

# Victorian Population Bulletin

# 2014

## Special Edition Part 2 – Capital cities and Balance of states

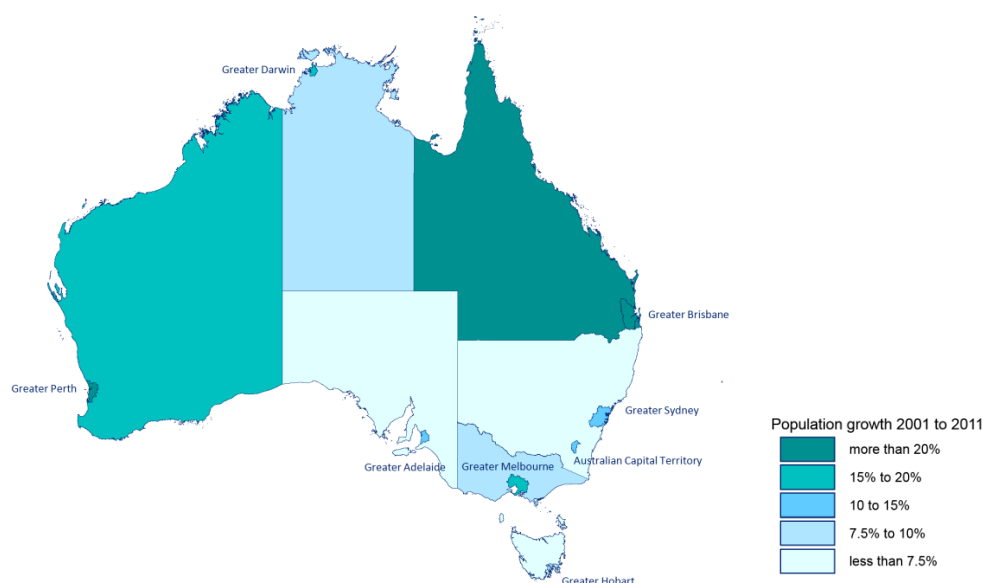
The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) rebases the estimated resident population (ERP) of Australia and its regions after each Census. An improved methodology in the 2011 Census – based for the first time on automated data linking – showed that the proportion of the population undercounted was lower than previously assumed and that previous populations had been overestimated using the 'old' methodology.

To take account of this new information, and to produce a consistent set of time series population data, the ABS recast population estimates in addition to the usual rebasing conducted after each Census. For further information about the revisions, consult the ABS web-site and demographic publications.

## Highlights of population change

- The population of Australia increased from 13.1 million people in 1971 to 22.3 million in 2011. This is an increase of 9.27 million at an average annual growth rate of 1.3 per cent.
- More than half of the population of Australia is living in the capital cities.
- This urbanisation trend is general and accelerating (see Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Population growth, Capital city and Balance of state, 2001 to 2011**



Source: ABS. Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0).

## Population growth

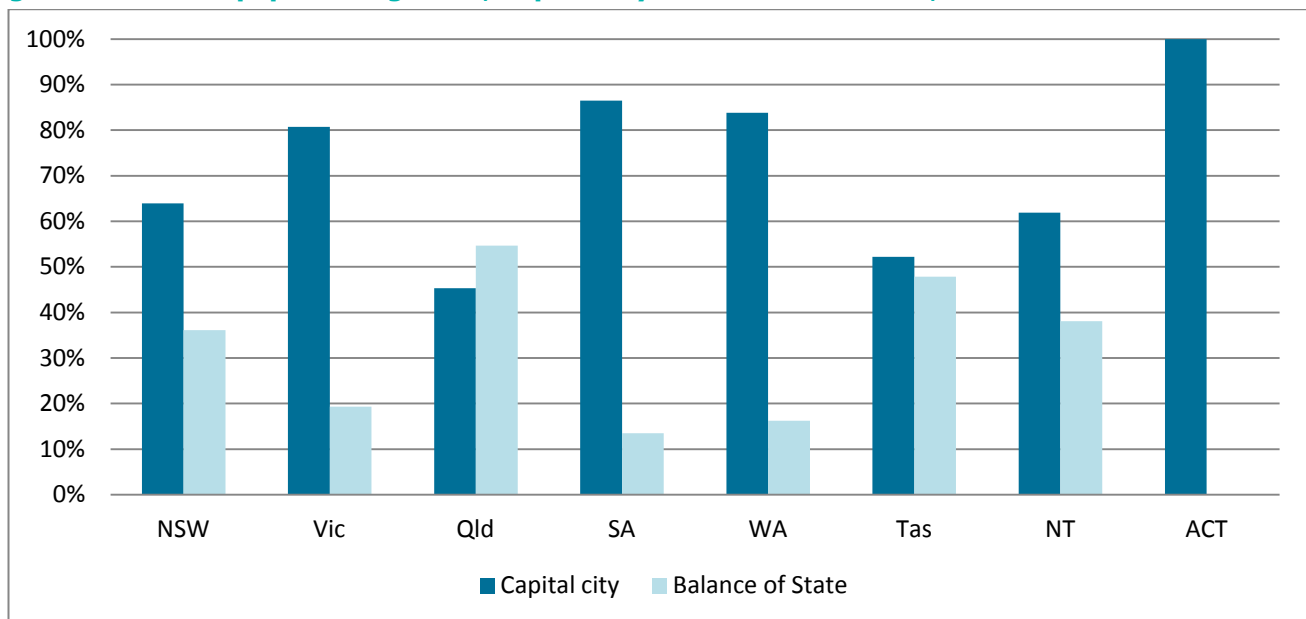
- Between 1971 and 2011, Australia's population increased by 9.27 million people. More than two-thirds of this growth, 6.2 million, occurred in capital cities.
- Table 1 shows the population of the capital cities and balance of state areas at 10-year intervals from 1971 to 2011, while Table 2 shows the changes in population during this period.

**Table 1 Estimated Resident Population at 30 June**

	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Greater Sydney	3,015,900	3,279,539	3,672,914	4,102,580	4,608,949
Balance of New South Wales	1,709,603	1,955,350	2,225,817	2,427,769	2,609,580
Greater Melbourne	2,606,900	2,857,907	3,194,707	3,500,249	4,169,366
Balance of Victoria	994,452	1,089,010	1,225,666	1,263,366	1,368,451
Greater Brisbane	957,900	1,154,705	1,411,773	1,693,556	2,147,436
Balance of Queensland	893,585	1,190,503	1,549,178	1,877,913	2,329,342
Greater Adelaide	883,900	979,895	1,093,525	1,148,006	1,264,091
Balance of South Australia	316,214	338,874	352,774	355,455	375,523
Greater Perth	744,600	941,479	1,226,115	1,455,361	1,833,567
Balance of Western Australia	309,234	358,577	409,952	450,913	519,842
Greater Hobart	157,100	174,120	191,648	197,403	216,273
Balance of Tasmania	240,973	253,104	275,154	276,265	295,210
Greater Darwin	39,000	62,078	86,414	108,280	129,106
Balance of Northern Territory	46,735	60,538	79,079	93,463	102,186
Australian Capital Territory	151,169	226,821	288,586	321,538	367,985
Other Territories		760	734	2,584	3,117
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>13,067,265</b>	<b>14,923,260</b>	<b>17,284,036</b>	<b>19,274,701</b>	<b>22,340,024</b>

Source: ABS. Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0)

**Figure 2 Shares of population growth, Capital city and Balance of state, 1971 to 2011**



Source: ABS. Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0)

**Table 2 10-year changes in Estimated Resident Population**

	<b>1971-1981</b>	<b>1981-1991</b>	<b>1991-2001</b>	<b>2001-2011</b>
Greater Sydney	263,639	393,375	429,666	506,369
Balance of New South Wales	245,747	270,467	201,952	181,811
Greater Melbourne	251,007	336,800	305,542	669,117
Balance of Victoria	94,558	136,656	37,700	105,085
Greater Brisbane	196,805	257,068	281,783	453,880
Balance of Queensland	296,918	358,675	328,735	451,429
Greater Adelaide	95,995	113,630	54,481	116,085
Balance of South Australia	22,660	13,900	2,681	20,068
Greater Perth	196,879	284,636	229,246	378,206
Balance of Western Australia	49,343	51,375	40,961	68,929
Greater Hobart	17,020	17,528	5,755	18,870
Balance of Tasmania	12,131	22,050	1,111	18,945
Greater Darwin	23,078	24,336	21,866	20,826
Balance of Northern Territory	13,803	18,541	14,384	8,723
Australian Capital Territory	75,652	61,765	32,952	46,447
Other Territories	760	-26	1,850	533
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>1,855,995</b>	<b>2,360,776</b>	<b>1,990,665</b>	<b>3,065,323</b>

Source: ABS. Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0)

## Urbanisation

- The proportion of population growth occurring in capital cities steadily increased between 1971 and 2011 - from 60 per cent between 1971 and 1981 to 72 per cent between 2001 and 2011.
- Except Brisbane, all capital cities increased their share of state population. In 2011, 66 per cent of Australia's population lived in the 8 state and territory capital cities.
- Between 2001 and 2011, all state capitals grew at a faster rate than the remainder of their states. (Table 3 and Figure 2). For the whole period between 1971 and 2011, only Greater Brisbane did not grow as fast as the balance of its state. The growth in the balance of Queensland was due to the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast, which are contiguous to Brisbane.

**Table 3 Average annual population growth rates (%)**

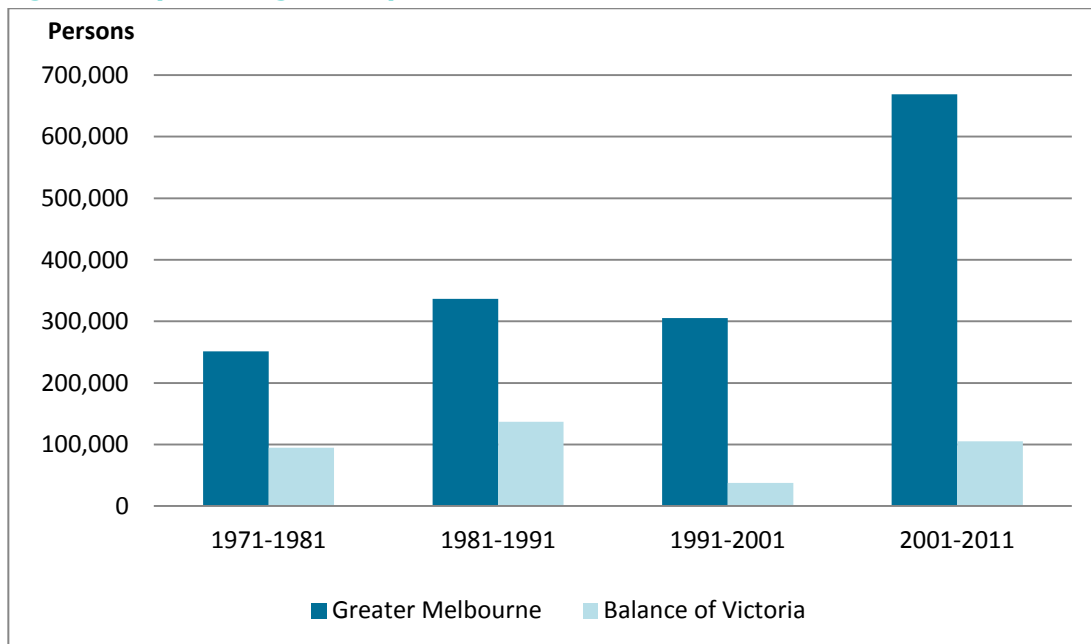
	<b>1971-1981</b>	<b>1981-1991</b>	<b>1991-2001</b>	<b>2001-2011</b>
Greater Sydney	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.2
Balance of New South Wales	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.7
Greater Melbourne	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.8
Balance of Victoria	0.9	1.2	0.3	0.8
Greater Brisbane	1.9	2.0	1.8	2.4
Balance of Queensland	2.9	2.7	1.9	2.2
Greater Adelaide	1.0	1.1	0.5	1.0
Balance of South Australia	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.6
Greater Perth	2.4	2.7	1.7	2.3
Balance of Western Australia	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.4
Greater Hobart	1.0	1.0	0.3	0.9
Balance of Tasmania	0.5	0.8	0.0	0.7
Greater Darwin	4.8	3.4	2.3	1.8
Balance of Northern Territory	2.6	2.7	1.7	0.9
Australian Capital Territory	4.1	2.4	1.1	1.4
Other Territories	n/a	-0.3	13.4	1.9
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>

Source: ABS. Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0)

## Victoria

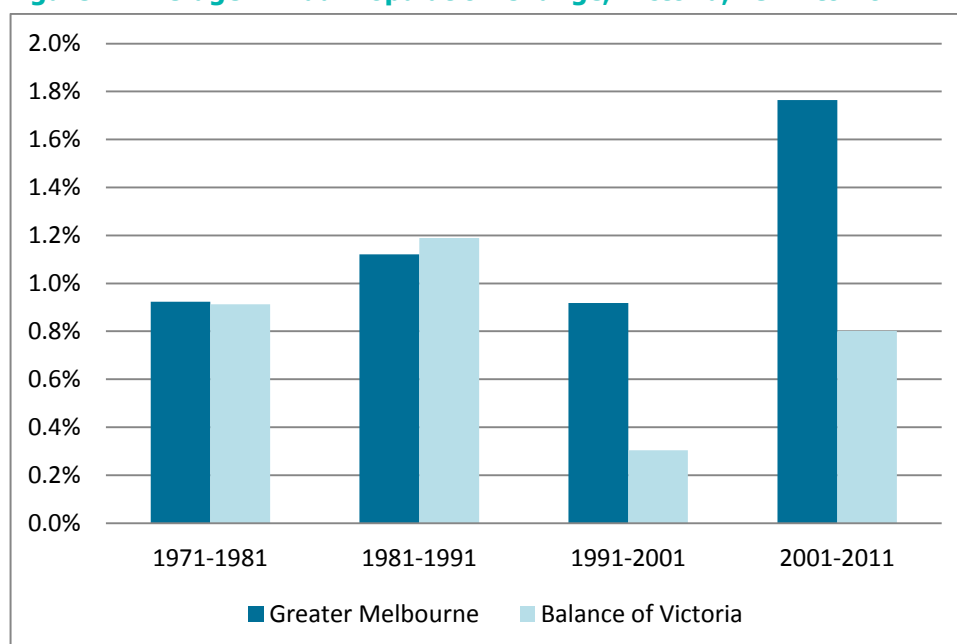
- Victoria is part of the national urbanisation trend.
- The accelerated population growth of the past decade has mostly affected Greater Melbourne: between 2001 and 2011, Greater Melbourne population growth (669,000 persons) accounted for 86 per cent of Victoria's total growth, compared with 73 per cent between 1971 and 1981 (Figure 3).
- The average rate of growth in Greater Melbourne is now more than double the rate of the balance of Victoria (Figure 4).
- In 1971, 72 per cent of Victoria's population lived in Greater Melbourne. This proportion has risen to 75 per cent by 2011.

**Figure 3 Population growth, persons, Victoria, 1971 to 2011**



Source: ABS. Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0)

**Figure 4. Average Annual Population Change, Victoria, 1971 to 2011**



Source: ABS. Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0)

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