Chapter 3: Socioeconomic environment

As most children depend on their parents or family unit for financial support, the family's socioeconomic status is a key component in measuring child health and wellbeing. Best Start research states that the main factors which inform socioeconomic status can include labour force status, family income, educational attainment and English proficiency of the child's parent(s).

The labour force status of parents can demonstrate both the generation of income and consequences on family functioning. For most families the main source of income is employment, as wages or salary, or from their own business.

Parent education is a commonly used indicator of child health and wellbeing. The performance of children in school, associated with a child's intellectual development, can be influenced by both the educational level attained by the mother and the average number of years of education in the household for those 15 years and older.

English language skills facilitate social integration and the ability to access services. Those who have limited proficiency in English may, therefore, experience restrictions in the number and types of services available to them.

The 2006 Census data by LGA used in the socioeconomic chapter maps are not comparable with the previous Best Start atlas. The population for percentages has been revised to correspond with the family type of interest with children aged 0 to 8 years rather than all families with children aged 0 to 8 years. Socioeconomic characteristics of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 are expressed as a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years. The same approach is applied to one-parent families.
Labour Force

Couple families

Of the 279,377 couple families in Victoria with children aged 0 to 8 years, there were 258,601 (92.6 per cent) where at least one parent was employed and 146,031 (52.3 per cent) where both parents were employed. The percentage of both parents employed was marginally higher in Regional Victoria (54.1 per cent) compared to metropolitan Melbourne (51.6 per cent).

The percentages of couple families with both parents unemployed or both parents not in the labour force were low (0.4 per cent and 3.5 per cent respectively). The highest percentage of labour force combinations in couple families was one parent employed and one parent not in the labour force (35.0 per cent). The proportion was slightly higher in Melbourne (35.7% per cent) than in regional Victoria (33.2 per cent). Please see 'unemployed' and 'not in the labour force' in the Glossary.

Flowchart 3: Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, by labour force status, Victoria

Source: ABS 2006, Census
One-parent families

Of the 56,716 one-parent families in Victoria with children aged 0 to 8 years there were 23,636 (41.7 per cent) where the parent was employed. This percentage was lower in regional Victoria (39.5 per cent) than in metropolitan Melbourne (42.7 per cent).

The parent was unemployed in 4,187 (7.4 per cent) of all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years in Victoria. Of the 18,202 one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years in regional Victoria there were 8.3 per cent where the parent was unemployed, slightly higher than in metropolitan Melbourne, where 6.9 per cent of parents in the 38,514 one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years were unemployed.

The number of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years where the parent was not in the labour force was 27,741 (48.9 per cent). The percentage was higher in regional Victoria (50.4 per cent) than in metropolitan Melbourne (48.2 per cent).

Flowchart 4: One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, by labour force status, Victoria

Source: ABS 2006, Census
Map 3.1a
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, both parents employed, within each LGA in Victoria
As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years and with both parents employed were located in the LGAs of Corangamite (S) and Horsham (RC) (both 63.5%). This was followed by Mansfield (S), West Wimmera (S), Moyne (S) and Queenscliffe (B), all above 60%.
- The lowest percentages were recorded in Pyrenees (S) (42.1%) and Central Goldfields (S) (43.1%). This was followed by Hepburn (S) (46.5%) and Latrobe (C) (47.0%).
Map 3.1b
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, both parents employed, within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- The highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years and with both parents employed in Melbourne were located in the southern and eastern regions of Melbourne. These included Nillumbik (S) (61.1%), Glen Eira (C) (60.5%), Boroondara (C) (58.9%), Yarra (C) (57.8%) and Stonnington (C) (57.4%).
- The lowest percentages were in Greater Dandenong (C) (34.0%), Hume (C) (40.9%) and Brimbank (C) (41.8%).
Map 3.2a
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, neither parent in the labour force, within each LGA in Victoria
As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years where neither parent was in the labour force were in Central Goldfields (S) (7.3%), Loddon (S) (6.4%) and Pyrenees (S) (5.7%).
- The lowest percentages were found in the LGAs of Surf Coast (S) (1.2%), Horsham (RC) (1.4%) and Moyne (S) (1.6%).
In Melbourne, the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where neither parent was in the labour force, were predominantly in the south-eastern and western regions. These included: Greater Dandenong (C) (11.0%), Hume (C) (8.9%), Brimbank (C) (7.7%), Moreland (C) (6.2%) and Whittlesea (S) (6.1%).

The lowest percentage was found Nillumbik (S) (under 1%). The LGAs of Bayside (C) (1.0%), Boroondara (C) (1.3%) and Stonnington (C) (1.4%) were the next lowest.
Map 3.3a
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, one parent employed, one not in the labour force, within each LGA in Victoria
As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- For couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years with one parent employed and one not in the labour force, the highest percentages in regional Victoria were in Pyrenees (S) (41.8%), Hepburn (S) (39.0%), Moorabool (S) (37.7%), Golden Plains (S) (37.4%) and Strathbogie (S) (37.3%).
- The lowest percentages were found in West Wimmera (S) (23.1%), Queenscliffe (B) (26.2%), Mansfield (S) (26.5%), Horsham (RC) (26.7%) and Corangamite (S) (27.9%).
In Melbourne, the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, and with one parent employed and one parent not in the labour force, were predominantly located in the outer-eastern and outer-western regions of Melbourne. These included Greater Dandenong (C) (39.6%), Whittlesea (C) (38.8%), Hume (C) (38.3%), Casey (C) (38.3%), Melton (S) (38.1%) and Yarra Ranges (S) (38.0%).

The lowest percentages were in Yarra (C) (27.3%), Glen Eira (C) (30.4%), Nillumbik (S) (31.1%) and Boroondara (C) (31.8%).
Map 3.4a
One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, parent employed, within each LGA in Victoria
As a percentage of all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

The LGA of Mansfield (S) had the highest percentage (75.4%) of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and with the parent employed in regional Victoria. Queenscliffe (B) (59.1%), Alpine (S) (52.6%) and Southern Grampians (S) (51.9%) had the next highest proportions.

The lowest percentages were recorded in Central Goldfields (S) (29.9%), West Wimmera (S) (31.4%) and Gannawarra (S) (31.5%).
The highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and with the parent employed in the Melbourne metropolitan area were found in Nillumbik (S) (62.9%), Boroondara (C) (61.2%), Glen Eira (C) (60.3%), Bayside (C) (56.7%) and Stonnington (C) (56.1%).

The lowest percentages were in Brimbank (C) (28.1%), Greater Dandenong (C) (30.7%), Yarra (C) (32.0%) and Maribyrnong (C) (32.7%).
In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where the parent was unemployed were in the LGAs of Benalla (RC) and Mount Alexander (S) (both 13.0%). Corangamite (S) and Glenelg (S) had the next highest percentages (both 12.1%).

The lowest percentages were recorded in Surf Coast (S) (4.0%) and Swan Hill (S) (4.4%).
Map 3.5b

One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, parent unemployed, within each LGA in Melbourne

As a percentage of all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In the metropolitan area, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where the parent was unemployed, were found in Melbourne (C) (9.7%), Melton (S) (8.9%) Greater Dandenong (C) (8.7%) and Frankston (C) (8.6%).

- The lowest percentages were in Stonnington (C) (3.7%), Nillumbik (C) (4.1%), Bayside (C) (4.8%) and Manningham (C) (4.9%).
In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where the parent was not in the labour force were in Yarriambiack (S) (61.3%), Central Goldfields (S) (58.8%), Buloke (S) (58.6%) and Loddon (S) (57.7%).

The lowest percentages were recorded in Mansfield (S) (20.0%), Indigo (S) (38.7%) and Corangamite (S) (39.6%).
In metropolitan Melbourne, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where the parent was not in the labour force were found in Brimbank (C) (60.4%), Yarra (C) (59.2%), Greater Dandenong (C) (57.0%) and Maribyrnong (C) (55.9%).

The lowest percentages were in Glen Eira (C) (31.4%), Nillumbik (S) (32.2%), Boroondara (C) (32.4%) and Bayside (C) (36.9%).
Median Weekly Income

Family income is the sum of the gross individual incomes of each family member. Median family income is the mid-point of the distribution of family income. Families where at least one family member aged 15 years and over either did not state their income or was temporarily absent on Census night are not included in the median calculation (see chart on next page).

At the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, 307,455 Victorian families with children aged 0 to 8 years reported a family income. Of these families, 254,781 families (82.9 per cent) were couple families and the remaining 52,674 (17.1 per cent) were one-parent families.

Like 2001, median family income was generally lower for families with children aged 0 to 8 years than for families without children aged 0 to 8 years, or for all families with dependents. This was consistent for both couple and one-parent families.

Median family income of couple families and one-parent families in Victoria increased compared to the 2001 Census (Please note: the calculation of medians from 2001 data in the first Best Start Atlas are not comparable to the following 2006 data. Revised 2001 data has been used for comparison to 2006).

**Median weekly family income of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years**

Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years had a median family income of $1,339 per week. This was lower than the median family income for all couple families in Victoria with dependents ($1,462 per week) and of couple families with dependents but no children aged 0 to 8 years ($1,656 per week). The median weekly family income increased across all three categories between the 2001 and 2006 Census at an average of $281.

In regional Victoria, couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years had a median weekly family income of $1,176 compared to $942 in 2001; all couple families with dependents had a median income of $1,274 per week; and those with dependents but no children aged 0 to 8 years had a median income of $1,457. This was an average increase of $259 across the three groups when compared to 2001.

In Melbourne, the same trend was observed: the median weekly family income for all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years was $1,420. This was less than the corresponding incomes for all couple families with dependents ($1,545) and for couple families without children aged 0 to 8 years ($1,740). The median weekly income increased across all of these groups since 2001 at an average of $294.

The median family income for couple families in Melbourne was greater than that of couple families in regional Victoria. This was consistent across all family types.
Median family income of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years

One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years had a median family income of $551 per week compared to $416 in 2001. This was lower than the median family income for all one-parent families in Victoria with dependents ($598 per week) and one-parent families with dependents but no children aged between 0 to 8 years ($660 per week). Compared to 2001, median weekly income for the last two one-parent family types increased by $125 and $98 respectively.

In regional Victoria, the median family income for one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years was $541 per week, while one-parent families without children aged 0 to 8 years had a median family income of $608 per week. One-parent families with dependents had a median family income of $570 per week. This was more than the median family income of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, but less than the median family income of one-parent families without children in this age group. The average increase since 2001 in the median family income across the three groups was $138.

In Melbourne, the median family income for all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years was $557 per week. This was less than the median family income of one-parent families with dependents ($614 per week) and one-parent families with dependents but no children aged 0 to 8 years ($696 per week). Median family income increased from 2001 for all three one-parent families with these characteristics at an average of $114.

The median family income was higher in metropolitan Melbourne than in regional Victoria for one-parent families with dependents, one-parent families with dependents but no children 0 to 8 and one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years.

Flowchart 5: Families with children aged 0 to 8 years by reported income, Victoria

Source: ABS 2006, Census
The four highest median weekly family incomes in regional Victoria were in the LGAs of Queenscliffe (B) ($1,492), Macedon Ranges (S) ($1,448), Surf Coast (S) ($1,373) and Moorabool (S) ($1,322).

The lowest median family income in regional Victoria was $948 per week in Loddon (S), followed by Buloke (S) ($958), Pyrenees (S) ($965) and Central Goldfields (S) ($991).
The LGAs with the highest median weekly family incomes were in Stonnington (C), Boroondara (C), Bayside (C) and Port Phillip (C), all over $2,500 per week.

The lowest median family income was in Greater Dandenong (C) ($978). This was followed by Brimbank (C) ($1,109), Hume (C) ($1,128) and Whittlesea (C) ($1,151).
The highest median weekly family incomes for one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years in regional Victoria, were in Queenscliffe (B) ($637), Mansfield (S) ($599), Surf Coast (S) ($580) and Macedon Ranges (S) ($563).

The lowest median family income in regional Victoria were in the LGAs of Loddon (S) ($501), Mount Alexander (S) ($508), Yarriambiack (S) ($515), Hindmarsh (S) ($516) and Swan Hill (RC) ($517).
The metropolitan LGAs with the highest median weekly family incomes for one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years were in Boroondara (C) ($703), Stonnington (C) ($625), Glen Eira (C) ($624), Bayside (C) ($622) and Nillumbik (S) ($620).

The lowest median family incomes per week were in Yarra (C) ($327), Melbourne (C) ($435) and Brimbank (C) ($447).
Education

The highest level of schooling completed by parents, and whether or not parents have a non-school qualification, are factors considered in this section.

Non-school qualifications include diplomas, associate diplomas, bachelors and masters degrees, doctorates and certificates.

Couple families

Of the 336,092 families in Victoria with children aged 0 to 8 years, 62,362 (18.6 per cent) couple families reported that both parents have a non-school qualification and 10,104 (3.0 per cent) were one-parent families in which the parent has a non-school qualification. This was a higher proportion compared to 2001 for couple families (15.2 per cent) and lower for one-parent families (4.4 per cent).

Out of 279,375 couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years in Victoria, 22.3 per cent were families where both parents had a non-school qualification. The percentage was higher in metropolitan Melbourne (25.8 per cent) compared to regional Victoria (12.2 per cent).

Of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, 59,172 (21.2 per cent) recorded that neither parent had completed year 12 or equivalent, compared to 30.5 per cent in 2001.

In regional Victoria, 30.4 per cent of the 71,493 couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years reported that neither parent had completed Year 12 or equivalent.

In Melbourne, neither parent had completed Year 12 or equivalent in 37,408 (18.0 per cent) couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years.

One-parent families

The percentage of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where the parent has a non-school qualification was higher in metropolitan Melbourne (20.5 per cent) than in regional Victoria (12.2 per cent).

The parent in more than half (54.7 per cent) of the total one-parent families in Victoria with children aged 0 to 8 years had not completed Year 12 or equivalent.

In Melbourne, the parent in 50.5 per cent of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years (19,451 out of 38,512) had not completed Year 12 or equivalent.

In 11,590 out of 18,204 one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years in regional Victoria (63.7 per cent), the parent had not completed Year 12 or equivalent.
Flowchart 6: Families with children aged 0 to 8 years by education, Victoria

Families in Victoria children aged 0–8 336,092

Couple families 279,375
- Both parents with non-school qualification 62,362
- All other couple families 157,841
- Neither parent had completed year 12 59,172

One-parent families 56,716
- Parent had non-school qualification 10,104
- Parent completed year 12 15,571
- Parent had not completed year 12 31,041

Source: ABS 2006, Census
In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years where both parents had a non-school qualification were in the LGAs of Queenscliffe (B) (29.2%) and Surf Coast (S) (22.7%), areas that also recorded the highest median family income for couple families with children 0 to 8 years old.

The LGAs with the lowest percentages were Central Goldfields (S) (2.8%), Gannawarra (S) (5.0%), Hindmarsh (S) (5.1%) and West Wimmera (S) (5.7%).
In the Melbourne metropolitan area, highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where both parents had a non-school qualification were in Boroondara (C) (57.6%), Stonnington (C) (55.4%), Melbourne (C) (52.6%) and Port Phillip (C) (51.7%).

The LGAs with the lowest percentages were Hume (C) (9.0%), Cardinia (S) (9.5%), Frankston (C) (11.0%) and Casey (C) (11.8%).
In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where the parent had a non-school qualification were in the LGAs of Queenscliffe (B) (33.3%), Mansfield (S) (30.2%) and Surf Coast (S) (28.6%).

The LGAs with the lowest percentages were Central Goldfields (S) (5.3%), Moira (S) (5.9%), Benalla (S) (6.2%) and Yarriambiack (S) (6.5%).
Map 3.10b
One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, parent with non-school qualification, within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In the metropolitan Melbourne area, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where the parent had a non-school qualification were in Boroondara (C) (54.3%), Stonnington (C) (49.1%), Glen Eira (C) (46.4%), Port Phillip (C) (44.5%) and Bayside (C) (42.4%).
- The LGAs with the lowest percentages were Brimbank (C) (11.1%), Melton (S) and Greater Dandenong (C) (both 12.0%).
Map 3.11a
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, neither parent had completed Year 12 or equivalent, within each LGA in Victoria
As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where neither parents had completed Year 12 or equivalent were in the LGAs of Gannawarra (S) (40.6%), Central Goldfields (S) (38.9%) and West Wimmera (S) (37.0%).
- The LGAs with the lowest percentages were Queenscliffe (B) (13.7%), Surf Coast (S) (18.8%) and Macedon Ranges (S) (23.9%).
Map 3.11b
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, neither parent had completed Year 12 or equivalent, within each LGA in Melbourne

As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In the Melbourne metropolitan area, the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years where neither parent had completed Year 12 or equivalent were in Cardinia (S) (33.4%) and Frankston (C) (30.2%).

- The LGAs with the lowest percentages were Boroondara (C) (3.1%) and Stonnington (S) (3.3%).
In regional Victoria, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, and where the parent had not completed Year 12 or equivalent were in Buloke (S) (79.3%), Latrobe (C) (70.2%) and Towong (S) (70.0%).

The lowest percentages were found in the LGAs of Queenscliffe (B) (40.0%), Surf Coast (S) (43.2%) and Mansfield (S) (48.1%).
Map 3.12b
One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, parent had not completed Year 12 or equivalent, within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In the metropolitan Melbourne area, the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years and where the parent had not completed Year 12 or equivalent were in Cardinia (S) (62.5%), Frankston (C) (62.5%) and Casey (C) (60.6%).
- The LGAs with the lowest percentages were Boroondara (C) (21.3%), Stonnington (C) (24.5%) and Glen Eira (C) (27.3%).
English Proficiency

English proficiency was recorded in the Census for those who speak a language other than English at home (see Glossary under ‘Proficiency in spoken English’). Of the 336,092 families in Victoria with children aged 0 to 8 years, there were 195,661 couple families where both parents reported they spoke English only and 44,868 one-parent families where the parent spoke English only. These 240,529 families were excluded from any further analysis. Therefore, 95,563 (28.4 per cent) of the 336,092 families with children aged 0 to 8 years are represented in this section.

This also includes a small number of families with at least one parent/parent language not stated or temporarily absent on Census night (including couple families where one parent does speak English). These families can not be included in the both parents/parent speaks English only.

Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years – neither parent fluent in English

Of the 95,563 families under discussion in this section, 83,715 (87.6 per cent) were couple families where at least one parent spoke a language other than English at home and 4,491 (5.4 per cent) of these families reported that neither parent was fluent in English. This has decreased from 6.9 per cent in 2001.

In regional Victoria, at least one parent in 7,393 couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years spoke a language other than English at home. In 179 (2.4 per cent) of these families neither parent was fluent in English, showing a slight increase since 2001 when it was 2.1 per cent.

In Melbourne, at least one parent in 76,322 couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years spoke a language other than English at home and 4,312 (5.6 per cent) reported that neither parent spoke English fluently. This percentage was considerably greater than in regional Victoria and has decreased from 7.4 per cent in 2001.

The percentage of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where both parents speak a language other than English, was substantially higher in metropolitan Melbourne (27.4 per cent) compared to regional Victoria (3.6 per cent).

One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years – parent not fluent in English

As in 2001, the percentage of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years who spoke a language other than English at home and lacked fluency in English was greater than that of parents in couple families. This was the case in both Melbourne and regional Victoria.

In Victoria, 11,848 one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years reported speaking a language other than English at home. In 2,622 (22.1 per cent) of these families the parent was not fluent in English (23.1 per cent in 2001).

In regional Victoria, there were 747 one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years where the parent spoke a language other than English at home. In 63 (8.4 per cent) of these families the parent lacked fluency in English compared to 6.2 per cent in 2001.
In Melbourne, the parent in 11,101 one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years spoke a language other than English at home. Of these, 2,559 (or 23.1 per cent) were not fluent in English (compared to 8.4 per cent in regional Victoria). The 2006 percentage was slightly lower than in 2001 (24.7 per cent).

The percentage of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where the parent speaks a language other than English, was also much higher in metropolitan Melbourne (27.8 per cent) compared to regional Victoria (3.2 per cent).

Maps 3.13a to 3.16 present data on language spoken at home and English proficiency. Maps for couple and one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years where neither parent/parent was not fluent in English are only included for Melbourne LGAs (3.15 and 3.16) due to the amount of confidentialised data for LGAs in regional Victoria.

Flowchart 7: Families with children aged 0 to 8 years by English proficiency, Victoria

Source: ABS 2006, Census
Within regional Victoria, the LGAs with the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where both parents speak a language other than English included Greater Shepparton (C) (11.7%), Swan Hill (RC) (10.0%), Mildura (RC) (7.7%) and Greater Geelong (C) (7.2%).

LGAs with the lowest percentages were Moyne (S), Corangamite (S), Southern Grampians (S) and Central Goldfields (S) (all under 1.0%).
Map 3.13b
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where both parents speak a language other than English, within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In Melbourne the highest percentage of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years where both parents speak a language other than English were located in Greater Dandenong (C) (71.9%), Brimbank (C) (57.1%), Hume (C) (43.7%), Whittlesea (C) (43.3%), Monash (C) (43.0%) and Moreland (C) (40.0%) followed.
- The lowest percentages were found in the outer-eastern areas of Melbourne including, Mornington Peninsula (S) (2.6%), Cardinia (S) (2.8%) and Yarra Ranges (S) (3.3%).
Map 3.14a
One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where the parent speaks a language other than English, within each LGA in Victoria
As a percentage of all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- Within regional Victoria, LGAs with the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where the parent speaks a language other than English were Alpine (S) (10.2%), Strathbogie (S) (8.6%) and Mildura (RC) (7.6%).
- LGAs with the lowest percentages were Greater Bendigo (S), Baw Baw (S) and Wangaratta (RC) (all under 2.0%)
Map 3.14b
One-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where the parent speaks a language other than English, within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- The highest percentages in metropolitan Melbourne of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where the parent speaks a language other than English, were found in the LGAs of Yarra (C) (59.3%), Greater Dandenong (C) (58.7%), Brimbank (C) (57.1%), Maribyrnong (C) (54.5%) and Melbourne (C) (54.0%).

- LGAs with the lowest percentages were the same for one parent families as they were for couple families; Mornington Peninsula (S) (3.2%), Yarra Ranges (S) (4.0%) and Cardinia (S) (4.2%).
Map 3.15
Couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where neither parent was fluent in English, within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In Melbourne, the LGAs with the highest percentages of couple families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where neither parent was fluent in English, included the City of Greater Dandenong (13.4%), the western areas of Brimbank (C) (8.4%) and Maribyrnong (C) (5.1%) and the inner city LGA of Yarra (C) (5.0%).
- The lowest percentages were found in Yarra Ranges (C), Frankston (C), Bayside (C), Stonnington (C) and Port Phillip (C) (all under 0.5%).
The LGAs with the highest percentages of one-parent families with children aged 0 to 8 years, where the parent was not fluent in English, were Yarra (C) (26.4%), Brimbank (C) (23.2%), Greater Dandenong (C) (20.4%) and Maribyrnong (C) (18%).

The lowest percentages were found in Yarra Ranges (C) and Frankston (C) (both under 1.0%). Bayside (C) (1.1%), Maroondah (C) (1.2%) and Knox (C) (1.6%) were also low.
Need for assistance with core activities

The 2006 Census is the first Census to collect data on need for assistance with core activities. The Core Activity Need for Assistance variable has been developed to measure the number of people with a profound or severe disability.

This population is defined as people who need assistance in their day to day lives with any or all of the following core activities – self-care, body movements or communication – because of a disability, long-term health condition, or old age.

Data on people who need assistance because of a disability, long-term health condition or old age are required for developing federal and state government policies and community-based programs, and for program and service delivery funding allocation.

Detailed data at the small area level and for small population groups are required for informed planning and funding of disability service delivery.

Maps 3.17a and 3.17b show children aged 0 to 8 years with need for assistance in one or more core activities as a percentage of all children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA in regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne.

In the 2006 Census there were 7,770 children aged 0 to 8 years with a core activity need for assistance. This represents 1.4 per cent of the total Census population of 0 to 8 years olds in Victoria. The percentage was slightly higher in regional Victoria (1.6 per cent) than in metropolitan Melbourne (1.3 per cent).
Map 3.17a:
Children aged 0 to 8 years, has a need for assistance with core activities, within each LGA in Victoria
As a percentage of all children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- For regional Victoria, the highest percentages of children aged 0 to 8 years with a need for assistance with core activities were in Loddon (S) (2.6%), Benalla (RC) (2.3%), Queenscliffe (B) (2.3%) and Latrobe (C) (2.1%).
- The lowest percentages were recorded in the LGAs of Alpine (S), Mansfield (S), Mount Alexander (S) and Campaspe (S) (all under 1.0%)
Map 3.17b:
Children aged 0 to 8 years, has a need for assistance with core activities, within each LGA in Melbourne
As a percentage of all children aged 0 to 8 years within each LGA

- In the metropolitan Melbourne area, the highest percentages of children aged 0–8 years that needed assistance with core activities were recorded in Melbourne (C) (1.9%), Cardinia (S) (1.8%), Frankston (C) (1.8%) and Knox (C) (1.8%).

- The lowest percentages were found in the LGAs of Yarra (C), Stonnington (C), Port Phillip (C), Moonee Valley (C) and Bayside (C) (all under 1.0%).