CHINA-BORN MIGRATION TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA:
POPULATION AND LABOUR FORCE IMPLICATIONS

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<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Australian Bureau of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCI</td>
<td>Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGPS</td>
<td>Australian Government Publishing Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALFPR</td>
<td>Aggregate Labour Force Participation Rate (ALFPR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCL</td>
<td>Australian Standard Classification of Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCO</td>
<td>The Australian Standard Classification of Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTRE</td>
<td>Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCITA</td>
<td>Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECS</td>
<td>Department of Education and Children's Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEIR</td>
<td>Department of Employment and Industrial Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEST</td>
<td>Department of Education, Science and Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFEEST</td>
<td>Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIAC</td>
<td>Department of Immigration and Citizenship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIMIA</td>
<td>Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOTARS</td>
<td>Department of Transport and Regional Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTED</td>
<td>Department of Trade and Economic Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fed Rep</td>
<td>Federal Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organization for Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>Local Government Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Language other than English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSIA</td>
<td>Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MESC</td>
<td>Main English Speaking Countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCINYF</td>
<td>The National Council for the International Year of the Family NESC migrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NESB</td>
<td>Non-English-Speaking-Background</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMSU</td>
<td>National Migrant Statistics Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development</td>
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</table>
OSB  Overseas born
OSS  Occupational Shares System
PC  Productivity Commission
PRC  People’s Republic of China
SACC  Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SAR  Special Administrative Region
SCORD  Standing Committee on Regional Development for the Regional Development Council
SD  Statistical Division
SDAS  Skilled Designated Area Sponsored
SOL  Skills Occupation List
SSD  Statistical Subdivision
SSRM  State-Specific and Regional Migration
TFR  Total Fertility Rate
VET  Vocational Education and Training
ABSTRACT

Chinese migration to Australia has a long history and had an important influence on Australian development. However, the last decade has seen an unprecedented increase not only in the scale of migration from China to Australia but also in its impact on the Australian economy and society. This impact however has remained little investigated and the present study seeks to examine one important dimension – the effect of Chinese migration on the labour market. In order to do this, it focuses on immigration from China to South Australia, a state which has been lagging economically and, until recently, was experiencing low levels of immigration and population growth compared to Australia as a whole.

The study focuses on the period from 2003-2008 which not only saw a rapid increase in immigration from China to Australia but was a period in which the South Australia government initiated a population policy in order to increase economic and population growth. The study examines the changes in the scale, nature and composition of Chinese immigration to Australia and South Australia focusing on both permanent settlement and temporary movement.

The major part of this study examines the labour market impact of Chinese immigration by analysing the participation of Chinese immigrants in South Australia’s labour force. It considers levels of employment as well as whether the jobs taken up by China-born immigrants match their qualifications and experience. Their experience is compared to that of other migrant groups and the Australia-born population. The study utilizes data from the 2006 Census on Population and Housing collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as well as the Department of Immigration and Citizenship data.

The final part of the study considers the impact of recent policy on China-born immigration to Australia and South Australia and draws out the policy implications of the findings. It assesses how successful immigration from China has been in meeting skill and labour shortages and in contributing to the development objectives of the South Australian government. It makes suggestions for immigration and
settlement policy to maximize the benefits of China-born migration to South Australia and to the migrants themselves.
DECLARATION

This thesis contains no material that has been accepted for the award of any degree or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due reference has been made in text of the thesis.

I give consent to this copy of my thesis, when deposited in the University Library, being made available for photocopying and loan.

SIGNED: ______________________________                         DATE: ____________________
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