The population maps in this chapter display both the location of children aged 0 to 8 years across Victorian LGAs (maps 1.1a and 1.1b) and proportions of children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA (1.2a and 1.2b). These maps are based on 30 June 2006 Estimated Resident Population (ERP).

The number of Indigenous children aged 0 to 8 years as a proportion of all children aged 0 to 8 years in Victoria within each LGA is shown in maps 1.3a and 1.3b. These data are from the 2006 Census as ERP for the Indigenous population is not available at a single age at the sub-state level.

Population: Census and ERP

ERP is the official Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) estimate of the population and is based on Census counts but as it is adjusted quarterly between censuses, is more accurate and timely than Census (see Glossary under ‘Estimated Resident Population’ for further information). Due to the limitations with experimental estimates for the Indigenous population, Census data have been sourced for Indigenous children aged 0 to 8 years at the state and LGA level.

ERP in Victoria

The Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of Victoria in 2006 was 5,126,540. Of these, there were 1,382,905 people in regional Victoria representing 27.0 per cent of the total population, and 3,743,635 (73.0 per cent) people in Melbourne.

Children aged 0 to 8 years old in Victoria

At June 30, 2006 there were 572,710 children aged 0 to 8 years in Victoria, representing 11.2 per cent of the Victorian population. This is an increase of 3,648 or 0.6 per cent since June 30, 2001. In regional Victoria, there were 158,283 children aged 0–8 years, representing 11.4 per cent of regional Victoria’s population. In Melbourne, 414,427 children aged 0–8 years represented 11.1 per cent of the total population of Melbourne.

The gender distribution of Victoria’s population was almost equally divided in 2006: just over half were male (51.3 per cent) and 48.7 per cent were female. There was no change in the gender distribution compared to the 2001 ERP.

In 2006, of the total number of children aged 0 to 8 years, 6,600 (1.2 per cent) were Indigenous children compared to 1.1 per cent in 2001.
Maps 1.1a and 1.1b are based on the population of children aged 0 to 8 years in each LGA as a percentage of the total population of children aged 0 to 8 years in Victoria. This represents the distribution of children aged 0 to 8 years across Victoria i.e. where children of this age group are located.

The LGA of Greater Geelong (C) recorded the highest percentage distribution of children aged 0 to 8 years across regional Victoria (4.0%). Other LGAs in regional Victoria with high percentages were Greater Bendigo (C) (2.0%), Ballarat (C) (1.8%), Latrobe (C) (1.5%) and Greater Shepparton (C) (1.3%).

The lowest percentage distribution of children aged 0 to 8 years across Victoria were recorded in the LGAs of Queenscliffe (B) and West Wimmera (S) (both under 0.1%), followed by Towong (S), Hindmarsh (S) and Pyrenees (S) (all 0.1%).
Map 1.1b:
Percentage distribution of population aged 0 to 8 years by LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of the total Victorian population aged 0 to 8

- The metropolitan LGAs with the highest percentage of children aged 0 to 8 years, out of the total number of children aged 0 to 8 years in Victoria, were Casey (C) (5.6%), also the highest percentage in Victoria, followed by Hume (C) (3.8%), Brimbank (C) (3.6%) and Yarra Ranges (S) and Knox (C) (both 3.0%).
- The LGAs of Melbourne (C) (0.5%), Yarra (C) (1.0%), Port Phillip (C) (1.1%), Maribyrnong (C) (1.2%) and Nillumbik (S) (1.3%) recorded the smallest percentages of children aged 0 to 8 years.
Maps 1.2a and 1.2b present data for children aged 0 to 8 years in each LGA as a percentage of the total population for that LGA. Therefore showing the share of children aged 0 to 8 years within the LGA total population.

Of the total population within each LGA, the highest percentage of children aged 0 to 8 years in regional Victoria was recorded in Mitchell (S) (13.8%). Other LGAs in regional Victoria with high percentages of children aged 0 to 8 years were Golden Plains (S) (13.4%), Wodonga (RC) (13.0%), Macedon Ranges (S) (12.8%) and Greater Shepparton (C) (12.7%).

The lowest percentages were recorded in the LGAs of Queenscliffe (B) (8.7%), Strathbogie (S) (9.1%), Mansfield (S) (9.2%) and Pyrenees (S) (9.8%). Several other LGAs had low percentages; Bass Coast (S) (9.8%), Alpine (S) and Hepburn (S) (both 9.9%) and Central Goldfields (S) (10.0%).
Map 1.2b: Children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of the total population within each LGA

- Expressed as a percentage of the total population within each LGA, Melton (S) (15.2%), Wyndham (C) and Casey (C) (both 14.3%), Cardinia (S) (14.1%) and Hume (C) (14.0%) recorded the highest percentages of children aged 0 to 8 years in the metropolitan areas.
- The lowest percentages were in the LGAs of Melbourne (C) (4.0%), Port Phillip (C) (6.8%), Yarra (C) (7.5%), Stonnington (C) (8.1%) and Monash (C) (8.9%).
The percentage of Indigenous children aged 0 to 8 was higher in regional Victoria (2.4%) than in metropolitan Melbourne (0.7%).

The highest percentages of Indigenous children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA in regional Victoria were recorded in the LGAs of Swan Hill (RC) (6.9%), East Gippsland (S) (6.9%), Greater Shepparton (C) (6.0%), Mildura (RC) (5.9%) and Glenelg (S) (4.4%)

The lowest percentages of Indigenous children aged 0 to 8 years were recorded in the LGAs of Mansfield (S) (0.4%), West Wimmera (S) (0.7%) and Corangamite (S) (0.7%).
Map 1.3b: Indigenous children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all children aged 0 to 8 within each LGA

- The highest percentages of Indigenous children aged 0 to 8 years were located in the LGAs of Darebin (C) (1.7%), Frankston (C) (1.3%) and Whittlesea (C) (1.2%).
- The lowest percentages were predominately in the southern and inner-eastern regions of Melbourne. These included the LGAs of Glen Eira (C), Boroondara (C) and Bayside (C) (all 0.1%). Manningham (C) and Nillumbik (S) also had low percentages (both 0.2%).