Globalisation and Cities
Research Program

Global Melbourne:
A City in Motion

A research collaboration between the University of Canberra and the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Border Protection

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Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Border Protection
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Researchers from the ANZSOG Institute for Governance at the University of Canberra, and the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Border Protection, are embarking on a range of projects to better understand people movement to Australian cities in the context of contemporary globalisation. For more information about our collaboration please visit our website:

www.globalisationandcities.com
Key Findings

- Greater Melbourne attracted more than 87,400 new residents from other major Australian cities (with populations of more than 100,000 people) between 2006 and 2011. Sydney (22,069) was the largest single source of internal migration, followed by Brisbane (12,667), Perth (11,676), and Adelaide (8,758).

- Greater Melbourne lost almost 76,900 residents to other major Australian cities between 2006 and 2011. Sydney (15,251) was the largest single destination for internal migrants leaving Greater Melbourne, followed by Brisbane (12,491), Perth (9,910), and Geelong (6,501).

- This saw Greater Melbourne receive a net gain of more than 10,500 new residents from other major Australian cities between 2006 and 2011. The largest net gains came from Sydney (6,801), Adelaide (2,740) and Perth (1,766). The largest net losses went to Geelong (-1,270), Gold Coast-Tweed Heads (-1,262), and the Sunshine Coast (-929).

- Greater Melbourne also attracted a net gain of 5,152 skilled workers from other major Australian cities between 2006 and 2011. Adelaide (1,608) and Sydney (1,509) provided the largest net gains.

- Just over 21,000 people without a university qualification left Greater Melbourne between 2006 and 2011. By comparison, Sydney lost 38,398 people without a university qualification over the same time period.

- More than three quarters of overseas migrants to Greater Melbourne between 2006 and 2011 had some form of tertiary qualification.

- Approximately three quarters of people from Canberra-Queanbeyan moving to Greater Melbourne had some form of tertiary qualification.

- Wyndham (31,429) was the most common destination for people who moved from other parts of Australia to Greater Melbourne between 2006 and 2011. It was followed by Whittlesea – Wallan, Boroondara, and Casey South.

- Indian-born migrants (47,869) formed the largest group of international migrants to Greater Melbourne between 2006 and 2011. Other top countries of birth among new international migrants were China, returning Australians, New Zealand, England, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia.

- Melbourne City (24,275) attracted the most new international migrants in Greater Melbourne between 2006 and 2011. The largest group of new international migrants to Melbourne City were born in China (4,532).
Melbourne in the Australian Urban System

The Australian Urban System refers to the 18 Australian major cities (with populations of more than 100,000). This study investigates the new migration of people movement between 2006 and 2011.

Greater Melbourne, for the purposes of this study, is defined as the Melbourne Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA), as used in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (2011), and the 2011 Australian Census. The Melbourne GCCSA is shown in the map below:

Migration from Other Australian Major Cities to Melbourne

Greater Melbourne attracted more people from Sydney (22,069) than any of the other Australian major cities. Brisbane (12,667) and Perth (11,676) were a distant second and third respectively. People movement to Greater Melbourne from other Australian major cities strongly correlates with the size of the source city. Two exceptions to this rule were Canberra-Queanbeyan (5,537) and Geelong (5,231), which provided disproportionately large numbers of new residents to Greater Melbourne given their populations.
Migration from Melbourne to Other Australian Major Cities

Greater Melbourne lost more people to Sydney (15,251) than any of the other Australian major cities. Once again, Brisbane (12,491) and Perth (9,910) were second and third respectively, in a set of figures that strongly correlate with the size of the source city. Sydney however attracted disproportionately fewer people from Melbourne, relative to both its population, and the number of people who left it for Greater Melbourne. Again Geelong was an exception to the rule, attracting disproportionately more people from Greater Melbourne relative to both its population, and the number of people who left it for Greater Melbourne.

People movement from Greater Melbourne to Australian major cities, 2006-2011
**Net People Movement between Melbourne and Other Australian Major Cities**

The net people movement between Greater Melbourne and Australia’s 17 other major cities is shown below. A negative net people movement indicates Greater Melbourne has gained less people than it lost to a given city, whilst a positive net people movement indicates that Greater Melbourne has gained more people than it lost to a given city.

Sydney provided Greater Melbourne’s largest net gain of internal migrants, with 6,818 more people moving from Sydney to Melbourne than Melbourne to Sydney. Adelaide (+2,740) was a distant second, followed by Perth (+1,766) and Hobart (+929). Geelong took in Greater Melbourne’s largest net loss of internal migrants, with 1,270 more people moving from Melbourne to Geelong than Geelong to Melbourne. Greater Melbourne also experienced net migration losses to four of the six Queensland-based cities, including Gold Coast – Tweed Heads (-1,262), the Sunshine Coast (-929) and Cairns (-343).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Net People Movement 2006-2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wollongong</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townsville</td>
<td>-107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>-929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine Coast</td>
<td>1,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perth</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newcastle - Maitland</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launceston</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobart</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Coast - Tweed Heads</td>
<td>-1,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geelong</td>
<td>-1,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin</td>
<td>-141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canberra - Queanbeyan</td>
<td>-343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cairns</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brisbane</td>
<td>377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albury - Wodonga</td>
<td>2,740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net people movement between Greater Melbourne and Australian major cities, 2006-2011
Skill Levels of People Moving between Melbourne and Other Australian Major Cities

The skill level of people migrating between Greater Melbourne and the other 17 Australian major cities has been captured to further understand the attractiveness of Greater Melbourne to people with certain skill sets. Skilled and low skilled people, for the purposes of this study, have been classified by their level of tertiary qualifications.

Greater Melbourne attracted more skilled people from Sydney (8,537) than from any other Australian major city between 2006 and 2011. Perth (4,392) and Brisbane (4,166) were a distant second and third respectively. Skilled people residing in Greater Melbourne were more attracted to Sydney (7,028) than any other Australian major cities. It was followed by Brisbane (3,598) and Perth (3,380). Melbourne received net gains of skilled internal migrants from 13 of the 17 other Australian major cities, with the largest net gains from Adelaide (+1,608) and Sydney (+1,509).

High-skilled internal migration between Greater Melbourne and Australian major cities, 2006-2011

Sydney (5,387) was also the largest source of low-skilled workers who moved from one of the Australian major cities to Melbourne between 2006 and 2011. It was again followed by Brisbane (3,506) and Perth (3,121). Greater Melbourne lost more people with a low skill level to Brisbane (3,654) than any other Australian major cities, although Sydney (2,979) and Perth (2,899) were not far behind. Greater Melbourne had a net gain of internal low-skilled migrants from only nine of the major Australian cities, most notably from Sydney (+2,408) and Adelaide (+535).
Greater Melbourne attracted 107,076 skilled international migrants, between 2006 and 2011. This was almost twice the number of low-skilled international migrants (57,672) who moved to Greater Melbourne over the same period. Sydney (123,527) was the only Australian major city to attract more skilled international migrants between 2006 and 2011. In all, 14 of Australia’s 18 major cities attracted more international migrants with high-level skills than those with low-level skills.
New Migration at the Local Level

New migration to Greater Melbourne has been assessed at a local level, to identify social transformation and change within, rather than merely across, the city. Greater Melbourne (see figure below) is divided into 40 statistical areas, as defined by the Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) spatial scale used in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2011 and the 2011 Census. Neighbourhood social transformation has been captured through analysing the level of international (people moving from overseas) and internal (people moving from elsewhere in Australia) migrants, as well as the number of people who did not migrate over the five year period between 2006 and 2011.

New Migrants – Internal and International

New migrants to Greater Melbourne were most attracted to the West, South Eastern, and inner areas. New international migrants were most attracted to inner and south eastern areas including Melbourne City (24,275), Monash (19,955) and Dandenong (19,189). New internal migrants preferred the outlying areas of Wyndham (31,429) and Whittlesea - Wallan (28,286).
International and internal people movement to Greater Melbourne, 2006-2011
International people movement to Greater Melbourne, 2006-2011
Global Melbourne: A City in Motion

Internal people movement to Greater Melbourne 2006-2011
**Greater Melbourne’s Settled Communities**

Although Melbourne is truly a city in motion, a number of communities in Greater Melbourne are far more settled than others. The number of people who did not change their place of residence between 2006 and 2011 gives an indication of how settled each SA3 in Greater Melbourne is.

Manningham-East was arguably the most settled SA3 in Greater Melbourne between 2006 and 2011. Two thirds (66.6%) of its residents did not move over the five year period, edging out Nillumbik-Kinglake (66.1%). Brimbank (101,553) and Dandenong (95,213) had the largest shares of Greater Melbourne’s settled population, with a combined 10 per cent of the people living in Greater Melbourne that didn’t move between 2006 and 2011 residing in one of the two areas. Melbourne City was by far the least settled SA3 in Greater Melbourne, with less than a quarter of residents (23.5%) not changing their place of residence between 2006 and 2011. Melbourne City accounted for only 1 per cent of the settled population in Greater Melbourne.
Non-movement of residents in Greater Melbourne, 2006-2011
New International Migrants – Top Countries of Origin

India was Greater Melbourne’s largest source of new international migrants, with 47,869 Indian-born migrants moving to the area between 2006 and 2011. Chinese-born migrants were the next most common (35,804), followed by Australian-born migrants returning from overseas (28,266). The new Indian migrants were heavily concentrated in Dandenong (6,278), whilst Chinese and returning Australians were mostly attracted to inner Melbourne. The top 10 sources of new international migrants to Greater Melbourne are shown in the figure below.

### New International Migrants by Top 10 Countries of Origin to Greater Melbourne 2006-2011

- **India**
- **China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)**
- **Australia**
- **New Zealand**
- **England**
- **Sri Lanka**
- **Malaysia**
- **Philippines**
- **Vietnam**
- **Indonesia**

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**Top ten sources of international migrants to Greater Melbourne by Place of Birth, 2006-2011**
Inform, Enhance, Compete:
Propelling Australian cities onto the world stage

The Globalisation and Cities Research Program (GCRP) investigates the social, economic, political and cultural changes of Australia’s major cities through a range of research initiatives. Our research assists policy formulation by various levels of government and business, to improve the competitiveness of Australian cities in an increasingly competitive and globalised world.

The GCRP has been formed as an arm of the ANZSOG Institute for Governance at the University of Canberra. It seeks to unravel the complexities of globalisation and urbanisation, their contributory and resultant factors, and their associated challenges for policy and planning in Australia’s major cities and regions.

GCRP’s research is of relevance to all Australian cities and regions, particularly as the nation seeks to position itself to take advantage of the Asian Century. Our research is collaborative in focus, and aims to partner with government and business to inform successful and sustainable urban policy. Our key research issues include urban policy, governance, planning, urban competitiveness, migration, global cities, and space of flows in cities.

GCRP’s ongoing research into the Melbourne region is its second research collaboration with the Department of Immigration and Border Protection - with both parties having undertaken research on migration trends in the Sydney region. This explored topics including global migration, global competitiveness, and global mobility of recently arrived migrants.