

# Demographics

There are more than 20,400 Polish people in Victoria, 8,275 of whom are over the age of 65. Polish speaking seniors form the fourth largest elderly group, after the Italians, Greeks and Germans, among all ethnic communities in Australia. The majority of Polish elderly in Australia are over 70 years of age. The five Local Government Areas with the highest population of Polish people over 65 years of age are: Glen Eira, Brimbank, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Greater Geelong.

## Statistical snapshot

- 1/3 of Polish older people live in Victoria, with females outnumbering males.
- 49% of Polish people over the age of 65 live at home alone.
- 86.3% of Polish elders in Australia are over 70 years of age.
- 26% of Polish elderly in Victoria speak English "not well or not at all".
- Majority of Poles in Australia are Roman Catholics (75%), other religions include Judaism, Lutheran, Russian Orthodox, Adventists and Jehovah's Witnesses.

Source: 1996 - 2001 Census Data and *Projections of Older Immigrants*, 2001, by AIHW

## Victorian Local Government Areas with the highest 65+ and total Polish population

Region	Total number of Poland born persons 65+	Total number of Poland born	Polish speakers who speak English not well or not at all
<b>Western Metro:</b>			
Brimbank	755	2092	435
Hobsons Bay	227	523	105
Maribyrnong	209	411	94
<b>Northern Metro:</b>			
Moreland	370	696	137
Banyule	128	347	20
<b>Eastern Metro:</b>			
Boroondara	305	628	50
Monash	294	1092	142
<b>Southern Metro:</b>			
Glen Eira	1781	2651	194
Port Phillip	430	995	151
Stonnington	423	711	39
Greater Dandenong	340	1366	316
<b>TOTAL VICTORIA</b>	<b>8,275</b>	<b>20,409</b>	<b>2828</b>

## Rural Victorian Cities and Shires with highest total Polish population

LGA	Total Polish Population (incl. 65+)
Greater Geelong	751
La Trobe	200
Mornington Peninsula	178
Ballarat	98
Wellington	85
Nillumbik	72
Wodonga	59
Baw Baw	52
Delatite	48
Michell	48
<b>Total for Victoria</b>	<b>20,409</b>

Source: Australian Census 2001



**Australian-Polish  
Community  
Services**