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Inquiry into Australia's Relations with the Republic of Korea; and Developments on the Korean Peninsula

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Indigenous Affairs

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Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

SUBMISSION

BY

**THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL
AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS**

TO THE

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
DEFENCE AND TRADE**

IN RELATION TO THE INQUIRY INTO

**AUSTRALIA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA;
AND DEVELOPMENTS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) manages programs that facilitate opportunities for Australia that are afforded by the Republic of Korea's (ROK) highly industrialised and internationally competitive economy.

Since 1996, DIMIA's innovative Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) system has made short-term visits or business entry to Australia by ROK nationals easier. DIMIA concluded a reciprocal Working Holiday Arrangement with the ROK in 1995.

In 2004-05 242,476 ROK nationals arrived in Australia. ROK nationals ranked 4th for visitor visa grants in 2004-05 after the United Kingdom, Japan and the United States. ROK was the second highest source country of students in 2004-05 with 14,755 visa grants.

The rising number of visitors, students, business people and working holiday makers contributes to the Australian economy and enriches cultural links between the two countries. DIMIA carefully monitors and manages this growing caseload, seeking improved ways to facilitate genuine travel, curtail non-*bona fide* movements and prevent violations of visa conditions. DIMIA maintains a strong relationship with its counterpart agencies in the ROK government.

The ROK-born community in Australia is a rapidly growing one. At the 2001 census 38,840 ROK-born Australians were recorded as residing in Australia, almost twice as many as at the 1991 census. Many of these came to Australia under the skilled and business migration categories. This growing and vibrant community contributes to the multicultural fabric of Australia and helps strengthen links between the two countries.

The ROK is a valued and active member of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Informal Experts Group on Business Mobility and is the APEC host this year. The ROK is also an active participant in the Bali Process and has been involved in the Inter-Governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC) since its inception in 1996.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

“The Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade shall inquire into and report on Australia’s relationship with the ROK; and developments on the Korean peninsula.

The committee shall review political, strategic, economic (including trade and investment), social and cultural issues; and consider both the current situation and opportunities for the future.”

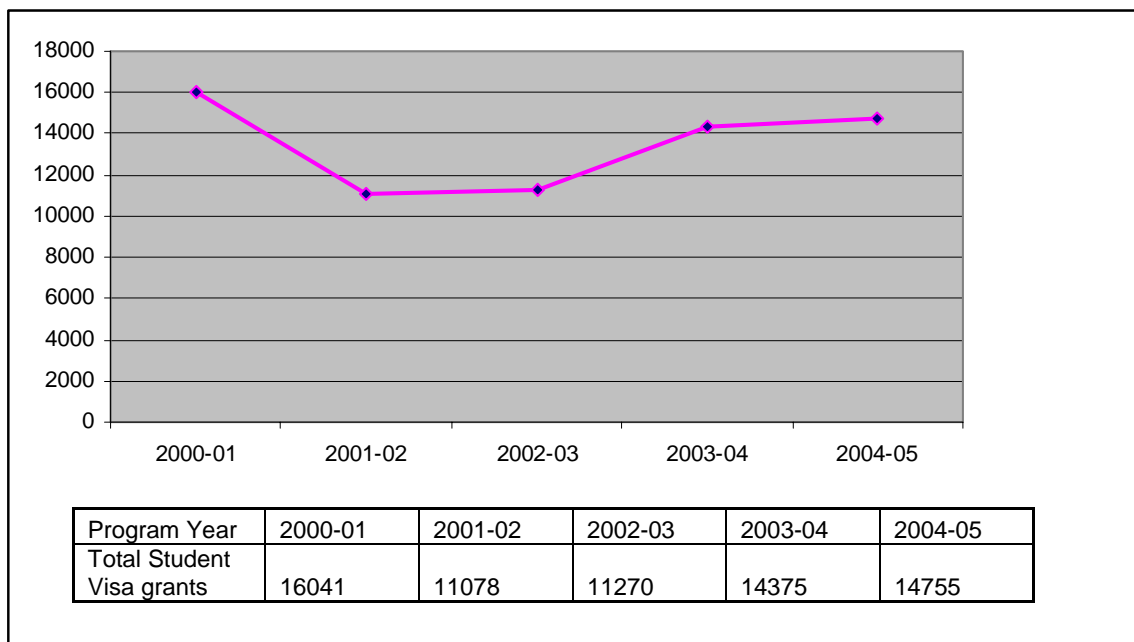
1 TEMPORARY ENTRY

1.1 Student Visa Program

The Student Visa Program enables overseas students to come to Australia to undertake full-time study in registered courses. According to the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST), overseas students contribute more than \$7.5 billion in export earnings annually. Education is Australia’s third largest service export after tourism and transportation. It directly and indirectly contributes about 48,000 jobs for Australians.

The ROK is a significant market for Australian international education, ranking as the fourth highest source country in the 2003-04 program year. This ranking improved in the 2004-05 program year to the second highest source country with 14,755 student visas granted as at 30 June 2005. DIMIA monitors the student visa program closely. Minor enhancements continue to be made to address emerging issues and trends in the overseas education industry.

Chart 1 Total Student Visa grants for the Republic of Korea



1.1.2 Professional Development Visa (PDV)

Since the introduction of the Professional Development Visa (PDV) in July 2003 ROK professionals can apply for a PDV to undertake professional development training in Australia. There has been some interest in the PDV program from the ROK in partnership with the Australian National University to deliver an Executive Development Program for managers. It is anticipated that increasing awareness of the scheme both in Australia and overseas will see a higher level of future participation in the program.

1.1.3 Introduction of the Student Guardian Visa

Since 1 January 2004, a parent, legal custodian or relative has been able to apply for a student guardian visa to accompany a student visa holder who is under 18 years of age or who has a physical or cultural need for an adult companion to accompany them to Australia. This visa was initiated as one of a number of responses by DIMIA towards addressing the pastoral needs of younger students and of applicants whose cultural norms prevented them from travelling unaccompanied. Interest in this visa from ROK applicants has been high, with just over 43% of all Student Guardian visa grants going to parents or guardians of ROK students as at 30 June 2005.

1.1.4 Student Welfare Issues

In addition to the student guardian visa, DIMIA has worked closely with DEST to identify emerging student welfare concerns and to address these through early intervention with providers and/or by the delivery of targeted information sessions on the obligations and responsibilities of providers and students.

1.2 Visitor Entry

1.2.1 Visitor Visa Program

The ROK is the fourth highest source country for tourists to Australia after the United Kingdom, Japan and the United States.

The Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) was introduced in 1996 and is now available to passport holders from 34 locations including the ROK. The ETA is an electronically stored authority for travel to Australia for short-term visits or business entry for low risk visitors. The ETA process does not require a hardcopy application or visa label. In 2004-05, 217,599 ETA tourist visas (or 7.76% of the global total) and 2,238 non-ETA tourist visas (or 0.58% of the global total) were granted to ROK nationals.

1.2.2 Tourist Visa Rationalisation

Since 1 July 2005, there has been only one non-Electronic Travel Authority Tourist visa. This visa, called the Tourist visa (Tourist (Class TR) (Subclass 676)), allows visa holders to remain in Australia for up to 12 months.

As the subclass 686 Tourist (Long Stay) visa no longer exists after 1 July 2005, all applicants for a Tourist visa now apply for this new Tourist visa (Tourist (Class TR) (Subclass 676)) and no longer have to apply for an extension onshore should they wish to stay in Australia more than the three months allowed under the old visa subclass. Rather they are able to apply for a 3, 6 or 12 month stay before they travel.

Nationals of the ROK are able to apply electronically for Tourist visas.

1.2.3 Business Visitor Program

The ROK is an important source of business visitors. In 2004-05, 5,201 Business Visitor visas were granted to ROK nationals compared to 3,073 in the previous program year. This represents a 69.25 per cent increase and reflects the continuing strong growth in bilateral trade.

1.2.4 Working Holiday Program

Australia's Working Holiday Maker (WHM) visa is designed to provide young people from countries with which Australia has arrangements to have an extended holiday in Australia with the opportunity to supplement their funds by working for short periods of time. The WHM program supports the Australian economy by providing supplementary labour for industries requiring short-term casual workers, including the harvest industry. Since 1 July 2002 applicants for a WHM visa have been eligible to apply directly through DIMIA's website.

Australia and the ROK have operated a reciprocal WHM arrangement since 1995. Interest in the program has grown steadily. In 2004-05, 17,706 WHM visas were granted to ROK nationals, representing strong growth and an 86 per cent increase over 2003-04.

More ROK nationals take advantage of this reciprocal arrangement than Australians. For example, in 2003-04, 9,513 WHM visas were granted to ROK nationals wishing to undertake a WHM in Australia. In the same period, 24 WHM visas were granted to Australians wishing to undertake a WHM in the ROK.

1.3 Temporary Business Entry

1.3.1 Business (Long Stay) Visa Program

The Temporary Business (Long Stay) subclass 457 visa enables Australian businesses to sponsor skilled temporary workers from overseas. The arrangements for the entry of skilled temporary workers are designed to benefit Australia and to maintain employment and training opportunities of Australians, and ensure the Australian community is protected from financial cost relating to these workers.

In 2004-05, 1,012 Temporary Business (Long Stay) subclass 457 visas were granted to ROK nationals. This represents 2.0% of all grants for this visa category, and a decrease of 3.6% from 1,050 visas granted to ROK nationals in 2003-04. ROK was ranked eleventh as a source country for these visas.

At 30 June 2005, there were 57,508 temporary Business (Long Stay) subclass 457 visa holders in Australia, of which 33,866 were principal visa holders. Of these, 2,392 were ROK nationals (951 principal visa holders). ROK nationals represent 4.2% of all Temporary Business (Long Stay) subclass 457 visa holders in Australia.

2 COMPLIANCE ISSUES

As the number of ROK nationals travelling to Australia is rising from year to year, DIMIA is working to ensure that integrity is maintained within this caseload.

The proportion of ROK nationals refused immigration clearance is still less than 0.1% of the total number of ROK nationals travelling to Australia. Nevertheless the total number is rising with ROK nationals making up 10% of the global total of refused immigration clearances in 2003-04. Refusal of immigration clearance is based on assessment of applicants as non-genuine visitors who are a potential risk of contravening visa conditions or staying in Australia unlawfully.

In each of the last two program years more than 1000 ROK nationals have been located either working in breach of their visa conditions or as over-stayers. This constitutes around 5% of all locations. Most locations are either visitors or students.

DIMIA has recently become aware of substantial numbers of young ROK WHMs working in the Australian sex industry, raising concern over possible underlying organisation of some of this activity. DIMIA's primary concern is to determine whether women are being trafficked for this purpose. Options are being explored to ensure that the welfare of young ROK nationals is protected.

Also of concern is the continuing improper use of ROK passports by non-ROK nationals. This issue has been discussed with the Government of the ROK. The ROK plans to implement a new passport with increased security features in 2005 which should make fraudulent alteration more difficult.

2.1 Airport Liaison Officers

Since 2002-03 DIMIA has had an Airline Liaison Officer (ALO) at Incheon International Airport to assist airlines with flights directly to Australia, to detect and address inadequate or fraudulent documentation and to facilitate genuine passengers.

ALOs interact with the ROK Government primarily through the ROK Immigration Service. The relationship is very cooperative, with people smuggling information shared formally through regular scheduled meetings including with other Incheon Airport non-Government agencies, principally airlines.

3 DETENTION AND REMOVAL

DIMIA has developed a good working relationship with the Embassy of the ROK in Canberra in respect of detention and removal of ROK nationals with no legal right to remain in Australia.

As at 24 June 2005, there were 36 persons claiming to be ROK nationals in immigration detention in Australia, 16 of whom were awaiting removal. As at 24 June 2005, 424 ROK nationals had been taken into detention during 2004-05.

4 PERMANENT MIGRATION

4.1 Permanent Migration Program

DIMIA’s Migration (non-humanitarian) Program consists of two principal streams - the Family Migration Stream and the Skilled Migration Stream. In addition, there are also places reserved for the Special Eligibility migrants (people in several categories, including former Australian citizens who have unavoidably lost their Australian Citizenship and have maintained ties with Australia).

Chart 2 - Non-Humanitarian Migration Program for Nationals of the ROK

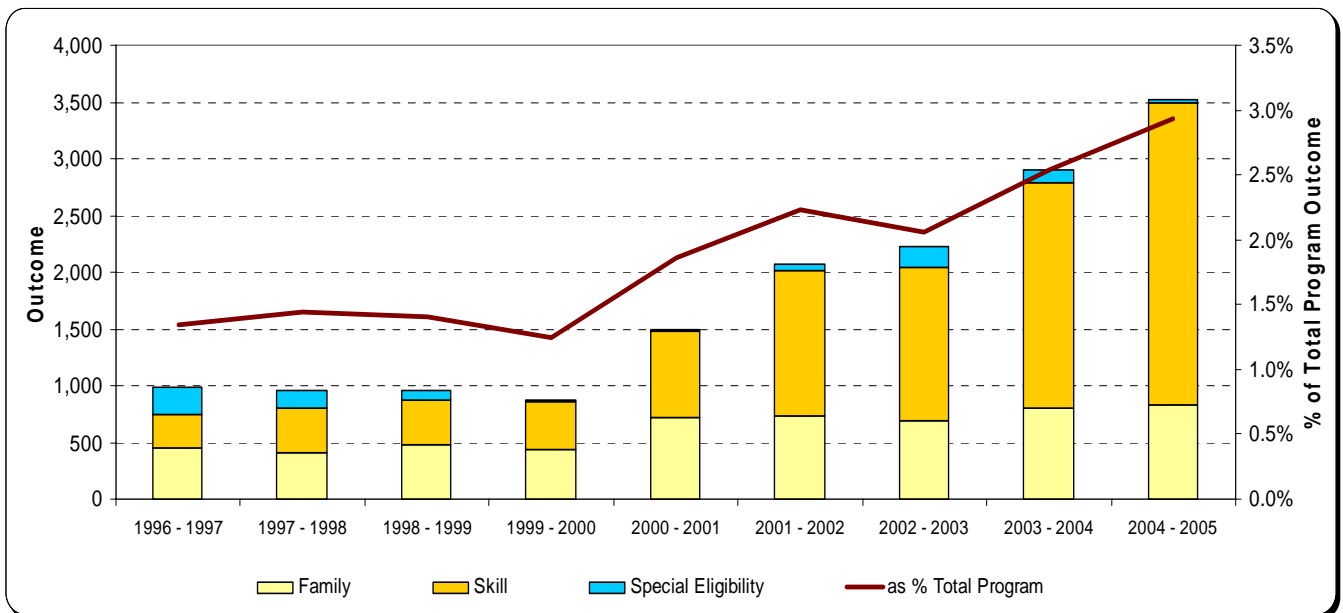


Table 1 below outlines the breakdown of ROK-born persons who have settled in Australia under the Migration Program for the past six years. The table illustrates that both family migration and skilled migration for ROK nationals has experienced consistent growth over this period. The ROK is an important source country of the skilled migration program and this stream has grown steadily over the past six years.

The new Skilled Independent Regional (Provisional) (SIR) visa may be an attractive option for ROK nationals. SIR visa applicants require sponsorship from a State or Territory government and need to commit to living in regional Australia for at least two years.

Table 1 Non-Humanitarian Migration Program for Nationals of the ROK

Stream	Category	1996 - 97	1997 - 98	1998 - 99	1999 - 00	2000 - 01	2001 - 02	2002 - 03	2003 - 04	2004 - 05
Family	Spouse	279	267	308	309	535	556	461	504	508
	Fiance	17	16	18	18	16	15	22	15	13
	Interdependent	4	7	9	2	14	8	11	13	9
	Parent	29	12	21	2	13	2	8	108	132
	Designated Parent				6	2				
	Child	88	102	105	85	130	108	138	132	115
	Pref/Other Family	37	7	21	19	9	37	51	36	50
Family Total		454	411	482	441	719	726	691	808	827
Skill	ENS/LA	103	205	163	147	263	388	394	439	470
	RSMS		5	9	6	10	11	10	33	61
	STNI							9	9	20
	Independent/Skilled Independent	65	31	72	146	310	682	605	899	1,166
	SIR									28
	SAL/SAS	26	44	41	49	51	90	171	319	357
	Business Skills	91	98	86	56	109	111	156	264	555
	Distinguished Talent	9	3	15	7	11	7	12	12	11
	1 November Onshore	4	3	10	2	6	3			
Skill Total		298	389	396	413	760	1,292	1,357	1,975	2,668
Special Eligibility		239	161	77	21	20	57	175	123	33
Program Total		991	961	955	875	1,499	2,075	2,223	2,906	3,528

4.2 Protection Visas

The ROK is a high Protection Visa (PV) application country, consistently among the top ten nationalities. The ROK ranked seventh of all nationalities for PV applications lodged by visitors in 2004-05. However, no PVs have been granted to ROK nationals for applications lodged since 1 July 1999.

Table 2 PV Applications Lodged by Visitors

Visitor Protection Visa (PV) Application Rates		
	Year	PV Applications
Republic of Korea	2002 - 03	181
	2003 - 04	94
	2004 - 05	75
Global Average	2002 - 03	3,607
	2003 - 04	2,382
	2004 - 05	2,236

5 SETTLEMENT

5.1 Settlement Services

ROK-born people arriving as permanent migrants are eligible to access a range of DIMIA funded services to assist them to settle as quickly as possible and build rewarding lives in Australia. These include Migrant Resource Centres and services delivered under the Community Settlement Services Scheme. These services:

- deliver settlement information, referral and casework services to individuals and groups;
- build community capacity by helping communities to be self reliant in planning, organising and working together to advocate for their needs to be met; and
- promote and represent client needs to service providers and build strong relationships with local settlement and mainstream agencies.

ROK-born permanent migrants are also eligible to access the Adult Migrant English Program and the Translating and Interpreting Service.

6 THE ROK-BORN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA

The 2001 Census recorded 38,840 ROK-born people in Australia, with a total of 43,753 people claiming Korean ancestry. The ROK-born community is well established and continues to grow rapidly. Links within the community are strong and provide good networks of support for newly arrived ROK-born migrants. Most ROK-born people live in New South Wales (27,970), Queensland (4,070) and Victoria (3,510).

DIMIA works with Australia's ethnic communities through the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia. It also maintains direct contact with more than 4,000 community organisations and representatives, including ROK community organisations and individuals.

Further information on the ROK-born community is at Appendix B.

7 CITIZENSHIP

At the 2001 Census, the rate of acquisition of Australian Citizenship for ROK-born permanent migrants in Australia was 68.9%. The rate for all overseas-born people was 75.1%.

8 MULTICULTURAL POLICY AND PROGRAMS

8.1 Overview of Multicultural Policy

The Australian Government's 2003-06 national multicultural policy, *Multicultural Australia: United in Diversity* provides a framework for strengthening community harmony, promoting the benefits of Australia's cultural diversity for all Australians, including migrants, and through the Access and Equity Strategy, requiring that government services and programs are attuned to the diversity of the Australian society. The policy is accessible on www.immi.gov.au.

Underlying the Government's multicultural policy framework are four principles:

responsibilities of all Australians to support the basic civic structures and principles of Australian society;

respect for each person - subject to the law, all Australians have the right to express their own culture and beliefs and a reciprocal obligation to respect the rights of others;

fairness for each person – all Australians are entitled to equality of treatment and opportunity; and

benefits for all – all Australians benefit from our cultural diversity.

This framework supports an individual's right to maintain their culture, within Australian law, and a reciprocal obligation to respect the cultures of other people; and universal respect, by all Australians, of the basic structures and principles underwriting Australian democracy.

The three program elements are outlined below. As well as benefiting the domestic Australian community, they support and indirectly benefit Australia's bilateral relationships with other countries, including the ROK.

8.2 Access and Equity Strategy

Within the multicultural policy framework, the goals of the Access and Equity strategy are embodied in the *Charter of Public Service in a Culturally Diverse Society*. The *Charter* requires that federal, state/territory and local government services respond to the needs of people from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds, so they can participate fully in Australia's economic, social and cultural life. A report of progress by government agencies in implementing the *Charter* is tabled in federal parliament annually.

8.3 National Anti-Racism Initiative

'Living in Harmony' is an Australian Government initiative designed to promote community harmony, build relationships between people and address racism where it occurs in Australia. The initiative is primarily a community-based education program aiming to enhance people's appreciation and understanding of the society in which we live.

The Living in Harmony initiative consists of three complementary elements: a Community Grants Program; a Partnerships Program; and a Public Information Strategy which includes Harmony Day, Australia's biggest annual multicultural celebration. It is held during the month of March focusing on March 21, which is also the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Additional information can be found on www.harmony.gov.au.

8.4 Diversity Works

The Australian Government's multicultural policy *Multicultural Australia: United in Diversity* commits to working with the private sector to maximise the economic and social benefits of

Australia's cultural diversity. The Government meets this commitment through the "Diversity Works!" Program managed by DIMIA.

The aim of the Program is to encourage and support business to fully utilise the language skills, business networks, market knowledge and experience of Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse population to grow their business both domestically and overseas. The Program collaborates with key mainstream and ethnic business associations to host high profile events that provide the opportunity to:

- foster and promote understanding of the business, economic and social benefits of Australia's cultural and linguistic diversity;
- facilitate strategic partnerships between government, business and the wider community to maximise the benefits of this diversity;
- highlight and raise awareness of the successful contribution to Australia from various ethnic communities economically and socially; and
- promote and strengthen Australia's trade relationships through profiling trade and investment by businesses, bilateral organisations and chambers of commerce.

9 GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

DIMIA has developed a good, cooperative relationship with the Government of the ROK on issues relating to illegal migration and people smuggling. The ROK Ministry of Justice has shown an increasing interest in Australian immigration policies and practices. In late 2004 DIMIA hosted a professional development program and a delegation visit for officials from the ROK Ministry of Justice to assist it in strengthening its immigration policies and practices.

A delegation from the ROK's Bureau of Immigration also visited Australia in December 2004 to study Australia's approach to border management. A further delegation is expected later this year to observe Australia's border management systems in operation.

10 REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

10.1 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

The ROK is a valued, active member of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Informal Experts Group on Business Mobility (IEGBM) which deals with business mobility issues in the APEC region. Australia is the chair of the IEGBM. Cooperation has been especially close in 2005 with the ROK due to assume the APEC host this year.

With Australia's support as co-sponsor, the ROK is leading the IEGBM's Immigration Liaison Officer/Airline Liaison Office (ILO/ALO) project. The project aims to raise awareness within APEC of international standards applicable to the conduct of Immigration Liaison Officers and best practice bilateral and multilateral cooperation arrangements to enhance border security and passenger safety.

The ROK is an active participant in the APEC IEGBM working group to develop a multilateral framework for the Regional Movement Alert List (RMAL). The objective of RMAL is to strengthen the collective capacity of border agencies to detect lost and stolen

travel documents and to monitor the movements of people of known or suspected character concern and, if necessary, prevent them travelling or boarding flights to participating countries.

Australia worked closely with the ROK in conducting an APEC Advance Passenger Information (API) feasibility study assessing the capacity of the ROK's existing border management systems to adopt API. API provides for details of persons travelling to a country to be forwarded by an airline to the border management authority prior to the person's arrival. This allows for pre-screening of the person by the management authority and can prevent boarding of persons of concern. The feasibility study report was presented to Korea in November 2004. Australia and the ROK continue to work together as the ROK moves towards a partial implementation of API in September/October 2005.

The ROK is one of 17 APEC economies participating in the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) scheme and was one of three pilot partners of the scheme with Australia and the Philippines in 1997. The ABTC has been developed in response to the need of business people to gain streamlined entry to the economies of the Asia-Pacific region. The ABTC cuts through the red tape of business travel and gives accredited business people pre-cleared entry to participating APEC economies. The scheme is administered by Australia.

10.2 Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime

The ROK is an active participant in the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime and has hosted two workshops focussing on public awareness campaigns to prevent people trafficking (2003) and to protect victims of trafficking (2004).

10.3 Asia-Pacific Consultations (APC)

The ROK has been involved in the Inter-Governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC) since its inception in 1996. The APC was established to provide a forum for the discussion of issues relating to population movements including refugees, displaced persons and migrants. In 2003, the APC's 8th Plenary agreed to reform the APC into a more practical and activity oriented body.

APPENDIX A - DIMIA Operations in the ROK

Embassy based staff

DIMIA has one Australian-based officer posted to Seoul and 10 locally engaged staff. Duties include visa processing operations, liaison with ROK representatives, and provision of assistance to other Australian agencies in the ROK and Australia.

Compliance staff

Visa integrity issues are managed by the Principal Migration Officer (Compliance) stationed in Taipei, who regularly visits Seoul to monitor measures to detect application fraud and to work with the ROK authorities to prevent people smuggling and people trafficking.

Airline Liaison Officer

DIMIA also has an Airline Liaison officer based at Incheon Airport (see section 2.1 above).

Regional Director

Operations in the ROK are overseen by DIMIA's North Asia Regional Director, based in Beijing.



Community Information Summary

The Korea-born Community

Historical Background

Koreans did not migrate to Australia in any significant numbers until the 1980s and 1990s. There is, however, some evidence of the presence in Australia of a small number of Koreans as early as 1920. While it is unclear what prompted their arrival, it is conjectured that they were the children of Australian Protestant missionaries who began work in Korea around 1885. A few also came to Australia between 1921 and 1941 for study purposes.

After the Korean War (1950-53), some Koreans came to Australia as war brides and as orphans adopted by Australian families. The relaxation of restrictions on the entry of non-Europeans into Australia in the late 1960s provided the first opportunity for Koreans to enter Australia in any numbers. In 1969, the first Korean immigrants arrived in Sydney under the skilled migration program. However, there were only 468 Korea-born recorded as living in Australia at the 1971 Australian Census.

In the early 1970s, there was an increase in arrivals with some 1,000 coming for short-term stay (mostly as students) and around 100 coming for permanent residence each year. Under amnesty arrangements available in 1976 and again in 1978 to 1979, more than 500 Korea-born visitors chose to change their status to permanent resident. Some subsequently sponsored other family members for migration. Between 1976 and 1985, around 500 Korea-born immigrants arrived each year. As a consequence, the number of Korea-born living in Australia increased by more than sixfold from 1,460 at the time of the 1976 Census to 9,285 by the 1986 Census.

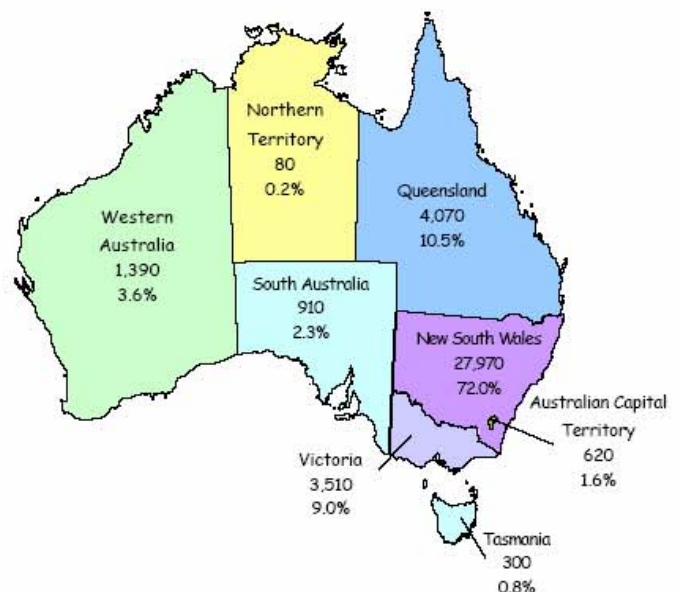
An increasing proportion of Korean settlers entered Australia in the 1980s. From 1986 to 1991, there was a substantial increase in settler arrivals, with an average of about 1,400 each year, many coming under the skilled and business migration categories. In addition, in the late 1980s, around a further 1,000 entered Australia each year as 'long-term arrivals' (indicating an intention of remaining in Australia for twelve months or longer). Many in this group came as students.

By the 1991 Census, the number of Korea-born had risen to 20,580 - more than double the community's size recorded only five years earlier at the 1986 Census.

The Community Today

Geographic Distribution

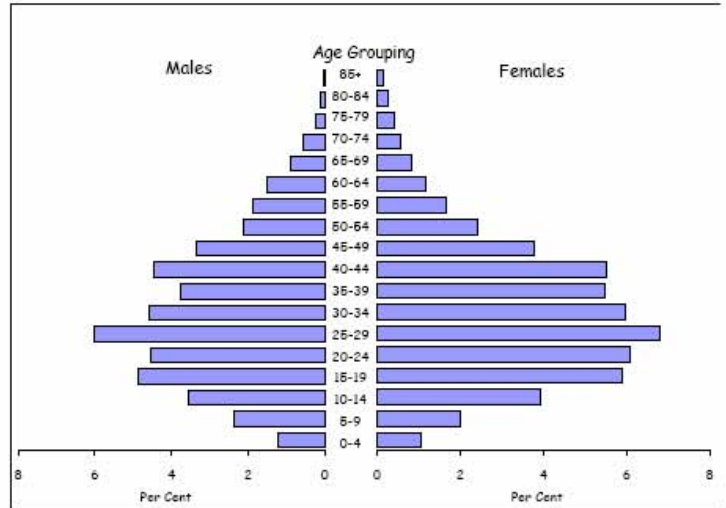
The latest Census in 2001 recorded 38,840 Korea-born persons in Australia, an increase of 29 per cent from the 1996 Census. The 2001 distribution by State and Territory showed New South Wales had the largest number with 27,970 followed by Queensland (4,070), Victoria (3,510) and Western Australia (1,390).



Age and Sex

The median age of the Korea-born in 2001 was 30.8 years compared with 46.0 years for all overseas-born and 35.6 years for the total Australian population. The age distribution showed 14.1 per cent were aged 0-14 years, 21.4 per cent were 15-24 years, 42.6 per cent were 25-44 years, 17.9 per cent were 45-64 years and 4.1 per cent were 65 and over.

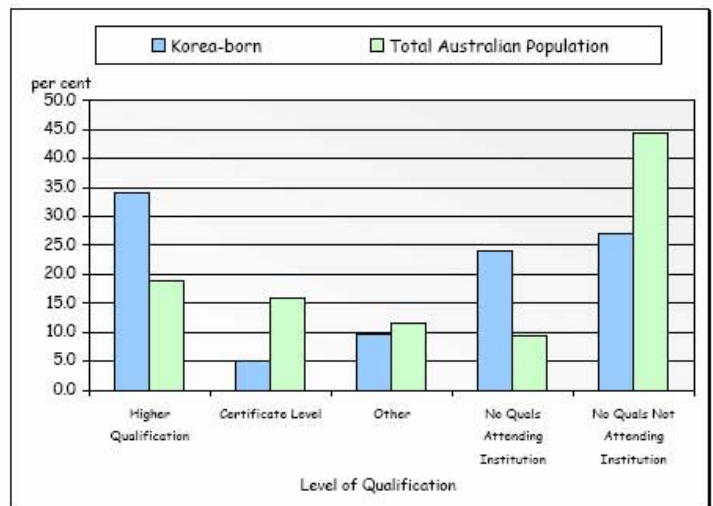
Of the Korea-born in Australia, there were 17,910 males (46.1 per cent) and 20,930 females (53.9 per cent). The sex ratio was 85.6 males per 100 females.



Qualifications

In 2001, of Korea-born people aged 15 years and over, 48.6 per cent held some form of educational or occupational qualification compared with 46.2 per cent for all Australians. Among the Korea-born, 34.1 per cent had higher qualifications* and 5.1 per cent had Certificate level qualifications. Of the Korea-born with no qualifications, 47.1 per cent were still attending an educational institution.

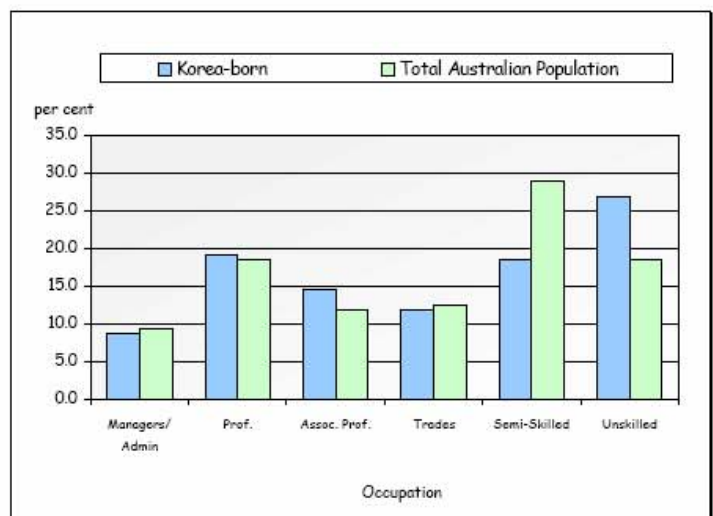
* Higher qualification includes Postgraduate Degree, Graduate Diploma & Graduate Certificate and Bachelor Degree Advanced Diploma & Diploma Level.



Employment

Among Korea-born people aged 15 years and over, the participation rate in the labour force was 47.3 per cent and the unemployment rate was 10.8 per cent. The corresponding rates in the total Australian population were 63.0 and 7.4 per cent respectively.

Of the 13,890 Korea-born who were employed, 54.5 per cent were employed in a Skilled occupation, 18.5 per cent in Semi-Skilled and 27.0 per cent in Unskilled. The corresponding rates in the total Australian population were 52.6, 28.9 and 18.6 per cent respectively.



Citizenship

At the 2001 Census, the rate* of Australian Citizenship for the Korea-born in Australia was 68.9 per cent. The rate for all overseas-born was 75.1 per cent.

* Includes adjustments for people not meeting the residential requirement for citizenship, temporary entrants to Australia and underenumeration at the Census.

Language

The main languages spoken at home by Korea-born people in Australia were Korean (86.5 per cent), English (11.1 per cent), and Chinese-Mandarin (0.3 per cent).

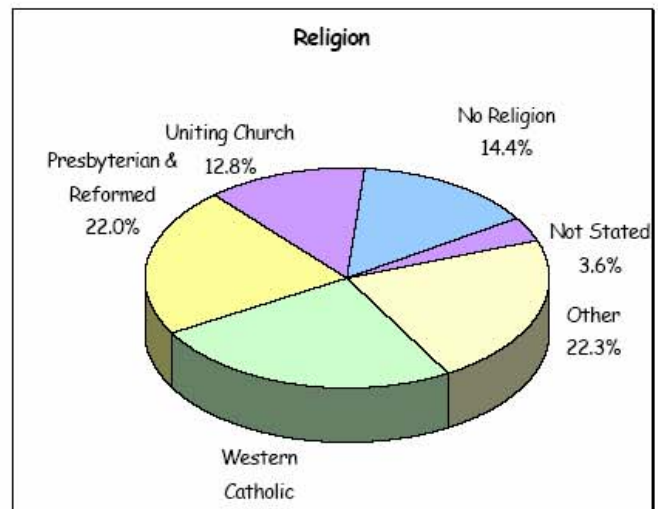
Of the 34,500 Korea-born who spoke a language other than English at home, 61.2 per cent spoke English very well or well and 37.9 per cent spoke English not well or not at all.



Religion

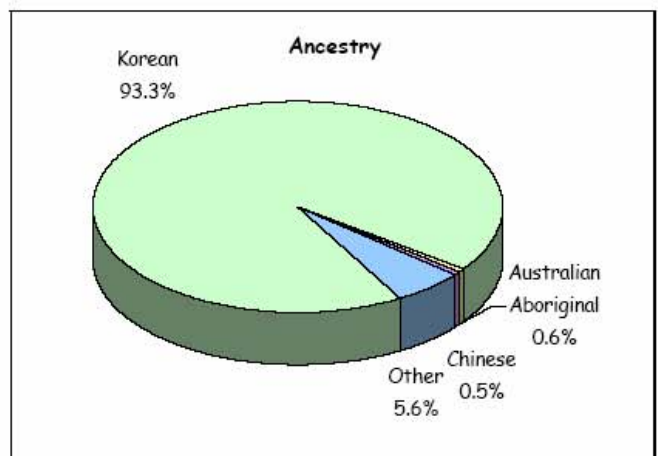
At the 2001 Census the major religions amongst Korea-born were Western Catholic (9,680 persons), Presbyterian And Reformed (8,580 persons) and Uniting Church (4,970 persons).

Of the Korea-born, 14.4 per cent stated 'No Religion'. This was lower than that of the total Australian population (15.5 per cent)



Ancestry

In the 2001 Census, the top three ancestries that Korea-born persons reported were, Korean (36,240), Australian Aboriginal (240) and Chinese (190).



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All data listed in this summary are from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing

Sources for the Historical Background available at <http://www.immi.gov.au/statistics/infosummary/source.htm>