

**36%**  
of the people  
living in the  
NWMPHN  
area were born  
overseas

Cultural diversity relates to a person's country of birth, their ancestry, what languages they speak, and their religious affiliation. This snapshot describes some of the cultural diversity characteristics of the North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network (NWMPHN) community. There is a separate document describing features of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

## Percentage of population born overseas by statistical area 2 (SA2), 2016

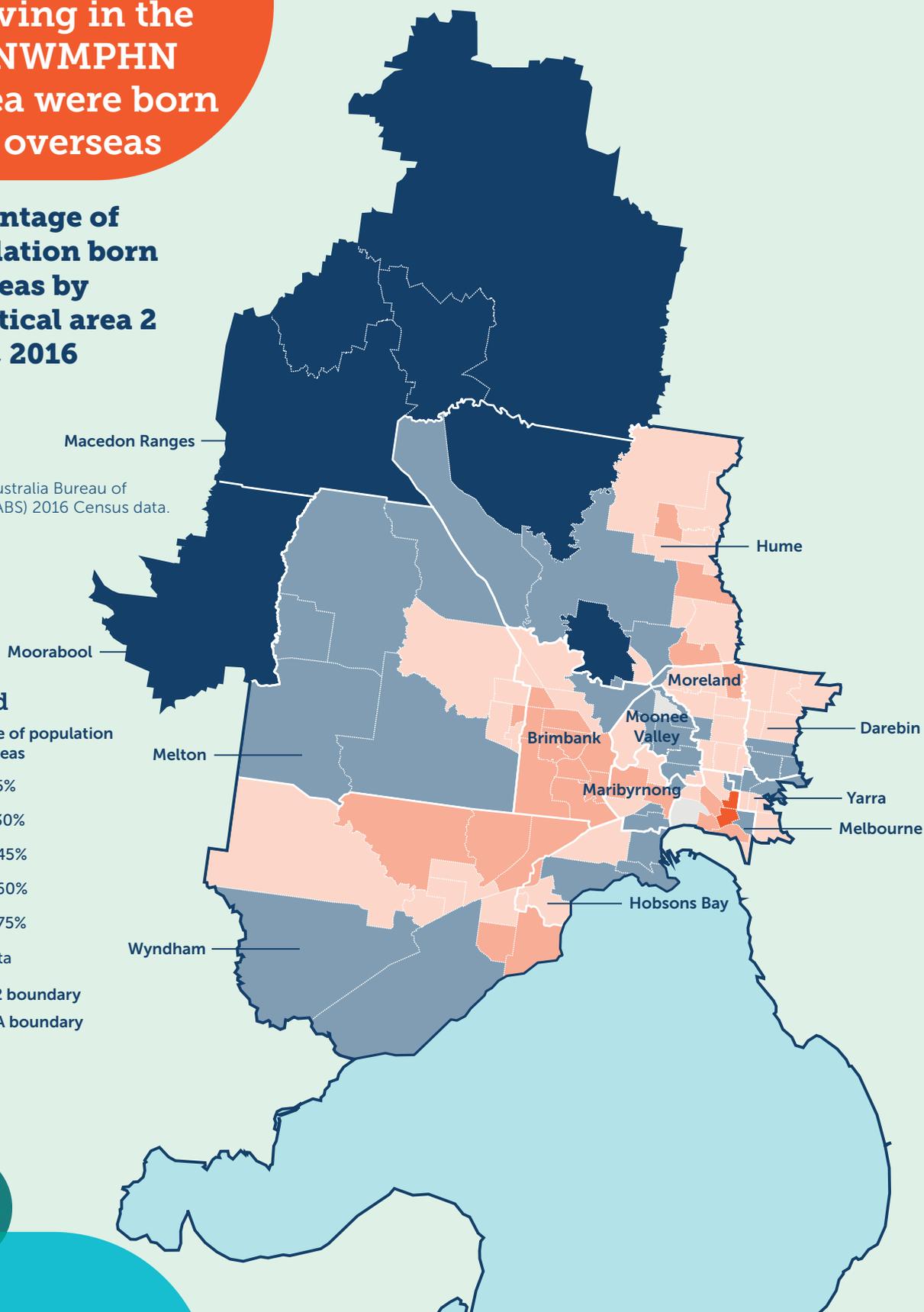
Source: Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016 Census data.

### Legend

Percentage of population born overseas

- 0%–15%
- 15%–30%
- 30%–45%
- 45%–60%
- 60%–75%
- No data

- SA2 boundary
- LGA boundary



## Country of birth

The 2016 census shows that more than half (56%) of the NWMPHN population were born in Australia. Of the 590,000 overseas-born persons, nearly one in four had arrived since the start of 2011, with India, Vietnam, and China are the most common countries of birth after Australia.

### Most common country of birth after Australia



Source: ABS 2016 Census data.

## Religion

Christianity is the main religion reported across the NWMPHN area (46% of the population). While the Islamic population made up only 6% of the total population, it was the second largest religion reported in the 2016 Census after Christianity. Islam was closely followed by Buddhism (4%) as the third most common religion.

## Languages

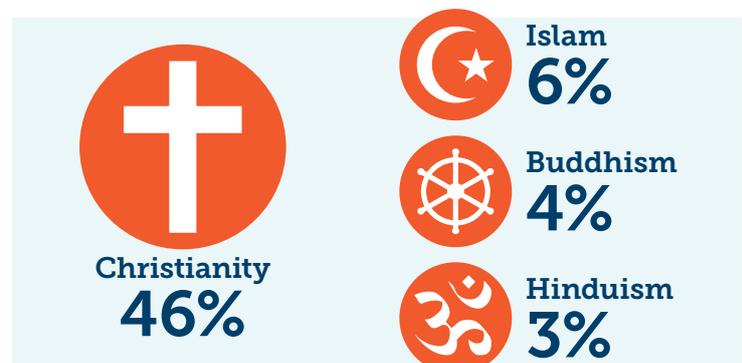
In 2016, there were more than 220 separately identified languages spoken in NWMPHN homes. More than two-fifths of the population spoke a language other than English at home. Vietnamese and Mandarin are the most common non-English languages spoken.

### Most commonly spoken language after English



Source: ABS 2016 Census data.

### Percentage of population following religion



Source: ABS 2016 Census data.

More information on cultural diversity can be found at [nwmpnhn.org.au/priority-area-topic/cultural-diversity/](http://nwmpnhn.org.au/priority-area-topic/cultural-diversity/)

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