Mexico-born

Community Information Summary

Historical Background

The Mexico-born are relatively new migrants to Australia. Migrant numbers from Mexico have been small though increasing.

More than half have arrived since the 2006 Census, under the Skilled or Family Streams of the Migration Program.

2016 Census

Geographic Distribution

The latest Census in 2016 recorded 4,872 Mexico-born people in Australia, an increase of 49.7 per cent from the 2011 Census.

The 2016 distribution by State and Territory showed New South Wales had the largest number with 1,703 followed by Victoria (1,478), Queensland (761) and Western Australia (359).
**Age and Sex**

The median age of the Mexico-born in 2016 was 34 years compared with 44 years for all overseas-born and 38 years for the total Australian population.

The age distribution showed 7.6 per cent were aged 0-14 years, 9.6 per cent were 15-24 years, 64.6 per cent were 25-44 years, 14.4 per cent were 45-64 years and 3.8 per cent were 65 years and over.

Of the Mexico-born in Australia, there were 2,330 males (47.8 per cent) and 2,543 females (52.2 per cent). The sex ratio was 92 males per 100 females.

**Ancestry**

In the 2016 Census, the top ancestry responses* that Mexico-born people reported were Mexican (3,705), Spanish (929) and English (170).

In the 2016 Census, Australians reported over 300 different ancestries. Of the total ancestry responses* 7,414 responses were towards Mexican ancestry.

* At the 2016 Census up to two responses per person were allowed for the Ancestry question, therefore there can be more responses than total persons.

**Language**

The main languages spoken at home by Mexico-born people in Australia were Spanish (4,003), English (738) and Italian (24).

Of the 4,124 Mexico-born who spoke a language other than English at home, 95.6 per cent spoke English very well or well, and 3.9 per cent spoke English not well or not at all.
**Religion**

At the 2016 Census the major religious affiliations amongst Mexico-born were Catholic (2,702), Christian, nfd (135) and Pentecostal (87).

Of the Mexico-born, 28.7 per cent stated 'No Religion' which was lower than that of the total Australian population (29.6 per cent), and 3.3 per cent did not state a religion.

**Arrival**

Compared to 61.8 per cent of the total overseas-born population, 30.8 per cent of the Mexico-born people in Australia arrived in Australia prior to 2007.

Among the total Mexico-born in Australia at the 2016 Census, 27.6 per cent arrived between 2007 and 2011 and 38.8 per cent arrived between 2012 and 2016.

**Median Income**

At the time of the 2016 Census, the median Individual Weekly Income for the Mexico-born in Australia aged 15 years and over was $707, compared with $615 for all overseas-born and $688 for all Australian-born.

The total Australian population aged 15 and over had a median Individual Weekly Income of $662.
Qualifications

At the 2016 Census, 83.9 per cent of the Mexico-born aged 15 years and over had some form of higher non-school qualification compared to 60.1 per cent of the Australian population.

Of the Mexico-born aged 15 years and over, 8.0 per cent had no qualifications and were still attending an educational institution. The corresponding rate for the total Australian population was 8.5 per cent.

Employment

Among Mexico-born people aged 15 years and over, the participation rate in the labour force was 77.7 per cent and the unemployment rate was 9.6 per cent.

The corresponding rates in the total Australian population were 64.6 per cent and 6.9 per cent respectively.

Of the 3,146 Mexico-born who were employed, 55.0 per cent were employed in either a skilled managerial, professional or trade occupation. The corresponding rate in the total Australian population was 48.8 per cent.

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the Department of Home Affairs

All data used in this summary is sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing.

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