

# Superdiversity in Melbourne

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## INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS SUPERDIVERSITY?

Melbourne is among one of the world's most superdiverse cities. In 2011, over 1.4 million people or 26% of the population was born overseas and arrived from more than 150 countries (Victorian Multicultural Commission, 2015). Immigrants are arriving from many more different countries, speak a diversity of languages and are associated with varied cultural and religious practices. There is also increasingly differentiated immigration status among immigrant populations and this has significant implications for their citizenship rights, including income support and access to services.

Steve Vertovec conceptualises the trends evident in Melbourne and in the cities of settler societies across the world, as 'superdiversity' (Vertovec, 2007). Superdiversity is not just about more people arriving from more places – it captures what has been described as the diversification of diversity. This is the idea that even *within* ethnic groups people are different and ethnicity or culture may not be the defining feature of individual's identities, experiences or needs. Vertovec points to the importance of legal status, and associated rights and entitlements, gender, age, reason for migration, class, socio-economic status and faith as variables that contribute to shaping identity and experience. The intersection between these variables ultimately determine individual's needs, rights and entitlements, ability to access effective public services and social mobility.



Superdiversity emerged around the beginning of the 1990s when people began migrating from many different countries to settle in many different countries. Vertovec distinguishes superdiversity from previous patterns of migration and resettlement, often described as multiculturalism, in which large numbers of people arrived in Australia and other countries such as the UK and Netherlands, from a smaller number of countries with whom they had generally shared some kind of colonial relationship. In Victoria, this less diverse pattern of migration characterised the post war years of the 1950's and 1960's with immigration from Britain, and northern and western European countries including Greece and Italy. Within our contemporary global and mobile society, Vertovec argues that the concept of superdiversity is increasingly important for understanding the scale and intensity of contemporary patterns of migration and resettlement. As such, it has great potential to help policymakers and practitioners respond in a more nuanced way to the ever changing and diversifying populations whom they serve.

Superdiversity does not replace earlier immigration flows, rather it adds complexity to long-standing immigration patterns which frequently play out at neighbourhood level. For example, many immigrants continue to arrive in Victoria and join existing long-established minority communities – for example Turkish communities in Melbourne's north, and Vietnamese communities in Richmond, Footscray and Springvale. In such neighbourhoods, multilayered immigrant communities are created consisting of new arrivals and second or third generation minorities, in addition to smaller groups of people from multiple countries of origin who may connect around shared ethnicity, language or faith. In these neighbourhoods, immigrant populations also settle alongside Australian-born populations and Indigenous populations with neighbourhoods becoming very mixed.

In contrast to concepts of 'multicultural' cities, where there are larger concentrations of ethnic communities concentrated in particular areas, superdiversity is often associated with high levels of population fragmentation wherein many country of origin or ethnic groups do not form large groups. Thus, superdiverse communities are unable to offer a critical mass needed to support retail and third sector organisations that have in the past formed around new arrivals.

It is also important to understand the speed of change associated with superdiversity – this level of change can bring challenges in terms of understanding and providing services for groups and individuals living in the most diverse neighbourhoods which frequently function as "arrival zones" from newcomers. Superdiversity is often associated with increased population mobility, although it is difficult to evidence this empirically. Rapid changes can also be accompanied by an increase in the scale of arrivals. Certainly Victoria continues to see significant increases in the numbers of migrants arriving with net overseas migration expected to exceed 295,000 and increase to over 370,000 by 2051 (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2015). Across Victoria, superdiversity is also spreading out from inner Melbourne to the middle and outer suburbs and into some rural areas. It is also inevitably the case that diversity is not evenly distributed across cities and suburbs and is concentrated in particular areas that offer affordable housing and established community networks.

Global migration patterns and superdiversity present new kinds of challenges for service delivery and planning, particularly in relation to healthcare needs and health inequalities (Phillimore, et al., 2015) and housing affordability issues within metropolitan Melbourne. The aim of this report is to provide a spatial representation of superdiversity in Melbourne and to illustrate some of the trends around diversification and accelerated speed, scale and spread of new arrivals into the city. The report provides mapped results that illustrate the distribution of ethnic populations across Melbourne, depict changes across time and other sociodemographic characteristics of suburbs and regions.

# OBJECTIVES

This initiative involved the collaboration of researchers based in the McCaughey VicHealth Community Wellbeing Unit<sup>1</sup> at the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne, the Melbourne School of Government<sup>2</sup> at the University of Melbourne and the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) at the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom. IRiS<sup>3</sup> was one of the first research centres to focus on issues of superdiversity. Professor Jenny Phillimore is the Director of IRiS and visited Melbourne in August 2015 to conduct fieldwork exploring superdiversity in Victoria. These maps were generated as part of this globally-focussed fieldwork described in Phillimore et al., (2015). The results included in this report have been made publicly available to assist services and organisations grasp the local context of superdiversity in Melbourne.

The objectives of the investigation were to:

- i. Explore patterns of superdiversity across metropolitan Melbourne;
- ii. Provide spatial analysis and mapped results for metropolitan Melbourne according to country of birth, diversity in countries of birth within areas, religion, parental country of birth, year of arrival and settlement locations across time;
- iii. Demonstrate how Australian Bureau of Statistics Census data can be used in spatial investigations of superdiversity within communities at the small area level;
- iv. Make these findings publicly available to assist with future service delivery planning.

All maps included in this report have been created by Community Indicators Victoria<sup>4</sup>, McCaughey VicHealth Community Wellbeing Unit at the University of Melbourne. Community Indicators Victoria (CIV) provides expert advice on how research knowledge and data can be used for effective community planning that promotes health and wellbeing for all members of society. CIV provides an integrated framework of community wellbeing derived from government, spatial and survey datasets that measure social, economic, natural and built environments, arts and culture, and democratic conditions of communities. The CIV system approach acknowledges that healthy communities are influenced by many different factors that need to be tracked and reported on across time. Data and research evidence are used by CIV to produce equitable, healthy, engaged, empowered and well planned communities.

# REPORT STRUCTURE

A brief description of key methodological issues and data sources are provided in the following section before presenting superdiversity results in the main body of the report. Two pie charts and 30 maps are provided as results and a summary of topics and measures included are provided in Table 1 below. The report concludes with a summary of key findings of superdiversity in Melbourne.

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<sup>1</sup> [mccaughey.unimelb.edu.au](http://mccaughey.unimelb.edu.au)

<sup>2</sup> [government.unimelb.edu.au](http://government.unimelb.edu.au)

<sup>3</sup> [birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/superdiversity-institute](http://birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/superdiversity-institute)

<sup>4</sup> [communityindicators.net.au](http://communityindicators.net.au)



**Table 1: Superdiversity Topics and Measures Included in Maps**

Topic	Measure
Country of Birth	Total Number of Countries for Melbourne Total Number of Countries for Victoria Countries according to Major World Regions Countries according to Detailed World Regions Africa and Middle Eastern Countries Asian Countries Caribbean, North, South and Central American Countries European Countries Pacific Island Countries Annual Comparisons for 2001-2011
Year of Arrival	Collated Data for Years of Arrival 1991-2001 Comparison of Arrival Locations for 2001 and 2011
Parental Country of Birth	Both Parents Born Overseas in Melbourne Both Parents Born Overseas in Victoria
Religion	Major Religions by Location Major Religions and Country of Birth
Disadvantage	SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage by SA2 for Melbourne SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage by SA2 for Victoria SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage and Religion SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage and Parental Birthplace SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage and Religion
Mortality	Religion and Standardised Death Rate per 1000 People

## METHODOLOGY

This report includes a number of maps produced using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This spatial methodology is useful for the analysis and identification of spatial relationships and is particularly useful for identifying patterns or trends that may not be evident when using other forms of data analysis. All maps and figures presented in this report have been derived from the 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics *Census of Population and Housing 2011* (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011). These Census data offer a snapshot of superdiversity in Melbourne in 2011 and should be replicated in the future to identify and monitor changes across time.

In all analyses, the spatial data of VicMap (Admin) 2013 are used to model the boundaries of the Local Government Areas (LGAs) and smaller Statistical Areas. Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) is the smallest level of geography used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the dissemination of population estimates and is used throughout this report. All SA2 digital boundaries were obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

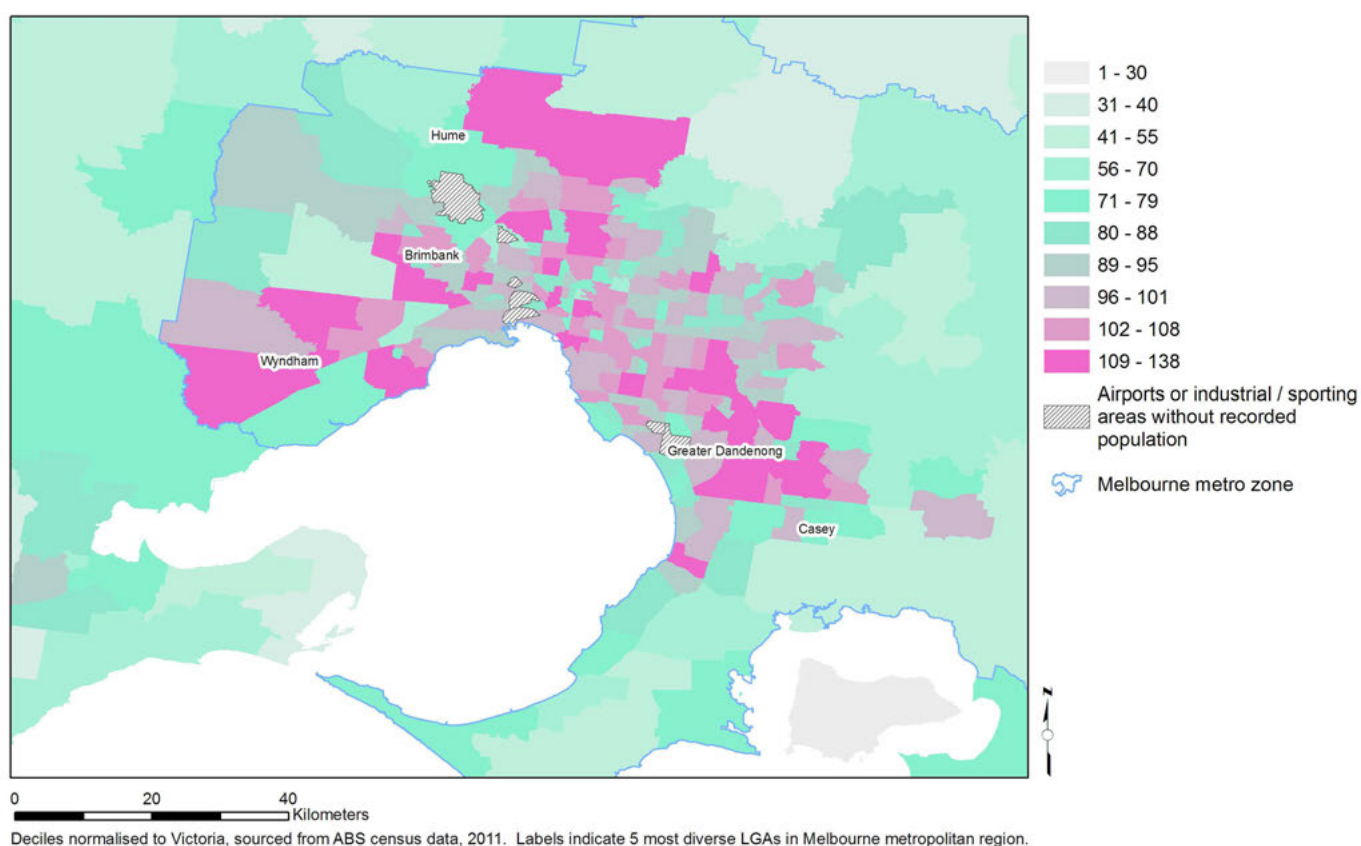
Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas or SEIFA indexes produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011A) are also included in this report to provide added context about area based disadvantage in relation to superdiversity. SEIFA indexes are used to measure socio-economic status and rank areas in Australia on the basis of relative socio-economic advantage or disadvantage making them useful for comparisons across areas. The Indexes include variables such as income, education level, occupation and skill levels, housing and dwelling types, and other more general variables including internet connections, disability, car ownership, families, and marital status among others. The Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) is included in this report and uses a variety of different variables in these categories and variables are combined linearly using factor analysis and principal components analysis (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011B). SEIFA indexes are commonly reported according to deciles with the lowest deciles representing greatest comparative levels of disadvantage. In this report SEIFA IRSD is reported in terms of the lowest 2 deciles to represent areas of significant disadvantage.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics uses the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC) for all statistics classified by country including Census data. The classification system is based on geographic proximity and grouping neighbouring countries based on similarities in terms of social, cultural, economic and political characteristics (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2008). The Australian Bureau of Statistics provides concordance information between SACC countries and the United National (UN) geographical classification of countries and the UN classification is used in this report for the purposes of international comparisons of superdiversity.

# MAPPING SUPERDIVERSITY IN VICTORIA

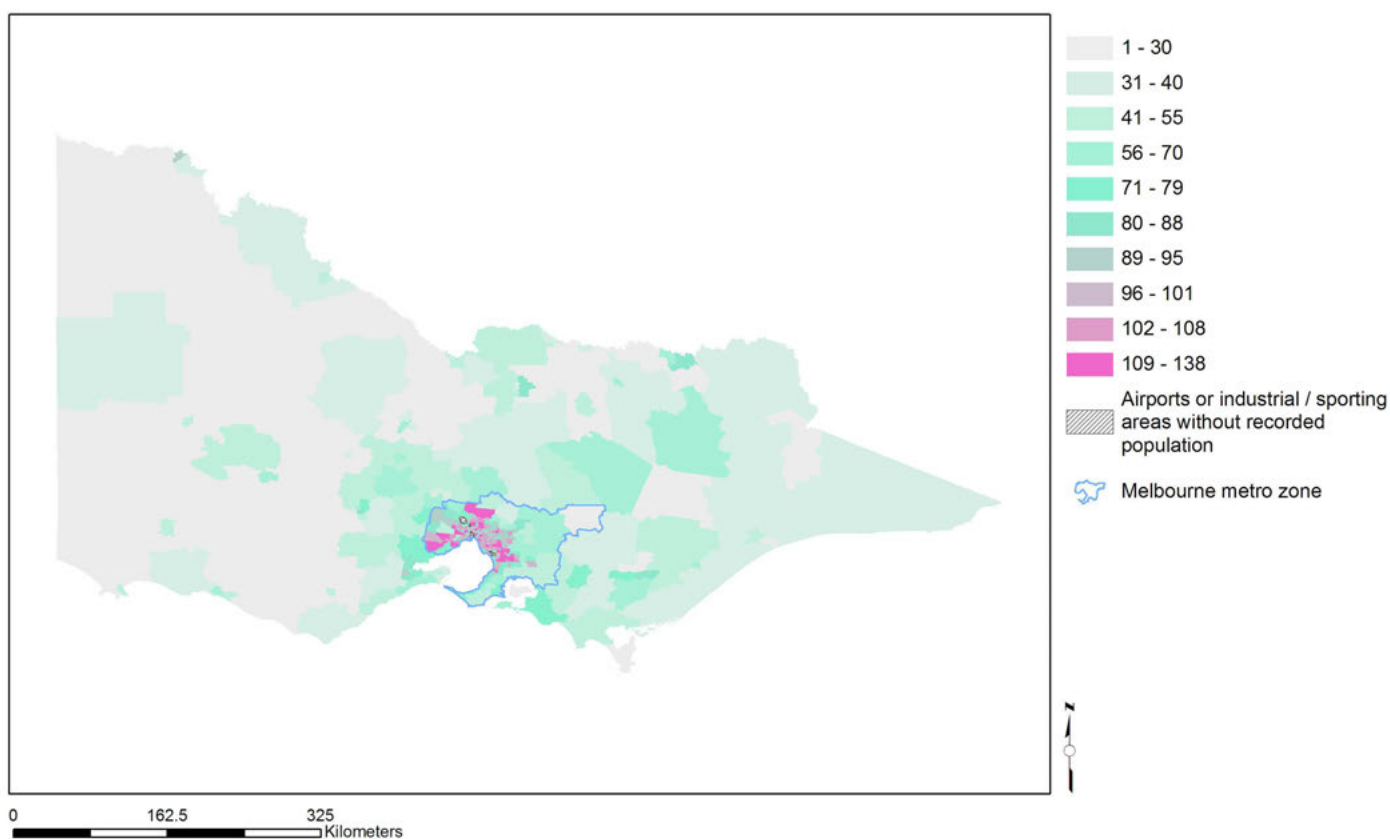
The following section provides results on differing numbers of migrant countries of birth across metropolitan Melbourne and Victoria. All data have been derived from the 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census as mentioned in the methodology section of the report and maps are produced at the geographic level of SA2 unless otherwise specified.

## 1. Countries of Birth in Metropolitan Melbourne



**Figure 1: Deciles of Total Number of Countries of Birth by SA2 for Melbourne, 2011**

Areas surrounding the LGAs of Wyndham, Brimbank, Hume and Greater Dandenong are characterised by resident populations from over 109 different countries of birth and are clearly visible as SA2's with dark pink shading in Figure 1. This pattern suggests greatest superdiversity across the western, northern and south-eastern corridors of Melbourne.

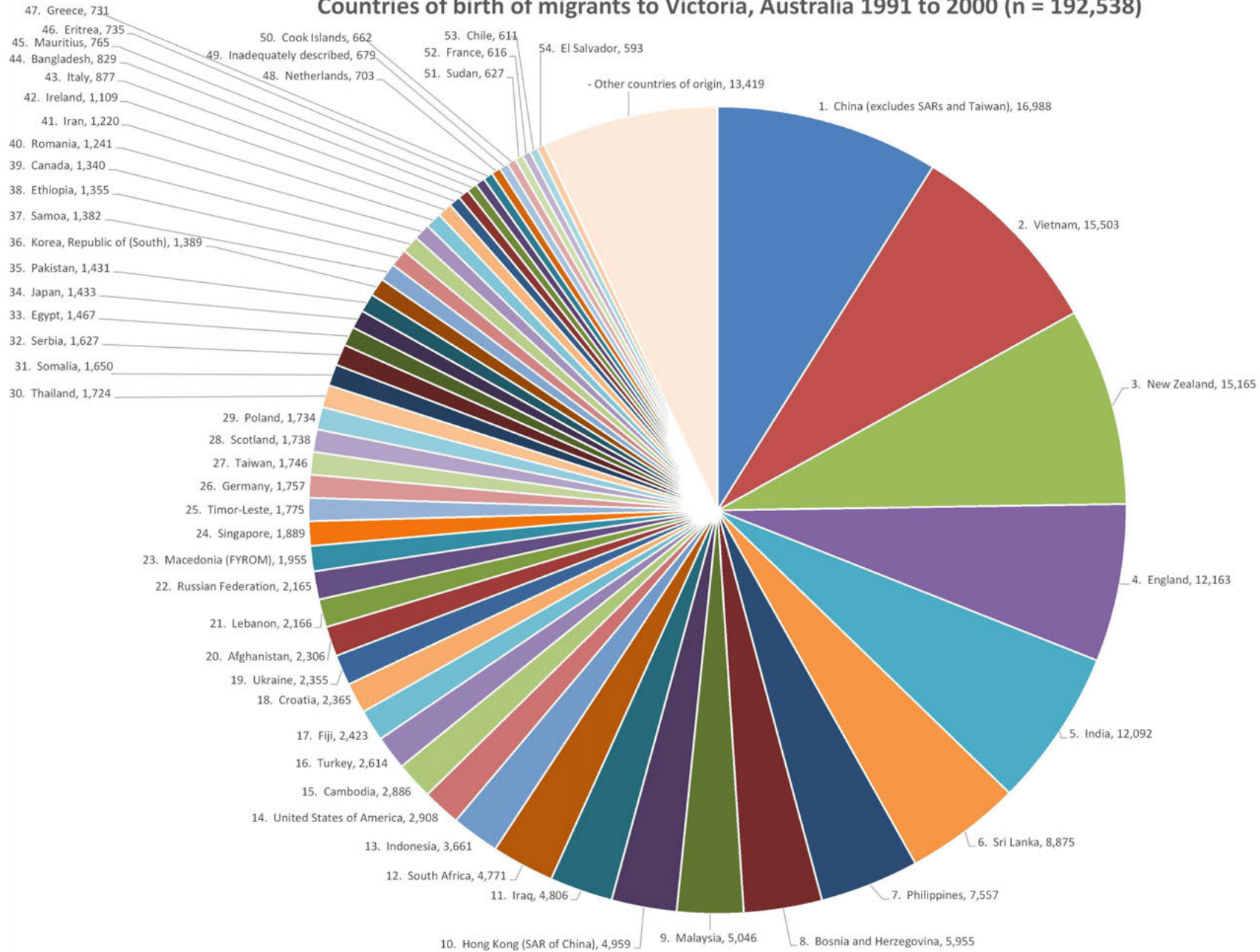


Deciles normalised to Victoria, sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

### Figure 2: Total Number of Countries of Birth by SA2 for Victoria, 2011

The population of rural Victoria is much less diverse when compared to metropolitan Melbourne. However, the population of rural Victoria is still very diverse with large areas of people born in more than 30 different countries of birth. The majority of rural Victoria is characterised by residents from 40 different countries of birth with small pockets of superdiversity evident in the following areas shaded in darker green in Figure 2. Shepparton in northern Victoria; Albury-Wodonga on the north-eastern Victorian/NSW border; Ballarat to the west of Melbourne; and areas of Gippsland to the east and south-east of Melbourne have highest diversity in rural Victoria. Areas of rural western Victoria have the least diversity in terms of resident countries of birth.

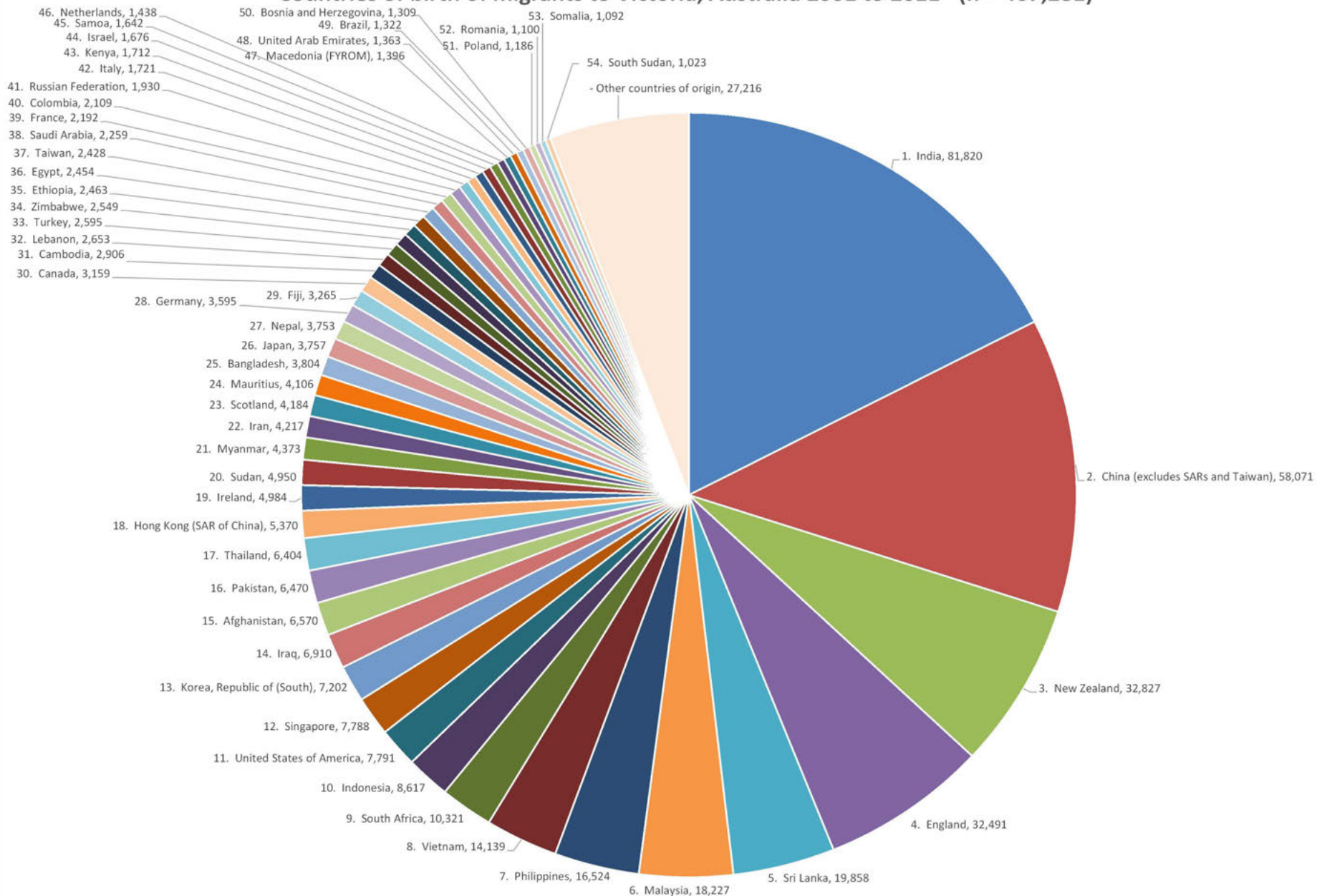
### Countries of birth of migrants to Victoria, Australia 1991 to 2000 (n = 192,538)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Figure 3: Countries of Birth Pie Chart for Migrants to Victoria, 1991-2000

### Countries of birth of migrants to Victoria, Australia 2001 to 2011\* (n = 467,281)



\*2011 data only available up to 9 August  
 Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Figure 4: Countries of Birth Pie Chart for Migrants to Victoria, 2001-2011

The central importance of information provided in Figure 3 and Figure 4 demonstrates the sheer levels of diversity in Victoria and emphasises that migrants are from many different places. It is evidence of increasing fragmentation in migrant countries of birth rather than increasing immigrant populations derived from traditional sending countries.

**Table 2: Top 10 Countries of Birth of Migrants to Victoria, Australia (1991-2011)**

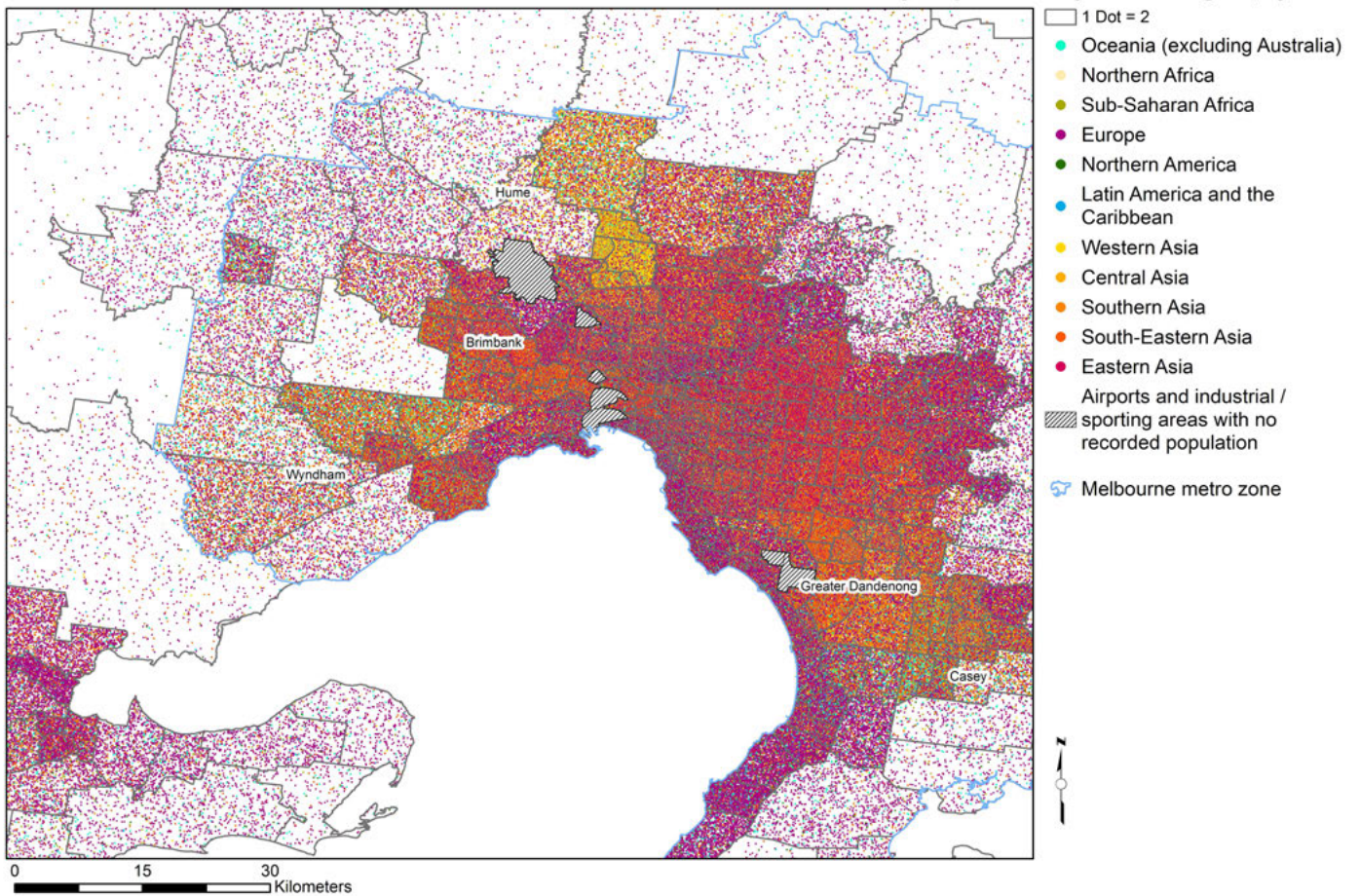
<b>Countries of Birth 1991 to 2000</b>	<b><i>n</i> (%)</b>	<b>Countries of Birth 2001 to 2011</b>	<b><i>n</i> (%)</b>
China*	16,988 (4.7)	India	81,820 (9.0)
Vietnam	15,503 (4.3)	China*	58,071 (6.4)
New Zealand	15,165 (4.2)	New Zealand	32,827 (3.6)
England	12,163 (3.4)	England	32,491 (3.6)
India	12,092 (3.4)	Sri Lanka	19,858 (2.2)
Sri Lanka	8,875 (2.5)	Malaysia	18,227 (2.0)
Philippines	7,557 (2.1)	Philippines	16,524 (1.8)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5,955 (1.7)	Vietnam	14,139 (1.6)
Malaysia	5,046 (1.4)	South Africa	10,321 (1.1)
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	4,959 (1.4)	Indonesia	8,617 (0.9)
<b>Total (all regions)</b>	<b>194,009 (100)</b>	<b>Total (all regions)</b>	<b>467,731 (100)</b>

\*excludes Special Administrative Regions (SARs) and Taiwan

There have been significant changes to the most common countries of birth for Victorian migrants between the decades of 1991-2000 and 2001-2011 as presented in Table above. During the earlier decade of 1991-2000, over 192,000 people migrated to Victoria and the 10 most common countries of birth for migrants were China, Vietnam, New Zealand, England, India, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Bosnia Herzegovina, Malaysia and Hong Kong (Figure 3). In the following decade of 2001-2011, the total population that migrated to Victoria more than doubled to 467,000 and the 10 most common countries of birth for migrants were India, China, New Zealand, England, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam, South Africa and Indonesia (Figure 4).

It is not only the differing countries of birth but also the number of people migrating to Victoria from different countries of birth. For example, the majority of people migrating to Victoria from 1991-2001 were born in China but only included a population of 16,988 people. In comparison, India was the most common country of birth for Victorian migrants from 2001-2011 with 81,000 people reporting it as their country of birth – over 4 times the amount of people being born in the most common country of birth when compared to 1991-2001. These changes provide further evidence of increasing superdiversity in Victoria over time.

**Dot density map of country of birth region, by SA2**



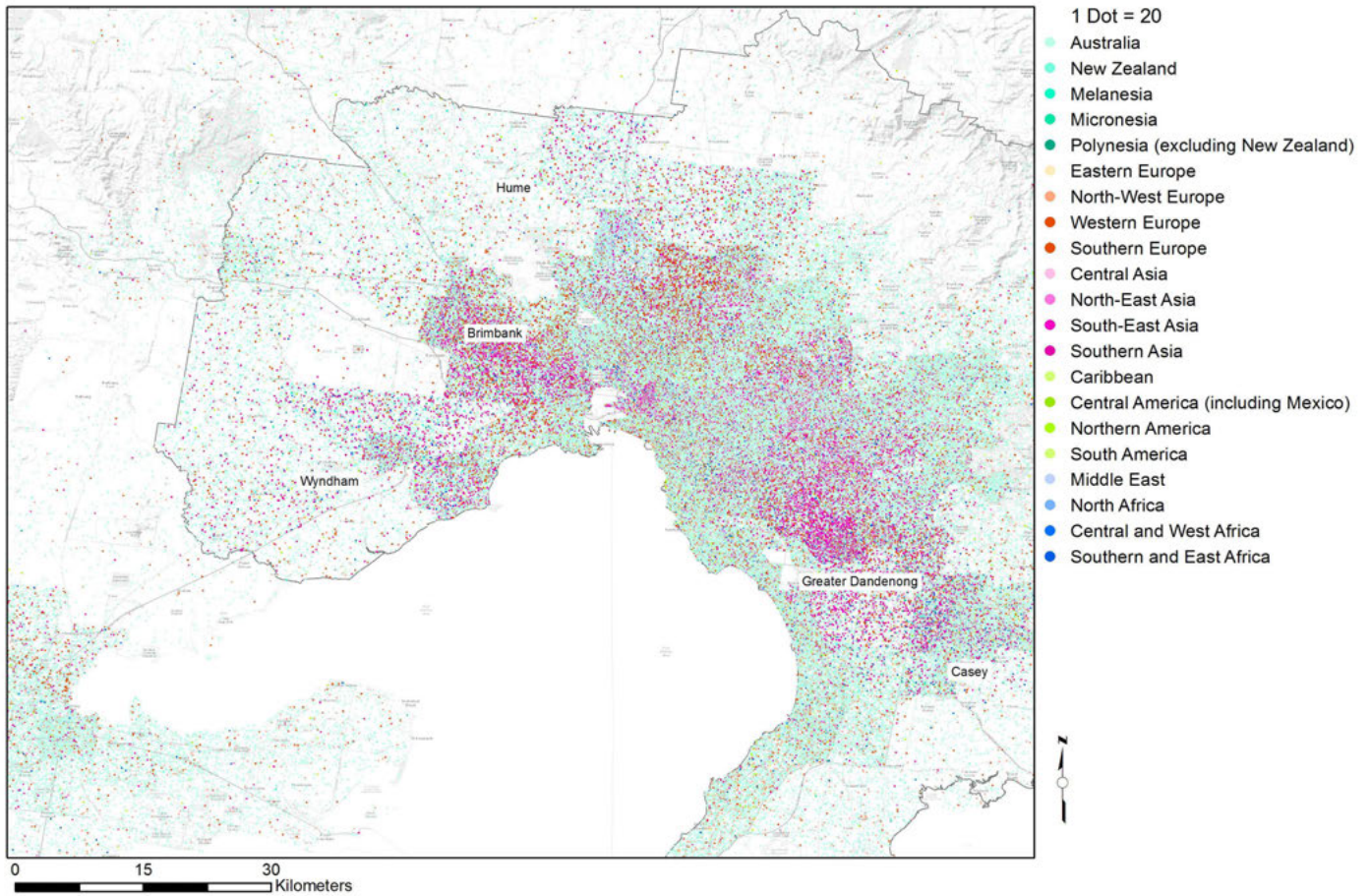
\* Sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

**Figure 5: Dot Density Map of Countries of Birth for Melbourne by SA2, 2011 – Major Regions**

Major world regions are used to classify countries of birth for metropolitan Melbourne in Figure 5 with every coloured dot representing 2 people from a specific country of birth. The major point demonstrated in this map is the broad colour spectrum spread throughout Melbourne providing clear evidence of a superdiverse population across the city. Concentrations of people born in Western, Central and Southern Asian countries are located in the south-eastern, northern and western areas of Melbourne, with a high density of people born in Western Asia located in the outer north. People born in European countries are more likely to reside in coastal areas of Melbourne and people born in Eastern Asian countries located across the eastern and south-eastern areas.



**Self reported country of birth: Regions**

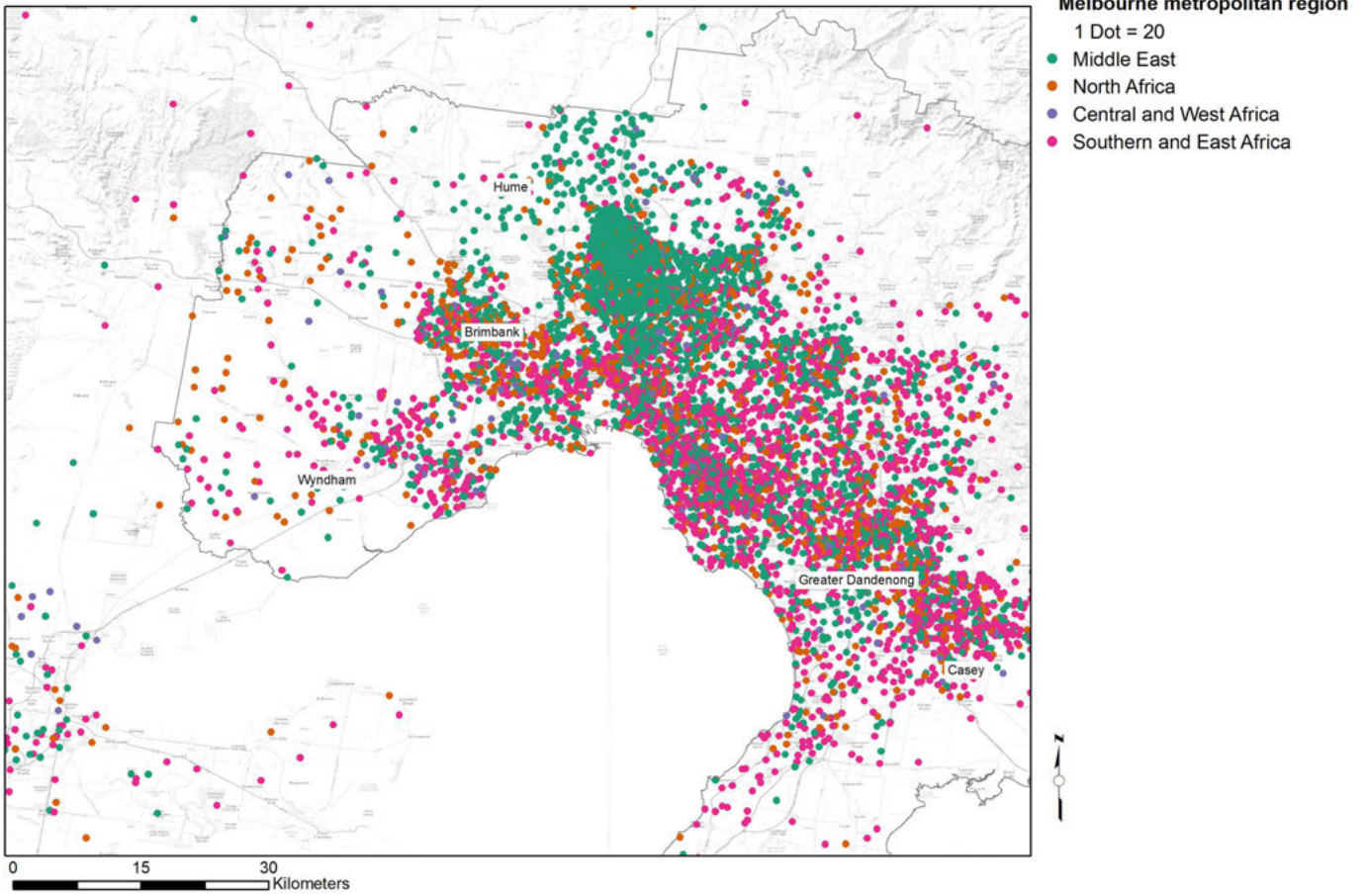


\* Sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

**Figure 6: Dot Density Map of Countries of Birth for Melbourne by SA2, 2011 – Detailed Regions**

A finer analysis of countries of presented in Figure 5 is provided in Figure 6 and also includes Australia as self-reported country of birth. In Figure 6, every coloured dot represents 20 people born from a specific country of birth. The location of concentrations of population born in north-east, south-east and central Asia is emphasised above with a pattern of location dominant in western, northern and south-eastern areas of Melbourne.

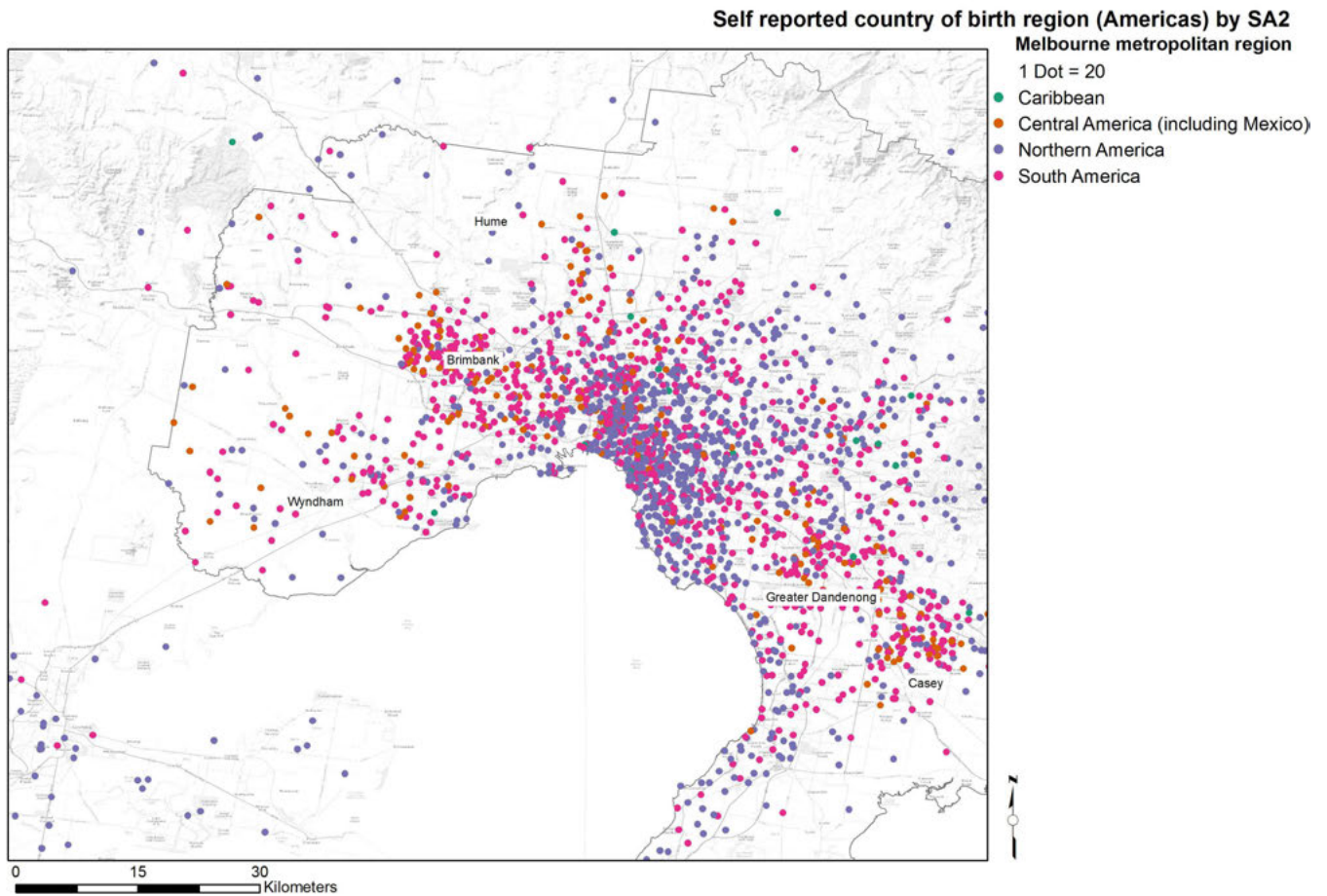
**Self reported country of birth region (Africa and the Middle East) by SA2**



\* Sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

**Figure 7: Dot Density Map of Africa and Middle East Countries of Birth by SA2, 2011**

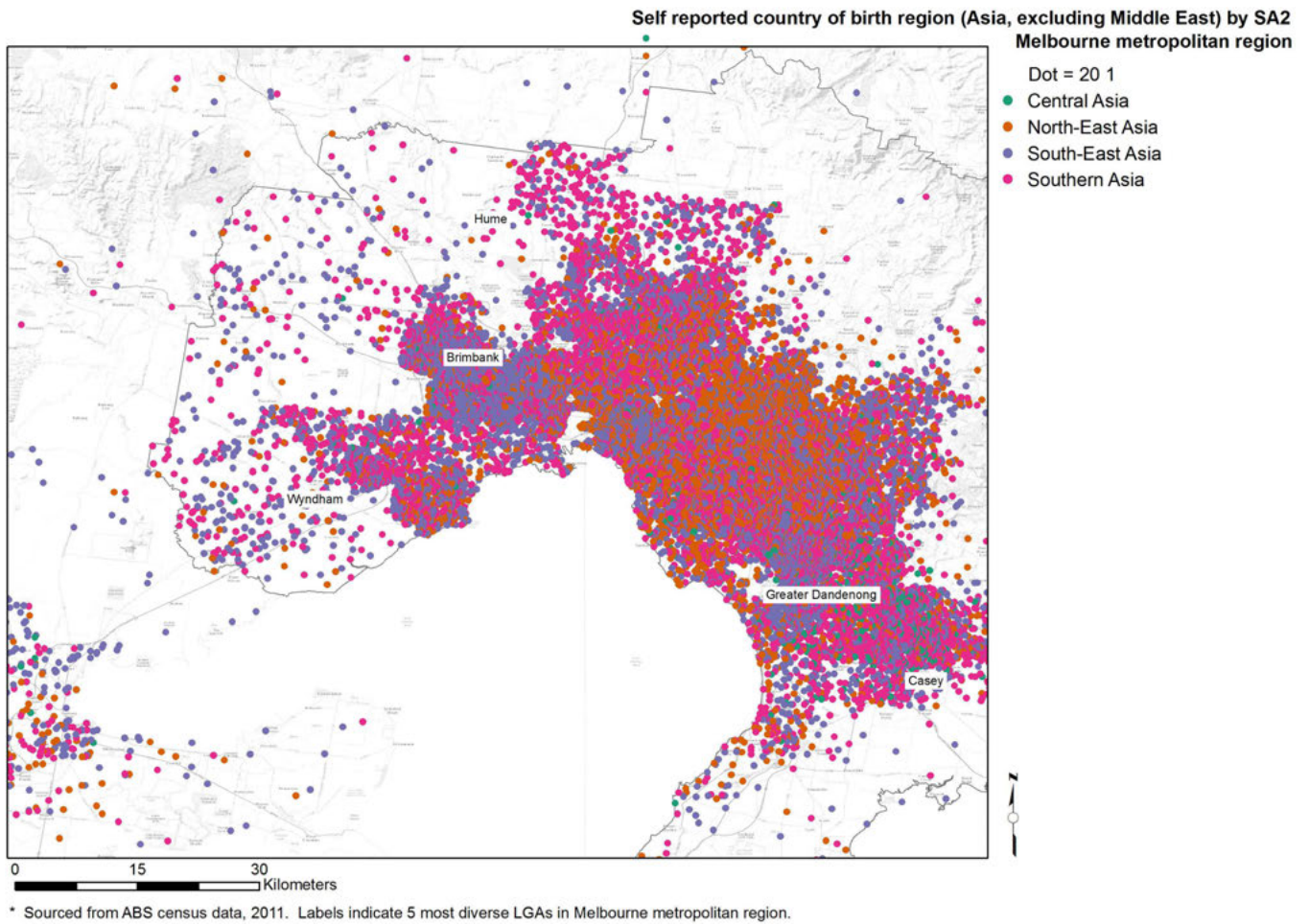
Only migrants with countries of birth from Africa and the Middle East are presented in Figure 7. People born in middle-eastern countries dominate the northern corridor of Melbourne while central and west, southern and east African countries of birth dominate the south-eastern areas of Melbourne. People born in North African countries are clustered in the inner west near the LGA of Brimbank as well as across the northern and western suburbs.



\* Sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

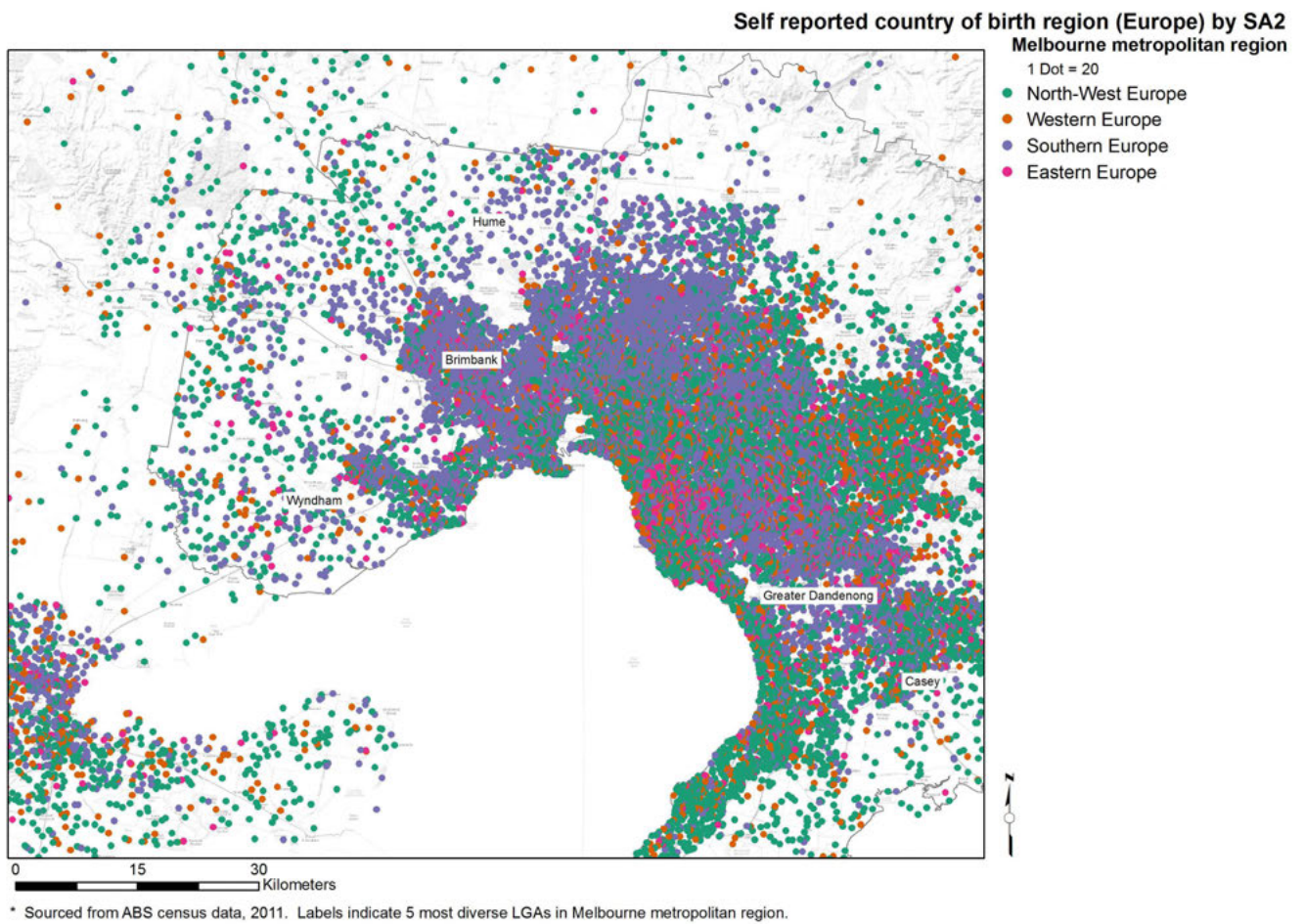
**Figure 8: Dot Density Map of the Caribbean, North, South and Central American Countries of Birth by SA2, 2011**

Only migrants with countries of birth from the Caribbean, North, South and Central Americas are presented in Figure 8. People born in Northern America tend to be located across the wealthier inner, eastern and bayside areas of Melbourne extending into the south-eastern suburbs. In comparison people born in Central America are located across the western and northern suburbs and outer south east near the LGA of Casey, while those born in South America are located across all of Melbourne.



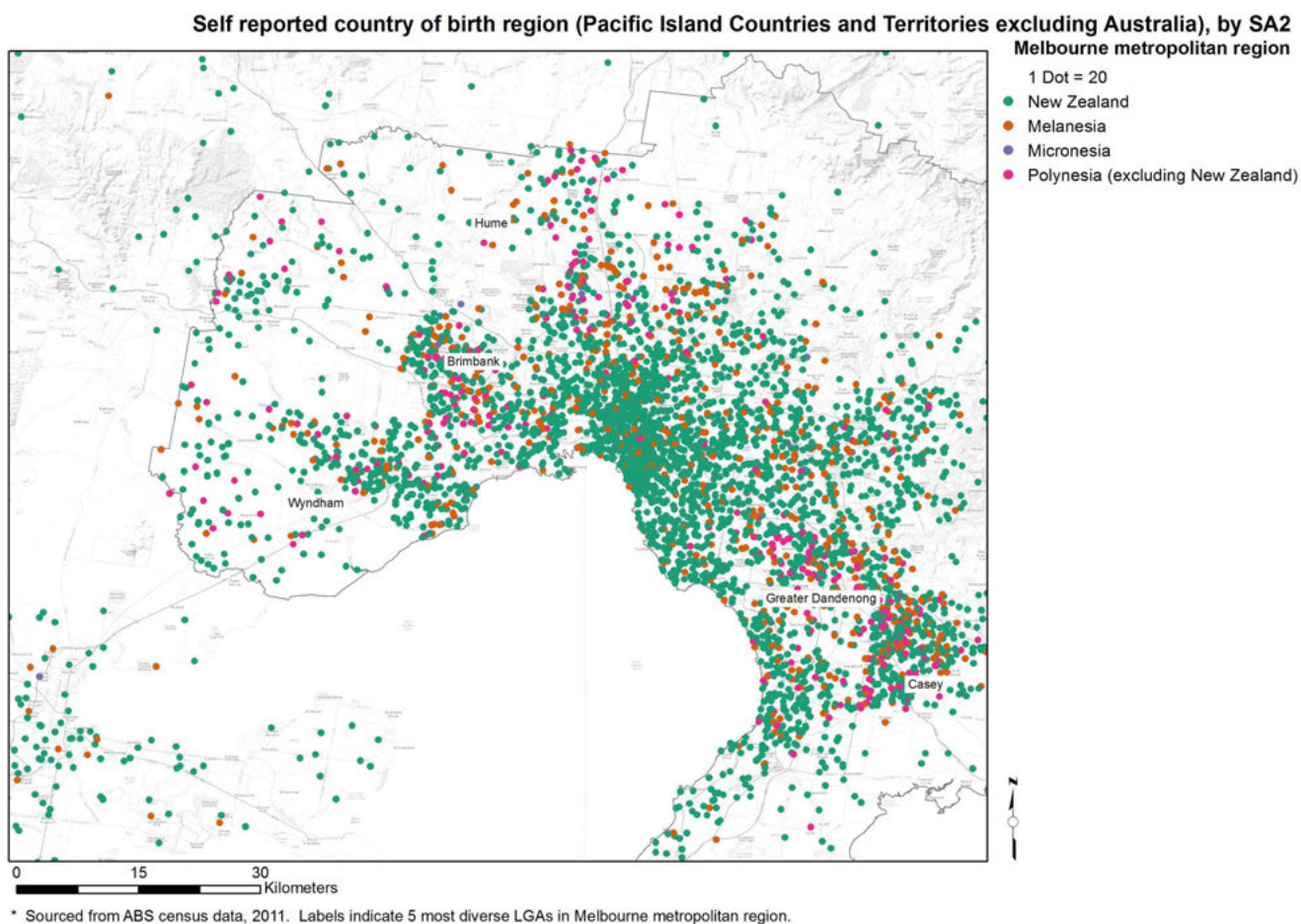
**Figure 9: Dot Density Map of Asian Countries of Birth by SA2, 2011**

Only migrants with Asian countries of birth are presented in Figure 9 and describe the majority of migrants born outside of Australia who live in Melbourne. People born in Central Asia tend to be located towards the south-eastern corridor of Melbourne, while people from North-East Asia are located in the middle band of south-eastern suburbs extending from bayside to the outer eastern suburbs towards the Yarra Ranges. People born South-East Asia are located across Melbourne, particularly the outer south-eastern, northern and outer western suburbs similar to people from Southern Asia. Geelong is located in the bottom left corner of Figure 9 has a notable population of people born in Asian countries. Though not officially part of metropolitan Melbourne, this city is a satellite city to Melbourne with interrelated employment and social connections.



**Figure 10: Dot Density Map of European Countries of Birth by SA2, 2011**

Only migrants with European countries of birth are presented in Figure 10. The majority of people from North-West Europe are located in the inner, eastern, southern and bayside suburbs of Melbourne with expanding populations across the outer northern and western suburbs and populations throughout the City of Greater Geelong. Trends are similar for people born in Southern Europe which is dense in the inner suburbs or Melbourne and the northern, western, eastern and southern suburbs. People born in Eastern European countries are clustered across the eastern and southern areas of Melbourne and also across the outer metropolitan areas and Geelong. The density of migrants born in European countries is also reflective of world migration patterns after World War II in the 1950's and 1960's.

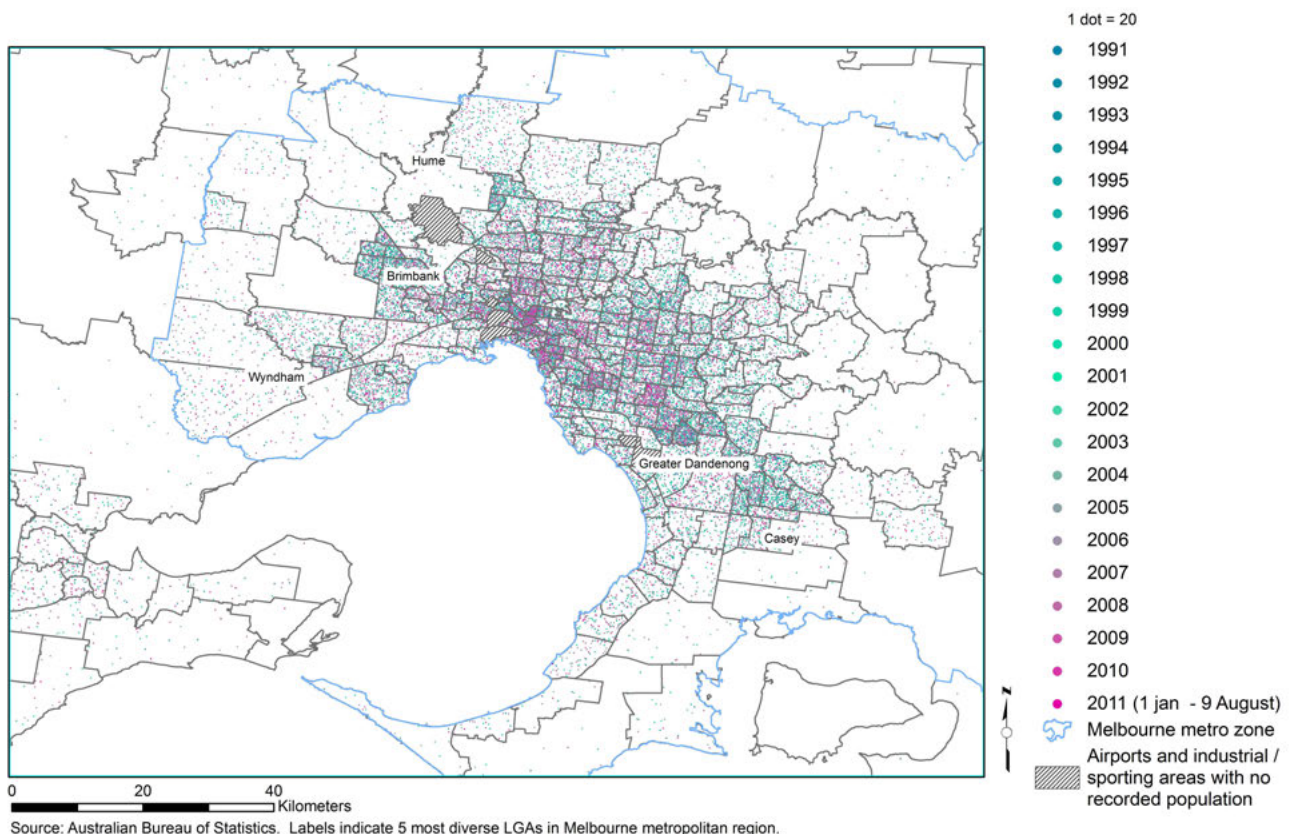


**Figure 11: Dot Density Map of Pacific Island Countries of Birth by SA2, 2011**

Only migrants with countries of birth from New Zealand, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia are presented in Figure 11. People born in New Zealand are located across Melbourne similar to people born in the countries of Melanesia. In comparison, people born in countries of Polynesia tend to be located in the northern corridor, inner west areas surrounding Brimbank and the outer south-eastern areas surrounding the LGAs of Dandenong and Casey. Very few people are born in the countries of Micronesia and are located across the northern and western areas of Melbourne. People born in Micronesia and Polynesia are also generally absent from wealthier areas of Melbourne.

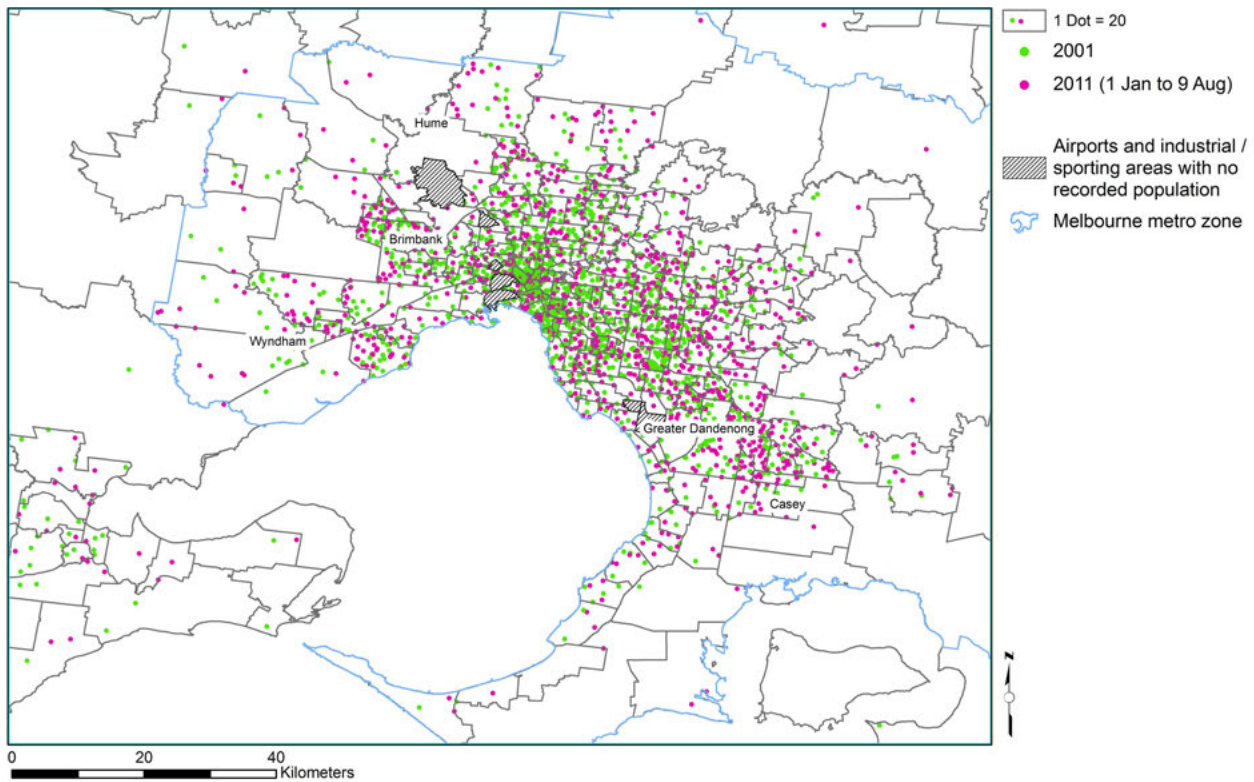
## 2. Year of Arrival Patterns in Metropolitan Melbourne 2001-2011

This section provides comparison of migration patterns in Melbourne over time. Yearly numbers of migration arrivals are presented from 1991 to 2011 (Figure 12) and then a comparison between location of migration concentrating on 2001 and 2011 (Figure 13).



**Figure 12: Dot Density Map of Migrant Year of Arrival in Melbourne by SA2, 1991-2011**

Most recent migration in Figure 12 is indicated with pink shaded dots and suggests that recent migration has dominated locations in inner Melbourne, and in corridors through the western, northern, eastern and south-eastern areas of Melbourne. Green shaded dots describe people who migrated to Melbourne in the 1990's and early 2000's and are more dispersed throughout the suburbs of Melbourne with clustering around the outer suburbs, particularly areas near Hume, Brimbank, Dandenong and Casey LGAs.

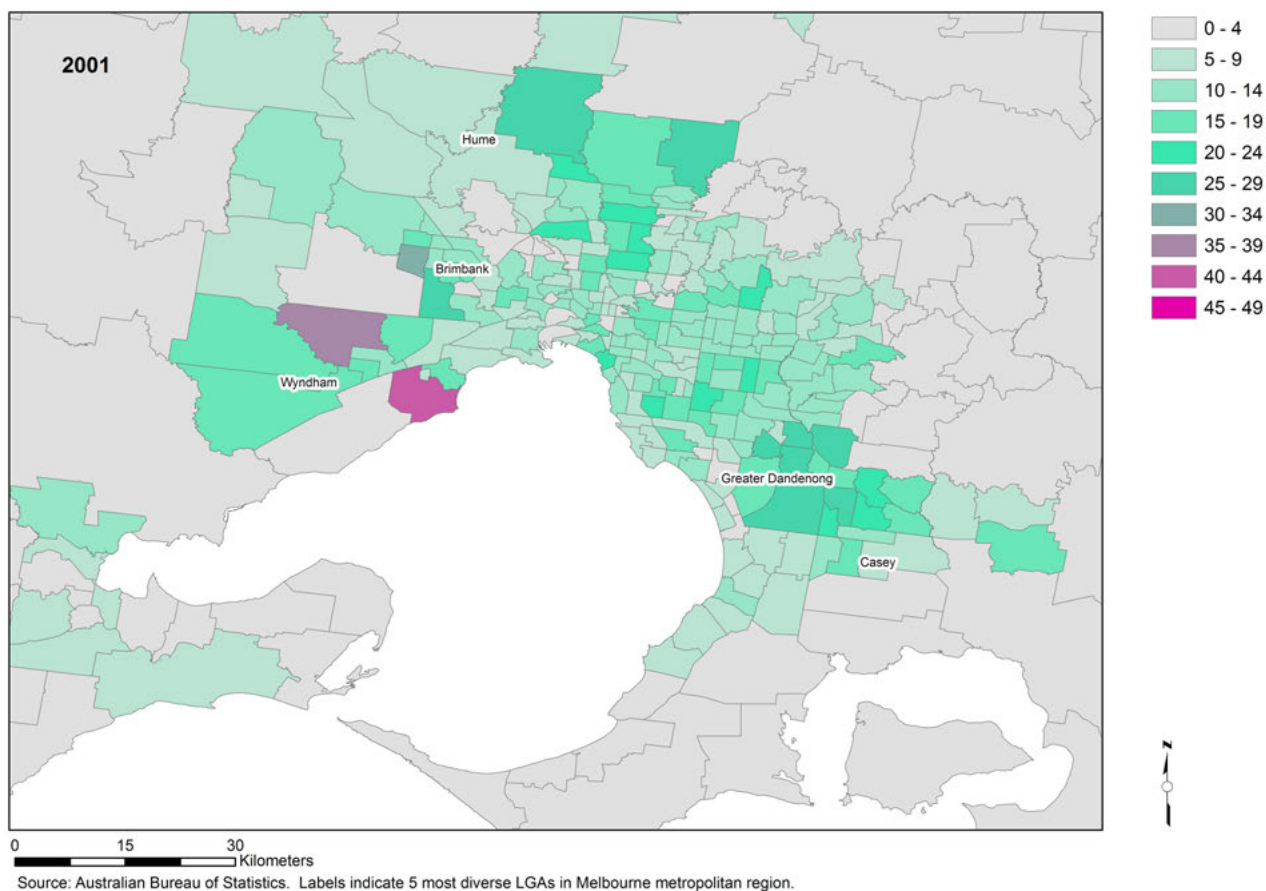


**Figure 13: Dot Density Map Comparing 2001 and 2011 Migrant Arrivals in Melbourne by SA2**

A comparison of 2001 and 2011 arrival patterns are provided in Figure 13 and suggest a similar migrant settlement pattern during both time periods. The overall dominance of settlement in the southern and eastern suburbs of Melbourne is also reflective of the general Melbourne population. Migrant settlement has continued to cluster around the LGAs of Wyndham, Brimbank, Hume and Whittlesea in the north-east with extended settlement through the eastern and south-eastern areas of Melbourne. An increase in settlement is marginally visible in the 2011 data around the outer south-eastern LGA of Casey.



### 3. Number of Countries of Birth in Metropolitan Melbourne



**Figure 14: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2001**

In 2001, superdiversity was highest in the LGA of Wyndham, particularly around Point Cook which had 45-49 different countries of birth in a single SA2. This area is clearly visible in bright pink in Figure 14 while another SA2 in the LGA near the northern boundary had between 35-39 different countries of birth. Areas within and surrounding Brimbank, Greater Dandenong, Hume and Whittlesea also had residents living in superdiverse SA2s with between 25-39 different countries of birth.

The following pages provide annual migration patterns from 2002-2011 (Figure 15 - Figure 24) extending the data provided in Figure 14 provided above. The general trend visible in these maps is an increase in superdiversity beginning in Dandenong in 2004, expanding superdiversity in outer Hume, Whittlesea and Casey in 2005, inner Melbourne and northern corridor increases in superdiversity in 2008/2009, and a stabilisation of these patterns in 2010.

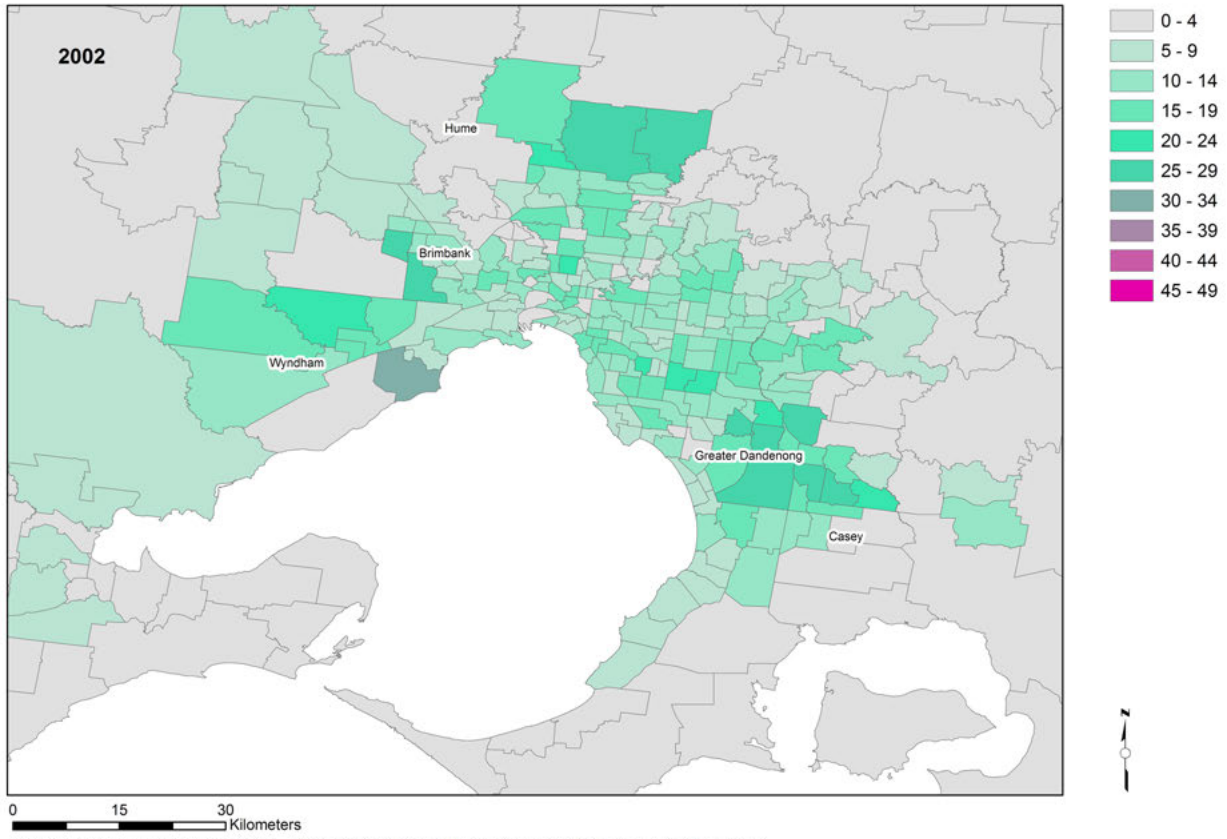


Figure 15: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2002

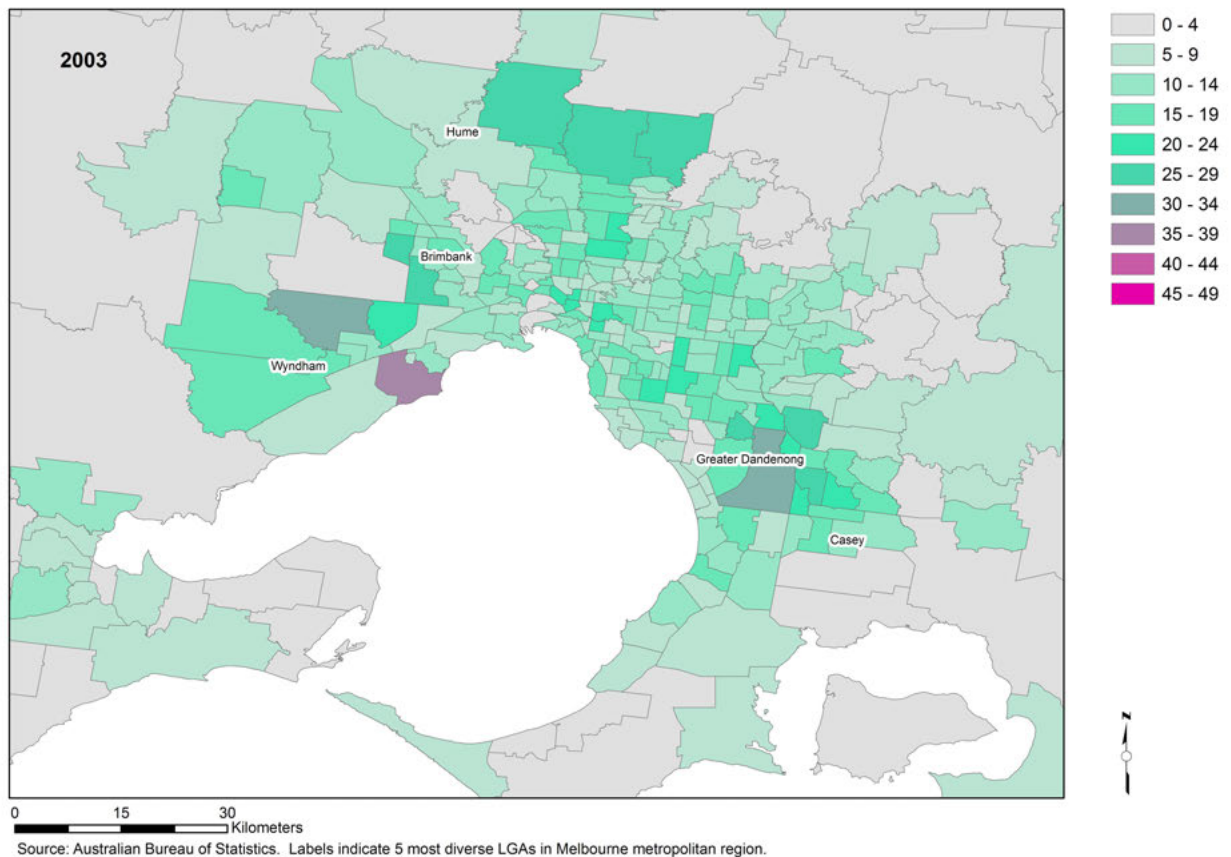


Figure 16: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2003

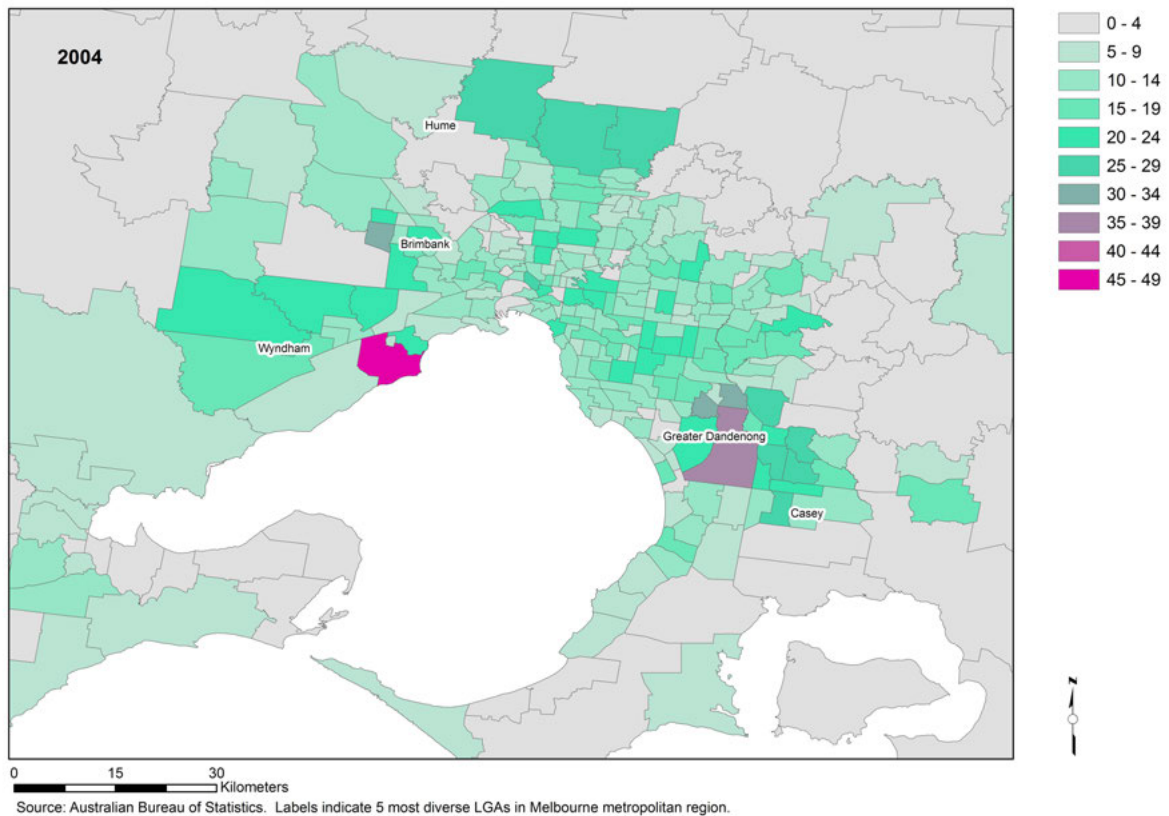


Figure 17: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2004

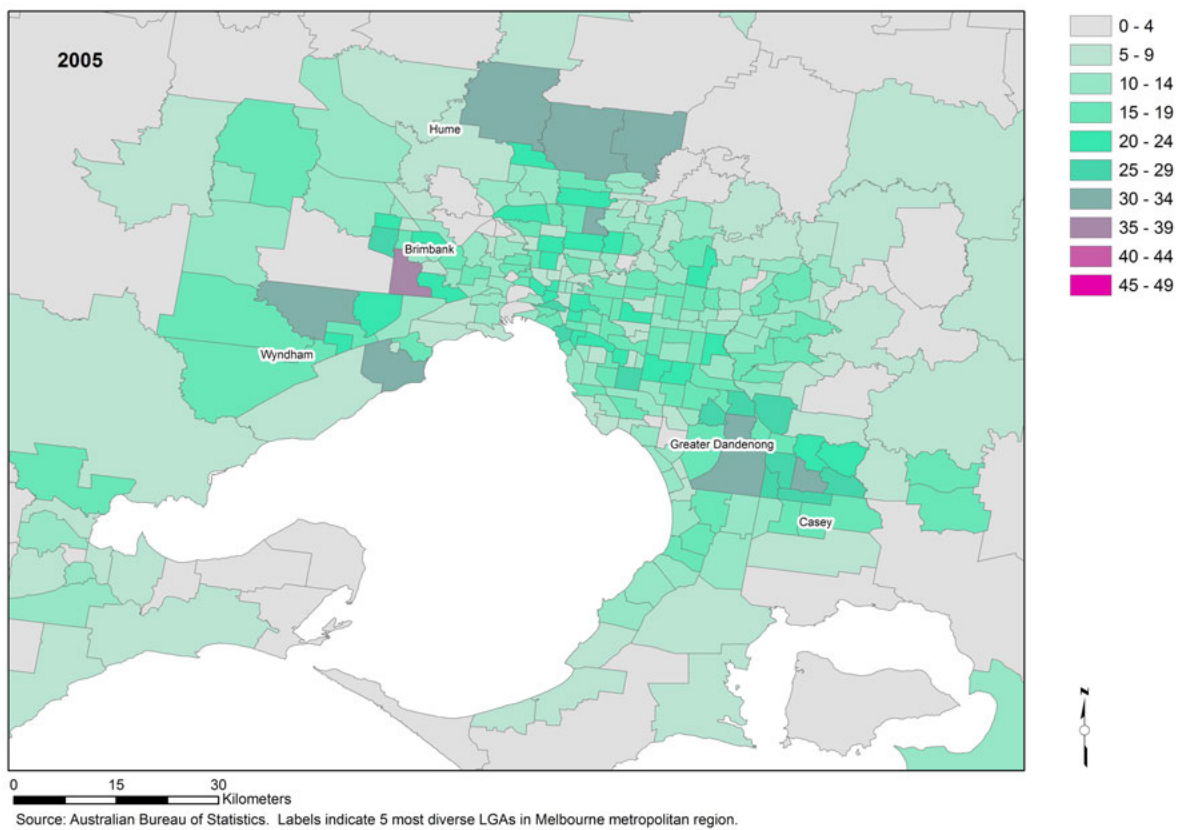
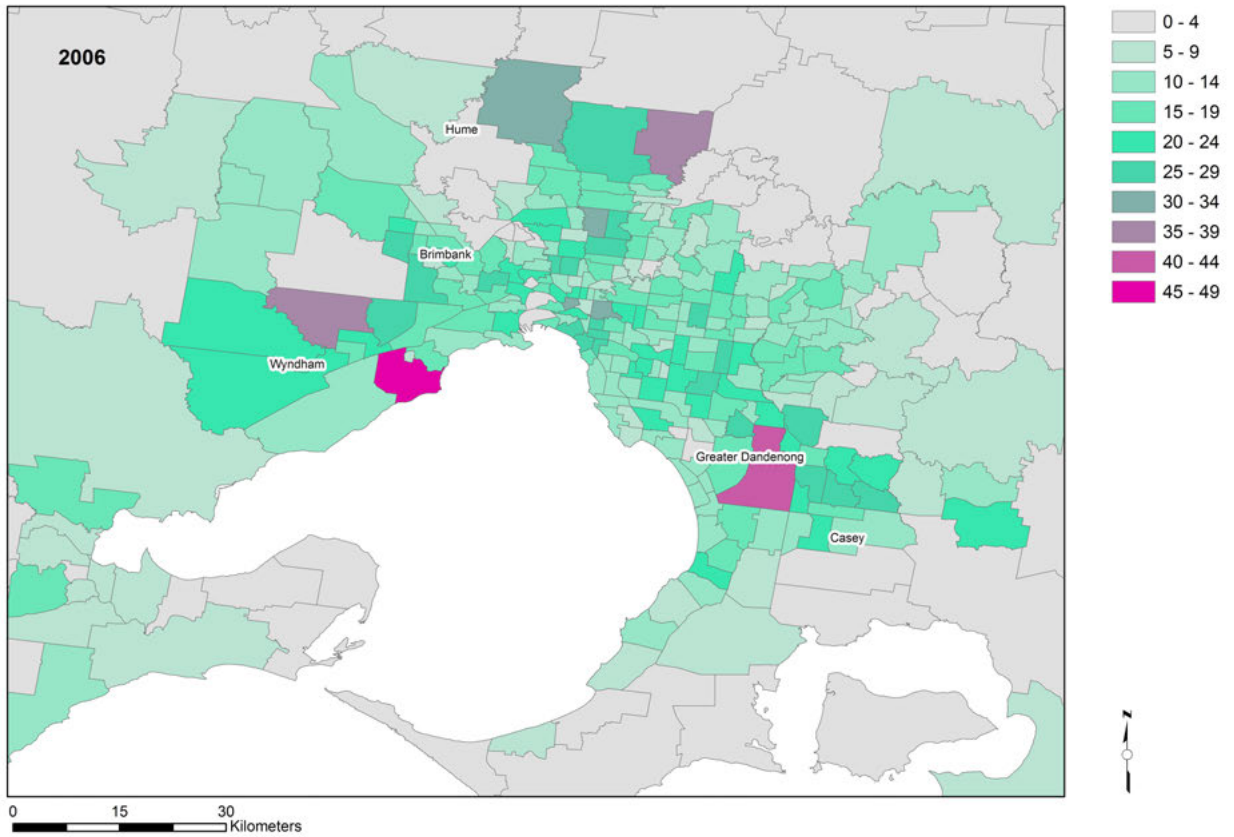
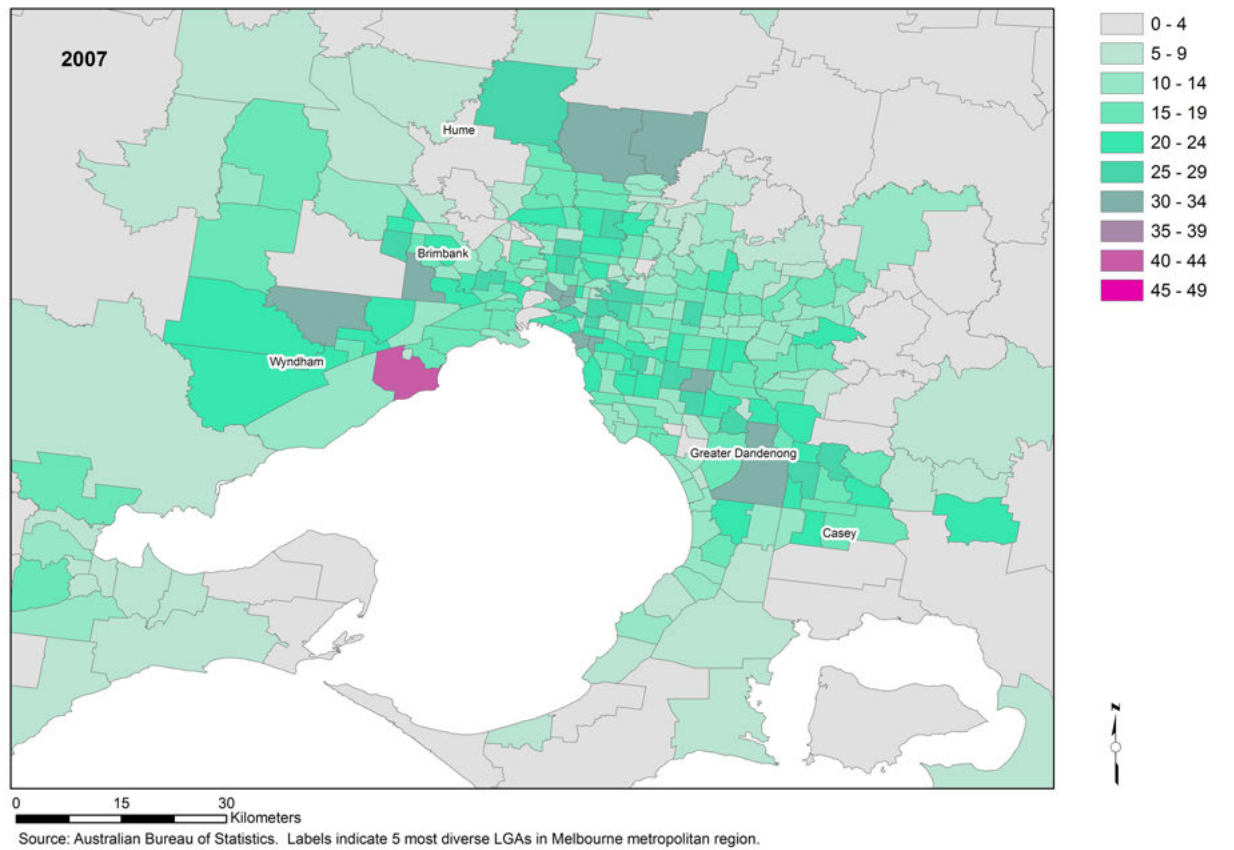


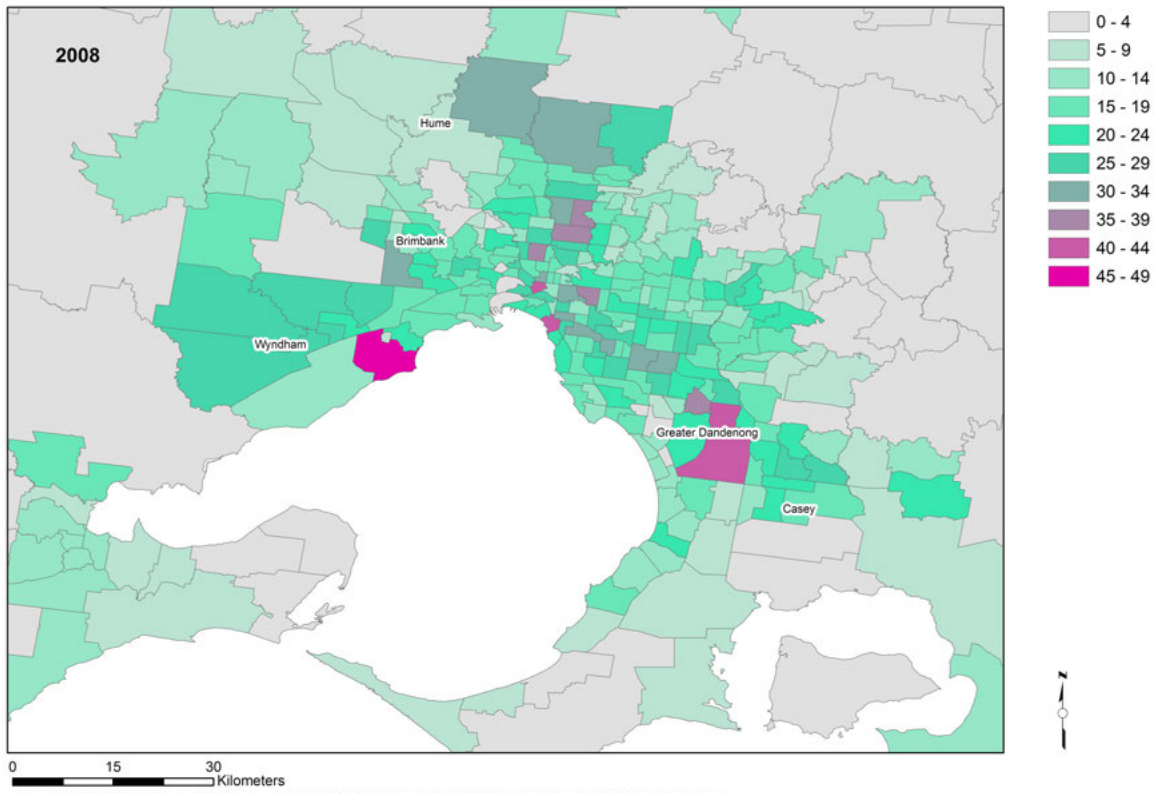
Figure 18: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2005



**Figure 19: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2006**

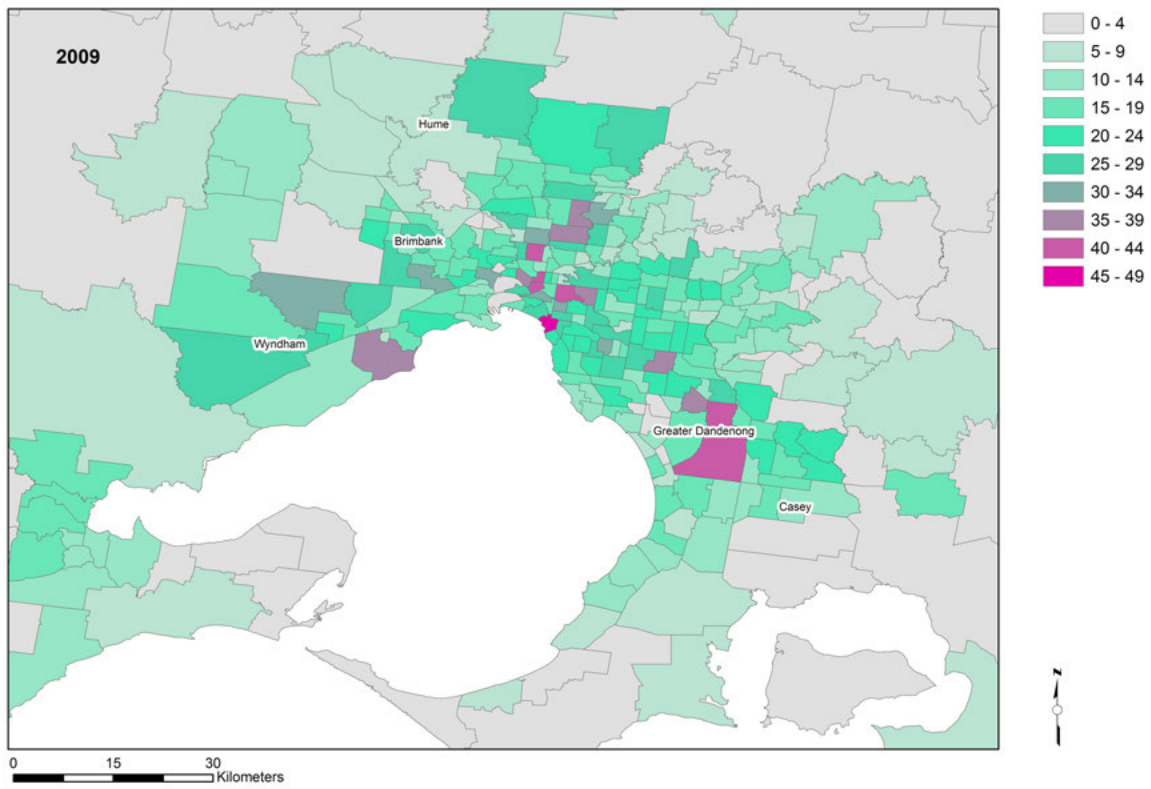


**Figure 20: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2007**



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

Figure 21: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2008



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

Figure 22: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2009

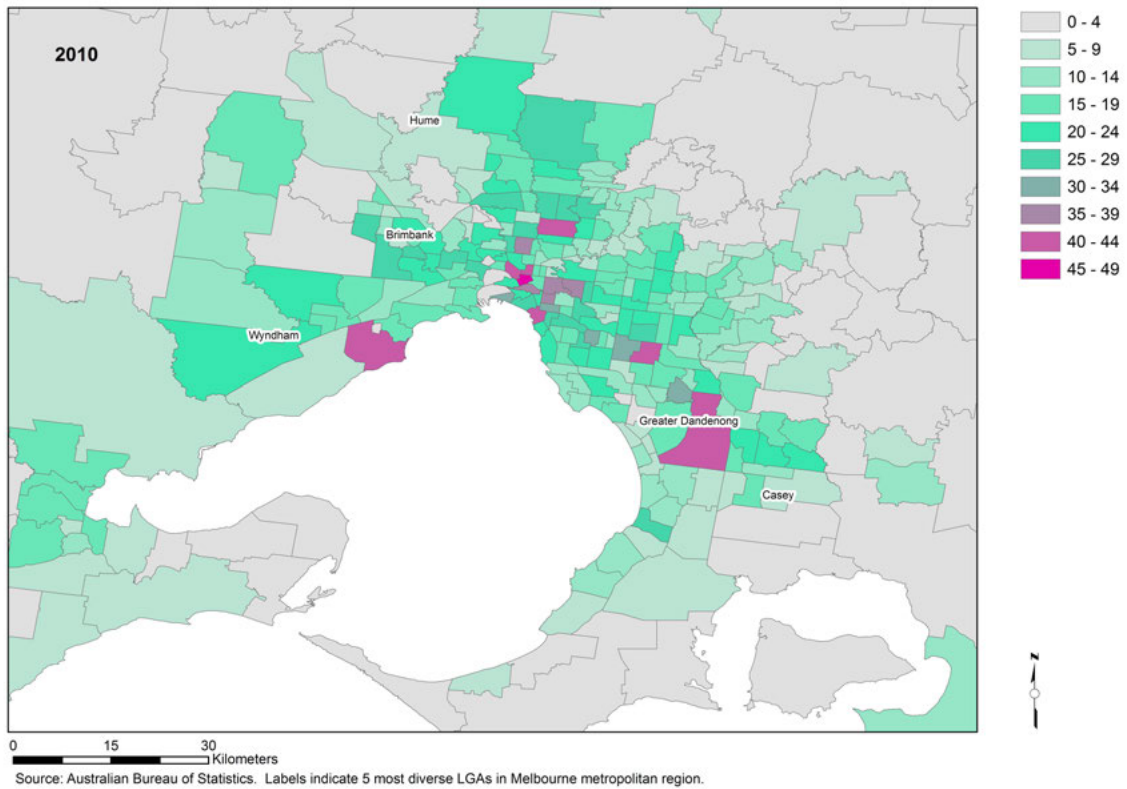


Figure 23: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2010

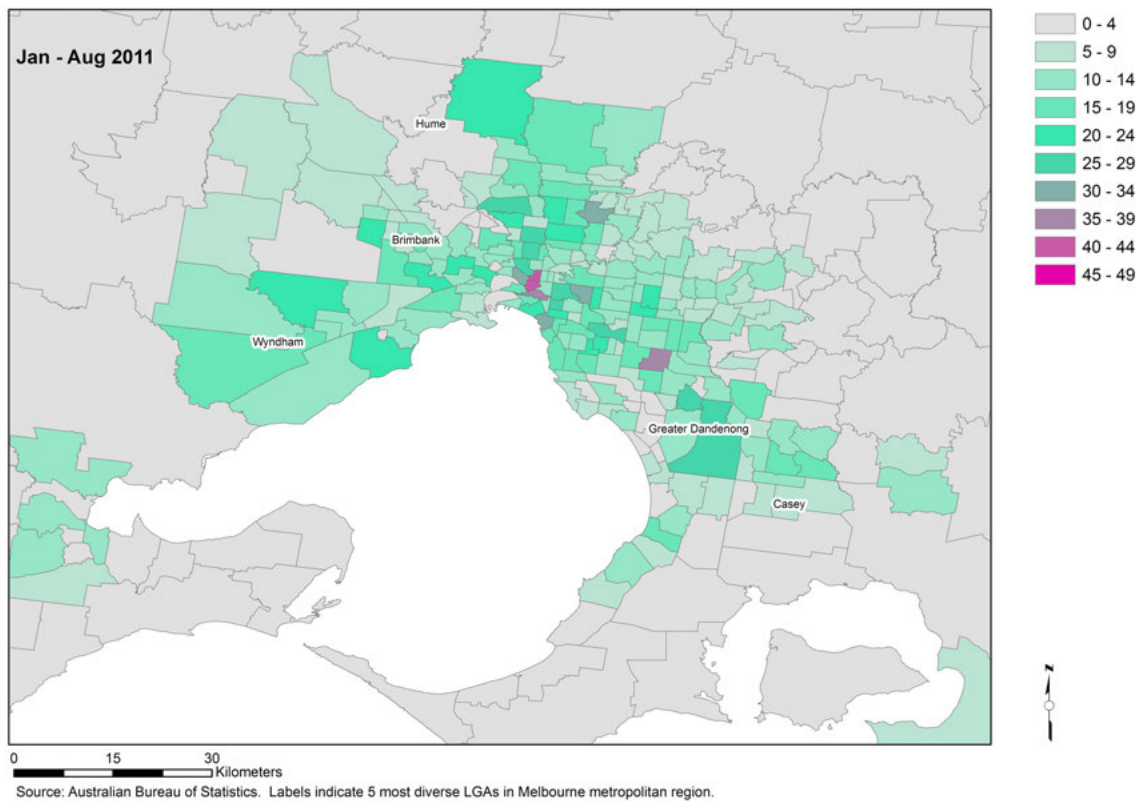
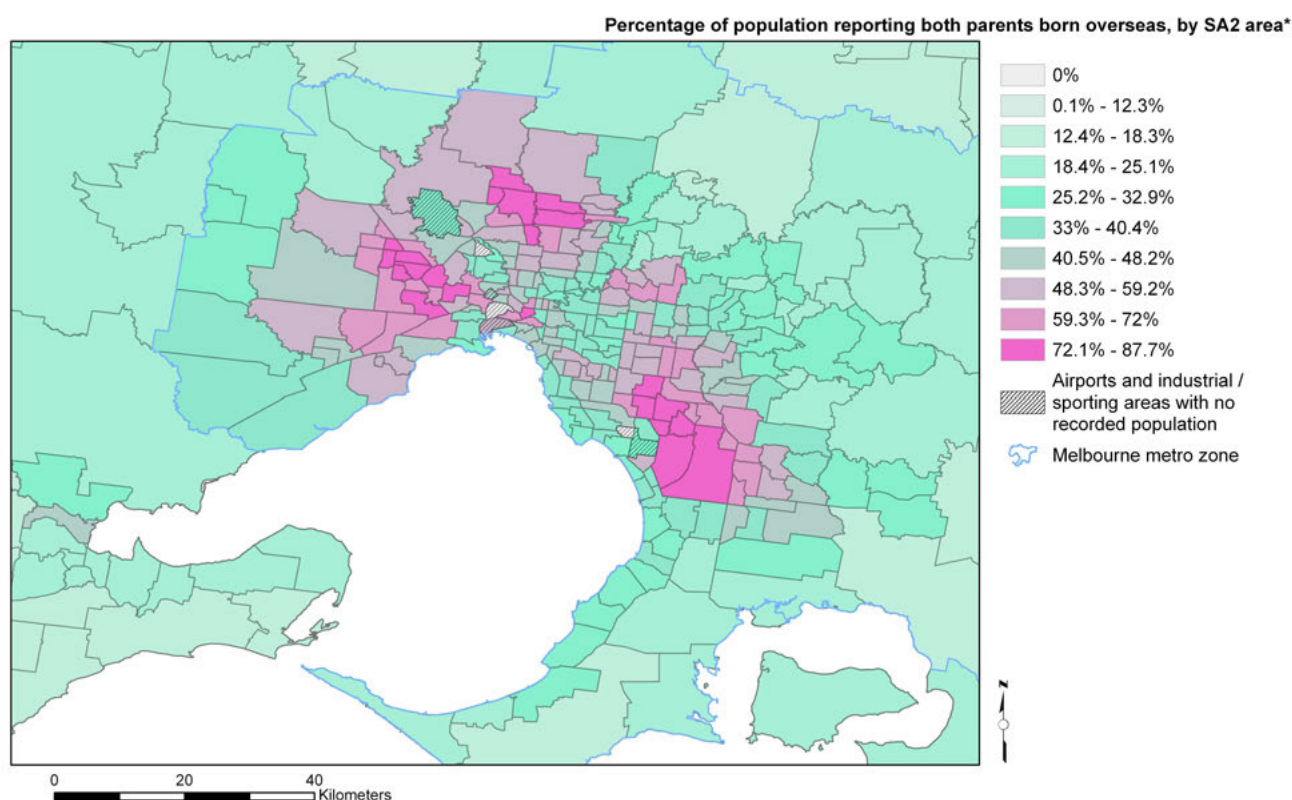


Figure 24: Number of Countries of Birth in Melbourne by SA2 in 2011

## 4. Parents Born Overseas in Metropolitan Melbourne

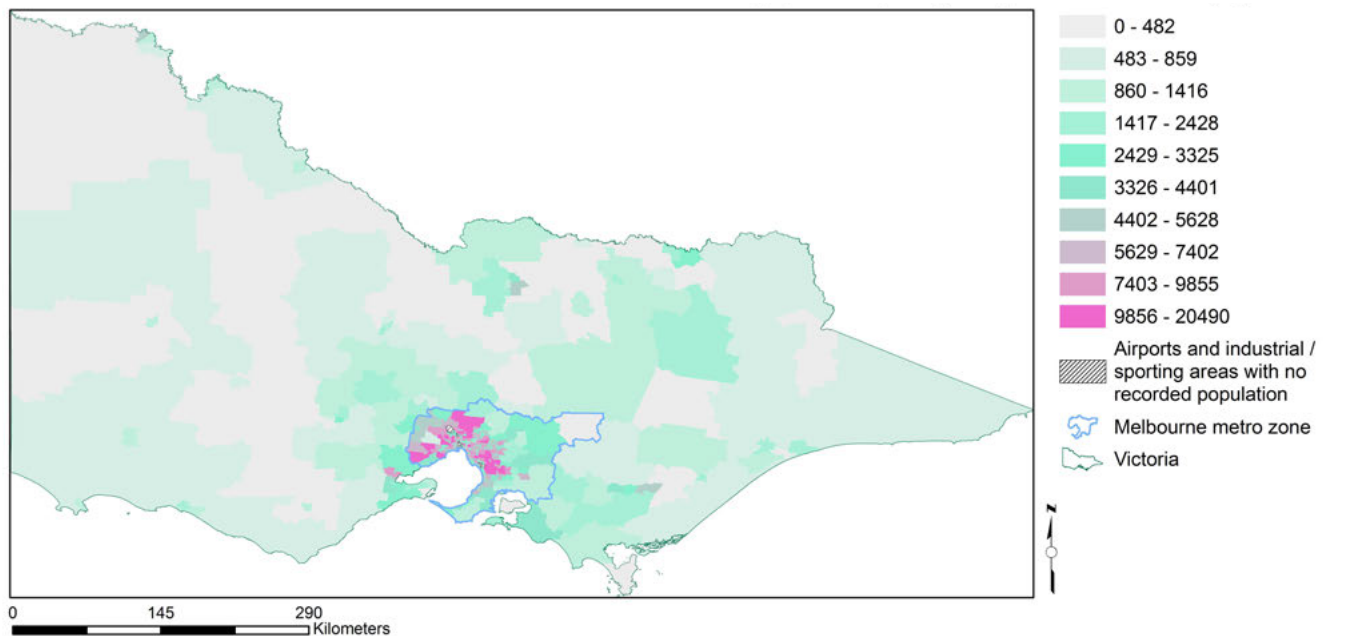
Both parents being born overseas provides an additional measure for assessing superdiversity. The proportion of the population with both parents born overseas in 2011 is presented according to SA2 for metropolitan Melbourne in Figure 25 below and for the state of Victoria in Figure 26 overleaf.



\* Quantities expressed using Jenks Natural Breaks, normalised to Victoria. Data sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Of 5,013,660 Victorians surveyed who reported data for both parents, 38.1% reported both parents born overseas and 49.6% reported at least one parent born overseas.

**Figure 25: Proportion of Population with Both Parents Born Overseas by SA2, 2011**

Four areas in Figure 25 stand out as being areas with very high proportions of the population (72% - 88% of residents) with both parents born overseas. These areas shaded in dark pink colour and include: a single SA2 in inner Melbourne; a number of SA2s in the LGA of Brimbank extending from the western to north-western suburbs of Melbourne; a number of SA2s in the in the northern LGAs of Hume and Whittlesea around the suburbs of Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park; and also a number of SA2s in south-eastern LGA of Greater Dandenong around the suburbs of Dandenong, Noble Park and Springvale.



Deciles normalised to Victoria, sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Of 5,013,660 Victorians surveyed who reported data for both parents, 38.1% reported both parents born overseas and 49.6% reported at least one parent born overseas.

**Figure 26: Proportion of Population with Both Parents Born Overseas by SA2 for Victoria, 2011**

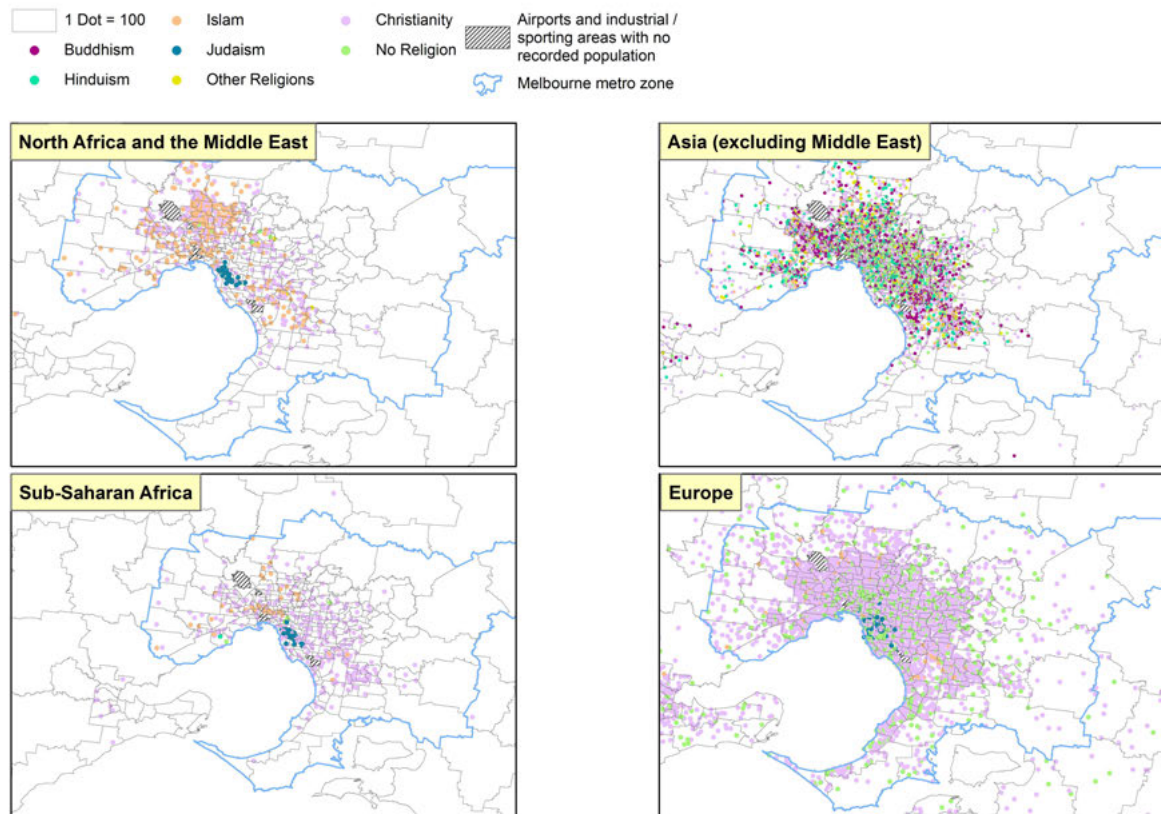
The proportion of the population with both parents born overseas is significantly lower in regional areas of Victoria particularly in the broad rural western areas of Victoria. However, Figure 26 does reveal some small pockets of increased diversity in central Victoria around Shepparton, the north western tip of Victoria around Mildura, and some slight increase around Gippsland, Ballarat, Alpine areas, Geelong and along the coast towards the Otways.



## 5. Religion in Metropolitan Melbourne

A dot density map of the selected religions of Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and others reported in the 2011 Census are provided in Figure 27 below. Christian religions, no religion and not stated religion are excluded from this map.

**Dot density self-reported religion by SA2 and country of birth region (excludes Oceania and Americas)**



\* Sourced from ABS census data, 2011.

**Figure 27: Dot Density Map of Religion by SA2, 2011**

Hinduism is spread across Melbourne with a noticeable cluster in the western suburbs around Wyndham and throughout the north, east and south-east. Buddhism is located across the inner west, inner south-east, middle and outer south-east and clustering around Dandenong and Casey. Figure 27 also reveals that Islam is spread throughout Melbourne with distinct clustering in the northern corridor, areas surrounding Greater Dandenong, across the inner west near Brimbank and outer west near Wyndham. Judaism is the only religion not present throughout Melbourne and is densely clustered and within the inner south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne around the LGA of Glen Eira. Very little diversity in religions is evident surrounding Geelong.

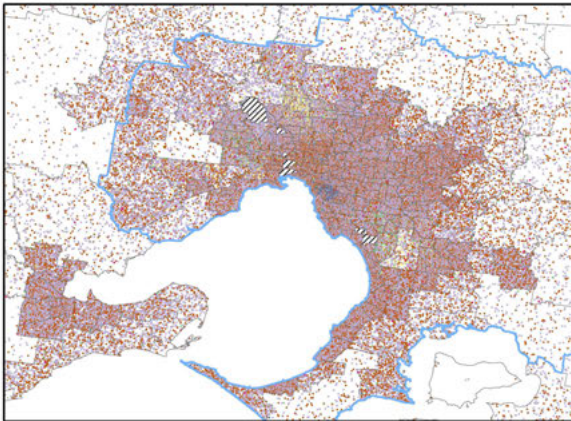
Further detail on religion and country of birth is provided in Figure 28 overleaf and reveals the dominance of Christianity and a high proportion of people who report no religion.

# 6. Religion and Country of Birth in Melbourne

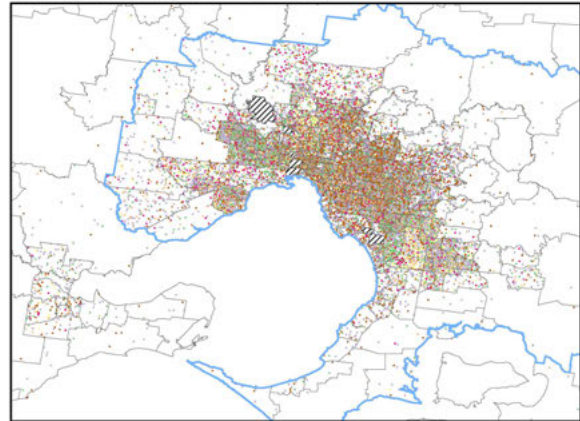
Dot density self-reported religion by SA2 and country of birth region \*



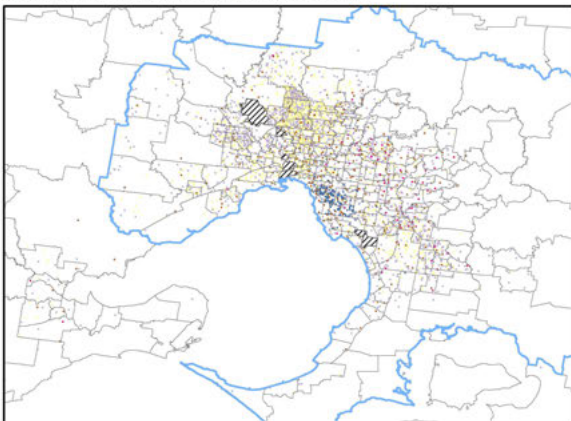
Oceania



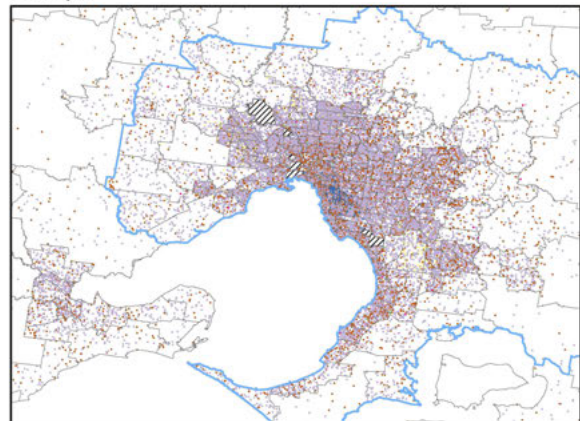
Asia (excluding Middle East)



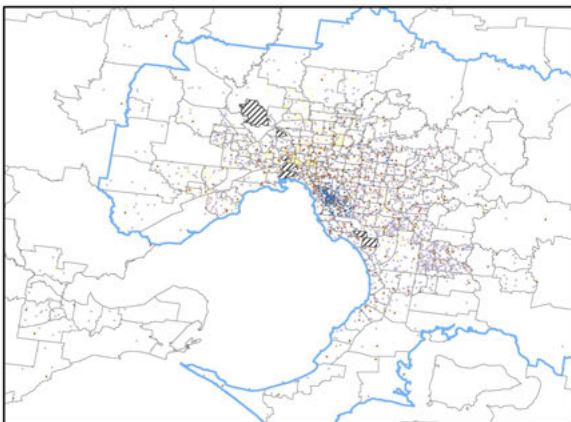
North Africa and the Middle East



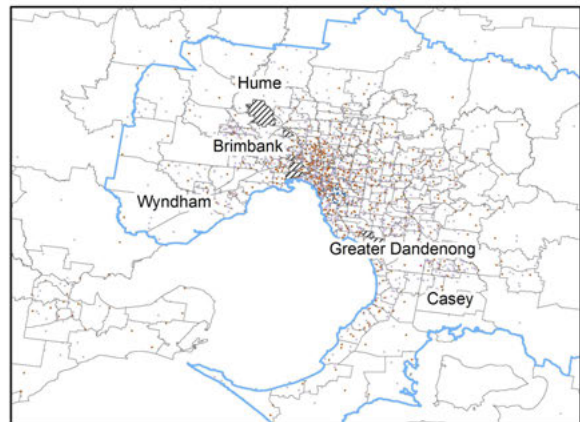
Europe



Sub-Saharan Africa



Americas

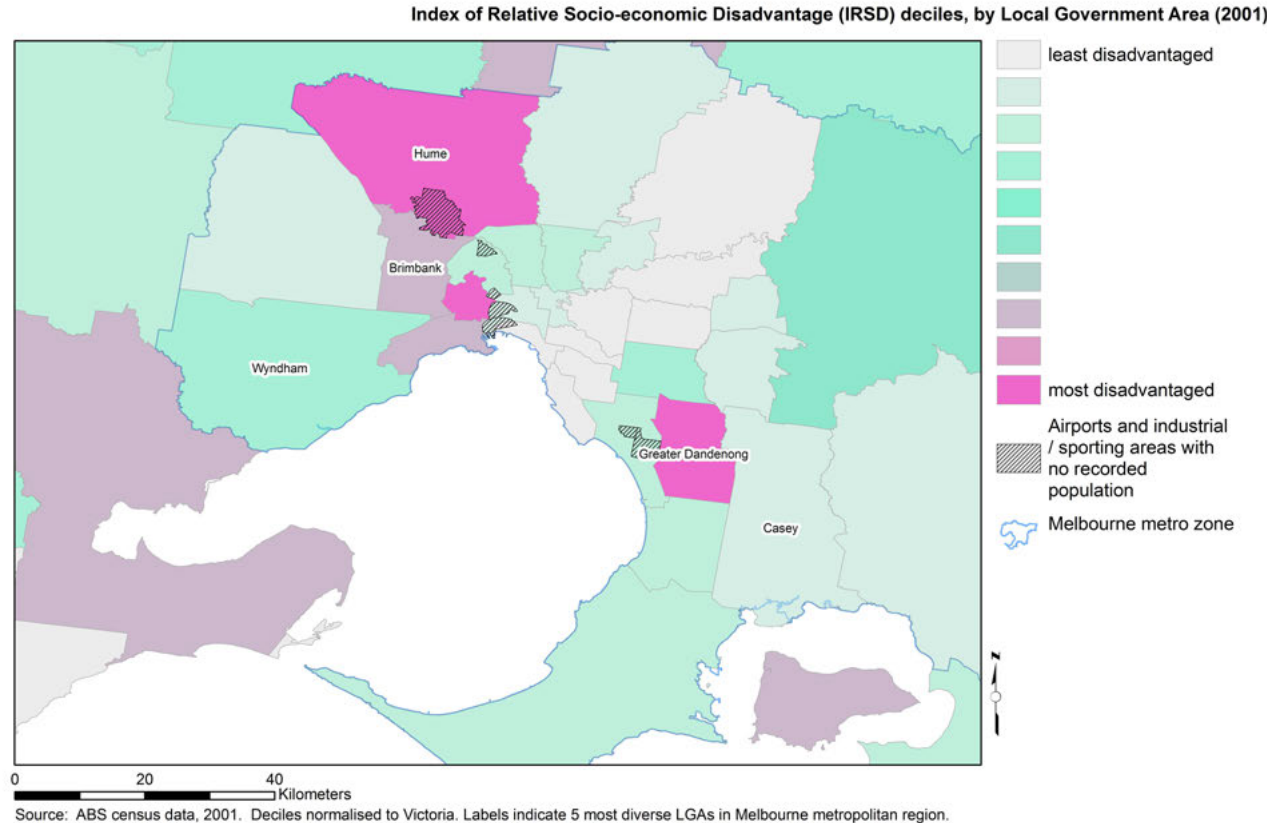


\* Sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

Figure 28: Dot Density Map of Religion According to Major Regions for Country of Birth

# 7. SEIFA Disadvantage and Religion in Metropolitan Melbourne

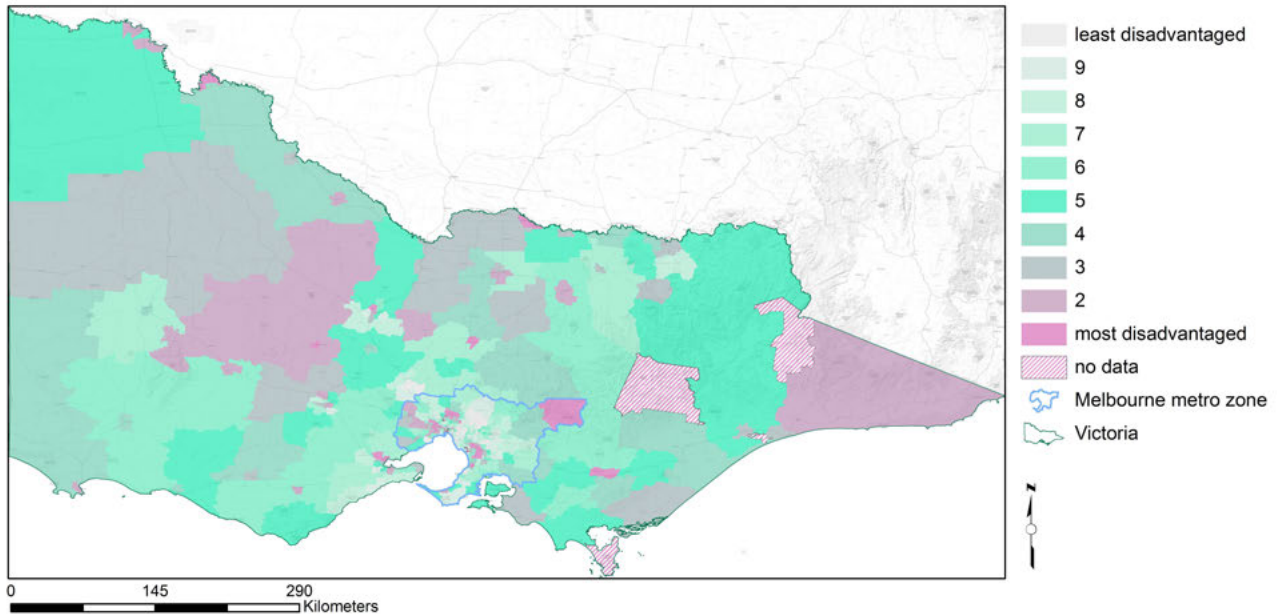
Understanding neighbourhood disadvantage provides important contextual information for the interpretation of superdiversity in Melbourne and Victoria. The following section provides the SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage according to SA2 for metropolitan Melbourne in Figure 29 and for the state of Victoria in Figure 30. Lowest deciles of SEIFA IRSD are compared with religion in Figure 31.



**Figure 29: SEIFA IRSD by SA2 for Melbourne, 2011**

Areas of greatest comparative disadvantage are highlighted in purples and pinks in Figure 29 above. Many of these areas overlap areas that have highest levels of superdiversity with the exception of Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula, and the Mornington Peninsula and Frankston. Notable is the area of Point Cook in the West of Melbourne shaded in green in one of the least disadvantaged areas in Melbourne but was identified in Figure 23 as having high superdiversity peaking in 2010 (45-49 different countries of birth).

Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) - deciles, by SA2 area (2011)



\* Deciles normalised to Victoria, sourced from ABS census data, 2011. Labels indicate 5 most diverse LGAs in Melbourne metropolitan region.

**Figure 30: SEIFA IRSD by SA2 for Victoria, 2011**

Moderate to high level of comparative disadvantage are more common in rural areas of Victoria evident as purple, pink and orange areas in Figure 30. Least disadvantage coloured as green areas is present in the LGA of Indigo near the Victorian north-eastern border, coastal areas along the Great Ocean Road, a small area around Ballarat and areas surrounding Bendigo and the Macedon Ranges. Most disadvantage is present in the state’s rural outer east, Mildura, Kerang, Cobram, central western Victoria, central Victoria near Bendigo and Seymour, parts of Ballarat, Geelong, Colac and Gippsland near Morwell.

Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) with religion dot density overlay, by SA2 area (2011)

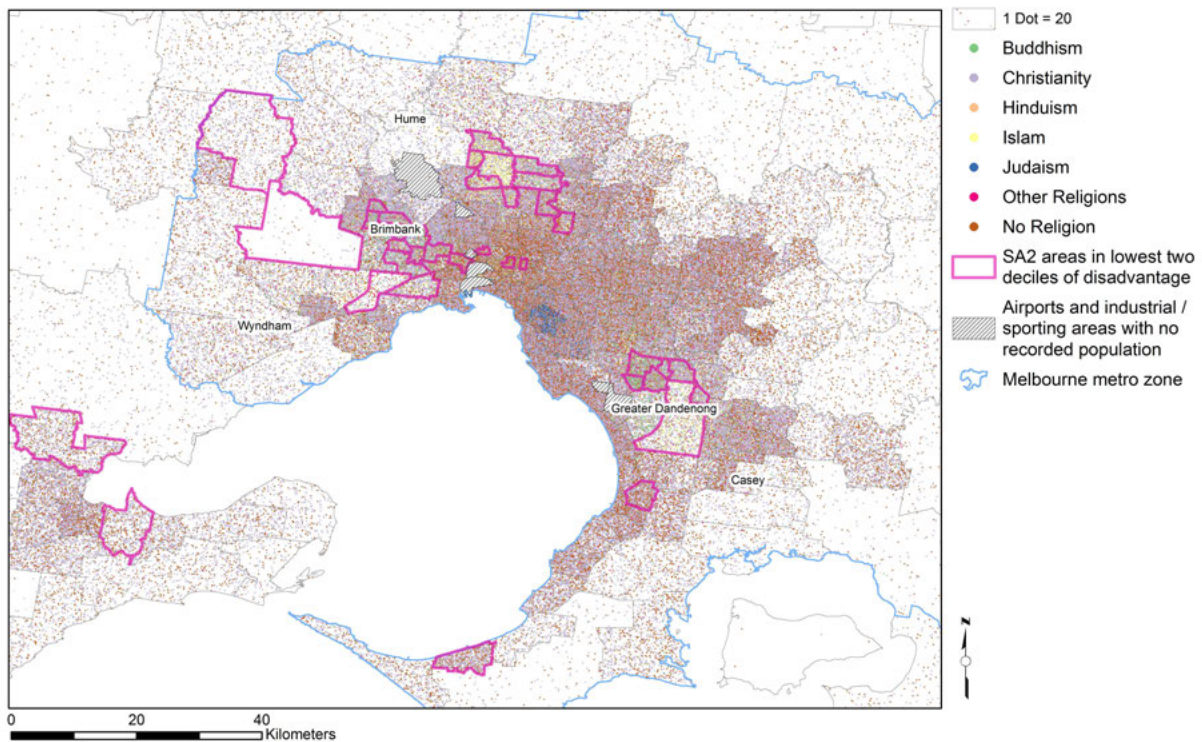
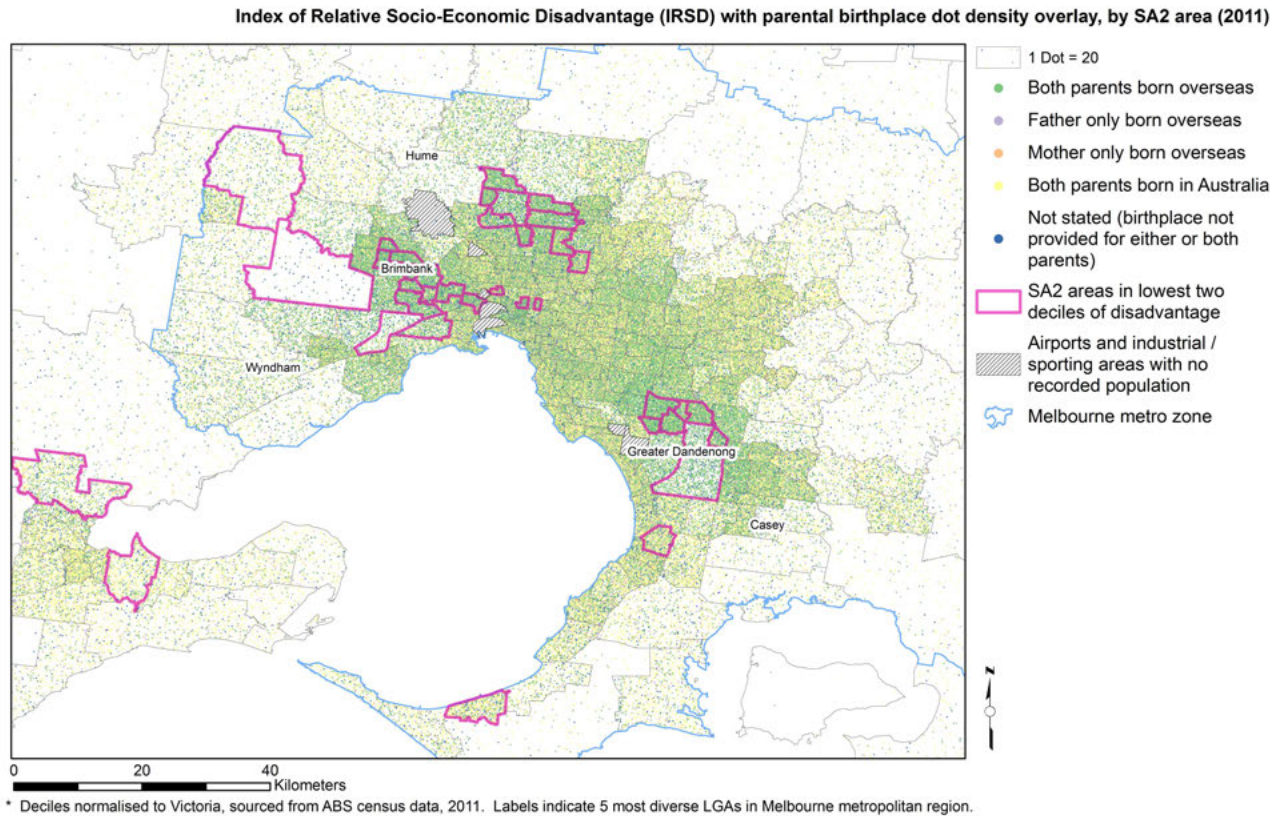


Figure 31: Dot Density Map of Religion and Areas with Lowest 20% of SEIFA IRSD, 2011

The areas marked with a pink border in Figure 31 are the lowest 20% or bottom 2 deciles of SEIFA IRSD indicating greatest areas of comparative disadvantage. The areas in the outer west and north west have lower proportions of people reporting religious affiliation. The identified disadvantaged SA2s surrounding Brimbank are characterised by multiple religious affiliations. In the northern corridor the identified areas are dominated by people reporting Islam and Christian religions while areas around Dandenong report a variety of religions including Islam, Christianity and Buddhism. Christianity also appears to dominate the religions of people living on either side of the bay in Geelong and on the Mornington Peninsula.

## 8. SEIFA Disadvantage and Parental Birthplace in Metropolitan Melbourne

The final map presented in this report is Figure 32 which provides an assessment of parental birthplace and the lowest 20% or bottom 2 deciles of SEIFA IRSD.



**Figure 32: Dot Density Map of Parental Country of Birth and Lowest 20% of SEIFA IRSD, 2011**

Results presented in Figure 32 provide contrasting results across the identified areas of greatest disadvantage. A high proportion of people living in the Geelong and Mornington Peninsula have both parents born in Australia while areas around Brimbank, Hume and Greater Dandenong have a majority of people with both parents born overseas with dominance in green colouring visible.

# CONCLUSIONS

This report provides evidence and analysis of superdiversity in Melbourne and clearly demonstrates that residents and their parents come from a huge variety of countries from around the world. The entire city and even rural areas of Victoria are home to people from very diverse backgrounds. Spatial representation clearly suggests that all areas of Melbourne are characterized by superdiversity with some areas supporting more concentrated or clustered diverse populations than others. This report confirms the presence of superdiversity in Melbourne and rural Victorian society adding to complexities in planning but also adding to the culture and liveability of the city. Key findings from this report are summarised below:

- Broad superdiversity across all of Melbourne with resident clustering surrounding the LGAs of Wyndham, Brimbank, Hume, Whittlesea, Greater Dandenong and Casey who have the highest levels of superdiversity in Melbourne with residents born in over 100 different countries;
- Most recent migration has dominated locations in inner Melbourne, and in corridors through the western, northern, eastern and south-eastern areas of Melbourne;
- The population of rural Victoria is much less diverse when compared to metropolitan Melbourne, particularly in rural western Victoria, but nonetheless surprising diverse for rural areas;
- Small pockets of superdiversity exist in rural Victoria particularly in Shepparton, Albury-Wodonga, Mildura, Ballarat and areas of Gippsland;
- There have been significant changes in migrant countries of birth between 2006 and 2011 with migration patterns and volumes changing significantly across time;
- People born in Western, Central and Southern Asian countries are located in the south-eastern, northern and western areas of Melbourne, with a high density of people born in Western Asia located in the outer north;
- People born in middle-eastern countries dominate the northern corridor of Melbourne while central and west, southern and east African countries of birth dominate the south-eastern areas of Melbourne;
- People born in North-West Europe are located in the inner, eastern, southern and bayside suburbs of Melbourne with expanding populations across the outer northern and western suburbs and populations throughout the City of Greater Geelong;
- People born in Southern Europe which is dense in the inner suburbs of Melbourne and the northern, western, eastern and southern suburbs;
- Similar migrant settlement patterns are visible when comparing 2001 and 2011 arrival patterns but increase in settlement visible in the outer south-eastern LGA of Casey in 2011;

- Comparing changes across time, superdiversity increases began to emerge in Dandenong in 2004, expanding into outer Hume, Whittlesea and Casey in 2005, inner Melbourne and northern corridor increases in 2008/2009, and a stabilisation of these patterns in 2010;
- The proportion of people with both parents born overseas is significantly lower in regional areas of Victoria compared to Melbourne with pockets of increased diversity around Shepparton, Mildura, Gippsland, Ballarat, Alpine areas, Geelong and along the Great Ocean Road;
- Hinduism is common in the western suburbs around Wyndham and throughout the north, east and south-east, Buddhism across the inner west, inner south-east, middle and outer south-east clustering around Dandenong and Casey, Islam in the northern corridor of Melbourne and areas surrounding Greater Dandenong, inner west and outer west near Wyndham, while Judaism is densely clustered within inner south-eastern Melbourne;
- Areas with high levels of superdiversity overlap with many areas of significant disadvantage as measured by SEIFA IRSD.

This research provides greater understanding of superdiversity in Melbourne and Victoria. It is based on detailed 2011 Census data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and provides a brief snapshot of issues of culture, ethnicity, religion and disadvantage in relation to Melbourne neighbourhoods. Future research should use this foundation to investigate additional relationships between superdiversity with health equity and access to health services and continue to monitor changes over time. Many clustered superdiverse populations have been identified throughout this report and future research should investigate migration flows into and out of these areas across time and factors that increase or decrease the likelihood of cultural clustering and associated migration outcomes.



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