A snapshot of
culturally & linguistically diverse (CALD) communities in Newcastle

City of Newcastle

In the Newcastle LGA in 2021:

- **10.5 %** of people used a **language other than English** at home, which was more than the Hunter Region (6%) but less than NSW (27%).
- **25,015** people (15%) were **born overseas**, compared with 29% for NSW, and 24% of those arrived in Australia within 5 years prior to 2021.
- Between 2016 to 2021, the **number of people born overseas increased by 3,412** people or 15.8%.

- The **largest non-English speaking country of birth in Newcastle was India**, where 1% of the population (1,747 people), were born.
- **4,251** people (20% of those born overseas) were born in a **predominantly non-English speaking country**, and had been resident in Australia for less than 5 years[1]

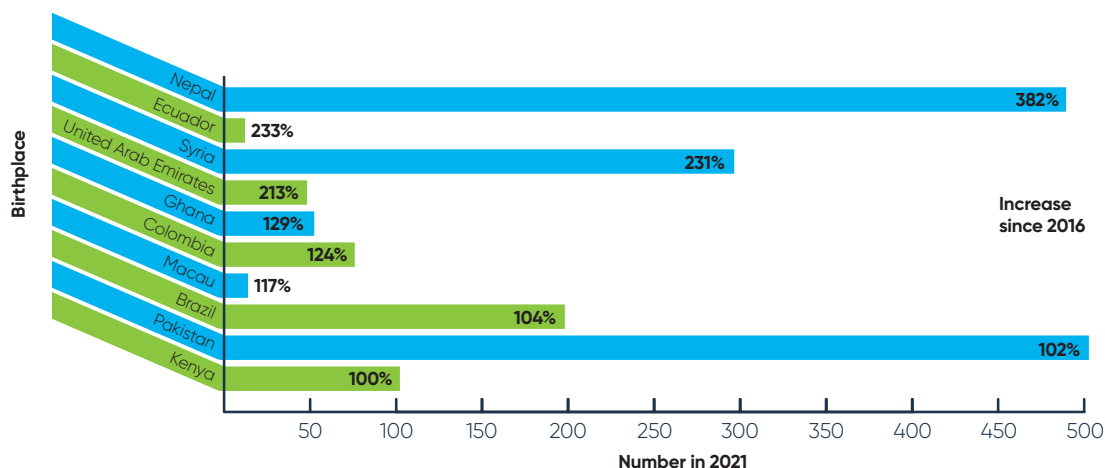**17% of LOTE speakers were university students**

Birthplace

Of the 15% of the population in 2021 that were born overseas, the top 10 places of birth were:

Birthplace	Number in 2021	% of population	NSW %	Change in numbers from 2016 to 2021
United Kingdom	4,512	2.7	3.4	+464
New Zealand	1,779	1.1	1.5	+155
India	1,747	1.0	2.6	+591
China	1,380	0.8	3.1	−338
Philippines	1,068	0.6	1.3	+256
United State of American	725	0.4	0.4	+133
North Macedonia	632	0.4	0.2	−30
South Africa	625	0.4	0.6	+190
Germany	585	0.3	0.4	−16
Italy	565	0.3	0.6	−86

There were 10 countries of origin where the increase between 2016 and 2021 more than doubled[2]:

Birthplace / Number in 2021 / Increase since 2016

- Nepal — 382%
- Ecuador — 233%
- Syria — 231%
- United Arab Emirates — 213%
- Ghana — 129%
- Colombia — 124%
- Macau — 117%
- Brazil — 104%
- Pakistan — 102%
- Kenya — 100%

Recent migrants[3]

- From January 2018 to March 2023, there were **598 Humanitarian, 799 Family and 2,534 Skilled migrants** currently recorded as residing in the Newcastle LGA
- Of the 598 humanitarian entrants to Newcastle LGA in the Humanitarian Settlement Program from 2018 until March 2023, languages reported upon settlement were: **Arabic (235), Swahili (91), Dari (84), Tibetan (59), Pashto (34), Farsi (Afghan) (25), Farsi (Persian) (14), Kurdish (19) and Kinyarwanda/Rwanda (17).**

What languages are spoken?

- More than **80 different languages** spoken at home in 2021 in the Newcastle LGA
- The **top 15 languages spoken** at home (other than English) were:

	No.	% of total LOTE speakers		No.	% of total LOTE speakers
Mandarin	1,673	9%	Cantonese	584	3%
Macedonian	1,035	6%	Malayalam	529	3%
Arabic	909	5%	Urdu	525	3%
Greek	740	4%	Nepali	470	3%
Italian	713	4%	Hindi	420	2%
Filipino/Tagalog	693	4%	German	395	2%
Vietnamese	680	4%	Korean	392	2%
Spanish	649	4%			

Employment and participation in the labour force

People were less likely to be employed if they had a poor proficiency of English:

39%

full time employment for people who **spoke English 'very well'** to 13% for people who didn't speak English at all.

26%

part time employment for people who s**poke English 'very well'** to 13% for people who didn't speak English at all.

People were less likely to be in the labour force if they had a poor proficiency of English:

66%

of people who **didn't speak English at all** were **not in the labour force**, compared to **61%** for those who **speak English 'not well'**, **42%** for those who **speak 'well'** and **24%** for those who **speak 'very well'**.

There were stark differences in the employment of people according to their proficiency in English. Almost 2,000 people over 15 years of age spoke English 'not at all' or 'not well'.

Education level

People who spoke English 'not well' or 'not at all' generally had lower levels of education than those who spoke English:

- **11%** had a **Bachelor degree or higher** (people who spoke English well or very well = 47%)
- **32%** (or 480 people) were only **educated to secondary level Year 9 or below** (people who spoke English well or very well = 6%)
- **Females** were **more likely than males** to have lower levels of education

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