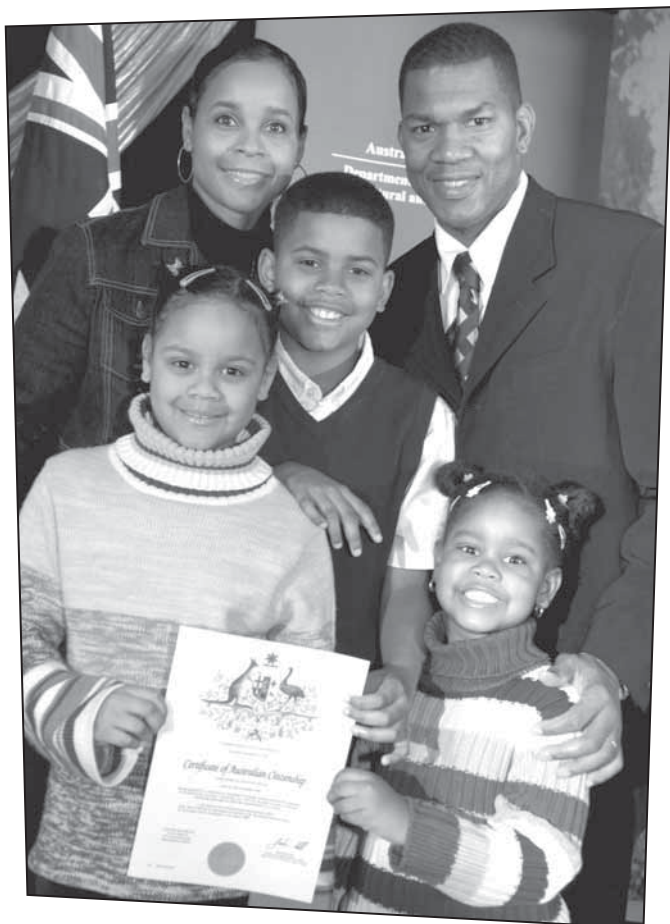


# Australian citizenship ceremonies



US-born basketballer, Ricky Grace, was a Perth Wildcat star. He became an Australian citizen in 1993 and went on to represent Australia at the Sydney Olympics. Pictured with his proudly Australian children, Jerami, Jaida and Jazmyn, they congratulate mum Gwen on becoming an Australian citizen.

## Students - check out the website!

[www.citizenship.gov.au/resources](http://www.citizenship.gov.au/resources)

What you will find there:

- information about Australian citizenship
- fascinating facts and statistics
- a fun interactive that will test your knowledge of the responsibilities and privileges of being an Australian citizen.

Local councils right around Australia arrange most citizenship ceremonies. They are usually held in parks, town halls and other buildings of significance.

Special ceremonies are also arranged to celebrate Australian Citizenship Day (17 September) and Australia Day (26 January).

## New citizens (July 2005 - June 2006)

Previous citizenship	Total conferred	Per cent
UK	22 143	21.4
New Zealand	7 636	7.4
India	7 439	7.2
China	7 317	7.1
South Africa	5 036	4.9
Philippines	3 725	3.6
Sudan	2 793	2.7
Iraq	2 173	2.1
Vietnam	2 114	2.0
Malaysia	2 000	1.9
Other	40 974	39.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>103 350</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Did you know?

- Since Australian citizenship was introduced on Australia Day 1949, more than four million people have become Australian citizens.
- Last year 103 350 people from more than 175 countries became Australian citizens at ceremonies held around Australia.
- Australian citizenship ceremonies are very important occasions for those who have chosen Australia as their new home.