

Table 1.6**Languages Spoken at Home -Australia: 2001 and 2006 Census**

Rank	Language	2006 Census	% of population	2001 Census	Change 2001-2006	% change 2001-2006
179	Acehnese ³	80	0.0	..	..	..
114	Acholi	524	0.0	61	463	759.0
75	African Languages, nec	3,782	0.0	3,763	19	0.5
90	African Languages, nfd	1,605	0.0	221	1,384	626.2
38	Afrikaans	16,806	0.1	8,001	8,805	110.0
95	Akan	1,356	0.0	444	912	205.4
52	Albanian	7,859	0.0	7,524	335	4.5
171	American Languages	88	0.0	100	-12	-12.0
80	Amharic	2,853	0.0	1,470	1,383	94.1
5	Arabic	243,662	1.2	209,372	34,290	16.4
46	Armenian	9,619	0.0	9,747	-128	-1.3
185	Aromunian (Macedo-Romanian)	62	0.0	90	-28	-31.1
169	Assamese ¹¹	103	0.0	..	..	..
32	Assyrian	23,527	0.1	18,064	5,463	30.2
65	Auslan	5,536	0.0	3,292	2,244	68.2
13	Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	55,698	0.3	50,958	4,740	9.3
148	Azeri ⁹	173	0.0	..	..	..
161	Balinese ³	123	0.0	..	..	..
163	Balochi ⁸	116	0.0	..	..	..
180	Basque	72	0.0	67	5	7.5
118	Belorussian	444	0.0	313	131	41.9
131	Bemba ¹⁶	250	0.0	..	..	..
36	Bengali	20,218	0.1	11,667	8,551	73.3
191	Bikol ³	42	0.0	..	..	..
97	Bisaya	1,206	0.0	795	411	51.7
149	Bislama ²⁰	157	0.0	..	..	..
39	Bosnian	15,742	0.1	15,908	-166	-1.0
86	Bulgarian	1,982	0.0	1,923	59	3.1
55	Burmese	7,457	0.0	5,904	1,553	26.3
181	Burmese and Related Languages, nec	69	0.0	707	-638	-90.2
4	Cantonese	244,558	1.2	225,307	19,251	8.5
151	Catalan	147	0.0	136	11	8.1
101	Cebuano	973	0.0	820	153	18.7
194	Celtic, nec	29	0.0	30	-1	-3.3
193	Celtic, nfd	33	0.0	36	-3	-8.3
196	Chinese, nec	28	0.0	746	-718	-96.2
43	Chinese, nfd	11,668	0.1	14,561	-2,893	-19.9
73	Creole, nfd ⁵	4,093	0.0	..	..	..
12	Croatian	63,616	0.3	69,851	-6,235	-8.9
134	Cypriot, So Described ⁵	242	0.0	..	..	..
57	Czech	6,903	0.0	7,295	-392	-5.4
66	Danish	5,444	0.0	5,226	218	4.2
40	Dari ²³	14,311	0.1	..	..	..
132	Dhivehi ¹¹	245	0.0	..	..	..
61	Dinka ¹⁶	6,596	0.0	..	..	..
197	Dravidian, nec	25	0.0	187	-162	-86.6
24	Dutch	36,183	0.2	40,190	-4,007	-10.0
207	Dutch and Related Languages, nfd	15	0.0	3	12	400.0
210	Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	12	0.0	6	6	100.0
150	Eastern European Languages, nfd	157	0.0	261	-104	-39.8

Table 1.6 (continued)

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Rank	Language	2006 Census	% of population	2001 Census	Change 2001-2006	% change 2001-2006
1	English	15,581,334	78.5	15,013,965	567,369	3.8
96	Estonian	1,251	0.0	1,637	-386	-23.6
177	Ewe ¹⁶	84	0.0	..	..	..
67	Fijian	5,254	0.0	4,894	360	7.4
21	Filipino ⁴	39,044	0.2	..	..	..
64	Finnish	5,874	0.0	6,229	-355	-5.7
19	French	43,217	0.2	39,643	3,574	9.0
88	French Creole, nfd ⁵	1,898	0.0	..	..	..
174	Frisian	87	0.0	113	-26	-23.0
170	Ga ¹⁶	94	0.0	..	..	..
109	Gaelic (Scotland)	658	0.0	822	-164	-20.0
158	Georgian ⁷	130	0.0	..	..	..
9	German	75,635	0.4	76,444	-809	-1.1
145	Gilbertese	189	0.0	196	-7	-3.6
3	Greek	252,226	1.3	263,718	-11,492	-4.4
42	Gujarati	11,876	0.1	5,497	6,379	116.0
120	Haka ¹²	396	0.0	..	..	..
51	Hakka	7,960	0.0	7,451	509	6.8
124	Harari ¹⁷	371	0.0	..	..	..
176	Hausa ¹⁶	85	0.0	..	..	..
54	Hebrew	7,568	0.0	5,947	1,621	27.3
10	Hindi	70,008	0.4	47,817	22,191	46.4
84	Hmong	2,015	0.0	1,786	229	12.8
53	Hokkien	7,830	0.0	8,293	-463	-5.6
35	Hungarian	21,562	0.1	24,485	-2,923	-11.9
199	Iban ³	24	0.0	..	..	..
203	Iberian Romance, nec	19	0.0	21	-2	-9.5
192	Iberian Romance, nfd	42	0.0	19	23	121.1
135	Icelandic	237	0.0	225	12	5.3
125	Igbo ¹⁶	369	0.0	..	..	..
126	Ilokano	325	0.0	267	58	21.7
146	Ilonggo (Hiligaynon) ³	189	0.0	..	..	..
184	Indo-Aryan, nec	63	0.0	426	-363	-85.2
68	Indo-Aryan, nfd	5,093	0.0	1,706	3,387	198.5
20	Indonesian	42,037	0.2	38,724	3,313	8.6
168	Invented Languages	108	0.0	113	-5	-4.4
127	Iranic, nec	324	0.0	618	-294	-47.6
205	Iranic, nfd	18	0.0	253	-235	-92.9
102	Irish	919	0.0	828	91	11.0
2	Italian	316,893	1.6	353,603	-36,710	-10.4
25	Japanese	35,110	0.2	28,286	6,824	24.1
188	Javanese ³	49	0.0	..	..	..
78	Kannada	3,252	0.0	1,922	1,330	69.2
106	Karen ¹²	783	0.0	..	..	..
175	Kashmiri ¹¹	87	0.0	..	..	..
30	Khmer	24,710	0.1	21,982	2,728	12.4
172	Kikuyu ¹⁶	88	0.0	..	..	..
182	Kiwai	69	0.0	645	-576	-89.3
103	Konkani	874	0.0	529	345	65.2
14	Korean	54,625	0.3	39,531	15,094	38.2

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105	Krio ¹⁶	793	0.0
77	Kurdish	3,598	0.0	2,847	751	26.4
47	Lao	9,375	0.0	9,597	-222	-2.3
141	Latin	204	0.0	205	-1	-0.5
72	Latvian	4,179	0.0	5,351	-1,172	-21.9
198	Letzeburgish	25	0.0	35	-10	-28.6
85	Lithuanian	2,005	0.0	2,521	-516	-20.5
159	Luganda ¹⁶	130	0.0	..	..	..
173	Luo ¹⁶	88	0.0	..	..	..
11	Macedonian	67,832	0.3	71,994	-4,162	-5.8
139	Makaton	206	0.0	198	8	4.0
44	Malay	11,359	0.1	9,431	1,928	20.4
56	Malayalam	7,093	0.0	2,968	4,125	139.0
22	Maltese	36,517	0.2	41,392	-4,875	-11.8
6	Mandarin	220,603	1.1	139,286	81,317	58.4
76	Maori (Cook Island)	3,644	0.0	3,217	427	13.3
60	Maori (New Zealand)	6,617	0.0	5,504	1,113	20.2
74	Marathi	4,045	0.0	2,263	1,782	78.7
108	Mauritian Creole	726	0.0	201	525	261.2
157	Mon ¹³	137	0.0	..	..	..
138	Mongolian ¹⁵	208	0.0	..	..	..
189	Mon-Khmer, nec	48	0.0	218	-170	-78.0
119	Motu	412	0.0	391	21	5.4
133	Nauruan	245	0.0	192	53	27.6
121	Ndebele ¹⁶	396	0.0	..	..	..
69	Nepali	4,659	0.0	2,494	2,165	86.8
113	Niue	530	0.0	404	126	31.2
83	Norwegian	2,293	0.0	2,859	-566	-19.8
98	Nuer ¹⁷	1,199	0.0	..	..	..
144	Nyanja (Chichewa) ¹⁶	197	0.0	..	..	..
178	Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	81	0.0	423	-342	-80.9
209	Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	13	0.0	7,165	-7,152	-99.8
147	Oriya ¹¹	174	0.0	..	..	..
100	Oromo	998	0.0	545	453	83.1
142	Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	198	0.0	1,231	-1,033	-83.9
156	Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd ²²	140	0.0	..	..	..
167	Pampangan ³	111	0.0	..	..	..
166	Papua New Guinea Papuan Languages, nec ²¹	112	0.0	..	..	..
190	Papua New Guinea Papuan Languages, nfd ²¹	44	0.0	..	..	..
82	Pashto	2,571	0.0	1,598	973	60.9
34	Persian (excluding Dari) ²³	22,845	0.1	..	..	..
93	Pidgin, nfd ⁵	1,450	0.0	..	..	..
183	Pitcairnese ²⁰	66	0.0	..	..	..
16	Polish	53,389	0.3	59,056	-5,667	-9.6
29	Portuguese	25,778	0.1	23,687	2,091	8.8
206	Portuguese Creole, nfd ⁵	17	0.0	..	..	..
33	Punjabi	23,163	0.1	14,896	8,267	55.5
45	Romanian	10,897	0.1	10,265	632	6.2
154	Romany ⁷	142	0.0
130	Rotuman ¹⁹	256	0.0

Table 1.6 (continued)

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Rank	Language	2006 Census	% of population	2001 Census	Change 2001-2006	% change 2001-2006
23	Russian	36,505	0.2	34,790	1,715	4.9
28	Samoan	28,521	0.1	22,711	5,810	25.6
208	Scandinavian, nec	14	0.0	12	2	16.7
18	Serbian	52,531	0.3	49,203	3,328	6.8
48	Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, So Described ⁶	9,316	0.0	..	..	..
202	Seychelles Creole ¹⁸	20	0.0	..	..	..
186	Shilluk ¹⁶	62	0.0	..	..	..
81	Shona	2,793	0.0	404	2,389	591.3
195	Sign Languages, nec	29	0.0	318	-289	-90.9
94	Sign Languages, nfd	1,376	0.0	1,697	-321	-18.9
117	Sindhi	450	0.0	479	-29	-6.1
27	Sinhalese	29,055	0.1	20,660	8,395	40.6
70	Slovak	4,580	0.0	4,695	-115	-2.4
71	Slovene	4,310	0.0	5,066	-756	-14.9
165	Solomon Islands Pijin ²⁰	115	0.0	..	..	..
59	Somali	6,649	0.0	4,736	1,913	40.4
155	Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	141	0.0	656	-515	-78.5
116	Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	503	0.0	588	-85	-14.5
201	Southeast Asian Languages, nfd	22	0.0	18	4	22.2
58	Southern Asian Languages, nfd	6,866	0.0	6,555	311	4.7
128	Southwest and Central Asian Languages, nfd	307	0.0	4	303	7,575.0
8	Spanish	98,000	0.5	93,595	4,405	4.7
136	Spanish Creole, nfd ⁵	224	0.0	..	..	..
79	Swahili	3,051	0.0	1,404	1,647	117.3
63	Swedish	5,899	0.0	5,033	866	17.2
107	Swiss, So Described ⁵	736	0.0	..	..	..
17	Tagalog ⁴	53,284	0.3	..	..	..
187	Tai, nec	54	0.0	34	20	58.8
26	Tamil	32,701	0.2	24,074	8,627	35.8
164	Tatar ⁹	116	0.0	..	..	..
50	Telugu	8,280	0.0	3,484	4,796	137.7
62	Teochew	6,305	0.0	4,693	1,612	34.3
104	Tetum	842	0.0	724	118	16.3
31	Thai	23,640	0.1	17,349	6,291	36.3
122	Tibetan ¹⁴	393	0.0	..	..	..
160	Tigre ¹	130	0.0	..	..	..
89	Tigrinya ¹	1,662	0.0	996	666	66.9
110	Timorese	622	0.0	751	-129	-17.2
91	Tok Pisin	1,601	0.0	3,117	-1,516	-48.6
111	Tokelauan ¹⁹	607	0.0	..	..	..
41	Tongan	12,729	0.1	10,591	2,138	20.2
115	Tswana ¹⁶	508	0.0	..	..	..
140	Tulu ¹⁰	205	0.0	..	..	..
204	Turkic, nec	19	0.0	730	-711	-97.4
15	Turkish	53,859	0.3	50,693	3,166	6.2
137	Turkmen ⁹	221	0.0	..	..	..
153	Tuvaluan ¹⁹	143	0.0	..	..	..

Table 1.6 (continued)

Languages Spoken at Home			-Australia: 2001 and 2006 Census			
Rank	Language	2006 Census	% of population	2001 Census	Change 2001-2006	% change 2001-2006
49	Ukrainian	9,017	0.0	10,722	-1,705	-15.9
37	Urdu	19,289	0.1	12,483	6,806	54.5
123	Uyгур ⁹	374	0.0	..	..	..
152	Uzbek ⁹	147	0.0	..	..	..
7	Vietnamese	194,855	1.0	174,236	20,619	11.8
99	Welsh	1,076	0.0	1,060	16	1.5
143	West Slavic, nfd	198	0.0	361	-163	-45.2
92	Wu	1,528	0.0	1,022	506	49.5
162	Xhosa ¹⁶	118	0.0	..	..	..
200	Yapese ¹⁹	24	0.0	..	..	..
87	Yiddish	1,910	0.0	2,666	-756	-28.4
112	Yoruba	577	0.0	335	242	72.2
129	Zulu	287	0.0	120	167	139.2
	Other Southern Asian Languages	226	0.0	26	200	769.2
	Other Southern European Languages, nec	65	0.0	77	-12	-15.6
	Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	62	0.0	263	-201	-76.4
	Other Southeast Asian Languages	44	0.0	27	17	63.0
	Other Eastern European Languages, nec	18	0.0	331	-313	-94.6
	Other languages, nfd ²	399	0.0	120,728	-120,329	-99.7
	Inadequately described	9,068	0.0	25,502	-16,434	-64.4
	Non-verbal so described	27,001	0.1	11,860	15,141	127.7
	Not stated	1,127,758	5.7	901,433	226,325	25.1
	Total	19,855,287	100.0	18,769,227	1,086,060	5.8

1. Tigre was included as part of Tigrinya in 2001 classification
2. Include classifications changed significantly between 2001 and 2006, ie South Slavic nfd - 14606 persons and Burman nfd - 492 persons in 2001 and classifications no longer current, ie Persian - 25238 persons in 2001, Tagalog (Filipino) - 78878 persons in 2001, Asante - 559 persons in 2001, Finnic nfd ,
3. Included as part of Western Austronesian Languages, nec in 2001
4. Included as part of Tagalog(Filipino) in 2001 (78878 persons)
5. Included as part of Inadequately described in 2001 classification
6. Included as part of South Slavic nfd in 2001classification
7. Included as part of Other Eastern European Languages nec in 2001 classification
8. Included as part of Iranic nec in 2001
9. Included as part of Turkish and Central Asian Languages, nec in 2001
10. Included as part of Dravidian Languages nec in 2001
11. Included as part of Indo - Aryan languages nec in 2001
12. Included as part of Burman Languages nec in 2001
13. Included as part of Mon-Khmer nec in 2001 classification
14. Included as part of other East Asian Language nec in 2001 classification
15. Included as part of Turkish and Central Asian languages nec in 2001 classification
16. Included as part of African Languages (excluding North Africa), nec in 2001 classification
17. Included as part of Middle Eastern and North African Languages, nec in 2001 classification
18. Included as part of inadequately described in 2001 classification
19. Included as part of Oceanic Austronesian Languages, NEC in 2001 classification
20. Included as part of Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec in 2001 classification
21. Included as part of Papuan Languages in first edition
22. Pacific Austronesian Languages nfd called Oceanic Austronesian languages nfd in 2001 classification
23. Dari and Persian excluding Dari were classified as part of Persian in 2001 (25238 persons)