



This bulletin reports the results of the census of students of language background other than English in New South Wales government schools undertaken by the NSW Department of Education and Training on Friday, 11th March 2011. A student of language background other than English (LBOTE) is defined as one in whose home a language other than English is spoken.

INTRODUCTION

In March 2011, 224,794 students enrolled at Government schools were identified as being of language background other than English (LBOTE). This represented 29.6 percent of all Government school enrolments compared to 29.4 percent in 2010.

Tables 1 & 2

ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY REGION AND LEVEL/YEAR OF SCHOOLING, MARCH 2011

LBOTE student enrolments represented 29.2 percent of all primary enrolments and 30.3 percent of all secondary enrolments in Government schools. From 1998 to 2003 enrolments were reported by District. In 2004 the reporting unit was changed to School Education Area (SEA), and to Region in 2005. The percentage of LBOTE enrolments is highest in Year 12 at 34.7%

Table 3A & 3B

ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY LANGUAGE, 2010 - 2011

Chinese, with 39,593 students in 2011, has been the most common language background other than English in Government schools since 1997. Students from the Chinese language group background are 17.6 percent of all LBOTE students in 2011, compared to 18 percent in 2010. Arabic, with 29,402 students in 2011, was the most common language background from 1988 to 1996. The proportion of LBOTE students of Arabic background was 13.1 percent in 2011, compared to 12.9 percent in 2010.

Tables 3C

ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH - LARGEST LANGUAGE GROUPS, MARCH 2011

LBOTE enrolments of 1,000 or more are specified.

Table 4

ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY REGION AND LANGUAGE, MARCH 2011

South Western Sydney has the highest LBOTE student enrolments (85,502). New England has the lowest LBOTE student enrolments (637). Khmer and Lao were the languages with the highest concentration in one region, South Western Sydney.

Table 5

ENROLMENTS OF PRESCHOOL STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY LANGUAGE, MARCH 2011

Government preschools enrolled 1,843 students of language background other than English in 2011, representing 42 percent of all Government preschool enrolments. This year preschool enrolments are reported by largest language groups. LBOTE enrolments less than 10 (approximately 0.5%) are included in "Others" on this table.

Figure 1

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY REGION, MARCH 2010

The four metropolitan regions (Northern Sydney, South Western Sydney, Sydney and Western Sydney) enrol nearly 55 percent of all students. However they enrol 90.5 percent of students with a language background other than English.

Figure 2

STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH, 1998-2010: SELECTED LANGUAGE BACKGROUNDS

This figure shows the 10 largest language groups over the period 1998 to 2011.

Notes:

1. From 1996, information on LBOTE students has been collected in the first half of the year with comparative enrolment information extracted from the School Entitlement System (February enrolment data). In prior years, LBOTE information was collected in the midyear census, with comparative enrolment information collected at the same time.
2. Next year Tables 3A, 3B and 4 will be reported using the 'largest language groups' as shown in Table 3C, as the 'standard reporting groups' table has become increasingly out of date.
3. For information on languages, refer to Australian Standard Classification of Languages, Australian Bureau of Statistics (catalogue 1267.0).

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Statistical publications produced by the Department of Education
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[https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/about-us/statistics-and-research/key-
statistics-and-reports](https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/about-us/statistics-and-research/key-statistics-and-reports)

TABLE 1
ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH
BY REGION AND LEVEL OF SCHOOLING, MARCH 2011

REGION	Primary			Secondary			SSP			Total	
	LBOTE Students	All Students	LBOTE as % of Enrolment	LBOTE Students	All Students	LBOTE as % of Enrolment	LBOTE Students	All Students	LBOTE as % of Enrolment	LBOTE Students	All Students
Hunter/Central Coast	3776	61040	6.2%	2929	47135	6.2%	52	716	7.3%	6757	108891
Illawarra and South East	4375	39721	11.0%	3180	30106	10.6%	34	336	10.1%	7589	70163
New England	389	12442	3.1%	243	10022	2.4%	5	92	5.4%	637	22556
North Coast	1740	36179	4.8%	1288	30896	4.2%		141	0.0%	3028	67216
Northern Sydney	18293	54796	33.4%	15352	33754	45.5%	111	536	20.7%	33756	89086
Riverina	1239	18324	6.8%	771	14476	5.3%	9	257	3.5%	2019	33057
South Western Sydney	49429	75298	65.6%	35445	54581	64.9%	628	1409	44.6%	85502	131288
Sydney	23962	52988	45.2%	19992	37543	53.3%	164	653	25.1%	44118	91184
Western NSW	735	21601	3.4%	541	17889	3.0%	4	250	1.6%	1280	39740
Western Sydney	23126	62389	37.1%	16771	42399	39.6%	211	1022	20.6%	40108	105810
State	127064	434778	29.2%	96512	318801	30.3%	1218	5412	22.5%	224794	758991
											29.6%

Note:

LBOTE enrolments (2011) are compared to enrolments (headcount) estimated in February (2011).

February enrolment data differs from Midyear Census data collected in the first week in August each year (and published annually in the National School Statistics Collection). It is used in these tables as it is closer in time to the LBOTE collection (March each year)

TABLE 2
ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY
REGION AND YEAR OF SCHOOLING, MARCH 2011

REGION	Primary								SSP	
	Kinder	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Support	Total	Total
Hunter/Central Coast	572	531	505	529	511	551	529	48	3776	52
Illawarra and South Coast	624	625	629	579	630	634	602	52	4375	34
New England	71	66	50	50	49	52	49	2	389	5
North Coast	268	252	255	210	234	239	270	12	1740	
Northern Sydney	2674	2626	2495	2546	2507	2690	2685	70	18293	111
Riverina	197	171	176	182	178	183	146	6	1239	9
South Western Sydney	7184	6947	6916	6889	6689	7078	6892	834	49429	628
Sydney	3473	3463	3328	3319	3224	3475	3477	203	23962	164
Western NSW	115	101	103	95	99	103	110	9	735	4
Western Sydney	3441	3310	3248	3180	3128	3170	3332	317	23126	211
State	18619	18092	17705	17579	17249	18175	18092	1553	127064	1218
As % of Enrolment	28.5%	28.9%	28.8%	29.3%	29.0%	30.3%	30.2%	25.6%	29.2%	22.5%

REGION	Secondary								Region Total	As % of Region
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Support	Total		
Hunter/Central Coast	478	500	528	485	487	403	48	2929	6757	6.2%
Illawarra and South Coast	544	570	556	479	500	415	116	3180	7589	10.8%
New England	43	39	34	33	48	45	1	243	637	2.8%
North Coast	218	232	213	185	226	196	18	1288	3028	4.5%
Northern Sydney	2302	2430	2516	2491	2758	2525	330	15352	33756	37.9%
Riverina	157	137	103	115	144	113	2	771	2019	6.1%
South Western Sydney	5210	5579	5877	5946	6116	5267	1450	35445	85502	65.1%
Sydney	3108	3156	3308	3206	3372	3250	592	19992	44118	48.4%
Western NSW	105	108	70	102	78	73	5	541	1280	3.2%
Western Sydney	2698	2765	2772	2678	2859	2574	425	16771	40108	37.9%
State	14863	15516	15977	15720	16588	14861	2987	96512	224794	29.6%
As % of Enrolment	28.8%	29.5%	29.8%	28.8%	30.9%	34.7%	30.4%	30.3%	29.6%	

Note: 1. See Notes for Table 1.

TABLE 3A
ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY
LANGUAGE AND LEVEL OF SCHOOLING, MARCH 2011 - STANDARD REPORTING GROUPS

Language	Primary		Secondary		SSP		Total	
	Students	As % of Primary LBOTE	Students	As % of Secondary LBOTE	Students	As % of SSP LBOTE	Students	As % of Total LBOTE
Arabic	17108	13.5%	12018	12.5%	276	22.7%	29402	13.1%
Chinese	19016	15.0%	20453	21.2%	124	10.2%	39593	17.6%
<i>Cantonese</i>	8560	6.7%	10342	10.7%	69	5.7%	18971	8.4%
<i>Mandarin</i>	9380	7.4%	9055	9.4%	45	3.7%	18480	8.2%
<i>Other Chinese</i>	1076	0.8%	1056	1.1%	10	0.8%	2142	1.0%
Croatian	1000	0.8%	766	0.8%	10	0.8%	1776	0.8%
Dari	964	0.8%	1269	1.3%	10	0.8%	2243	1.0%
Dutch	855	0.7%	466	0.5%	1	0.1%	1322	0.6%
Farsi	1205	0.9%	1021	1.1%	10	0.8%	2236	1.0%
Fijian	839	0.7%	610	0.6%	7	0.6%	1456	0.6%
French	1690	1.3%	971	1.0%	9	0.7%	2670	1.2%
German	1808	1.4%	1227	1.3%	8	0.7%	3043	1.4%
Greek	6108	4.8%	2949	3.1%	54	4.4%	9111	4.1%
Hindi	5290	4.2%	3419	3.5%	38	3.1%	8747	3.9%
Indonesian	2066	1.6%	1386	1.4%	18	1.5%	3470	1.5%
Italian	3683	2.9%	2274	2.4%	36	3.0%	5993	2.7%
Japanese	1650	1.3%	889	0.9%	11	0.9%	2550	1.1%
Khmer	1241	1.0%	1012	1.0%	10	0.8%	2263	1.0%
Korean	3893	3.1%	3325	3.4%	17	1.4%	7235	3.2%
Lao	588	0.5%	490	0.5%	7	0.6%	1085	0.5%
Macedonian	2456	1.9%	1679	1.7%	19	1.6%	4154	1.8%
Malay	347	0.3%	234	0.2%	2	0.2%	583	0.3%
Maltese	714	0.6%	490	0.5%	8	0.7%	1212	0.5%
Polish	550	0.4%	409	0.4%	5	0.4%	964	0.4%
Portugese	978	0.8%	549	0.6%	7	0.6%	1534	0.7%
Punjabi	1651	1.3%	931	1.0%	4	0.3%	2586	1.2%
Russian	1196	0.9%	671	0.7%	3	0.2%	1870	0.8%
Samoan	4000	3.1%	3131	3.2%	39	3.2%	7170	3.2%
Serbian	1835	1.4%	1553	1.6%	9	0.7%	3397	1.5%
Sinhalese	872	0.7%	712	0.7%	7	0.6%	1591	0.7%
Slovene	67	0.1%	30	0.0%		0.0%	97	0.0%
Spanish	3926	3.1%	2588	2.7%	37	3.0%	6551	2.9%
Tagalog/Filipino	4316	3.4%	3676	3.8%	67	5.5%	8059	3.6%
Tamil	2111	1.7%	1394	1.4%	15	1.2%	3520	1.6%
Tongan	2305	1.8%	1650	1.7%	26	2.1%	3981	1.8%
Turkish	2138	1.7%	1787	1.9%	24	2.0%	3949	1.8%
Urdu	2017	1.6%	1118	1.2%	19	1.6%	3154	1.4%
Vietnamese	7872	6.2%	7015	7.3%	116	9.5%	15003	6.7%
OTHERS	18709	14.7%	12350	12.8%	165	13.5%	31224	13.9%
Total LBOTE	127064	100.0%	96512	100.0%	1218	100.0%	224794	100.0%

Notes: 1. Language groups not in Standard Reporting Groups are included in OTHERS

2. Standard Reporting Groups are the groups as published in previous LBOTE Bulletins. From 2012 the largest language groups will replace standard groups.

TABLE 3B
CHANGING ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN
ENGLISH BY LANGUAGE, 2010 & 2011 - STANDARD REPORTING GROUPS

Language	2010		2011	
	Total Students	As % of Total LBOTE	Total Students	As % of Total LBOTE
Arabic	28586	12.9%	29402	13.1%
Chinese	39785	18.0%	39593	17.6%
<i>Cantonese</i>	19637	8.9%	18971	8.4%
<i>Mandarin</i>	18012	8.2%	18480	8.2%
<i>Chinese Other</i>	2136	1.0%	2142	1.0%
Croatian	1795	0.8%	1776	0.8%
Dari	2175	1.0%	2243	1.0%
Dutch	1325	0.6%	1322	0.6%
Farsi	2220	1.0%	2236	1.0%
Fijian	1434	0.6%	1456	0.6%
French	2602	1.2%	2670	1.2%
German	3057	1.4%	3043	1.4%
Greek	9148	4.1%	9111	4.1%
Hindi	8585	3.9%	8747	3.9%
Indonesian	3288	1.5%	3470	1.5%
Italian	6277	2.8%	5993	2.7%
Japanese	2401	1.1%	2550	1.1%
Khmer	2208	1.0%	2263	1.0%
Korean	7261	3.3%	7235	3.2%
Lao	1105	0.5%	1085	0.5%
Macedonian	4187	1.9%	4154	1.8%
Malay	580	0.3%	583	0.3%
Maltese	1283	0.6%	1212	0.5%
Polish	959	0.4%	964	0.4%
Portuguese	1506	0.7%	1534	0.7%
Punjabi	2464	1.1%	2586	1.2%
Russian	1788	0.8%	1870	0.8%
Samoan	6947	3.1%	7170	3.2%
Serbian	3501	1.6%	3397	1.5%
Sinhalese	1530	0.7%	1591	0.7%
Slovene	105	0.0%	97	0.0%
Spanish	6409	2.9%	6551	2.9%
Tagalog/Filipino	7928	3.6%	8059	3.6%
Tamil	3370	1.5%	3520	1.6%
Tongan	3944	1.8%	3981	1.8%
Turkish	4022	1.8%	3949	1.8%
Urdu	2863	1.3%	3154	1.4%
Vietnamese	14854	6.7%	15003	6.7%
OTHERS	29345	13.3%	31224	13.9%
Total LBOTE	220837		224794	

Note: In 2011 Table 3B is set out in alphabetical order. See also the notes for Table 3 A.

TABLE 3C
ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY
LANGUAGE, 2011 - LARGEST LANGUAGE GROUPS

Language	Total Students	As % of Total LBOTE	Language	Total Students	As % of Total LBOTE
Chinese	39593	17.6%	French	2670	1.2%
<i>Cantonese</i>	18971	8.4%	Punjabi	2586	1.2%
<i>Mandarin</i>	18480	8.2%	Japanese	2550	1.1%
<i>Other Chinese</i>	2142	1.0%	Assyrian	2471	1.1%
Arabic	29402	13.1%	Thai	2400	1.1%
Vietnamese	15003	6.7%	Khmer	2263	1.0%
Greek	9111	4.1%	Dari	2243	1.0%
Hindi	8747	3.9%	Farsi	2236	1.0%
Filipino/Tagalog	8059	3.6%	Maori (New Zealand)	2017	0.9%
Korean	7235	3.2%	Russian	1870	0.8%
Samoan	7170	3.2%	Croatian	1776	0.8%
Spanish	6551	2.9%	Sinhalese	1591	0.7%
Italian	5993	2.7%	Portugese	1534	0.7%
Macedonian	4154	1.8%	Fijian	1456	0.6%
Tongan	3981	1.8%	Gujarati	1386	0.6%
Turkish	3949	1.8%	Dutch	1322	0.6%
Tamil	3520	1.6%	Maltese	1212	0.5%
Indonesian	3470	1.5%	Afrikaans	1160	0.5%
Serbian	3397	1.5%	Maori (Cook Islands)	1122	0.5%
Urdu	3154	1.4%	Lao	1085	0.5%
German	3043	1.4%	Nepali	1003	0.4%
Bengali	2836	1.3%	OTHERS	18473	8.2%
			Total LBOTE	224794	100.0%

Note: Languages with enrolments less than 1000 are included in OTHERS.

TABLE 4
ENROLMENTS OF STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ENGLISH BY
LANGUAGE AND REGION, MARCH 2011

Language	Hunter/ Central Coast	Illawarra and South Coast	New England	North Coast	Northern Sydney	Riverina	South Western Sydney	Sydney	Western NSW	Western Sydney	State Totals	As % of Total LBOTE
Arabic	286	437	32	55	828	102	20131	4541	74	2916	29402	13.1%
Chinese	579	388	54	142	11378	79	10133	11646	68	5126	39593	17.6%
<i>Cantonese</i>	276	160	26	73	5119	46	5343	5512	28	2388	18971	8.4%
<i>Mandarin</i>	273	205	26	52	5985	22	3497	5817	36	2567	18480	8.2%
<i>Other Chinese</i>	30	23	2	17	274	11	1293	317	4	171	2142	1.0%
Croatian	87	209	1	19	237	10	552	290	18	353	1776	0.8%
Dari	11	10	1	0	154	17	968	33	9	1040	2243	1.0%
Dutch	148	122	14	93	451	29	67	217	26	155	1322	0.6%
Farsi	34	38	2	8	790	4	430	124	6	800	2236	1.0%
Fijian	79	32	15	23	75	101	591	254	26	260	1456	0.6%
French	201	174	26	222	859	23	289	564	26	286	2670	1.2%
German	307	310	33	314	917	41	195	591	45	290	3043	1.4%
Greek	328	357	5	58	691	58	1732	5112	34	736	9111	4.1%
Hindi	163	80	15	27	1151	27	3219	729	34	3302	8747	3.9%
Indonesian	186	125	12	82	601	25	806	1172	14	447	3470	1.5%
Italian	321	495	14	103	986	249	1764	1382	57	622	5993	2.7%
Japanese	116	79	17	121	1233	13	148	659	11	153	2550	1.1%
Khmer	32	18	2	3	36		2040	53	1	78	2263	1.0%
Korean	134	50	2	8	3385	2	1536	1003	6	1109	7235	3.2%
Lao	13	12	8	8	24	22	945	29	1	23	1085	0.5%
Macedonian	273	1151	0	9	96	3	1099	1392	12	119	4154	1.8%
Malay	33	45	4	11	106	5	123	165	3	88	583	0.3%
Maltese	63	85	4	24	34	1	317	79	8	597	1212	0.5%
Polish	76	65	5	18	209	1	201	215	9	165	964	0.4%
Portuguese	48	158	24	32	265	2	314	536	6	149	1534	0.7%
Punjabi	43	36	1	183	285	123	451	136	6	1322	2586	1.2%
Russian	59	53	7	25	410	7	258	813	28	210	1870	0.8%
Samoan	223	56	10	29	67	161	4070	348	21	2185	7170	3.2%
Serbian	96	336	0	8	343	14	1743	474	20	363	3397	1.5%
Sinhalese	40	36	3	9	543	11	175	132	19	623	1591	0.7%
Slovene	6	12	0	6	11	1	17	26	3	15	97	0.0%
Spanish	377	432	27	168	911	44	2259	1343	34	956	6551	2.9%
Tagalog/Filipino	518	365	62	208	831	114	1607	1069	127	3158	8059	3.6%
Tamil	35	18	5	8	546	15	848	255	12	1778	3520	1.6%
Tongan	186	77	3	31	259	101	1616	599	30	1079	3981	1.8%
Turkish	42	214	4	10	220	27	1607	638	23	1164	3949	1.8%
Urdu	39	44	6	6	275	26	1333	292	18	1115	3154	1.4%
Vietnamese	105	170	14	39	465	13	11687	1974	7	529	15003	6.7%
OTHERS	1470	1300	205	918	4084	548	10231	5233	438	6797	31224	13.9%
Total	6757	7589	637	3028	33756	2019	85502	44118	1280	40108	224794	100.0%

TABLE 5
ENROLMENTS OF PRESCHOOL STUDENTS OF LANGUAGE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN
ENGLISH BY LANGUAGE, LARGEST LANGUAGE GROUPS, MARCH 2011

Language	Students	As % of Total LBOTE
Arabic	303	16.4%
Vietnamese	289	15.7%
Samoa	100	5.4%
Hindi	88	4.8%
Chinese	188	10.2%
<i>Cantonese</i>	75	4.3%
<i>Mandarin</i>	79	4.1%
<i>Chinese (other)</i>	34	1.8%
Khmer	61	3.3%
Tagalog/Filipino	68	3.7%
Spanish	51	2.8%
Urdu	47	2.6%
Punjabi	41	2.2%
Korean	40	2.2%
Tongan	40	2.2%
Greek	37	2.0%
Macedonian	36	2.0%
Bengali	31	1.7%
Tamil	28	1.5%
Indonesian	26	1.4%
Turkish	23	1.2%
Gujarati	20	1.1%
Italian	19	1.0%
Thai	15	0.8%
Maori (New Zealand)	12	0.7%
Serbian	12	0.7%
German	13	0.7%
Assyrian	11	0.6%
Japanese	11	0.6%
Lao	11	0.6%
Portuguese	10	0.5%
Maltese	10	0.5%
Fijian	10	0.5%
OTHERS	192	10.4%
Total LBOTE	1843	
LBOTE as % of Enrolment	42.0%	

Note: Attendance pattern was not collected at this time of the year since 2008. The attendance pattern is collected as part of the annual national preschool collection in August each year. LBOTE as % Enrolments uses February enrolment data.

Figure 1. Percentage of Students with Language Background Other Than English by Region, 2011

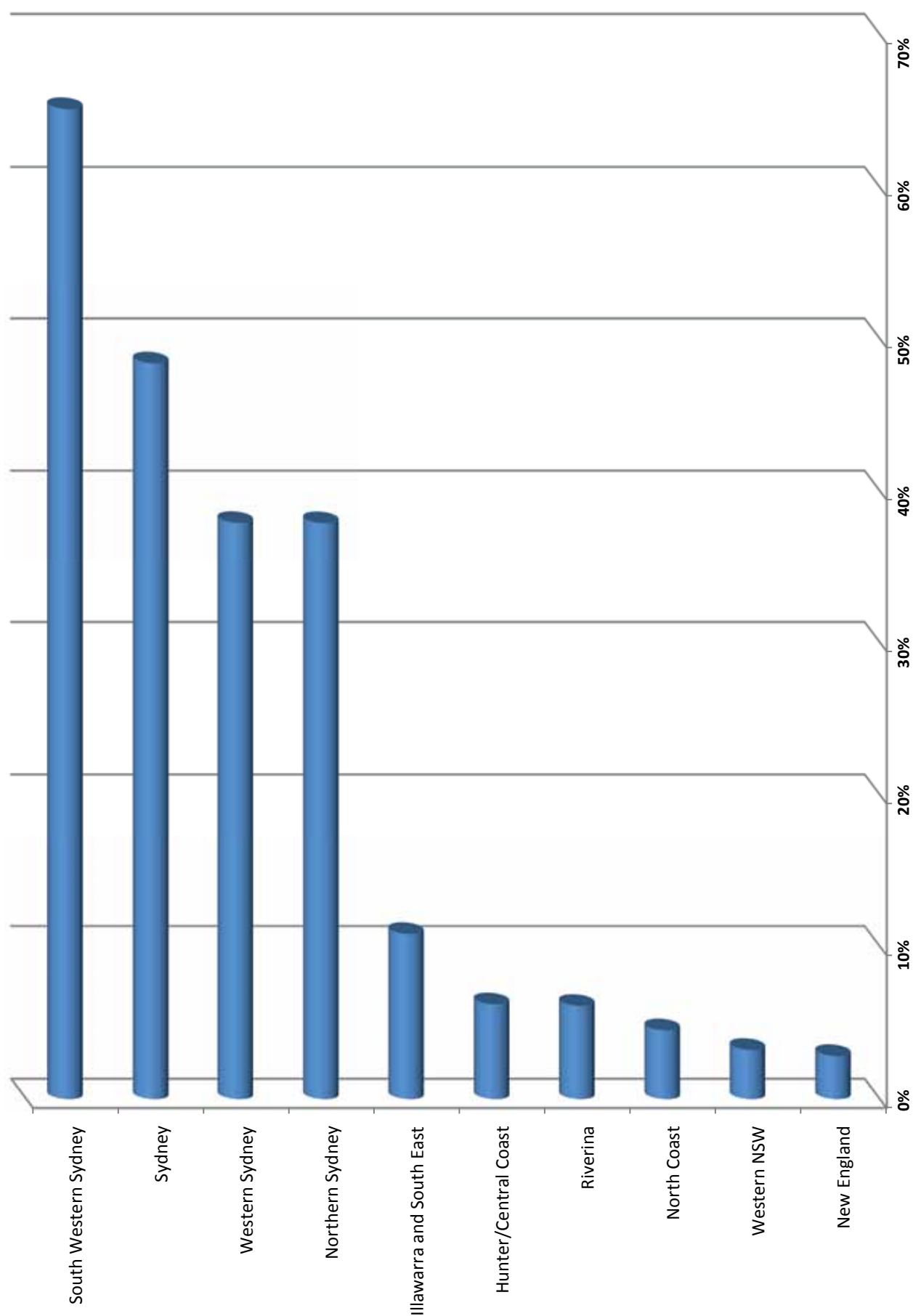
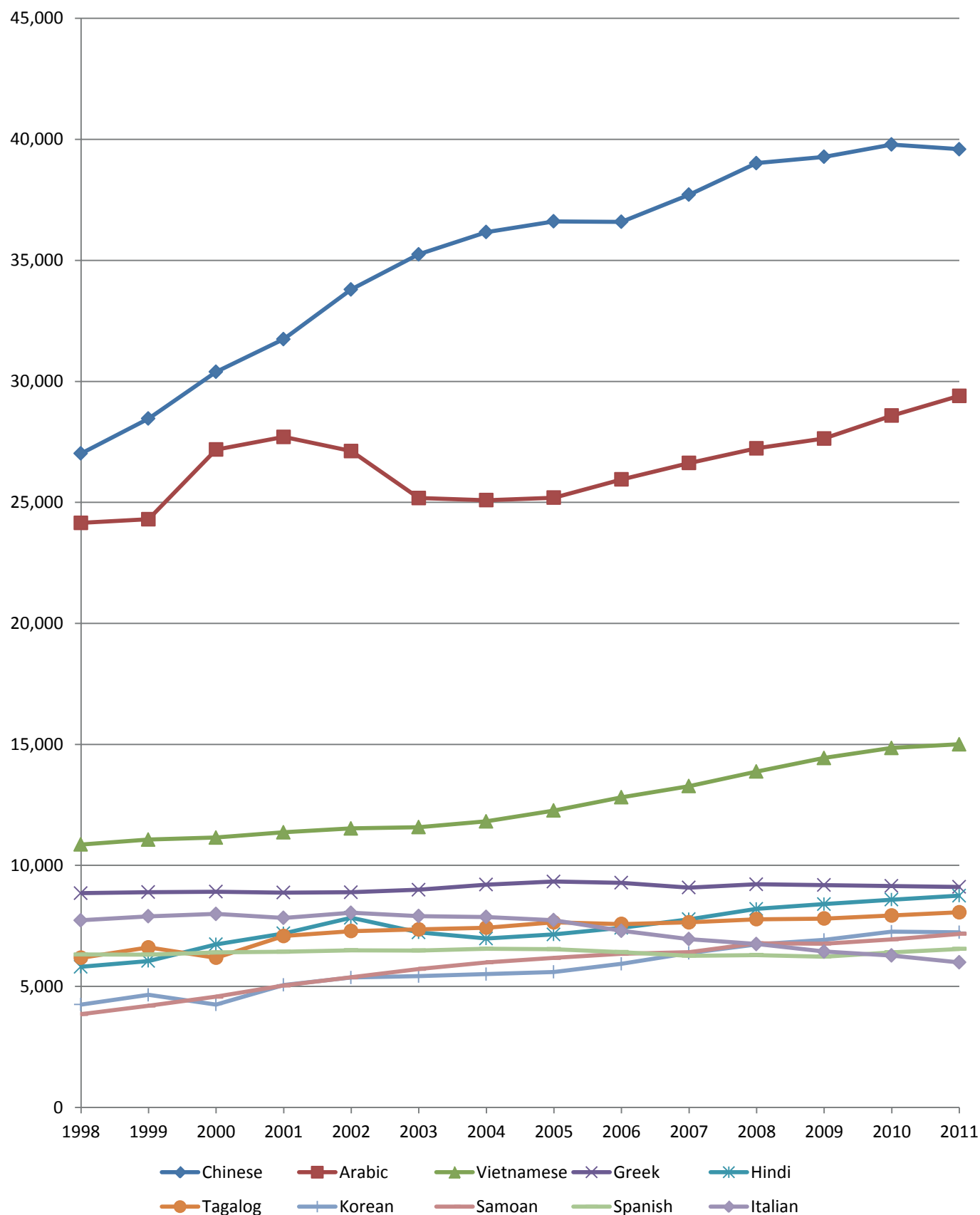


Figure 2. Students of Language Background Other Than English 1998 to 2011



Note: Chinese groups all languages of that group (ABS - ASCL - 7100) including Mandarin and Cantonese.