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# AUSTRALIA@2015

Professor Andrew Markus



- [1] Surveys and public opinion
- [2] Australia@2015 survey and focus groups
- [3] Positive findings
- [4] Visa categories compared
  - Business (457)
  - Skill Independent
  - Humanitarian
- [5] South Sudanese
- [6] Australia born

# SURVEYS AND PUBLIC OPINION

## Attitudes to Muslim Australians (September 2016)

- Essential Report: 49% support ban on immigration
- Deakin University researcher: 60% concern marriage

## Uncritical acceptance/ reporting

- Polls and Brexit
- Polls and the presidential election

## Politics of survey reporting

- [1] Probability sample? Mode (online panel?)
- [2] Question wording? Response options?
- [3] Context for interpretation?



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# THE SCANLON FOUNDATION SURVEYS

**SAMPLE SIZE**

	<b>National</b>	<b>Local</b>	<b>Experimental</b>
2007	2,000	1,500	
2009	2,000		
2010	2,000	1,800	
2011	2,000		
2012	2,000	2,000	
2013	1,200	2,500	2,300
2014	1,500		1,070
2015a	1,500		
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>14,200</i>	<i>7,800</i>	<i>3,370</i>
2015b		51 focus groups	10,548



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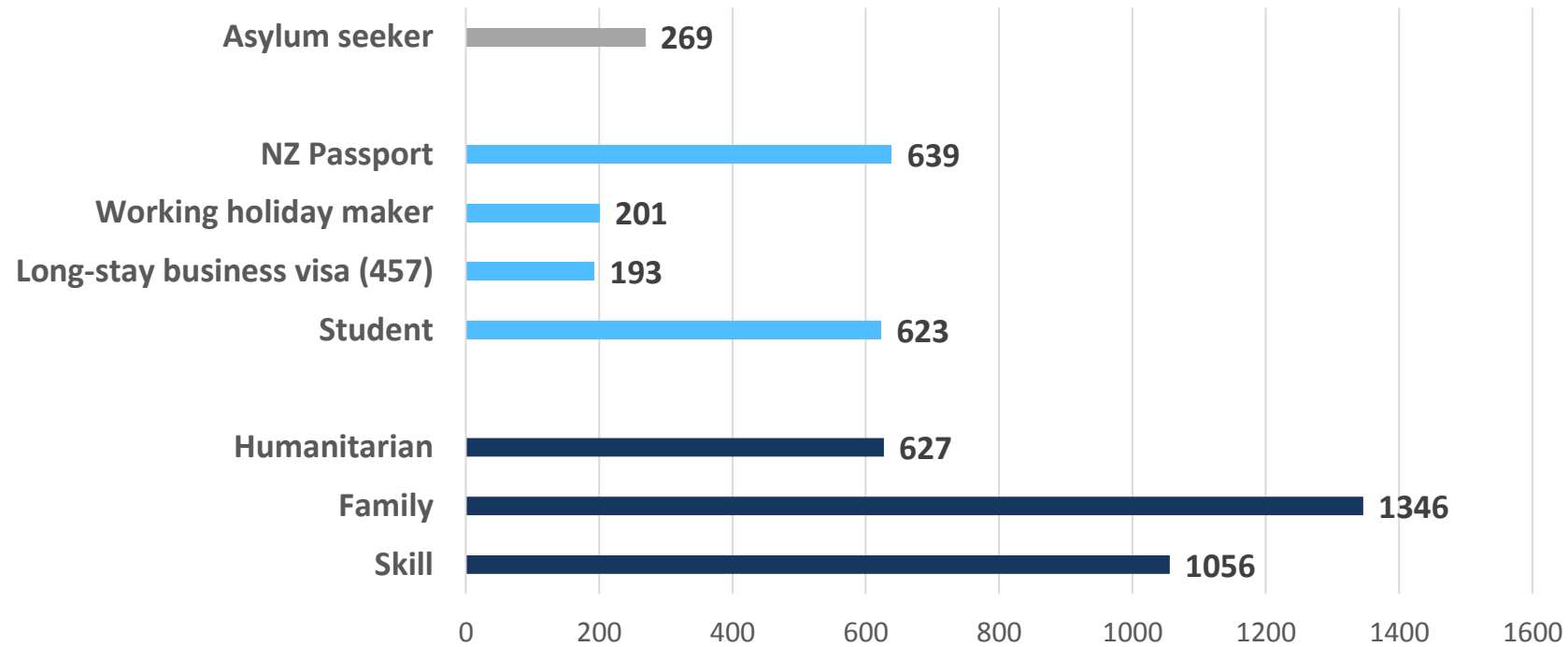
- Available 20 languages, online and print
- Promoted over 6 months (Sept. 2015-February 2016)
  - **Partner organisations: ECCV; SBS; Multicultural NSW**
  - Others promoting: Monash University, Scanlon Foundation, AMF, DSS, state government departments, local government, organisations in Bendigo, CMY (Melb.), SSI (Sydney), MDA (Brisb.), Access (Brisb.), Logan Council, FECCA; Scanlon Foundation
- Three weights – Australia-born; Overseas-born; LGA (8)
- Non-probability sample, benchmarked against probability samples (earlier Scanlon Foundation surveys)

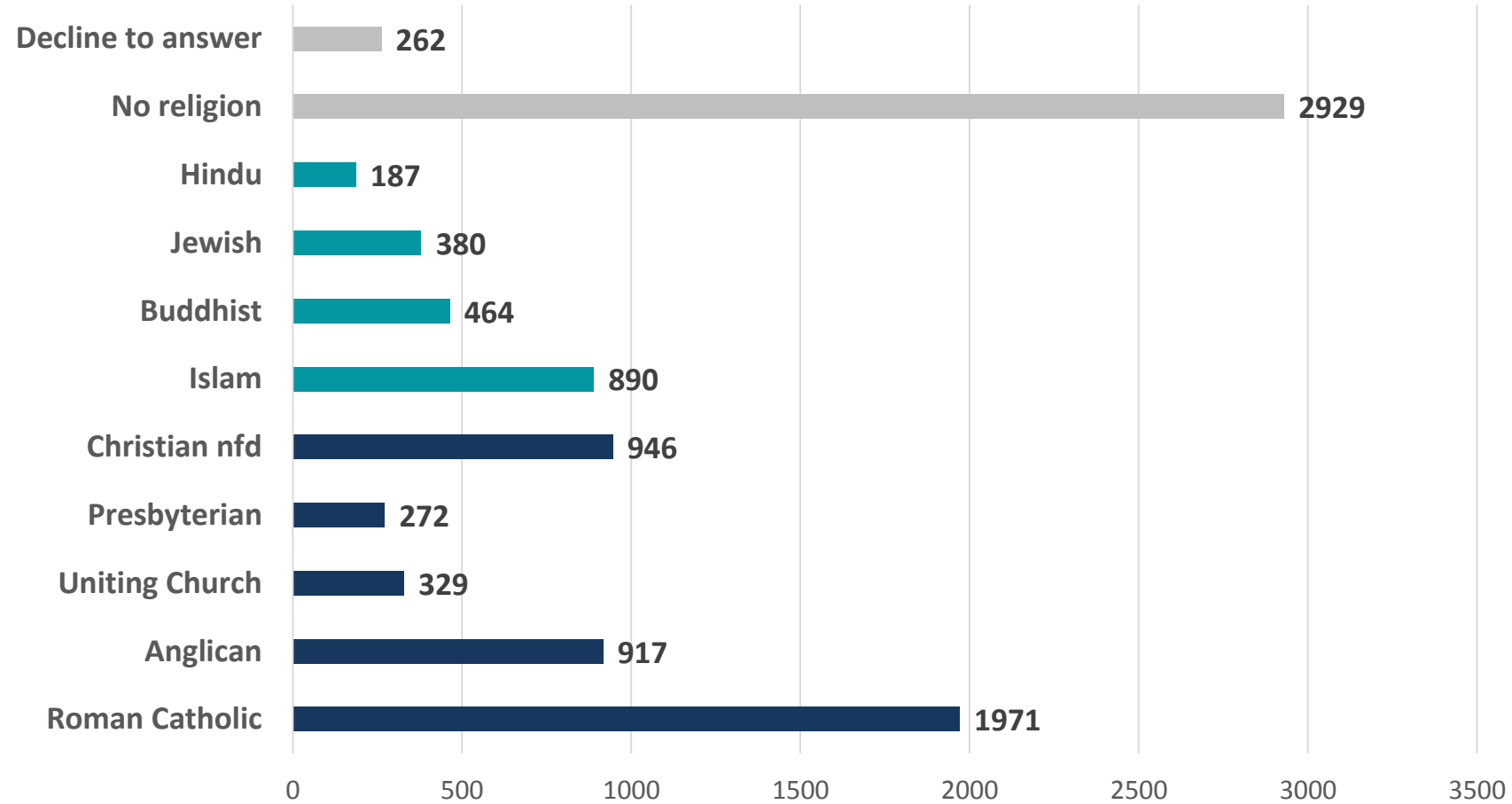


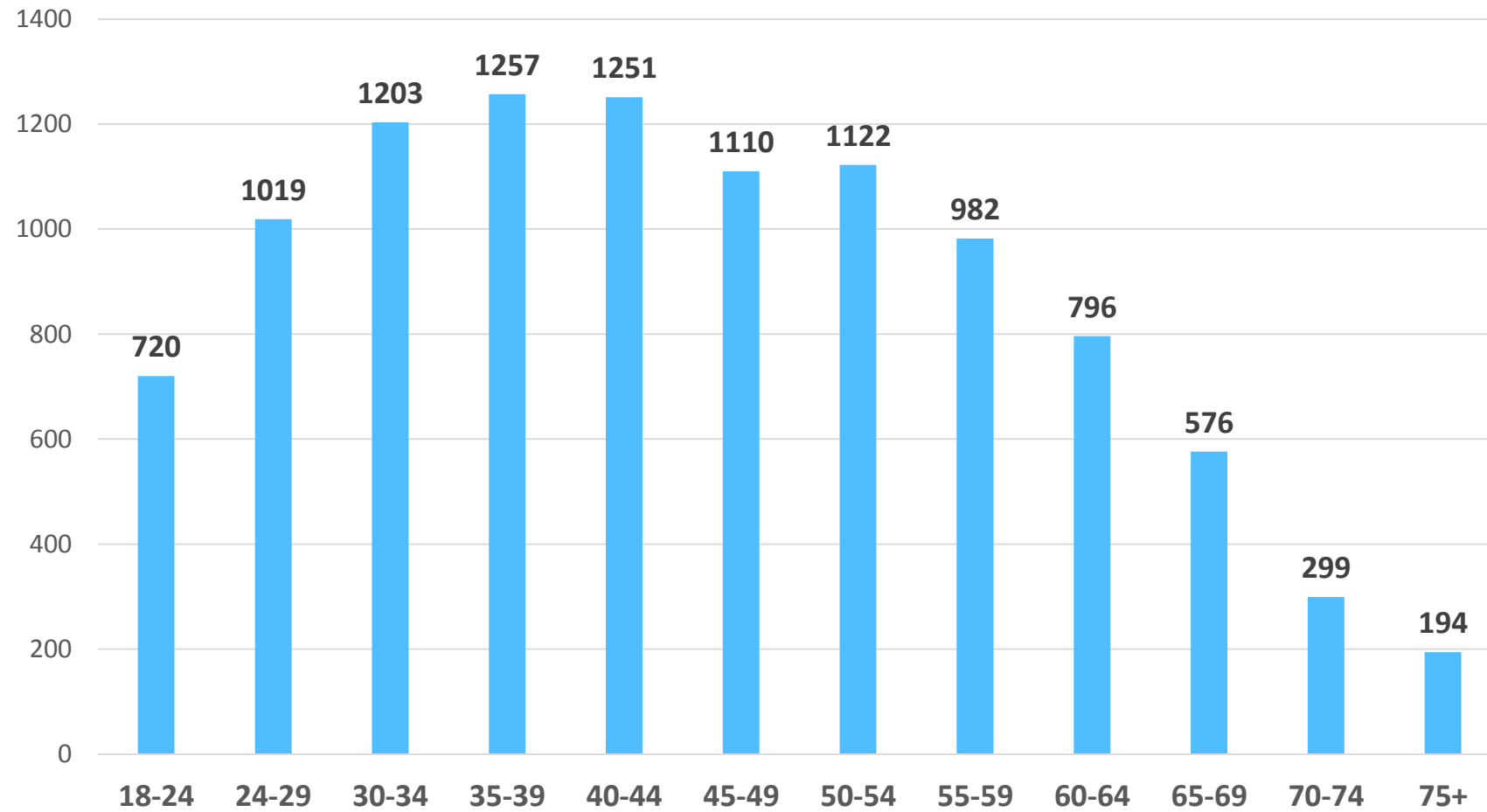
Surveys completed (valid)	10,548	(print=522)
as % of surveys started		~75%
Born in Australia	5,061	48%
Born overseas	5,487	52%
Completed in LOTE	1,521	15%

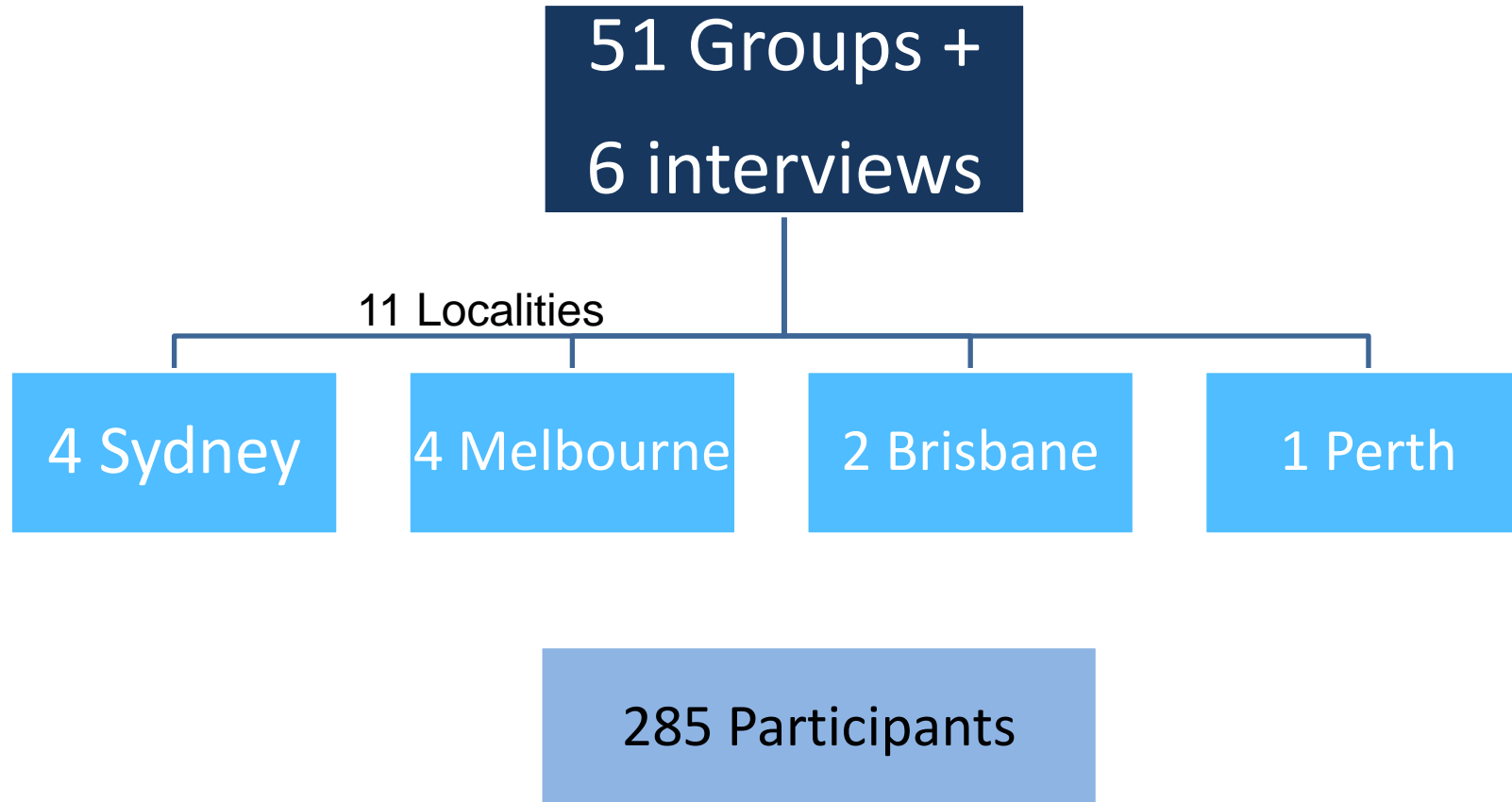
# COUNTRY OF BIRTH

<b>Au 5061</b>	<b>India 217</b>	<b>S. Korea 301</b>	<b>Turkey 168</b>	<b>South Sudan 166</b>	USA 66
<b>ATSI 122</b>	Sri Lanka 95	<b>China 287</b>	Lebanon 41	Sudan 69	
<b>NZ 567</b>	Pakistan 65	<b>Vietnam 275</b>	Israel 213	Eritrea 54	Colombia 78
<b>UK 396</b>		Burma(My) 47	<b>Iraq 112</b>	S. Africa 62	Brazil 36
		Thailand 83	<b>Iran 250</b>		Chile 34
<b>France 169</b>		Malaysia 77	<b>Afghanistan 199</b>		
Germany 79		Indonesia 51			
Cyprus 50		<b>Philippines 119</b>			









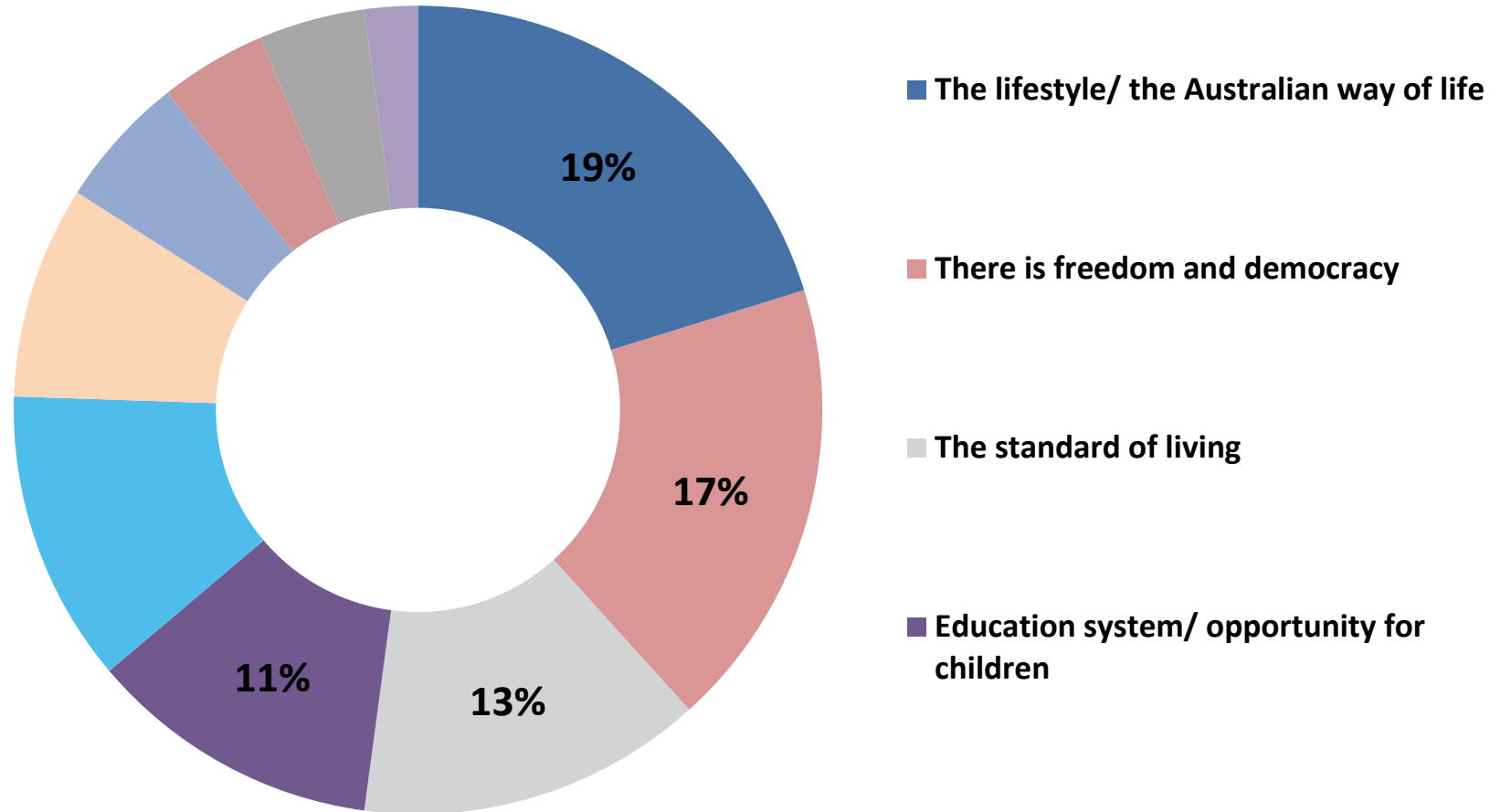
## **POSITIVES:**

A GOOD COUNTRY FOR AUSTRALIA BORN, A  
GOOD COUNTRY FOR IMMIGRANT

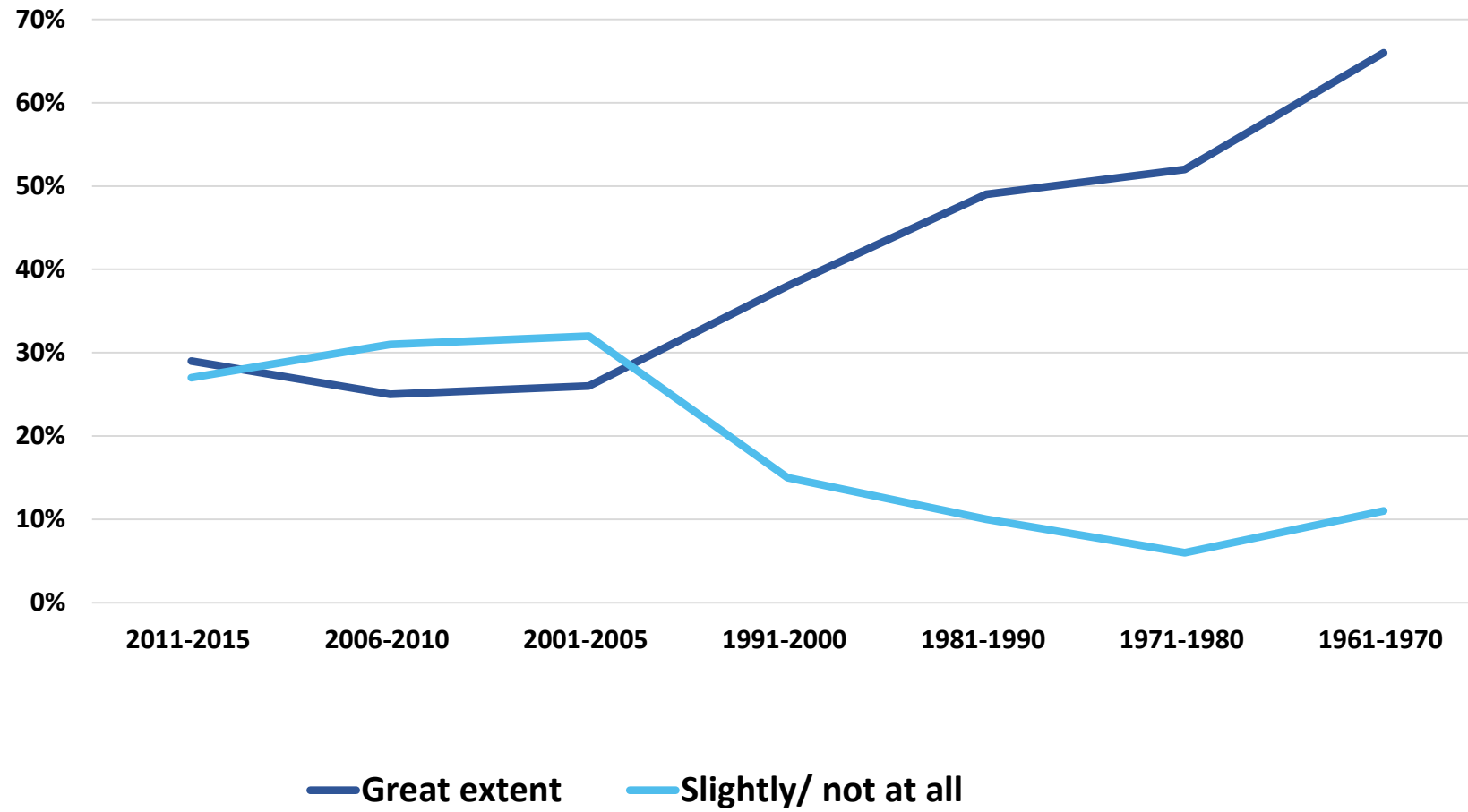
Negative response	%
'Very unhappy', 'unhappy'	13
'Strongly dissatisfied', 'dissatisfied' with life in Australia	6
Sense of belonging in Australia, 'not at all'	9



# Top Ten things liked about Australia, first choice, overseas-born arrived 2001-15



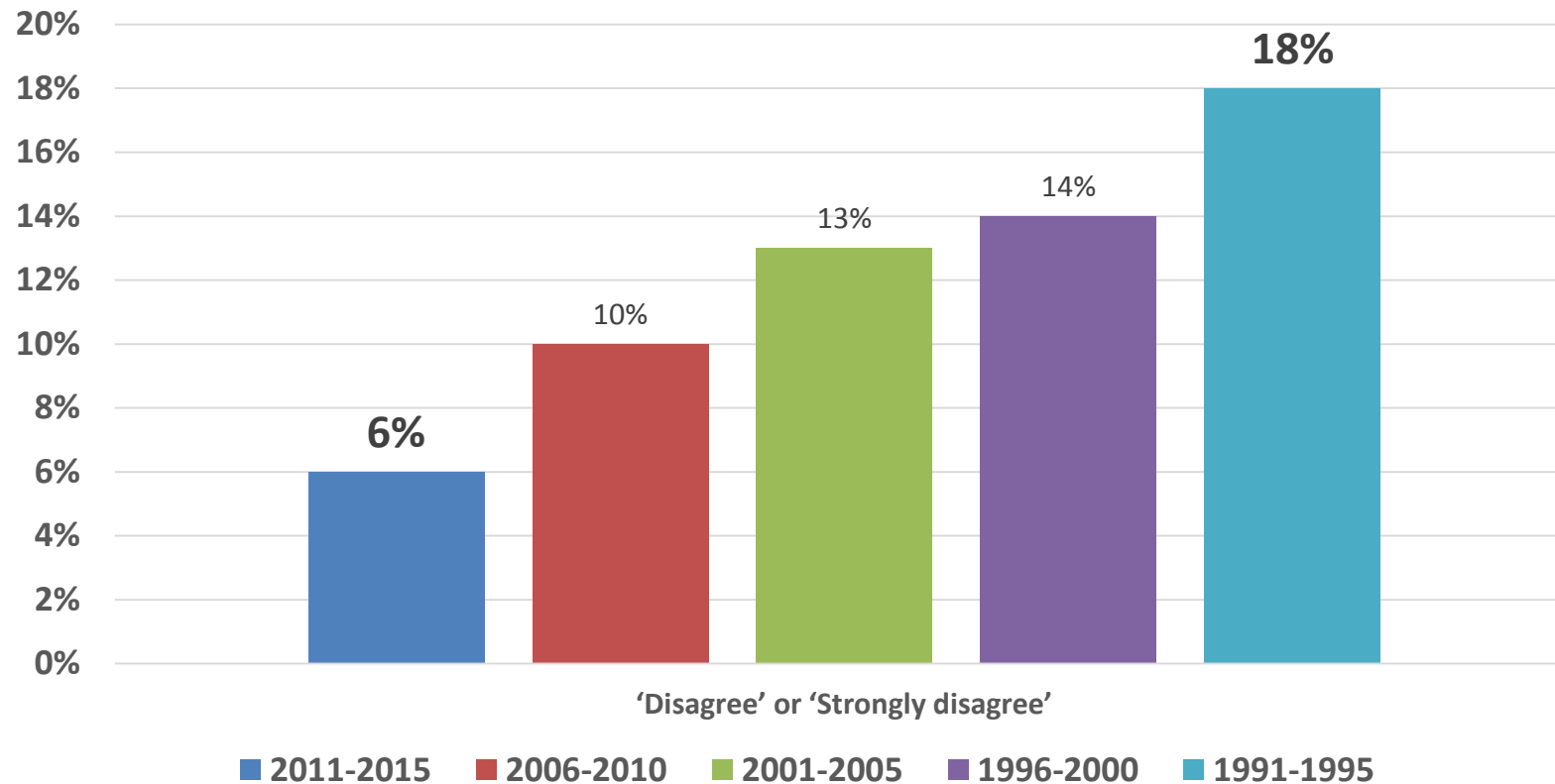
# 'To what extent do you have a sense of belonging in Australia?' by year of arrival



# OPTIMISM OF THE NEW ARRIVAL

'... Hard work brings a better life' – by year of arrival

Response: 'Disagree' or 'Strongly disagree'



# 'How often do you keep in contact with friends and relatives ... former home country?', by SMS and social media, YOA

	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-05	2006-10	2011-15
Everyday	25%	32%	36%	<b>44%</b>	<b>43%</b>
Several times/week	28%	27%	29%	<b>31%</b>	<b>28%</b>
Total	<b>53%</b>	59%	65%	<b>75%</b>	<b>71%</b>

**Decline,  
but still  
53%**

# 'How often do you watch television and other media from your former home country', by YOA

	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-05	2006-10	2011-15
Everyday	13%	<b>21%</b>	19%	19%	17%
Several times/week	13%	12%	13%	16%	15%
Total	26%	<b>32%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>32%</b>

Little change to 1991: entrenched at 1:3



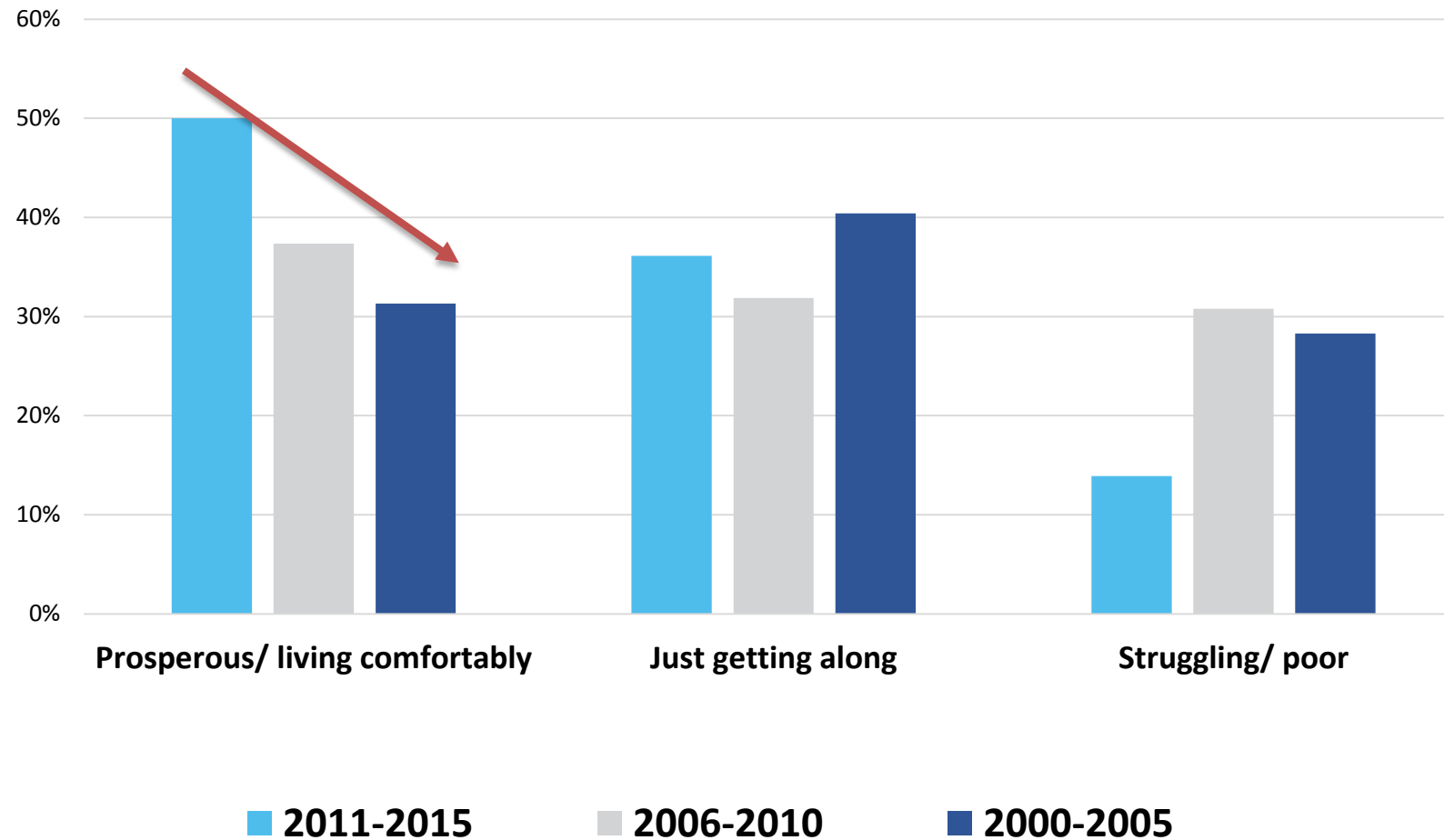
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## **VISA CATEGORIES**

# FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES + TRUST: SOUTH SUDANESE

Question	Business 457 %	Independent Skill %	Humanitarian - South Sudanese %
Financial circumstances – ‘poor’, ‘struggling to pay bills’ ‘just getting along’	25	32	81
‘Most people can be trusted’ / ‘Can’t be too careful’	68 / 21	48/ 32	4/ 73

# SELF DESCRIBED FINANCIAL STATUS: HUMANITARIAN VISA



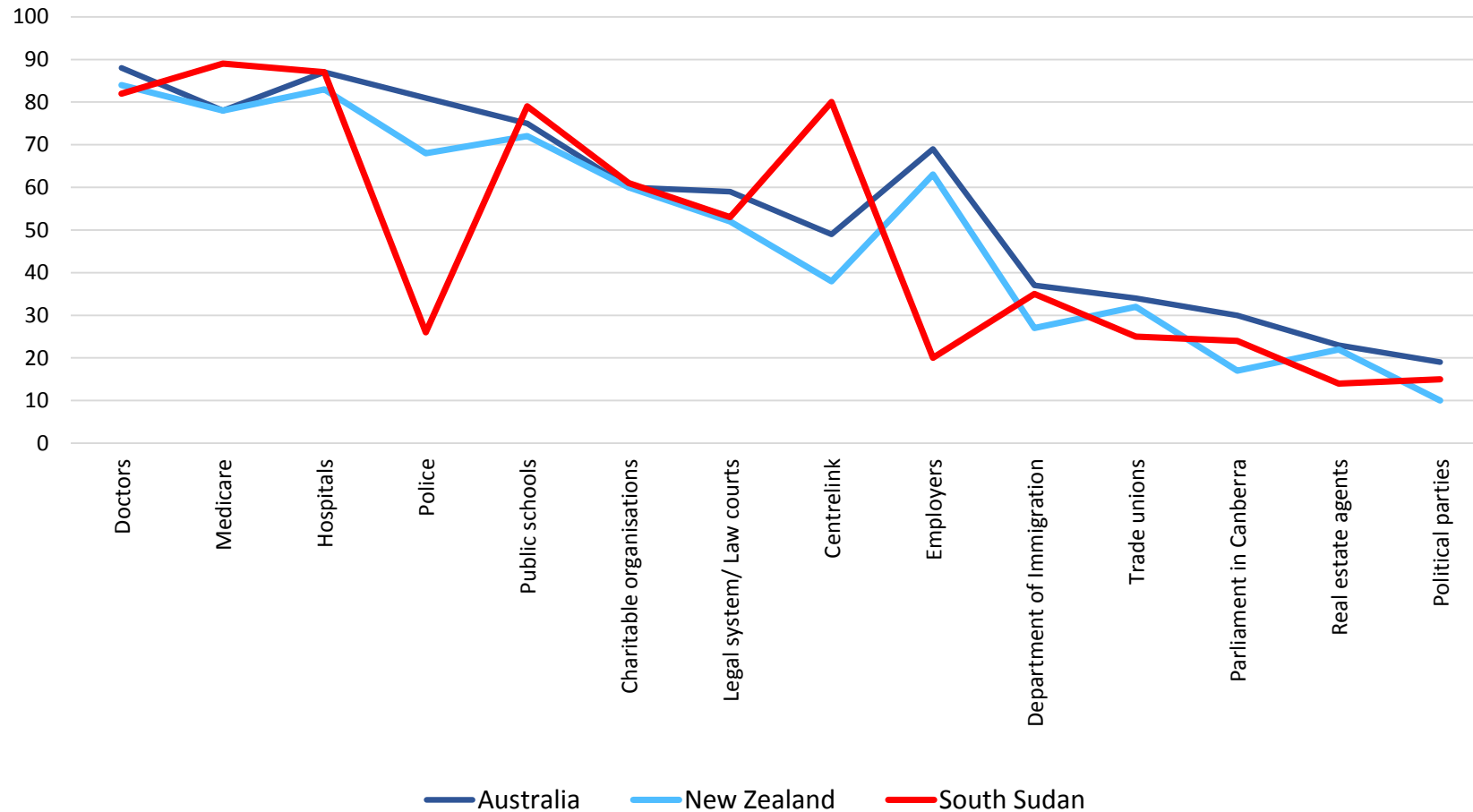


‘Have you experienced discrimination because of your skin colour, ethnic origin or religion over the last 12 months?’

3 <sup>rd</sup> generation Australian	%	Europe	%	Asia	%	Africa	%
SEIFA 10	<b>7</b>	UK	11	Philippines	30	Ethiopia	60
SEIFA 9	12	Netherlands	<b>12</b>	Malaysia	<b>37</b>	Kenya	67
SEIFA 2	25	Italy	<b>13</b>	India	39	Zimbabwe	<b>75</b>
SEIFA 1	<b>27</b>	Greece	<b>14</b>	China	39	South Sudan	<b>77</b>
		Germany	15	Thailand	50		
<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>59</b>	France	22	Korea, South	55		

- Sudanese and discrimination
  - Pre-school
  - School
  - Streets
  - Shops/ shopping centres
  - Public transport
  - Police
  - Neighbours
  - Applying for jobs
  - Cultural norms – adjusting to Australian/ western ways
- Individual capacity to cope

# Born in Australia, New Zealand and South Sudan, arrived 2001-2015 – ‘A lot of trust’ and ‘some trust’



# INSTITUTIONAL TRUST – BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH

	AUSTRALIA	CHINA + HK	INDIA	S.SUDAN
DOCTORS	88	80	87	82
CENTRELINK	49	73	70	80
IMMIGRATION	37	72	77	<b>35</b>
POLICE	81	76	87	<b>26</b>
EMPLOYERS	69	49	64	<b>20</b>

Discrimination is not simply a matter of majority/ minority relations

Need to understand attitudes/ behaviour within groups



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**AUSTRALIA-BORN**

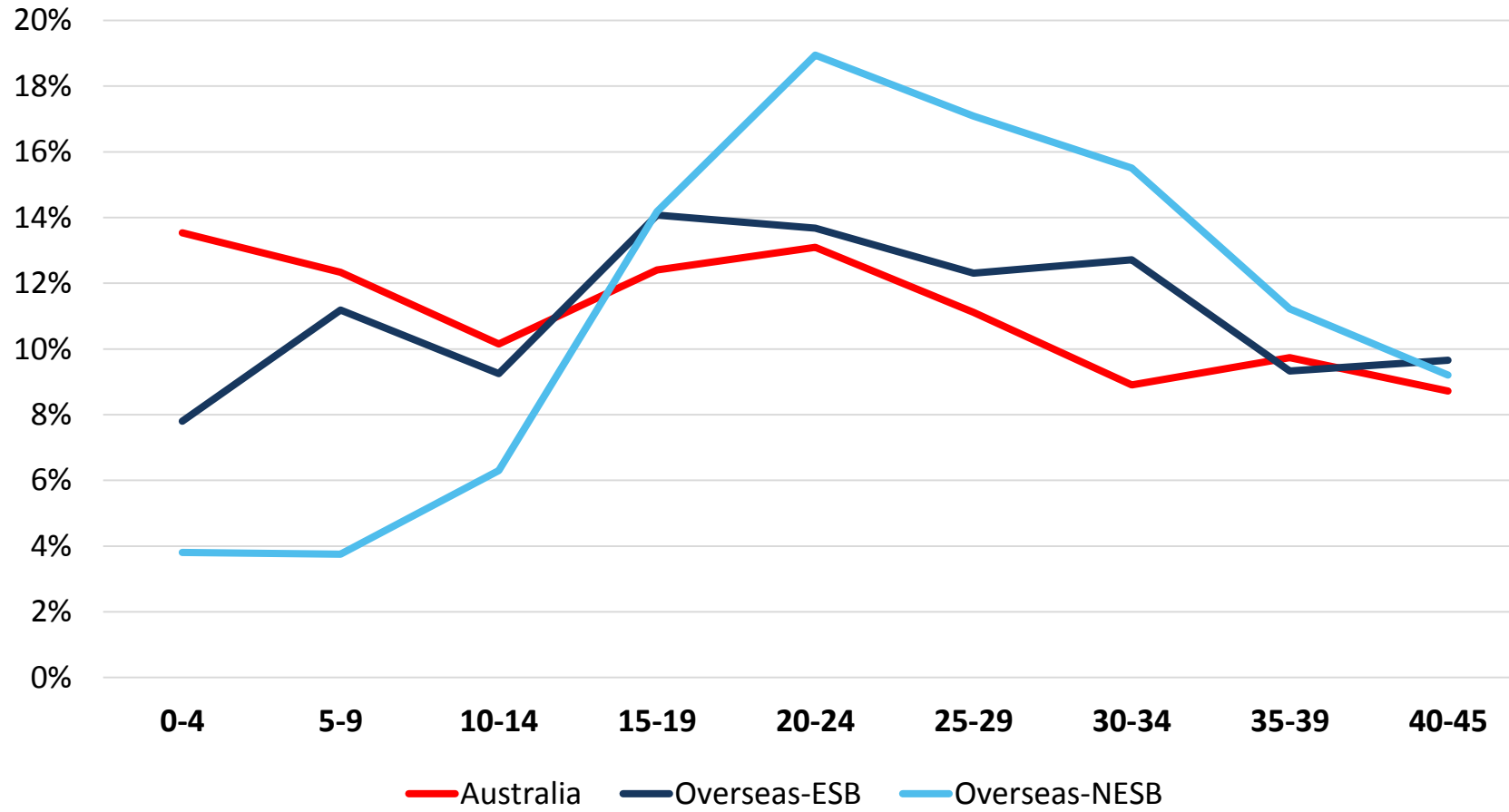
- Increasing diversity – culture, ethnicity, race, religion
- Increasing numbers (as Australian population grows)
  
- Socialisation of the next generation
  - **‘Growing up different’ – multicultural/ monocultural**

- Scale = 9 questions aggregated
- Maximum score = 45; **low score = <10**, indicating intolerance/ rejection of cultural diversity

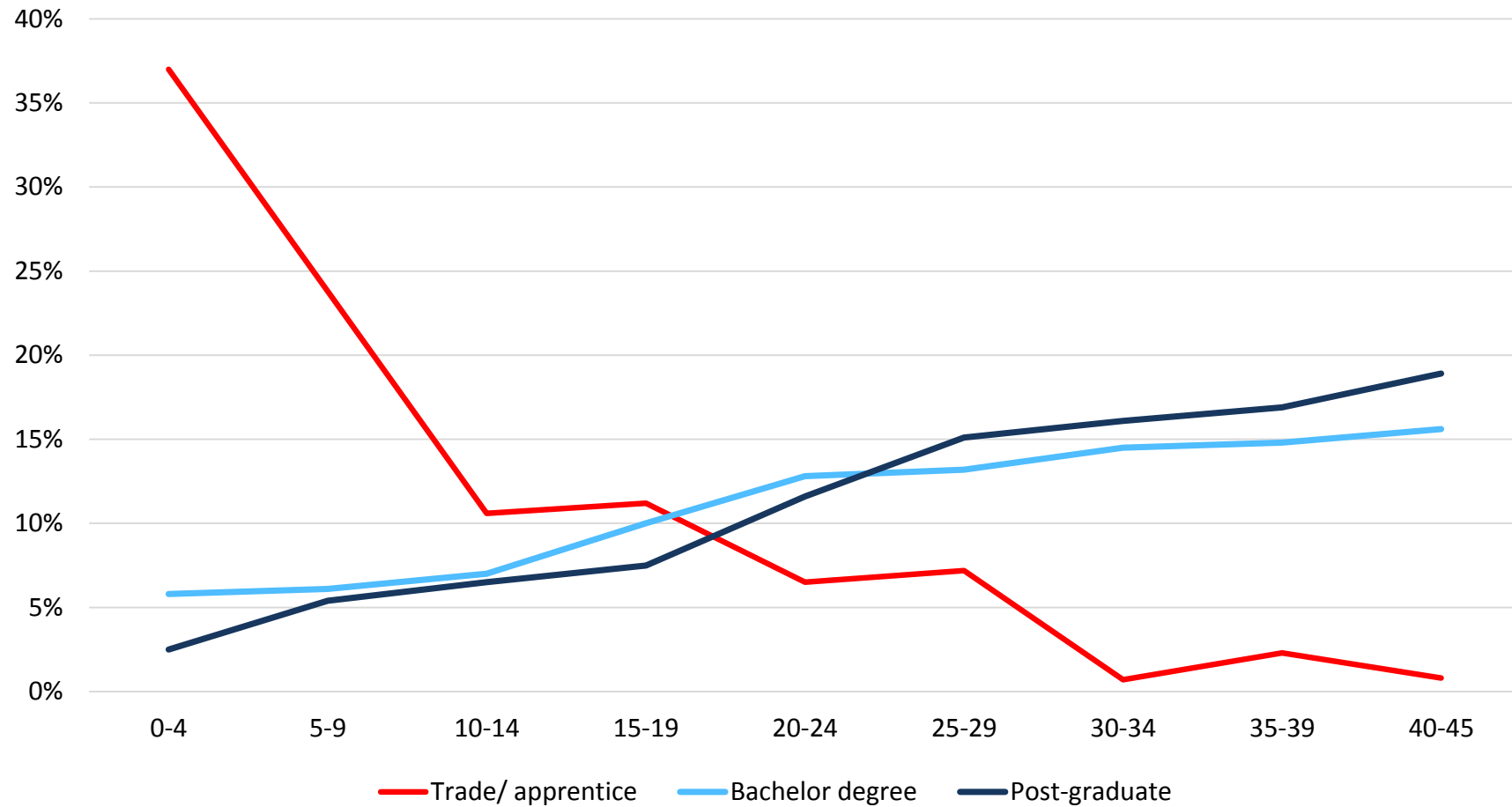
Birthplace/ Gender	%	Region	%	Age	%
Third generation	29	Major city	18	25-34	18
All Au. born	26	Inner regional	25	55-64	25
Au. born Male/ Female	35/ 17	Outer regional	39	65+	26



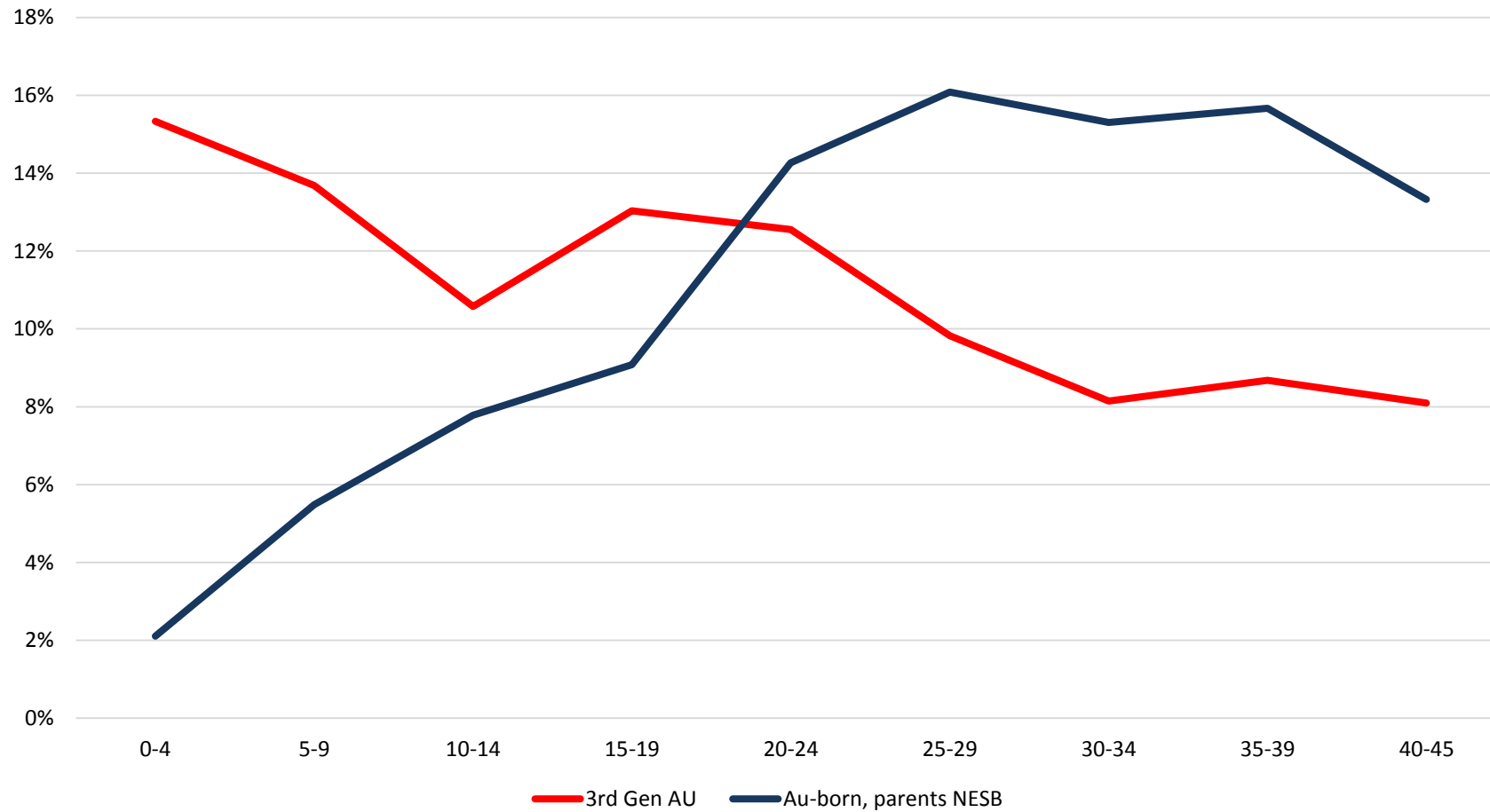
# Ethnic and Cultural Tolerance Scale – birthplace



# Ethnic and Cultural Tolerance scale by highest educational attainment



# Ethnic and Cultural Tolerance scale by ancestry





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## KEY ISSUES

- Level of efficiency expected from immigration?
- What is working well?
  - Positive disposition/ view of Australia/ hope-optimism
  - Business (457)
- Less well?
  - Recognition of qualifications/ Utilisation of qualifications
  - Humanitarian program –short/ medium/ long-term?
- A divided Australia? Mono/ multicultural
  - Age, education, environment (region)
- Long term cost/ benefit of current policy settings