



LANGUAGE SURVEY, AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983 (PRELIMINARY)

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MAIN FEATURES

At May 1983, of the estimated 11,329,300 persons aged 15 years and over in Australia, 9,428,800 (83.2 per cent) had first spoken English only, 197,000 (1.7 per cent) had first spoken English and at least one non-English language, and 1,703,400 (15.1 per cent) had first spoken one or more non-English language.

The main non-English languages first spoken were Italian (440,800 persons), Greek (227,900 persons), German (166,500 persons) and Dutch (111,200 persons).

Of the 1,900,500 persons who first spoke a non-English language, 1,762,200 (92.7 per cent) still used this language. 1,395,200 (73.4 per cent) spoke the language at home and 1,216,100 (64.0 per cent) read books, newspapers, etc. in the language.

Of the 1,900,500 persons who first spoke a non-English language, 1,648,600 (86.7 per cent) spoke English at home and 1,601,800 (84.3 per cent) read books, newspapers, etc. in English.

1,843,600 persons had acquired at least one non-English language. The most common acquired languages were French (778,500 persons), German (500,500 persons), and Italian 308,700 persons).

Of the 1,843,600 persons who had acquired a non-English language, 1,415,600 (76.8 per cent) reported they still used their first acquired language. 1,060,400 (57.5 per cent) spoke the first acquired language socially and 508,900 (27.6 per cent) read books, newspapers, etc. in the first acquired language.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In May 1983 a survey was conducted throughout Australia of persons aged 15 years and over to obtain details of the languages they first spoke, their current usage of these languages and their understanding and usage of later acquired languages. Questions were also asked on the acquisition and use of English by persons whose first language spoken was a non-English language.

Coverage

2. The survey was conducted as part of the regular population survey, which is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 33,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels etc.) and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia.

3. This publication contains only a summary of the more important results of the survey. Some additional information is available on request. More detailed estimates will be published at a later date. The estimates in this publication are preliminary and are subject to revision.

Scope

4. The survey included all persons aged 15 years and over, except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces;
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- (c) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia;
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia;
- (e) all persons in non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, hospitals etc);
- (f) visitors to private dwellings; and
- (g) persons staying at caravan parks.

Survey method

5. The information about languages was obtained within each selected dwelling by specially trained interviewers. Questions were asked of a responsible adult member of the household in respect of him/her self and the other household members who were in the scope of the survey.

6. Where the interviewer established that English was the *only* language understood, no further questions were asked. Persons that first spoke English and/or non-English languages were asked about their usage of the non-English language listed *highest* on the list of languages provided (see Questions 104-114 of the schedule in the Appendix). For example, if both Italian and German were languages first spoken, questions on usage were only asked in respect of Italian. Questions were then asked on acquisition and usage of the first two acquired languages listed (Questions 125-141 of the schedule). The list of languages included in the survey questionnaire was supplied by the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

Definitions

7. *Language first spoken* is the first language spoken even if no longer used or understood. More than one language could have been reported as being first spoken. If there were two or more non-English languages first spoken, the *first non-English language first spoken* is that language spoken which is listed highest on the list of languages provided (refer paragraph 6).

8. *An acquired language* is a language other than English which has been learnt either formally or informally subsequent to the establishment of a person's first language(s). Where two or more non-English languages had been acquired information on acquisition and usage was obtained in respect of only the *first and second acquired languages* listed (refer paragraph 6).

9. *Usage of a language* refers to whether a person speaks, reads or writes in that language. Reading and writing usage was established by asking about the reading of books, magazines, newspapers or letters (Questions 109, 132 and 139- See Appendix) and the writing of letters or other such things (Questions 110, 133 and 140- See Appendix). The survey did not measure whether a person could speak, read or write a language but did not do so due to lack of opportunity, need to, or other reasons. Nor did the survey attempt to determine a person's proficiency in a particular language.

Reliability of the estimates

10. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability, that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all the dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate would differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been produced had all dwellings been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the measure of the likely difference is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

11. Space does not allow for separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors of person estimates for general application is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors follows. Table 3 shows the estimated number of persons who spoke German as a first language and also write letters etc, in English is 146,900. Since this estimate is between 100,000 and 200,000 the standard error table shows that the standard error will be between 3,900 and 5,100 and can be approximated to 4,500 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the figure which would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey would fall within the range 142,400 to 151,400 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the figure would fall within the range 137,900 to 155,900.

12. As can be seen from the standard error table, the *smaller the estimate, the higher the relative standard error*. The smaller estimates are subject to very high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) and so detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication estimates less than the lowest levels shown in the standard error table have not been published. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should be regarded as unreliable.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	Approximate standard error (persons)	Relative standard error (per cent)
3,000	800	27.0
4,000	920	23.0
6,000	1,100	18.0
10,000	1,400	14.0
20,000	2,000	10.0
50,000	2,900	5.8
100,000	3,900	3.9
200,000	5,100	2.6
500,000	7,200	1.4
1,000,000	9,100	0.9
5,000,000	15,000	0.3
10,000,000	18,000	0.2

13. Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of these errors depends on the accuracy of both numerator and denominator. The formula to calculate the relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion is:

$$RSE(x/y) = RSE(x) \text{ sq} - RSE(y) \text{ sq}$$

The relative standard errors of the numerator and denominator can be derived from the standard error table.

14. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies which may occur as a result of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents, and errors made in the processing of the data. These inaccuracies are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample.

15. It should be borne in mind that the responses obtained in this survey were provided by a responsible adult member of the household, answering on his/her behalf and on behalf of the other members of the household. Therefore, the answers to the questions are based on that person's perception, and the survey did not test or seek evidence of formal qualifications in respect of the acquisition and usage of languages.

Interpretation of results

16. Because some respondents reported more than one language first spoken, and, in the case of non-English languages, details were only obtained in respect of the 'first' language spoken (see paragraph 6), care should be taken to differentiate between estimates for a particular language of the number of persons with that language as the language first spoken and the number of persons for whom that language was the 'first' language first spoken. For example, the number of persons who reported Greek as a language first spoken was 227,900 (table 2), and the number of persons for whom Greek was listed as the first non-English language first spoken was 227,200 (tables 3 and 4).

17. Similarly, because the survey questionnaire only collected details of two acquired non-English languages, estimates of the number of persons reporting a particular acquired language will generally exceed the estimates

relating to the usage and acquisition of those languages. For example, the total number of persons who had acquired French was 778,500 (table 7), but usage details were only asked of 748,100 of those persons (table 8).

Related publications

18. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly

Census 81—Language (2152.0)—Information Paper

Census 81—Summary Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings (2435.0-2443.0)—include a table on: proficiency in English Language of Overseas born persons

19. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

20. * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses (see paragraphs 10 to 14).

Because figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER ENGLISH A LANGUAGE FIRST SPOKEN(*) BY NUMBER OF ACQUIRED NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGES(b)
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(^c000)

LANGUAGES FIRST SPOKEN	NUMBER OF ACQUIRED NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGES				
	NONE	ONE LANGUAGE	TWO LANGUAGES	THREE OR MORE LANGUAGES	TOTAL PERSONS
English only first spoken	8,198.0	954.2	222.3	54.4	9,428.8
Total Persons with English and other language(s) first spoken	155.0	28.4	10.4	3.2	197.0
Total Persons having English as a language first spoken	8,352.9	982.6	232.8	57.6	9,625.9
One Non-English language first spoken	1,076.4	370.9	127.2	54.0	1,628.5
Persons who have acquired English	39.3	6.1	*	*	46.4
Persons who have not acquired English	1,115.7	377.0	128.1	54.0	1,674.9
Two or more Non-English languages first spoken	16.6	4.9	3.3	*	27.9
Persons who have acquired English	17.1	5.2	3.3	*	28.6
Persons who have not acquired English					
Total					
Total Persons not having English as a language first spoken	1,132.8	382.2	131.4	57.0	1,703.4
Persons who have acquired English	1,095.0	375.9	130.5	57.0	1,658.4
Persons who have not acquired English	39.7	6.4	*	*	47.1
Total	1,132.8	382.2	131.4	57.0	1,703.4
Total Persons	9,485.7	1,364.8	364.2	114.6	11,329.3

(a) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 7.

(b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 8.

TABLE 2. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER: LANGUAGE FIRST SPOKEN(*) BY SEX
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(^c000)

SEX	LANGUAGE FIRST SPOKEN							
	ENGLISH	ITALIAN	GREEK	GERMAN	CROATIAN	SERBIAN	OTHER (YUGOSLAV)(b)	FRENCH
Males	4,726.9	239.1	119.9	84.9	38.2	19.0	35.9	28.1
Females	4,899.0	201.7	108.0	81.6	29.0	14.1	32.9	29.4
Total Persons	9,625.9	440.8	227.9	166.5	67.2	33.1	68.8	57.6

	LANGUAGE FIRST SPOKEN							
	DUTCH	POLISH	SPANISH	ARABIC / LEBANESE	MALTESE	CHINESE(c)	VIETNAMESE	OTHER(d)
Males	59.5	50.1	29.8	44.5	33.0	41.2	15.3	187.0
Females	51.8	37.8	27.5	37.7	27.2	44.1	11.3	179.6
Total Persons	111.2	87.8	57.3	82.2	60.2	85.3	26.5	366.6

(a) A person who reported two or more languages first spoken is counted to each of those languages; therefore the sum of the rows exceeds the total number of persons. See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 7.

(b) Includes Slovenian and Macedonian.

(c) Includes all Chinese dialects.

(d) All languages not elsewhere included.

TABLE 3. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH A NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE FIRST SPOKEN(a): FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE FIRST SPOKEN(b)
BY USAGE OF ENGLISH
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(⁰⁰⁰)

FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPOKEN	TOTAL PERSONS	SPEAKS ENGLISH				READS ENGLISH	WRITES ENGLISH	SPEAKS BUT DOES NOT READ WRITE	DOES NOT USE ENGLISH	
		AT HOME	AT WORK(c)	SOCIALLY	ELSEWHERE				UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH	DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ENGLISH
Italian	440.8	372.8	298.9	391.0	412.8	353.3	277.1	63.0	8.3	13.1
Greek	227.2	191.9	159.4	196.8	216.0	172.2	137.6	43.7	*	6.6
German	165.6	159.1	117.7	163.9	184.2	161.4	146.9	*	*	*
Croatian	65.8	59.4	49.3	59.8	64.5	56.1	39.5	8.2	*	*
Serbian	26.6	23.8	19.4	24.3	25.9	23.6	17.2	*	*	*
Other Yugoslav(d)	66.8	57.2	31.6	60.5	64.3	48.6	35.6	16.6	*	*
French	54.7	50.3	38.0	52.4	53.5	52.8	49.2	*	*	*
Dutch	110.5	107.2	77.1	109.4	110.4	108.9	104.2	*	*	*
Polish	86.0	78.2	55.4	81.4	83.8	78.3	62.6	6.1	*	*
Spanish	56.5	43.3	40.0	47.6	52.0	47.2	37.3	5.6	*	3.3
Arabic/ Lebanese	77.6	61.8	49.2	61.3	70.6	55.8	45.0	14.9	*	3.8
Maltese	59.8	56.2	43.8	56.7	58.5	51.3	40.0	7.3	*	*
Chinese(e)	84.9	63.7	52.1	68.3	76.3	63.9	60.1	12.3	*	6.6
Vietnamese	24.5	13.7	14.5	17.4	21.2	16.2	13.7	5.8	*	*
Other(f)	353.2	309.9	239.7	322.6	340.1	311.3	274.9	30.5	*	8.7
Total Persons(a)	1,900.5	1,648.6	1,305.9(c)	1,713.3	1,814.3	1,601.8	1,346.7	221.2	18.7	47.1

Note: Persons may be counted in more than one column.
(a) Includes 197,000 persons who spoke English and another language as their first languages.
(b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 7.
(c) The figures in this column relate only to persons in the workforce. However, the figures are inflated by 171,800 persons not in the workforce who stated that they would use English if at work.
(d) Includes Slovenian and Macedonian.
(e) Includes all Chinese dialects.
(f) All languages not elsewhere included.

TABLE 4. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH A NON-ENGLISH FIRST LANGUAGE SPOKEN(a): FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPOKEN(b)
BY USAGE(c) OF THE FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPOKEN
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(⁰⁰⁰)

FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPOKEN	TOTAL PERSONS	SPEAKS THE LANGUAGE				READS THE LANGUAGE	WRITES THE LANGUAGE	SPEAKS BUT DOES NOT WRITE	DOES NOT USE LANGUAGE		
		AT HOME	AT WORK	SOCIALLY	ELSEWHERE				STILL UNDER- STANDS	NO LONGER UNDER- STANDS	UNDER- STANDING UNKNOWN
						(a)	(c)	FOR WRITE			
Italian	440.8	360.8	202.5	423.1	277.3	282.5	271.8	128.0	10.8	*	*
Greek	227.2	204.0	100.1	219.0	134.9	177.7	174.6	39.4	*	*	*
German	165.6	79.9	47.7	138.4	65.9	103.1	98.0	37.0	22.8	3.8	*
Croatian	65.8	52.9	23.1	63.0	38.1	44.2	48.2	13.9	*	*	*
Serbian	26.6	19.9	8.7	24.8	13.5	18.8	19.5	5.3	*	*	*
Other Yugoslav(d)	66.8	38.4	29.1	61.7	36.9	42.7	47.4	15.3	*	*	*
French	54.7	36.1	13.4	47.6	21.9	39.1	35.4	9.5	4.6	*	*
Dutch	110.5	45.3	20.7	85.9	32.6	59.6	61.1	26.1	17.3	*	*
Polish	86.0	51.5	22.7	76.3	41.2	47.6	50.4	24.5	9.8	*	*
Spanish	56.5	45.8	22.1	50.3	30.5	42.6	42.6	8.3	*	*	*
Arabic/ Lebanese	77.6	71.8	28.0	74.2	47.0	50.3	49.8	22.0	*	*	*
Maltese	59.8	43.9	18.4	56.2	29.7	27.2	25.4	26.9	4.3	*	*
Chinese(e)	84.9	71.3	33.2	80.0	55.4	53.6	52.2	27.2	*	*	*
Vietnamese	24.5	23.7	13.4	23.7	18.2	23.0	23.9	*	29.4	10.2	*
Other(f)	353.2	230.0	97.7	310.1	177.3	203.8	205.5	102.1	*	*	*
Total Persons(a)	1,900.5	1,395.2	680.8	1,734.1	1,040.2	1,216.1	1,205.7	485.9	111.7	23.5	3.1

Note: Persons may be counted in more than one column.
(a) Includes 197,000 persons who spoke English and another language as their first languages.
(b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 7.
(c) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 9.
(d) Includes Slovenian and Macedonian.
(e) Includes all Chinese dialects.
(f) All languages not elsewhere included.

TABLE 5. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHOSE FIRST LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN WAS NON-ENGLISH(a): FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPOKE(b) BY HOW ENGLISH WAS ACQUIRED-
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(1'000)

FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPOKEN	ENGLISH CLASSES(c)				NATURALLY ACQUIRED(d)				DOES NOT USE ENGLISH			
	TOTAL PERSONS	IN AUSTRALIA	OVERSEAS	FRIENDS AND RELATIVES	READING AND VISION MEDIA	AT SCHOOL	AT WORK/ELSEWHERE	UP IN AUSTRALIA	BROUGHT UP IN OTHER ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRY	ACQUIRED OTHER	UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH	DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ENGLISH
Italian	387.7	58.2	10.4	116.5	27.4	122.9	108.4	40.0	58.1	*	8.3	13.1
Greek	206.4	31.7	20.1	58.3	23.5	44.5	73.4	21.6	29.5	*	3.2	6.6
German	147.1	33.1	30.5	30.5	19.9	34.6	32.2	17.2	20.7	*	3.2	*
Croatian	81.7	13.5	*	18.0	10.0	11.3	25.3	5.1	6.3	*	*	*
Serbian	26.8	5.7	*	6.3	5.2	5.5	8.2	*	*	*	*	*
Other Yugoslav(e)	65.8	9.7	*	23.9	6.9	12.5	26.9	5.8	6.1	*	*	*
French	46.5	8.4	12.5	8.5	*	18.1	6.9	*	3.4	*	*	*
Dutch	101.4	13.5	31.0	19.5	10.0	37.0	16.5	10.5	10.3	*	*	*
Polish	80.9	22.0	9.9	19.4	9.2	21.0	23.7	8.4	7.3	*	*	*
Scandinavian	51.7	20.5	5.9	10.7	5.4	11.7	9.7	*	3.9	*	*	3.3
Arabic/ Lebanese	71.5	14.5	15.7	18.1	7.1	14.8	17.0	7.3	3.3	*	*	3.8
Maltese	51.1	*	21.0	8.3	*	18.0	6.5	*	7.1	*	*	*
Chinese(f)	78.5	21.7	34.1	8.2	*	17.9	6.1	*	*	*	*	6.6
Vietnamese	26.5	19.2	4.7	3.3	*	3.7	3.4	*	*	*	*	*
Other(g)	305.9	55.3	88.4	43.6	24.5	78.2	44.9	25.1	19.9	*	8.0	8.7
Total Persons(a)	1,703.4	329.7	289.3	415.0	158.9	451.5	429.1	155.7	179.7	*	31.3	47.1

Note: Persons may be counted in more than one column.

(a) Excludes 197,000 persons who spoke English and another language as their first languages.

(b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 7.

(c) English classes are formal classes for persons who initially could not understand English. Such classes exclude English grammar/literature education normally provided to children who attend school in Australia.

(d) A naturally acquired language is deemed to be any language learnt without formal education.

(e) Includes Slovenian and Macedonian.

(f) Includes all Chinese dialects.

(g) All languages not elsewhere included.

TABLE 6. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHOSE FIRST LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN WAS NON-ENGLISH(a): YEAR OF ARRIVAL BY USAGE(b) OF ENGLISH
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(1'000)

YEAR OF ARRIVAL	TOTAL PERSONS	USES ENGLISH				DOES NOT USE ENGLISH		
		SPEAKS BUT DOES NOT READ / WRITE	SPEAKS	READS	WRITES	READS / WRITES BUT DOES NOT SPEAK	UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH	DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ENGLISH
Before 1968	925.1	125.7	899.2	768.6	605.7	*	9.5	14.7
1968 - 1977	392.8	64.9	371.9	305.4	241.0	*	5.6	14.4
1978 - 1983	199.1	26.7	176.5	149.0	126.2	*	3.3	18.0
Total Arrivals	1,517.0	217.4	1,447.6	1,223.0	972.9	*	18.6	47.1
Australian Born	186.5	*	186.5	185.0	183.2	*	*	*
Total Persons(a)	1,703.4	218.5	1,634.0	1,408.0	1,156.1	*	18.6	47.1

Note: Persons may be counted in more than one column.

(a) Excludes 197,000 persons who spoke English and another language as their first languages.

(b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 9.

TABLE 7. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE ACQUIRED (a) A NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE:
LANGUAGE ACQUIRED, BY SEX
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(^c000)

SEX	LANGUAGE ACQUIRED (b)							
	ITALIAN	GREEK	GERMAN	CROATIAN	SERBIAN	OTHER (YUGOSLAV (c))	FRENCH	DUTCH
Males	153.2	42.5	263.4	20.6	19.9	16.7	342.1	25.0
Females	155.5	34.8	237.1	13.6	14.7	10.8	436.4	25.0
Total Persons	308.7	77.3	500.5	34.2	34.6	27.4	778.5	50.0

	LANGUAGE ACQUIRED (b)							
	POLISH	SPANISH	ARABIC/ LEBANESE	MALTESE	CHINESE (d)	VIETNAMESE	OTHER (e)	
Males	27.9	60.5	22.5	9.0	15.3	9.3	228.1	
Females	24.6	43.8	19.6	9.2	11.3	5.9	181.7	
Total Persons	52.5	104.3	42.2	18.1	26.6	15.2	409.9	

(a) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 8.

(b) Persons may have acquired more than one language.

(c) Includes Slovenian and Macedonian.

(d) Includes all Chinese dialects.

(e) All languages not elsewhere included.

TABLE 8. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE ACQUIRED A NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE (a): FIRST AND SECOND ACQUIRED LANGUAGES (b)
BY USAGE (c)
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(^c000)

FIRST AND SECOND ACQUIRED LANGUAGES	TOTAL PERSONS	SPEAKS THE LANGUAGE(c)				READS THE LANGUAGE - (c)	WRITES THE LANGUAGE - (c)	OTHER LANGUAGE UNDERSTOOD BUT NOT USED
		AT HOME	AT WORK	SOCIALLY	ELSEWHERE - (d)			
FIRST ACQUIRED LANGUAGE LISTED								
Italian	308.7	49.0	128.1	196.5	129.1	85.4	42.0	91.1
Greek	60.6	15.4	21.2	40.6	22.8	14.4	9.1	7.6
German	448.5	56.3	172.4	259.0	205.4	131.2	60.8	106.0
Croatian	21.1	6.7	6.8	15.7	8.7	5.9	4.5	*
Serbian	14.1	5.9	5.3	11.2	6.8	5.3	3.3	*
Other Yugoslav(e)	15.9	5.5	7.8	12.0	7.5	3.5	*	*
French	556.2	41.3	210.2	268.3	270.3	167.4	70.2	154.6
Dutch	31.3	4.1	11.5	20.4	13.2	6.3	3.6	8.3
Polish	25.2	10.5	11.7	19.2	11.9	5.1	3.1	*
Spanish	50.0	8.1	16.3	28.3	18.7	14.2	6.1	12.9
Arabic/ Lebanese	18.5	8.2	6.6	13.6	8.4	*	*	3.4
Maltese	14.0	5.1	3.5	8.7	4.9	*	*	3.0
Chinese(f)	19.3	7.1	7.2	12.4	10.2	3.2	*	*
Vietnamese	13.0	8.4	4.7	11.0	8.6	6.8	7.2	*
Other(g)	247.2	47.8	69.9	143.6	98.7	56.5	43.7	68.7
Total	1,843.6	279.6	683.2	1,060.4	825.4	508.9	260.0	478.0
SECOND ACQUIRED LANGUAGE LISTED								
Greek	16.7	*	7.7	10.2	6.0	*	*	*
German	47.4	6.1	19.8	27.9	20.0	15.5	6.2	9.6
Croatian	10.3	*	4.9	7.0	3.9	*	*	*
Serbian	13.2	*	5.8	9.7	4.9	4.6	3.3	*
Other Yugoslav(e)	3.4	*	*	5.9	*	*	*	*
French	191.9	22.0	75.1	98.3	91.3	70.7	30.3	46.0
Dutch	11.4	*	3.6	7.2	4.6	4.1	*	*
Polish	15.6	4.3	4.8	12.5	5.9	5.1	3.6	*
Spanish	35.7	4.9	14.7	22.4	16.5	10.7	4.3	4.3
Arabic/ Lebanese	11.2	*	3.6	7.7	4.7	*	*	*
Maltese	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Chinese(f)	3.9	*	*	*	3.3	*	*	*
Vietnamese	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other(g)	113.7	18.4	36.4	67.2	47.2	29.5	19.1	47.0
Total	478.8	68.1	180.1	278.6	213.7	151.5	77.6	106.0

Note: Persons may be counted in more than one column.

(a) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 8.

(b) Respondents were only asked usage details of the first and second acquired languages listed.

(c) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 9.

(d) Includes shopping, travel, etc.

(e) Includes Slovenian and Macedonian.

(f) Includes all Chinese dialects.

(g) All languages not elsewhere included.

TABLE 9. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE ACQUIRED A NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE(a): FIRST AND SECOND ACQUIRED LANGUAGES(b)
BY HOW ACQUIRED
AUSTRALIA, MAY 1983
(*'000)

FIRST AND SECOND ACQUIRED LANGUAGES	TOTAL PERSONS	SCHOOL CLASSES		POST SECONDARY EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA(c)	FRIENDS AND RELATIVES	OVERSEAS	ACQUIRED OTHER
		IN AUSTRALIA	OVERSEAS				
FIRST ACQUIRED LANGUAGE LISTED							
Italian	308.7	50.1	29.3	19.9	144.9	67.5	39.7
Greek	80.6	7.4	5.5	4.8	34.1	11.0	7.2
German	468.5	154.8	86.8	23.9	95.2	115.2	24.0
Croatian	21.1	*	3.1	*	13.6	6.4	*
Serbian	14.1	*	3.7	*	7.4	3.7	*
Other Yugoslav(d)	15.9	*	*	*	8.9	5.1	*
French	556.2	376.3	125.0	26.3	32.4	63.1	11.7
Dutch	31.2	*	*	*	22.8	6.4	*
Polish	25.2	*	*	*	14.5	4.8	*
Spanish	50.0	*	11.8	*	17.8	16.1	5.6
Arabic/ Lebanese	18.5	*	*	*	8.1	6.9	*
Maltese	14.0	*	*	*	13.5	*	*
Chinese(e)	19.3	*	*	*	6.9	7.3	*
Vietnamese	13.0	*	5.7	*	*	8.8	*
Other(f)	247.2	27.1	68.6	8.0	71.9	95.2	13.9
Total	1,843.6	620.5	351.4	86.5	493.5	417.8	109.9
SECOND ACQUIRED LANGUAGE LISTED							
Greek	16.7	*	*	*	9.0	3.2	4.2
German	47.4	10.5	9.1	3.9	10.2	17.1	5.7
Croatian	10.3	*	*	*	4.6	4.5	*
Serbian	13.2	*	4.7	*	4.8	4.9	*
Other Yugoslav(d)	5.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
French	191.9	96.0	62.6	11.6	18.6	33.9	6.9
Dutch	11.4	*	*	*	6.9	3.5	*
Polish	15.6	*	3.8	*	8.3	7.0	*
Spanish	33.7	*	6.0	*	12.1	14.0	4.7
Arabic/ Lebanese	11.2	*	4.7	*	*	6.0	*
Maltese	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Chinese(e)	3.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Vietnamese	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other(f)	113.7	18.7	19.6	6.7	32.0	46.8	9.3
Total	478.8	128.3	117.4	26.0	114.0	145.9	36.8

(a) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 8.

(b) Respondents were only asked how they acquired the first and second acquired languages listed.

(c) Includes Universities, Colleges of Advanced Education and Technical Colleges.

(d) Includes Slovenian and Macedonian.

(e) Includes all Chinese dialects.

(f) All languages not elsewhere included.

APPENDIX

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE, MAY 1983

Introduction

The extract which follows shows the language survey questions that were asked of a responsible adult member of the household in respect of all persons aged fifteen years and over in the household. Questions for the usual monthly labour force survey and other topics were included elsewhere in the questionnaire.

2. It has been included to assist in interpretation of the tables, but it should be borne in mind that the questions were asked by interviewers who have been specially trained and have written instructions on the use of the questionnaire.

3. Questions 1-103 included other questions relevant to the language survey viz. age, sex, work-force status, person's country of birth, parents' country of birth, year of arrival in Australia.

104. WHAT LANGUAGES DID
.... FIRST SPEAK?English (a) ☐ 01Italian (b) ☐ 02Greek (c) ☐ 03German (d) ☐ 04

*Interviewer: If "Yugoslav"
given ask - WHICH YUGOSLAV
LANGUAGE DID FIRST
SPEAK?*

Yugoslav - Croatian .. (e) ☐ 05Yugoslav - Serbian .. (f) ☐ 06Yugoslav - Other .. (g) ☐ 07French (h) ☐ 08Dutch (i) ☐ 09Polish (j) ☐ 10Spanish (k) ☐ 11Arabic/Lebanese (l) ☐ 12Maltese (m) ☐ 13Chinese (n) ☐ 14Vietnamese (p) ☐ 15

Other (Specify)

..... (q) ☐ 16

105. <u>Sequence Guide</u> . If English ONLY in Q.104, go to Q.106 .. ☐ 1 . Otherwise, go to Q.107 .. ☐ 2	109. DOES SPEAK IT WITH FRIENDS OR RELATIVES? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	114. DOES STILL UNDERSTAND (first non-English language in Q.104)? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
106. DOES UNDERSTAND ANY OTHER LANGUAGES? Yes (Go to Q.126) .. ☐ 1 No (No more questions) .. ☐ 2 Don't know (No more questions) .. ☐ 3	110. DOES SPEAK (first non-English language in Q.104) ANYWHERE ELSE? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	115. DOES SPEAK ENGLISH (HERE AT ... HOME/AT ... USUAL RESIDENCE)? Speaks English all the time (Go to Q.120) .. ☐ 1 Yes .. ☐ 2 No .. ☐ 3 Don't know .. ☐ 4 Doesn't speak English (Go to Q.120) .. ☐ 5
107. DOES SPEAK (first non-English language in Q.104) (HERE AT ... HOME/AT ... USUAL RESIDENCE)? Speaks it all the time (Go to Q.111) .. ☐ 1 Yes .. ☐ 2 No .. ☐ 3 Don't know .. ☐ 4 Does not speak it (Go to Q.111) .. ☐ 5	111. DOES READ BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS OR LETTERS IN (first non-English language in Q.104)? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	116. DOES SPEAK ENGLISH AT WORK? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
108. DOES SPEAK IT AT WORK? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	112. DOES WRITE LETTERS OR OTHER SUCH THINGS IN (first non-English language in Q.104)? Yes (Go to Q.115) .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	117. DOES SPEAK ENGLISH WITH FRIENDS OR RELATIVES? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
	113. <u>Sequence Guide</u> . If speaks language (1 or 2 in Q.107 or 1 in Q.108, 109 or 110), go to Q.115 .. ☐ 1 . If reads in language (1 in Q.111), go to Q.115 .. ☐ 2 . Otherwise, go to Q.114 .. ☐ 3	118. DOES SPEAK ENGLISH WHEN SHOPPING? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
		119. DOES SPEAK ENGLISH ANYWHERE ELSE? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3

120. DOES READ BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS OR LETTERS IN ENGLISH? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	124. HOW DID LEARN ENGLISH? English language classes in Australia .. ☐ 1 (a) English language classes overseas .. ☐ 2 (b) Friends or relatives .. ☐ 3 (c) Reading, TV, newspapers .. ☐ 4 (d) Picked it up at school .. ☐ 5 (e) Picked it up at work .. ☐ 6 (f) Picked it up elsewhere .. ☐ 7 (g) Brought up in Australia .. ☐ 8 (h) Other .. ☐ 9 (i)	GO TO Q.127, PAGE 9
121. DOES WRITE LETTERS OR OTHER SUCH THINGS IN ENGLISH? Yes (Go to Q.124) .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	125. DOES UNDERSTAND ANY OTHER LANGUAGES? Yes .. ☐ 1 No (No more questions) .. ☐ 2 Don't know (No more questions) .. ☐ 3	
122. <u>Sequence Guide</u> If personal interview with respondent in English, go to Q.124 .. ☐ 1 If speaks English (1 or 2 in Q.115 or 1 in Q.116, 117, 118 or 119), go to Q.124 .. ☐ 2 If reads in English (1 in Q.120), go to Q.124 .. ☐ 3 Otherwise, go to Q.123 .. ☐ 4	126. WHAT OTHER LANGUAGES DOES UNDERSTAND? Italian .. ☐ 02 (a) Greek .. ☐ 03 (b) German .. ☐ 04 (c)	
123. DOES UNDERSTAND ENGLISH? Yes .. ☐ 1 No (Go to Q.125) .. ☐ 2 Don't know (Go to Q.125) .. ☐ 3	<u>Interviewer: If 'Yugoslav' given ask WHICH YUGOSLAV LANGUAGE DOES UNDERSTAND?</u> Yugoslav-Croatian .. ☐ 05 (d) Yugoslav-Serbian .. ☐ 06 (e) Yugoslav - Other .. ☐ 07 (f) French .. ☐ 08 (g) Dutch .. ☐ 09 (h) Polish .. ☐ 10 (i) Spanish .. ☐ 11 (j) Arabic/Lebanese .. ☐ 12 (k) Maltese .. ☐ 13 (l) Chinese .. ☐ 14 (m) Vietnamese .. ☐ 15 (n) Other (Specify) .. ☐ 16 (p)	

127. <u>Sequence Guide</u> If only one language in Q.126, go to Q.135 .. ☐ 1 Otherwise, go to Q.128 .. ☐ 2	132. DOES READ BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS OR LETTERS IN (first language in Q.126)? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	136. DOES SPEAK IT AT WORK? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
128. DOES SPEAK (first language in Q.126) (HERE AT HOME/AT USUAL RESIDENCE)? Speaks it all the time (Go to Q.132) .. ☐ 1 Yes .. ☐ 2 No .. ☐ 3 Don't know .. ☐ 4 Does not speak it (Go to Q.132) ☐ 5	133. DOES WRITE LETTERS OR OTHER SUCH THINGS IN (first language in Q.126)? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	137. DOES SPEAK IT WITH FRIENDS OR RELATIVES? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
129. DOES SPEAK IT AT WORK? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	134. HOW DID LEARN (first language in Q.126)? School in Australia .. (a) ☐ 1 School overseas .. (b) ☐ 2 University, College of Advanced Education or Technical College in Australia (c) ☐ 3 Friends or relatives .. (d) ☐ 4 Overseas travel .. (e) ☐ 5 Living overseas .. (f) ☐ 6 Other .. (g) ☐ 7	138. DOES SPEAK (second language in Q.126/ language in Q.126) ANYWHERE ELSE? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
130. DOES SPEAK IT WITH FRIENDS OR RELATIVES? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	135. DOES SPEAK (second language in Q.126/ language in Q.126) (HERE AT HOME/ AT USUAL RESIDENCE)? Speaks it all the time (Go to Q.139) .. ☐ 1 Yes .. ☐ 2 No .. ☐ 3 Don't know .. ☐ 4 Does not speak it (Go to Q.139) ☐ 5	139. DOES READ BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS OR LETTERS IN (second language in Q.126/ language in Q.126)? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3
131. DOES SPEAK (first language in Q.126) ANYWHERE ELSE? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3	141. HOW DID LEARN (second language in Q.126/ language in Q.126)? School in Australia .. (a) ☐ 1 School overseas .. (b) ☐ 2 University, College of Advanced Education or Technical College in Australia (c) ☐ 3 Friends or relatives .. (d) ☐ 4 Overseas travel .. (e) ☐ 5 Living overseas .. (f) ☐ 6 Other .. (g) ☐ 7	140. DOES WRITE LETTERS OR OTHER SUCH THINGS IN (second language in Q.126/ language in Q.126)? Yes .. ☐ 1 No .. ☐ 2 Don't know .. ☐ 3