English at home whereas the data in Table 2.7 are for birthplace.

The Northern sector of the N&W Metropolitan Region has the largest CALD population aged 45 and over. The Western sector of that region ranks second when Geelong is included, but when Geelong is excluded, the CALD population in the Southern Metropolitan Region exceeds the N&W Region.

The CALD population aged 45 and over is unevenly distributed between the regions compared to their shares of the State's total population of this age:

- ▶ The share of the CALD population is greater than the share of the total population in the Northern and Western Metropolitan Region (including Geelong); this region has over half the CALD population but just under one third of the total population aged 45 and over.
- ▶ The shares of CALD and total populations are closely balanced in the Southern and Eastern Metropolitan Regions.
- ▶ Regional Victoria has a very small share of the CALD population compared to its share of the total population.

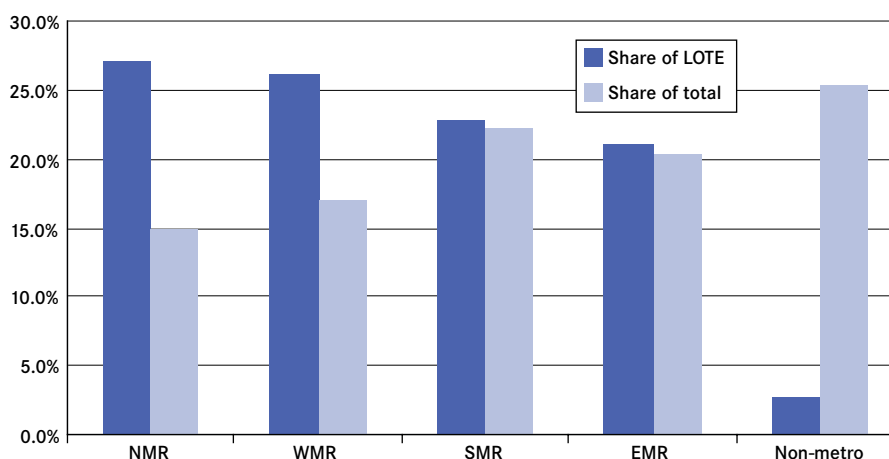
Table 2.8: Distribution of CALD population aged 45 and over, between metropolitan regions and non-metropolitan Victoria, 2001

Region	LOTE and not proficient in English	LOTE and proficient in English	Total LOTE	English only	Total	Share of State CALD pop 45+	Share of State total pop. 45+	% pop. 45+ CALD
Northern sector N&W Metro	36,636	61,063	97,699	152,717	250,416	27.2%	14.9%	39.0%
Western sector N&W Metro plus Geelong	29,214	64,650	93,864	193,158	287,022	26.1%	17.1%	32.7%
Southern Metropolitan	25,956	56,218	82,174	290,348	372,522	22.9%	22.2%	22.1%
Eastern Metropolitan	19,062	57,071	76,133	263,672	339,805	21.2%	20.3%	22.4%
Total Metro plus Geelong	110,868	239,002	349,870	899,895	1,249,765	97.3%	74.6	28.0%
Non-metropolitan	2,261	7,328	9,589	346,471	426,283	2.7%	25.4%	2.3%
Victoria	113,129	246,330	359,459	1,246,366	1,676,048	100.0%	100.0%	21.4%

CALD population is defined as speakers of a language other than English (LOTE) at home.

Note that % figures vary slightly from figures in Table 1.0 due to exclusion of the 4.2% of total population who did not state whether they spoke a language other than English at home.

Figure 2.4: Share of CALD and total populations aged 45 and over, by metropolitan regions and non-metropolitan Victoria, 2001



2.4.2 The CALD population in regional Victoria

The CALD population of all ages in non-metro regional Victoria is very small, and very unevenly spread. Table 2.9 details the 18 regional LGAs with 1000 or more residents born overseas in non-English speaking countries and the four main countries of birth. Data are for all ages.

- ▶ Close to half of the total CALD population in regional Victoria is found in just two LGAs, Geelong and Latrobe. No other LGAs have more than 4,000 CALD residents.
- ▶ The main countries of birth are those from which migrants came in the 1940s and 50s – Germany and the Netherlands – or in the 1960s and early 1970s – Italy and Malta.
- ▶ Migrants from Greece who are the second largest group in the state overall are markedly under-represented in regional Victoria, rating among the top four birthplace groups in only one LGA, Swan Hill.
- ▶ There are relatively few migrants from more recent migrant groups in regional Victoria, with Vietnam among the top four countries of birth in only two regional LGAs.
- ▶ The Philippines is more prominent as a country of birth in regional LGAs than in metropolitan LGAs, ranking as the fourth largest birthplace group in five regional LGAs. The number born in the Philippines in any LGA is however small: the largest group is 157 people in Bendigo, followed by 67 in East Gippsland
- ▶ While Turkey and Iraq are conspicuous as countries of birth in Shepparton and Mildura, these communities are small: in Shepparton, there were 372 people born in Turkey and

268 born in Iraq, and 543 born in Turkey in Mildura.

It has to be emphasised that these data are for *all age groups* and that numbers of older people in CALD communities in regional Victoria are very small indeed. Many older members of CALD communities that are longstanding in regional Victoria have had fewer opportunities to interact with others of the same background, and conversely, have had more interaction with the wider community in their everyday lives. As they will be more accustomed to accessing general services, they may feel less need for culturally oriented community care services than those in metropolitan LGAs who have lived their day to day lives largely within their own communities. Most of the more recently arrived groups are in younger age groups and have been attracted to regional areas for reasons of occupational opportunities and the existence of small but flourishing cultural communities. These younger groups may be more likely to need a range of other services, including settlement and language services and assistance in accessing education and employment, than community care services.

Comparison of the birthplace data in Table 2.7 and language data in Table 2.8 shows that whereas 4.4% of the regional population were born in non-English speaking countries, the proportion who spoke a language other than English at home is lower, at 2.3%. This difference suggests that English is more widely spoken among small CALD communities in regional areas compared to metropolitan areas. The cause and effect relationship is however unclear as greater proficiency in English may have been a factor prompting the decision to live in regional Victoria.

Table 2.9: Regional LGAs with 1000+ residents of all ages born overseas in non-English speaking countries (NESC), and four main countries of birth, 2001 Census

Local Government Area	Born in NESC		Main countries of birth			
	No.	%	1st	2 nd	3 rd	4th
Greater Geelong	17,459	9.3	Italy	Netherlands	Croatia	Germany
Latrobe	5,329	7.8	Netherlands	Italy	Germany	Malta
Shepparton	3,997	7.1	Italy	Turkey	Iraq	Netherlands
Mildura	2,969	6.2	Italy	Turkey	Greece	Tonga
Ballarat	2,811	3.5	Netherlands	Germany	Italy	Croatia
Bendigo	2,172	2.5	Netherlands	Germany	Italy	Philippines
Wellington	1,865	4.7	Netherlands	Germany	Italy	Vietnam
Wodonga	1,819	5.8	Germany	Former Rep. of Yugoslavia	Netherlands	Croatia
Macedon Ranges	1,801	5.0	Germany	Italy	Malta	Netherlands
East Gippsland	1,504	3.9	Netherlands	Italy	Germany	Philippines
Baw Baw	1,436	4.1	Netherlands	Italy	Germany	Philippines
Wangaratta	1,340	5.2	Italy	Germany	Netherlands	Philippines
Bass Coast	1,305	5.3	Italy	Netherlands	Germany	Malta
Mitchell	1,296	4.7	Italy	Germany	Netherlands	Malta
Moorabool	1,212	5	Netherlands	Malta	Germany	Italy
Swan Hill	1,184	5.7	Italy	Tonga	Vietnam	Greece
South Gippsland	1,139	4.5	Netherlands	Italy	Germany	Philippines
Alpine	1,048	8.2	Italy	Germany	Netherlands	Croatia

Source: Victorian Office of Multicultural Affairs, 2003. Victoria Local Government Areas Top 30 Birthplace Groups (overseas born). 2001 Census Statistics No 1-1. Melbourne: Department of Victorian Communities.

2.4.3 Differences between Metropolitan LGAs

There are wide variations between LGAs in the size of CALD populations, the proportion of total populations of CALD background and the balance of ageing and aged cohorts in the CALD population. Table 2.10 gives an overview of these three dimensions of variation. Detailed analyses by LGA are presented in the Regional and LGA Profiles in Parts 3 and 4 of this report.

- ▶ In terms of absolute size, half the LGAs have more than 10,000 CALD residents aged 45 and over:
 - the largest CALD population is almost 32,000 in Brimbank
 - the smallest is some 1,100 in Cardinia.

- ▶ In terms of proportions of each cohort of CALD background, compared to a metropolitan average of 28%:
 - the proportion ranges from 40% to 65% for both ageing and aged cohorts in six LGAs: Brimbank, Dandenong, Darebin, Maribyrnong, Moreland, and Whittlesea;
 - but is only half the metropolitan average for both cohorts in another seven LGAs: Bayside, Yarra Ranges, Frankston, Maroondah, Mornington, Nillumbik, and Cardinia.

The size of the 45-64 years (ageing) cohort compared to the 65+ (aged) cohort in 2001 provides an indicator of future growth of the CALD population. LGAs have been classified in Table 2.11 to show three patterns of growth:

Table 2.10: Size, proportion and comparison of CALD populations aged 45-64 and 65+, by LGA, 2001

LGA	45+	65+	Total	% pop 45-64 CALD	% pop 65+ CALD	45+ as % 65+
	Number					
Brimbank	22508	9256	31764	62.3	65.6%	243.2%
Moreland	12316	10689	23005	50.9	50.6%	115.2%
Darebin	12382	8903	21285	52.0	47.1%	139.1%
Dandenong	14446	6747	21193	50.5	45.3%	214.1%
Monash	13715	6627	20342	35.5	28.8%	207.0%
Whittlesea	13638	5666	19304	56.3	64.4%	240.7%
Manningham	10928	5087	16015	36.5	37.3%	214.8%
Geelong	5077	9874	14951	12.1	19.1%	51.4%
Moonee Valley	8521	6070	14591	36.4	41.1%	140.4%
Hume	9731	3378	13109	37.7	39.0%	288.1%
Banyule	4977	7857	12834	18.3	23.9%	63.3%
Glen Eira	7287	5388	12675	29.1	28.5%	135.2%
Whitehorse	7821	4718	12539	24.3	20.7%	165.8%
Kingston	7903	3782	11685	26.6	19.9%	209.0%
Casey	8777	2753	11530	26.2	24.0%	318.8%
Boroondara	6383	4137	10520	18.5	19.1%	154.3%
Hobsons Bay	5821	3620	9441	34.5	36.2%	160.8%
Knox	6256	2717	8973	19	21.9%	230.3%
Maribyrnong	5576	3331	8907	52.4	41.8%	167.4%
Wyndham	3869	4856	8725	23.4	24.5%	79.7%
Yarra	3550	2880	6430	30.8	50.0%	123.3%
Stonnington	3577	2750	6327	19.6	24.4%	130.1%
Port Phillip	3287	2,925	6212	22.9	37.4%	112.4%
Bayside	2632	1622	4254	12.5	11.3%	162.3%
Yarra Ranges	2458	1668	4126	7.5	13.8%	147.4%
Frankston	2248	1449	3697	9.2	11.1%	155.1%
Maroondah	2248	1370	3618	10.3	12.0%	164.1%
Mornington	1883	1575	3458	6.2	7.0%	119.6%
Melton	2291	543	2834	21.8	23.0%	421.9%
Melbourne	1664	987	2651	23.8	30.7%	168.6%
Nillumbik	1338	394	1732	9.3	12.4%	339.6%
Cardinia	733	410	1143	7.3	10.0%	178.8%

Table 2.11: Size and growth of CALD populations aged 45 and over compared to 65 and over, by LGAs, 2001

Size of CALD population 45+ Growth of CALD population	LGAs with smaller CALD populations (less than 10,000 LOTE speakers aged 45+)	LGAs with larger CALD populations (more than 10,000 LOTE speakers aged 45+)
Stable CALD population (45-64 cohort is less than 50% larger than 65+ cohort)	Cell 1 Mornington (SMR) Port Phillip (SMR) Stonnington (SMR) Wyndham (N&WR) Yarra (N&WR) Yarra Ranges (EMR)	Cell 2 Banyule (N&WR) Darebin (N&WR) Geelong Glen Eira (SMR) Moonee Valley (N&WR) Moreland (N&WR)
Sustained growth of CALD population (45-64 cohort is between 50% and 200% larger than 65+ cohort)	Cell 3 Bayside (SMR) Cardinia (SMR) Frankston (SMR) Hobson's Bay (N&WR) Maribyrnong (N&WR) Maroondah (EMR) Melbourne (N&WR)	Cell 4 Boroondara (EMR) Whitehorse (EMR)
Pronounced growth of CALD population (45-64 cohort is more than 200% larger than 65+ cohort)	Cell 5 Nillumbik (NMR) Knox (EMR) Melton (WMR)	Cell 6 Casey (SMR) Brimbank (N&WR) Dandenong (SMR) Hume (N&WR) Kingston (SMR) Manningham (EMR) Monash (SMR) Whittlesea (N&WR)

- ▶ Twelve LGAs (in cells 1 and 2) have ageing cohorts less than 50% larger than their aged cohorts. These LGAs will experience *reasonably stable* CALD populations aged 65 and over as the ageing cohorts will replace the aged cohorts, allowing for mortality as both cohorts age.
- ▶ Seven LGAs (in cell 3) will experience *sustained growth* in CALD populations, with 45-64 cohorts between 50 and 100% larger than the 65+ cohort, but with total CALD populations aged 45+ being less than 10,000. Another two LGAs have similar levels of increase in larger total CALD populations; another three LGAs have higher increases but total CALD populations of considerably less than 10,000 (cells 4 and 5).
- ▶ Eight LGAs (in cell 6) will have *pronounced growth*, with 45-64 cohorts being around 200% larger than the 65+ cohort, and with total CALD populations aged 45+ of more than 10,000 in 2001.

2.5 Languages spoken and proficiency in English

2.5.1 Differences in proficiency in English between ageing and aged cohorts

To the extent that retention of one's own language and proficiency in English are indicators of cultural identity, lack of proficiency in English can serve as an indicator of greater need for services that are oriented to the client's language and culture.

While proficiency in English on the part of those speaking a language other than English is generally higher at younger ages, proficiency reflects complex interactions of many factors as well as age. These factors combine to produce wide variations in levels of proficiency between CALD communities and across the age range within any single community.

► In the aged cohort (people aged 65+), the proportions who are not proficient in English vary widely:

- In two communities (German and Dutch speakers) less than 10% of people aged 65-plus are *not* proficient.
- In five communities, between 10% and around 30% are not proficient. Four of these are nations where English is widely spoken; whereas most Maltese have lived in Australia for many years, the Sinhalese and Tagalog speakers are more recently arrived. French speakers and the "other" language group complete this cluster.
- In six communities, between one third and about one half of the older age groups are not proficient in English. In rank order of increasing proficiency, these are Italian, Croatian, Serbian, Arabic (including Lebanese), Greek and Spanish speakers. It is likely that *English proficiency is lower among women* in these groups. This has particular implications, given that women are more likely than men to use HACC services.
- In seven communities, more than two out

of three of the older age group are not proficient in English. These groups vary widely in size, in duration of residence in Australia, age on arrival in Australia and overlays of different waves of migration. In rank order of proportions not proficient in English, these are the Macedonian, Russian, Turkish, Cantonese, Mandarin, other Chinese languages, and Vietnamese, among whom fully 87% are not proficient in English.

► The proportions in the ageing cohort (45-64) who are not proficient:

- Less than 5% of speakers of Sinhalese, Tagalog, French, German and Dutch;
- Below the average of 21% for speakers of Maltese (8%), Polish (14%) and "other" languages (18%);
- Around 25% for Arabic and Spanish speakers, and around 30% for Serbian, Macedonian, Croatian, Greek and Russian speakers;
- Around 40% for Cantonese, Mandarin and other Chinese speakers; and
- Fully 48% of ageing Turkish speakers, and 62% of Vietnamese speakers, are not proficient. These were the highest rates.

The significance of proficiency in English for future need for culturally oriented services is clearly seen when communities are ranked by the number aged 45-64 who are not proficient in English. The rank order in Table 2.12 is quite different from the rankings in Table 2.4.

- While the Italian and Greek communities still have the largest numbers, their order is reversed. More older Greeks were not proficient.
- The Vietnamese community, 10th in total size, moves to 3rd rank, ahead of the Cantonese-speaking community. The number aged 45-64 and not proficient in English in these communities approaches that of the Italian community.
- The largest upwards shift in rank occurs for the Turkish community, which moves from the 18th, or 3rd smallest in total size, to the 7th

Table 2.12: Languages other than English spoken at home and proficiency in English for age groups 45-64 and 65+, Victoria

Language spoken at home	Age group	Speakers of languages other than English		
		Total	Not proficient in English	
Greek	45-64	34,320	11,018	32.1%
	65+	19,194	10,259	53.4%
Italian	45-64	42,660	6,985	16.4%
	65+	39,129	17,593	45.0%
Vietnamese	45-64	9,968	6,260	62.8%
	65+	3,024	2,621	86.7%
Cantonese	45-64	13,929	5,280	37.9%
	65+	4,779	3,725	77.9%
Macedonian	45-64	9,599	3,258	33.9%
	65+	3,318	2,108	63.5%
Mandarin	45-64	6,889	2,963	43.0%
	65+	2,119	1,740	82.1%
Turkish	45-64	5,209	2,561	49.2%
	65+	937	641	68.4%
Croatian	45-64	8,604	2,264	26.3%
	65+	3,520	1,723	48.9%
Arabic (incl. Lebanese)	45-64	8,028	1,959	24.4%
	65+	2,251	1,177	52.3%
Spanish	45-64	6,330	1,680	26.5%
	65+	1,762	1,056	59.9%
Serbian	45-64	4,520	1,571	34.8%
	65+	1,465	734	50.1%
Other Chinese languages	45-64	3,027	1,259	41.6%
	65+	1,034	816	78.9%
Russian	45-64	3,867	1,194	30.9%
	65+	2,683	1,762	65.7%
Polish	45-64	6,103	948	15.5%
	65+	5,177	1,508	29.1%
Maltese	45-64	9,226	822	8.9%
	65+	4,523	1,034	22.9%
Tagalog (Filipino)	45-64	4,585	192	4.2%
	65+	891	264	29.6%
German	45-64	6,403	177	2.8%
	65+	7,576	469	6.2%
French	45-64	3,434	158	4.6%
	65+	1,735	272	15.7%
Sinhalese	45-64	2,172	81	3.7%
	65+	412	80	19.4%
Dutch	45-64	3,641	69	1.9%
	65+	4,545	329	7.2%
Other languages	45-64	31,520	6,270	19.9%
	65+	15,689	4,987	31.8%

Note: Languages are ranked by size of 45-64 age group.

The small proportions who stated they spoke a LOTE but did not state their proficiency in English are included in the “not proficient” figure for each group.

rank. The Macedonian and Mandarin speaking communities also rank higher. These three communities all have more than 2,500 in their ageing cohorts who are not proficient in English.

- Large shifts in the other direction occur for the Polish, Maltese, German and Dutch communities; none of these communities have more than 1000 in their ageing cohorts who are not proficient; this number is the smallest of all, at 69 people, in the Dutch community.

2.5.2 Relative size of communities and levels of proficiency

It is recognised that lack of proficiency in English gives a narrow definition of need for culturally oriented services, but these shifts in rank show the danger of thinking only in terms of the total number of LOTE speakers. If only the total number of speakers is considered, this will tend to:

- Overestimate the need in communities in which a high proportion of LOTE speakers are actually proficient in English, and

- Underestimate the need in communities where a high proportion of LOTE speakers are *not* proficient in English.

The proportion not proficient in English is lower in the ageing cohort than in the aged cohort in all communities. However, the variations between communities take on more meaning when the absolute size of the 45-64 age group is taken into account. A summary of the relationship between size of community and level of proficiency is shown in Table 2.13. Three clusters are identified:

Cluster 1: Communities with waning need

These communities are described as having a waning need for culturally oriented services because the numbers now aged 45-64 who are not proficient in English are small, and are smaller than the number aged 65 and over. The proportions not proficient in English are low in six communities but higher in the other three:

- In five communities in which the number not proficient aged 45-64 is lower than the number aged 65+, the proportion not proficient in English is less than 5%, and the

Table 2.13: Numbers of speakers of languages other than English who are not proficient in English, for 45-64 years age group in CALD communities

Proficiency level		LOTE speakers not proficient in English (Number aged 45-64; number aged 65+)		
		Fewer aged 45-64 than 65+	More aged 45-64, by margin of less than 2,200	More aged 45-64, by margin of more than 2,200
% LOTE speakers aged 45-64 not proficient in English	High proficiency (less than 10% not prof.)	Dutch (39; 277) German (11; 383) French (110; 254) Tagalog (136; 238) Maltese (713; 942) Sinhalese (66; 71)		
	Medium (10-29% not prof.)	Italian (6,231; 6,768) Polish (886; 1431)	Spanish (1598; 1013) Arabic (1873; 1153) Croatian (2160; 1662)	Other languages (5835; 4717)
	Low proficiency (more than 30% not prof.)	Russian (1158; 1734)	Other Chinese (1219; 810) Serbian (1488; 697)	Greek (10,587; 9957) Vietnamese (6169; 2575) Cantonese (5157; 3630) Macedonian (3079; 2053) Mandarin (2888; 1712) Turkish (2488; 624)

number concerned is around 100. These are the Dutch, German, French, Tagalog and Sinhalese communities.

- ▶ In the Maltese community, the proportion not proficient is also low, at 8%, and at 713 people, the number in the ageing cohort is below the 942 people in the aged cohort.
- ▶ In the Italian, Polish and Russian groups, the numbers not proficient in the ageing cohort are smaller than in the aged cohort, but the proportions not proficient in English are higher than in the above groups: among Italian and Polish speakers, 15% are not proficient in English, and among Russian speakers, 30%. The higher proportion of Russian speakers who are not proficient in English reflects the mix of early post-war arrivals and more recent arrivals who migrated from the former USSR since the late 1980s, many of whom have low levels of English proficiency.

While the Italian group will remain sizeable, all the other groups have fewer than 1,500 in the 45-64 age group, and these numbers will decline as this cohort ages over the next two decades. The future numbers of potential HACC clients needing culturally oriented services in these groups will be very small apart from the Italian speakers, but even among the Italian speakers, the scale of future need will moderate over the next two decades.

Cluster 2: Small communities with sustained need

This cluster is made up of communities in which the number aged 45-64 is higher than the number aged 65 and over, but is below 2,200, and in which the proportions not proficient in English are close to the average of 21% for all LOTE speakers aged 45-64.

Addressing the needs of these communities is made complex by the *considerable diversity within the groups* rather than their size:

- ▶ The Spanish, Arabic and other Chinese speakers comprise diverse cultural groups, with individuals coming from different countries, and at different times.
- ▶ The Croatian and Serbian communities

are distinctive, and while each is internally homogenous in some ways, both are characterised by a mix of those who arrived in Australia as young adults and have grown older in Australia and more recent arrivals, including some who were already aged in their 60s or older on arrival.

- ▶ The “other languages” group can be included in this cluster as it comprises many different language and cultural groups, each with relatively small numbers.

With fewer than 2,200 members aged 45-64 at the 2001 Census, the numbers in all the communities in this cluster will fall further as they age, but demand will be sustained by low proficiency in English, particularly among those who have arrived in Australia more recently and in late middle age.

Cluster 3: Communities with growing need

Six communities are identified as having a growing need for culturally oriented services. This is because they have much larger numbers aged 45-64 compared to the present number aged 65 and over, and because high proportions are not proficient in English.

- ▶ **The Greek community** is by far the largest in this cluster, with over 10,000 aged 45-64. Almost one in three Greek speakers in this cohort are not proficient in English. To the extent that they are women, and women have longer life expectancy, the need for culturally oriented services will be sustained, even allowing for a reduction in total numbers due to mortality. The Greek community is now widely dispersed across the metropolitan area.
- ▶ **The Macedonian community** shows trends similar to the Greek community, although the numbers are smaller. The Macedonian community is more geographically concentrated.
- ▶ **The Chinese-speaking community**, taking Cantonese, Mandarin and other Chinese languages together, comes close to the size of the Greek community, with a total of 9,264 aged 45-64, and higher proportions

are not proficient in English. In both the Cantonese and Mandarin-speaking communities the numbers aged 45-64 are much larger than the numbers aged 65 and over. In all Chinese language groups, the proportions not proficient in English are among the highest of all groups, at around 40%. Even allowing for attrition due to mortality, there will be large numbers in these groups needing culturally oriented services in future. Chinese-speaking communities are geographically dispersed.

▶ The two remaining communities, the Vietnamese and Turkish, stand out as having distinctive characteristics with the potential to generate high need:

– **The Vietnamese community** will experience pronounced ageing, with three times as many in the 45-64 cohort as over 65. The 6,000 Vietnamese in this cohort mean it will be a much larger aged community than the Turkish, and larger than the Cantonese. The proportion not proficient in English in the ageing cohort is by far the highest of all communities: some *two thirds* of Vietnamese speakers aged 45-64 are not proficient in English. (This proportion is completely reversed for those under 45, of whom fully two thirds speak English well.) The lack of proficiency in English in the ageing cohort persists despite many having lived in Australia for two decades or more; many arrived in Australia after school age. The main need for this group is a concerted English language program that will enable them to interact more with the wider community as they grow older rather than becoming increasingly isolated even from the younger generation within their own community.

– **The Turkish community** will experience pronounced ageing, since four times as many were aged 45-64 as 65 and over at the 2001 Census. While the number in the ageing cohort who are not proficient in English is relatively small (about 2,500), they account for half of all Turkish speakers aged 45-64. Factors contributing to this situation

include the arrival of many Turkish speakers in a single, short-term wave of migration, the geographic concentration of the community, and its retention of a high level of cultural identity.

A final comment concerns the *likelihood of continuing migration* over the next 20 years and the extent to which it will add numbers of middle aged and older adults to different communities. The propensity for further migration is seen to be greatest among the Chinese-speaking groups, due in part to the very large source populations and the number of younger migrants from these countries who might sponsor older family members for family reunion. The Vietnamese community also has considerable potential growth of this kind. In other communities, the potential for growth of older age groups through further migration is expected to be lower, but individuals may nevertheless have high needs for a range of settlement support services.

2.5.3 Language and proficiency in English as indicators of need for culturally oriented services

The adoption of *language* rather than country of birth in the present study is based not only on the characteristics of the CALD population, but also on the ways in which service delivery can respond to special needs associated with cultural and linguistic diversity.

▶ The correspondence between *country of birth* and *language spoken* varies considerably:

– The two largest language groups aged 65 and over are Italian and Greek, and the majority of those speaking these languages were born in Italy and Greece respectively, although a conspicuous minority of Greek speakers were born in Cyprus, Turkey and Egypt. There is also a reasonable correspondence (~70% or more) between language and country of birth for speakers of German, Polish, Dutch, Russian, Maltese, Turkish, Sinhalese (Sri Lanka) and Tagalog (the Philippines).

- Speakers of some other languages come from many different countries: speakers of Arabic and the Lebanese variant of Arabic were born in mainly in Lebanon and Egypt, but also in many other Middle Eastern countries. Speakers of Cantonese and other Chinese languages have come from many different countries in South East Asia. Speakers of Spanish were born in many countries of Latin and South America as well as in Spain, and French speakers have come from overseas French Departments and former colonies as well as France.

- In other cases, those born in the same country speak different languages: those born in Vietnam include speakers of Vietnamese and a mix of Chinese languages, and those born in China include speakers of Mandarin, Cantonese and other Chinese languages. The relationship between language and country of birth is even more varied in the language groups that are smaller than the 20 main language groups; while some small but longstanding groups from Eastern Europe have high levels of proficiency in English, other recently arrived and mainly refugee communities have very low levels of proficiency.

► Proficiency in English as a variable:

- While a person’s country of birth cannot be changed, language spoken at home is dynamic; many of those born overseas now speak English as well as their original language; many others migrated from countries in which English was an official language or language of education (such as India). Proficiency in English also changes over time; higher levels of proficiency in younger age groups in particular reflect acquisition of English in the course of schooling and employment in Australia.

- Differences between communities persist, however, because proficiency is the product of many interacting factors. As well as country of origin and exposure to English in that country, proficiency is affected by literacy in one’s own language, level of edu-

cation achieved in country of origin and in Australia, occupational status, gender, recency of arrival and duration of residence in Australia; year of arrival and access to English language teaching then and later; and the size and coherence of the particular CALD community. Proficiency will also be affected by marriage to a partner who speaks only English or a different language, and family formation leading to children attending school in Australia.

- Degree of proficiency in English does not indicate any greater or lesser adherence to other aspects of culture, but does affect communication with service providers. The higher levels of proficiency in English in the ageing cohorts compared to the aged cohorts also suggest that those who are not proficient are *at risk of increasing isolation* in their own community as well as the wider community.

Service delivery responses to cultural and linguistic diversity

The discussion of models in the Literature Review indicates that the delivery of culturally oriented services involves many more strategies besides the attempt to match the language and culture of clients and staff.

The need for such matching is highest in communities where proficiency in English remains low, but training in cultural awareness is required for staff delivering services to all CALD clients and their carers.

An increasing range of options are being adopted by service providers, many of them involving partnerships between providers. The aim here is to gain access to language services and ensure that culturally appropriate approaches are adopted by mainstream providers. Access is promoted through a variety of information and advisory services, including ethno-specific and multicultural agencies and by general HACC agencies responding to local CALD communities.

Beyond HACC services, there is a need for members of CALD communities to have better

opportunities to learn English; the priority is communities in which English proficiency remains low among middle-aged adults, even after many years residence in Australia, and especially among women. There is a need for increased access to English tuition in community settings rather than only in classrooms and courses related to employment. For those now in the 45-64 cohort, proficiency in English is a high priority for everyday participation in the wider community for many years to come.

English proficiency can also be important for maintaining family relationships; high rates of intermarriage among the second generation

often mean that English is the only common language among members of the extended family, and especially with third generation grandchildren.

Researchers at the Research Unit for Multilingual and Cross-cultural Communication (RUMACC) at Melbourne University have found that middle aged and older adults are able to learn another language and acquire functional English. Once a threshold level of English proficiency has been achieved, more is retained as the individual ages. Loss of language is associated with dementia and other causes of memory loss, not ageing itself (see Literature Review).

Conclusion

In order to address the needs of immigrant communities, HACC services will have to respond to both the depth and breadth of need:

- ▶ The depth of individual need can be considered in terms of dependency and lack of proficiency in English. It will have to be addressed by assessment and care planning, in order to deliver culturally oriented care.
- ▶ The breadth of need can be considered in terms of the range of communities, their varying size, and the varying proportions of members not proficient in English. The breadth of need will have to be addressed by the development of culturally oriented programs in ethno-specific, multicultural and mainstream agencies, especially in localities with significant numbers of individuals in particular communities. This will enhance the capacity of all HACC services to respond to the needs of all CALD clients in all areas.

Victoria's Culturally Equitable Gateways Strategy is designed to address both the depth and breadth of need for CALD clients and communities. The findings presented in this report endorse the CEGS approach of bringing mainstream, multi-cultural and ethno-specific agencies together to extend the range of approaches to development and delivery of culturally oriented services, and to provide an extensive information base for advancing the strategy into the future.