

Media Statement

Attention: News editors, politics, social affairs,
ethnic media, community writers



31 July 2014

First ever census analysis of culturally and linguistically diverse young people released

'The CALD Youth Census Report 2014' uses the latest Australian Census data to shine a light on key issues for the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) youth population in Australia and where those issues are most likely to be felt.

The report focuses on the education, employment and living arrangements of young people. Key findings include:

- 925,015 people, or 25 per cent of all youth aged 12-24 in Australia, are from a CALD background.
- In all Australian states and territories the CALD youth population has grown at a faster rate over the past five years (2006 – 2011) compared to the total and Australia-born population aged 12-24.
- Across all Australian states and territories, over 95 percent of CALD youth aged 12-17 are enrolled in full or part time education.
- The CALD youth population has lower rates of employment compared to the Australia born population.
- Most people across age groups in both the Australia born and CALD born groups are living in a single family household.

Research team leader for the report, Professor Graeme Hugo said, "Young People living in Australia vary enormously in their characteristics, where they live and the challenges they face, yet they are a crucial part of our national future. Understanding them better is critical if we are to support them in developing their massive potential, this report is an important step in that direction."

MYAN National Coordinator Nadine Liddy said "Culture and language are an essential part of a young person's identity and need to be carefully considered and acknowledged by mainstream services. This report is welcomed as an important step towards providing more targeted support, particularly around education and employment pathways to young Australians."

'The CALD Youth Census Report 2014' was commissioned by the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) Australia and authored by a team of researchers led by Professor Graeme Hugo at the Australian Population and Migration Research Centre (APMRC), University of Adelaide.

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The Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) is the nationally recognised policy and advocacy body representing multicultural youth issues. Auspiced by the Centre for Multicultural Youth, it is the only national voice on multicultural youth issues.

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