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Guy Barnett, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier

Tasmanians - a snapshot

A new report entitled The People of Tasmania, a presentation of information collected through the 2011 Census on the birthplaces, religions, languages and ancestries of Tasmanian residents is now available.

The publication has been produced by the Australian Government Department of Immigration and Border Protection in partnership with the Tasmanian Government.

The People of Tasmania publication will assist policy makers, business, community groups and researchers better understand the changing composition of Tasmania's population.

The report shows that:

- More than 57 650 people, or 11.6 per cent of the Tasmanian population, were born overseas, an increase of over 11 500 people since 2001, compared to 24.6 per cent of the national population.
- Over 24 per cent of Tasmanians, or 113 971 people, have one or both parents born overseas, compared to 43.1 per cent of the national population.
- Tasmania has residents from over 170 countries, with the top six countries of birth being England, New Zealand, Scotland, Netherlands, Germany and China.
- More than 75 languages are spoken across Tasmania with Mandarin, German, Italian, Greek and Dutch the most common languages spoken other than English.
- Four per cent of Tasmania's population identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, compared to 2.5 per cent of the national population.
- A total of 59.6 per cent of Tasmania's population were Christian, compared to 61.1 per cent of the national population. A total of 28.6 per cent of Tasmania's population have no religion, compared to 22.3 per cent of the national population.
- Each year Tasmania welcomes over 1 200 new arrivals through the skilled, family and humanitarian migration streams.
- Tasmania hosts over 3 000 international students from over 140 countries, and around 150 000 international visitors to our State annually.

The Liberal Government strongly supports increasing the number of skilled migrants to Tasmania and further boosting the number of overseas students studying and staying on in Tasmania. This was a message hand delivered by the Premier during his recent Asian trade mission.

Regardless of where Tasmanians were born or how long they have lived in our State, we want Tasmania to be a strong and confident society.

The People of Tasmania report can be downloaded from www.dpac.tas.gov.au/multicultural

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