

# Migration flows

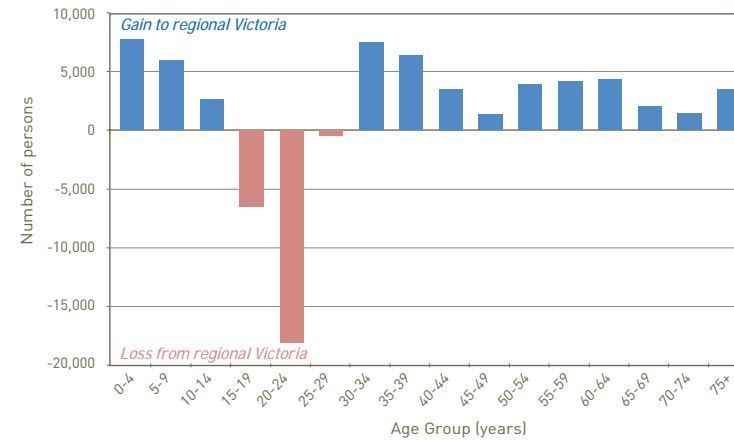
## Migration patterns and age

Migration movements affect different age groups to a greater or lesser degree. Young adults are more likely to move location than any other age group. In many regional areas, there is a net loss of young people (moving away for education and employment) and a net gain of older people (retirees moving in or the existing population ageing in place).

## Changing net-migration patterns

In recent decades, the net loss of young people from regional areas has increased. While this may suggest that more young people are leaving regional areas, it is important to remember that net migration is the difference between in- and out-movement. By looking at population flows in each direction, it can be seen that fewer people moving into regional areas had a greater impact on migration loss in recent years than did the numbers moving to Melbourne. This change in migration patterns is likely to be due to a combination of later family formation and professional career opportunities in Melbourne.

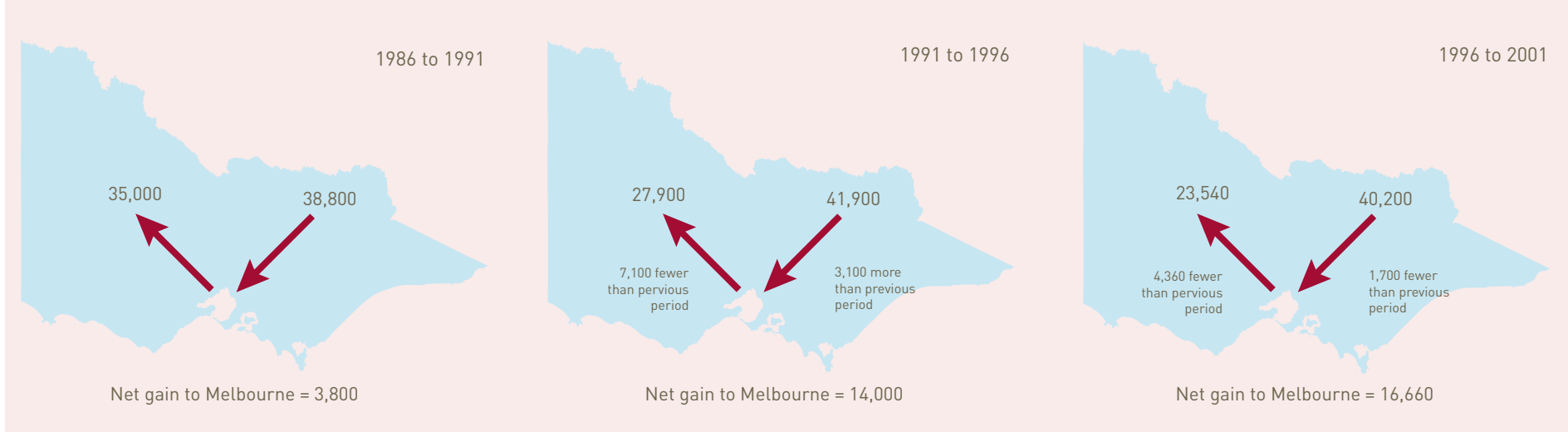
**Net migration by age<sup>1</sup>**  
regional Victoria 1996 to 2001



NOTE: This chart includes migration from all sources - interstate, overseas and within state - moving from and to regional Victoria.

## Migration flows of young adults between Melbourne and regional Victoria<sup>1</sup>

persons aged 15 to 34, 1986-91 to 1996-01



Source <sup>1</sup>DSE unpublished migration data based on ABS *Census* and population estimates